



MEETING	Recreational Fishing NSW Advisory Council	
MEETING NO.	12	DATE AND TIME
LOCATION	Centennial Room, The Stamford Plaza, Sydney Airport	4 February 2019
ATTENDEES	Johann Bell (Chair), Jo Starling, Max Castle, Vic Levett, Matt Hansen, Matthew Poulton, Paul Lennon, Ray Tang, Greg Reid, David Rae, Vicki Lear, Karl Mathers, Stan Konstantaras, Peter Turnell,	
APOLOGIES	Greg Reid	

1. Introduction by the Chair

The Chair welcomed members to the twelfth meeting in Sydney. During his remarks, the Chair thanked members for their inputs and contributions to RFNSW, and to decision making in recreational fishing since the first meeting. The Chair noted that the Department would be advertising an expression of interest soon for membership on the Council and encouraged members to reapply for another three-year term.

2. Register of Interests

The Chair requested that members declare any changes or additions to the Register that have arisen since the last meeting. The following additional interests were declared:

David Rae advised that he is no longer a student at Southern Cross University.

Stan Konstantaras advised that he was a member on the National Recreational Fishing Council and that his involvement with the Recreational Fishing Alliance in the DPI tender process entitled: 'Delivery of sector representation, consultation and communication services to the recreational fishing sector' had finished, given the completion of the tender process.

It was determined there were no conflicts of interest associated with the above activities.

3. Agreement on the agenda

RFNSW members agreed on the agenda for the meeting.

4. Adoption of the record of the previous meeting

The draft outcomes of Meeting 11 were accepted without change as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

5. Proposed future meeting schedule

To be confirmed following the expression of interest process for RFNSW membership.

6. Review of achievements and action items from previous meetings

Council noted the status of achievements and action items from the previous meeting.

Action item: DPI to investigate the production of an RFNSW Annual report for 2018/19.

7. a. Progressing the top 10 priority issues: reviewing status

Council members have identified details of key issues in their regions, sectors or fields which have been collated into an issues summary document. A 'live' structured RFNSW work plan with specific actions and responsibilities is being maintained. The status of the various actions was discussed and further actions developed where required.

7. b. Top 10 issue: Stock assessment of key recreational fishing species

DPI updated the Council on the national 'Status of Australian Fish Stocks' (SAFs) reports for yellowtail kingfish and snapper, which are due to be released in March 2019. It was noted that the current assessment highlights that the biomass of the part of the kingfish stock that occurs in NSW waters is likely to be depleted and that recruitment is likely to be impaired. Current fishing mortality levels are expected to prevent the NSW part of the stock recovering from a recruitment impaired state. The NSW component of the snapper east coast stock appears to be fishing on a sustainable basis.

Action item: DPI to circulate the Status of Australian Fish Stocks report to Council members when published.

Action item: The Chair to write to the Minister and advise him about the SAFs report and the concern regarding the NSW stock of Kingfish. RFNSW recommended that DPI be requested to provide an urgent response, including appropriate management actions to rebuild the stock of this important recreational and commercial fish species (noting RFNSW established its position on required management arrangements previously). The Council requested that the Minister be asked to provide a timeline for the response.

Action item: The Chair to write to CommFish providing the SAFs paper (when published), which provides scientific evidence to justify urgent management action to address the overfished status of kingfish. The letter should outline key findings of the SAFs report and request commercial fishing industry support for introducing management changes in line with changes proposed for the recreational fishing sector so that both sectors can work together to restore this shared stock.

Recommendation: RFNSW recommended that more scientific monitoring and research be undertaken on Snapper to better inform the current stock assessment. This could include additional monitoring through the Research Angler Program and modelling different management scenarios to create a better recreational fishery for the species.

7. c. Top 10 issue: Mulloway recovery plan

An update on use of Research Angler Program data in the DPI report titled 'Monitoring and assessment of the impact of management changes under the Mulloway recovery program' was provided at the meeting.

Council members were updated by DPI on Roads and Maritime Services offsets associated with the Batemans Bay bridge replacement project.

Action item: The Chair to write to the Minister regarding the need to explore legislative change to incorporate specific and direct recreational fishing offsets into development and planning processes where a development or planning process negatively impacts on recreational fishing. This should be in addition to routine habitat offsets. These offsets could include artificial reefs, fish stocking etc.

7. d. Top 10 issue: Strengthening social licence for recreational fishing in NSW

DPI advised that the Fish for Life user guidelines have been finalised and will be uploaded to the DPI website. DPI is developing a procurement strategy for the tender process to appoint a marketing company to launch Fish for Life, and to develop campaigns aimed at improving the social licence for the recreational fishing sector in NSW.

Action item: DPI to update the Department's website to provide information on Fish for Life and how fishing clubs, fishing organisations etc. can access and use the Fish for Life logo.

Action item: Jo Starling to provide text for an article on the Fish for Life campaign in the next edition of Newscast.

Action item: DPI to seek feedback from RFSTEC and RFFTEC regarding placement of the Fish for Life logo on the Recreational Fishing Trust Infrastructure plaques.

