



Recreational Fishing Freshwater Trust Expenditure Committee Outcomes, 47th meeting

Hotel Mercure, Wolli Creek, Sydney

18 March 2015

Attendees

Bruce Schumacher (Chair), Ron Butler (Region 2), Ron Croker (Region 3), Ian Ward (Region 4), Tom Williams (Region 5), Debbie Lennon (Region 6), Kevin McKinnon (Region 8), Peter Turnell (NSW DPI).

1. Apologies

Max Graham (Region 1) Richard Ping Kee (Region 7).

1. Chairs introduction

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Confirmation of outcomes from previous RFFTEC meetings

The draft outcomes of the 45th RFFTEC meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record of that meeting. Moved: Ron Butler Seconded: Ron Croker. The draft outcomes of the 46th RFFTEC meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record of that meeting. Moved: Kevin McKinnon Seconded: Tom Williams.

3. Action items from previous meetings

It was noted that a range of options for the proposed new water supply dam on the Belubula River were still being considered.

4. Recreational Fishing Trust Report

The status of the Freshwater Trust was presented.

The current Recreational Fishing Trust investment plan finishes on 30 June 2015. It is proposed that a new three year investment plan be developed for the 2015/16-2017/18 period allowing for greater flexibility and to improve ability to account for emerging priorities.

A community expression of interest for Trust funded programs was advertised in October 2014 and widely circulated to invite anglers, fishing clubs and councils to apply for Trust funding. The expression of interest was also advertised in Newscast and on the DPI website and through various other grant networks. The closing date for submission of new applications was Tuesday 9 December 2014. A total of 108 applications were received by DPI.

5. Review of new 2015/16 Trust funding applications

The committee reviewed new Freshwater Trust grant applications. Funding recommendations with respect to each project were forwarded to ACoRF for subsequent recommendations to the Minister for consideration. Meeting recommendations are provided in the attached Tables.

6. General business

National recreational fishing conference: A National Recreational Fishing Conference will be held at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre on 25 July 2015. The theme for the conference is ‘Managing our Fishing Future’ and will feature a range of presentations by experts from around the world on various issues relating to recreational fishing and discussion forums to engage participants on key recreational fishing issues. The cost of conference registration and travel and accommodation expenses will be provided to the committee delegate. The nominated representative will need to provide a report on the outcomes of the conference at a future expenditure committee meeting.

Action item: NSW DPI will contact expenditure committee members out of session to determine which members would like nominate to attend the 2015 National Recreational Fishing Conference as a RFFTEC delegate.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 20 August 2015 in Sydney.

8. Meeting closed

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 2.30 pm.

9. Action items

Action items	Group responsible	Status
DPI to collect committee nominations for National Recreational Fishing conference and draw 1 random person to attend.	Recreational Fisheries Management, Chair	Completed
That the Chair writes a letter to the Minister for Primary Industries requesting a contributing DPI funding contribution for operational overheads for Trust funded fisheries officers.	Recreational Fisheries Management, Chair	Completed
That the following funding applications are referred to the Habitat Action Program for assessment: “Ramping up fish passage in the Buckinbah”; “Kyogle Weir Conversion to Fish Passage” and “Narrung Street habitat rehabilitation”.	Recreational Fisheries Management / Conservation Action Unit	Completed
That the following funding applications are referred to the Dollar for Dollar Native Fish Stocking Program for assessment: “Purchase and release of fish fingerlings, Burren Junction and “Narrung Street habitat rehabilitation”.	Recreational Fisheries Management	Completed
That the “Riverside Boys and Girls” funding application be referred to the Indigenous Fisheries Advisory Council for review / comment.	Recreational Fisheries Management	Completed
Provide committee members with the option to opt out of paper versions of applications and agenda papers and receive electronic versions instead.	Recreational Fisheries Management	Completed. Kevin McKinnon, Ron Butler and Bruce Schumacher have opted.
Next meeting to focus on updates from major projects, including Compliance, Aquatic Habitat and Conservation, Recreational Fishing Access, Fishcare, Research and Dr Ken Cowden.	Recreational Fisheries Management	Completed

