



# Newscast



An information bulletin for recreational fishers

Edition 57, December 2007

## **Expressions of Interest for recreational fishing committee representatives**

Expressions of Interest are invited from persons with expertise in recreational fishing to be appointed to fill upcoming vacancies on the Advisory Council on Recreational Fishing (ACoRF), Recreational Fishing Freshwater and Saltwater Trust Expenditure Committees (RFSTEC and RFFTEC), and the Marine and Estuarine Recreational Charter Management Advisory Committee (MERCMAC).

**ACoRF and MERCMAC:** Potential members should have specific expertise in one of the following areas: freshwater, estuary, offshore and/or underwater fishing, commercial fishing, indigenous fishing, charter fishing, sale of fishing tackle, the media (reporting on fishing), as well as knowledge of issues relating to recreational fishing and factors affecting recreational fish stocks. **Closing date for ACoRF and MERCMAC applications is 22 December 2007.**

Positions on RFSTEC/RFFTEC represent NSW regional areas.

**RFSTEC:** Region 1 - Queensland border to Evans Head, Region 4 – Port Macquarie to Taree, Region 6 – The Entrance to Wollongong, Region 7 – Wollongong to Narooma and representatives of major fishing organisations.

**RFFTEC:** Region 1 – North Coast, Region 4 – North Inner West, Region 5 – Central Inner West, Region 7- North West, Region 8 – South West and representatives of major fishing organisations.

**Closing date for RFFTEC and RFSTEC applications is 29 December 2007.**

Please indicate the Council/Committee for which you are applying. Expressions of Interest should include a resume detailing experience, knowledge and any affiliations relevant to the position sought, and sent to:

**Recreational Fishing Committees – Confidential**  
**NSW DPI – Fisheries**  
**PO Box 21**  
**CRONULLA NSW 2230**

For further information visit the NSW DPI website: [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au) or contact Mr Nick James on (02) 9527 8474 or email: [nick.james@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:nick.james@dpi.nsw.gov.au)

## **Trout back on the menu**

Trout streams in NSW opened on the October long weekend 2007, and will remain open until the end of the June 2008 long weekend. The opening marks the end of the annual spawning run when trout travel up rivers and streams to breed.

## **Going fishing for Murray Cod?**

It is timely to remind freshwater fishers about the changes to the NSW fishing rules for Murray cod. From 1 December 2007, the minimum legal length for Murray cod will increase to 55 cm and fishers can keep only one fish that is more than 100 cm in length. There is a daily bag limit of two per person and a total possession limit of four per person from either rivers or dams. Set lines are now banned but fishers can use two attended lines in all inland waters except for areas closed to fishing and some notified trout waters. Detailed information on freshwater fishing rules can be found on the NSW DPI website: [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries) or at your local fisheries office.

Already, 263,000 Murray cod fry and fingerlings, bred at NSW DPI Narrandera hatchery, have been released as part of the NSW Government's fish stocking program. Another 201,000 were stocked through the Dollar-for-Dollar scheme funded by the NSW recreational fishing fee and community groups.

General information 1300 550 474

Agent enquiries or for changing contact details: 02 9527 8589, Fax 02 9527 8409

[www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/recreational](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/recreational)

### **Redeployment of FADs (Fish Aggregating Devices)**

A total of 20 fish aggregating devices (FADs) have been redeployed along the NSW coast for the summer season, after being removed for winter maintenance. The Eden FAD will be redeployed soon. You can obtain FAD locations (GPS coordinates) and the best access points on the NSW DPI FADs webpage at: [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/recreational/fads](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/recreational/fads).

### **Sydney's Desalination Project Marine Construction Areas**

Sydney's Desalination Project is part of the NSW Government Strategy to secure Sydney's water supply for future generations. Small marine exclusion areas to enable marine construction have been established on the oceanside of Kurnell near the southern headland of Botany Bay. Buoys will mark the construction zones to restrict entry and reduce boat speed during the marine construction phase. These exclusion zones are now in place for 12 months. More information can be found at [www.sydneywater.com.au](http://www.sydneywater.com.au).

### **Major Abalone seizure on the far South Coast**

A lengthy surveillance operation by NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Fisheries Officers has resulted in the arrest of an Eden man, and the seizure of around 900 abalone. The blacklip abalone found in a freezer, have an estimated value of around \$15,000. This offence carries a maximum penalty of \$11,000, three months imprisonment or both. In addition to the abalone, Fisheries Officers also seized a chest freezer, a set of scales, abalone tools and a large quantity of diving gear. The recreational bag limit for abalone is two per person. DPI urges all members of the community who witness abalone thieves in action or who know of people involved in the illegal trade of abalone to contact the Fisher's Watch Line on 1800 043 536 or their local Fisheries Officer. All information received is kept strictly confidential.

### **Fishcare Volunteers needed for Sydney**

Keen fishers are invited to join the NSW Government's successful Fishcare Volunteer Program, which has 300 volunteers State-wide. Fishcare Volunteers play a vital role in promoting awareness and do a terrific job advising anglers about the rules and values of sustainable recreational fishing in NSW. Anyone with a passion for recreational fishing and who is able to give one day per month can join this important community program helping to promote good fishing practice in NSW. Volunteers take part in kids fishing workshops and collect fishing information by conducting surveys. But they do not have any enforcement powers. The program is funded by the Recreational Fishing trust.

A two-day training session is planned for the weekend of 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> February 2007 at the NSW DPI Cronulla site. Training will include presentations by DPI staff about recreational fishing, rules and regulations, conservation, research and communicating the rules of sustainable fishing to anglers. There is also a TAFE training component in fish biology and identifying fish species and participants will receive a Statement of Attainment in Fishcare. For more information contact Kerrie Deguara on phone numbers: 9527 8526 or 0438 162 610, or email: [fishcare.fisheries@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:fishcare.fisheries@dpi.nsw.gov.au).

### **Reminder to all Agents**

To order additional receipt payment material and recreational fishing advisory information, contact DPI recreational licensing team on (02) 9527 8589 or fax your order to (02) 9527 0034.

To be added to the **Newscast** electronic mailing list, please send your email address to [fisheries.newscast@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:fisheries.newscast@dpi.nsw.gov.au).