7 e. Top 10 issue: Hawkesbury Shelf marine bioregion

DPI advised that information on recreational fishing was one of many datasets analysed during the overall Hawkesbury Shelf Marine Bioregion assessment project. Recreational fishing information was included to avoid selecting key recreational fishing sites. RFNSW was also advised that implementation of Stage 1 of the ten-year state wide Marine Estate Management was progressing with actions under the nine initiatives to address priority threats.

7 f. Macquarie River Orange Pipeline and Burrendong Dam

DPI provided an update on the fish-associated impacts of the Macquarie River Orange pipeline and advised that the pre-pipeline operational sampling of the fish community in the river has been completed. The research team is currently conducting post-pipeline operational sampling of the fish community, with the next sampling event scheduled for March 2019. At this stage, it is too early for any conclusive results.

Part of the second component of the sampling aimed at examining efficiency of the screens has been conducted at Narrandera. This sampling compares the effects of replicas of the existing screen to different sized mesh screens on various species of native fish.

There has been little extractive use of the pipeline in 2018. However, this spring/summer has seen the triggers reached resulting in a total of approximately 183MI extracted during September-November 2018.

DPI also advised that there have been delays experienced with the Burrendong Dam Safety Upgrade project due to the fishway optimisation assessment that is just commencing. Information from this assessment will be available in nine months time, which will guide future funding bids and selection of achievable on-ground activities. WaterNSW are aware of their obligations as part of the Dam Safety Upgrade, and are intending to complete works once future outcomes are known.

8. Inland fish kills including at Menindee Lakes

DPI in collaboration with WaterNSW have been investigating a number of fish kills, including in the Darling River at Menindee, in the Namoi River below Keepit Dam, the Lachlan River at Wyangala Dam and also in Lake Hume. Council members discussed the various contributing factors, including drought, excessive heat, algal blooms, black water events, resource sharing policies and climate change. It was acknowledged that these issues are likely to continue to compound, causing future fish kills.

It was acknowledged that there are a wide range of programs and initiatives aimed at achieving better native fish outcomes. These include better targeted environmental flows, fish passage works and measures, increasing hatchery capacity, the National Carp Control Plan, riparian land management initiatives and the 'Screens for Streams' initiative. However, it was also recognised that we need to escalate a number of these initiatives in order to build the necessary resilience across our fish populations to adapt to the effects of climate change.

Whilst many of the initiatives identified above are integral parts of existing State and Commonwealth programs, the 'Screens for Streams' initiative is seen as lagging considerably behind, despite robust scientific backing and strong support from recreational fishers. It was acknowledged that funding of \$500,000 over five years had been supported from the Recreational Fishing Trusts for the 'Screens for Streams' project, which further highlights the high priority nature of this issue.

Action item: RFNSW highlighted the issue of lack of screens on water extraction pumps throughout the Murray Darling system which is considered to have major impacts on native fish populations. The Chair to write to the Minister to request that a planning workshop/forum be facilitated with participation from Water NSW, DPI, relevant water management experts, key industry stakeholders and recreational fishing stakeholders (via RFNSW members) to bring together the current body of knowledge on fish screening across the Science, Policy and Implementation disciplines. The aim of the forum is to better understand the range of legislative and operational barriers to the widespread adoption of fish screening technology. The letter should request a funding allocation in the order of \$80,000 to proceed with the forum as a matter of urgency. It is proposed that outcomes from the workshop be referred to the Minister for consideration, with potential subsequent development of a White Paper.

The 'Screens for Streams' project is about to commence and will be undertaken by DPI, Charles Sturt University and other industry partners. Council reiterated it is essential that on-ground trials commence as soon as possible to progress the research on this important issue. Input and buy-in from industry and water management partners is critical to ensure the success of this project.

Action item:

The Chair to write to the Minister to reiterate the importance of the 'Screens for Streams' project and need to ensure buy-in from other water partners during the further development of the initiative.

Action item:

DPI to provide an update on implementation of the 'Screens for Streams' project at the next meeting.

Action item: DPI to investigate the development of a decision making support tool/framework that prescribes fisheries management actions to be applied as storage levels recede to critical levels and to report back at the next meeting

Action item: The Chair to write to Minister regarding the inclusion of 40 Golden Perch in Schedule 1C Indictable species and indictable quantities of the Fisheries Management Act 1994 as a deterrent to trafficking of the species on the inland.

Action item: DPI to facilitate Karl Mathers to update RFFTEC on the wide range of programs and initiatives aimed at achieving better water sharing and improved native fish outcomes in the Murray Darling Basin

9. Collection of Cockles at Lake Illawarra

DPI updated the Council on compliance reporting relating to a significant spike in the collection of cockles at Lake Illawarra, with some minor incidence of people exceeding the bag limit of 50. Social media appears to have contributed to the influx of harvesters in the area. There has been an increased DPI compliance presence around the Lake which is ongoing. DPI advised members that the current compliance rate with recreational fishing rules is 75%.

Stan Konstantaras raised an issue regarding a penalty infringement notice being issued to an adult assisting a child to collect cockles at Lake Illawarra and the adult not having paid the recreational fishing fee. Mr Konstantaras and Mr Samuels requested clarification regarding the current fee exemption for adults assisting a child and how they apply in the field.

