



**Government of Western Australia
Department of Transport**

Notice to Mariners and Shipping

NAVIGATION HAZARD Commercial Fisheries Operations In WA Coastal Waters

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Mariners are advised that commercial fisheries for rock lobster and octopus are established in Western Australian coastal waters, along the coast from Bunbury to the Pilbara and from shore to the 200m isobath with areas of high activity between Mandurah and Geraldton, particularly in the region Cervantes to Dongara.

Fishing is done using pots or traps sitting on the seabed. Each fishery contains in excess of 30,000 pots which are marked by floats not less than 200mm in diameter and coloured, usually fluorescent green. The floats are located on either end of a line of pots or on each individual trap.

As the floats are small and unlit, a good lookout is essential when transiting the region.

The fishery is active throughout the year with operations conducted by licensed support vessels.

Operators monitor Marine VHF Radio frequencies 74 and 78.

Mariners are advised to navigate with caution when navigating in WA coastal waters to keep well clear of all fishing operations at all times.

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Department of Transport**

Public Notices Lineage Advert – The West Australian – Friday 05.08.2011

EGN – Geraldton Guardian – Wednesday 10.08.2011