

Mon 16/06/2025 7:35 AM

My name is Diego Bagnato, and I am a commercial fisher at D & M Seafoods Pty Ltd. I have worked out of Sydney for over 35 years, primarily fishing in the grounds at Maroubra, which are now proposed to be taken. These waters have historically—and continue to be—fished by my vessel, *Cape Conway*. Losing access to this area would be **highly detrimental** to my business, as it is one of the closest and most essential fishing grounds we rely on.

I **strongly oppose** any new restrictions on my business. Before moving forward with any decisions, it is **crucial** that myself and other fishers be consulted to explore **alternative solutions**.

D & M Seafoods Pty Ltd supplies **vast amounts** of seafood to the Sydney Fish Market, feeding **hundreds of thousands** of people across the city. The loss of this fishing ground would create a **significant ripple effect**, impacting not only my business but the broader community.

Due to a **breakdown in communication** with the DPI, I was only made aware of this issue on Thursday, June 12—just four days before the submission deadline. Given these circumstances, and in collaboration with the industry peak body NSW Wild Harvest Fishers Inc., I formally request that the deadline be extended to **July 31, 2025**, to allow for proper consultation and discussion.