

MEETING	Recreational Fishing Saltwater Trust Expenditure Committee (RFSTEC)
MEETING NO.	Meeting 53
DATE & TIME	3 July 2018
LOCATION	St George Rowers Club, 1 Levey Street, Wolli Creek
ATTENDEES	Bruce Schumacher (Chair), Lisa Terry (Region 2), Geoff Shelton (Region 3), John Paton (Region 6a), Stuart Rhodes (Region 6b), Ann Garard (Region 7), Micah Adams (Region 8), Stan Konstantaras (RFA NSW, RFNSW), John Burgess (ANSA NSW Branch), Grahame Williams (NSW GFA), Damian Kerves (AFTA).
APOLOGIES	Mark Berg (Region 1), Adrian Wayne (Region 4), Lionel Jones (Region 5), Peter Turnell (NSW DPI).

1. Chair's introduction

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Confirmation of outcomes from the previous meeting

The draft outcomes of the 52nd RFSTEC meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Moved John Paton, Seconded Lisa Terry, Carried.

3. Register of interests

Members reviewed the register and provided updated details as required.

4. Action items from previous meeting

The Committee noted the progress on action items from the previous meeting (Table 1).

5. Recreational Fishing Trust update

The status of the Saltwater and Freshwater Trusts was presented to members.

6. Review of new Saltwater Trust grant applications

A total of 4 saltwater applications were received. Funding recommendations with respect to each project will be forwarded to the Recreational Fishing NSW Advisory Council for consideration (refer to Annex 1).

Trust correspondence

i) Shoalhaven City Council's (SCC) project 'Bawley Point heritage fishing platform' was reviewed and supported for funding in RFSTEC meeting 46 (refer to attached original application). A local benefactor completed the platform works in kind and a project variation was subsequently sought by SCC to transfer approved funds to other works adjacent to the platform which was not supported in RFSTEC meeting 50. SCC has since incurred expenses of \$11,049 associated with design and investigation for this project that was not covered by the benefactor and has requested consideration of payment from the Recreational Fishing Trust. **SUPPORTED Moved John Burgess, Seconded Ann Garard, Carried.**

ii) Tweed Valley Shire Council is seeking a project variation to appoint Tweed Valley Wildlife Carers (TVWC) as a community auspice for Joshua Carpenter and as the new project managers. This will ensure Joshua and the project are provided long-term continued support following the completion of Joshua's secondary education and future endeavours (see Annex 1). **SUPPORTED Moved John Burgess, Seconded Ann Garard, Carried.**

7. Presentations

DPI presented updates to RFSTEC on the following programs:

- a) Research Angler Program and Integrated Monitoring Program
- b) Recreational fishing licensing - DPI provided an update on the licence sales agent network and statistics on licence sales.
- c) Tournament management program
- d) Gamefishing tagging program
- e) Get hooked...its fun to fish schools education program
- f) Gone Fishing Day 2018
- g) Offshore artificial reefs
- h) Marine stocking program

8. General business

Fish Habitat Forum

Through his involvement on the Technical Assessment Panel (TAP) for Habitat Action Grants, RFSTEC nominated John Paton to be the group's representative at the upcoming Fish Habitat Forum at Ballina in August.

Southern Fish Trawl fishery

Committee member Stan Konstantaras advised the meeting that the Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW (RFA) had spoken to Southern Fish Trawl (SFT) operators, who represented 23 of the 24 operators in the SFT and that they have indicated in writing their willingness to exit the NSW waters fishery if they receive appropriate support. Mr Konstantaras advised the Committee that the proposed transition of the NSW Southern Fish Trawl into the Commonwealth Trawl sector and exit from the SFT fishery had been included in discussion at the last Recreational Fishing NSW (RFNSW) meeting. Mr Konstantaras suggested the exit of commercial trawl fishers from southern NSW could be potentially funded by contributions from the NSW Recreational Fishing Trust, the NSW Regional Growth Fund and the Federal Government.

Recommendation: The committee supports RFNSW Council's position to explore possibilities of an exit grant strategy for commercial fishers in the NSW Southern Fish Trawl fishery (Action item table 2).

Longtail tuna

It has been reported that a Western Australian based commercial fishery operation is seeking to have the catch limit on longtail tuna increased from the 35 tonne bycatch limit to 250 tonnes. The extra take will be earmarked for a WA based cannery operation. Recfishwest is reported to have given conditional in principle support for the increase and the proposal has also been supported by the Tropical Tuna MAC. Given that longtail tuna are classified nationally as a recreational only species the proposed catch limit increase may create an awkward precedent which could undermine the recreational only status of

the species. Previous attempts by the commercial sector to have the catch limit increased have been rejected.

