

MEETING	Recreational Fishing NSW Advisory Council
MEETING NO.	Meeting 5
DATE & TIME	02 June 2017 9am – 5:30pm
LOCATION	Mercure Hotel – Sydney International Airport. 22 Levey St, Wolli Creek, NSW.
ATTENDEES	Johann Bell (Chair), Max Castle, Vic Levett, Chris Cleaver, David Rae, Greg Reid, Jo Starling, Matt Hansen, Matthew Poulton, Paul Lennon, Ray Tang, Steve Samuels, Vicki Lear, Peter Turnell
APOLOGIES	Stan Konstantaras and Karl Mathers

1. Chair's introduction

The Chair welcomed members to the fifth meeting at the Mercure Hotel, Sydney International Airport.

2. Register of interests

The Chair requested that members declare any additions to the Register since the last meeting. Two members stated that they have made applications for the Gone Fishing Day Grants process, but the Chair determined there was no conflict of interest as all applications will be assessed by an independent panel.

3. Agreement on the agenda

RFNSW members agreed on the agenda for this meeting

4. Adoption of the record of the previous meeting

The draft outcomes of Meeting 4 were accepted without change as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

5. Future meeting schedule

Meeting 6: Two days at Port Stephens Research Centre on 31 August and 01 September 2017.

Meeting 7: 1 December 2017

6. Review of achievements and action items from previous minutes

The Committee noted the progress on action items from the previous meeting (Annex 1). Some additional action items were discussed and tabled below.

Action Item: DPI to provide and maintain a summary of outgoing RFNSW correspondence to enable easy tracking, including responses received.

DPI provided a summary of the progress of the Trout strategy sub group. Funding has been requested from the Recreational Fishing Trust to support consultation processes. A working group has been established, and recruitment is currently underway for a scientist to work in this group. Once a scientist has been appointed, the first trout strategy sub group meeting will be held. DPI will also be attending a meeting with Fisheries Victoria where trout management will be discussed.

Action Item: DPI to provide an update from the trout management meeting in Victoria to sub group members.

Council discussed that a dedicated Recreational Fishing Trust communication strategy would be worthwhile to ensure effective communication and promotion of achievements of the Trusts. The strategy should include key messages, target audiences and a range of media to communicate key messages as widely as possible. DPI advised that development of a Trust communication strategy was being progressed by the Trust expenditure committees.

RFNSW also discussed options for enhanced committee communication channels because long email chains can be hard to follow. It was considered a closed Facebook group may be the easiest and most effective platform for internal communication between members. It was also noted that a social media etiquette course would be included in the next meeting agenda.

Action Item: DPI to organise a private Facebook page for the RFNSW council and to facilitate a social media etiquette course for inclusion in the agenda for the next meeting.

7. Progressing the top 10 priority issue: reviewing status

RFNSW discussed progress of its top 10 priority issues as summarized in the meeting agenda.

Stock Assessments of Key Species (Kingfish, Snapper, Flathead and Tailor)

DPI provided a presentation about the status of Kingfish in NSW. Commercial and recreational landings spiked in 1988/89 and then dropped significantly thereafter. Landings of Kingfish have since remained at around the 200 tonnes per year level for recreational and commercial fishing combined, with ~ 100 tonnes per year being taken by each sector. The fishery appears to be dependent on young fish. Females mature at around 95 cm.

Previous research on recreational catch has shown 85% survival for Kingfish that have been caught and released. The species is currently growth overfished (i.e., too many small, immature fish are being caught).

Generally, increased size limits and reductions in bag limits can be used to address and reduce the effects of growth overfishing. Options for doing this for Kingfish were discussed. So that the recreational sector could play its part in rebuilding the stock of Kingfish, RFNSW recommended 1) an increase in the size limit to 75 cm, 2) a reduction in the bag limit from 5 to 2, with only one fish over 100 cm permitted, and 3) banning leadlining by recreational fishers.

Action Item: The chair to write to the Minister to request consideration of the RFNSW Kingfish recommendations.

Action Item: Future agendas for RFNSW meetings to split the key species into separate items to be addressed individually: Kingfish, Snapper, Flathead and Tailor. These species are to be scheduled for future RFNSW meetings.

Action Item: Fisheries Compliance to be advised about RFNSW concerns about black marketing of kingfish on the south coast

Mulloway Recovery Program

DPI updated RFNSW on outcomes from the first recreational fishing stakeholder meeting to discuss progress of the Mulloway Recovery Program. Key issues discussed included removal of the allowance of 10 undersize Mulloway (45 to 70 cms) from the Estuary General Fishery, consideration of changing the recreational fishing rules to further reduce fishing mortality, consideration of the introduction of an observer program for estuary and ocean prawn trawl operations to monitor and reduce the mortality of juvenile mulloway during prawn trawling, and further work on the effectiveness of current bycatch reduction devices and survival rates of discarded juvenile Mulloway.

Action Item: DPI to distribute the final meeting outcomes to RFNSW from the recreational fishing stakeholder meeting to discuss progress of the Mulloway Recovery Program.

Abalone recreational fishing rules

RFNSW raised the issue of the potential to review Abalone recreational fishing rules in NSW. The council had expressed previous support for an increase to the current bag limit of 2 Abalone. Some members expressed concern that this has not yet been resolved.

Action Item: DPI to provide further information about the current management issues associated with Abalone harvest across all sectors at Meeting 6 and propose a way forward for increasing the bag limit for recreational fishers.

Redfin

Action Item: DPI to provide previous feedback received from Matt Barwick regarding Redfin control. DPI to provide a summary of the current redfin education initiatives being undertaken as a means to determine if any additional education and advisory actions are required.

8. Attitudes and motivations of recreational fishers: survey by University of Wollongong

Dr Michelle Voyer, Social Scientist, University of Wollongong provided a presentation on her study to improve understanding of the motivations and attitudes of recreational fishers in NSW. Recreational fishers are a diverse group (age, sex, ethnicity) and fishers offered a range of reasons about why they fish and what makes for a “satisfying” fishing experience. This study looked at what motivates people to fish, and how these motivations interact.

Questionnaires over the phone and online were used to collect information, and five latent classes of recreational fishers were identified. Focus groups were then used to gather further information about each class. Fishers were inspired to fish by a combination of non-catch related motivations (socialization, escapism, mastery, etc) and consumptive motivations (catching something, keeping fish, catching large fish, etc.).

The five classes of recreational fishers are:

- Social fishers – prioritise socialization and escapism
- Generalists – prioritized all motivations equally
- Hunter Gatherers – care about catching fish to take home. Barriers to fishing include costs and not understanding the rules
- Trophy Fishers – motivated by mastery and big fish. Barriers to fishing include crowds and costs.
- Outdoor Enthusiasts – prioritise mastery, escapism and socialization.