Action item: DPI to provide background and history on the current exemption to the recreational fishing fee for adults assisting a child to Council at the next meeting.

10. Recreational Fishing Trust matters

New applications - project recommendations from RFSTEC and RFFTEC

DPI updated Council on the 2019/20 round of funding recommendations made by the Recreational Fishing Saltwater and Freshwater Trust Expenditure Committees (RFSTEC and RFFTEC) when they met on 30 and 31 January. A summary of the RFSTEC and RFFTEC recommendations was provided to Council in the agenda. The applications received covered a range of projects aimed at improving facilities, access and education for recreational fishing, and a variety of research projects to fill some of the information gaps related to recreational fishing issues.

RFNSW recognised the need for further research on black bream as outlined in the project titled: "Assess, develop and manage the recreational black bream fishery in southern NSW" and believes that further consideration is needed to identify how best to design and conduct the research.

Recommendation: Council endorsed the recommendations of RFSTEC and RFFTEC relating to new Trust applications that were supported and not supported, as outlined in Annex 1.

Recommendation: RFNSW recommended the application titled: "Assess, develop and manage the recreational black bream fishery in southern NSW" be resubmitted following re-examination of the stock structure of black bream in NSW (and the possible sharing of stocks with Victoria) using the latest population genetics methods.

11. Commercial fisher proposal for the Hastings River and additional RFHs correspondence

a) Commercial fisher proposal for the Hastings River

DPI advised the Council of a proposal from a mid-north coast commercial fisher regarding the Hastings River recreational fishing haven. RFNSW did not support any adjustments to existing havens as this would likely set a precedent for additional proposals. Any request should be considered as a significant proposal with statewide implications. There would also be a need for a statewide consultation strategy.

Action item: RFNSW identified Paul Lennon (and Dave Rae as a reserve) for the sub group formed by DPI to review the application in more detail.

b) Additional RFHs correspondence

Jo Starling informed the Council she had received a number of requests for additional recreational fishing havens at the following locations:

1. Nambucca River
2. Wallaga Lake
3. Lake Illawarra
4. Pambula River
5. Warrell Creek (request for lure and fly only waters)

Action item: Jo Starling to liaise with correspondents regarding current issues associated with creating additional havens.

12. Reports of dead fish at Jimmys Beach Port Stephens.

DPI updated Council on compliance reporting relating to the concerns raised about a social media video of dead fish at Jimmy's Beach Port Stephens. DPI advised that the issue was related largely to poor discard techniques for undersized fish by the commercial fishers involved.

Action item: DPI to include the issue of reducing and dealing with bycatch by the commercial fishing sector at the next joint CommFish meeting.

13. Correspondence

Additional letter from John Clarke to Chair regarding regional representation of RFNSW members

Action item: DPI to write to Mr Clarke reiterating the Chair's previous communication regional representation of RFNSW members.

14. Update on Southern Fish Trawl

DPI advised that the Minister is currently considering the issue of transitioning the NSW Southern Fish Trawl Fishery to the Commonwealth. This includes consideration of changes to the original transition proposal to accommodate issues raised by recreational fishing stakeholders. As no decision has yet been made, it is impossible to achieve the transition by 1 May 2019 (the start of the Commonwealth Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery quota season). Therefore, the next likely transition date, if approved, is for commencement on 1 May 2020.

DPI also advised that 166.9 tonnes is the total allowable catch allocation for tiger flathead for 2019/20 taken in the Ocean Trawl Fishery except the Southern Fish Trawl. Species shares were allocated to the Northern Fish Trawl, and Inshore and Offshore prawn shareholders.

15. Update on the use of Opera House traps in the inland

Council members were updated on the Opera House traps issue, including the Minister's response to previous RFNSW correspondence. The Minister advised DPI to develop a process to transition from the use of 'Opera House traps' to open top pyramid traps, which will have minimal impact on air breathing animals. The transition period will include a comprehensive promotion and education campaign for fishers, as well as the handing out of the new style traps to recreational fishers. RFNSW members noted the relevant Recreational Fishing Trust funding application to support the transition and education process.

Action item: DPI to keep Council updated on the progress of transitioning from the use of Opera House traps to open top pyramid traps.

16. Rockfishing safety

DPI advised that the local government areas (LGAs) for Northern Beaches Council and Richmond Valley Council had recently been gazetted. Sutherland Shire Council, Central Coast Council, Lake Macquarie City Council and Ballina Shire Council has also recently opted in to the Rock Fishing Safety Act and the gazettal process was being facilitated.

Negotiations with a range of other councils interested in opting-in to the Act continue. DPI has been developing a range of safe rock fishing communications initiatives including flyers, brochures, posters, signage, videos, social media posts, workshops and fishing media articles. DPI has engaged with a range of stakeholders to fine-tune these communication messages, including expert rock fishers, RFNSW members, local councils, members of the CALD fishing community, recreational fishing organisations, the tackle sector (including retailers), Police and DPI Fisheries compliance officers.

An advisory group consisting of expert anglers, the CALD community, the tackle sector, relevant government agencies and other relevant groups and organisations to assist DPI with managing and implementing the Rock Fishing Safety Act is also being developed.

