

UNHAPPINESS OVER SHARE OF WEST COAST ROCK LOBSTER

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The Fisher Engine of South Africa (FESA) is threatening court action in response to cuts in west coast rock lobster quota which it says is unfair on hundreds of interim relief and small scale fishers, particularly in St Helena Bay, Atlantis and Mamre in the western Cape.

Benefiting the most, says FESA, are the bigger commercial entities and investment shareholders outside of the fishing industry which gets the bulk of the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) determined at 1801 tons (a 16,79% global reduction). The subsistence sector only has an allocation of 235,45 tons and recreational fishing 69.2 tons with a restriction to 21 days effort.