Understanding the motivations and barriers people have to recreational fishing can help us to recruit and retain fishers, as well as helping us to know how to target education, advertising, compliance, etc. A summary of Dr Voyer’s research can be found here:

http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0005/696245/Attitudes-and-Motivations-of-recreational-fishers.pdf

9. Presentation on Redmap Australia

Dr Natalie Moltschaniwskyj, DPI Director of Fisheries Research, presented information about the range shifts that are occurring in the marine environment due to ocean warming. She also informed RFNSW about a citizen science initiative called Redmap Australia. It was noted that increases in carbon dioxide in the atmosphere have led to ocean warming and ocean acidification, which has resulted in a number of changes to our marine ecosystems. For example, the East Australian

Current is pushing further south each year and is persisting for longer periods down the East Coast. Some species have subsequently extended their range further south.

Redmap commenced as a method for citizens to contribute their photos and observations about marine species that have been sighted outside of their usual range. This information is collected in a database, and all verified sightings can be viewed on the Redmap website or app.

The University of Newcastle is the Redmap host in NSW. The information gathered on Redmap has been used in many peer-reviewed journal articles and may be used as a starting point for future research.

Currently, a lot of information is being contributed to the Redmap project from snorkelers and divers but the program would benefit greatly from increased reporting from recreational fishers.

Action item: RFNSW members to circulate details of the Redmap project to their networks to encourage reporting by recreational fishers through redmap.org.au or the Redmap app.

Action item: DPI Director, Fisheries Research, to provide a list of “out of range” species for NSW.

10. Strengthening the social licence for recreational fishing in NSW

Jo Staring facilitated a second workshop on strengthening the social licence of recreational fishers in NSW. Ms Starling led the group in a SWOT analysis, where the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats were discussed in relation to social licence for recreational fishers. Members were requested to express interest in forming a RFNSW sub group to further investigate the dynamics between recreational fishers and people who criticize recreational fishing, and how to positively influence the perceptions of fishers in the wider community. Ultimately, this sub group will develop tender specifications for a professional contractor to assist with development of a social licence strategy.

Action Item: RFNSW members to nominate for the RFNSW social licence sub group. Sub group to meet to progress development of contractor specifications.

11. Talbingo: Jounama Pondage – Request for access

Max Castle advised RFNSW that he had recently been approached by local residents from Talbingo seeking assistance to re-open Jounama Pondage for swimming, kayaking, canoeing and fishing. Local residents report the village is suffering significantly from a lack of tourists and any initiative, such as permitting kayaks/canoes access, will improve tourism.

Mr Castle reported that the community supports the proposal to open Jounama Pondage for recreational use, however, there are safety issues regarding rapidly changing water levels during water capture and release activities. Mr Castle suggested that a working agreement could be arranged with NSW Roads and Maritime (RMS) and Snowy Hydro to address safety issues while allowing recreational activities to take place when it is safe to do so.

Mr Castle has approached Snowy Hydro and RMS to seek clarification around the reasons for the closure of Jounama Pondage and to request an assessment to determine the suitability of the Pondage for small craft.

RFNSW noted that the Minister for Primary Industries had previously written to Snowy Hydro seeking clarification on the reasons for the current restrictions. It is therefore appropriate to review any response prior to further action.

Action Item: The chair to write a letter to Dr Clayton Barnes expressing RFNSW support for recreational fishing access to Jounama Pondage noting boating safety is a matter for RMS. The

letter should also encourage Dr Barnes and the Progress Association to continue to work with Snowy Hydro with a view to undertaking an independent risk assessment.

12. Compulsory lifejackets trial in Randwick local government area

Council was provided with information from Stan Konstantaras expressing his concern regarding the lack of communication on the new rock fishing lifejacket law in the Randwick local government area. The new law, which began on 1 December 2016, makes it compulsory for anyone who is rock fishing anywhere in the Randwick local government area (including children) to wear an appropriate lifejacket. An appropriate lifejacket is defined as: adult - Australian Standard AS 4758 level 50S or greater; child (under 12 years of age) - must be level 100 Australian Standard AS 4758 or greater. Mr Konstantaras is concerned about the lack of communication on the performance of life jackets being provided through the Office of Emergency Management communication strategy. For example, a Level 50 jacket is only intended for use by those who are able swimmers and who are near to bank or shore, or who have help and a means of rescue close at hand. They are not designed to assist in turning the wearer into a face-up position. L50 jackets also require active participation by the wearer. However, this important information is not being communicated which may present false sense of security.

These jackets may therefore be inappropriate for rock fishers that are unconscious when entering the water. Mr Konstantaras considers a risk analysis should be undertaken of the potential advantages and disadvantages of the compulsory requirement to wear a life jacket under AS4758, with associated water performance testing to try and determine an appropriate lifejacket for rockfishers with regards to the definition of the Australian Standard.

Action item: The chair to write to the Minister seeking support for better education around lifejacket wear as well as performance testing and appropriateness of all personal flotation devices and lifejackets deemed suitable for rockfishers.

13. Baitfish in NSW waters for use in Eastern tuna and billfish fishery (ETBF)

Council was provided with an update on the NSW baitfish policy covering the Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery (ETBF). DPI has a current policy that provides for the issue of permits allowing Commonwealth managed ETBF operators to take baitfish using a purse-seine net or lift net in NSW state waters for use in their ETBF operations (not for sale). The policy currently prevents the issue of any new permits or replacement permits if an ETBF authority is transferred to another owner/vessel. Due to longstanding concerns regarding the highly restrictive nature and inequities of the current policy, the Department in consultation with stakeholders, has agreed to conduct a formal policy review. The policy review will consider the future management of baitfish access by ETBF operators, including the form and longevity of access and monitoring, research and compliance requirements.

Pending the finalisation of the policy review, it was previously agreed to extend the access to baitfish (via the issue of additional permits) to those ETBF operators who have a recent history of tuna fishing in NSW waters but do not currently have a permit (limited to a maximum of 32 permits, as previously supported by the Baitfish Working Group, the former Advisory Council on Recreational Fishing and the Marine and Estuarine Recreational Charter Management Advisory Committee). Other conditions of the permits have been strengthened to better address the potential interactions between sector groups, including: bait fishing restricted to 2 days per week; yellowtail scad and blue (slimy) mackerel harvest permitted only; purse-seine nets of a maximum length of 100 m to be used; and the list of exclusion zones continue to be applied around key ports and offshore artificial reefs. These revised interim arrangements will be in place pending the implementation of longer-term management arrangements that will be developed in conjunction with the Baitfish Working Group and other stakeholder groups. Council will be kept informed on this issue.