Table 1: New Trust project applications supported by RFFTEC for funding**Platform: Aquatic habitat protection and rehabilitation**

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
<p>Aquatic habitat protection and fish conservation in the Greater Murray Region</p> <p>Provision of fish conservation management services to the Murray, lower Darling, Murrumbidgee and Lachlan catchments to enhance key fish habitat protection.</p> <p>SUPPORTED. Moved Kevin McKinnon, Seconded Ron Croker. The project will co-ordinate fish habitat protection and management issues in south western NSW. The project will also enhance recreational fishery involvement in fish habitat protection and management.</p>	NSW DPI	\$188,486	\$193,389	\$198,441
<p>Habitat Action Program – making more fish...naturally</p> <p>The Program will engage recreational anglers in undertaking on-ground works programs to improve habitat rehabilitation and fish stocks in NSW.</p> <p>SUPPORTED. Moved Kevin McKinnon, Seconded Debbie Lennon. The project supports the improvement of fish habitat utilised by recreationally important fish species. RFFTEC recommended funding proposed for the Fish Habitat Network be allocated to community habitat action grants.</p>	NSW DPI	\$210,000	\$211,300	\$212,150
<p>Small Grant</p> <p>Clean fishing in Queanbeyan</p> <p>Queanbeyan City Council wants to address problems connected with lost and littered recreational fishing line by installing Angler bins and educational signage along the Queanbeyan River.</p> <p>SUPPORTED. Moved Debbie Lennon, Seconded Ron Butler. The committee supported funding for angler educational signage conditional to DPI approval of signage content. The committee did not support funding for installation of litter bins.</p>	Queanbeyan City Council	\$3,900 requested \$2,700 supported	\$0	\$0

Platform: Recreational fishing enhancement programs

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Dollar for dollar native fish stocking program To provide ongoing funding to match stocking groups in the raising of funds to purchase native fish from private hatcheries to stock into public waterways. SUPPORTED. Moved Ian Ward, Seconded Kevin McKinnon. The project will assist clubs / community groups to restock native fish to enhance recreational fishing in local waters. Cameron Westaway and Craig Watson declared a potential conflict of interest and were absent from the meeting during voting.	NSW DPI	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000
Enhanced fish production To provide additional operational funding at Government fish hatcheries to increase fish production / stocking capabilities and enhance recreational fishing opportunities SUPPORTED. Moved Debbie Lennon, Seconded Tom Williams. The project will ensure production of quality native fish and trout to boost recreational fish stocks in impoundment and riverine fisheries. The committee asked that funding for the Gaden trout hatchery position be transferred from the enhanced fish production program to the Gaden hatchery operations program, so that all Gaden hatchery staff are funded under the one project. Cameron Westaway and Craig Watson declared a potential conflict of interest and were absent from the meeting during voting.	NSW DPI	\$488,316	\$496,115	\$504,144
Small Grant Support Fish Hatchery trainees Provides funding for university students to undertake work experience at the Narrandera Fisheries Centre to gain experience in fish breeding technology. This project also helps to improve the number and quality of fish produced at the Narrandera hatchery. SUPPORTED. Moved Kevin McKinnon, Seconded Debbie Lennon. The project will increase the number of fisheries students with practical skills learnt in a native fish hatchery and assist with fish production outcomes at the Narrandera Fisheries Centre. .	NSW DPI	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000

