



MEETING	Recreational Fishing Saltwater Trust Expenditure Committee (RFSTEC)		
MEETING NO.	Meeting 57	DATE	15 May 2020
LOCATION	Videoconference	TIME	9:30 – 12:00
ATTENDEES	Bruce Schumacher AM (Chair), Paul Connellan (Region 1), Lisa Terry (Region 2), Geoff Shelton (Region 3), Karl Attenborough (Region 4), Michael Aubrey (Region 5), Anna Clark (Region 6), Ann Garard (Region 7), Micah Adams (Region 8), Cassie Price (OzFish), Adrian Wayne (AUF), Grahame Williams OAM (NSW GFA), Damian Kerves (AFTA), Peter Turnell (NSW DPI).		

1. Chair's introduction

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Apologies

All committee members were in attendance.

3. Members Introductions

New and re-appointed members were welcomed to the Recreational Fishing Saltwater Trust Expenditure Committee. Members introduced themselves to the Committee and gave a brief summary of their background.

4. Operation of the Recreational Fishing Trusts and the role of the committee

DPI provided details on the role of the Committee, operating procedures including the code of conduct and the proposed meeting schedule.

5. Register of interests

The Committee was advised that DPI maintains a register of member interests and members are provided the opportunity at each meeting to update the register.

6. Confirmation of outcomes from the previous meeting

The draft outcomes of the 56th RFSTEC meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Moved: Grahame Williams OAM, Seconded Micah Adams, Carried.

7. Recreational Fishing Trust Items

The financial status of the Saltwater Trust was presented to members.

a) Review of new Saltwater grant applications

A total of 6 saltwater applications were received and reviewed by the Committee. Funding recommendations with respect to each project will be forwarded to the Recreational Fishing NSW Advisory Council for consideration.

b) Appointment of RFSTEC representative on Fish Habitat Technical Assessment Panel

An EOI for appointment to the Habitat Action Grants and Flagship Fish Habitat Rehabilitation program technical assessment panels will be forwarded to RFSTEC members following the meeting.

Table 1. Summary of funding recommendations

Projects SUPPORTED for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trust

Platform: Recreational fishing education

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2020/21	2021/22
Gone fishing – Supporting Student Learning Through Fishing	Granville Boys High School	Involves students disengaged in learning and with low literacy levels to participate in a program where they will actively learn to fish (including using the services of a charter operator) and understand the importance of sustainable fishing. They will also engage in reading in relation to fishing and sustainability and make connections in their community and develop resilience. SUPPORTED. Moved: Damian Kerves, Seconded: Micah Adams, Carried. Condition: RFFTEC supports \$5,000 to contribute towards the costs of transport, charter fishing, fishing equipment and bait.	SW \$9,356 Supported SW \$5,000	
Gone Fishing Day 2020	NSW DPI	Five annual NSW Gone Fishing Days have now been held and last year, over 20,000 people attended over 50 DPI and fishing club events across NSW. The Day is all about promoting fishing as a fun, healthy, outdoors fishing activity for the whole family. Funding grants or fishing packages are made available to fishing clubs to hold events in regional NSW while our DPI Fishcare Program hosts six major events across NSW. The DPI events have a wide of range of fun activities with many other partner organisations attending the events. The national date for Gone Fishing Day has been set for 18 October. SUPPORTED. Moved: Lisa Terry, Seconded: Grahame Williams OAM, Carried. Condition: DPI to monitor COVID-19 social distancing rules in relation to the proposed October date and plan accordingly.	SW \$100,000 FW \$40,000	

Platform: Fishing access and facilities

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2020/21	2021/22
Too Good To Lose! Water Police patrols to help keep Sydney Harbour ferry wharves open to fishing	NSW DPI/RMS	This joint project between Roads and Maritime Services and DPI promotes responsible fishing behaviour on Sydney Harbour's wharves and piers during the key summer fishing season and has been running since 2017. The project involves commissioning dedicated police patrols at the 50 commuter ferry wharf locations and Walsh Bay piers throughout Sydney Harbour by NSW Police Marine Area Command to provide an effective enforcement presence to help manage issues involving rubbish, noise and anti-social behaviour from a minority of irresponsible recreational fishers. Police reports and RMS information indicates the patrols significantly reduce public complaints about fishing in the Harbour. It is proposed to continue the patrols into the 2020/21 summer fishing season. SUPPORTED. Moved: Lisa Terry, Seconded: Grahame Williams OAM, Carried.	SW \$180,000	

Platform: Aquatic habitat protection and rehabilitation

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2020/21	2021/22
Driving Fish Habitat Action with a Landcare NSW/OzFish Unlimited community partnership – Years 2 and 3	OzFish Unlimited	<p>This project involves Ozfish working with Local Landcare Coordinators to develop and facilitate priority fish habitat rehabilitation projects throughout NSW. The first phase of the project in 2019/20 saw the development of 15 habitat restoration projects during the first 12 months. Funding is now sought for year 2 and 3 so that 60 fish habitat restoration sites can be established by OzFish and Landcare combining resources across NSW. The project will build a network of skilled volunteers to continue the work well into the future. The project complements the DPI Habitat Action Grants program (although there is no overlap between projects).</p> <p>SUPPORTED. Moved: Lisa Terry, Seconded: Paul Connellan, Carried. Condition: The applicant should implement an equivalent to the technical assessment panel used by the Habitat Action Grants Program to enable recreational fishing stakeholder input to the project. The project should also increase promotion of relevant funding sources, including the Recreational Fishing Trusts.</p>	<p>SW \$105,050</p> <p>FW \$84,700</p>	<p>SW \$174,500</p> <p>FW \$131,000</p>
NSW Fish Passage Strategy – Finalise Phase 1 Development	NSW DPI	<p>The NSW Fish Passage Strategy is a coordinated 20-year plan to proactively restore unimpeded fish passage to 165 high priority weirs, which will significantly improve native fish access to 8,885 km of mainstem rivers and key off-channel habitats below all major storage dams in the State. This will significantly improve native fish populations and recreational fishing opportunities. This stage of the project will finalise development and secure funding for fish passage remediation at 47 of the highest priority sites in NSW.</p> <p>SUPPORTED. Moved: Micah Adams, Seconded: Paul Connellan, Carried.</p>	<p>SW \$90,612</p> <p>FW \$90,612</p>	

Projects NOT SUPPORTED for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trust

Platform: Recreational fishing education

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2020/21	2021/22
Enhance Estuary Habitat at the Woolgoolga Lake	Prosper Coffs Harbour, The Coffs Harbour Protection of the Environment Trust	<p>This project will develop educational material highlighting the significance of estuarine habitat in the Woolgoolga Lake and inform visitors of ways to mitigate threats, enhancing the ecosystem and recreational fishing.</p> <p>NOT SUPPORTED.</p> <p>Moved: Micah Adams, Seconded: Karl Attenborough, Carried.</p> <p>RFSTEC noted that fact sheets and advisory signage may not be the most effective methods for recreational fishers and the location may be better suited for on-ground works through the Habitat Action Grants program.</p>	SW \$5,566	