14. Long-term strategy for offshore artificial reef locations

The Minister recently announced the location of the fifth offshore artificial reef to be built off Merimbula in 2017/18. This announcement follows a Ministerial expression of interest (EOI) process where numerous fishing clubs along the coast lodged detailed submissions for new reefs to be built in their region. Each time there is an announcement of a reef location, there is significant competition and speculation between sport fishing communities as to where the next reefs will be built. To address this ongoing issue and to achieve better planning, a longer-term artificial reef strategy (between 2018 and 2020) has been developed which outlines plans over a three year period rather than the current reef by reef approach. DPI provided a brief outline of the outcomes of the EOI location process, which included a site suitability assessment. The assessment took into account various criteria, including accessibility, availability and quality of existing reef and extent of local recreational fisher and community support. RFNSW noted that the Recreational Fishing Saltwater Trust Expenditure Committee was supportive of the first two priority sites for reefs 6 and 7 which ranked highest in the site suitability assessment. Council was supportive of these two priority sites. RFNSW also identified no issues with the next two highest ranked locations for reefs eight and nine that ranked the next highest although it was noted further consultation was still being undertaken.

15. Recreational Fishing Trust project recommendations from RFSTEC and RFFTEC

DPI advised RFNSW that the annual expression of interest inviting anglers, fishing clubs, councils, universities and other organisations to apply for funding from the NSW Recreational Fishing Trust had been widely advertised. A total of 53 applications were received for funding from the Trusts in 2017/18 and beyond. The Recreational Fishing Saltwater and Freshwater Trust Expenditure Committee RFSTEC and RFFTEC met on 10 and 11 May to review the applications. Council endorsed the Expenditure Committee recommendations as listed in Annex 2, with one exception and two comments.

The exception was the proposal on 'Effective reduction of marine debris sourced from shore-based recreational fishing', which was not supported by RFSTEC. There was widespread comment among RFNSW members that the topic of this proposal was of considerable importance to identifying how to assist recreational fishers reduce litter and thereby help to strengthen the social licence for recreational fishing. In addition, RFNSW noted that management of marine debris stemming from recreational angling has been identified as a key issue by the Marine Estate Management Authority (MEMA) Hawkesbury Bioregion and statewide risk assessments, and is also considered to be a key threatening process under the Threatened Species Conservation Act. Given the level of interest in this subject by Council, the chair and two RFNSW members (Steve Samuels and David Rae) agreed to read the proposal in detail to understand the concerns of RFSTEC and determine whether the proposed research could be amended to help change behavior and build the social licence for recreational fishing.

The members of RFNSW who read the proposal in detail saw merit in the three aims of the work, viz. 1) develop an effective strategy for reducing debris from recreational fishing, 2) test whether this strategy is effective by using state-of-the-art science (i.e., a 'before vs after, control vs impact sampling design), and 3) identify where effective management controls for marine litter developed and tested during the project could be implemented with maximum effect.

They agreed with RFSTEC that a potential weakness in the proposal is that too much reliance may be placed on the use of fishing line bins, but also noted that the applicant has committed to consult with key stakeholders to identify a strategy with the greatest potential for debris reduction. As a result, RFNSW recommends that this project application be reconsidered by RFSTEC noting the additional analysis by members of RFNSW and their view that the application should be supported on the condition that consensus is obtained from all nominated stakeholders about the most appropriate measures to be used to reduce debris from recreational fishing. In particular, RFNSW recommends that 1) funding support is limited to achievement of Milestone 1 in the first instance;

and 2) the remainder of the requested funding for the proposed project activities is provided upon demonstration of widespread acceptance of the most appropriate management measures to reduce debris.

RFNSW noted that the project submitted by DPI based on the work of a sub-group within RFNSW entitled 'Establishment of an independent peer-review panel to assist with assessment of research applications for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trusts' was not supported by RFSTEC or RFFTEC. This proposal is to develop a more rigorous, nationally-accredited process for evaluating research proposals submitted to the Trust. RFNSW believes this whole matter needs further consideration by senior staff at DPI and the Minister because there is an opportunity to add substantial value to investments in research needed to support the sector through such a process.

Council also noted that the proposal titled 'The Fly Program' was supported for funding by RFSTEC but not by RFFTEC, but that the importance of addressing mental health issues within the community was recognised by both committees. Council also recognised the benefits of fishing for people struggling with mental health issues but did not reach consensus on a budget for the project. Council recommended that the advice from each expenditure committee be forwarded to the Minister so that he could determine the extent (if any) to which the project should be supported.

16. Pumped hydro = pumped redfin

Steve Samuels advised RFNSW that the Commonwealth Government is examining the prospect of implementing a "pumped hydro" project for the Snowy Scheme. The scheme involves pumping water back to a holding reservoir once used so it can be recycled through turbines at times of peak energy demand.

Mr Samuels is concerned that if water is pumped from Khancoban or Talbingo to any other dam, there is the possibility that redfin larvae will get translocated into that lake. The problem is compounded if the destination dam is Tantangara because water from Tantangara feeds directly into Eucumbene via the Providence Portal. Water from Eucumbene can service every other dam in the system, and extend to the sensitive ecosystem of the Snowy River. A redfin explosion across the whole of the Snowy Scheme is a distinct possibility if the proposed "pumped hydro" scheme is not managed appropriately.

Mr Samuels suggested potential options that could prevent the translocation of redfin larvae. Screening could be an option, however, this may be ineffective due to the high pressure and high volume of water being pumped. Alternatively, another dam could be built to act as a buffer for redfin translocation. Mr Samuels noted that businesses that depend on trout tourism, and which are estimated to generate more than \$100 million each year for the economy in the Snowy Mountains area would be severely jeopardized by introduction of redfin into all Snowy Mountain lakes.

Action Item: The chair to write to the Minister requesting that his office contacts the Commonwealth Minister overseeing the expansion of the Snowy Scheme to ensure that the proposed feasibility study includes costings to ensure that redfin perch and redfin perch eggs cannot be translocated to a non-redfin infected dam under the pumped hydro scheme.

17. Fishing Closure between Yarrowonga Weir and Tocumwal between September and November (Steve Samuels)

The RFNSW has previously discussed the Statutory Review of the NSW Trout Cod Recovery Plan: <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/species-protection/conservation/what-current/endangered-species/trout-cod/review-of-the-trout-cod-recovery-plan>

This review showed that outcomes of the plan were generally positive, however, self-sustaining populations have only been established in a small percentage of the species' historic range,

indicating that much work is still required before the overall objective of the NSW Trout Cod recovery plan is achieved.

DPI advised that the fishing closure between Yarrawonga Weir and Tocumwal was originally put in place because this stretch of water supported the last remaining breeding population of Trout Cod. Since then the range of the population has extended beyond the boundaries of the closure highlighting the success of the closure in the recovery of the species. Numbers of Trout Cod have also increased in other areas such as the Murrumbidgee due to the stocking that DPI has carried out.

RFNSW highlighted it was apparent that more communication on the requirement and benefits for the closure need to be communicated to the local fishing community.

Action Item: DPI to consider more communication and advisory material, such as a factsheet, for the local fishing community on the requirement and benefits for the Trout Cod closure.

