

Advisory Council on Recreational Fishing

Outcomes from Meeting 50 – Thursday 2 September 2010 Cronulla Fisheries Research Centre of Excellence

Attendance

Bruce Schumacher	Chairperson
Alistair McGlashan	Offshore Fishing & Media
John Drew	Estuary Fishing
Claudette Rechterik	Conservation
Max Castle	Estuary Fishing
Adrian Wayne	Underwater Fishing
Sanchia Glaskin	Offshore Fishing
Charles Howe	Estuary & Offshore Fishing
Kevin McKinnon	Freshwater Fishing
John Clarke	Offshore Fishing
John Humphries	Freshwater Fishing
Ann Garard	Charter Boat Fishing
Shane Jasprizza	Estuary Fishing
Peter Turnell	Director, Fisheries Resource Management

1. Apologies

Ron Crocker (Freshwater Fishing), Jan McLeod (Estuary Fishing), Neil Ryan (Recreational Fishing Media) and Sylvia Zukowski (Freshwater Fishing & Ecology Research).

2. Confirmation of minutes from previous ACoRF meeting

Motion: The Council accepted the outcomes as a true and accurate record of discussions from the 49th ACoRF meeting, held 22 and 23 June 2010. **Moved:** Kevin McKinnon. **Seconded:** Charlie Howe. **Carried.**

3. Business arising from the minutes

a) Council procedures relating to conflict of interest

Tim Powys, Business Manager Primary Industries, I&I NSW, attended the meeting to reiterate Council members' obligations relating to the declaration of potential conflict of interest on any topic/issue being discussed by the Council, as outlined in the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet's "Conduct Guidelines for Members of NSW Government Boards and Committees" and I&I NSW's Advisory Council on Recreational Fishing and Sub-Committees Procedures Manual. The Council noted that it is the responsibility of each member to disclose any potential conflict of interest that may exist in relation to Council matters for consideration.

b) I&I NSW Fisheries Resource Management Update – Recreational fishing for trout cod

Cameron Westaway, Senior Fisheries Manager, I&I NSW advised the Council that the proposal to stock impoundments to allow limited recreational fishing for trout cod would require a Ministerial Order and a Species Impact Statement (SIS), to assess if specific impoundments could be successfully stocked with trout cod. The SIS would address, for example, current fish populations, genetics, environmental conditions and public accessibility.

c) Global stock assessment and catch allocation approach for shared fish stocks

Action item

I&I NSW to distribute the list of Southern and Eastern Shark and Scalefish Fishery quota species to Council members.

d) I&I NSW Fisheries Resource Management Update – Collapsible crab traps

Action item

I&I NSW to publish advisory information on the department's website advising recreational fishers on the recommended use of crab traps to avoid the incidental capture and subsequent drowning of threatened species such as turtles.

4. Recreational Fisheries Management update

a) Ceremonial fish stocking

The Council was advised that I&I NSW has recently received a number of requests to undertake cultural or ceremonial fish stockings at pre-arranged Government or dollar for dollar fish releases at various locations around the greater Sydney area. The Council noted similar requests received by some local council's for cultural or ceremonial fish stocking in public water bodies such as, Manly Dam (Manly), Lake Parramatta (Parramatta) and Longneck Lagoon (Pitt Town). The department will continue to work with these groups and investigate public water bodies within the greater Sydney area that may be suitable for regular fish stockings.

b) Reports of Barramundi and silver perch being caught in the Sydney Basin

The Council discussed recent reports of barramundi and silver perch being caught in the Sydney Basin. It was noted that releasing fish from aquariums, ponds or other sources can pose a serious threat to aquatic ecosystems, as released fish can spread diseases and parasites, as well as damage natural habitats of resident species. In addition, fish that are released often die from starvation or disease if they are not native to Australia, or to the local areas. This is the case with barramundi, which is a tropical/semi-tropical species and cannot survive the colder water temperatures around Sydney. Released fish that do survive and breed will compete with local native species for food and habitat.

c) Government Licensing Service Pricing Review

The NSW Government Licensing Service has finalised a pricing structure review and as a result, associated recreational fishing licence transaction costs will increase from October 2010. Concern was expressed regarding the proposed impact on the licensing administration budget. I&I NSW is currently looking at options to increase cost efficiencies of the system and refining the licence structure. The Council will be informed of developments at subsequent meetings.