Platform: Recreational fishing enhancement programs

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
<p>Fisheries Management Officer (inland recreational fisheries)</p> <p>A Fisheries Management Officer provides assistance in the management of inland fish stocking programs (stocking approvals, assessments, permits, etc.) to ensure sustainable fish stocking practices.</p> <p>SUPPORTED. Moved Kevin McKinnon, Seconded Debbie Lennon. The project will assess fish stocking applications and issue fish stocking permits in accord with FMS / HQAS protocols, to ensure responsible fish stocking activities. Cameron Westaway and Craig Watson declared a potential conflict of interest and were absent from the meeting during voting.</p>	NSW DPI	\$127,145	\$130,225	\$133,382
<p>Gaden trout hatchery operational expenditure</p> <p>To provide ongoing operational funding for the Gaden trout hatchery for the production of trout and salmon for re stocking into rivers and streams in southern NSW.</p> <p>SUPPORTED. Moved Ian Ward, Seconded Kevin McKinnon. The project will ensure a continuation in the production and stocking of recreational trout / salmon species to enhance recreational fishing. Cameron Westaway declared a potential conflict of interest and was absent from the meeting during voting.</p>	NSW DPI	\$478,450	\$486,196	\$494,136
<p>Small Grant</p> <p>Developing mangrove jack as a key new species for freshwater recreational fishing in NSW – Phase 3. Maintenance of broodstock through 2015/16</p> <p>This application is for funding to cover the costs of mangrove jack broodstock maintenance at the SCU National Marine Science Centre (NMSC) through 2015/16.</p> <p>SUPPORTED. Moved Kevin McKinnon Seconded Ron Croker. The project will maintain Mangrove Jack broodstock at the National Marine Science Centre for potential future release pending results of post stocking monitoring at Clarrie Hall dam.</p>	Southern Cross University	\$7,750	\$0	\$0

Platform: Fishing access and facilities

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
<p>Disabled Fishing Access Ramp – Jubilee Park Culcairn</p> <p>The installation of disabled ramps / platforms at Jubilee Park, Culcairn. It includes the substantial clean up of overgrown foliage currently blocking access to the water's edge.</p> <p>SUPPORTED. Moved Debbie Lennon, Seconded Kevin McKinnon. The project will provide access to fishing activities at Jubilee Park, Culcairn for disabled and elderly citizens.</p>	Great Hume Shire Council / Morven Fishing Club	\$15,800	\$0	\$0
<p>Fisheries Management Officer (inland angler access)</p> <p>A Fisheries Management Officer assesses public land disposal applications and makes recommendations for retaining lands which are considered high priority access sites for recreational fishers. The position also assists in the inspections of access sites and development of a website for identifying the location of access sites.</p> <p>SUPPORTED. Moved. Kevin McKinnon Seconded Ron Croker. This position will focus on addressing land road closures and securing future angler access to areas of importance for recreational fishing. Cameron Westaway declared a potential conflict of interest and was absent from the room during voting.</p>	NSW DPI	\$134,613	\$138,834	\$141,914
<p>Small Grants program</p> <p>Provides funding towards the development of on-ground recreational fishing facilities and other small, local or regional projects to enhance recreational fishing</p> <p>SUPPORTED. Moved. Kevin McKinnon Seconded Ron Croker. This project provides funding for local recreational fisheries initiatives such as fish surveys, advisory signage and angler amenities. Craig Watson declared a potential conflict of interest and was absent from the meeting during voting.</p>	NSW DPI	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000

Platform: Fishing access and facilities

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Fisheries Manager (inland angler access)	NSW DPI	\$179,785	\$183,961	\$188,244

The position is responsible for working closely with government agencies and landholders to maintain and improve current access to popular local fishing spots.

SUPPORTED. Moved. Ron Butler Seconded Ron Croker. This project helps to secure angler access at a variety of areas for recreational fishing and to develop and distribute information on angler access to stakeholders. Cameron Westaway declared a potential conflict of interest and was absent from the room during voting.

Platform: Recreational fishing education

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Tour Guide, Gaden trout hatchery	NSW DPI	\$73,523	\$75.361	\$77,245

Responsible for running the on-site visitor's centre tourist complex, conducting guided tours and assisting with the running of hatchery children's fishing workshops

SUPPORTED. Moved Kevin McKinnon Seconded Tom Williams. The project will improve visitor information services, marketing and promotion of fish hatchery activities. Cameron Westaway declared a potential conflict of interest and was absent from the room during voting.

Recreational fishing guides	NSW DPI	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000
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To inform and educate the fishing community about responsible, sustainable fishing practices through the production and broad distribution of comprehensive saltwater and freshwater fishing guides (300,000 per year).

SUPPORTED. Moved Ron Butler Seconded Ron Croker. The project will increase awareness of fishing fee requirements, fishing rules and regulations and responsible fishing practices.

