

# Appendix 10: Fisheries Trust Fund Reports

## Commercial Fishing Trust Fund

Department of Primary Industries (DPI) provides a range of monitoring, scientific, compliance and administrative services to the commercial fishing industry. DPI expenditure on commercial fishing activities is funded from consolidated revenue, with a contribution from the Commercial Fishing Trust Fund. Charges are levied for services such as licence administration and management but are not project specific. The Commercial Fishing Trust Fund also contributes to research and uses funds to leverage research and development support from other sources. The NSW abalone and rock lobster fisheries are subject to cost recovery of attributable costs, although there is still some degree of government contribution and budgets are negotiated in detail with the relevant management advisory committees.

In 2020-21, the Commercial Fishing Trust Fund contributed \$3.679 million to DPI's commercial fishery-related programs.

## Aquaculture Trust Fund

DPI provides a range of monitoring, scientific, compliance and administrative services to the aquaculture industry. The aquaculture industry is subject to full cost recovery for administration charges only and charges are not project specific. DPI's expenditure for aquaculture management and policy development is funded from consolidated revenue, with a contribution from the Aquaculture Trust Fund. The Aquaculture Trust Fund also contributes to research and uses funds to leverage research and development support from other sources (for example, Fisheries Research & Development Corporation, Seafood CRC).

In 2020-21, the Aquaculture Fishing Trust Fund contributed \$0.874 million to DPI's aquaculture related programs.

## Fish Conservation Trust Fund

In 2020-21, the Fish Conservation Trust contributed \$0.331 million toward fish habitat and fisheries conservation outcomes.

## Aboriginal Fishing Trust Fund

The Aboriginal Fishing Trust Fund provides grants and loans for the enhancement, maintenance and protection of Aboriginal cultural fishing as well as for Aboriginal communities to develop businesses associated with fisheries resources throughout NSW.

In 2020-21, a public call for applications was made for projects under the Aboriginal Fishing Trust and are progressing through the approval process.

## Recreational and Charter Fishing Trust Funds

The Department of Regional NSW received grants from the Recreational and Charter Fishing Trust Funds to undertake various programs during the year as follows:

**Table 28. Grants received by DRNSW**

Fish trust fund	2020-21 (\$'000)
Recreational Fishing (Saltwater) Trust Fund	11,092
Recreational Fishing (Freshwater) Trust Fund	5,754
Charter Fishing Trust Fund	0

In 2020-21 funds (\$'000) from the Recreational Fishing (Saltwater) Trust Fund were used for the following projects:

**Table 29. Recreational Fishing (Saltwater) Trust Fund project allocations**

Project	Total Available	Expenses	Carry Forward
Artificial reefs (offshore)	1,043	1,050	-7
Coastal fish habitat protection and management	201	182	19
Coastal fish habitat restoration grants program (prior to 2018/19)	16	6	10
Ecohuts for recreational fishers	40	43	-3
Expenditure committee meeting expenses	29	29	0
External large grants - disbursements made to various organisations for approved projects	550	446	104
Flagship habitat program	599	527	72
Fish aggregation devices (FADs)	252	243	9
Fishcare volunteer program	613	592	21
Fisheries officers (9 coastal officers)	1,223	1,162	61
Fisheries officers (mobile squads)	434	426	8
Gamefish tagging program	169	163	6
Integrating recreational fishery data into harvest strategies for multi-species fisheries	74	59	15
Marine stocking of key recreational fish species in coastal waters	293	292	1
Recreational fisheries enhancement (artificial reefs and FADs coordination)	217	216	1
Recreational fishing access (coastal)	163	163	0
Recreational fisheries monitoring program: statewide fishing and charter surveys	771	903	-132
Recreational fishing trust executive officer	199	197	2
Research angler program	193	189	4
Research on offshore artificial reefs	252	227	25
Research on marine fish stocking	184	169	15
Research on recreational bait species: worms, pipis and yabbies	64	53	11
Small grants - disbursements made to various organisations for approved projects	80	59	21
Sydney Harbour wharves compliance initiative	180	180	0
Trust grants governance enhancement project	139	135	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,978</b>	<b>7,711</b>	<b>267</b>

\* The total available 2020-21 consists of grants from the trust fund in 2020-21 and amounts carried forward from grants in 2019-20.

In 2020-21 funds (\$'000) from the Recreational Fishing (Freshwater) Trust Fund were used for the following projects:

**Table 30. Recreational Fishing (Freshwater) Trust Fund project allocations**

Project	Total Available	Expenses	Carry Forward
Bigger fish for Snowy Lakes	6	6	0
Dollar-for-dollar native fish stocking program	194	177	17
Emergency native fish rescue and drought recovery	40	35	5
Enhanced fish production at hatcheries for stocking (Port Stephens, Narrandera and Dutton)	395	379	16
Expenditure committee meeting expenses	31	30	1
External large grants – disbursements made to various organisations for approved projects	190	185	5
Fish transportation vehicle	250	208	42
Fishcare volunteer program	321	316	5
Fisheries officers (inland)	914	634	280
Freshwater recreational management program	194	193	1
Fuel cards for fish stocking	12	3	9
Gaden trout hatchery	623	621	2
Inland fish habitat restoration grants program (prior to 2018/19)	9	7	2
Inland stocking management	130	121	9
Nodavirus testing for fish stocking	20	20	0
Open top pyramid net program	24	23	1
Recreational fishing access (inland)	245	234	11
Regional inland fish habitat protection and management	220	211	9
Research on freshwater recreational fishery in NSW	660	657	3
Screens for streams	100	99	1
Small grants - disbursements made to various organisations for approved projects	55	35	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,633</b>	<b>4,194</b>	<b>439</b>

\* The total available 2020-21 consists of grants from the trust fund in 2020-21 and amounts carried forward from grants in 2019-20.

In 2020-21 funds (\$'000) from the Recreational Fishing (Saltwater and Freshwater) Trust Fund were used for the following projects:

**Table 31. Recreational Fishing (Saltwater and Freshwater) Trust Fund project allocations**

Project	Total Available	Expenses	Carry Forward
Advisory Council meeting expenses	83	78	5
Fish for Life project	125	136	-11
Fishing competitions and events: responsible recreational fishing promotion	100	101	-1
Get Hooked... It's Fun to Fish schools program	427	427	0
Habitat action program 2018/19 and beyond	627	618	9
NSW Gone Fishing Day	0	4	-4
NSW fishing workshops	56	39	17
NSW fishway strategy for fish passage remediation	102	106	-4
NSW recreational fishing environmental assessment	155	169	-14
Recreational fisher research database	60	59	1
Recreational fisheries infrastructure management program	170	166	4
Recreational fishing fee administration project and Government Licensing Service transactions fees <sup>#</sup>	2,267	2,479	-212
Recreational fishing fee renewal notice system	123	125	-2
Recreational fishing guides	110	108	2
Recreational fishing publications program	119	119	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,524</b>	<b>4,734</b>	<b>-210</b>

\* The total available 2020-21 consists of grants from the trust fund in 2020-21 and amounts carried forward from grants in 2019-20.

# A carry forward of -\$750,000 for Government Licensing Service transaction fees from 2019-20 was balanced in 2020-21.