

Fishers for Fish Habitat Forum Report for Participants

24-25 August 2018

Ballina Beach Resort, Ballina NSW

2018 Fishers for Fish Habitat Forum Report for Participants

Fishers for Fish Habitat is a NSW Department of Primary Industries developed program. It aims to increase awareness about the importance of fish habitat and inspire anglers to do what they can to protect and enhance these vital areas that our native fish need to survive and thrive, and in doing so help make more fish!

We can all be inspired by the recreational anglers throughout NSW who are doing things to improve fish habitat. They plant trees on riverbanks, protect mangroves and seagrass beds, clean up rubbish at local fishing spots, restore instream habitat and raise awareness about issues affecting their local fishery.

The **Fishers for Fish Habitat** program also aims to ensure the community is aware of the good works these individuals are doing to improve the environment for native fish species and the enjoyment of future generations.

Fishers for Fish Habitat is funded from the NSW Recreational Fishing Trusts.

The 2018 **Fishers for Fish Habitat Forum** was held in Ballina on 24-25 August 2018. The event was organised by NSW DPI (Fisheries) staff including Scott Nichols and Charlotte Jenkins with assistance from Kylie Russell and Pat Dwyer. 95 people registered prior to the event, 88 participants from the surrounding region and as far afield as Sydney and Dubbo in NSW, Port Phillip Bay (Vic.) and Moreton Bay (Qld.) made it to Ballina for the Forum.

Special thanks to Richmond Oysters for supplying oysters for the real-time water filtration experiment and to OzFish Unlimited, South Lismore Duck Pond Landcare, Kyogle Council and Kyogle Fishing Club for their involvement in the “Richmond River Roamings” bus tour.

The **Fishers for Fish Habitat** team respectfully acknowledges the people of the Nyangbul Country of the Bundjalung Nation, traditional custodians of the land on which this Forum was held.

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Agenda

Day 1 Friday 24 August

From 8:45	Registration Tea and coffee available Meet and greet other participants
9:15	Cast off! Welcome to Country Open Forum - The Hon. (Ben) Benjamin Franklin, MLC
9:30	The 3 R's – Reflect, Review & Reveal A look back at what we've achieved over nearly 10 years since we were last in Ballina
9.45	The value of habitat – not just for fish! Who else benefits from improved habitat?
9:55	Habitat heroes – fishers getting their hands dirty Hear from fishers from around the State who are getting in and getting things done – how do they do it?
11:00	Time for (morning) tea Take a break and chat with other participants
11:15	The Basin Plan and E-Water What are they? What do they mean for fish and fishers? How have recreational fishers been involved in the process?
11:40	The Marine Estate Management Strategy and NSW DPI's role in managing habitat A new way of managing the NSW coast, what opportunities will it bring for recreational fishers?
12:10	Providing safe passage What is the NSW Fish Passage Strategy? Why is it good for fish and fishers?
12:30	Take a break Lunch
13:15	Natural oyster reefs - a lost ecosystem (special session) What have we lost? And what are we doing about it? Setting the scene globally Oyster Reef Restoration in VIC - what's good for the oysters is good for the fish! What about NSW? Current status and emerging opportunities
14:25	Latest learnings Some of the recent work being done to understand how fish use habitat. Includes the secret life of prawns and saltmarsh, restoring a lost marine forest , the carp control plan and habitat use
15:40	Rehydrate Afternoon tea
15:50	One man's trash is a fish's treasure Reusing waste materials – recent projects and upcoming opportunities

16:00	Grant opportunities and applications – are they as daunting as they appear? Funding programs including the Habitat Action Grants
16:10	Putting it into practice Mentoring session and feedback
16:55 – 17.15	Reel it in! Wrap up of the Day 1 Time for a break until dinner
From 18:30	Forum Dinner featuring special guest - author of <i>The Catch: the story of Fishing in Australia</i> Anna Clark Enjoy great food and some great stories on the banks of the Richmond River at the local Ballina RSL

Day 2 Saturday 25 August

8:00	Meet at the Ballina Beach Resort foyer
8:15	On the bus - depart from Ballina Beach Resort
	Richmond River Roamings A tour of the Richmond River Catchment from the estuary to the upper reaches. From instream habitat to providing fish passage -have a look at what's being done to rehabilitate fish habitat in the local catchment. Refreshments including morning tea and lunch included along the way
14:00	Return to Ballina Beach Resort Stretch the legs
14.05	Winding up and Forum close Interactive forum feedback
14.20	One for the road Afternoon tea and close ready for return flights from Ballina.

Presentations

A snap shot of the wide range of fish habitat related presentations provided at the Fishers for Fish Habitat Forum are shown below. Please see the USB stick or contact Forum organisers directly to obtain a copy of the full presentation.

In order of presentation:

1. The 3 R's – Reflect, Review, Reveal – Scott Nichols, NSW DPI



Fishers for Fish Habitat
Ballina August 24-25, 2018



Look what you've achieved!

HAGs alone – put \$5.1M toward habitat improvement

- **Fenced** over 100km of river banks
- **Weeded** over 580km (1,600ha)
- **Planted** over 131,000 trees, shrubs, sedges and groundcovers (70km and 453ha)



Hawkesbury R

2. The value of fish habitat, not just for fish! – Charlotte Jenkins, NSW DPI

Recreational activities
An increase in economic value from fishing tourism opportunities from reef restoration of \$1.7-\$5.0 million per site restored
(EconSearch, 2016)



The image shows a person standing on a sandy beach, fishing with a long rod. The background features a calm sea and a range of mountains under a warm, golden sunset sky. The text above the image provides context on the economic value of fishing tourism opportunities from reef restoration, citing EconSearch (2016). At the bottom right, there are three logos: the NSW Government logo (a red flower), the Recreational Fishing Trusts logo (a blue fish), and the Fish Habitat Network logo (a green fish).



