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| MEETING | Recreational Fishing Saltwater Trust Expenditure Committee (RFSTEC) | | |
| MEETING NO. | Meeting 48 | DATE | 16 November 2016 |
| LOCATION | Mercure Sydney International Airport 22 Levey Street, Wolli Creek | TIME | 9:00 am – 4:00 pm |
| ATTENDEES | Bruce Schumacher (Chair), Geoff Shelton (Region 3), Lionel Jones (Region 5), John Paton (Region 6a), Stuart Rhodes (Region 6b), Ann Garard (Region 7), Micah Adams (Region 8), John Burgess (ANSA NSW Branch), Grahame Williams (NSW GFA) | | |
| APOLOGIES | Lisa Terry (Region 2), Adrian Wayne (Region 4), Stan Konstantaras (RFA), Peter Turnell (DPI). | | |

1. Chair's introduction

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Confirmation of outcomes from previous meeting

The draft outcomes of the 47th RFSTEC meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting (Moved John Paton, Seconded Lionel Jones, Carried).

3. Action items from previous meeting

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

4. Gone Fishing Day 2016 update

DPI provided an update to the committee on the outcomes of the successful Gone Fishing Day event on 16 October 2016. Major outcomes are summarised below:

6 major events snapshot

- Highly accessible locations chosen in the middle of town/city at Botany Bay, Port Macquarie, Lake Illawarra, Dubbo, Wagga and Newcastle to promote attendance
- Wide range of fun fishing activities to create a festival type atmosphere which could occupy a family for a couple of hours with activities for new entrants to the sport but also experienced fishers
- Many partnerships with various organisations to promote lots of different activities
- Over 15,000 people estimated to have attended the 6 locations.
- No recreational fishing licence required in NSW on Gone Fishing Day.
- Over 50 Fishcare Volunteers involved on the Day.
- Most popular activities were fishing workshops (over subscribed), cooking & filleting demonstration, fishing expert talks, giveaways (goodie bags), compliance boat stands, casting comp, touch tank and fishing tips area.

Club events snapshot

- 37 grants (up to \$2,000) provided from the Recreational Fishing Trusts to fishing clubs and organisations to run community fishing events and activities on Gone Fishing day.
- The size of events varied with an average of 110 people per club event.
- Most clubs held fishing workshops, barbeques, casting demonstrations, prize giveaways etc.
- More lead in time required for clubs to get involved noting limiting resource capacity and experience of some clubs.

More flexibility with grants to be considered next year for fishing club events (multiple days, flexible dates).

5. Recreational Fishing Trust update

The status of the Saltwater Trust was presented. There have been no new expenditure or changes to the budget since the last meeting.

6. Review of new Saltwater Trust grant application

Four new funding applications were received and reviewed by RFSTEC. Expenditure recommendations are provided in Table 3 and 4. Funding recommendations with respect to each project will be forwarded to the Recreational Fishing NSW Advisory Council for consideration.

7. Fishing and diving museum and resource centre for NSW – Mr Melven Brown

Mr Melven Brown provided a presentation on a proposal to establish a fishing and diving museum in NSW. RFSTEC members provided in principle support for a museum but noted that the Recreational Fishing Trusts could only provide monetary assistance should a formal grant application be submitted. The committee recommended that a letter be sent to the Recreational Fishing NSW Advisory Council expressing in principle support of this potential initiative.

8. Review of new Saltwater Trust habitat grant applications

Recommendations for funding from the Habitat Action Grants Technical Panel (TAP) were presented to RFSTEC members. Projects recommended for funding are listed in Table 5. Projects not recommended for funding are listed in Table 6.

RFSTEC supported the recommendations made by the TAP.
Moved - Lionel Jones, Seconded - Grahame Williams, Carried.

Fish at Hawkesbury farm project returned \$5000 of unspent funds. The committee supported the inclusion of this money to the Habitat Action Grants 2016-17 budget.
Moved – John Paton, Seconded – Lionel Jones, carried.

9. Presentations and project updates

RFSTEC received updates on the following Recreational Fishing Trust funded projects

- Fishcare, Get Hooked and fishing workshops - Ms Dee Payne
- Aquatic habitat protection and fish conversation – Ms Jillian Reynolds

10. General business

Issues raised in general business are provided in this meeting action items (Table 2).

11. Next meeting

Wednesday 10 May 2017 (Tuesday 9 May also set aside depending on number of new funding applications received).