17. Recreational fishing access

DPI briefed Council on the following issues at the meeting:

a) Risk assessment of recreational fishing in Sydney Water Supply Dams

DPI advised the risk assessment report has been finalised and is being provided to the Minister for consideration.

b) Water Police patrols in Sydney Harbour

DPI reported that a number of public complaints had been received again this summer regarding irresponsible fishing on some ferry wharves. However, the issues are being addressed through Water Police patrols and ongoing advisory and education campaigns, which continue to be an effective strategy.

c) Pier 2/3 and Pier 8 in Sydney Harbour

DPI reported that more people are fishing on Pier 8 now that construction works on Pier 2/3 have reduced the fishing area on that Pier. Walsh Bay Precinct managers advise that there have been complaints about fisher-related litter, discarded fishing tackle, fish waste and excessive noise on Pier 8. In response, there has been an increased Police and Water Police presence, additional advisory activities, and targeted social media on fishing at Walsh Bay. More initiatives will be rolled out to address the above issues.

d) Spearfishing in the Eastern Suburbs of Sydney

DPI advised Council about correspondence seeking restrictions on spearfishing in Malabar Bay due to interactions with other groups such as swimmers, other divers and snorkelers. RFNSW advised that a non-regulatory, education approach is preferred to address conflict issues among fishers and other user groups.

Recommendation: RFNSW recommended development of a renewed targeted education campaign by a working group of relevant stakeholders, including key spearfishing organisations, DPI, spearfishing retailers, local Council and any other relevant stakeholders to address spearfishing issues in the Eastern Suburbs.

e) Ecohuts

DPI provided an update on the 14 ecohuts available across the state, excluding school and public holidays. DPI sought feedback from the Council on the option of DPI to obtain long-term leases or stand alone, DPI-managed huts to ensure the huts are available year round. Under the current system, the relevant National Parks and Wildlife Service huts are unavailable during school and public holidays.

18. General Business

a) Breakaway floats

An update on a social media campaign regarding littering and the responsible use of breakaway floats by fishers was provided by DPI. DPI presented draft social media tiles, brochures and posters to the Council. The Council supported the advisory information and requested that it be finalised so that it may be distributed throughout hot spot areas.

b) Update on progress towards actions recommended by RFNSW and CommFish during their joint meeting

DPI updated Council on the recommended action items from the joint session meeting on 22 November 2018.

Action item: The Chair to write to Peter Neville, Chair, RecFishing Research regarding engagement of a think tank to recommend additional, cost-effective methods to measure the recreational fisher catch. The letter should also be copied to Patrick Hone, Fisheries Research and Development Corporation.

Action item: DPI to circulate the Recreational Fishing trust funded project titled "Integrating recreational fishing information into harvest strategies for multi-sector fisheries in NSW" to members.

c) Lake Wallerawang access

Action item: Ray Tang to discuss access issues associated with the Wallerawang power station closure and potential changes to access arrangements in the future with the DPI Inland Access Officer.

Annex 1: Summary of RFSTEC and RFFTEC funding recommendations

Projects SUPPORTED for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trust

Platform: Fishing access and facilities

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2019/20	2020/21
Bogan Shire Council - Fish Cleaning Table set up	Bogan Shire Council	Provide a two person, stainless steel fish cleaning table with roof for protection from weather elements adjacent to the Bogan River in Nyngan.	FW \$9,500	FW \$0
Sportsmans Creek Fish Cleaning Table Replacement	Clarence Valley Council	Construct a new fish cleaning table near the new pontoon (pontoon to be constructed in early 2019) at the existing Flo Clark Park boat ramp on Sportsmans Creek, Lawrence.	SW \$24,556	SW \$0
Beach Access at Yowani St Rosedale	Eurobodalla Shire Council	To provide safer access, in all weather conditions to a popular fishing location consisting of beach and rock platforms by installing timber stairs and formed steps in the steep sections. Note: RFSTEC noted that contributing funding of \$10,000 had been previously supported for the project, however the applicant has now changed the location and submitted a revised application. RFSTEC reiterated its previous support for \$10,000 of contributing funding and accepts the variation in project location.	SW \$23,000 Requested SW \$10,000 Approved	SW \$0

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2019/20	2020/21
Replacement of fishing jetty at Tuross Lake	Eurobodalla Shire Council	Preproposal: Replace the only fishing jetty within the Tuross Lake Recreational Fishing Haven (RFH) on Nelson Parade, Tuross Head. RECOMMENDATION: RFSTEC recommended that Council seek RMS funding noting it is primarily a boating facility so the majority of funding should be sourced from RMS. Contributing funding for disabled fishing access can also potentially be provided from the Recreational Fishing Trust. RFNSW member Max Castle confirmed the jetty at this location in the recreational fishing haven is primarily used by recreational boat fishers therefore it is considered appropriate for the Recreational Fishing Trust to contribute 50% of funding with remaining funding to be potentially sourced from RMS. Local member Jo Starling reiterated these comments. RFNSW supported this approach noting this has been a long standing request from the community for many years for the boat jetty to be upgraded for recreational fishing boaters and associated fishing events. An application should be submitted by Council for this approach.	SW Preproposal	SW \$0
Northern River Fish Cleaning Station	Evans Head Business & Community Chamber	The construction and installation of a fish cleaning station on the northern side of the Evans River.	SW \$10,000	SW \$0
Khancoban Dam Boat Ramp - Fish Cleaning Table	Khancoban Angling Club	Provide fish cleaning facilities at the Khancoban Dam Boat Ramp.	FW \$8,300	FW \$0
Manning Point – Fish Cleaning Table Installation	Mid-Coast Council	Installation of a low maintenance fish cleaning facility adjacent to Manning Points primary boat launching ramp. The construction material and design will withstand vandalism and provide a long term recreational asset with minimal ongoing maintenance. The design life is estimated at 20 years.	SW \$5,800	SW \$0

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2019/20	2020/21
Endeavour Place, Taree – Fish Cleaning Table Installation	Mid-Coast Council	Installation of 2 low maintenance fish cleaning facilities adjacent Taree’s primary boat launching ramp. The construction material and design will withstand vandalism and provide a long term recreational asset with minimal ongoing maintenance. The design life is estimated at 20 years.	SW \$9,800	SW \$0
Crowdy Head Fish Cleaning Tables	Mid-Coast Council	Installation of fish cleaning facilities at Crowdy Boat Harbour.	SW \$20,000	SW \$0
Restoration of Fishing Wharf at Shoalhaven Heads	Shoalhaven Heads Chamber of Commerce and Tourism	The existing Wharf at Shoalhaven Heads is used as a general fishing platform by locals and tourists. The Wharf is in poor condition and this project will improve its use as a fishing platform and add some facilities for fishers like a cleaning table, rod holders, lighting, seating for disabled and elderly. Condition: Platform is to be used exclusively for fishing with railing installed to prevent general boat users from tying up to fishing wharf.	SW \$56,170	SW \$0
Bogolong Dam Project	Weddin Shire Council	This Project will see the construction of a graded access road, construction of a boat ramp, basic signage and a toilet cubicle on the Bogolong Dam site. The toilets will provide universal access in keeping with AS1428. Note: RFFTEC supported funding for the fish cleaning table only noting the toilet would be for general public amenity.	FW \$60,000 Requested FW \$15,000 Approved	FW \$0

Platform: Aquatic habitat protection and rehabilitation

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2019/20	2020/21
Open top pyramid / opera house yabby trap replacement scheme	NSW DPI Fisheries	Purchase around 10,000 open top pyramid (kalkyne) traps to replace opera house traps handed in by the public over a 24 month period. The open top pyramid yabby trap will supersede the opera house yabby trap, which will become prohibited for use, to protect platypus and other wildlife from inadvertent capture.	FW \$50,000	FW \$0

Platform: Research on fish and recreational fishing

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2019/20	2020/21
Identifying risk from marine debris sourced from recreational fishing and, where appropriate, determining solutions to key issues	Cardno NSW/ACT	Identifying risk from marine debris sourced from recreational fishing and, where appropriate, determining solutions to key issues. Conditions: 1) That the project needs to link closely with the recreational fishing environmental assessment being undertaken by DPI. 2) That the workshop methodology be agreed to by RFSTEC and RFNSW. 3) That the stakeholder workshop includes primarily recreational fishing stakeholders. 4) Final report to be reviewed by RFSTEC and RFNSW prior to release.	SW \$59,000	SW \$0
Revealing the emergence of fish viruses in Australia	Macquarie University	Innovative meta-transcriptomics will characterise fish viruses across the Murray-Darling to: (i) determine virus host-jumping between native and invasive fish, (ii) reveal virus-host co-evolution, (iii) assess the safety of virus biocontrol. Condition: that consultation occurs between the applicant and experts on the Carp virus regarding this project.	FW \$9,900	FW \$0
Robust resource assessment and stock enhancement for the iconic Murray Crayfish recreational fishery	Nature Glenelg Trust	The project will provide (a) targeted and benchmarking monitoring to allow robust resource assessment and (b) consolidation of stock enhancement for this important recreational fishery.	FW \$48,000	FW \$136,000
Integrating recreational fishing information into harvest strategies for multi-sector fisheries in NSW	NSW DPI	The project will develop defensible methods and a framework for including recreational fishing data into harvest strategies being developed for NSW fisheries. It is intended that funding for this project will contribute to a more substantial, national project application to FRDC in 2019/20, led by NSW DPI Fisheries, with funds from this application only being drawn on if the FRDC application is successful.	SW \$96,422	SW \$99,903

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2019/20	2020/21
Monitoring and Research on Landed Fish at Game Fishing Tournaments in NSW: 2019/2020	Pepperell Research & Consulting Pty Ltd	The project facilitates and conducts monitoring, sampling and biological research on billfish, tuna, sharks and other gamefish captured and weighed at the major game fishing tournaments in NSW.	SW \$31,000	SW \$0
Provision of Annual Report for the Gamefish Tagging Program for 2018/2019	Pepperell Research & Consulting Pty Ltd	Provision of an informative, attractive and readily accessible report on the Gamefish Tagging Program for the year 2018/2019.	SW \$6,000	SW \$0
Burrowing Behaviour, Mating System and Population Genetics of the Burrowing Mud Shrimp, <i>Trypaea australiensis</i>	University of Wollongong	This project will investigate the burrowing behaviour, mating system and population genetics of the mud shrimp to gain a better understanding of its importance as a bait source.	SW \$11,259	SW \$0