Flora and Fauna Habitat
The abundance of fish adjacent to well vegetated riverbanks was 3.3 to 13 times higher compared with unvegetated banks
(Growth et al, 1998)



The image depicts a narrow river or stream flowing through a lush, green forest. The water is calm, reflecting the surrounding trees and sky. The banks are densely lined with tall, thin trees, creating a shaded and vegetated environment. The text below the image discusses the abundance of fish adjacent to well-vegetated riverbanks, citing Growth et al (1998). At the bottom right, there are three logos: the NSW Government logo (a red flower), the Recreational Fishing Trusts logo (a blue fish), and the Fish Habitat Network logo (a green fish).

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3. Habitat Heroes – fishers getting their hands dirty for fish
a. Alan Izzard - Bass Sydney Fishing Club



JULY 2018

- 1634 Volunteer hours at Russel St.
- Over 1000 trees and other plants planted.
- 10 new members for Bass Sydney.
- New projects with Lane Cove & Bents Basin N.P's.
- Winners of Inaugural "Habitat Hero's Award".
- Continual removal of rubbish from the site.
- 3 members starting careers as bush regenerators.
- Club "Project Officer" nominated for Landcare Award and winning Runner Up.

b. Matt Hansen - Inland Waterways Rejuvenation Association

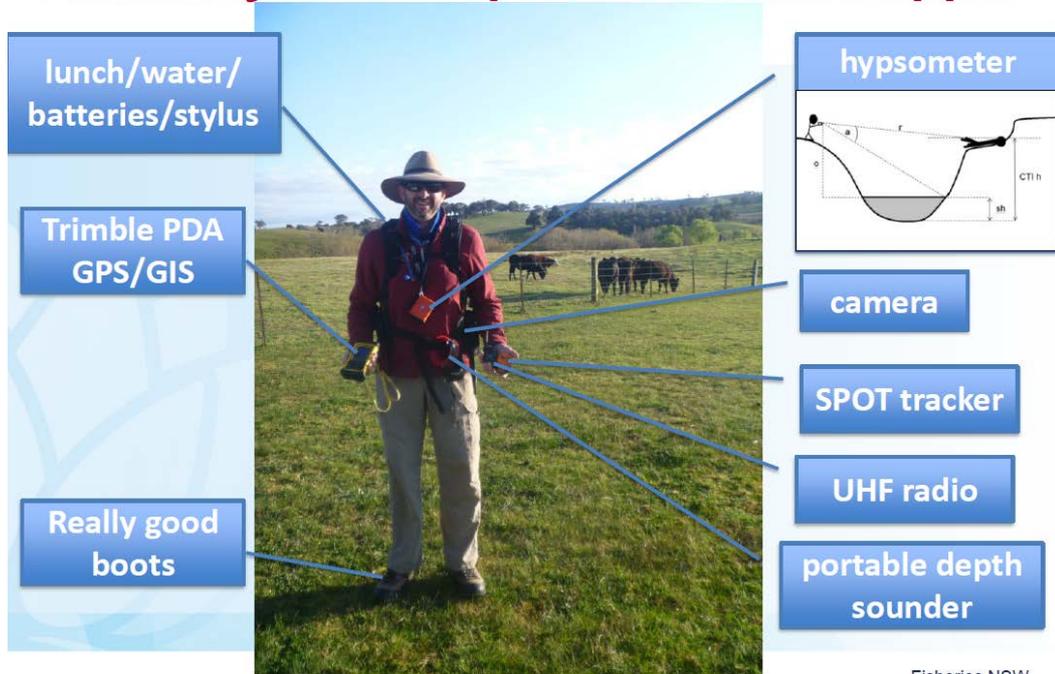


*Inland Waterways Rejuvenation Assoc.
A volunteer committee of Dubbo locals.*

- * 2013/14 project Grant \$10,000 In kind
\$11,540 72 snags (individual not complexes)
- * 2014/15 project Grant \$33,348 In kind
\$39,562 117 snags (individual not complexes)
2 km weeding and 1 km reveg with 400 plants
- 2017/18 project (CURRENTLY UNDERWAY)
Grant \$32,750 In kind (expected (\$34,000))
150 snags (expected)
- Total snags- approx. 339
- Imagine if 10 groups did this = 3,390 snags

c. Rodney Price - NSW DPI, on behalf of Sofala Branch CAS

Anatomy of an Aquatic Habitat Mapper



d. Stuart Murphy - Clarence Fly Anglers



Clarence Fly Anglers

Our Habitat Action Grant

Stu Murphy

What worked for us

- We played to our strengths
- The project design was simple
- Our partners were experienced
- We were careful with how much we committed to



OzFish Unlimited Richmond River

- Various riparian projects (Via DPI funding)
- Gone Fishing Day (DPI funded)
- School Programmes (Summerland Credit Union)
- River snagging projects (DPI funded)
- Bringing back Saltmarsh areas (working with Council and local Indigenous groups)
- Major evaluation Project for the Tuckean Swamp (DPI Funded)
- Bringing back Oysters (Funded by Ballina Commercial Fishers)



Objectives

- The New South Wales Environmental Trust gave the group \$250,000 over six years to:
 - Protect, Repair and Connect priority sites within a 100 km reach of habitat of the endangered Trout Cod
 - Raise the profile of the Dubbo Macquarie River Bushcare Group by establishing a social media presence



Onground Works

- Resnagging
 - 20 trees into 6 Woody Habitat complexes
- Fencing
 - 15 km of river fenced
 - 79.6 ha of riparian land protected
- Weed control
 - 48 ha of weed control (willows, castor oil, boxthorn)
- Riparian planting
 - Over 1600 trees planted

