



Fisheries Amendment (Vessel Monitoring Systems) Rules 2023

FACT SHEET

The Tasmanian Government plans to amend the *Fisheries Rules 2019* to improve the management of its vessel monitoring system (VMS) requirements.

Summary

These amendments are set out in the draft *Fisheries Amendment (Vessel Monitoring Systems) Rules 2023* and are required to support the contemporary use of modern VMS technology and simplify and improve the administration and management of the Department's VMS program.

What will the amendments do?

VMS data transmission

The amendments will enable the Department to receive VMS data using the mobile network, resulting in better management of its VMS airtime costs.

Requiring VMS in a fishery

The amendments will improve administration of the Department's VMS program by enabling it to require VMS to be used on commercial fishing vessels using a published 'VMS Notice'. The notice will determine the approved VMS unit/s to be used and the manner in which they are required to be fitted and operated in each fishery.

Continuing fishing if approved VMS unit stops working

The amendments enable supervisors to seek authorisation from a fisheries officer to continue fishing, subject to terms and conditions, if their approved VMS unit stops working while undertaking a fishing trip.

Further information

Further information on the draft amendments is available on the Fishing Tasmania website at: fishing.tas.gov.au/vms-rule-changes. Here you will find a copy of the draft amendments, a fact sheet and frequently asked questions.

Have you say

The Tasmanian Government is committed to providing opportunities for community involvement in the development of Government policy and we are seeking your input on the draft *Fisheries Amendment (Vessel Monitoring Systems) Rules 2023*.

Submissions on the draft amendments closes on **Friday 13th October 2023** and can be made by writing to the Fisheries Compliance and Licensing Branch:

Email: MarineCompliance@nre.tas.gov.au

Mail: Fisheries Compliance and Licensing Branch
Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania
GPO Box 44
HOBART TAS 7001

Please note: unless otherwise indicated, submissions will be treated as public information. Defamatory or offensive material will not be published.

