

Advisory Council on Recreational Fishing

Outcomes from Meeting 46 – Wednesday 20 May 2009 Cronulla Fisheries Centre

Attendance

Bruce Schumacher (Chair), Kevin McKinnon, Neil Ryan, Charlie Howe, Sanchia Glaskin, Max Castle, John Clarke, Ann Garard, John Humphries, Adrian Wayne, Ron Croker, Claudette Rechterik, Lionel Jones (deputising for Jan McLeod) and Nick James (NSW DPI).

1. Apologies

Jan McLeod, John Drew, Peter Cooley. Note: John Dunphy recently resigned from the Council – a replacement is being sought during the current expression of interest process. The council acknowledged Mr Dunphy's significant contribution to the stakeholder consultation process and recreational fishing generally during this time.

2. Confirmation of minutes from previous ACoRF meeting

Motion: The council accepted the outcomes as a true and accurate record of discussions from the 45th ACoRF meeting, held 11 December 2008. **Moved:** Kevin McKinnon. **Seconded:** Ann Garard. **Carried.**

3. Business arising from the minutes

The council clarified that an upper size limit on snapper is not supported at this stage due to a lack of scientific information regarding release survival rates/barotrauma issues. **Moved:** Charlie Howe. **Seconded:** Neil Ryan. **Carried.**

4. Recreational fishing update

i) Gaden hatchery

The first meeting of the Gaden Hatchery Management Implementation Committee, chaired by Bruce Schumacher, was held on 15 May 2009. John Humphries is the ACoRF representative on the committee. A number of options to promote the use and viability of the hatchery were discussed, however, no decisions will be made until expert advice is received regarding those issues. Further information and outcomes will be provided at the next meeting.

ii) Recreational fishing access

The council was advised that Ms Brooke McCarthy has been appointed as Fisheries Manager Recreational Access Saltwater and is currently working on the following access issues:

a) Booderee National Park Plan of Management – NSW DPI identified 3 priority angling sites in its recent submission. The Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (Commonwealth) requested that the submission be reconsidered to reduce the number of sites. DPI submitted a revised submission reiterating the importance of maintaining access to iconic land based rockfishing platforms in the Park.

b) Mimosa Rocks (Nelson Lagoon) Plan of Management – DPI consulted with key stakeholders, including local angling clubs and anglers, local DPI Fisheries Officers, ACoRF and the NSW Recreational Fishing Alliance on the draft Plan. Concern was raised by stakeholders regarding the importance of maintaining ongoing boat-based access to key fishing locations within the Park, in particular Nelson Lagoon and Baronda Head.

A detailed submission was sent to DECC for consideration, and included the identification of two key access priorities, including the establishment of the informal Nelson Creek track into a formal all weather road to allow boat based fishing access and the establishment of the Cowdroys to Baronda management trail into a formal Park road to enable access for land based (rock) fishers on Baronda headland.

iii) Governance project

Members expressed concern regarding delays to the implementation of the Governance project. Peter Turnell, Director Fisheries Operations, advised the council that he will allocate resources to this program from July onwards to facilitate the program. A new ACoRF/RFSTEC/RFFTEC sub-committee may be established to oversee the program.

5. Recreational Fishing Trust issues

The council ratified the Trust Investment Plan for 2009/10, as previously supported by the expenditure committees and approved by the Minister.

Council considered expenditure recommendations arising from the Recreational Fishing Freshwater and Saltwater Expenditure Committee (RFSTEC and RFFTEC) meetings held on 5-6 May 2009. Recommendations for new Trust programs were supported by ACoRF as outlined in Table 1. Programs deferred, or not approved by the Expenditure Committees and ACoRF, are summarised in Tables 2 and 3 respectively. ACoRF also approved an ongoing allocation of \$3 million to the Freshwater Trust.

Council discussed the need for a greater emphasis to be placed on Recreational Trust Fund project proponents being encouraged to seek funding from the NSW Maritime Infrastructure Grants program for shared facilities and projects.

Action item

The DPI Infrastructure Manager to liaise with NSW Maritime about joint funding opportunities and to facilitate partnerships between NSW Maritime and Trust applicants.

Motion: The council supports funding for new Trust project applications as outlined in Table 1. **Moved:** Kevin McKinnon. **Seconded:** John Humphries. **Carried.**

Motion: The council supports the Expenditure Committees' recommendations regarding deferred programs (Table 2) and programs that were not supported (Table 3). **Moved:** Neil Ryan. **Seconded:** Kevin McKinnon. **Carried.**

Council noted that the Recfish Australia funding request (\$40,000 per year for 3 years) was not supported by RFSTEC, which expressed concern about future funding from other states. RFSTEC also requested that Recfish Australia provide a business plan with a preferred model of future operation and management following the Annual General meeting. Bruce Schumacher declared a conflict of interest regarding this issue and left the meeting during the discussion.

Motion: The council endorses the Expenditure Committee's recommendation not to provide funding to Recfish Australia at this stage.

Moved: Charlie Howe. **Seconded:** Lionel Jones. **Carried.**

Motion: The council write to the Minister to request NSW Government funding for Recfish Australia. **Moved:** John Humphries. **Seconded:** Max Castle. **Carried.**

Council noted that RFSTEC had not supported the DPI barotrauma research proposal as it was considered there may be potential overlap with the current DPI program being undertaken by Dr Matt Broadhurst. RFSTEC also requested that contributing funding be investigated from FRDC for the program. ACoRF noted the above recommendation from RFSTEC and that a revised application may be submitted at a later date. ACoRF also recommended that the potential for funding from the Charter Trust be investigated.

Motion: The council recommends that this proposal be re-submitted with clarification of issues and contributing funding sources. **Moved:** John Clarke. **Seconded:** Charlie Howe. **Carried.**

6. Compliance issues

a) Policy on possession limits

Council was advised DPI intends to update the policy on possession limits, which covers enforcement of possession limits when persons are either participating in a multiple day fishing competition or are on, or returning from, a fishing trip/holiday with fish caught over a number of days. Some recreational fishers participating in saltwater fishing competitions over multiple days retain their catch with the intention of only weighing in on the final day. Daily weigh-ins are not always catered for at some fishing competitions. DPI advised the issue will be included in the next review of recreational fishing rules, however, DPI will update the current policy in the interim and will be considered by ACoRF at the next meeting.

b) Australian bass closure

A recreational fishing ban on taking Australian bass and estuary perch from all rivers and estuaries is in place from 1 June to 31 August, to protect these important recreational species during their spawning season. The zero bag limit does not close any waters to fishing and does not affect anglers fishing for other estuary species such as bream or flathead. However, any Australian bass or estuary perch caught must be immediately returned to the water with the least possible injury. The zero bag limit does not apply to Australian bass in freshwater impoundments and dams as they are stocked as part of the Dollar-for-Dollar Native Fish Stocking program, so anglers may continue to fish under the normal bag limit of two fish per day in those waters.