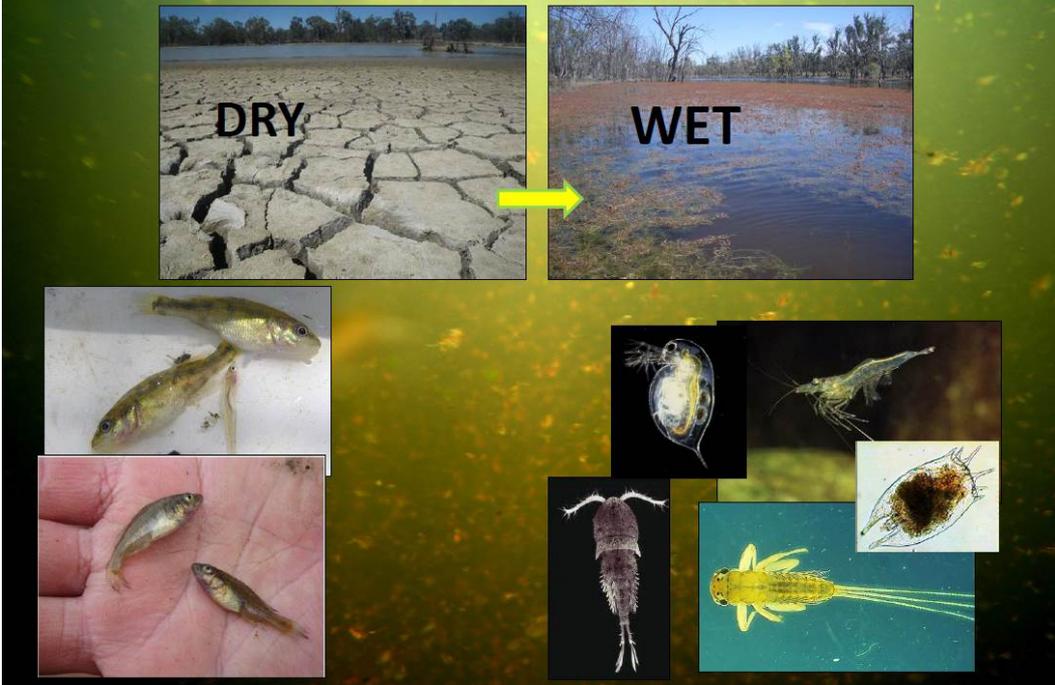


4. The Basin Plan and E-Water – Iain Ellis, NSW DPI

Fish = habitats



Flow = Food



5. The NSW Marine Estate Management Strategy – Marcus Riches and Kylie Russell, NSW DPI

Bank Stabilisation

Program of on-ground works – eg, riparian planting, stock fencing

Delivered across NSW in prioritised and targeted locations

Approx \$1.2 million over first two years
Statewide funding

Managed by LLS, working with
Local Gov, Landcare,
Crown Lands etc



Department of
Primary Industries

Estuary-wide Strategies

Marine Vegetation Plans

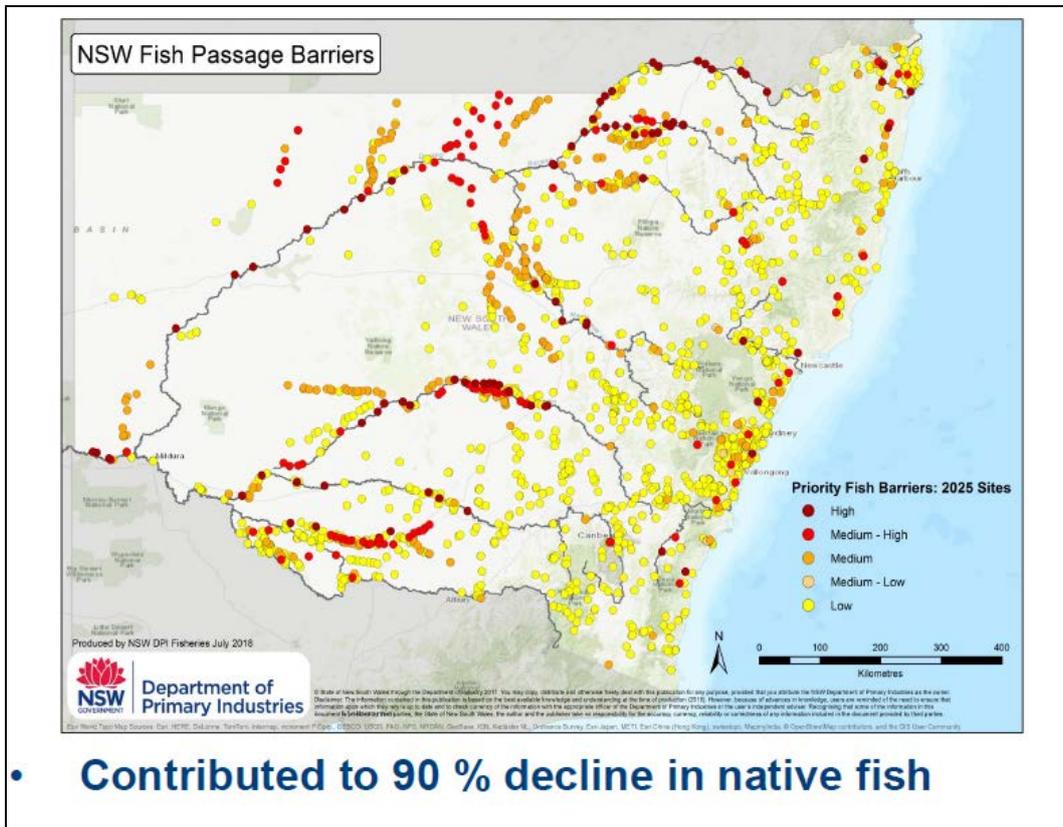
Improve management of impacts

- sea level rise
- land management practices
- reduce red tape where OK



Source: LandSix

6. Providing safe passage – the NSW Fish Passage Strategy – Dr. Matthew Gordos, NSW DPI



NSW Fish Passage Strategy Aims

- Ecological priorities
- 160 sites over 20 years for 10,000 km
- Catchment scale connectivity
- Double native fish populations by 2050
- Strategy presently in development

7. Natural oyster reefs - a lost ecosystem (special session)

- a. What have we lost? Setting the scene Globally – Simon Branigan, The Nature Conservancy



- b. Oyster Reef Restoration in VIC – Bob Pearce, Albert Park Yachting and Angling Club and Ben Cleveland, University of Melbourne

From Little Things, Big Things Grow!