Platform: Recreational fishing education

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2019/20	2020/21
Sydney Game Fishing Club Educational Seminars	Sydney Game Fishing Club	Sydney Game Fishing Club (SGFC) plans to implement a series (minimum of four) of educational and interactive seminars/presentations to our members and the wider general public over a twelve-month period.	SW \$6,500	SW \$0

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2019/20	2020/21
SPEARSAFE, safety and sustainability for Spearfishers	Australian Underwater Federation Incorporated	The Australian Underwater Federation (AUF) is the peak governing body for underwater sports and amateur diving in Australia including spearfishing, underwater hockey, underwater rugby, scuba diving and snorkelling. The AUF is a not-for-profit organisation recognised and accredited by Sports Australia. The NSW and other branches of the AUF are working together to create some new safety, sustainability and interaction videos for the benefit of freedivers, spearfishers and snorkelers. Condition: that the AUF applicant consult with the RFA/USFA regarding value adding using existing content from the 'Don't Put Your Life On The Line Campaign'.	SW \$8,953	SW \$0
Assisting others to Enjoy Fishing 2019-2020	Narooma Sport and Gamefishing Club inc	Hold two Junior Fishing Clinics (July 2019, January 2020) and 1 CanTeen Cancer Kids visit, (November 2019). Teach how to rig rods, tie knots, bait hooks, cast rods, gather bait from inter tidal zones, cast, catch and release fish and look after the environment.	SW \$3,950	SW \$0
Fishing Then and Now	William Bayldon Public School	This is a 10-week program for primary school students, providing them with the opportunity to investigate and learn about local traditional Aboriginal fishing techniques and compare them to common day practices.	SW \$1,970	SW \$0
NSW Gone Fishing Day 2019 – promoting fishing as a healthy, fun, outdoors activity	NSW DPI - Fisheries	The 2018 NSW Gone Fishing Day was another outstanding success, even with the wet weather across the State with thousands of attending the six DPI events across NSW and many more attending the 60 fishing club events. It is proposed to again align the 5 th Gone Fishing Day in conjunction with the National Day on the 20 th October 2019. The day will recognise and promote the importance of recreational fishing as a healthy, fun, outdoors activity. The NSW event has grown significantly and early planning of the many coordinated fishing activities, including fishing club involvement in the grant EOI process, is required, as this will commence in April 2019. Condition: RFSTEC requested a funding condition that there be better promotion of the Recreational Fishing Trusts at each event e.g. large banner at each event etc.	SW \$190,000 FW \$70,000	SW \$0

Projects NOT SUPPORTED for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trust

Platform: Recreational fishing enhancement programs

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2019/20	2020/21
Danthonia School Silver Perch fish rearing dam	Danthonia Community	<p>A farm dam, netted for bird protection, to rear Silver Perch from fingerlings to 300 mm to stock in recreational dams, for educational purposes and to improve recreational fishing opportunities in the locality.</p> <p>NOT SUPPORTED AT THIS STAGE.</p> <p>RFFTEC noted that DPI would not permit the school to stock into publicly accessible recreational dams due to hatchery silver perch breeding and stocking requirements. DPI to provide advice to the School on the best way forward to achieve similar outcomes without stocking e.g. eating the fish produced.</p>	FW \$7,187	FW \$0
Re stocking fish into the Macquarie River	Wiradjuri Wellington Aboriginal Town Common	<p>Will construct an aquaponics system, will purchase Murray Cod fingerlings and will on-grow fingerlings to maturity prior to release into the Macquarie River, Wellington.</p> <p>NOT SUPPORTED AT THIS STAGE.</p> <p>RFFTEC noted that DPI would not permit the school to stock into the Macquarie River due to hatchery Murray cod breeding and stocking requirements. DPI to provide advice to the School on the best way forward to achieve similar outcomes without stocking e.g. eating the fish produced.</p>	FW \$10,000	FW \$0

Platform: Fishing access and facilities

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2019/20	2020/21
Installation of solar lighting at Boat Harbour boat ramp Summerland Point	Central Coast Council	Council proposes to install solar lighting at the boat ramp at Boat Harbour, Summerland Point to increase safety for recreational fishers using the facility after dark. NOT SUPPORTED. Does not meet Trust funding guidelines noting funding opportunity may be available from Boating Now program.	SW \$9,970	SW \$0
Installation of Solar Lighting at Terrigal Haven Boat Ramp & Saratoga Boat Ramp	Central Coast Council	Council will install solar lighting to existing poles to increase lighting capacity and safety at these two locations. NOT SUPPORTED. Does not meet Trust funding guidelines and existing lighting at Terrigal is currently adequate for fishers noting funding opportunity may be available from Boating Now program.	SW \$14,266	SW \$0
Installation of solar lighting at Picnic Point boat ramp The Entrance	Central Coast Council	Council proposes to install solar lighting at the boat ramp at Picnic Point, The Entrance to increase safety for recreational fishers using the facility during the night. NOT SUPPORTED. Does not meet Trust funding guidelines noting funding opportunity may be available from Boating Now program. Recommended that the application be amended for a light over the fish cleaning table.	SW \$9,970	SW \$0
Woombah Boat Ramp Fish Cleaning Table	Clarence Valley Council	Construct a new fish cleaning table near the Woombah Boat Ramp located on Goodwood Island near the intersection of Goodwood Island Road and Whitbys Lane. NOT SUPPORTED. RFSTEC questioned the usage of the ramp without a pontoon. RFSTEC recommended Council resubmit the application with evidence of fishing club support once funding has been secured from other sources (e.g. RMS Boating Now program) for a boating pontoon. The budget also requires revision.	SW \$34,762	SW \$0