Platform: Recreational fishing education

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
NSW Fishing Workshops Fishing workshops teach responsible fishing practices to children and provide children with an enjoyable learning experience. SUPPORTED. Moved Ron Butler Seconded Tom Williams. The project aims to teach the basics of fishing to young fishers and to encourage children to continue to participate in fishing over the longer term. The project includes holding workshops for special needs groups and NESB communities.	NSW DPI	\$19,780	\$20,000	\$20,400
Fishcare Dedicated volunteers assisting NSW DPI in fostering responsible fishing practices within the community. The project also provides volunteers with an opportunity for the inter-networking of trust funded and wider agency initiatives such as research, conservation and education programs / activities. SUPPORTED. Moved Ron Butler Seconded Ron Croker. The program enhances community understanding of recreational fisheries programs and activities. Volunteers adopt a sense of ownership and responsibility for the long term sustainability of fish stocks and the aquatic environment. Bryan van der Walt declared a potential conflict of interest and was absent from the room during voting.	NSW DPI	\$170,000	\$174,250	\$178,600
Get Hooked....it's Fun to Fish The aim of the program is to introduce school children to freshwater and marine recreational fishing, the importance of healthy aquatic life for fish stocks, catch and release skills and how to adopt safe and responsible fishing practises. The project meets the NSW Department of Education and Training Environmental Education Policy and curriculum. SUPPORTED. Moved Ron Croker Seconded Ian Ward. "Get hooked...it's fun to fish" is an interactive and discovery based school program that introduces school children to safe and responsible fishing practises and encourages young people to participate in recreational fishing as a life-long interest. Bryan van der Walt declared a potential conflict of interest and was absent from the room during voting.	NSW DPI	\$39,000	\$39,000	\$39,000

Platform: Recreational fishing education

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
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Fishing fee awareness

NSW DPI

\$15,000

\$15,000

\$15,000

To raise awareness of the need for a fishing licence and where licence fees go through advertising in a range of media during peak fishing periods.

SUPPORTED. Moved Ron Croker Seconded Kevin McKinnon. The project aims to produce a series of video's to advertise / promote fishing fee programs and expenditure.

Fishing competitions and events: responsible recreational fishing promotion and effective management

NSW DPI

\$25,376

\$25,904

\$26,406

The aim of the project is to promote best practice recreational fishing and competition management techniques. This includes promotion of responsible techniques based on the most current science and recreational fishing know-how.

SUPPORTED. Moved Ron Croker Seconded Ron Butler. The project works closely with anglers and fishing event organisers to promote environmentally sustainable recreational fishing tournament practices. The program also implements codes of practice for recreational fishing competitions in NSW. Bryan van der Walt declared a potential conflict of interest and was absent from the room during voting.

Platform: Enforcement of fishing rules

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
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6 inland fisheries officers

NSW DPI

\$855,809

\$867,086

\$878,619

Funding for 6 inland fisheries officers to enforce fisheries rules and regulations including recreational fishing fee requirements across NSW inland areas. The 6 inland fisheries officers conduct a range of activities to enhance voluntary compliance with fishing rules by providing advisory and education services and creating effective deterrence to illegal activity by undertaking patrols and enforcement operations.

SUPPORTED. Moved Kevin McKinnon Seconded Ron Butler. The six inland Fisheries Officers conduct strategic checks of a large number of freshwater fishers to maximise compliance with fishing fee requirements, fishing rules and regulations. The committee recommended that the Chair write a letter to the Minister for Primary Industries requesting a contributing DPI funding contribution for operational overheads for Trust funded fisheries officers.