Motion: The council supports an amendment to the current closure to clarify that catch and immediate release fishing is permitted during 1 June – 31 August each year. **Moved:** Neil Ryan. **Seconded:** John Humphries. **Carried.**

c) Clarification of rules relating to stowed gear in marine park sanctuary zones/closed waters

Glenn Tritton advised that a meeting is scheduled for 26 May 2009 with the Marine Parks Authority to discuss stowed gear definitions/rules in sanctuary zones/closed waters and that formal advice will be forwarded to the council at the next meeting to clarify this issue.

d) Alexandra Canal, Cooks River

A review of the current closure of the Alexandra Canal to all forms of angling has been requested by a member of the public along with a proposal to make it a catch and release only fishery, to increase sportfishing opportunities in the area. The council considered this request at the last meeting and identified potential food safety and compliance issues and requested consideration by relevant agencies.

DPI Compliance supports the current closure. The total ban on fishing is used as an effective enforcement tool to ensure food safety. Local officers also raised concerns that if anglers were allowed to catch and release it would increase the likelihood of fish being retained and consumed, particularly by infrequent anglers.

The NSW Food Authority expressed support for the existing management controls for these waterways to remain. The Authority stated that the current closure of the Georges River, the Alexandra Canal and the Cooks River was based on findings from surveys conducted by NSW Health and the Department of Environment and Climate Change (at the time the Environment Protection Agency) and that public health concerns are related to the levels of chemical contaminants found in these waterways (both fish and sediments tested).

As a result of this advice, the council considers the current closure should be maintained to ensure food safety.

Action item

NSW DPI write to Mr Case to advise that the council does not support the proposal.

e) Vacant Fisheries Officer position(s)

The council reiterated its request that vacant positions be filled as soon as possible.

Action item

DPI Compliance be notified about ACoRF's request to fill any vacancies as quickly as possible.

7. Recreational take of oysters

The council believes that concerns raised by the Peak Oyster Advisory Group regarding the consumption of oysters caught by recreational fishers should be addressed by an enhanced, high profile education campaign, not a complete ban on the recreational take of oysters in NSW.

The council noted there is some recreational harvesting of oysters, particularly in pristine estuaries. The Indigenous representative on ACoRF stated that the collection of oysters is carried out by many Aboriginal communities along the coast as it is one of their main foods from the sea and that as a result there is a need for thorough consultation with these communities, as any proposed changes will have a significant impact on these practices.

Council noted that this is a high profile issue which should be addressed in the next bag and size review to ensure essential and widespread consultation.

Motion: The council supports the option to address concerns regarding the consumption of oysters caught by recreational fishers by an enhanced, high profile education campaign, rather than a complete ban on the recreational take of oysters in NSW. This issue should be addressed in the next bag and size review. **Moved:** John Humphries. **Seconded:** Adrian Wayne. **Carried.**

8. Structural adjustment and alternate management frameworks for NSW Commercial Fisheries

An update on this issue was deferred to the next meeting due to time constraints.

9. Status of DPI Conservation Managers

DPI provided an update on the Aquatic Habitat Protection (AHP) Group, as requested by council. A summary of discussions is outlined below:

- The size and structure of the group has varied over time. The current structure commenced with the Office of Conservation in May 1997.
- The group consisted of a leader & 4 habitat biologists & expanded rapidly with water reform enhancements in the late 1990s. Expansion to 11 positions at that time was mainly based on temporary funding for temporary staff in temporary positions.
- Water reform funding expired around 2003, leaving a range of temporary positions unfunded.
- Since that time positions have been funded from a range of sources including consolidated revenue, fish conservation trust, recreational fishing trust, & internal funds.
- Positions and resources have been reallocated within the branch to support the AHP group.
- Compliance staff moved back to the Compliance Operations Branch around 2007.
- The external funding environment has recently tightened significantly with the transition from National Heritage Trust funding (NHT II) to Caring for Our Country.
- The Albury position was lost in 2007/08 when Recreational Fishing Trust Funding was not secured, however, the position was subsequently regained in 2008/09. It was confirmed that the RFFTEC funded position based at Albury was for a period of 4 years, commencing 2008/09.
- Unsuccessful funding applications have also been made to RFSTEC to support Conservation Manager positions.
- Additional funding is also being sought from external sources/agencies, as well as RFSTEC.

Motion: The council recommends that NSW DPI makes a submission to RFSTEC for consideration of funding for one coastal/saltwater Conservation Manager position. **Moved:** Max Castle. **Seconded:** Claudette Rechterik. **Carried.**

10. The (USA) National Fish Habitat Action Plan

In October 2008, the Minister for Primary Industries Ian Macdonald launched a new educational project called Fishers for Fish Habitat, which aims to increase anglers' awareness about the importance of fish habitat and inspire them to do what they can to protect and enhance these vital areas that fish need to survive and thrive, including cleaning up their fishing spots, improving fish passage and even planting trees to enhance water quality, create shade and food for native fish and provide a future source of snags.

The (USA) National Fish Habitat Action Plan is a national investment strategy to maximise the impact of conservation funding on the ground and is being used as a guide for fish habitat conservation efforts in NSW. Under the Action Plan, Federal, state, and privately-raised funds will be the foundation for building regional partnerships that address the Nation's biggest fish habitat problems.

11. Out of Session items

2009/10 TAC submissions for the Abalone and Lobster Share Management Fisheries

Information on the TAC submission process for the Abalone and Lobster Share Management Fisheries in the 2009/10 financial year was distributed to members out of session on 25 February 2009, providing opportunity for members' input on the setting of the TACC for these species.

Trust fund expenditure and response to "The Torn Blue Fringe"

Motion: The council ratifies its recommendation for funding from the Saltwater Trust (\$30,000) for scientific evaluation of the accuracy and relevance to recreational fishers of the National Parks Association document, The Torn Blue Fringe. **Moved:** Ann Garard. **Seconded:** Kevin McKinnon. **Carried.**

DPI confirmed that the scientific evaluation of the accuracy and relevance to recreational fishers of the National Parks Association Document, The Torn Blue Fringe, as commissioned by ACoRF, had been completed by Prof. Bob Kearney and distributed to council.