12. Action items

Table 1: Previous meeting action items

| Action | Responsibility | Status |
|---|----------------|---|
| DPI to investigate legal requirements to display charter fishing boat (CFB) numbers on the NSW DPI website as active or inactive. | NSW DPI | Advice received is that business details such as Charter Fishing Boat Number, Charter Fishing Boat Name and Charter Fishing Business Number are not personal information – and as such the Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act 1998 would not apply. Webpage being updated with business information |

| Action | Responsibility | Status |
|--|-----------------------|--|
| | | as above. Current business details can also be retained. |
| DPI to request update on stakeholder involvement in the DPI Resource assessment process. | NSW DPI | New national harvest strategy process discussed with RFSTEC members. |

Table 2: This meeting action Items

| Action | Responsibility | Action |
|--|-----------------------|---------------|
| Letter to be sent to RFNSW expressing concern of lengthy approval of Recreational Fishing Trust grant approval. | Chair | Completed |
| National Harvest Strategy schematic diagram of operation to be supplied to RFSTEC members. | DPI | Completed |
| Letter to be sent from RFSTEC to the DDG DPI Fisheries Geoff Allan seeking Recreational Fishing Stakeholder representation in the new National Harvest Strategy process. | Chair | Completed |
| Letter to be sent to RFNSW regarding Melven Brown's proposal to establish a fishing & diving museum for NSW. DPI and John Burgess to investigate opportunities at Marine Discovery Centres and La Perouse Indigenous Centre. | Chair | Completed |

Table 3: Summary of new Trust grant applications recommended for funding

| Project | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----|
| <p>New high capacity fish cleaning station Port Kembla boat ramp As part of the NSW Boating Now program, Transport for NSW and RMS have committed \$500,000 towards improving the boating experience at the Port Kembla Boat Ramp. This funding will deliver a significant upgrade to the car and trailer parking as well as a new pontoon to improve the safety and accessibility at the site. RMS would like to request funding for a high capacity fish cleaning station to compliment the upgraded facilities. <i>Supported – Moved John Paton, Seconded Lionel Jones, Carried. Condition – DPI to request the table be sited to the northern end of the car park.</i></p> | Roads and Maritime Services | SW \$30,550 | \$0 |
| <p>Disabled Access Recreational Fishing Platform on Ironbark Creek at HWCA Shortland Provide a quality fishing experience on a tidal creek at the Hunter Wetlands Centre for manual and powered wheel chairs, mobility scooters and walking frames. A single purpose fishing platform 4m X 7m will provide access. <i>Supported – Moved John Burgess, Seconded Micah Adams, Carried.</i></p> | Hunter Wetlands Centre Australia | \$6,170 | \$0 |
| <p>Gone Fishing NSW Day 2017 – promoting fishing as a healthy, fun, outdoors activity Following on from the success of incorporating the NSW Go Fishing Day into the inaugural National Gone Fishing Day 2016 (run by the Australian Fishing Trade Association) it is proposed to again run the third NSW Fishing day partner with the national event on the 15 October 2017. The day will recognise and promote the importance of recreational fishing as a healthy, fun, outdoors activity. The NSW event has grown significantly in the past 2 years and early planning of the many coordinated fishing activities, including fishing club involvement, is now required. <i>Supported – Moved Lionel Jones, Seconded Stuart Rhodes, Carried.</i></p> | NSW DPI | SW \$240,000 FW \$60,000 | |

Table 4: Summary of new Trust grant applications not recommended for funding

| Project | Organisation | 2016/17 | 2017/18 |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| <p>Maximising the benefits of offshore artificial reefs: monitoring multiple reefs to establish best-practice guidelines To monitor angler usage and fish biomass at multiple NSW offshore artificial reefs using innovative techniques, to measure reef cost-effectiveness and develop best-practice guidelines for reef deployment. <i>Not supported – Moved John Paton, Seconded – John Burgess, Carried. RFSTEC acknowledged</i></p> | The University of New South Wales | \$0 | \$175,747 |