Platform: Research on fish and recreational fishing

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
<p>Building a stronger, more resilient and sustainable Murray Cod fishery in NSW</p> <p>The project aims to identify spawning sites and reproductive behaviour of Murray Cod in upland and lowland riverine habitats in the Murray Darling Basin.</p> <p>SUPPORTED. Moved Ron Butler Seconded Debbie Lennon. The project will determine current status of Murray Cod populations throughout its range and will identify habitats critical for successful breeding and population recruitment. Kevin McKinnon and Cameron Westaway declared a potential conflict of interest and were absent from the room during voting.</p>	NSW DPI	\$0	\$113,891	\$137,905
<p>Monitoring the Australian bass fishery in NSW: “Bass Catch”</p> <p>The Bass Catch Program monitors tournament catch of Australian Bass in NSW coastal rivers and impoundments.</p> <p>SUPPORTED. Moved Ron Butler Seconded Debbie Lennon. The program samples the catch and effort from Basscatch events across NSW. The project will review angler catch data collected from fishing tournaments to determine future directions for the program beyond 2015/16.</p>	NSW DPI	\$59,614	\$0	\$0
<p>Small Grant</p> <p>Movement patterns of the freshwater catfish “<i>Tandanus tandanus</i>” in the Gwydir River northern Murray-Darling Basin</p> <p>The project will describe the movement patterns of catfish in the Gwydir and/or Mehi Rivers using acoustic bio-telemetry.</p> <p>SUPPORTED. Moved Ian Ward Seconded Ron Butler. The project will help to improve understanding of factors limiting recovery of the species within the Murray-Darling Basin, with the ultimate aim of delisting freshwater catfish as an endangered population in western rivers.</p>	NSW DPI	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0

Platform: Research on fish and recreational fishing

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Recreational fishing assessments in NSW	NSW DPI	\$240,449	\$246,460	\$252,622

The project will undertake an assessment of the success of fish stockings within Blowering Dam and a creel survey in Lake Eucumbene to quantify species composition. The project will investigate the limnology of Lakes Eucumbene and Jindabyne and develop and expand the existing trout monitoring program in the Thredbo River. The project will assess the effectiveness of seasonal fishing closures in impoundments and the effectiveness of size limits on the age structure of Murray Cod.

SUPPORTED. Moved Debbie Lennon Seconded Ron Croker. The project will quantify the contribution of stocked native fish and help to inform on a range of research knowledge gaps that exist in both freshwater trout and native fisheries.

Platform: Fishing fee coordination and payment network

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
RFFTEC meeting expenses	NSW DPI	\$33,000	\$33,000	\$33,000

To hold regular meetings of the Recreational Fishing Freshwater Trust Expenditure Committee (RFFTEC) in order to review trust fund applications and to make recommendations to ACoRF and the Minister for Primary Industries on priorities for expenditure from the Recreational Fishing (Freshwater) Trust.

SUPPORTED. Moved Ron Croker Seconded Ron Butler. The project will hold future RFFTEC meetings to assess trust funding proposals, the ongoing progress of programs and recommend on funding priorities from the Recreational Fishing Trust.

Fisheries Manager (inland recreational fisheries)	NSW DPI	\$174,300	\$178,476	\$182,759
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The position is responsible for management of existing Trust funded programs such as freshwater recreational grants and the ongoing co-ordination of the Recreational Fishing Freshwater Trust and Gaden Hatchery Management Committees. The position also assists team members in advisory and legislative development and in the management of inland stocking and angler access programs.

SUPPORTED. Moved Ron Croker Seconded Ron Butler. The project will co-ordinate Ministerial advisory sub committees, recreational fishing grants and develop / implement a range of freshwater recreational fishing policies, programs and publications. Cameron Westaway and Craig Watson declared a potential conflict of interest and was absent from the room during voting.

Platform: Fishing fee coordination and payment network

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Recreational fisheries infrastructure grants management program The position will identify gaps in fishing infrastructure, including cleaning facilities and accessible fishing platforms and facilitate the development of quality fishing infrastructure proposals in key locations across NSW. The position will also maintain and implement transparent and accountable trust project management systems. SUPPORTED. Moved Ian Ward Seconded Tom Williams.	NSW DPI	\$14,978	\$15,250	\$15,523
Recreational Fisher Research Database This project involves data entry of 1 and 3-year fishing fee receipt holders onto the NSW DPI Recreational Angling database for research and management purposes. SUPPORTED. Moved Debbie Lennon Seconded Ron Croker. The project will record recreational fishing licence sales data including validation and duplication checks of the database and other demographic information for use in future research surveys.	NSW DPI	\$21,000	\$21,000	\$21,000
Recreational Fishing Fee Renewal Notice System Involves implementation of an efficient licence renewal notice system. A renewal notice is sent to around 250,000 licence holders per year SUPPORTED. Moved Ron Butler Seconded Debbie Lennon. The project will provide an enhanced recreational fishing fee renewal service for anglers to encourage recreational fishers to renew their fishing fees upon expiry.	NSW DPI	\$36,850	\$36,850	\$36,850

