



Commonwealth of Australia

Exemption under section 158 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)*

I, Tanya Plibersek, Minister for the Environment and Water, acting under section 158 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)* (EPBC Act) and being satisfied that it is in the national interest to do so, exempt the University of Tasmania (as represented by the Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies), and those acting on its behalf, from the application of all of the provisions of Part 3 and Chapter 4 of the EPBC Act, in relation to the following action:

The collection and captive management of Red Handfish (*Thymichthys politus*), including but not limited to:

- the collection of up to 50 Red Handfish from the wild;
- holding those captured Red Handfish in captivity;
- captive husbandry of Red Handfish including utilising them in a captive breeding program;
- habitat recovery activities within known Red Handfish habitat; and
- the release of collected Red Handfish or their captive-reared offspring to the habitat from which they were taken and/or translocation of individuals to another location.

This exemption takes effect on the date of this notice.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tanya Plibersek'.

Minister for the Environment and Water

Dated the 21st day of December 2023