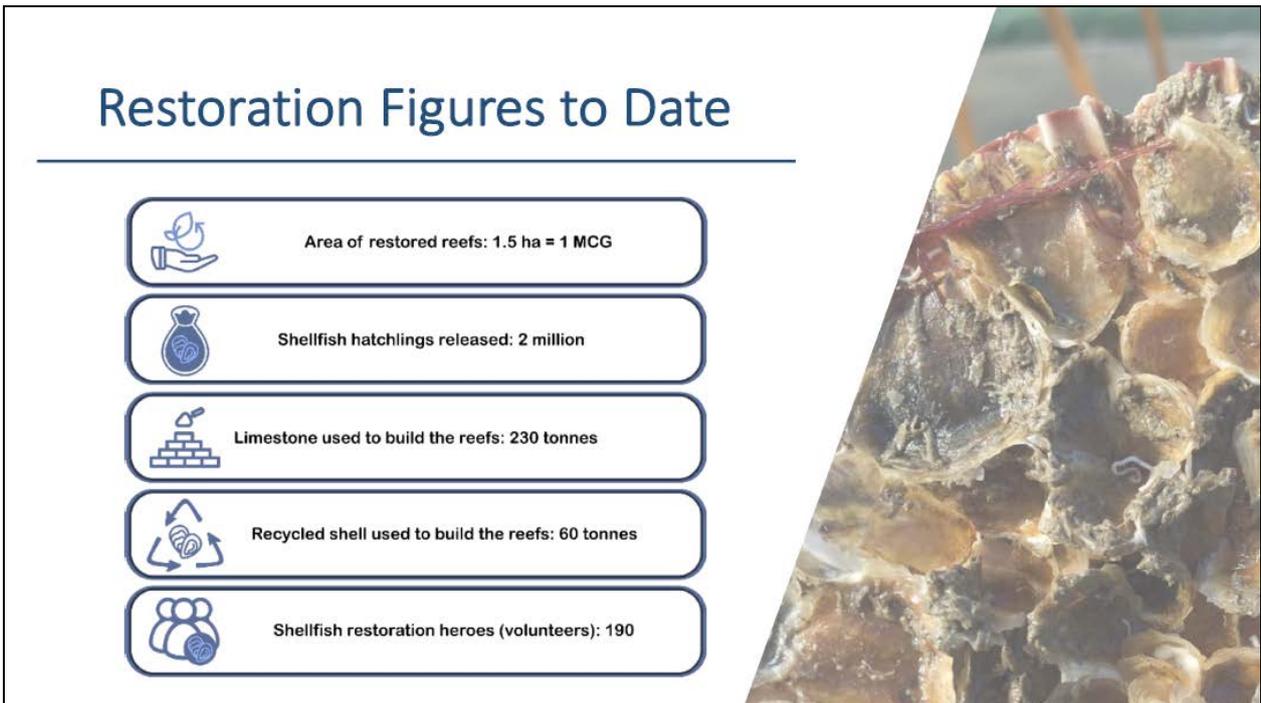
a) Rubble base treatment

b) Sediment base treatment

1m

10 cm

Restoration Figures to Date

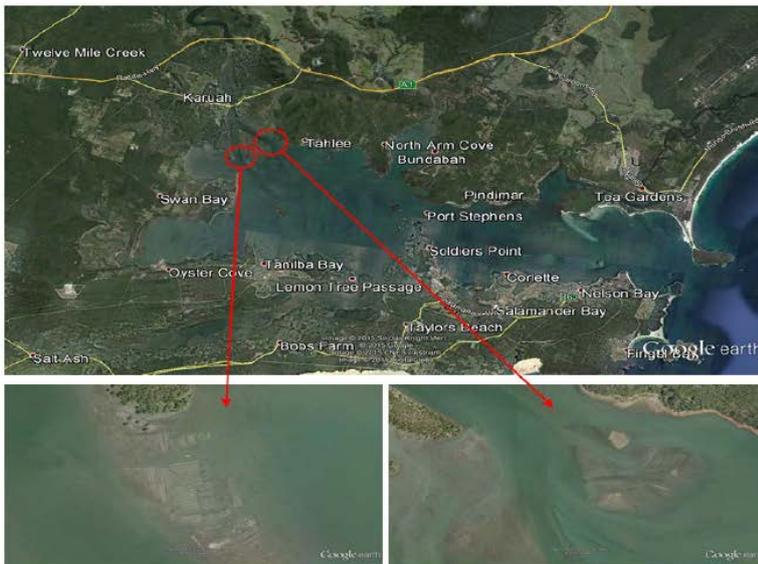


- Area of restored reefs: 1.5 ha = 1 MCG
- Shellfish hatchlings released: 2 million
- Limestone used to build the reefs: 230 tonnes
- Recycled shell used to build the reefs: 60 tonnes
- Shellfish restoration heroes (volunteers): 190