Platform: Fishing fee coordination and payment network

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Recreational Fishing Fee Administration project	NSW DPI	\$674,552	\$692,914	\$711,630

Provides a convenient network for payment of recreational fishing licence fees using fishing tackle stores, the internet, EFTPOS terminals and by phone. Licence transactions are integrated into the Government Licensing Service (GLS).

SUPPORTED. Moved Tom Williams Seconded Debbie Lennon. The project will provide for the expedient payment of the fishing fee at fishing tackle stores, via the web and phone and for the provision of plastic licences for anglers renewing 1 and 3 year licences. The committee raised concern about the high level of Government Licensing Service transaction fees projected to be charged to DPI in 2015/16 and beyond. RFFTEC recommended to the Minister that senior DPI staff negotiate a better transaction fee arrangement with the Government Licensing Service for the Recreational Fishing Fee to achieve efficiency savings. The Committee also recommended the removal of inactive / redundant licence records from the GLS database to achieve savings.

Table 2: New Trust Project Applications not supported by RFFTEC**Platform: Aquatic habitat protection and rehabilitation**

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
<p>Pump Fishway Project (Stage 2)</p> <p>The project aims to continue development of a promising innovative design, the Pump Fishway and publish a major review of the urgent need to restore fish passage in rivers.</p> <p>NOT SUPPORTED. Moved. Ian Ward Seconded Tom Williams. The committee considered this project was being developed for a primarily commercial purpose.</p>	Harris Research	\$38,300	\$0	\$0
<p>Pre-proposal – Improving Fisheries NSW smartphone App by including geolocation and fish habitat data collection tool</p> <p>Extending the scope, reach and productivity of the Fisheries NSW App by providing geolocation capabilities and a user-friendly Fish Habitat Tool for fish habitat data collection and fisher engagement.</p> <p>NOT SUPPORTED. Moved Kevin McKinnon, Seconded Debbie Lennon. The committee recommended the fish habitat data concept should be incorporated within the existing smartphone application currently being developed by DPI</p>	NSW DPI	\$6,000	\$0	\$0
<p>Floating Reed Beds for Habitat Improvement in Lake Albert, Wagga Wagga</p> <p>This project will install 250m² of floating reed beds in Lake Albert that will help control blue-green algae and provide nursery habitat for fingerlings released by NSW Fisheries.</p> <p>NOT SUPPORTED. Moved Kevin McKinnon, Seconded Debbie Lennon. The committee considered this project to have low benefit for recreational fishing. The committee noted that a range of activities can cause turbidity in the lake and a reduction in nutrients entering the system would help improve water quality at the dam.</p>	Wagga Wagga City Council	\$36,500	\$0	\$0
<p>Ramping up fish passage in the Buckinbah</p> <p>Installation of a partial width rock-ramp fishway at Buckinbah Creek Weir to improve fish passage under a collaborative arrangement with the Inland Waterways Rejuvenation Association, Little River Landcare, Yeoval Fishing Club and NSW DPI – Fisheries.</p> <p>NOT SUPPORTED. Moved Debbie Lennon. Seconded Tom Williams. The Committee recommended that this project be referred to the Habitat Action Program for assessment.</p>	Inland Waterways Rejuvenation Association	\$89,520	\$0	\$0

Platform: Aquatic habitat protection and rehabilitation

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
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Kyogle Weir Conversion to Fish Passage

Kyogle Council

\$238,022

\$0

\$0

The existing 1.9m high Kyogle Weir will be reduced by 1.2m (from RL 43.5 to RL 42.3) and a new rock ramp fishway will be installed to provide fish passage to the extensive fish habitat in the northern regions of the Richmond River Catchment.

