

Administrator of Christmas Island Administrator of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands



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Greater fish export allowance for CI

I am pleased to inform you that up to 10kg of fish can now be imported from Christmas Island to mainland Australia, under a new biosecurity permit issued for the community.

Under existing biosecurity regulations, all travellers to mainland Australia are able to import 5kg of fish. This permit now allows travellers from Christmas Island to take in the full 10kg export limit set by the Christmas Island Fisheries Management Committee under the local fishing rules. This permit is the first of its kind and will be valid for five years while we work with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry towards on a potential longer-term solution through a new Australian Goods Determination.

The issuing of this permit is the result of extensive consultation and engagement with the community and responsible Government agencies. Balancing the preservation of our distinct culture and lifestyle with the sustainability of our natural environment is not possible without your input. I was pleased to be able to advocate on your behalf to find a solution on this important issue.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of officers from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts who have helped make this permit a reality. I also want to acknowledge the great work that our local Fisheries Management Committee and our Fisheries Ranger do in ensuring the sustainability of fishing now and into the future.

I know the community will welcome this news. I thank everyone who continues to help inform fisheries management in the Indian Ocean Territories.

We have updated the supporting Fact Sheet with the most up-to-date information on taking fish from Christmas Island to mainland Australia, which you can read here: <u>Christmas Island fishing rules | Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts</u>. I suggest those taking fish travel with a copy of the fact sheet and support permit or the permit number (0010576634).

Farzian Zainal

Administrator of Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands