

Recreational Fishing Freshwater Trust Expenditure Committee (RFFTEC) meeting OUTCOMES

Meeting Number: 65 **Date:** 12 August 2021 **Time:** 2:00pm – 4:00pm
Location: Videoconference (Zoom)
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.

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 (see Table 1).
- c. RFFTEC discussed the concept of establishing a new grant 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 grant 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 RFSTEC 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.

Table 1. Summary of new Freshwater Trust grant applications SUPPORTED for funding by RFFTEC

Platform: Recreational fishing education

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Trailer to assist in events and activities in the Albury community	Lavington Anglers Club	To secure a versatile, durable, reliable trailer so the Lavington Anglers Club can hold events in locations to promote recreational fishing. Moved: Michael Davey, Seconded: Debbie Lennon, Carried.	FW \$4,533	FW \$0	FW \$0
NSW Recreational Fishing Strategy – Creative document design	NSW DPI	To create engaging communications approaches across a range of media (print, online and social) for the NSW Recreational Fishing Strategy, which will identify and highlight “key selling points” to effectively engage NSW recreational fishers and promote the overall vision for the recreational fishing sector. Moved: Paul Mullen Seconded: Ron Croker, Carried.	FW \$5,000 SW \$15,000	FW \$0 SW \$0	FW \$0 SW \$0
NSW Recreational Fishing Trust Annual Report 2021 and beyond – Creative design of print and online publications	NSW DPI	To create online and print publications for the Recreational Fishing Trust Annual Report 2021, which promotes the achievements of programs supported by the Recreational Fishing Trust. The publication will be highly graphic (including photographs and infographics) and high profile, available as both a website and printable A4 document. Subsequent reports will also be prepared. Moved: Debbie Lennon, Seconded: Michael Davey, Carried	FW \$20,000 SW \$50,000	FW \$20,000 SW \$50,000	FW \$20,000 SW \$50,000

Platform: Research on fish and recreational fishing

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Statewide recreational fishing survey and charter boat monitoring	NSW DPI	The project seeks continuation of funding for the Recreational Fisheries Monitoring Program (RFMP), which includes 1) an ongoing time series of state-wide recreational fisheries catch, effort, and socioeconomic data, and 2) ongoing monitoring of the Charter Boat Fishery. The information collected is essential for monitoring, assessment and management of recreational fisheries, and broader fisheries resources within NSW. Moved: Max Graham, Seconded: John Erskine Carried.	FW \$29,623 SW \$266,609	FW \$71,770 SW \$645,927	FW \$95,851 SW \$862,663