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2019/20	2020/21
Hanging Rock Fishing tables coverage	Eurobodalla Shire Council	To provide a structural cover and lighting over the 4 fishing tables. NOT SUPPORTED AT THIS STAGE. RFSTEC was supportive for installation of the roof but was concerned about the excessive budget presented in the application, including high installation costs. The Committee recommended DPI clarify the budget details with Council and revise the application as needed.	SW \$40,000	SW \$0
Outdoor table shelter at Tuross Head	Eurobodalla Shire Council	Council recently installed a picnic table near the wharf, for use by the fishers. The fishers that use this facility have asked for a roof over this table. NOT SUPPORTED. RFSTEC noted this project was for general amenity i.e. not fishing specific.	SW \$10,000	SW \$0
Roof over existing table at Narooma Fishing Club	Eurobodalla Shire Council	Construction of a roof over an existing picnic table, adjacent to fishing club. NOT SUPPORTED. RFSTEC noted this project was for general amenity i.e. not fishing specific.	SW \$10,000	SW \$0
Croki – All Abilities Fishing Platform	Mid-Coast Council	Installation of a fishing/recreational platform that will be suitable for all abilities. The platform will be constructed from hardwood and have an access ramp that is AS1428 compliant. NOT SUPPORTED AT THIS STAGE. RFSTEC raised concerns about the lack of detail in the budget, including lack of any design plans and no evidence of fisher support.	SW \$150,000	SW \$0
Upgrade the driveway access to fishing storage shed – Shelly Beach, Nambucca Heads	Nambucca Shire Council	Upgrade of driveway access into Fishing Club’s storage/boat shed located at end of the Amenities building at Shelly Beach, Nambucca Heads for ease of access and to prevent water egress. NOT SUPPORTED. Does not meet Trust funding guidelines noting funding opportunity may be available from Boating Now program.	SW \$10,000	SW \$0

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2019/20	2020/21
Extension of Tilly Willy Creek Boat Ramp driveway to include 2 vehicle & trailer parking bays – McKay Street, Macksville	Nambucca Shire Council	Extension of driveway from boat ramp in McKay Street, Macksville allowing recreational fishers, who access the Nambucca River at this site, by creation of two vehicle and trailer parking bays. NOT SUPPORTED. Does not meet Trust funding guidelines noting funding opportunity may be available from Boating Now program.	SW \$10,000	SW \$0
Repairs to Tilly Willy Creek Boat Ramp, McKay Street, Macksville	Nambucca Shire Council	Removal of cracked and uneven sections of boat ramp, installation of new, pre-fabricated sections, to repair and upgrade the boat ramp in McKay Street, Macksville for safer access, including signage. NOT SUPPORTED. Does not meet Trust funding guidelines noting funding opportunity may be available from Boating Now program.	SW \$10,000	SW \$0
Small Enjoyments For Big Outcomes	Private	Provide a mobile fishing pontoon that is especially equipped to safely allow up to 5-8 handicapped/challenged children the ability to fish the lakes of the South Coast NSW. NOT SUPPORTED. RFSTEC raised concerns about lack of detail in funding application, including charter licensing requirements and other operational requirements.	SW \$30,000	SW \$0
Disabled access to jetty Wallaga Lake	Wallaga Lake Resort Pty Ltd	Install floating pontoon jetty platform to existing jetty to assist disabled persons access boats etc at different tide times. NOT SUPPORTED. RFSTEC noted this appeared to be private property with no public access.	SW \$9,625	SW \$0
Fisher amenities at Brice's Bay Wagonga		Replacement of seating and installation of a concrete slab and new rod holders at Brice's Bay. NOT SUPPORTED. RFSTEC noted the seats were for general public amenity. The rod holder budget component appeared excessive and a revised budget should be submitted if the applicant wishes to reapply.	SW \$10,000	SW \$0

