



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Talks Continuing to Reduce Fisheries Conflict on South Coast**

Recfishwest is continuing to talk with recreational fishers and local politicians about concerns that demersal gill netters are increasingly catching highly prized demersal scale fish species (pink snapper, dhufish and blue groper) along the south west coastal area.

Recfishwest Acting Executive Director Kane Moyle said there is particular concern arising from local recreational fishers about demersal gillnets being set in areas close to shore.

“There are certain areas where demersal gillnets are being set along the south west coast that are important fishing spots for recreational fishers and creating some conflict,” Mr Moyle said.

“We have met with recreational and commercial fishers in Manjimup, Bunbury and Busselton and have held a joint meeting with the Western Australian Fishing Industry Council to discuss ways of minimising conflict in this fishery.

“We are keen to negotiate with the commercial sector to find a solution which will lessen the conflict between the commercial and recreational fishing sectors along the south west coast.

“We’re confident that with continued discussions, between us we can work through to find a suitable solution.

“Recfishwest has recently provided the commercial fishing sector with specific areas where interaction between sectors is an issue and we’d like to see exclusion to gillnetting. We are looking forward to further discussions with the commercial fishing sector.”

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