Motion: The council recommends that a glossy version of the scientific appraisal publication, under the banner of ACoRF, be produced and that ACoRF submits the document to the Minister for consideration. **Moved:** Neil Ryan. **Seconded:** Charlie Howe. **Carried.**

University of NSW - research program

In May 2008, RFSTEC and ACoRF supported funding from the University of NSW for the research program titled: Enhancing recreational fisheries through conservation of iconic recreational trophy fish. The Minister requested that ACoRF reconsider the application noting that DPI had recently commenced a similar program. DPI has since collaborated with UNSW and confirmed that there is no overlap between programs and it is now proposed for UNSW to proceed with the program in its current format. RFSTEC and ACoRF recommended that the program now proceeds as originally intended.

Durras Lake *Caulerpa taxifolia* closure renewal

Information on the closure renewal was distributed to members out of session on 31 March for comment. ACoRF supported the renewal of the current closure.

12. Correspondence received

a) Letter received from Angler Action Group (AAG) concerning "Questions regarding statements made by the Chair of ACoRF".

Information noted. Council recommended that the department and Chair collaborate to address issues raised.

Action item

Write to AAG to address issues.

b) Response from Minister to ACoRF regarding the harvest of live bait in NSW by Commonwealth licensed long liners under permit.
Information noted.

c) Correspondence from Malcolm Poole regarding the taking of striped marlin by longliners during tournaments, and Section 37 bait permits.

Information noted. DPI confirmed that some permits are being issued to authorise the use of a purse seine net to take baitfish in State waters for use in the Commonwealth Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery, however, each permit has a number of strict operational conditions, including being non-transferable.

Council was advised that a DPI observer attended the ETBF MAC meeting on 22 April and striped marlin were discussed at length. Northern commercial operator members were very concerned about the damage to the reputation of the fishery by a few individuals operating on the south coast during gamefishing tournaments. DPI understands a letter from the ETBF MAC will be sent to all operators advising that if the Code of Conduct (not fishing whilst tournaments are underway) is not followed, the MAC may consider formal action such as closures. Council was also advised that a list of important offshore competitions in NSW is being compiled for the ETBF MAC.

Action item

NSW DPI to respond to Mr Poole.

d) Email received from Mr Fakes concerning spearfishers taking flathead near Barnes Rocks, Port Stephens and request for consideration of banning spearfishing in the Barnes Rocks area.

Action item

Mr Adrian Wayne, Underwater Fishing Representative, to liaise with Mr Fakes to discuss and clarify concerns raised.

Action item

Mr Wayne to provide information to ACoRF regarding his consultation with Mr Fakes about spearfishing in the Barnes Rocks area.

e) Email from John Burgess, regarding the Fisheries Independent Research Surveys being undertaken in St Georges Basin and other NSW estuaries.

Information noted.

f) Summary of DECC Aboriginal Fishing Atlas, March 2009.

Information noted.

g) Email from John Clarke, regarding ACoRF membership issues.

Mr Clarke raised issues for discussion by the council, including the Minister's selection process for membership on ACoRF and consideration of alternative independent facilitators to Chair council meetings in the future. DPI confirmed that the Chairman does not have any input into the current expression of interest and selection process for new members.

Motion: The council provides a vote of confidence for the retention of the current Chair of ACoRF, Mr Bruce Schumacher. **Moved:** Neil Ryan. **Seconded:** Adrian Wayne. **Carried.**

h) Letters and newspaper articles received from Trevor Burns regarding prawn trawling in the Manning River area.

Incidental catches of juvenile fish and prawns and estuarine fish species are generally greater when trawling around river entrances during times of high river discharge (i.e. during and after flood conditions). Acknowledging this, the Fishery Management Strategy for the Ocean Trawl Fishery provides for the implementation of pre-defined trawling closures around river entrances during times of high river discharge. These closures are triggered using river discharge information provided by the Bureau of Meteorology, when the Bureau provides notification that the river adjacent to the closure area is in Moderate or Major flood. It was confirmed that a Minor flood classification was declared by the Bureau of Meteorology for the Manning River, therefore the prawn trawl closure provision was not triggered by the FMS.

Action item

NSW DPI write to Mr Burns to address these issues.

13. Bag and size limit issues

a) Cobia (black kingfish)

Queensland DPI recently reduced the bag limit for cobia from 10 to 2 per person per day and retained the minimum size limit of 75cm. The council continues to express concern about the current recreational fishing rules for cobia in NSW (no minimum legal length; general bag limit of 20) and suggested that a bag limit of 5 and minimum size limit (65cm or 75cm) be introduced as a priority.

Motion: The council recommends that a bag limit of 5 cobia be introduced immediately in NSW and that negotiations regarding a minimum size limit commence with the commercial fishing sector (OTLMAC and SIAC). **Moved:** Neil Ryan. **Seconded:** Charlie Howe. **Carried.**

b) Snapper

It was confirmed that a letter has been sent from the Chair to the Minister requesting the increase to the size limit of snapper from 30cm to 32cm be implemented.

14. Recreational fishing arrangements for southern bluefin tuna

ACoRF was advised that Southern bluefin tuna (SBT) were listed as endangered under the NSW Fisheries Management Act 1994 (FM Act) in December 2004. At the time of listing limited recreational fishing for SBT in NSW was permitted to continue under existing bag and size limit rules by a series of interim orders and a compliance moratorium. Interim orders may be made if reasonably necessary to reduce social or economic impacts during the assessment of a final Ministerial order. A Ministerial order can only be made after preparation and consideration of a species impact statement (SIS) of recreational fishing activity for SBT in NSW waters. A preliminary review of available data suggests that SBT are taken in very small numbers by NSW recreational fishers.

Motion: The council supports the option to fund the undertaking of a Species Impact Statement.

Moved: Kevin McKinnon. **Seconded:** Ann Garard. **Vote:** 5 for; 7 against. **Motion lost.**

Council did not support the concept of allocating Trust funding for an environmental assessment (Species Impact Statement) of recreational fishing arrangements for SBT, due to the perceived low level of capture by NSW recreational fishers. NSW DPI advised that MERCMAC and the NSW GFA would also be consulted on this issue.