d) New Recreational Fishing Trust Applications

The Council considered expenditure recommendations arising from the Recreational Fishing Freshwater and Saltwater Expenditure Committee (RFFTEC and RFSTEC) meetings held on 10 and 11 August 2010 (refer to tables in Appendix 1). Recommendations for new Trust applications supported by the Expenditure Committees and ACoRF are outlined in Table 1. Programs deferred by the Expenditure Committees and ACoRF are outlined in Table 2. Programs not supported by the Expenditure Committees and ACoRF are outlined in Table 3.

The Council supported the recommendations made by the expenditure committees for supported, deferred and not supported new programs, as outlined in Tables 1-3.

5. NSW Marine Park issues

a) Lord Howe Island Marine Park zoning plan review process

Ian Kerr, Lord Howe Island Marine Park (LHIMP) Manager provided the Council with an overview of the LHIMP, including the current zoning plan and review process. It was highlighted that spearfishing is currently prohibited in all NSW waters within the LHIMP boundaries (within three nautical miles of land). However, spearfishing is still permitted in all Commonwealth waters within the park boundaries. Council members noted that prior to the establishment of the LHIMP in 2002 spearfishing was only prohibited in that area of Lord Howe Island known as the 'Lagoon'. Mr Kerr requested that the Council provide a submission on the current review process for the LHIMP zoning plan noting that the closing date for submission is Wednesday 8 September 2010.

Motion: The Council supports providing the a submission via a letter from the Chairperson to the Marine Parks Authority and LHIMP Board supporting the introduction of limited spearfishing in the Marine Park with further negotiations to be referred to ACoRF and the Underwater Skindivers and Fishermen's Association representative Adrian Wayne. **Moved:** Adrian Wayne. Seconded: John Drew. **Carried.**

b) Solitary Island and Jervis Bay Marine Parks zoning plans review process

The Council noted that the closing date for submissions for the Solitary Island and Jervis Bay Marine Park draft zoning plans is 17 September 2010. Council members were requested to provide comments out of session by Monday 13 September 2010 for collation and submission to DECCW by the Chairperson.

6. Commercial Fisheries and Resource Management update

a) Principal Director, Fisheries and Compliance Update

Paul O'Connor, Principal Director, Fisheries and Compliance I&I NSW, attended the meeting and provided an update on a range of fisheries management issues and initiatives, including the establishment of an Aboriginal Fishing Advisory Council, the Mulloway Resource Planning process and cost recovery issues and reform projects underway in the commercial fishing industry.

b) Commonwealth Endeavour Dogfish Closures

Doug Ferrell, Manager Resource Planning I&I NSW, provided the Council with an update regarding negotiations between I&I NSW and the Commonwealth in relation to a proposed Endeavour Dogfish fishing closure. I&I NSW requested the Council provide their formal position in relation to the suggested proposal of a zero bag limit of all Dogfish species for recreational fishers. The Council noted the proposed zero bag limit is the preferred approach as it would have less impact on recreational fishers than the spatial fishing closure suggested by DEWHA and AFMA.

Motion: ACoRF supports the implementation of a zero bag limit for all Dogfish species. **Moved:** Charlie Howe. Seconded: Alistair McGlashan. **Carried.**

c) Exit Grants

The Council was provided with a summary of the commercial fishing exit grants process that is currently underway, which is one of the eight key directions of commercial fishing business reform detailed in the "Pyrmont Pact". The Council noted that this process will provide a valuable step towards improving the industry's viability through a reduction in the total number of fishing businesses in NSW. The Council was advised that the process has resulted in a number of fishing business owners expressing interest in surrendering their fishing businesses as part of the exit grant process.

d) Abalone

The Council was advised that I&I NSW has opened that part of the NSW coast from Botany Bay to Wreck Bay, to allow commercial and limited recreational abalone fishing on weekends and NSW public holidays that fall adjacent to weekends (i.e. Friday or Monday). The Council noted that this area had been closed to both recreational and commercial fishing for several years due to concerns about depleted stocks. The independent Total Allowable Catch Committee, which sets the total annual commercial catch, believed there were some signs of recovery of stocks in the area and recommended that a limited commercial take be allowed and monitored to help provide information on the status of the stock. The area from Port Stephens to Botany Bay will remain closed to both commercial and recreational fishing for abalone until evidence of stock recovery in these areas is known.