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| <i>the previous work undertaken by UNSW on this subject, however, this additional work as part of this project was considered low priority.</i> | | | |
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Table 5: Summary of new Saltwater Trust Habitat Action Program grant applications recommended for funding

| Project title | Organisation | Project summary | Recommended HAG Funds \$ |
|--|---|--|---------------------------------|
| Enhancing fish habitat through revegetating the Lower Coldstream River | Clarence Valley Council | Weed, revegetation, fencing 10km habitat in lower Coldstream River | 37,500.00 |
| Re-snagging the Richmond River | Ozfish Unlimited - Richmond River Chapter | Deploying 6 hardwood snags, Emigrant Creek | 11,473.00 |
| Dungay Creek erosion control and habitat protection | Private landholder | Erosion control and revegetation | 11,182.00 |
| Whites Creek riparian corridor rehabilitation | Wingecarribee Shire Council | Weeding 100m of Whites Creek, Moss Vale and planting 1,250 native plants | 5,000.00 |
| Protecting Wilsons River fish habitat through riparian rehabilitation and wetland restoration | Conservation Volunteers Australia | Fencing, weeding, revegetation of 4ha riparian and wetland vegetation along 1.4km of Wilsons River | 34,896.00 |
| Bobs Farm cattle fencing for salt marsh protection | Brian Cromarty and family | Fence 1.6km to keep cattle out of adjoining salt march habitat | 10,008.00 |
| Protecting fish habitat along the Lane Cove River estuary within Lane Cove National Park (Stage 3) | Friends of Lane Cove National Park | 3rd year of weed control, revegetation and community involvement in lower Lane Cove River saline wetlands and buffer zones | 36,175.00 |
| Gereeba Island Wallamba River bank stabilisation and habitat enhancement | MidCoast Council | Soft erosion control and mangrove planting at Wallamba River | 29,900.00 |
| Restoring lakeside saltmarsh in Bonnells Bay | Lake Macquarie City Council (on behalf of Lakeside Retirement Landcare) | Weeding to restore an area of 2200m2 of saltmarsh on public land | 17,750.00 |
| Mullet Creek weir upgrade and fishway* | Dapto Leagues Club Ltd | Applied for fishway at Mullet Creek weir, *funding caveat to remove and install bore | 40,000.00 |
| Eastern Creek Weir removal stage 2 | Blacktown City Council | Reduce the height Eastern Creek Weir and protect creek banks from erosion | 9,000.00 |

| Project title | Organisation | Project summary | Recommended HAG Funds \$ |
|---|--|---|---------------------------------|
| Restoring lowland rainforest and wetlands on the Leycester Creek floodplain Lismore | South Lismore Duck Pond Landcare | Control woody and wetland weeds, exotic vines across 1.2ha and plant 1000 lowland rainforest trees and groundcovers along Leycester Creek | 21,190.00 |
| The final stage in rehabilitation of a gravel quarry site to ensure fish passage and quality in-stream habitat on the Orara River | Orara Valley Rivercare Groups Management Committee Inc | Repair existing rock ramp fishway and adjacent erosion sites at Skewes Quarry | 40,000.00 |
| Holy catfish! | North Coast Local Land Services | Erosion control at two sites on the Wilson River (Hastings River trib), including engineered log jams | 39,850.00 |
| North coast living shorelines: habitat in a bag | OceanWatch Australia | Using natural oyster shell materials to establish living shorelines to provide erosion control, fish habitat | 31,200 |
| Restoring fish habitat Marshalls Creek, Brunswick River | Brunswick Valley Landcare | Weeding, erosion control, and revegetation of coastal forests and wetlands, Marshalls Creek, New Brighton | 39,705.00 |
| Restoring habitat values to Roseberry Creek | Roseberry Creek Landcare Incorporated | Extend restoration work undertaken by Rukenvale school children by removing noxious weed trees and vines, replanting natives | 1,870.00 |
| Coopers Creek fish habitat restoration project 2016 | Robert Hunter | Plant secondary stage trees throughout previous stages revegetation areas | 2,000.00 |
| Cob "n" Co | Eros Battello | Removal of noxious and prohibited weeds (and litter) from 100m of Cob O Corn Creek and revegetation | 700.00 |