15. Other Business

a) Gemfish

Information was provided regarding eastern gemfish being placed in the 'Conservation Dependent' category on the Commonwealth threatened species list, effective from 22 January 2009. The listing will not prohibit the species from being caught in low levels as incidental catch, but fishing must be conducted in accordance with their rebuilding strategies developed by AFMA, including Total Allowable Catches.

b) Draft National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2009 and associated Regulatory Impact Statement

NSW DPI's Recreational Fisheries Management section provided a submission on 5 March 2009 on the Draft National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2009 and associated Regulatory Impact Statement, particularly relating to the proposed amendments to cl.20 Weapons (i.e. spearguns). The submission confirmed that there is a definite and ongoing need for recreational fishers to be able to continue to carry unloaded spearguns through a park, as provided by cl.20(6). Therefore, the inclusion of cl.20(8)(c) in the draft Regulation, to clarify that disassembled spearguns are also allowed to be carried through a park, was supported.

c) Request for an update on issues relating to Eraring Power Station

The department provided a detailed submission in 2007 in relation to the proposed increase of the capacity of Eraring Power Station. Several major concerns were raised in relation to this proposal, primarily in relation to the potential impact on the fish stocks of Lake Macquarie both at adult and larval life stages. The station pumped about 3 times the entire volume of Lake Macquarie annually and these changes increased the capacity by another 3.6% of the volume of the Lake.

On 25 February 2009 Dr Bob Creese, Research Leader, Aquatic Ecosystems, NSW DPI, attended, at the invitation of Eraring Energy, an 'Environmental Strategy' meeting at Eraring. The meeting was designed to identify broad environmental issues that were of concern to the community and to develop a process to address those issues. Many fishing groups were represented, for example, Lake Macquarie Concerned Anglers Group. The meeting agreed to set up some working groups to progress 4 specific issues - impacts of discharge waters on seagrass; passage of plankton/larval stages through the cooling system; fish entrainment at the inlet canal; and sea turtles.

Dr Creese has taken on an advisory role on the working groups for the first two issues. He has advised that while any ongoing role he may have regarding the Eraring Power Station is in the capacity of providing scientific advice and not as a formal DPI representative on any 'stakeholder forum', he will consider the council's position in terms of habitat and/or recreational fishing issues.

d) Dollar for dollar trout stocking

Motion: The council supports the dollar for dollar trout stocking from Gaden hatchery. **Moved:** Kevin McKinnon. **Seconded:** Ron Croker. **Carried.**

e) NSW DECC/MPA observer at ACoRF meetings

Ms Claudette Rechterik suggested the potential for a DECC/MPA representative to attend ACoRF meetings, as an 'observer' as required, to provide information and updates on marine park issues.

Motion: The council write to the Minister to invite an observer from DECC/MPA to attend future ACoRF meetings as required. **Moved:** John Humphries. **Seconded:** John Clarke. **Carried.**

f) Annual budget meeting

The council requested the department consider holding the annual budget meeting over 2 days in the future, to provide more time for consideration of both expenditure proposals and policy issues.

16. Next meeting(s)

- ACoRF meeting 47 (2/2009) – Scheduled for Tuesday 25 August 2009 at Cronulla Fisheries Research Centre.
- ACoRF meeting 48 (3/2009) – Proposed for Wednesday 2 December 2009 at Gaden hatchery.

Action items from 46th ACoRF meeting on 20 May 2009

| Agenda Item | Action | Team Responsible | Status |
|---|--|--|---|
| 4. Recreational fishing update – Governance program | NSW DPI to progress implementation of the Governance program. Trent Wilson appointed Fisheries Manager, Business & Investment. | Fisheries Resource Management | Completed. |
| 5. Recreational Fishing Trust issues | DPI Infrastructure Manager to liaise with NSW Maritime about joint funding opportunities and to facilitate partnerships between NSW Maritime and Trust applicants. | Recreational Management | Liaison initiated. Ongoing. |
| 5. Recreational Fishing Trust issues | Council write to the Minister to request NSW Government funding for Recfish Australia. | Recreational Management/ ACoRF Chair | Completed. |
| 5. Recreational Fishing Trust issues - Barotrauma research proposal (Dr John Stewart) | Advise proponent of concerns raised, request clarification of issues and encourage contributing funding to be sought from FRDC and/or MERCMAC, prior to re-submitting proposal. | Recreational Management | Completed. |
| 6. Compliance issues b) Australian bass closure | Amend the current closure to clarify that catch and immediate release fishing is permitted during 1 June – 31 August each year. | Recreational Management | To be included in the Regulation repeal process. |
| 6. Compliance issues d) Alexandra Canal, Cooks River | DPI to write to Mr Case to advise that the council does not support the proposal regarding catch and release only fishing in Alexandra Canal due to food safety issues. | Recreational Management | Completed. |
| 6. Compliance issues e) Vacant Fisheries Officer positions | DPI Compliance to be notified about ACoRF's request to fill any vacancies as quickly as possible. | Recreational Management | Completed. |
| 9. Status of DPI Conservation Managers | DPI to make a submission to RFSTEC for consideration of funding for one coastal/saltwater Conservation Manager position. | Fisheries Conservation and Aquaculture | Completed. |
| 11. Out of Session items | The council to publish the scientific appraisal of the National Parks Association document, The Torn Blue Fringe and forward a copy to the Minister. | Recreational Management/ ACoRF Chair | Completed. |
| 12. Correspondence received a) Anglers Action Group | Chair to write to the AAG to address the issues raised. | Recreational Management/ ACoRF Chair | Pending written response – Chair has liaised with AAG regarding these issues. |
| 12. Correspondence received c) Malcolm Poole | NSW DPI to write to Mr Poole to address the issues raised. | Recreational Management | Underway. |
| 12. Correspondence received d) Brad Fakes | Adrian Wayne to liaise with Mr Fakes to discuss and clarify concerns raised and provide information to ACoRF regarding consultation with Mr Fakes about spearfishing in the Barnes Rocks area. | Underwater Fishing Representative | Completed. |
| 12. Other business h) Trevor Burns | DPI to write to Mr Burns re: Manning River/ocean trawl issue. | Recreational Management | Completed. |
| 15. Other Business e) NSW DECC/MPA observer | Council write to the Minister to invite an observer from DECC/MPA to attend future ACoRF meetings, as required. | Recreational Management/ ACoRF Chair | Completed. |

Table 1 - New Trust project applications supported by ACoRF (and RFSTEC/RFTEC) for funding from the Trusts