18. General business

Travelling Stock Reserves (TSRs)

DPI advised that Local Land Services is seeking community input on the Travelling Stock Reserve (TSR) network in NSW to ensure it remains connected, viable and well maintained. There are more than 6,500 TSRs on Crown land in NSW, covering approximately two million hectares. The Crown Lands Management Review in 2012 found that many TSRs are no longer used for their original purpose. A new, comprehensive review of the network will examine the parcels of land required for the TSR network in the future.

The aim of the current TSR review is to determine which TSRs are still used or required for the original purpose they were set aside for and to determine if they are important for other reasons. This information will inform future decisions about how this land can be best reserved, managed and owned. The information will also be used to develop a comprehensive map of the TSR network in NSW — where the reserves are, what they are now used for, who uses them and how often.

In the community consultation paper, TSRs have been categorised into four broad categories:

Category 1 — TSRs that are only used for travelling stock or emergency management and biosecurity purposes. These sites have no other important uses or values. These TSRs would need to remain and be managed for travelling stock purposes.

Category 2 — TSRs that are used for travelling stock, emergency management or biosecurity purposes, but are also important and used for a range of other reasons – for example, biodiversity conservation, Aboriginal cultural heritage or recreational purposes. These TSRs will need to remain as TSRs and be managed for their multiple purposes.

Category 3 — TSRs that are not used for travelling stock or emergency management, but are important, valued and used for other reasons - for example, biodiversity conservation, Aboriginal cultural heritage or recreational purposes. These TSRs may need to be re-reserved or re-purposed to ensure they are effectively protected and managed for the purposes they are used and valued for.

Category 4 — TSRs that are no longer used or valued for any of the above reasons.

DPI advised it will be making a submission to address recreational fishing issues, however, submissions from angling groups should also be encouraged to provide additional sector feedback to the review.

Action Items: The chair to write to the Minister to highlight Council issues associated with the TSR review with a copy sent to the review submission address.

Opera house traps

Matt Hansen highlighted current issues associated with bycatch in 'opera house' traps, including recent bycatch reports of species such as water rats and platypus. RFNSW agreed that more communication to the recreational fishing sector would assist with highlighting the issues with current traps and how bycatch can be mitigated. Council established a position that the use of 'opera house' traps should be banned in NSW as soon as possible (and preferably within three months). DPI advised that the significant nature of this proposed statewide rule change would usually trigger the need for further community and industry consultation prior to implementation to ensure consideration of the potential regulatory impacts of the rule change.

Action item: The chair to advise the Minister about the RFNSW position on the banning of opera house traps in NSW and to recommend that DPI undertakes the necessary community and industry consultation to enable consideration of the potential regulatory impacts of this proposed rule change. DPI to also undertake media to highlight the risks of using opera house traps and opportunities to reduce bycatch of non-target species.

Transitioning the NSW Southern fish trawl fishery into the Commonwealth fishery

DPI advised RFNSW that notice has been provided to NSW Southern Fish Trawl (SFT) fishing business owners and Commonwealth Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery (SESSF) authority holders to notify them about the process of transitioning the SFT into the SESSF, and to call for nominations for the Southern Fish Trawl Transitioning Working Group. RFNSW will be kept informed when there is more information/detail available as the Working Group gets underway.

Extension of trophy fishery code of practice to Lake Macquarie

DPI has received several submissions from local Lake Macquarie fishing groups in support of the extension of the trophy fishery concept to Lake Macquarie. Lake Macquarie is considered a suitable location in which to expand the concept. As with St Georges Basin and Tuross Lake, it is a recreational fishing haven and highly regarded as a productive Flathead fishery. Council acknowledged it was pleasing to note that a number of local fishing groups are supportive of the voluntary trophy fishery code of practice concept in Lake Macquarie, which promotes release of all flathead over 70 cm. RFNSW supported the requested extension.

Fisheries Officers – Greg Reid

Due to time constraints, RFNSW deferred this item to the next meeting.

Update on Native Title claims

Due to time constraints, RFNSW deferred this item to the next meeting.

Action item: Agenda items regarding Fisheries Officers and Update on Native Title claims to be held over to the next RFNSW meeting.

Agenda items for next meeting

Council raised three issues for consideration at the next meeting:

- Public liability requirements associated with installation of angel rings
- Bowfishing for carp update
- Update on the proposed risk assessment for recreational fishing opportunities in water supply reservoirs.
- Managing fishing tournaments in recreational fishing havens

Annex 1: Action items from this meeting and previous meetings

Meeting number	Action	Status
4	Talmalmo paper road survey - DPI to undertake an analysis to provide an estimate of the total number of Crown roads (formed or unformed) that may need formal survey (as opposed to differential or high-quality GPS survey) and an indicative costing for priority surveys so that RFNSW can write to the Minister seeking funding support from revenue generated from the Crown Roads Disposal Program.	The Chair has written to the Minister requesting funding of \$200,000 from revenue from the Crown Road Disposal Program. The Chair has now received a supportive letter from the Minister, who has referred the request for funding to the Hon. Paul Toole, Minister for Lands and Forestry.
4	DPI to facilitate a trout strategy sub group meeting.	Pending. Funding application for strategy consultation supported by RFFTEC. See agenda item 14.
4	Establishment of a fishing and diving museum - The chair to write to RFSTEC to advise the best option may be the engagement of a specialist consultant to develop a strategy to progress the issue.	Completed.
4	Stan Konstantaras to liaise with Mr Adam Martin, President Tomakin Fishing Club, on the various issues raised in the club's letters addressed to RFNSW and report back to RFNSW on any outstanding issues.	Completed.
4	DPI to discuss options with Jo Starling on how to provide easy to access media material (media releases, Trust program updates etc.) to RFNSW members.	Completed.
5	DPI to provide and maintain a summary of outgoing RFNSW correspondence to enable easy tracking, including responses received.	Completed.
5	DPI to provide an update from the trout management meeting in Victoria to sub group members.	Completed.
5	DPI to organise a private Facebook page for the RFNSW council and to facilitate a social media etiquette course for inclusion in the next meeting agenda.	Pending.
5	The chair to write to the Minister to request consideration of the RFNSW Kingfish recommendations.	Completed.
5	Fisheries Compliance to be advised about RFNSW concerns about black marketing of kingfish on the south coast	Completed.
5	Future agendas for RFNSW meetings to split the key species into separate items to be addressed individually: Kingfish, Snapper, Flathead and Tailor. These species are to be	Completed