NOT SUPPORTED. Moved Debbie Lennon. Seconded Tom Williams. The Committee recommended that this project be referred to the Habitat Action Program for assessment.

Narrung Street Recreational Fishing Trust habitat rehabilitation project

Wagga Wagga City Council

\$97,000

\$0

\$0

Remove willows and other woody weeds from a 500m stretch of the Murrumbidgee river, and rehabilitate the river bank with indigenous reeds and grasses and release endangered fingerlings

NOT SUPPORTED. Moved Debbie Lennon. Seconded Kevin McKinnon. The Committee recommended that the habitat restoration / rehabilitation components be referred to the Habitat Action Program for assessment. The Committee recommended that the fish stocking component be referred to the Dollar for Dollar Native Fish Stocking Program for assessment.

Platform: Recreational fishing enhancement programs

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
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Make the hatchery platforms safe

Bingara Anglers Club and Hatchery

\$9,562

\$0

\$0

Our hatchery platforms that we walk on, to get our fingerlings out are dangerous. They are over 30 years old and they are rotten and not wide enough.

NOT SUPPORTED. Moved. Kevin McKinnon Seconded Ron Croker. Manilla Fish Hatchery will offer 2 x aluminium platforms to Bingara Fish Hatchery for collection, to assist the Bingara Fish Hatchery with fish production.

Platform: Recreational fishing enhancement programs

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
<p>Re-Stock Tilpa</p> <p>The proposal is to breed fish to re-stock the Darling River in the Tilpa district</p> <p>NOT SUPPORTED. Moved. Kevin McKinnon Seconded Ron Butler. Hatchery accreditation is required prior to breeding native fish for stocking into public waters. Fish stocking is not permitted in the Darling River between Louth and Menindee. NSW DPI will contact the applicant with a view to identifying an alternative fish stocking location and to discuss native fish hatchery production requirements.</p>	Private individuals / landholders on the Darling River	\$5,000	\$0	\$0
<p>Purchase and release of fish fingerlings</p> <p>Burren Junction Fishing Club will purchase and release fingerlings into the Namoi River</p> <p>NOT SUPPORTED. Moved Kevin McKinnon Seconded Ron Croker. The Committee recommended that this project be referred to the Dollar Native Fish Stocking Program for assessment.</p>	Burren Junction Fishing Club	\$2,000	\$0	\$0

Platform: Fishing access and facilities

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
<p>BBQ area on the Gwydir</p> <p>The Bingara Anglers Club wish to build a BBQ area on the river for everyone to enjoy. A steel frame and roof, concrete floor, table and chairs and a BBQ.</p> <p>NOT SUPPORTED. Moved. Debbie Lennon Seconded Ron Croker. Trust funding is not normally provided for general amenities such as BBQ and other picnic area facilities. The proposed infrastructure was not considered fisheries specific.</p>	Bingara Anglers Club and Hatchery	\$18,210	\$0	\$0
<p>Enhancing fishing access and safety at Lake Inverell</p> <p>The project will install a floating walkway and fishing pontoon at Lake Inverell, providing a flat and safe platform for anglers, including those with a mobility disability.</p> <p>NOT SUPPORTED. Moved. Debbie Lennon Seconded Tom Williams. Trust funding is not normally provided for general public amenities such as walkways.</p>	Inverell Shire Council	\$24,000	\$0	\$0

Platform: Fishing access and facilities

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
<p>“Our River” Small fishing platform</p> <p>Small fishing platform, pedestrian access and enhancement of riparian vegetation. Works are in accordance with progressive implementation of the Our River Master Plan, adopted by Penrith City Council in 2013.</p> <p>NOT SUPPORTED. Moved. Kevin McKinnon Seconded Debbie Lennon. The committee considered that more project details were required including the location and design of the platform and provisions for wheelchair access.</p>	Penrith City Council	\$44,500	\$0	\$0
<p>“Our River” Large fishing platform</p> <p>Large fishing platform, pedestrian access and enhancement of riparian vegetation. Works are in accordance with progressive implementation of the Our River Master Plan, and is ‘shovel ready’.</p> <p>NOT SUPPORTED. Moved. Kevin McKinnon Seconded Debbie Lennon. The Committee considered there was a relatively low contribution of funds from Council towards the project.</p>	Penrith City Council	\$136,400	\$0	\$0
<p>Fishing improvements</p> <p>Construction of a fishing platform at Dunmore Trout Waters to enhance recreational fishing access. The project also allows for stocking of fish as numbers have significantly declined during the drought.</p> <p>NOT SUPPORTED. Moved. Tom Williams Seconded Kevin McKinnon. The committee considered this project was being undertaken for a primarily commercial purpose.</p>	PR and CE Ivey	\$9,170	\$0	\$0