Platform: Aquatic habitat protection and rehabilitation

| Project Title | Organisation | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 |
|--|--------------|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|
| <p>Habitat Action Program ... Making more fish naturally - The Habitat Action Program will provide devolved grants to allow recreational fishers to proactively assist in improving recreational fishing stocks for future generations by undertaking fish habitat projects. <i>Note: ACoRF supported an increase in funding for the saltwater program from \$200,000 to \$500,000 in 2009/10, as recommended by RFSTEC.</i></p> | NSW DPI | \$500,000 SW | | | |

Platform: Fishing access and facilities

| Project Title | Organisation | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 |
|--|---|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Saltwater Trust | | | | | |
| Fish Cleaning Tables with Shelter – Gosford local government area – Gosford Council will replace 10 existing fish cleaning tables and erect 3 new tables and 6 shelters. | Gosford City Council | \$85,250 | | | |
| Clifton Gardens Jetty Rehabilitation Works, Mosman – to contribute to the upgrade of Clifton Gardens jetty and promote its use as an angling facility. | Mosman Municipal Council | \$50,000 | | | |
| Merimbula public jetty upgrade – to provide a fishing platform with fish cleaning facility, as part of the upgrade to the Merimbula public jetty. | Bega Valley Shire Council | \$45,000 | | | |
| Angel Rings – Phase 6 – 2009/2010/2011 – continuation of the Angel Rings project which installs and maintains Angel Rings in popular rockfishing locations. The Angel Rings in NSW save approximately 3 lives per year. | Australian National Sportfishing Association, NSW | \$19,250 | \$20,855 | \$22,570 | |
| New Handrails for Long Jetty, located along Tuggerah Parade at the bottom of Archbold Street, Long Jetty, NSW – this will improve accessibility and safety of this iconic fishing spot. | Wyong Shire Council | \$11,875 | | | |
| Small grants | | | | | |
| Fish Cleaning Table and Shelter at Terilbah Reserve (adjacent to Boat Ramp), The Entrance North, NSW | Wyong Shire Council | \$8,750 | | | |
| Fish Cleaning Table and Shelter at Picnic Point Reserve, The Entrance NSW – construction of a covered fish cleaning table at The Entrance. | Wyong Shire Council | \$8,750 | | | |
| New Roof Over Existing Fish Cleaning Table, Norah Head, NSW – to provide a new roof over the well utilised fish cleaning table at the Norah Head boat ramp. | Wyong Shire Council | \$3,125 | | | |
| Mosquito Bay fish cleaning table resurface with stainless steel – to cover the Mosquito Bay boat ramp fish cleaning table with a stainless steel top. | Malua Bay Fishing Club Inc | \$1,500 | | | |
| Resurface fish cleaning Tables at Harrington Breakwall – to replace timber cutting surfaces at a well utilised fish cleaning table on Harrington breakwall. | Harrington Hotel Beach, Rock and Estuary Fishing Club | \$853 | | | |
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|--|----------------------------|---------|--|--|--|
| Freshwater Trust – small grants | | | | | |
| Gogeldrie Weir Fish Cleaning Table & Solar Lighting – to install a fish cleaning table and solar lighting adjacent to the Gogeldrie Weir boat ramp. | Bidgee Fishing Competition | \$6,400 | | | |
| Fish Cleaning Table for Copeton Dam Northern Foreshores – to construct a fish cleaning table at Copeton Waters northern foreshore adjacent to the main boat ramp. | Inverell Shire Council | \$8,000 | | | |

Platform: Recreational fishing education

| Project Title | Organisation | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 |
|--|---|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------|
| RFA Rockfishing Safety Resource Folder Mailout 2009 - 2011 – to produce an additional 15,000 DVD/CDs and 5000 resource folders and to distribute over next three years free of charge to anglers. | Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW | \$41,750 SW | \$4,500 SW | \$4,500 SW | |
| Small grants | | | | | |
| Phase two of the Guide to Spearfishing in New South Wales – to reprint a further 10,000 copies of the guide and distribute. | Underwater Skindivers & Fishermen's Association | \$10,000 SW | | | |
| Catch N Cook Tweed Heads holiday program – to run a one week educational fishing program for aboriginal youth and local elders. This project follows on from previously successful Catch N Cook programs. | Koori Communications and Training | \$5,700 SW | | | |
| Assisting others to enjoy fishing – Phase 3 – to conduct fishing clinics for CanTeen, Camp Quality, Grey Power and juniors. | Narooma Sports and Game Fishing Club | \$3,000 SW | | | |
| Freshwater recreational fishing trust, promotional fishing calendar 2011 – to produce a recreational fishing calendar in 2011 that will display freshwater fishing rules and regulations with photographs for the calendar submitted by the recreational fishing community. | NSW DPI | \$10,000 FW | | | |

Platform: Research on fish and recreational fishing

| Project Title | Organisation | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 |
|--|---|-----------|-----------|----------|---------|
| Saltwater Trust | | | | | |
| Evaluating the recreational fisheries of Recreational Fishing Havens and other key recreationally-fished estuaries in NSW – to assess long term changes in Recreational Fishing Havens and key recreational fishing species. | NSW DPI | \$139,788 | \$146,743 | \$75,278 | |
| Profiling the Biology and Fishery of Rock Blackfish (Girella elevata) in the Sydney Region – to obtain baseline life history information for the management of rock blackfish. | NSW DPI | \$57,615 | \$58,699 | \$36,826 | |
| Movements of Key Recreational Angling Species in the Sydney Region - to determine the movements, residence times, habitat interactions and pathways of movements of key recreational fish species in Sydney Harbour and adjacent waters. | NSW DPI | \$50,000 | | | |
| Monitoring and Research on Landed Fish at Game Fishing Tournaments in NSW: 2009/2010 – to conduct ongoing formal research, sampling and monitoring program of game fishing tournaments in NSW. | Pepperell Research & Consulting Pty Ltd | \$25,500 | | | |
| Small Projects | | | | | |
| Provision of an Annual Report for the Gamefish Tagging Program for 2008/2009 – To produce and provide an annual report of the NSW Gamefish Tagging program for 2008/09 which will contain full tagging and recapture details for distribution to the angling community (small grant). | Pepperell Research & Consulting Pty Ltd | \$7,000 | | | |

| Project Title | Organisation | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 |
|--|--------------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Freshwater Trust | | | | | |
| Spawning sites and reproductive behaviour of Murray cod in upland and lowland riverine habitats in the northern Murray-Darling River System. Note: ACoRF provided seed funding to cover operational expenditure for year 1 of the program and to leverage funds from other sources such as FRDC (for the remaining costs). | NSW DPI | \$50,000 | | | |
| A longitudinal study of Nodavirus infection in Australian bass – to sample a batch of Nodavirus positive fish at regular intervals until they reach sexual maturity and to determine whether and how the virus is passed onto the progeny of that batch. | NSW DPI | \$19,200 | \$20,450 | \$22,500 | |
| Evaluation of the status of Nodavirus-carrying Australian bass in NSW waterways – to determine the incidence of Nodavirus in wild juvenile Australian bass populations and to review the testing of Nodavirus in bass hatcheries based on these results. | NSW DPI | \$63,150 | | | |

