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Expression of Interest for recreational fishing representatives on advisory councils & committees

Expressions of Interest are invited from persons with expertise in various aspects of recreational fishing to be appointed to fill vacancies on the Recreational Fishing Saltwater Trust Expenditure Committee (RFSTEC), Advisory Council on Recreational Fishing (ACoRF) and Marine and Estuarine Recreational Charter Management Advisory Committee (MERCMAC). Potential applicants will also need to be knowledgeable of issues relating to recreational fishing and factors affecting recreational fish stocks.

RFSTEC provides advice on priorities for expenditure from the recreational fishing saltwater trust fund. Vacancies for positions on this committee include:

- Region 2 – Applicant must reside between Evans Head and Woolgoolga.
- Region 3 – Applicant must reside between Woolgoolga and Port Macquarie.
- Region 5 – Applicant must reside between Seal Rocks and The Entrance.
- Region 6b – Applicant must reside between The Entrance and Wollongong.
- Region 8 – Applicant must reside between Narooma and the Victorian border

ACoRF advises the Minister for Primary Industries on recreational fishery issues including maintaining and improving the quality of recreational angling in NSW. A vacancy exists for the Fishing Tackle Sales representative position. Applicants for this position must have expertise in the sale of fishing tackle.

MERCMAC advises the Minister for Primary Industries on issues relating to the management and administration of the charter fishing sector. The committee is seeking applications from people with expertise in Aboriginal Culture.

Expressions of Interest should clearly indicate the position(s) sought and include a resume detailing experience, knowledge and any affiliations relevant to the position(s), and be sent to: Recreational Fishing Committees – Confidential, Industry & Investment NSW, PO Box 21, Cronulla NSW 2230. Closing date for applications: Wednesday 16th June 2010. For further information visit the I&I NSW website: www.industry.nsw.gov.au or contact Nick James on (02) 9527 8474; email – nick.james@industry.nsw.gov.au.

Fishers for fish habitat forum

Recreational anglers with a passion for their sport and the rivers they love to fish are invited to join other like-minded anglers at the 2010 Fishers for Fish Habitat Forum in Lake Macquarie on the 4-5 June. The event is free and will feature information on sustaining the states fisheries for future generations and making more fish naturally through the rehabilitation of rivers, creeks and wetlands in NSW. Guest speakers from the USA will talk about their National Habitat Action Plan, which was largely angler driven, and a bus trip will be taken around the lower Hunter catchment to see habitat rehabilitation in action. The Forum is part of the Fishers for Fish Habitat project which is funded by the NSW Recreational Fishing Trusts. Registrations are now open and are required for administration and catering. To register go to www.industry.nsw.gov.au/fisheries or email fish.habitat@industry.nsw.gov.au or ring 02 6626 1107.

Toxic marine algal bloom: Wagonga Inlet

The South Coast Regional Algal Coordinating Committee has advised all residents in the Narooma area that Marine algal biotoxins exceeding food safety guidelines have been detected in shellfish from Wagonga Inlet. The type of biotoxin detected can cause Amnesic Shellfish Poisoning (ASP). Symptoms of ASP may include one or more of the following; vomiting, diarrhoea, confusion, memory loss, seizure, coma and in extreme circumstances permanent brain damage or death. To date, the levels of biotoxin detected in samples from Wagonga Inlet are not expected to result in illness in consumers. However toxin levels in shellfish can increase very quickly during an algal bloom. To protect public health, the Wagonga Inlet has been closed to all commercial shellfish harvest. Industry & Investment advises people to avoid collecting and eating wild shellfish (including oysters, mussels, cockles, pipis and scallops) in the Wagonga Inlet/Narooma areas. People are also advised to avoid contact with water and surf where water is discoloured or there is build up of foam. If any health effects are experienced from contact with affected water, or from consuming wild shellfish collected from these areas, medical advice should be promptly sought. This media alert only reports algal blooms that have been brought to the attention of the Regional Algal Coordinating Committee. Algal blooms may be present in other areas where there is no regular algal monitoring.