7. Mulloway Resource Planning Group update

I&I NSW provided an update on the Mulloway Resource Planning Group process. It was noted that at the last meeting the Council supported the implementation of a series of management actions developed by the Planning Group. The department advised that consultation with other key stakeholder groups such as the Seafood Industry Advisory Council (SIAC) and the

commercial fisheries Management Advisory Committees (MACs) was still in progress. The Council will be notified of the outcomes of these discussions.

8. Trial Bay bait grounds closure proposal

I&I NSW advised the Council that NSW Maritime agreed to replace one of the mooring buoys that had been removed from the Trial Bay area. The Council noted that the department is seeking NSW Maritime approval to deploy a FAD as a replacement for the second buoy. The Council noted that the 100 metre commercial fishing closure around both buoys should be retained at this stage while the new buoys are in place and trialled.

9. Out of session items

a) Advice regarding the proposal to remove a fishing closure in Durras Lake.

Motion: The council noted and ratified the above out of session item. **Moved:** Kevin McKinnon. Seconded: Alistair McGlashan. **Carried.**

10. Planning Strategic Research for Wild Fisheries, Aquatic Ecosystems and Aquaculture in NSW – Table of Research Priorities

The Council noted that there may be a number of new research projects considered to be of high priority for recreational fishers that are not included in the current table. Council members were encouraged to provide input on this issue out of session.

Action Item: Council members to forward comments to the department out of session. I&I NSW to collate comments for the Council's consideration at the next meeting.

11. Recreational Fishing Programs presentations

Trevor Daly, Fisheries Conservation Manager, Aquatic Habitat Protection (AHP) Unit, provided an update on the implementation of the coastal fish habitat program. Reports were provided on a range of saltwater and freshwater projects in the south coast and south west regions that are being successfully delivered by the AHP Unit. These included addressing saltwater fisheries issues relating to proposed coastal developments, review of Local Environment Plans and estuary management processes, as well as generating media coverage on fish habitat, giving presentations to government and non-government groups (including fishing clubs), supporting Trust grant applications, and developing on-ground works to improve and enhance coastal fish habitat.

An update of the Recreational Fishing Haven (RFH) guardians program was also provided. The program involves using local stakeholders, whom are respected within the community and aware of the local recreational fishing issues, to gather information and promote recreational fishing initiatives. The program has been very successful to date with 11 RFH guardians already involved. If feasible, it is planned to expand the program in the future so there are between 1 and 3 guardians for each of the 30 RFHs in NSW.

The other scheduled recreational fishing program presentations on Marine Stocking, Fisheries Enhancement and Saltwater Fishing Access were postponed until ACoRF meeting 51 due to time constraints.

12. General Business

a) Expression of Interest - recreational fishing council and committee representative positions

The Council was advised of the current EOI process for persons with expertise in various aspects of recreational fishing to be appointed to fill upcoming vacancies on the Advisory Council on Recreational Fishing (ACoRF), Recreational Fishing Freshwater Trust Expenditure Committee (RFFTEC) and the Recreational Fishing Saltwater Trust Expenditure Committee (RFSTEC). The Council noted that the closing date for applications for the ACoRF and RFSTEC positions is Thursday 7 October 2010, while the closing date for applications for the RFFTEC positions is Friday 15 October 2010. Council members whose appointments are due to expire were encouraged to apply for re-appointment.

b) Commercially focussed recreational fishing competitions

The department provided an update on the issue raised by RFFTEC about inland fishing competitions that are primarily run for commercial purposes with little or no contribution to the fisheries resource or the community.