Platform: Recreational Fishing Enhancement Programs

| Project Title | Organisation | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Freshwater Trust | | | | | |
| Installation of secondary recirculation unit at Dutton Trout Hatchery – to install a second re-circulation system in the main hatching shed room using existing 6 x 2,500 litre tanks (total 15,000L) to increase the amount of chilled / temperature controlled water in the hatchery used to house fish for stocking. | NSW DPI | \$38,250 | | | |
| Supporting Fish Hatchery Trainees – to cover accommodation expenses at Narrandera for work experience students at the Narrandera Fish Hatchery. | NSW DPI | \$5,000 | \$5,000 | \$5,000 | |
| Gaden Trout Hatchery funding proposal - this will provide funding for the ongoing operation of the hatchery, including staff salaries and operating costs. This amount does not include capital expenditure. <i>Note: RFFTEC supported a 3% incremental increase in funding from 2010/11 to 2012/13 to account for CPI increases.</i> | NSW DPI | | \$429,510 | \$442,395 | \$455,667 |
| Manilla Native Fish Hatchery for Golden Perch upgrade – improvements to hatchery plumbing / infrastructure to meet new DPI Hatchery Quality Assurance Requirements (small grant). | Manilla Fishing Club and Hatchery Inc | \$10,000 | | | |

Table 2 – New Trust Project Applications deferred by RFSTEC, RFFTEC AND ACORF (note: all Aquatic habitat protection and rehabilitation programs were deferred to the Habitat Action Program for consideration in the 2009/10 funding round)

Platform: Aquatic habitat protection and rehabilitation

| Project Title | Organisation | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 |
|---|--|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| Saltwater Trust | | | | | |
| Protecting the Future of Saltmarsh in the Clarence Catchment - to improve the condition and secure the long-term health of remaining saltmarsh areas and provide the on-ground tools and rehabilitation and protection techniques. | WetlandCare Australia | \$96,135 | | | |
| Fish Fillets in the Hastings Catchment – to increase the health and quality of the Hastings River by restoration of the riparian habitat and promote the establishment of the mangrove habitats critical to many recreational species. | WetlandCare Australia | \$79,994 | | | |
| Repairing fish habitat in the Hastings River- to prevent the continual decline in critical saltmarsh and mangrove communities along the Hastings River and improve the water quality by fencing off cattle and horses from critical areas. | OceanWatch Australia Ltd | \$72,680 | \$9,000 | | |
| Breaming with fish habitat – Stage 2 salt marsh expansion at Pemberton Street, Parramatta – to expand an area of saltmarsh and provide a valuable size breeding area for fish and other aquatic organisms and the removal of sediment adjacent to the mangrove zone. | Parramatta City Council | \$31,450 | | | |
| Mangrove and Riparian Rehabilitation, Scott’s Creek, Manning Estuary –to install rock filllets to encourage bank stability through mangrove and riparian rainforest regeneration over 400m of riverbank and to erect stock proof fence and replant native riparian rainforest. | Paul and Liz Brennan – individual | \$25,000 | | | |
| Improving sustainable recreational fishing by protecting and regenerating 0.7 km of the Manning River estuary – to provide regeneration of 0.70kms of mangroves along the Manning river Estuary by the installation of a permanent fence. | Peter Brame / Greater Taree City Council | \$9,980 | | | |
| Improving sustainable recreational fishing by regenerating 5 km of mangrove forest in the Manning River estuary – to provide regeneration of 5kms of mangroves along the Manning river Estuary by the installation of a permanent fence. | Ross Anderson / Greater Taree City Council | \$9,900 | | | |
| One Tree Reach Wetland Restoration Stage 2 – to investigate the presence and extent of acid sulphate soils in the wetland and commence remediation to improve wetland habitat. | Hornsby Shire Council | \$5,250 | | | |
| Freshwater Trust | | | | | |
| Nymboida River Project - Riparian Vegetation for Fish – to rehabilitate riparian vegetation along a 5km stretch of the Nymboida River in the upper Clarence catchment, to investigate indigenous fishing knowledge of the area, to develop advisory material and signage & hold a community information session about the program. | Clarence Landcare Inc | \$77,460 | | | |
| Nundle Riverside Project – Stage 1: Peel River Riparian Rehabilitation – to rehabilitate riparian vegetation along a 400m stretch of the Peel River in the upper Namoi catchment. | Nundle Community Dev.Comm. | \$14,850 | | | |
| Enhancement of recreational fishing community and habitat in Lake Canobolas – to emplace large woody debris within the bed of Lake Canobolas to improve juvenile fish habitat | Orange Trout Acclimatisation Soc | \$8,278 | | | |
| Deua River Riparian Habitat Rehabilitation 2009 - to rehabilitate riparian vegetation along an 8km stretch of the Deua River catchment. | Deua Rivercare | \$9,700 | | | |

Platform: Fishing access and facilities (note: the following fishing access and facilities programs were deferred to the DPI Infrastructure Manager for further development and investigation of additional funding sources.