Historical Oysters in Port Stephens

OYSTER CULTURE COMMISSION 1877

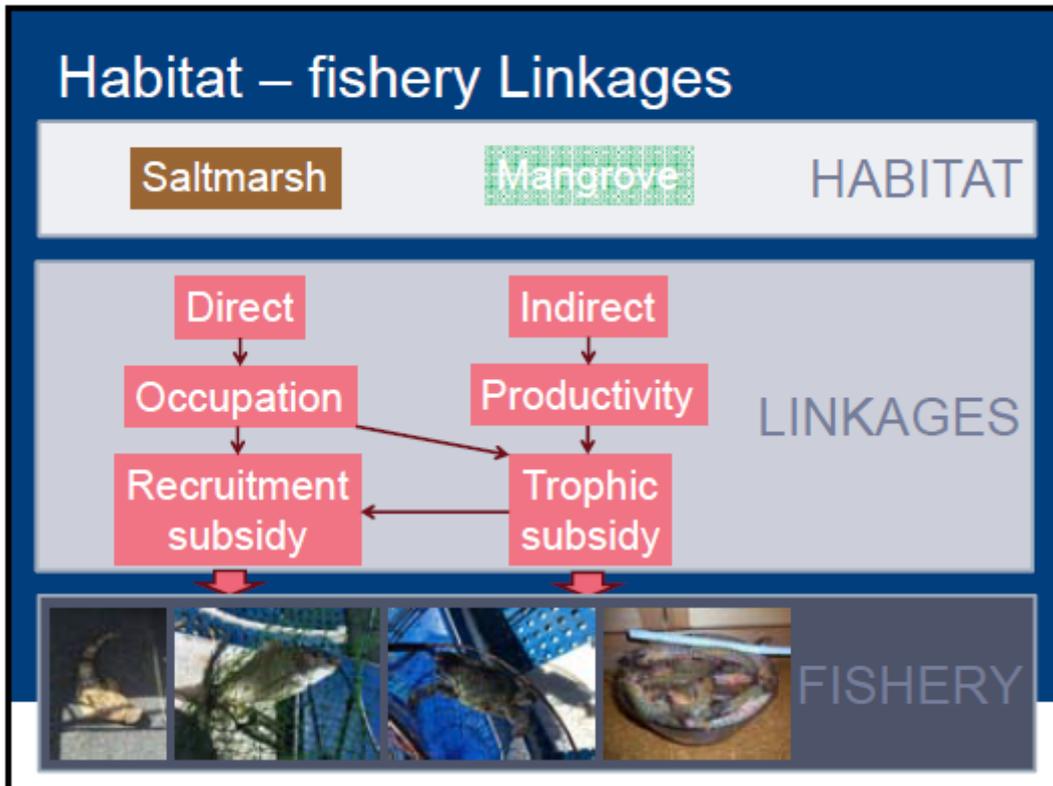
- “From time to time **forty-five boats** at once have been at work sending spawning oyster and spat alike to market. It is plain that no beds however productive could possibly withstand such exhaustive treatment.”
- “Extensive and very prolific natural beds occupying the whole of Corrie Creek and surrounding banks to west and south are totally abandoned to shell-getters, who are **turning over its surface** to procure a layer of shell from 6 inches to 2 feet thick **under 1 or 2 feet of sandy mud.**”



Port Stephens - NSW



- 8. Latest learnings – recent scientific findings
 - a. The secret life of saltmarsh – Prof. Matt Taylor, NSW DPI



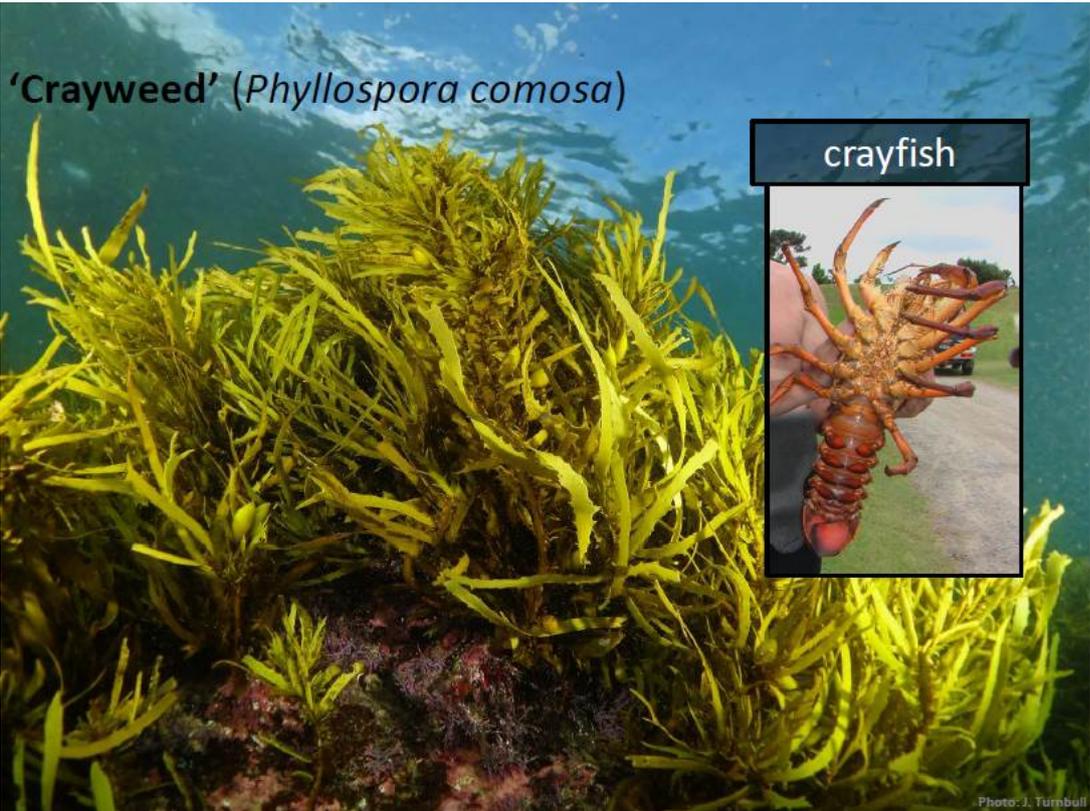
What drives fisheries productivity...

- Estuarine fisheries productivity is closely linked to saltmarsh and mangrove productivity
- Continuing repair and restoration will hopefully lead to increasing productivity into the future
- Connectivity is the key!
- Freshwater inflow is also v. important




 Primary Industries

b. Restoring a lost marine forest – Dr. Ziggy Marzinelli, Sydney Institute of Marine Science