Platform: Research on fish and recreational fishing

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2019/20	2020/21
An economic valuation of NSW Recreational Fisheries	Heagney Allman P/L	We will apply formal non-market valuation techniques to the results of the NSW Recreational Fishing Survey to produce a robust and defensible estimate of the economic value of NSW recreational fisheries. NOT SUPPORTED. The expenditure committees noted that a previous economic survey had provided relevant information on economic output of recreational fishing, which was being widely used by government and NGOs and is still valid.	SW \$61,600 FW \$26,400	SW \$0 FW \$0
Assess, develop and manage the recreational black bream fishery in southern NSW	NSW DPI	Develop a fishery management strategy in-line with recreational fishing values for black bream on the south coast of NSW. Implement a monitoring strategy to evaluate the status of the current/future black bream fishery using structured genetic analysis and independent sampling, aging, recreational surveys and angler log books. This data will be used to develop long term monitoring with trigger points for the implementation of management strategies to enhance the fishery. NOT SUPPORTED. RFSTEC noted the previous research undertaken on black bream found no evidence of pure black bream in NSW and it is unlikely that further research genetic research will have different outcomes. Micah Adams provided a professional guide interpretation of the current status of black bream. It was noted there may be a management gap with black bream at present, however, there may be opportunity to initiate research on black bream through the Research Angler Program initially. Further need for a dedicated stock assessment on black bream could be undertaken as part of that process, if required.	SW \$94,510	SW \$113,021

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2019/20	2020/21
Boat based Costs for Fisherpersons per day	Private	To cross section survey 10 boatloads every Sunday for 3 months to amortize over a year, the cost involved in the Sport of fishing per boatload. NOT SUPPORTED. RFSTEC noted there was no scientific capacity in the project team and research project lacked scientific rigour.	SW \$9,360	SW \$0
Moruya and Tuross Estuaries Environmental Monitoring Research	Private	To install sensors to work in conjunction with a Lorawan (Long Range Wide Area Network) system. Sensors will be installed in the Moruya River and Tuross Lakes estuaries to monitor temperature at both the upper and lower regions of each system to record water temperature and the effects on seasonal fish movements. Lorawan gateways have installed by Eurobodalla Shire Council which is currently planning a co project with DPI in the Clyde Estuary, (Ref Allan Benter DPI). The data that will come from the research will help DPI and fishers understand the long term impacts relating to temperature increases within the estuary areas. NOT SUPPORTED. RFSTEC noted the research methodology was lacking detail and scientific rigour.	SW \$0	SW \$0

Platform: Recreational fishing education

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2019/20	2020/21
Kayak Fishing Education	Bundeena Kayaks	Facilitate a kayak fishing and education program for secondary school Marine studies students. NOT SUPPORTED. RFSTEC noted this was an apparent commercial venture.	SW \$10,000	SW \$0
Let's Go Fishing - Cumberland	Cumberland Council	An introductory fishing programme for new migrant communities and school age children operated as part of a Council run school holiday programme. NOT SUPPORTED. RFFTEC recommended that the applicant be referred to the existing DPI Fishing Workshops Program to determine if the project activities can get included in that program.	FW \$7,700	FW \$0

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2019/20	2020/21
Junior Angler Education and Encouragement	Deniliquin RSL Fishing Club	To encourage junior anglers to fish and use appropriate catch and release methods to ensure sustainability of fish stocks in our waterways NOT SUPPORTED. RFFTEC recommended that the applicant contact the DPI Tournament Management Program and the DPI Fishing Workshops Program to determine if those programs can provide assistance to the project. There is also opportunity for the Club to apply for a Gone Fishing Day grant.	FW \$3,000	FW \$0
General Introduction to Fishing for Children incorporating Catch a Carp day	Macarthur District Social Fishing Association Incorporated \ Macarthur FC	A project aimed at providing a fun, educational introduction to the benefits of fishing and water safety awareness whilst demonstrating the impacts of introduced fish species and the benefits of removing aquatic pests from waterways. NOT SUPPORTED. RFFTEC recommended that the applicant apply for funding under the Gone Fishing Day grants.	FW \$10,000	FW \$0
School and Community Sustainable Fishing Education program	Petaurus Education Group Inc.	This project will inspire students (through excursions to Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre) and the community NOT SUPPORTED. RFFTEC noted there appeared to be overlap with the existing Get Hooked Program and recommended that the applicant contact the Get Hooked Program to discuss partnership opportunities.	FW \$25,210	FW \$0
10 min video promoting catch and release fishing and ways we can look after the places we fish. Also to make a difference in the way we are fishing so it remains healthy in the future	Private	I am a year 12 student and I have decided to do my major design project for year 12 on fishing for the future. I will be making a 10 minute video on ways we can ensure we do our best to not gut hook fish as that is a massive reason for fish not surviving when they are released. Ways we can handle the fish well with lip grips, gloves and making sure we are careful with them and swimming them for the release. I also want to be able to show this to as many people as I can and put it on YouTube and for it to be used when showing people how we can look after our oceans and waterways. NOT SUPPORTED AT THIS STAGE. RFSTEC noted there was no budget requested. DPI to contact the applicant to facilitate further discussion to progress the application.	SW \$0	SW \$0

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2019/20	2020/21
Erowal Bay – Fish Cleaning Table Improvements	Shoalhaven City Council	Provide a new FCT closer to deeper water to better manage waste disposal and amenity issues. NOT SUPPORTED AT THIS STAGE. RFSTEC acknowledged the need for the project but requested confirmation on the exact location. The application should be resubmitted once more detail is provided following discussion with DPI.	SW \$9,500	SW \$0