The Council was advised that the discussion paper on the Draft Policy for Fishing Competitions in NSW Marine Parks, which was provided to the Council at ACoRF meeting 49 is being updated to take account of the previous comments made by the working group. It is anticipated that a revised draft will be sent to Council for review.

c) Proposal for permitted catch and release opportunities in marine parks

The Council discussed a recent proposal to allow catch and release recreational fishing within NSW Marine Park sanctuary zones. It was proposed that anglers could apply for a permit from NSW MPA that would allow them to carry out catch and release fishing only within specified sanctuary zones. The Council noted that although this proposal has merit, it would be to permit non-extractive recreational fishing in accordance with the objects of sanctuary zones within the *Marine Parks (Zoning Plans) Regulation 1999*. It was suggested that a more effective way to gain recreational fishing access to specific areas that are currently within sanctuary zones would be to provide a submission as part of the zoning plan review process for each park. The submission should request consideration of areas to be re-classified to habitat protection zones to allow some form of recreational fishing.

d) Availability of Habitat Action Grants to improve local waterways

The Council was advised that I&I NSW is currently calling for individuals, groups, local councils and organisations interested in undertaking fish friendly projects to improve their local waterways, to apply for a Habitat Action Grant. The grants program aims to restore fish habitat and increase native fish populations. The Council noted that applications for these grants close on 15 October 2010.

e) Update on Commonwealth recreational fishing round table meeting 19 July

Council member Max Castle provided an update on the recent Commonwealth recreational fishing round table meeting held in Canberra. It was noted that ACoRF and its subcommittees were well represented with ACoRF members, Ann Garard, Max Castle, and Shane Jasprizza and RFSTEC member Malcolm Poole in attendance. Mr Castle advised that due to the unforeseen announcement of the Federal Election, Minister Tony Bourke and Minister Peter Garrett were unable to attend. However, representatives for both Ministers were present. The council suggested that a summary of the main points of discussion be forwarded to members for their information.

Action Item: I&I NSW forward a summary of the Commonwealth recreational fishing meeting's outcomes to members.

g) Grey Nurse Shark Critical Habitat Protection areas – Fish Rock and Green Island

Bill Talbot, Director Fisheries Conservation and Aquaculture, and Peter Gallagher, Senior Conservation Manager Threatened Species, I&I NSW, provided an update on the grey nurse shark critical habitat protection areas.

The Council were advised that the Minister for Primary Industries had recently announced a review of fishing restrictions at Fish Rock and Green Island, South West Rocks as part of the Governments ongoing commitment to preventing the extinction of grey nurse sharks.

Council noted that the use of bait and/or wire trace is permitted directly over the grey nurse shark aggregations at Fish Rock and Green Island provided vessels are not anchored or moored. Bait fishing has been identified as a high risk method, and has been prohibited in the commercial ocean trap and line (OT&L) fishery since May 2008 at these sites.

I&I NSW advised that recent scientific research has concluded that the proportion of sharks that have been hooked at least once has not declined. Preliminary results from research conducted by Industry and Investment NSW at Fish Rock suggests fishing with bait and some types of jigs in close proximity to grey nurse sharks is likely to result in interactions. The same research suggests trolling is a low risk fishing method however other research has observed grey nurse sharks trailing lures at Fish Rock, possibly after taking fish being played on lures that have retreated to deeper water.

I&I NSW advised that they were currently investigating options to reduce hooking interactions which will be provided to the Council out of session.

h) Commercial and recreational harvest of pipis

The Council expressed concern about the recent reduction in catch rates of NSW commercial pipi fishers, which may indicate a significant decrease in the population caused by overfishing. The department advised that although limited information was known about the species a decrease in pipi numbers has also been observed on beaches that are not commercially harvested, which indicates that other environmental factors may be affecting pipi stocks. It was noted that an application for FRDC funding is being made to conduct further research on NSW pipi.

Action Item: The Council to provide a letter of support for the FRDC funding application for the pipi research project.

i) Consultation and information distribution to NSW anglers

The Advisory Council on Recreational Fishing recently requested I&I NSW to investigate new methods to improve the dissemination of recreational fishing information to anglers throughout NSW, including via email to recreational fishing licence holders (on the GLS database) and information about the Council in the I&I NSW recreational fishing guide publications.

j) Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC) and Escape with ET- The Council was advised that Escape with ET had acquired an exclusive sponsorship deal with FRDC which precludes the television program from covering any work other than FRDC-funded projects. The council noted that the Trust Expenditure Committees had raised concerns that this deal restricts other funding bodies and activities like I&I NSW and the Recreational Fishing Trusts from using the television program to promote some of the great work they are funding to improve and enhance recreational fishing.