| Project Title | Organisation | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 |
|--|---|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| Saltwater Trust | | | | | |
| Pontoon for the Woolli River at the boat Ramp and fish cleaning table upgrade – installation of a floating pontoon alongside the boat ramp at Woolli, project also involves a minor upgrade to the fish cleaning table. | Woolli Minnie Water Fishing Club | \$19,000 | | | |
| Increased signage and measuring stations for The Entrance and Brisbane Water – to design a statewide standard fish measuring station that displays current NSW rules and regulations but also has space for localised issues and information. | NSW DPI | \$10,000 | | | |
| Iluka Fish Cleaning Table (extension, resurface and roof) – to extend the existing fish cleaning table, add a roof and also resurface the table with stainless steel. <i>Note: A duplicate application was also received from a local recreational fisher (see below).</i> | Iluka Fishing Club | \$8,000 | | | |
| Roof for Iluka fish cleaning table – to add a roof to the existing fish cleaning table in Iluka. <i>Note: A duplicate application was also received from a local fishing club.</i> | Mr W.E. Ray – individual | \$4,000 | | | |
| Improve the boat ramp at Lakeview Parade Pelican (pre-proposal) – to make improvements to the boat ramp at Pelican. | Pelican RSL Fishing Club | | | | |
| Replacement of disabled access ramp to breakwall adjacent to Wall Street, North Haven (pre-proposal) – to replace a concrete ramp that provides access to a popular fishing spot. | Mr Neville Smith – Jacaranda Caravan Park | | | | |

Platform: Recreational fishing education

| Project Title | Organisation | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1st Swansea Cub Pack Level 2 Fishing Badge & Awareness - to educate Swansea Cub Pack about fishing methods, rules and regulations and sustainability. <i>Note: The Committee requested that the program be included in the NSW DPI community fishing workshop program.</i> | 1 st Swansea Scout Group | \$3,620 SW | | | |

Platform: Recreational fishing enhancement programs

| Project Title | Organisation | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Bellingen Eel Fishing Championships – provide good quality hooks for the Bellingen Eel Fishing Championships. <i>Note: Complimentary hooks to be provided through the NSW DPI Tournament Management Program.</i> | Bellingen Eel Fishing Championships | \$200 SW | \$200 SW | \$200 SW | |

Platform: various

| Project Title | Organisation | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 |
|--|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------|---------|
| Manning River Recreational Fishing Support Project – projects consists of multiple components including habitat rehabilitation, community education, research and fish cleaning table. <i>Note: The Committee requested the application be referred to the Infrastructure Grants Manager for reworking and clarification of specific program components and subsequent referral to other funding bodies.</i> | Greater Taree City Council | \$75,575 SW | \$25,000 SW | | |

Table 3 – New Trust Project Applications not supported by RFSTEC, RFFTEC AND ACORF

Platform: Fishing access and facilities

| Project Title | Organisation | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 |
|--|---|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Saltwater Trust | | | | | |
| Annual Membership of Recfish Australia (Joint Saltwater/Freshwater project) – membership fees for the national recreational fishing organisation, Recfish Australia. <i>Note: The Committees expressed concern about the lack of future funding from other states and requested that Recfish Australia provide a business plan with a preferred model for future operation and management following their Annual General meeting.</i> | Recfish Australia | \$40,000 | \$40,000 | \$40,000 | |
| Faulks Reserve (Ballina) Recreational Fishing Access Pontoon – to install a 2.5 x 8 metre pontoon adjacent to the boat ramp for recreational boat tie up. <i>Note: The Committee recommended that alternative funding be sought from the Maritime Infrastructure Program (MIP).</i> | Ballina Shire Council | \$39,000 | | | |
| Dredging sand to provide safe and easy access for rescue vessels at the RVCP Base, Point Clare – dredging built up sand from the area in front of the RVCP base to allow for safe and convenient access for rescue boats in all tide and weather conditions. <i>Note: The Committee recommended that alternative funding be sought from the Maritime Infrastructure Program (MIP) and local council. It was noted that dredging was classified as low priority in the Trust application package.</i> | Central Coast Division – RVCP | \$16,700 | | | |
| Sea Camera (Bar Tomago River) – to provide a web camera overlooking the Tomago River entrance sand bar to improve safety of bar crossings. <i>Note: The Committee recommended that alternative funding be sought from the Maritime Infrastructure Program (MIP). It was noted that Maritime are proposing a similar project statewide.</i> | Tomakin Sports and Social Club Fishing Club | \$10,000 | | | |
| Shark Bay Picnic Area Access Track – remove and rebuild an access track to a popular fishing spot. <i>Note: The Committee noted that the project would provide minimal direct benefits for recreational fishing.</i> | Richmond Valley Council | \$10,000 | | | |
| Weigh station, lighting and winch replacement – repair and replace weathered weigh station equipment. <i>Note: The Committee was concerned about public access to the weigh station and noted that the project should be the responsibility of the game fishing club.</i> | Newcastle and Port Stephens Game Fish Club Ltd. | \$8,479 | | | |
| Breaking Down the Barriers – to construct two advisory education shelters promoting sustainable fishing practices. <i>Note: The Committee noted that the project should be the responsibility of the NSW Marine Parks Authority.</i> | NSW DPI | \$5,666 | | | |

| Project Title | Organisation | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|
| Freshwater Trust | | | | | |
| <p>Centennial Square Education Centre, Centennial Parklands – to modify an existing fence line around a fishing pontoon, install a workshop to house fishing gear, purchase a fishing advisory trailer, purchase of fishing gear /equipment, construct an outdoor fishing kitchen, design fishing training resources, purchase audio/visual equipment & dispose of carp at the Sydney Fish Markets.</p> <p><i>Note: The program was not considered beneficial to recreational anglers.</i></p> | Centennial Parklands Foundation | \$115,000 | | | |
| <p>Walka Water Works Shelter – to install a shade structure / shelter over an existing table & chair abutting the Walka Works water body to provide shade for users of the water body.</p> <p><i>Note: The program was not considered beneficial to recreational anglers.</i></p> | Maitland City Council | \$10,000 | | | |
| <p>Site specific signage for Gwydir River, Bingara – to install 6 band and size limit signs in the public reserve area near the township of Bingara, along the Gwydir River downstream of Copeton Dam.</p> <p><i>Note: The Committee recommended the installation of generic DPI bag and size limit signage at this location through the current freshwater recreational management program.</i></p> | Bingara Anglers Club | \$4,976 | | | |
| <p>Fishing Platform: Glenreagh – to install a concrete platform and walkway on the bank of the Orara River near Glenreagh to replace a swimming / diving platform.</p> <p><i>Note: The Committee was concerned the proposed usage is not recreational fisheries specific.</i></p> | Glenreagh Progress Association Inc | \$5,853 | | | |