I&I NSW Game Fish Tagging Program

Program Summary and Report 2006 – 2008 - The Industry and Investment NSW Game Fish Tagging Program has been in operation since 1973. The following reports are available for anglers to view:

1973 -2005 historic summary of the Game Fish Tagging program

2006 – 2008 summary of the Game Fish Tagging program

To view the reports, please go to www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/recreational/saltwater/gamefish-tagging.

Tag Times Newsletter - Issue 2 now available - Produced by the I&I NSW Game Fish Tagging Program, the Tag Times Newsletter will be released regularly throughout the year and will provide interesting information and updates on releases, recaptures and any other developments relating to the program. To see the latest edition of Tag Times, please visit www.industry.nsw.gov.au.

Twofold Bay declared colonial sea squirt quarantine area

Movement restrictions to prevent the spread of a suspected exotic aquatic pest outbreak are now in place on the Far NSW South Coast. An annual inspection of Twofold Bay near Eden has revealed a suspected Colonial Sea Squirt (*Didemnum vexillum*) infestation on the main wharf of the bay. While I&I NSW are still awaiting final DNA confirmation of what species is present in Twofold Bay, I&I NSW have declared a quarantine area at the site to ensure any potential outbreak is contained. This Sea Squirt has not been previously detected in Australian waters and has the potential to alter marine fish habitats and smother local mussel and oyster stocks. Controls in place include vessel inspections and compliance with anti-fouling measures. To prevent the spread of this potential exotic pest, water users should inspect anchors, ropes and chains before leaving the area and dispose of any unusual plants or animals in a bin. The Colonial Sea Squirt forms large spongy clumps and can be generally recognised by its distinctive orange-yellow colour. If you find what you believe is a species which is not native to the area, take a photo if possible and report its location to aquatic.pests@industry.nsw.gov.au. For a full list of all movement restrictions in place in Twofold Bay in Eden visit www.industry.nsw.gov.au/info/seasquirt.

Freshwater fishing photo competition!

Don't miss your chance to have your photo featured in the 2011 freshwater fishing calendar. The twelve finalists will have their photos published in a calendar to be distributed free of charge to recreational fishers across NSW in 2011. This year the theme is *Reeling them in!* There are twelve great prize packs to be won and every entry receives a free fishing lure! The competition is easy to enter and open to everyone. You will need to include an entry form with your photo – visit the I&I NSW website www.industry.nsw.gov.au/fisheries and follow the links to *freshwater fishing* and the *calendar competition* to submit your form online or phone (02) 6763 1441 and have an entry form posted to you. Also register your interest, either on the website www.industry.nsw.gov.au or with I&I NSW on (02) 6763 1441 to receive your free copy of the 2011 freshwater fishing calendar. Entries close on 31 May 2010. The competition is proudly brought to you by the Recreational Freshwater Fishing Trust in conjunction with Industry & Investment NSW.

Good news for fishers – Lake Cargelligo restocked with 21,000 perch

Lake Cargelligo has received 21,000 golden perch - a great boost for the lake, which is now at 40 per cent capacity after being very low during the drought. The golden perch have been transported from the Narrandera hatchery as part of the NSW Government's efforts to restock the State's waterways with native fish. The restocking program, funded with considerable support from the recreational fishing licence trusts, has helped stock numerous catchments affected by the drought. More than 1.7 million fish will have been harvested at Narrandera Fisheries Centre this season, from December to April. As well as restocking Lake Cargelligo, Industry & Investment is also re-stocking: 10,000 silver perch to Lake Albert at Wagga Wagga; 20,000 golden perch to Carcoar Dam near Blayney; 80,000 golden perch and 20,000 silver perch to Glenbawn Dam near Scone; and 20,000 silver perch and 30,000 golden perch to Glennies Creek Dam near Singleton.