



Department of
Primary Industries



GOING SPEARFISHING?

- » Be aware of other water users, especially in busy areas.
- » No spearfishing on beaches more than 20 metres from rocky headlands.
- » Ensure that spear tips are suitably sheathed or removed while not in use.
- » Always load a speargun after entering the water and unload the speargun before leaving the water.
- » Know the rules, including areas closed to fishing.
- » Respect our marine life.
- » Familiarise yourself with the USFA Code of Conduct for spearfishing.
- » Remove all rubbish and fish waste.

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dpi.nsw.gov.au

SPEARFISHING RULES

Spearfishing is a popular form of recreational fishing and has been recognised for its selective and sustainable fishing practices.

CLOSURES

All inland waters are closed to spearfishing. Various areas along the coast including entrances, coastal lagoons and other tidal waters are also subject to spearfishing closures. Search **Spearfishing closures** on the DPI web site.

Enquire about other restrictions at your local NSW DPI Fisheries office or phone **1300 550 474**.

All current rules and regulations regarding bag and size limits apply to spearfishers, including:

PERMITTED

- » You may use a snorkel when taking fish.
- » Bare/gloved hand only to take lobsters.

BANNED

- » Hookah and SCUBA gear while spearfishing.
- » A light with a spear/speargun.
- » Spear/speargun to take all proper or any protected species.
- » Power heads and explosive devices.
- » Spearfishing on ocean beaches (except the last 20 metres at each end of the beach).

People wishing to go spearfishing offshore for many of the popular pelagic species should check the Code of Conduct for fishing around FADs on the DPI website.

For more information on spearfishing see: Underwater Spearfishers and Fishermans Association at **usfa.org.au**

Remember, when fishing in NSW waters you are required to pay the NSW recreational fishing fee. Visit **licence.nsw.gov.au** or call **1300 369 365**.

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