Meeting number	Action	Status
	scheduled for future RFNSW meetings.	
5	DPI to distribute the final meeting outcomes from the recreational fishing stakeholder meeting to discuss progress of the Mulloway Recovery Program.	Completed
5	DPI to provide further information about the current management issues associated with Abalone harvest across all sectors at Meeting 6 and propose a way forward for increasing the bag limit for recreational fishers.	Completed
5	DPI to provide the previous feedback from Matt Barwick regarding Redfin control. DPI to provide a summary of the current redfin education initiatives being undertaken as a means to determine if any additional education and advisory is required.	Completed
5	RFNSW members to circulate details of the Redmap project to their networks to encourage reporting by recreational fishing through redmap.org.au or the Redmap app.	Completed
5	DPI Director, Fisheries Research to provide a list of "out of range" species for NSW.	Completed
5	RFNSW members to nominate for the RFNSW social licence sub group. Sub group to meet to progress development of contractor specifications.	Completed
5	The chair to write a letter to Dr Clayton Barnes expressing RFNSW support for recreational fishing access to Jounama Pondage noting boating safety is a matter for RMS. The letter should also encourage Dr Barnes and the progress Association to continue to work with SH with a view to undertaking an independent risk assessment.	Completed
5	The chair to write to the Minister seeking support for better education around lifejacket wear as well as performance testing and appropriateness of all personal flotation devices and lifejackets deemed suitable for rockfishers.	Completed
5	The chair to write to the Minister requesting that his office contacts the Commonwealth Minister overseeing the expansion of the Snowy Scheme to ensure that the proposed feasibility study includes costings to ensure that redfin perch and redfin perch eggs cannot be translocated to a non-redfin infected dam under the pumped hydro scheme.	Completed
5	DPI to consider more communication and advisory material, such as a factsheet, for the	Completed

Meeting number	Action	Status
	local fishing community on the requirement and benefits for the Trout Cod closure.	
5	The chair to write to the Minister to highlight Council issues associated with the TSR review with a copy sent to the review submission address.	Completed.
5	The chair to advise the Minister about the RFNSW position on the banning of opera house traps in NSW and to recommend that DPI undertakes the necessary community and industry consultation to enable consideration of the potential regulatory impacts of this proposed rule change. DPI to also undertake media to highlight the risks of using opera house traps and opportunities to reduce bycatch of non-target species.	Completed
5	Agenda items regarding Fisheries Officers and Update on Native Title claims to be held over to the next RFNSW meeting.	Completed
5	RFNSW Achievements list to be updated with list of submissions.	Completed

Annex 2: Trust project recommendations from RFSTEC and RFFTEC

Projects SUPPORTED for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trust

Recreational fishing enhancement programs

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Creating new fishing locations by building more offshore artificial reefs (2018-2020).	NSW DPI	This project involves implementation of a longer term deployment strategy for 4 new offshore artificial reefs (2018 – 2020) following a Ministerial community expression of interest process. The strategy is designed to meet increasing stakeholder expectations for more artificial reefs and to maximise benefits and fishing opportunity for recreational fishers. Supported. Conditional on Newcastle and Wollongong locations being the next two reefs to be installed noting previous government commitments have been made for these two sites and environmental assessments and specific site selection for these locations have already been completed. In addition, RFSTEC stated that there is significant community expectation that Newcastle and Wollongong will be the next reefs.	\$0	SW \$2,200,000	SW \$2,200,000
Investigations of nodavirus infections in Australian bass – dollar for dollar (\$ 4 \$) hatcheries	NSW DPI	Testing of Australian bass and estuary perch larvae produced at commercial \$4\$ hatcheries for the purposes of fish stocking into NSW impoundments provides an ability to ensure only nodavirus free larvae are stocked into freshwater NSW impoundments. Supported	FW \$20,000	\$0	\$0
The Final Chapter – Small Grants	Bingara Anglers Club and Hatchery	Bingara Hatchery proposes to build 2 new tanks with covers to replace 2 smaller tanks in need of repair. Supported	FW \$4,273	\$0	\$0
Development of a NSW trout strategy	NSW DPI	The Monaro Acclimatisation Society (MAS) has proposed the development of a NSW trout strategy (and supported by RFNSW). The purpose of the strategy is to precis the NSW recreational trout fishery, recognise and outline key challenges facing the fishery and identify actions that both reduce long term risks and increase access to and utilisation of, the fishery. Supported	FW \$40,000	\$0	\$0

Fishing access and facilities

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Saltwater Park Adaptive Canoe Launch and Fishing Pontoon.	Coffs Harbour City Council	To improve public accessibility to Coffs Creek for recreational fishing and canoeing/kayaking, particularly for community members with disabilities and mobility impairment. Supported	SW \$72,000	\$0	\$0

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Coastal Engineering study of sand deposits, their causes and possible remediation (long and short term) in the navigation channel – Small Grants	St George and Sutherland Shire Anglers Club Inc.	Commissioning a professional study of the movements affecting the depositing sand in and around the entry to the channel to the boat ramp with recommendations and costings for remediation long term. Supported	SW \$1,650	\$0	\$0
Gum Bend Lake BBQ and Fish cleaning station – Small Grants	Lachlan Shire Council	This project has the aim of installing a BBQ, fish cleaning station, picnic table and shelter adjacent to Gum Bend Lake and the Lachlan River. Supported. Condition - Funding support is provided for the concrete slab and fish cleaning table only. Funding is not provided for the BBQ or shelter structure	FW \$20,000 requested \$10,000 supported	\$0	\$0
Lake Cargelligo BBQ and Fish cleaning station – Small Grants	Lachlan Shire Council	This project has the aim of installing a BBQ, fish cleaning station, picnic table and shelter adjacent to Lake Cargelligo. Supported. Condition - Funding support is provided for the concrete slab and fish cleaning table only. Funding is not provided for the BBQ or shelter structure	FW \$20,000 requested \$10,000 supported	\$0	\$0
Gum Flat Reserve Pallamallawa – Fish Cleaning Facility	Moree Plains Shire Council	Installation of a fish cleaning table with rainwater catchment shelter and water tank to support and encourage fishing activities as part of ongoing enhancement of recreation facilities on the reserve Supported. Condition - Funding support is provided for all of the project items related to the fish cleaning station. Funding of the 8x6M shelter and rainwater tank is outside the scope of the Trust funding and is not supported	FW \$28,801 requested \$12,500 supported	\$0	\$0
Construction of three fishing platforms at Deniliquin Recreational Fishing Park and Outdoor Centre – Small Grants	Edward River Council	Installation of three fishing platforms at Deniliquin Recreational Fishing Park and Outdoor Centre Supported	FW \$9,000	\$0	\$0
Mungindi Fishing Club's Fish Cleaning Station – Small Grants	Mungindi Fishing Club's Fish Cleaning Station	To build a fish cleaning station at the Mungindi Barwon River Park for locals and tourists. Supported	FW \$9,890	\$0	\$0