Transplants into Sydney



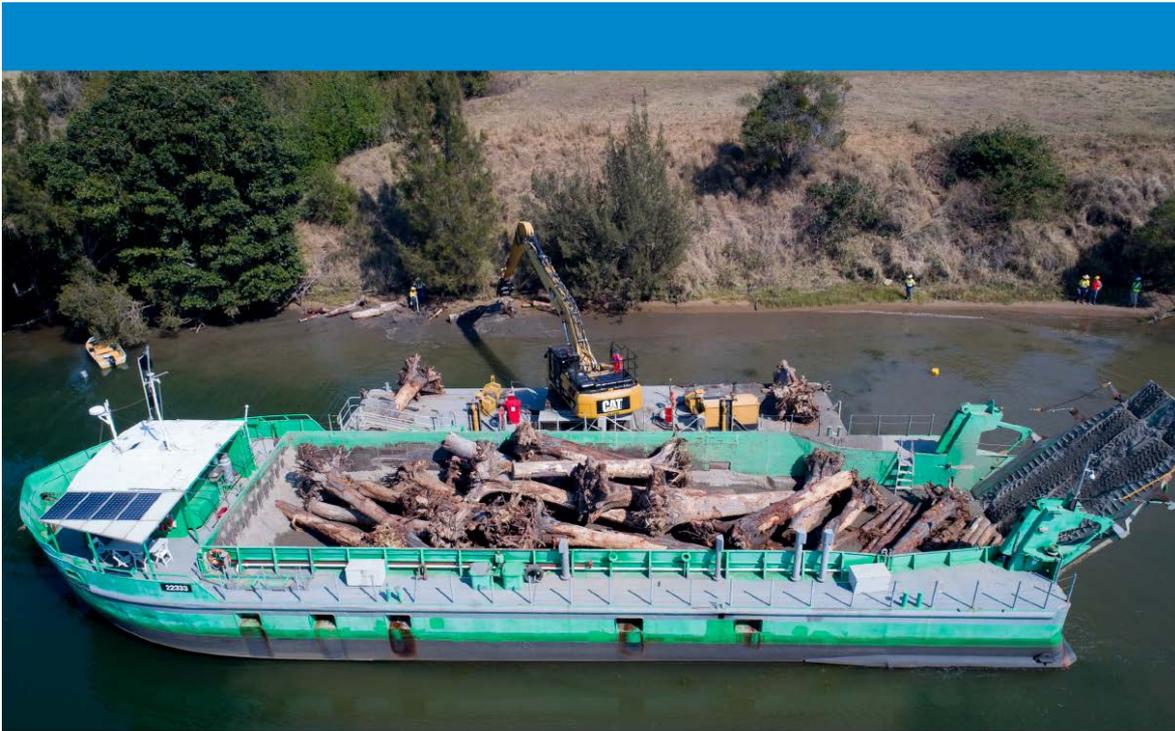
- c. The National Carp Control Plan – Matt Barwick, Fisheries Research & Development Corporation

NCCP objectives

- Plan for an integrated approach to control carp in Australia.
- Undertake R&D to address knowledge gaps & risks.
- Increase community awareness and gain understanding of stakeholder views.
- Develop detailed strategies for release of the carp virus and subsequent clean up.
- Support national coordination on all elements of the proposal.



9. One man's trash is a fish's treasure (reuse of rootballs) – Stuart Murphy, NSW EPA



Title goes here with the date 5



Locking it in

E16 - During vegetation clearing, timber and root balls must be retained for reuse in habitat enhancement and rehabilitation work. The retained timber and root balls may be used on or off the SSI site. The Proponent must consult with community and landcare groups and government agencies to determine if retained timber and root balls can be used for environmental rehabilitation projects, before pursuing other disposal options.



Title goes here with the date 8

Forum Workshop

Day 1 of the Forum wrapped up with an opportunity for interaction between participants on fish habitat restoration. The Habitat Heroes were invited to provide mentoring to the participants and to chair a session on a topic relating to the process of planning, implementing and delivering a successful fish habitat restoration project. Topics included:

- Keeping volunteer interest alive
- Strategic partnerships and opportunities
- Sponsorship and promotion
- Permits and red tape of habitat restoration

Lively and engaged discussion ensued and the following information is a summary of the information collected during each mentoring session. Please note, this information is by no means exhaustive of the topic in question and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Department. Users are reminded of the need to ensure that the information upon which they rely is current and accurate.

Keeping volunteer interest alive (chaired by Alan Izzard and Mel Gray)

- Provide food create a social environment – chocolate, wine, beer
- Host events to attract new core members, advertise the event on social media e.g. Facebook and tag specific names or groups in it, create a networking opportunity with other like-minded groups
- Get to know your volunteers. Make any social experiences fun and friendly and welcoming
- Circulate information to all members (every time) about what's been achieved, ensure to personalise contributions where fitting
- Tally up hours and give recognition of hours, effort etc. (Volunteering NSW has good resources) and provide rewards such as bonus training courses and experience
- Ensure your leaders have high energy and can be inspiring to volunteers
- Look at 'passion matching' for example FishCare with Landcare, Bush tucker with Landcare
- Promote and celebrate your results
- Develop a work plan and role description for positions to ensure tasks requested are consistent, provides good organisation and gives core skills volunteers can include on future CVs.
- Create a calendar of events to allow people to plan and choose activities. Ensure you include a broad range of activities to cater for as many interest as possible.
- Ask people to 'share' the event through social media and thank them when they do so
- Create and maintain a database of people and contacts
- Have a 'drawcard at your event e.g. person, party, event.
- Create fun learning opportunities e.g. 'Science in the Pub'
- Consider volunteer family commitments and organise events accordingly e.g. weekly, per term, school holiday
- Host an art competition, create a photo library resources, support outdoor art spaces
- Tailor your key messages to different interests e.g. trees are good for fish, not just koalas!
- Split projects into staged actions to encourage genuine helpful work
- Create messenger groups for instant news, contact
- **Don't overwork your volunteers**

Strategic partnerships and opportunities (chaired by Stu Murphy and John Larsson)

Potential strategic partnerships identified

- Commercial fishers
- Oyster farmers
- Other fisher groups e.g. spearfishers
- Local Councils
- NSW Government - LLS, OEH, NPWS, NSW DPI, Tourism NSW
- Local MPs
- Private business
- Non-Government Organisations
- Local Landcare
- Arts

Opportunities identified

Land and Environment Court prosecutions – it was queried if fines from organisations/individuals that have been prosecuted for damaging fish habitat or other environmental impacts can be accessed.*

Example project discussed by the group – Oyster Reef Restoration

Partnerships with oyster farmers – expert knowledge and resources

Strategic opportunity to reduce aquaculture waste (shell)

Securing the resource

- Oyster substrate
 - Establish an oyster shell bin
 - Limestone
- Root balls
- Old lease infrastructure

Strategic opportunities during implementation – protocols and reef specification development

(* NSW DPI staff have looked into this potential opportunity and unfortunately at the current time, without a standard process in place for aligning projects in need of funding to fines as they are collected, it is not considered a feasible option for habitat restoration funding).

