

Minister's Recreational Fishing Advisory Council

Communique

Tuesday, 3 November 2020

The Minister's Recreational Fishing Advisory Council held its fifth meeting on Thursday 29 October 2020. The meeting was facilitated by the Council Chair, Ms Sharon Starick.

Representation outcomes

- The results of the recreational fishing priority survey will be published to the website
- The MRFAC will continue the development of a Recreational Fishing Strategy for South Australia. The strategic plan will be based upon the results of the MRFAC Recreational Fishing Priorities Survey and will be delivered prior to 1 July 2021.
- The MRFAC has provided advice and recommendations to the Snapper Management Advisory Committee (Snapper MAC) on the management arrangements to implement the Total Allowable Recreational Catch (TARC), through the nominated representative Mr Graham Keegan. The recommendations include:
 - Rejection of the use of tags in the 2021 season
 - A daily bag limit of two Snapper per person
 - Mandatory Snapper catch reporting through PIRSA South Australian Recreational Fishing App
- The MRFAC have requested an options paper outlining a risk assessment on interactions between Dolphins and Recreational fishers within the Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary.
- The MRFAC reviewed a number of concerns raised by numerous members of the recreational fishing community regarding Yellowtail Kingfish stocks, catch and data. After consideration, the MRFAC will write to Minister Basham to voice concerns with the current season and catch levels and outlining that the MRFAC will monitor additional information that becomes available, on both commercial and recreational fishing effort, with a view to provide the Minister with some recommendations.
- The MRFAC have provided two recreational fishing representatives to participate in the Seafood Advisory Forum, Mr Jamie Crawford & Mr Bryan Stokes. The Forum consists of representatives from commercial fishing, charter boat fishing, recreational fishing, Aboriginal traditional fishing and aquaculture to facilitate strong and effective communication between all sectors. It also includes expertise-based positions in the areas of marketing and sales, chef/restaurateurs, retail, fish processing, industry development, training and skills. The Forum will outline a 10 year plan for growth and development of the seafood industry in South Australia.

Council notes for future discussion

- The MRFAC will explore the best way for to assist marine and freshwater regions in accessing funding from the Boating Camping and Facilities fund.
- Murray Cod 2021 stocking and event planning will be drafted in consultation with the MRFAC and the Murray Cod Stock Enhancement working group.
- The MRFAC will explore the options available to better manage and resource the South Australian recreational fishing community, including recreational fishing licence and registration frameworks.
- The MRFAC will support SARDI in undertaking a Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC) funded South Australian recreational fishing catch and effort survey.

The members of the Minister's Recreational Fishing Advisory Council are:

- Sharon Starick (Independent Chair)
- Peter Teakle
- David Scholefield
- Amanda Whitehorn
- Bryan Stokes
- Andrew Smith
- Alicia Bolitho
- Lee van Soest
- Rob Wilson
- Michael Wilson