Recreational fishing education

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
The Fly Program Ltd. Men in Flight Program	The Fly Program Ltd	<p>The purpose of The Fly Program's Men in Flight program is to raise awareness of and coordinate programs that address depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and suicide in the Australian male community. The program focuses on education and peer support through recreational fishing in the natural environment.</p> <p>RFSTEC - Supported: The Committee also recommended the Minister for Primary Industries seek supporting contributing funds from the Minister for Social Services. The committee also noted the high cost per person for the project and approved funding this year to establish the project but project costs should be reduced for further applications.</p> <p>RFFTEC – Not supported. The committee recognised the importance of addressing mental health issues within the community however considered the project budget to be excessive, that there was little in kind contribution from service providers and that funding support should also be provided from the Minister for Social Services.</p>	SW \$41,000 (supported) FW \$17,000 (not – supported)	\$0	\$0
Communication initiatives to promote responsible fishing and boating around oyster leases – Small Grants	NSW DPI and Oceanwatch	<p>DPI, Oceanwatch, RMS and representatives from the oyster industry have been working together to implement a communications plan involving production of high quality online videos to educate anglers on responsible fishing and boating practices around oyster leases. The aims of the campaign are to maintain access to these important fishing locations and to minimise impacts on the oyster industry by limiting damage, theft and water quality issues.</p> <p>Supported</p>	SW \$8,000	\$0	\$0
Redfern Men's Cave Fishing Trips – Small Grants	Weave Youth and Community Services	<p>Project to take a group of 10-15 men from Redfern Men's Cave (indigenous and non-indigenous background who live in public housing in the inner city of Sydney) for a fishing trip every 2 months over the course of 1 year in order to connect them to the broader community, build authentic relationships and learn new skills around responsible fishing practices.</p> <p>Supported: Conditional on a licenced Charter Boat to be used for fishing trips if a charter is to be used.</p>	SW \$6,300	\$0	\$0
Lets Go Fishing Target 100 – educating school children on the sustainable benefits of recreational fishing (Target 100)	Australian Fishing Trade Association	<p>This project builds on phase 1 of the previous similar project by extending the program of increasing the knowledge of school age children about sustainable recreational fishing through supervised practical involvement from 50 to 100 schools in NSW.</p> <p>Supported</p>	SW \$90,000	\$0	\$0

Research on fish and recreational fishing

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Minimising the potential for interactions between shore-based anglers and grey nurse sharks	Cardno NSW/ACT	Investigations would be done and a code of conduct written to improve the sustainability of shore-based fishing by minimising potential interactions between shore-based anglers and grey nurse sharks. Supported \$25,000 for core work component only to develop a code of conduct	SW \$141,050 (requested) \$25,000 (supported)	\$0	\$0
NSW Game Fish Tournament Monitoring	Ghosn Consulting Services	Collate data to support fisheries research and management of game fish species and to strengthen negotiations between recreational fishers, Government and other interested organisations regarding fishery access and sustainability. Supported	SW \$69,700	\$0	\$0
Understanding the variable nature of Blue Swimmer Crab populations in NSW estuaries	NSW DPI	This project will collect information on the reproductive biology and recruitment dynamics of Blue Swimmer Crab to inform future management arrangements, broodstock collection and targeted stocking for this species. Supported	SW \$100,000	SW \$100,000	SW \$50,000
Bait Security – building on a solid foundation. To improve access and availability of beachworms to NSW recreational fishers	NSW DPI	The project supports an evidence-base for improved access, availability and management of NSW beachworms; Quantify fishery selectivity, density and size-structures within fished and unfished areas (e.g. Sanctuary Zones) to inform management options for improved sector access and allocation. Supported	SW \$65,728	SW \$62,494	\$0
Monitoring and Research on Landed Fish at Game Fishing Tournaments in NSW: 2017/2018	Pepperell Research & Consulting Pty Ltd	The project facilitates and conducts monitoring, sampling and biological research on billfish, tuna, sharks and other gamefish captured and weighed at the major game fishing tournaments in NSW. Supported	SW \$30,500	\$0	\$0
Where have all the yellowfin tuna gone? Investigating the disjunct between commercial and recreational catches off NSW	Pepperell Research & Consulting Pty Ltd	The project will focus on the investigation of an apparent lack of correlation between inshore catches of yellowfin tuna by recreational fishers and offshore catches by commercial fishers. Supported	SW \$40,000	\$0	\$0
Can citizen science help build social license for the recreational fishing sector? – Small Grants	Centre for Marine Socioecology	We will explore if social license of recreational fisheries can be created through citizen science and how we can bolster this social license for the benefit of recreational fishing in Australia. Supported	SW \$9,930	\$0	\$0

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Provision of Annual Report for the Gamefish Tagging Program for 2016/2017 – Small Grants	Pepperell Research & Consulting Pty Ltd	Provision of an informative, attractive and readily accessible report on the Gamefish Tagging Program for the year 2016/2017 Supported	SW \$6,000	\$0	\$0

Fishing fee coordination and payment network

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Recreational Fishing NSW Advisory Council (RFNSW) consultation and meeting expenses	NSW DPI	RFNSW advises the Minister for Primary Industries on recreational fishery policy issues including maintaining and improving the quality of recreational fishing opportunities and access, and recommendations regarding allocation of recreational fishing fee funds to programs that benefit recreational fishing RFSTEC – Supported RFFTEC - Supported	SW \$22,000 FW \$26,000	\$0	\$0

Projects **NOT - SUPPORTED** for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trust

Aquatic habitat protection and rehabilitation

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Boomerang Bags Wingham	Debbie Thompson	Community driven initiative tackling plastic pollution. Communities make re-useable bags using recycled materials, which are made on a "borrow and bring back" basis as a sustainable alternative to plastic bags Not supported. The project was not considered to be recreational fisheries specific and did not provide direct benefits for recreational fishers.	FW \$6,460	\$0	\$0

Fishing access and facilities

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Brunswick River Fishing Platform	Byron Shire Council	To install a fishing platform for the use of local, regional and international recreational fishers of the Brunswick River, enabling bank stabilisation and regeneration of the riparian zone Not supported: Applicant to resubmit two applications, the first to cover a fishing compliant platform with more detail. The second application for the riparian works to be submitted to Habitat Action Grants. DPI Angling Facilities Manager to work with applicant on revised future application.	SW \$81,668	\$0	\$0
Myola Training Wall Fishing access pathway	Callala Beach Progress Association Inc.	The Myola Training wall is a popular fishing location in Currumbene Creek. The site is very popular with families. Currently access to the wall from the carpark is via a rough eroded pathway through untidy regrowth bush. The proposal is to construct a 2.5m wide concrete path from the carpark to the training and clear back some of the surrounding shrubs. The first 50m of the very rough wall is then to be topped with suitable crushed rock so that the top of the wall is relatively level allowing safer access along the wall itself. This will allow much better family access to the beautiful location. Not supported: there was in principle support for the project however, the committee believed local council should be more involved particularly in regards to the training wall repair works. DPI Angling Facilities Manager to work with applicant on revised future application.	SW \$51,800	\$0	\$0
Installation of Solar Lighting at Boat Ramps.	Central Coast Council	To install solar lighting around boat ramps and fish cleaning tables to reduce energy costs and improve recreational fisher's facilities Not supported: Council recommended to re-submit funding applications for lighting of fish cleaning tables but not for lighting the boat ramp areas. Councils should work with RMS Boating Program for improvements to boat ramps.	SW \$35,150	\$0	\$0