Sponsorship and promotion (chaired by Matt Hansen)

- Simplicity is the key
- Catch phrase – “Help”
- Hold a simple raffle on the main street of your local town or at your local pub
 - Engel fridge full of lures
 - \$ goes back into what they love
- Grant success increases if you can bring in-kind / \$ to the table (include the unpaid labour as in-kind)
- Give recreational fishers the feeling that they are doing something to “give back”
- Develop good relationships with EPA for prosecutions/fines & revenue
- Identify local business sponsors – tackle/boat shop
- Fishing competitions – run it like a business – ‘don’t be afraid to charge a decent entry fee’
- Radio, local paper, social media

Permits and red tape of habitat restoration (chaired by Rod Price)

**** please note this is not an exhaustive list of required approvals – please ensure to make appropriate inquiries (with your local council and/or local Fisheries Manager) to determine what is needed BEFORE undertaking and structural riverbank and instream works.**

Licensing – apply first as it can take some time

Environmental Assessment

- Potential impacts
- Aboriginal AHIMS assessment survey

- Native Title is an important consideration

- Be flexible with some aspects of your proposal in case something crops up that means you need to change location /focus slightly

- Coastal areas
 - Development application for any work below MLHW (Mean Lower High Water) (tide level)
 - Council & Crown Lands – communicate with BOTH
 - Marine Parks Authority

Fisheries Management Act 1994:

- Part 7 Permit for any restoration activities involving dredging and reclamation work, activities that obstruct fish passage, use of explosives and harming marine vegetation.
- A Permit under Section 37 is required if collecting fish for research such as investigating the effectiveness of the habitat restoration in relation to fish abundance.
- The right to fish in certain inland waters is covered in the provisions under Section 38 of the Act.

Participant evaluation of the event

The **Fishers for Fish Habitat Forum** organisers introduced an Audience Response System (ARS) to this year's event. This interactive system provided a platform for instant, anonymous, participation opinion and feedback whilst allowing for efficient collation of participant evaluation of the event. The ARS created some initial teething problems for Forum coordinators however, once working properly, it created an important opportunity for better response rates to capture basic information and feedback from participants. This information will assist NSW DPI in the future organisation of face-to-face events of this nature. An online survey was also created after the event to allow participants further opportunities for feedback.

The opening 'ice breaker' session provided an early, entertaining opportunity for everyone to get to know each other and had a high response rate with an average of 60 Forum participants contributing to the session. **88% of respondents identified themselves as a fisher with most (22%) wishing they had the opportunity to fish more.** The respondent's *preferred fishing location* was a draw between 'Anywhere I can get my line wet' and 'Inland waters' followed in order of preference by Estuary, Marine and Coastal areas.

Interestingly, nearly half (43%) of respondents rated their *perception of fish habitat knowledge at the start of the Forum* as very good. 33% rated their understanding as good, 14% as okay and 11% as patchy. This year we welcomed a high number of participants who responded (45) that they *were attending a Fishers for Fish Habitat Forum for the first time.*

A strong number of respondents (86%) are actively involved in fish habitat projects in their local areas with 40% indicating they have led a project, 38% worked on one, nearly 8% supporting one and the remainder equally either not having the time to be involved, don't know where to start or have a desire to but need assistance.

When asked "**What is motivating you to restore fish habitat?**" nearly all respondents fall under an intrinsic form of motivation such as simply wanting to 'Give something back' (26%), doing it 'For the fish' (26%) or for future generations, 'For my children/grandchildren' (26%). Other respondents are hoping to enjoy the fruit of their labours through 'Improve fishing opportunities' (15%) and 'Because it feels good' (2.5%). One respondent was motivated for the reward of 'Monetary gains', an inherently extrinsic form of motivation.

The responses to the question "**What fish habitat issue is important to you?**" clearly indicated what issues respondents are concerned about, in order of importance:

- Riverbank impacts and erosion 33%
- Water quality 28%
- Marine vegetation loss 11%
- Lost oyster reefs 11%
- Wetland and floodplain impacts 6%
- Instream habitat loss e.g. timber 6%
- Fish passage barriers 6%

This question was also included in the online survey for Forum participants released after the event, the responses vary (in order of importance):

- Water quality 32.5%
- Instream habitat loss e.g. timber 15%
- Riverbank impacts and erosion 12.5%
- Wetland and floodplain impacts 12.5%
- Fish passage barriers 7.5%
- Freshwater vegetation loss 7.5%

-
- Lost oyster reefs 7.5%
 - Marine vegetation loss 5%

This variation may reflect the knowledge respondents gained from attending the event or perhaps certain presentations, restoration projects or key messages which 'stuck with them' or simply, the respondents who used the ARS and those who used the online survey may not be the same pool of Forum participants. Interestingly, **water quality features highly in both responses** and is a reflection of the respondent's knowledge of the very basic fundamental requirement for fish to survive and thrive.

In evaluation of the event, **over 60 % of respondents strongly agreed and the remainder of respondents agreed that participating in the Forum has improved their understanding of issue affecting fish habitat.**

An equal number of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that they now have a *better understanding* of the work being done to improve fish habitat. One respondent disagreed with this statement.

The **majority of respondents** either strongly agreed (33) or agreed (39) that they **feel more confident about ways in which I can get involved in improving fish habitat** as a result of the Forum. The remaining respondents (3) still lacked confidence in getting involved as a result of the Forum.

Nearly three quarters of respondents strongly agreed (55) and the remainder agreed (21) that they **would encourage other recreational fishers to attend the next Forum.**

Comments and suggestions about the Forum were overwhelmingly positive.

