

**Recreational Fishing Freshwater Trust Expenditure Committee
Outcomes, Meeting 41
23-24 August 2012
Cronulla Fisheries Research Centre of Excellence**

RFFTEC Members

Bruce Schumacher	Chair, RFFTEC
Ron Butler	Region 2
Ron Croker	Region 3
Ian Ward	Region 4
Tom Williams	Region 5
Debbie Lennon	Region 6
Kevin McKinnon	Region 8

Meeting declared open at 9:00am

1. Chairs Welcome

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Max Graham Region 1, Richard Ping Kee Region 7

3. Confirmation of outcomes from previous RFFTEC meeting

The draft outcomes of the 40th RFFTEC meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record of that meeting. **Moved:** Kevin McKinnon. **Seconded:** Debbie Lennon. **Carried.**

4. Recreational Fishing Trust Report

The status of the Freshwater Trust was provided at the meeting. Trust revenue for 2011/12 was \$13.9 million. The committee was advised that it was now proposed to increase the recreational fishing fee on 1 May 2013. The proposed process for developing a new Trust investment plan beyond June 2013 was outlined, including the planning workshop process.

Action Item: The Chair of ACoRF and RFFTEC write to the Minister requesting a commitment to the licence fee increase on 1 May 2013 noting the loss in revenue from the delayed increase. **Moved:** Malcolm Poole (RFSTEC), **Seconded:** Debbie Lennon.

Action Item: DPI to provide a breakdown of funding provided from consolidated revenue for recreational fishing to assist with development of a new investment plan for the Recreational Fishing Trust. **Moved:** Malcolm Poole (RFSTEC), **Seconded:** John Burgess (RFSTEC)

Action Item: DPI to review the *ACoRF and Sub-Committees Procedures Manual* in relation to the following areas:

- The Committee requested that feedback from ACoRF be provided back to RFFTEC when expenditure committee recommendations are not supported by Council.
- Develop a register of interest for committee members to address potential conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest.
- Out of session funding assessment guidelines.

5. Recreational Fishing Trust Planning beyond 2012/13: Facilitated feedback sessions on major programs.

DPI provided a summary of the feedback sessions held during the Expenditure Committee meetings on 23 and 24 August. These sessions focussed on existing major Trust funded programs outlined below (many of which are jointly funded by the Saltwater and Freshwater Trusts). Program managers provided presentations on their respective programs which were followed by a discussion session where the Expenditure Committees were divided into small focus groups to discuss and provide feedback on each program, including successful aspects, areas of concern and limitations/gaps in each program.

Program areas:

- Recreational fishing communication (products) presentation – Bryan van der Walt
- Education presentation – Dee McElligott
- Freshwater Enhancement presentation – Cameron Westaway
- Fishing Safety (RFA & ANSA) presentation – Malcolm Poole, Bryan van der Walt
- Tournament Management & Gamefish tagging presentations – Phil Bolton
- Aquatic Habitat Rehabilitation presentation – Liz Baker, Kyle Russell
- Fishing Infrastructure and External grants presentation – Mel Bradbury
- Fee Administration and Trust Management presentation - Bryan van der Walt
- Compliance presentation – Glenn Tritton
- Aquatic Habitat Protection presentation – Sarah Fairfull
- Freshwater Research presentation – Bob Creese
- Recreational Fishing Access presentation - Brooke McCarthy, Alistair McBurnie

6. Action Items from RFFTEC Meeting 40

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

7. Review of new 2012/13 Trust Funding Applications

New Trust project applications (large and small grants) supported for funding by the Freshwater Trust are listed in Table 1. New Trust applications not supported for funding by the Freshwater Trust are listed in Table 2. New joint Trust applications not supported for funding by the Saltwater and Freshwater Trust are listed in Table 3.

