



The Hon Niall Blair MLC
Minister for Primary Industries
Minister for Regional Water
Minister for Trade and Industry

IM18/9948

Your Ref: OUT18/5642

Mr Stuart Richey
Chair
PO Box 4157
COFFS HARBOUR JETTY NSW 2450

Dear ~~Mr Richey~~ *Stuart*

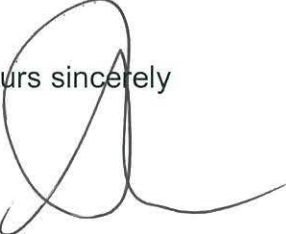
Thank you for your letter of 12 April 2018 on behalf of the Commercial Fishing NSW Advisory Council (CommFish NSW), concerning the legal minimum length (LML) for blue swimmer crabs in NSW.

I wish to thank you and Council members again for your time and your consideration of issues raised by industry. Council has proven to be an effective conduit through which the industry can connect and have commercial fishing industry issues considered.

I welcome and accept the Council's advice that the LML for blue swimmer crabs applying to commercial fishers remain at 6.5 cm, as introduced on 1 December 2017.

I also acknowledge the Council's considerations and suggestion that the LML applying to the recreational sector (currently 6cm) should be increased for consistency between sectors, for the same reasons that it was increased in the commercial sector. I understand it is already under consideration by the Recreational Fishing NSW Advisory Council (RFNSW).

If you require additional information or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Mr David McPherson, Group Director Commercial Fisheries and Aquaculture, DPI Fisheries, on (02) 6691 9680.

Yours sincerely


21 MAY 2018

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