Platform: Fishing access and facilities

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
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Fish cleaning table (4 person) at Malpas Dam

St Kilda Fishing Club Inc.

\$15,119

\$0

\$0

Providing a fish cleaning table on site at Malpas Dam will enable us to keep the waterway unpolluted.

NOT SUPPORTED. Moved. Kevin McKinnon Seconded Ian Ward. The committee considered the application did not show a letter of support or contributing funds from Council or other fishing organisations. General public access to the fish cleaning table site is limited.

Construction of a fishing platform at Wee Waa Lagoon

Wee Waa Fishing Club

\$55,355

\$0

\$0

To provide a service in a way of a fishing platform for the Wee Waa community.

NOT SUPPORTED. Moved. Kevin McKinnon Seconded Tom Williams. The committee queried water quality at the lagoon as it appeared relatively shallow and isolated from water supply sources. The committee questioned whether the project would be more suitably located at a nearby public reserve on the Namoi River.

Lansdowne River Access

Lansdowne Fishing Club

\$3,345

\$0

\$0

Erect a fishing platform, canoe/kayak platform & swimming access to the freshwater section of Lansdowne River. A gravelled parking area & access road for all weather use.

NOT SUPPORTED. Moved. Debbie Lennon Seconded Kevin McKinnon. Trust funding is not normally provided for multi-use public facilities such as swimming platforms and parking bays. The project design was also considered technically unsound.

Platform: Recreational fishing education

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
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Riverside boys and girls

Riverside Boys and Girls

\$8,100

\$0

\$0

To teach children about Indigenous culture and traditions. To try and close the gap with Indigenous and non-indigenous children

NOT SUPPORTED. Moved Kevin McKinnon Seconded Ron Croker. The Committee recommended that this project be referred to the Indigenous Fisheries Advisory Council for review / comment prior to re-consideration.

Platform: Research on fish and recreational fishing

Project	Organisation	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
<p>A quantitative assessment of the health benefits and social importance of recreational fishing in New South Wales</p> <p>In a world's first, this project will use benchmarked indicators from the health sciences to quantify the health, well-being, quality of life and social functioning of recreational fishers in NSW, compared to population norms of the general Australian public.</p> <p>NOT SUPPORTED. Moved Kevin McKinnon Seconded Ian Ward. The expenditure committee noted a current similar Trust project is being completed and it is appropriate to review the outcomes of that study to determine any gaps.</p>	CSIRO	\$29,160	\$0	\$0
<p>Expanding angler involvement in fisheries research and monitoring in NSW through the use of interactive smartphone technology</p> <p>Assess and trial interactive web based and smartphone technology for its value in engaging anglers in monitoring and assessment of recreational fisheries in NSW.</p> <p>NOT SUPPORTED. Moved Debbie Lennon Seconded Tom Williams. The committee acknowledged the potential benefits of the program, however did not consider it a funding priority at this time.</p>	University of Wollongong	\$41,400	\$0	\$0
<p>Bass enhancement above Weirs</p> <p>This project will examine the effectiveness of the new fish ladder on the Lane Cove River weir and identify recruitment above the weir</p> <p>NOT SUPPORTED. Moved Ron Croker Seconded Tom Williams. NSW DPI is currently reviewing the existing bass catch fish monitoring program. A bass migration study within the Shoalhaven and Clarence River systems utilising acoustic tagging technology is currently being funded from the Recreational Fishing (Freshwater) Trust.</p>	Macquarie University	\$12,715	\$0	\$0