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Construction of Fishing Table – San Remo Hot Water Outlet, San Remo	Central Coast Council	To install fish a cleaning table and shelter to compliment the new boat ramp and upgraded parking area that will be constructed in the 17/18 financial year at San Remo Hot water Outlet, San Remo. Not supported: DPI Angling Facilities Manager to work with applicant on revised future application that uses DPI standard designs and costings for fish cleaning stations. Proposed siting of fish cleaning station to be discussed also with DPI prior to re-submitting application.	SW \$35,570	\$0	\$0
Construction of Fishing Table – Saltwater Creek Reserve, Long Jetty	Central Coast Council	To install fish a cleaning table and shelter to compliment the new boat ramp and parking area at Saltwater Creek Reserve, Long Jetty. Not supported: DPI Angling Facilities Manager to work with applicant on revised future application that uses DPI standard designs and costings for fish cleaning stations. Proposed siting of fish cleaning station to be discussed also with DPI prior to re-submitting application.	SW \$27,340	\$0	\$0
Construction of Fishing Table – Sunshine Reserve, Chittaway	Central Coast Council	To install fish a cleaning table and shelter to complement the existing boat ramp and parking area at Sunshine Reserve, Chittaway Not supported: DPI Angling Facilities Manager to work with applicant on revised future application that uses DPI standard designs and costings for fish cleaning stations. Proposed siting of fish cleaning station to be discussed also with DPI prior to re-submitting application.	SW \$35,570	\$0	\$0
Woollamia regional boat ramp cleaning table upgrade	Jervis Bay Game Fishing club	Repair and refurbish the 8 person fish cleaning table and add new shelter with lights. Woollamia boat ramp is Jervis Bay's main access ramp. The table will address ongoing access, efficiency and public health issues plus cater for expected increases in usage due to growing population and tourist numbers. In principle support: Revised budget with correct costings to be supplied along with a letter of in-principle support from Council and Marine Parks.	SW \$26,495	\$0	\$0
Forster Marina, Fish Cleaning Tables	Midcoast Council	Remove existing dated fish cleaning tables. Fabricate 2 x 4m fish cleaning tables as per standard design. Install new slab and adjust existing plumbing if required. Install new tables Not supported: DPI Angling Facilities Manager to work with applicant on revised, further developed application.	SW \$30,144	\$0	\$0
Scylla Bay fishing platform	Sutherland Shire Council	Design and construction of a new fishing platform to replace an aging timber wharf at Scylla Bay. Not supported: Applicant recommended to re-submit a less expensive design. There was also concern if a shortened wharf length would reach far enough out in the bay for deep enough water to be suitable as an ideal fishing location. A site visit has been organised by RFSTEC member to establish water depth of shortened wharf.	SW \$50,000	SW \$250,000	\$0

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Kennedy Drive Boat Ramp – Fish Cleaning Table	Tweed Shire Council	A fish cleaning table has been present at the Kennedy Drive Boat Ramp in Tweed Heads for 20 years. The structure is outdated and unsafe and Council seeks to replace it. Not supported: Applicant recommended to re-submit an application for the fish cleaning table component only. Riverbank revetment wall repairs considered not to be Recreational Fishing Trust responsibility.	SW \$35,000	\$0	\$0
Installation of solar lighting at Picnic Point boat ramp	Central Coast Council	Council proposes to install solar lighting at the boat ramp at Picnic Point, The Entrance to increase safety for recreational fishers using the facility Not supported: Council recommended to re-submit funding applications for lighting of fish cleaning tables but not for lighting the boat ramp areas. Councils should work with RMS Boating Program for improvements to boat ramps.	SW \$9,537	\$0	\$0
Installation of solar lighting at San Remo Hot Water Outlet boat ramp	Central Coast Council	Council proposes to install solar lighting at the proposed new boat ramp at San Remo Hot Water Outlet, San Remo to increase safety for recreational fishers using the facility Not supported: Council recommended to re-submit funding applications for lighting of fish cleaning tables but not for lighting the boat ramp areas. Councils should work with RMS Boating Program for improvements to boat ramps.	SW \$9,537	\$0	\$0
Installation of solar lighting at Boat Harbour Summerland Point boat ramp	Central Coast Council	Council proposes to install solar lighting at the boat ramp at Boat Harbour, Summerland Point to increase safety for recreational fishers using the facility Not supported: Council recommended to re-submit funding applications for lighting of fish cleaning tables but not for lighting the boat ramp areas. Councils should work with RMS Boating Program for improvements to boat ramps.	SW \$9,537	\$0	\$0
Rileys Hill Dry Dock Recreational Fishing Pontoon and Amenities	Rileys Hill Dry Dock Heritage Reserve Trust	Provision of a disabled accessibility pontoon, associated gangway, fish cleaning station and lighting at the historic Rileys Hill Dry Dock site, Rileys Hill on the Richmond River Not supported: DPI Angling Facilities Manager to work with applicant on revised future application.	SW \$56,018	\$0	\$0

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Golf Club Tenth Dam Trout Fishing Project	Guyra Hotel Anglers Club Inc	Re-habilitate the dam on the tenth hole of the Guyra Golf Course by dredging and deepening, clear willow trees, establishing fish habitat, installing seating and signage with the aim to establish a permanent fishing venue for teaching children fishing skills and as a tourist attraction promoting Guyra as a trout fishing location and destination. Not supported. Items within the project were not considered to be fishing oriented / related. The application did not specify pollution control measures for stormwater runoff, dredging requirements or future public access / usage arrangements, noting that the dam is located on a public golf course.	FW \$19,800	\$0	\$0
Community Area and Information Notice Board	Woolgarlo Fishing & Social Club Incorporated	New fixed seating and tables and shelter, fish weigh in area and recording facilities, notice/information boards for rules, regulations, legislation and safety, commence and implement new tag and release during competitions. Not supported. The information boards appeared to be club specific thus benefitting fishing competitors only, with low benefits for the broader angling community. As a matter of policy, Recreational Fishing Trust funds are not normally used to sponsor recreational fishing tournaments or related activities. DPI Angling Facilities Manager to work with applicant on revised future application for project items that would be more favourable for funding by the Trust.	FW \$9,500	\$0	\$0

Recreational fishing education

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
What's that Fish – (mobile app)	Darren Foley	Develop an app in relation to fish species, bag limits, size limits, photo of fish caught and where fish was caught, etc. RFSTEC - Not supported RFFTEC – Not supported This would duplicate many aspects of the previously Trust funded FishSmart App currently available free of charge.	SW \$10,000 FW \$5,000	\$0	\$0