8. Meeting closed:

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 1.00 pm

Action items from previous meetings

Action	Group Responsible	Status
For ACoRF to consider the issue of producing one recreational fishing guide in place of two fishing guides, as much of the advisory information contained within the guides appears to be replicated.	Rec Mgt / ACoRF	Completed
That NSW DPI explore the possibility of funding support for the Murray cod research project in the Border Rivers through the FRDC, as part of a broader study on the status and recruitment of Murray cod with the Murray Darling Basin.	Aquatic Ecosystems Research	Completed
That the issue of access to Prospect Reservoir for future recreational fishing is discussed at the next ACoRF meeting and that ACoRF consults with the Minister in future in relation to this matter.	Rec Mgt / ACoRF	Completed
For Mr Ron Butler to liaise with the Fisheries Manager regarding the content of advisory signage at Lake St Clair, to ensure consistency with fishing rules and other signage.	Region 2 rep / Singleton Fly Fishing Club / Rec Mgt	Completed
For Mr Kevin McKinnon to undertake an audit of fisheries advisory signage at Deniliquin in co-ordination with the District Fisheries Officer and Deniliquin Fishing Club to determine signage requirements and to liaise with the Fisheries Manager to ensure consistency with fishing rules and other signage.	Region 8 rep / Rec Mgt	Completed
For Mr Ron Croker to investigate the status of the project to affix balustrading to the dam walls at the Welby Dams in consultation with the Berrima District Acclimatisation Society and Wingecarribee Shire Council and any associated public risk assessment requirements of the project.	Region 3 rep / Rec Mgt	Completed

Action Items from this meeting

Action	Team responsible	Status
The Chair of ACoRF and RFFTEC write to the Minister requesting a commitment to the licence fee increase on 1 May 2013 noting the loss in revenue from the delayed increase.	ACoRF Chair	Completed
DPI to provide a breakdown of funding provided from consolidated revenue for recreational fishing to assist with development of a new investment plan for the Recreational Fishing Trust.	DPI	Completed
<p>DPI to review the <i>ACoRF and Sub-Committees Procedures Manual</i> in relation to the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee requested that feedback from ACoRF be provided back to RFFTEC when expenditure committee recommendations are not supported by Council. • Develop a register of interest for committee members to address potential conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest. • Out of session funding assessment guidelines. 	DPI	Completed

Table 1: New Trust Project Applications supported by RFFTEC for funding

Platform: Fishing access and facilities

Project Title and description	Organisation	Funds requested 2012/13
<p>Fish cleaning stations Wyangala Dam To install 3 fish cleaning stations at Wyangala Waters State Park at each boat ramp entry. Project supported. Moved Kevin McKinnon, Seconded Debbie Lennon.</p>	Wyangala Fishing Club	\$17,919
<p>Edward River fish identification signage [resubmitted application] To install fish identification signs at 10 boat ramps along the Edward River between Four Post Camp and Benarca Bend near Stevens Weir. Project supported to the amount of \$3,750, conditional to DPI approval of signage content. Moved Kevin McKinnon, Seconded Ian Ward</p>	Deniliquin RSL Fishing Club	<p>Funding requested \$5,616</p> <p>Note-Funding supported \$3,750</p>

Platform: Recreational fishing enhancement programs

Project Title and description	Organisation	Funds requested 2012/13	Funds requested 2013/14
<p>Supporting fish hatchery trainees To continue the capacity development program for work experience students at the Narrandera Fish Hatchery to build expertise in fish breeding technology. Project supported. Moved Ian Ward, Seconded Ron Croker.</p>	NSW DPI	\$5,000	\$5,000

Table 2: New Trust Project Applications not supported by RFFTEC

Platform: Fishing access and facilities

Project Title and description	Organisation	Funds requested 2012/13
<p>Chifley Dam fishing platform Following feedback from RFFTEC to an earlier pre-proposal, it is now proposed to construct a fishing platform adjacent to the Chifley Dam boat ramp providing access for disabled and able bodied anglers as well as improved access for children anglers. Project not supported due to concerns about potential changes in dam water levels. Moved Tom Williams, Seconded Ron Butler.</p>	Bathurst Regional Council	\$40,000

Platform: Fishing access and facilities

Project Title and description	Organisation	Funds requested 2012/13
Australian Bass Tournaments events assistance To provide assistance with two 2012 Australian Bass Tournament events, the season ending BASS Grand Final (Lake St Clair) and BASS Megabucks teams' event (Lake Glenbawn). Project not supported as the proposal was to fund a commercial venture. Moved Debbie Lennon, Seconded Ron Croker.	Australian Bass Tournaments Pty Ltd (ABT)	\$5,000

Table 3: New joint Trust Project Applications *not supported* by RFFTEC & RFSTEC**Platform: Recreational fishing education**

Project Title and description	Organisation	Funds requested 2012/13
Promotion of recreational fishing licences and safety on Cartoscope maps To advertise recreational fishing licences and fishing safety on 2 million tourist maps. Project not supported. Moved Malcolm Poole (RFSTEC), Seconded John Burgess (RFSTEC).	Cartoscope Pty Ltd	\$50,000