- *I had a great time and learned a lot*
- *Great conference, thanks for all your work*
- *Thanks for organising such a positive, collaborative and enjoyable event! (It's not often I*

There was a strong focus on the social aspect of the event and respect and appreciation for fellow attendees, presenters and coordinators:

- *I always love working with your unit - everyone is always so positive, and from what I have*
- *I had a lovely time and I really enjoyed meeting everyone. Such a warm, friendly and*
- *I really enjoyed the forum, very informative and excellent speakers who are passionate*
- *Thank you for the awesome conference it was great to be involved with so many*

The most useful aspect of the Forum for one respondent, which reflects the usefulness of the event in terms of educating fishers on the importance of fish habitat, was *"It was mostly new to me... so I found the content fascinating. The presenters were excellent. While I found some of the facts (on habitat loss) disturbing I thoroughly enjoyed the day."*

The usefulness of the Forum in relation to supporting recreational fishers in their stewardship of fish habitat was also highlighted in the feedback, such as “*Thanks for a great weekend guys, our volunteers loved it and has inspired them to get some (Habitat Action) grants in!*”

Several suggestions for the next Forum included ensuring there were Aboriginal presentations in the agenda, possibly having separate events which focus on freshwater specific issues to those that focus on saltwater specific issues and also the desire for the event to have been longer ‘*to hear more from these inspirational speakers & people who attended*’.

The importance of providing positive recognition for fishers and volunteers who are ‘*working so hard to fix a whole range of habitat problems*’ was also recognised by a number of respondents. The Habitat Heroes session which has been included in the Forum agenda since the first Fishers for Fish Habitat Forum in 2009 provides a public platform to do this, and was again “*thoroughly enjoyed*’ at this 2018 event.

Photos from the event

Image A: Ben Franklin MLC opened the Forum at the Ballina Beach Resort



The Habitat Heroes shared their fish habitat rehabilitation projects with the rest of the Forum (Image B, C, D, E & F)

Image B: Alan Izzard, Bass Sydney – celebrating their 1600 hours of volunteer work at one site



Image C: Matt Hansen, IWRA – more homes for fish



Image D: Stuart Murphy, Grafton Fly Anglers – Doing it for his kids



Image E: John Larsson, Richmond OzFish – looking at all issues affecting the local river



Image F: Mel Gray, Dubbo Macquarie River Bushcare – fish need trees too!



Image G: Special guest Bob Pearce, Albert Park Yachting and Angling Club (Vic) shared the Club's passion to see wild shellfish return to Port Philip Bay which led to the initiation of a landmark oyster reef restoration project



Participants showed great willingness to learn and share ideas and got readily involved in the workshop session which was mentored by the Habitat Heroes. Habitat rehabilitation project processes discussed included keeping volunteers engaged (Image H), opportunities and strategic partnerships (Image I), sponsorship & promotion (Image J) and addressing the red tape (Image K).

Image H: Round table discussion on keeping volunteer interest alive



Image I: Stu and John helping to get some great ideas on forging partnerships down on paper



Image J: Think tank of ideas on promotion and sponsorship



Image K: Crossing the "t"s and dotting the "i"s - permits and red tape



The Richmond River Roamings bus tour of the catchment experienced nearly all seasons in one day. Thunderstorms and heavy rain, welcomed by our regional participants, did not deter the hardy fishers but the clouds parted to hot and dry conditions as we travelled up the catchment to view habitat restoration in action.

Image L: Atmospheric conditions for viewing creek bank restoration works at the NSW DPI Duck Creek Agricultural Field Station



Image M: Graeme Carr (Richmond OzFish) shared his trials and tribulations of sourcing new snags for fish with the group. Emigrant Creek in the background



Image N: Charlotte Jenkins (NSW DPI) described the benefit of rock fillet creek bank restoration to (slightly damp) Forum participants



Image O: Cassie Price (OzFish Unlimited) described the current options study for the Tuckean Swamp being undertaken by the University of NSW's Water Research Lab



Image P: South Lismore Duck Pond Landcare Group walked participants around their riparian restoration site on the outskirts of South Lismore



Image Q: South Lismore Duck Pond Landcare explained the various invasive weed control techniques being employed on the site including coral tree management and the use of rye grass to create manageable ground cover



Image R: Recreational Freshwater Fishing Trust representative Kevin McKinnon and Kylie Russell (NSW DPI) enjoy a stroll through the Lismore Duck Pond habitat restoration site

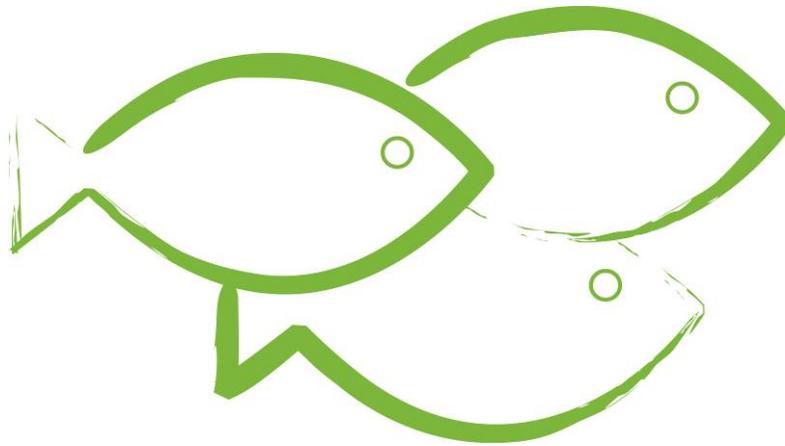


Image S: Pat Dwyer (NSW DPI) describes the importance of fish passage to the attentive group which was joined by members of the local Kyogle Fishing Club



Image T: It was worth the drive - the visit to the award-winning Kyogle Fishway was a highlight for the group. Graham Kennett (General Manager, Kyogle Council) shared the project's significant outcomes with Forum participants





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Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (September 2018). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the NSW Department of Primary Industries or the user's independent adviser.

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