



The Nomads Tide - A Monthly Brief

May 2020



2020 - What's in store for Nomads

(subject to confirmation and lockdown being lifted)

Lockdown

SA has experienced a lockdown for the first time and everyone has had to adapt and change to another way of operating. Off shore fishing has been curtailed and competitions put on hold. Such sad news. Ed

Message from SADSAA

Unfortunately, I have to be the bearer of bad news, but at this point we are still not able to launch our vessels to fish recreationally. We have been trying very hard trying to motivate government to open this for us, but with no success right now.

As the current regulations stand, we can only fish again at Level 2. This is what has been gazetted and what SAMSA has confirmed with their Marine Notice 27 of 2020.

We will however ensure that we spread the news far and wide as soon as we are given the go ahead to fish once again. Please keep your eyes on our Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/sadeepseaanglingassociati on>

Stay safe and stay warm.

*Kind Regards,
C.M.Schorn
NATIONAL SECRETARY - SADSAA
083 284 5969*

Marine Notices 27 and 28 of 2020

- [MN27: SAMSA's risk-based response to the COVID-19 Pandemic on Small Vessels and Essential Fishing Vessel Permitted Operations](#)
- [MN28: Vessel Preparedness for Shore-Based Personnel Interaction](#)

SAMSA received numerous requests to clarify which operations, training and services are allowable under different Lockdown levels. This Marine Notice thus also seeks to provide clarity to the industry with respect of SAMSA services rendered under different Lockdown levels. Table below gives a brief summary of Permitted Operations.

Table-PERMITTED OPERATIONS

Permitted activities at Level 1-3 are subject to approval of multiple government departments and the level of activity may change.

NO	VESSEL	LEVEL					REMARKS
		5	4	3	2	1	
							conduct exercises and training to ensure operational readiness in the event of an emergency
3	Fishing	X	X	X	X	X	Commercial Permit Holders and Small-Scale Fishers with permits
4	Commercial operations				X	X	Charter fishing, whale watching, shark diving, diving, guided canoe tours, passenger vessel operations ⁽²⁾
5	Sport & Recreational				X	X	All vessels with valid certificate of fitness ⁽³⁾
6	Canoeing and kayaking				X	X	Only canoeing and kayaking for exercise purposes and in compliance with local authority rules. ⁽⁴⁾

Additional documentation required to be submitted before surveying a vessel (MN28).

- Owner/Skipper must ensure that a proper COVID-19 risk assessment has been conducted and mitigating measures are put in place. See SAMSA MN 26 of 2004 for guidance. Mitigation measures are to be provided to SAMSA at time of application.
- Owner/Skipper is to complete Annex 1 and 2 of Marine Notice 28 and attach it to the Service Request Form.
- Owner/Skipper is to ensure that there is adequate PPE for all shipboard personnel, and it is worn during the service.

Read the full marine notices for more in-depth explanations.



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ORI TAG

April 7

On the 13th March 2020 a day in history was made for the ORI - Cooperative Fish Tagging Project. Our 1 014th raggedtooth shark (*Carcharias taurus*) was recaptured after spending an incredible 9 591 days (26.2 years), in total, at liberty with the same tag inserted. This is a new record for the longest time at liberty for a tagged fish, as well as the longest time that a single tag has remained in an animal in the ORI-CFTP. Our previous record was also from a raggie which was at liberty for 8 256 days (22.6 years).

This female raggie was originally tagged by Jeremy Cliff, from the KwaZulu-Natal Sharks Board, on the 9th December 1993 at Leven Point, 22 km north of Cape Vidal, KZN, measuring approximately 1 800 mm PCL. The tag was inserted underwater using a modified speargun. Jeremy had this to say about the recapture: "This is excellent news; it is great to know that all the fun we had tagging raggies at Leven has also had some important scientific value". After being at liberty for 1 397 days (3.8 years) she was first recaptured by Dr Vincent Taylor at the Strand, Western Cape, on the 6th October 1997 (unfortunately no length was recorded), having moved 1 897 km south. After being released again, she was recaptured a second time some 8 194 days (22.4 years) later (with the same, original tag) on the 13th March 2020 by Shawn Mey at Frankman's Hoek, Western Cape, measuring 2 010 mm PCL, 435 km north of the first recapture locality. She only grew 210 mm in just under 27 years showing the extremely slow growth rate of these animals (see Govender et al. 1991) and was caught at various localities along the coast showing the typical migration pattern of raggies (see Klein et al. 2019). Shawn re-tagged her with a new tag, and she was released again to continue her journey and hopefully be recaptured again in the future.

We would like to thank the manufacturers of our tags, Hallprint Pty. Ltd. in Australia, for their outstanding tag quality and the support they have given us over the last 35 years of the ORI-CFTP. A recapture like this would not have been possible without such high-quality tags. When we told David Hall, from Hallprint, about the recapture he had the following words to say: "Hallprint founder, Michael Hall always said these SSD tags were "indestructible"! As a fisheries scientist who motivated my father to produce these tags in the early 1980s this is a proud moment for myself personally - as it is for Darren and the staff that operate the company now. If nothing else this recapture shows the value in long term programs like yours supported by quality products like ours!". Hallprint's general manager, Darren Evans, also commented saying: "I think this may actually be a world record for any Hallprint external fish tag! Up to now the

longest reported time at liberty for any Hallprint tag was on a southern bluefin tuna at 9 525 days, with the next closest being an Australian bass at 9 507 days (both of those animals still carry the original tag and are at still at liberty). However, your recapture report is some two months longer. This is a fantastic achievement for your program and everyone involved and is certainly something to celebrate".

We would also like to thank all our taggers and the members of the public for their ongoing support and reporting these incredible recaptures to us! Keep up the good work!