Action item: The committee requests that the WA proposal for an increase in the catch limit for longtail tuna be referred to RFNSW following investigation by DPI.

9. Next meeting

7 November 2018, Coffs Harbour, NSW.

Annex 1. Summary of funding recommendations

Projects **SUPPORTED** for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trust

Platform: Fishing access and facilities

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Minnamurra Boat Ramp Fish Cleaning Table	The Council of Municipality of Kiama	Based on community feedback, Council has identified the need for a fish cleaning table at the Minnamurra boat ramp. Council proposes a table with lighting. By providing the cleaning amenities, at the popular fishing location, Council hopes to encourage best fishing practices. SUPPORTED Moved Grahame Williams, Seconded Stuart Rhodes, Carried. Condition, RFSTEC supports \$11,800 for the fish cleaning table only with labour and project management to be provided in-kind by Council.	SW \$19,300 applied \$11,800 supported	SW \$0	SW \$0
Recreational Fishing Upgrade: Accessibility & Inclusion Works, Ray Pascoe Park, Tweed Heads	Tweed Shire Council	Park and jetty infrastructure to be modified to provide outcomes with respect to accessibility and inclusion. Fish cleaning table to be replaced and lighting to be provided increasing amenity and safety. SUPPORTED Moved Micah Adams, Seconded John Paton, Carried. Condition, RFSTEC supports \$20,000 for fish cleaning table and lighting component only.	SW \$76,942 applied \$20,000 supported	SW \$0	SW \$0
Rosedale Beach Access Steps and Stairs	Eurobodalla Shire Council	To provide safer access, in all weather conditions to Rosedale Beach a popular location for recreational fishers by installing timber stairs with handrails and improving the track by installing formed steps in the steep sections. SUPPORTED Moved John Burgess, Seconded Geoff Shelton, Carried. Condition, RFSTEC have provided matching funding to that of the local community group as the stairway is deemed to be of a multi-use Council asset.	SW \$38,043 applied (RFSTEC 52) \$10,000 supported (this meeting 53)	SW \$0	SW \$0

Platform: Recreational fishing education

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Warrawong High School – Project Neptune	Warrawong High School	Project Neptune began in 1998. Fishing is a school sport. Weather permitting, sport is Thursday afternoons. Terms 1 – 4 The highlight is the program’s annual deep sea charter. SUPPORTED Moved Grahame Williams, Seconded John Burgess, Carried.	SW \$2,440	SW \$0	SW \$0
Fishing for a future	Lake Macquarie PCYC	The Fishing for a Future program will be conducted at the Lake Macquarie PCYC by Police officers. The program aim is to encourage young offenders and youth at risk into fishing. Through fishing great benefits can be achieved with the overall objective to divert young offenders and youth at risk of Lake Macquarie from crime and anti-social behaviour. SUPPORTED Moved Lisa Terry, Seconded Micah Adams, Carried	SW \$2,600	SW \$0	SW \$0

Projects **NOT SUPPORTED** for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trust

Platform: Research on fish and recreational fishing

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Integrated Monitoring Program (IMP): Comprehensive ongoing assessment of recreational fishing in NSW – 2019/2021	NSW DPI	<p>The IMP is the largest recreational fishery citizen-science project in NSW providing a cost-effective platform for collecting high quality information on recreational fisheries. This methodology provides reliable catch and effort estimates for various species, along with opinions and satisfaction levels of recreational fishers. Such information has already been collected for 2013/14 and currently, for 2017/18. This proposal is seeking to extend the IMP on an ongoing biennial basis and will also include biological (age) monitoring of key recreational species.</p> <p>NOT SUPPORTED Moved Lisa Terry, Seconded Geoff Shelton, Carried RFSTEC did not support the project in its current format combining the Research Angler Program with the Integrated Monitoring Program. RFSTEC noted the benefits of the RAP as a stand-alone program. RFSTEC recommends NSW DPI to resubmit two separate applications and budgets for each project but enhancing the integration and linkage of data between the two models. RFSTEC have proposed the establishment of a steering committee (comprised of CFNSWWG, RFSTEC & RFNSW representatives) to review and have input in the applications before formal submission.</p>	SW \$577,925	SW \$893,939	SW \$607,016