Action Item: The Council to write to the FRDC on behalf of RFSTEC and RFFTEC requesting permission to use the Escape with ET program to promote I&I NSW and Recreational Fishing Trust funded projects.

13. Next meeting

The next meeting (ACoRF 51) is scheduled for 7 December 2010.

Action items from 49th ACoRF meeting on 22 and 23 June 2010

Agenda Item	Action	Team Responsible	Status
Global stock assessment and catch allocation approach for shared fish stocks.	The department to distribute the list of Southern and Eastern Shark and Scalefish Fishery quota species to council members.	Recreational Management	Completed.
Correspondence received - Randwick Council re: line fishing within Bronte-Coogee Aquatic Reserve.	I&I NSW to provide presentation of the 'Bluey Tagging' program at the next council meeting.	Recreational Management	Presentation to be provided by Kate Lee at ACoRF meeting 51.

Action items from 50th ACoRF meeting on 2 September 2010

Agenda Item	Action	Team Responsible	Status
Planning Strategic Research for Wild Fisheries, Aquatic Ecosystems and Aquaculture in NSW – Table of Research Priorities	Council members to forward comments out of session. I&I NSW to collate comments for the Council's approval at the next meeting.	Recreational Management / Council members	Completed
General Business - Commonwealth recreational fishing round table meeting 19 July	I&I NSW to forward a summary of the meeting to Council members.	Recreational Management	Completed
General Business – Commercial and recreational harvest of pipis	The Council to provide a letter of support for the FRDC funding application for the Pipi research project.	Recreational Management / ACoRF	Completed
General Business – Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC) and Escape with ET	The Council to write to the FRDC on behalf of RFSTEC and RFFTEC requesting permission to use the Escape with ET program to promote I&I NSW and Recreational Fishing Trust funded projects	Recreational Management / ACoRF	Completed
I&I NSW Fisheries Resource Management Update – Collapsible crab traps	I&I NSW to publish advisory information on the department's website advising recreational fishers on the recommended use of crab traps to avoid the incidental capture and subsequent drowning of threatened species such as turtles.	Recreational Management/ Publications Unit	Completed

Table 1 - New Trust Project Applications supported by ACORF, RFSTEC and RFFTEC for funding

Platform: Recreational fishing education				
Project Title	Organisation	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
<p>'Fishing NSW' – iPhone App [FW and SW Trust Pre-proposal] To design and develop an iPhone app for fishing enthusiasts and a general audience to easily gain up-to date information on various fish species, rules and regulations that pertain to bag and size limits on recreational, salt and freshwater fishing within NSW. Note: RFSTEC gave in principal support for the program to be developed via a tender process to ensure value for money and competitive selection of a preferred supplier. I&I NSW to submit a funding application for funding of the proposed tender contract. The Apple University Consortium (AUC) operates a program where students from various universities carry out scientific studies relating to Apple Macintosh software which may significantly reduce the costs of this project.</p>	Image Mechanics			
Small grants				
<p>Give a Man a Fish To educate and offer the opportunity to fish safely and effectively in the Illawarra region for Illawarra's disadvantaged refugee communities. To share the Illawarra's abundant marine environment and its bounties.</p>	Centre for Student Engagement, Wollongong UniCentre, University of Wollongong	\$4,809 SW	\$4,809	
<p>Narrandera Fish and Family Fund Day To hold an open day at the Narrandera Fisheries Centre to showcase aspects of fish ecology, fish stocking and research projects and to involve the community in a range of fishing & research demonstrations / activities.</p>	Industry and Investment NSW	\$7,690 FW		

Motion: The Council supports the recommendations made by the expenditure committees to support the programs under the funding platform: recreational fishing education. **Moved:** John Humphries. **Seconded:** John Drew. **Carried**

Platform: Fishing access and facilities				
Project Title	Organisation	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Small grants				
<p>Berkeley Boat Harbour Fish Cleaning Table, Lake Illawarra To construct a fish cleaning table at Berkeley Boat Harbour, Lake Illawarra.</p>	Lake Illawarra Authority	\$4,000 SW		