Platform: Recreational fishing education

| Project Title | Organisation | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 |
|--|---|-------------------|-------------------|---------|---------|
| <p>Recreational Fishing Education Strategy to Reduce the Spread of Marine Pests – to educate recreational boating and fishing sector about how to reduce the spread of marine pests.</p> <p><i>Note: The Committee noted that the project should be directly funded by NSW DPI as a core responsibility.</i></p> | NSW DPI | \$149,421 SW | | | |
| <p>Pittwater Council – educating local fishers and the community about recreational fish and other marine species – to provide educational materials about sustainable fishing and to build a fish cleaning table at Narrabeen Lagoon.</p> <p><i>Note: The Committee considered that recreational fishing information was already available and requested that the NSW DPI recreational fishing community education program provide additional information as required.</i></p> | Pittwater Council | \$8,800 SW | | | |
| <p>Electronic Newsletters for Recreational Fishers (Joint Saltwater/Freshwater project) – to produce and distribute three newsletters: Freshwater Fisher, Angler Action Newsletter and NSW Recfisher.</p> <p><i>Note: The Committee noted that funding for the program would set a precedent for similar newsletter publications for other fishing organisations.</i></p> | Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW | \$25,500 SW/FW | \$25,500 SW/FW | | |
| <p>Fish Safe and Sound Radio Program (Joint Saltwater/Freshwater project) – to establish a regular radio program to raise awareness of sustainable fishing practices in the Macedonian and Greek population of Sydney.</p> <p><i>Note: The Committee considered the program to be a commercial enterprise and therefore not eligible for funding from the Trust.</i></p> | Planina-Macedonian-Australian Fishing & Hunting Assn. | \$6,460 SW/FW | | | |
| <p>Fishers of Men: Caring for Community (pre-proposal) (Joint Saltwater/Freshwater project) – to provide “hook safe” devises to all licence holders.</p> <p><i>Note: The Committee considered the program to be a commercial enterprise and therefore not eligible for funding from the Trust.</i></p> | Mr Clive Doreian - individual | | | | |
| <p>Introduction to fly fishing – provision of fly fishing rods complete with reels and flyline to be used.</p> <p><i>Note: The Committee was concerned that the purchase of gear for these events may set a precedent for funding for funding of other fly fishing courses.</i></p> | Greenwells Fly Fishing Club Inc | \$2,400 FW | | | |
| <p>Central Coast Kids Freshwater Fish In Central Coast Freshwater Precinct Development workshop</p> <p><i>Note: The Committee considered that proposed itemised expenditure such as lighting, security, PA and site hire was inappropriate for funding from the Trust.</i></p> | Fishing Fellers Radio Program CoastFM | \$10,000 FW | | | |

Platform: Research on fish and recreational fishing

| Project Title | Organisation | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|---------|
| Saltwater Trust | | | | | |
| Developing stock enhancement for key recreational fisheries in New South Wales estuaries – to obtain essential biological and ecological information to allow immediate implementation of an effective recreational stock enhancement program in 2010/11 after the marine stocking EIA/EIS process has been finalised. <i>Note: The Committee noted the merit of the program and that this work will need to be undertaken in the future once future directions of the marine stocking program had been developed as part of the EIS/FMS process.</i> | University of New South Wales | \$233,056 | \$245,142 | | |
| Recreational Fisheries Research- to collect new information and provide new assistance to recreational fisheries surveys and assessments in NSW and to provide information to recreational anglers and the wider community. <i>Note: The Committee expressed concern about the low level of specific detail and program outcomes in the application.</i> | NSW DPI | \$92,524 | | | |
| Assessment of barotrauma and its mitigation measures on the behaviour and survival of offshore species in NSW – to investigate the effects of barotraumas on the behaviour and physiology of key recreational fish species in NSW using acoustic tagging and a hyperbaric chamber. <i>Note: The Committee noted there was potential overlap with the current DPI program being undertaken by Dr Matt Broadhurst (further clarification was required). The Committee also requested that contributing funding be investigated from FRDC for the program.</i> | NSW DPI | \$89,914 | \$155,616 | \$88,891 | |
| Great Australian Shark Count (NSW) or Shark Watch (NSW) – to monitor and report on details of sharks including species, date, location, time of sightings which will include specific information such as length, sex and behaviour issues. <i>Note: The Committee noted the merit of the program and recommended that partnership funding be sought from other states, spearfishing, conservation, SCUBA diving groups and also the Commonwealth.</i> | Australian Underwater Federation | \$71,000 | \$58,000 | \$58,000 | |
| Social network structure of grey nurse sharks along the New South Wales coast – to investigate the social structure of grey nurse sharks along the east coast of NSW using acoustic tagging telemetry on 33 individual sharks. <i>Note: The Committee noted that a large amount of tagging of grey nurse sharks was already being undertaken and that this program would have limited direct benefit for recreational fishers. It was also noted there may be linkage opportunities with other existing programs.</i> | Macquarie University | \$37,251 | | | |
| Engaging Stakeholders in Management of Shared Fisheries using Social Science Techniques – to address social-cultural issues surrounding the question of long term sustainability of recreational activity in NSW. <i>Note: The Committee noted that this program would have limited direct benefit for recreational fishers.</i> | University of Western Sydney | \$35,294 | | | |
| Assessment of Korogoro Creek as a nursery for the recreational fishing species dusky flathead and bream- to observe whether Korogoro Creek functions as a spawning ground and nursery for flathead and bream. <i>Note: The Committee noted that this program would have limited direct benefit for recreational fishers.</i> | Ms Gaye Hyson - individual | \$8,780 | \$4,200 | | |

| Project Title | Organisation | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 |
|---|----------------------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Freshwater Trust | | | | | |
| Life-skills training for hatchery-reared fish – to establish methods of boosting post release survival of hatchery reared fish by exposing fingerlings to predators prior to stocking to initiate an avoidance response. <i>Note: The Committee did not consider the program to be a recreational fisheries research priority at this time.</i> | Macquarie University | \$40,000 | \$40,000 | \$40,250 | |

Platform: Recreational Fishing Enhancement Programs

| Project Title | Organisation | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 |
|---|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Freshwater Trust | | | | | |
| Manning River Basscatch – seeking funding to publicise the bi-annual Manning River bass catch event, to erect a stall in the Manning Valley Archery Club Hall to promote the achievements of the bass catch program, to provide awards for tournament participants and to cover catering costs for bass catch events. <i>Note: The Committee advised that DPI should work with tournament organisers to assist with advertising / promotion and management of the Manning River Bass Catch event in the future, through the existing tournament management and scientific data collection programs.</i> | Wingham Anglers Club | \$3,000 | \$2,000 | \$2,000 | |