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Smartphone Fishing Tournaments	SHOK Fishing Pty Ltd	SHOK Fishing Pty Ltd propose to host monthly fishing tournaments via our existing smartphone application which would allow NSW anglers to participate in a free fishing tournament from any geographical location within NSW for their chance to win prizes. RFSTEC – Not supported RFFTEC – Not supported <i>This appears to be a commercial enterprise. It was also noted that DPI has developed a smartphone application to provide users with information on fishing rules etc. and that this proposal would duplicate aspects of the previously Trust funded FishSmart App currently available free of charge.</i>	SW \$10,000 FW \$5,140	\$0	\$0
Promotion of Recreational Fishing Trust programs with Adventure Angler TV	Adventure Angler TV	To successfully promote trust grant projects through hundreds of TV episodes and repeats of Adventure Angler and through various other smaller videos and clips produced for social media. RFSTEC – Not supported RFFTEC – Not supported <i>The application appears to provide financial support to a commercial enterprise. The committees supported the concept and need for Recreational Fishing Trust promotion, but not the project delivery model as outlined in the application. RFSTEC / RFFTEC recommended a Trust communications strategy be developed, which may include procurement and promotion of TV media.</i>	SW \$16,700 FW \$8,300	\$0	\$0
Phase three of the Guide to Spearfishing in NSW (USFA)	Underwater Skindivers and Fishermen's Association Inc.(USFA)	This project follows the success of the 1st & 2nd editions of the Guide to Spearfishing in New South Wales and entails reprinting and distribution of a further approximate 12,000 copies. Publications are to be distributed to industry, government, media, relevant associations, the general public and the spearfishing community. Not Supported: The committee believed this was surplus to needs and recommended the applicant proceed to implement the original approved Phase three of the Guide to spearfishing funding that was approved at RFSTEC 41 for the sum of \$17,000.	SW \$27,700	\$0	\$0
Guyra Spring Troutfest fishing clinic, fishing competition and fishing expo	Guyra and District Chamber of Commerce	Promote children's fishing clinic, fishing competition and fishing expo at this 3 day festival. Not supported. This application was referred to the Gone Fishing Day Grants for assessment under that program.	FW \$2,200	\$0	\$0

Recreational fishing enhancement programs

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Fuel expenses for trout release 2017	Tamworth Trouts Fishing Club Incorporated	<p>Club members have previously vehicles and time for trout releases. The club has been running raffles to fund the fuel for releases and it appears the club will now the venue to run the raffles, which means they will have to go supply their own fuel.</p> <p>Not supported. The committee supported the activities of the fishing club however considered the proposal would set a precedent for funding expenses of other fish stocking groups. DPI continues to support the work of the fish acclimatisation societies through insurances, permits, fish aid and emergency response. It was recommended that DPI develop a small grants policy to provide financial assistance to fishing clubs for fish stocking expenses / to supplement travel / stocking costs (e.g. purchase of fish transporters, supply of fuel cards etc.) for future consideration.</p>	FW \$600	\$0	\$0

Research on fish and recreational fishing

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Establishment of an independent peer-review panel to assist with assessment of research applications for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trusts	NSW DPI	<p>This project will set up a panel of high-profile scientists to assess the quality of research applications to the Recreational Fishing Trust and make recommendations to the Expenditure Committees.</p> <p>RFSTEC – Not supported RFFTEC – Not supported</p> <p>Both committees considered the model proposed by the application has been overextended to what was previously requested by the committees. It was noted that not every scientific application would need peer review and that the committees were well placed to determine which more complex and high priority applications would require peer review (compared to applications with more simpler methodologies), prior to assessment by the committees. The committees preferred a simpler model with a list of identified expert scientists which can be used as needed with identified applications requiring peer review referred to one or two of the listed scientists with experience in the relevant fields prior to the committee meetings. The committees recognised there may be some minor savings from participating in a national scheme but participation could result in many unnecessary or low priority applications being submitted and assessed. The committees considered it was essential that stakeholder research priority areas be established as a first step and requested a presentation from Dr Natalie Moltschaniwskyj, Director Fisheries Research to commence the stakeholder process.</p>	SW \$50,000 FW \$20,000	\$0	\$0
Developing a simple rapid assessment method for fish densities under pontoons	University of Technology Sydney, School of Life Sciences	<p>We propose to develop a simple rapid assessment method to assess fish under structures such as pontoons, using go pro cameras, that will help assess fisheries value of artificial habitats.</p> <p>Not supported. Low priority.</p>	SW \$9,900	\$0	\$0
Understanding the causes and impacts of shark bite-offs in Lord Howe Island recreational fisheries	University of Western Australia	<p>Quantify the spatial extent and frequency of shark bite-offs in recreational and charter fisheries of Lord Howe Island Marine Park, and investigate the behaviour and movement patterns of Galapagos sharks to assist in developing potential mitigation measures</p> <p>Not supported: Low priority</p>	SW \$48,270	\$0	\$0

Project Title	Organisation	Project Summary	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Morphology of the electrosensory system of pelagic sharks – Travel and transport costs to collect NSW samples from game fishing events	The University of Queensland	Investigation and comparison of the detailed structure of the electrosensory system of different species of sharks caught in game fishing tournaments. Travel costs to attend and transport of samples. Not Supported: Collection and transportation of samples should be incorporated and collected under the “Monitoring and Research on Landed Fish at Gamefishing Tournaments” run by Pepperell Research	SW \$5,000	\$0	\$0
What are the sources of food supporting larval and juvenile bream and flathead in estuaries?	University of Technology Sydney	This study aims to understand the importance and nutritional value of food resources delivered from upstream and the terrestrial environments to estuaries for larval and juvenile bream and flathead. Not supported: Low recreational fishing advantages from outcomes and considered low priority	SW \$10,000	\$0	\$0
Engaging recreational fishers in citizen science: developing cost effective stock status indices for management	University of Sydney	This project will look for ways to use self-reported data from recreational fishers to track changes in stock levels which are useful for management. Not supported: Prior funded project “Developing cost-effective recreational angler data collection and survey methods in NSW through the use of interactive smartphone technology” is nearing completion, focus should be directed towards app development following Field GIS Australia’s work.	SW \$79,796	SW \$88,047	SW \$88,047
Effective reduction of marine debris sourced from shore-based recreational fishing	Cardno NSW/ACT	Effective reduction of marine debris sourced from shore-based recreational fishing Not supported: T-Anglers Bins have had mixed success in past projects and trials, larger council uptake and continued support is needed to maintain and empty bins. Bins cannot be located everywhere people fish. More emphasis should be directed towards education and prosecution. Research considered low priority as problem and sources of rubbish have been identified.	SW \$104,392	\$0	\$0
Improving spatial analyses for recreational fisheries to facilitate engagement with the recreational sector	NSWDPI / Fishing Survey Solutions	Investigate best-practice methods for documenting the spatial footprint of recreational fisheries. Case studies will be used to develop an evidence-based framework for stakeholders to use when considering spatial management options. Not supported: Considered low priority.	SW \$190,000	\$0	\$0