

MEETING	Recreational Fishing Freshwater Trust Expenditure Committee (RFFTEC)		
MEETING NO.	Meeting 65	DATE	4 August 2021
LOCATION	Videoconference (Zoom)	TIME	2:00pm – 4:00pm
INVITEES	Bruce Schumacher AM (Chair), Max Graham (Region 1), Ron Butler (Region 2), Ron Croker (Region 3), Michael Davey (Region 4), Paul Mullen (Region 5), Debbie Lennon (Region 6), John Erskine (Region 7), Troy Bright (Region 8), Peter Johnson (NSW Rod Fishers' Society), Karl Mathers (RFNSW), Peter Turnell (DPI)		

1. Chair's introduction and welcome

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Peter Turnell

3. Confirmation of outcomes from previous meeting

The draft outcomes of the 64th RFFTEC meeting on 31 March 2021 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Moved Debbie Lennon, Seconded John Erskine, Carried.

4. Action items from previous meeting

The progress of action items from the previous meeting was noted.

5. Recreational Fishing Trust items

- a) The financial status of the Freshwater Trust was presented to members. Statistics and trends of licence sales for the various licence types were discussed.
- b) Four new freshwater applications were received by DPI since the last meeting in March. Funding recommendations with respect to each project will be forwarded to the Recreational Fishing NSW Advisory Council for consideration prior to submission to the Minister for approval.
- c) RFFTEC discussed the concept of establishing a new grants program for fishing clubs to apply for funding from the Trusts for fishing club activities and operations which have recreational fishing benefits for the community. This new grants program concept was supported by the Committee, on the proviso that the program should have an associated grant cap as well as specific guidelines to provide direction to applicants. It was recommended that this proposal be forwarded to RFFTEC as well as the Recreational Fishing NSW Advisory Council for consideration.

6. Presentations

A presentation was provided on the NSW Fishway Strategy. A project variation was sought to reallocate remaining carryover funds to the development of industry standards for fishway operations and maintenance, policy and guidelines for fishway installation and a website to promote the fishway strategy and achievements. No issues were raised with the proposed variation.

A presentation was also provided on outcomes for the fish screens for streams stakeholder forum project. A project variation proposal was circulated with the agenda regarding a revised format for stakeholder consultation to identify opportunities for adoption on the use of screens. This would involve a series of smaller regional workshops due to COVID restrictions. No issues were raised with the proposed variation.

Presentations were also provided on Fish Stocking and Fuel Cards Grants.