Motion: The Council supports the recommendations made by the expenditure committees to support the programs under the funding platform: fishing access and facilities. **Moved:** John Humphries. **Seconded:** Kevin McKinnon. **Carried**

Table 2: New Trust Applications deferred by ACoRF, RFSTEC and RFFTEC

Platform: Recreational fishing education				
Project Title	Organisation	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Fishy Business The purpose of the “Fishy Business” project is to inform Aboriginal people in coastal NSW of their rights to access marine/estuarine resources. Note: RFSTEC recommended that this project be deferred to the NSW Aboriginal Fishing Advisory Council for further advice and potential collaboration.	Booroongen Djugun Aboriginal Corporation	\$50,400 SW		
“Maguradala Libyila” - “Let’s fish together” The project will provide a variety of culturally appropriate workshops to Aboriginal youth addressing all aspects of recreational fishing, traditional Aboriginal fishing techniques and sustainability regimes such as bag and size limits and best practice handling techniques. Note: RFSTEC recommended that this project be deferred to the NSW Aboriginal Fishing Advisory Council for further advice and potential collaboration.	KARI Aboriginal Resources	\$9,143 SW	\$8,683	\$8,683
Small grants				
Building participation and awareness amongst students in the Northern Tablelands To host three sustainable fishing / fish habitat seminars at Pindari and Copeton Dams for 350 high school students from Inverell High School. Note: RFSTEC requested that the application be deferred to the “Fishcare Volunteer”, “Get Hooked – it’s fun to fish” and “Fishing Workshops” programs for further development.	Gwydir / Macintyre Resources Management Committee	\$9,800 FW		

Motion: The Council supports the recommendations made by the expenditure committees to defer the programs under the funding platform: recreational fishing education. **Moved:** John Humphries. **Seconded:** Sanchia Glaskin. **Carried**

Platform: Fishing access and facilities				
Project Title	Organisation	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Removal and replacement of fishing jetty, Koowong Rd, Gwandalan To remove and rebuild this highly used jetty to better accommodate and promote recreational fishing. Note: RFSTEC gave in principal support for this program however requested additional information about the design plans for the new jetty. Applicant should re-submit with design drawings.	Wyong Shire Council	\$45,540 SW		
Provision of fishing accessories and upgrades to eleven jetties within Wyong Shire To upgrade eleven of the most heavily utilised jetties in the Shire to provide bait boards, rod holders, cleats and fenders which will improve the safety and accessibility for recreational fishers. Note: RFSTEC gave in principal support for this program however requested additional information in relation to some of the plans and expenses, such as the quality of bait boards, rod holders and other equipment. Applicant should re-submit with more details.	Wyong Shire Council	\$13,024 SW		

Motion: The Council supports the recommendations made by the expenditure committees to defer the programs under the funding platform: fishing access and facilities. **Moved:** Alistair McGlashan. **Seconded:** John Humphries. **Carried**

Platform: Research on fish and recreational fishing				
Project Title	Organisation	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
<p>Recreational fishing towards suitable Mako shark legislation. The spatial and temporal movements of mako sharks off NSW will be determined through comparing the historical recreational fisher tagging data with new telemetry data to inform proposed legislative changes.</p> <p>Note: RFSTEC recommended that this project be deferred pending the completion of a desktop study, as proposed in the outcomes from the national Mako Workshop in Melbourne, 31 May 2010.</p>	I&I NSW	\$85,653 SW	\$79,862	

Motion: The Council supports the recommendations made by the expenditure committees to defer the programs under the funding platform: research on fish and recreational fishing. **Moved:** Max Castle. **Seconded:** Shane Jasprizza. **Carried**

Table 3: New Trust Applications not supported by ACoRF, RFSTEC and RFFTEC

Platform: Recreational fishing education				
Project Title	Organisation	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
<p>Promotion of Circle Hooks to NSW anglers To promote the use of circle hooks through Fishing World Magazine by producing a detailed magazine article promoting the use of circle hooks, giving away a free trial packet of circle hooks with each magazine and the production of a "How to use circle hooks" video available to view on the Fishing World website. Note: RFSTEC supported the concept as the proposal has merit in promoting responsible fishing practices. Although the project has proposed education benefits, it was considered to have potential commercial benefits which will potentially result in promotion of Fishing World magazine, therefore it is inappropriate for this application to be supported.</p>	Fishing World Magazine (Yaffa Publishing Group)	\$9,900 SW		