Table 6: Summary of new Saltwater Trust Habitat Action Program grant applications NOT recommended for funding

| Project title | Organisation | Project summary | Requested HAG Funds \$ |
|---|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Boggy Creek aquatic habitat restoration | Tregeagle Landcare Group | Develop Boggy Creek Aquatic Habitat Management Plan. Restoration and rehabilitation of 3.5km of creek. | 39,050.00 |
| Mann River riparian | Coombajha | Control lantana in Mann River and Coombadjha Creek riparian zone to improve access. Dig out and maintain spring fed dam. | 1,900.00 |
| Woolgoolga Lake aquatic habitat restoration project | Coffs Harbour City Council | Riparian fencing, informative signage, erosion control, weeding and revegetation throughout the riparian zone of Woolgoolga Lake. | 39,900.00 |
| Timbarra River rehabilitating fish habitat through the removal of cats claw creeper | Granite Borders Landcare Committee | Control Cats Claw Creeper over a 10km section of Timbarra (Rocky) River riparian zone (Clarence River catchment). | 31,700.00 |
| Protecting fish habitat along the Lane Cove River-Ventemans Reach – Stage 2 | Lane Cove Council | Restore approximately 6ha of saltmarsh and mangrove forests by working with adjacent Lane Cove West businesses to reduce weed encroachment. Builds on Stage 1 funding. | 33,560.00 |
| Rehabilitation of bed and bank on Myall Creek | JJ and M Joliffe | Rehabilitate 30m of an outside bend on Myall Creek using rock and root balls, engineered log jams, bench shaping and revegetation | 27,600.00 |
| Restoring the aquatic and riparian habitat of our Nepean River | Penrith City Council | Placement of habitat logs, weed control and the reinstatement of native River Flat Forest vegetation along the Nepean River. | 40,000.00 |
| Kyogle - gardens to river - stage 1 | Nev Reis | Rehabilitation of Fawcetts Creek opposite Kyogle's Botanical Gardens by weeding, destocking, planitng native revegetation, and rubbish removal. | 23,575.00 |
| Removal of exotic vegetation from Quarry/Flat Rock Creeks | North Sydney Council | Weeding exotic climbers and woody weeds and herbs in riparian zone along Flat Rock and Quarry Creek. | 40,000.00 |
| Muscle Creek confluence project | Muswellbrook Shire Council | Rehabilitation of riparian lands by removing exotic plants and planting of native vegetation. | 40,000.00 |
| Protection and establishment of riparian vegetation of Purra Bay, Lake Illawarra | Conservation Volunteers Australia | Improve riparian vegetation at Jerretts Point saltmarsh. | 28,250.00 |
| Foreshore restoration and bank stabilization around boat launching ramp | Coomba Aquatic Club Incorporated | Close and rehabilitate Coomba Park's dirt launching ramp & convert for use by hand launched boats & kayaks only. | 6,970.00 |

| Project title | Organisation | Project summary | Requested HAG Funds \$ |
|--|---|---|-------------------------------|
| Malibar Weir stabilisation project | Eurobodalla Shire Council | Strengthen existing rock wall at 2 locations either side of Malabar Weir for 60 metres on both sides of the weir. | 23,600.00 |
| Moruya River stabilisation project | Eurobodalla Shire Council | Strengthen existing rock wall at two locations between Moruya Quarry Wharf and Garlandtown (50m) and 100m at Garlandtown itself. | 33,150.00 |
| Dumaresq Island Manning riverbank stabilisation project | MidCoast Council | Install rock fillets, stock exclusion fencing, protection, weed and revegetate 370 metres of actively eroding riverbank. | 40,000.00 |
| Bowraville fish habitat improvement and awareness | Nambucca Shire Council | Bank stabilisation, weed management and revegetation for canoe/kayak launching at Grassy Park, Bowraville and Boat Ramp at Devils Elbow on the Nambucca River. | 35,120.00 |
| Undertake on-ground remediation works to reduce threats to key estuarine habitats that recreationally important fish species rely upon | Solitary Islands Underwater Research Group (SURG) | Vegetation and riverbank remediation works along three northern NSW creeks adjacent to identified key fish habitat. | 39,310.00 |
| Marshalls Creek habitat protection zone bank stabilisation. | Cape Byron Marine Park (DPI Fisheries) | Bank stabilisation at Marshalls Creek, regulating vehicular traffic and allow for riparian vegetation regrowth. | 8,030.00 |
| Deep Creek riparian rehabilitation | Northern Beaches Council | Install a dog-proof fence and riparian buffer alongside the dog training field on Deep Creek and a tributary. | 31,215.50 |
| Bundewallah Creek Riparian Area native bush regeneration and rehabilitation | Berry Landcare Incorporated | Extension of ongoing land care works since 1994, rehabilitating a section of Bundewallah Creek through weeding and replanting of native flora in the riparian area. | 14,950.00 |
| 7466 Pacific Hwy Clarenza | Daniel and Nicole Zacek | Clearing lantana from McPhillips Creek. | 2,500.00 |