Motion: The Council supports the recommendations made by the expenditure committees to not support the programs under the funding platform: recreational fishing education. **Moved:** Max Castle. **Seconded:** Charlie Howe. **Carried**

Platform: Fishing access and facilities				
Project Title	Organisation	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
<p>Narromine wetlands carp eradication program To hold a recreational carp fishing competition to assist in take / removal of carp from a freshwater lakes system in Narromine and restocking of the Lakes with native fish species. Note: It was noted that the Trust does not usually fund fishing competition aspects of programs. RFFTEC requested that the restocking component of the project be referred for assessment under the Dollar for Dollar Native Fish Stocking Program.</p>	Rotary Club of Narromine Inc.	\$500 FW		
<p>Quirindi Carp muster To hold a recreational fishing carp muster at Rose Lee Park Quirindi, including promotion and merchandising, purchase of picnic area seating and stocking of native fish fingerlings. Note: RFFTEC consider the picnic seating to have recreational fishing benefits. It was noted that the Trust does not usually fund fishing competition aspects of programs. The Committee requested that the restocking component of the project be referred for assessment under the Dollar for Dollar Native Fish Stocking Program.</p>	Quirindi Fishing Club Inc	\$7,500 FW		

Motion: The Council supports the recommendations made by the expenditure committees to not support the programs under the funding platform: fishing access and facilities. **Moved:** John Humphries. **Seconded:** Sanchia Glaskin. **Carried**

Platform: Research on recreational fishing				
Project Title	Organisation	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
<p>Estimating and Reducing Release Mortality of Yellowtail Kingfish in Lord Howe Island Recreational Fisheries The project aims to estimate kingfish release mortality and test self-releasing hooks and weighted release methods to reduce kingfish mortality and speed recuperation after release in the recreational fishery at Lord Howe Island.</p>	University of Western Sydney	\$67,148 SW	\$8,164	

<p>Note: Although the project had some merit, the RFSTEC requested that additional contributing funding should be sought from other sources.</p>				
<p>Predicting hazardous conditions for rock fishing. Phase 2: Field verification and stability testing [resubmitted with additional information] The purpose of the proposal is to build on work carried out in stage 1 of this project to enable these hazard predictors to be utilised practically along the NSW coast by organisations such as the Bureau of Meteorology and SLSA to provide safety information and reduce fatalities. Note: RFSTEC considered there to be insufficient contributing funding from other sources and that funding was currently being allocated to a wide range of rockfishing safety initiatives.</p>	Water Research Laboratory (WRL), University of New South Wales	\$ 49,850 SW		
<p>The effects of algal blooms and low water levels on impoundment fisheries To examine the effects of algal blooms on fish movements and angler catch rates in recreational fishing impoundments. Note: RFFTEC acknowledged the benefits of algal bloom research however did not consider it a recreational fisheries research priority at this time. RFFTEC also noted that the effects of algal blooms are currently managed by other Government agencies so there may be opportunities for funding from other sources.</p>	University of Western Sydney	\$47,725 FW	\$54,625	\$15,525
<p>Impacts to development of Australian Bass embryos when exposed to carbendazim fungicide and nonylphenol wetting agent at environmentally relevant concentrations. Testing the potential impacts of a common agrichemical combination (fungicide and wetting agent) on the development of Australian Bass embryos at a range of concentrations, which have been found in waterways. Note: RFFTEC acknowledged the benefits of research into factors affecting development of juvenile bass, however did not consider it a recreational fisheries research priority at this point in time. RFFTEC noted that the project also had implications for other states and territories and that contributing funding should be sought from other agencies and sources, including the Fisheries Research Development Corporation proposal.</p>	Future Fisheries Veterinary Service	\$21,062 FW		

Motion: The Council supports the recommendations made by the expenditure committees to not support the programs under the funding platform: research on recreational fishing. **Moved:** John Humphries. **Seconded:** Max Castle. **Carried**