

Recreational Fishing Trust Investment Plan 2024/25 – 2026/27

December 2025

Vision

Deliver a wide range of programs to boost recreational fishing opportunities in NSW.

Goals

- Innovative projects to boost recreational fishing tourism opportunities.
- Promotion of recreational fishing as a healthy, outdoors activity for the whole family.
- Educating fishers to fish responsibly and safely.
- Promoting the sustainable growth of recreational fishing.

Background

All money raised by the NSW Recreational Fishing Licence Fee is placed into the Recreational Fishing Trusts and spent on improving recreational fishing in NSW.

Over **3,400** projects have been funded from recreational fishing licence fees in NSW since 2001 and many of these have been completed. These include Recreational Fishing, Habitat Action, Community Native Fish Stocking (formerly Dollar-for-Dollar Stocking), Fuel Card Assistance, Gone Fishing Day grants, and DPIRD projects.

This Investment Plan provides a guide on expenditure of funds on projects in key priority areas from the NSW Recreational Fishing Trusts over the current three-year period (refer to tables 1-7 below). **Error! Reference source not found.** New projects to take account of any new emerging priorities for expenditure of Trust funds are periodically added to this Plan following each funding round.

A range of partners are undertaking the projects in this Plan, including DPIRD, other government organisations, fishing clubs, community groups and universities. The NSW Government also continues to contribute funding from general state revenue every year to manage and improve recreational fishing in NSW.

The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing [October 2025]. However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that the information upon which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the DPIRD or the user's independent adviser.

Priority areas for funding opportunities

1. Fishing enhancement – e.g. fish aggregating devices, artificial reefs, fish stocking.
2. Education – e.g. fishing workshops, Fishcare volunteers, schools education, fishing advisory, increasing participation in recreational fishing.
3. Fishing access and facilities – e.g. fishing platforms, cleaning tables, safety infrastructure & other facilities, protecting fishing access.
4. Aquatic habitat rehabilitation – e.g. habitat action grants to improve fish habitat.
5. Research on recreational fishing – e.g. fishing surveys, stock assessment, angler catch projects.
6. Enforcement of fishing rules – fisheries officers.

What have Trust investment plans delivered on?

Fast facts:

- Boosted stocking in creeks and dams to around 5 million native fish and trout and salmon each year.
- Offshore artificial reefs constructed off Sydney, Shoalhaven Heads, Port Macquarie, Southern Sydney ("JD" reef), Merimbula, Newcastle, Wollongong, Tweed Heads, Batemans Bay, Terrigal and Forster. More reefs to follow soon.
- Fish aggregating devices deployed at 34 locations each year to boost angler catch.
- Around 100 schools and 2,000 kids participating in 'Get Hooked...it's fun to fish' program each year.
- Over 400 fish habitat grants have been provided to remove barriers to fish migration, replanting riverbank vegetation and restoring water flows.
- Fish cleaning tables and fishing platforms constructed each year.
- A large network of Fishcare Volunteers out and about promoting responsible fishing.

Previous Investment Plans can be downloaded from -

www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/recreational-fishing-fee/licence-fees-at-work

Applying for funding

Two major rounds of funding are advertised each year by DPIRD calling for applications.

Anyone can apply for funding from the Trusts, including fishing clubs, community groups, councils and educational institutions. More information on how to apply for funding can be found at www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/recreational-fishing-fee/licence-fees-at-work/apply-for-funds

Partnerships and linkages

It is recognised that some projects can benefit other sectors such as commercial and Aboriginal fishing, conservation, boating, etc. DPIRD will work with project applicants to identify and leverage funding where there is overlap of benefits and encourage various sector groups to collaborate to boost potential outcomes of projects. Joint funding arrangements are actively encouraged.

Assessment

Applications are carefully assessed against a range of eligibility and assessment criteria which are outlined in the 'Recreational Fishing Trusts Funding Guidelines'. The Guidelines provide general criteria that apply to all applications and platform specific criteria which applicants are required to meet.

Angler committees provide recommendations to the Minister's Recreational Fishing NSW Advisory Council which in turn provides advice to the Minister for Agriculture. Successful projects are promoted in the media to advise fishers about new and ongoing projects to benefit recreational fishing.

Financial accountability

It is important that the Trusts are accountable to the community for how Trust funds are spent. DPIRD carries out periodic surveys of recreational fishing licence holders to ensure that the broad funding priorities are in line with angler expectations. Trust financial statements are published on the DPIRD website. Independent audits of the Trusts are also undertaken periodically.

Table 1: Summary of projects approved for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trusts 2024/25 – 2026/27.

Platform: Fishing access and facilities

Note: SW and FW denote the Saltwater and Freshwater Trusts, respectively. Amounts shown are the approved funds for each project.

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Allworth Fishing Jetty Refurbishment Major refurbishment of timber jetty including structural components, all past useful life and in urgent need of replacement. These works will complement the scheduled upgrade of the adjoining boat ramp and pontoon (LRCI) funded.	MidCoast Council		\$101,302 SW	\$0	\$0
Berry Jerry Lagoon Track upgrade (Murrumbidgee R) A project to improve a flood damaged track and gate system that leads to a large reserve system at Berry Jerry Lagoon. The improvements will increase access to 2 km of the Murrumbidgee River and provide large boat access to an established earthen boat launch.	Southwest Anglers Association		\$8,350 FW	\$0	\$0
Eight-person Fish Cleaning Table at Apex Park Laurieton The removal of the old, dilapidated table and replacement with a new eight-person fish cleaning table. Includes faucets connected to potable water supply.	Port Macquarie Hastings Council		\$39,250 SW	\$0	\$0
Eight-person Fish Cleaning Table at McInherney Park Port Macquarie The removal of the old, dilapidated table and replacement with a new eight-person fish cleaning table. Includes faucets connected to potable water supply.	Port Macquarie Hastings Council		\$39,250 SW	\$0	\$0

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Fishing Upgrade iNfrastructure Across Shoalhaven 2024-26 (FUN-AS 3) Repair, refurbishment and upgrade of <u>FIVE</u> old recreational fishing platforms across the Shoalhaven region for increased resilience to storms and flooding, with significantly improved accessibility for locals and visiting tourists. The project includes five subprojects.	Shoalhaven City Council		\$375,000 SW	\$0	\$0
Harwood Island Fishing Club Shade Shelter To build a shelter over the existing fish cleaning table that does not have any protection from the sun or inclement weather, and install a stainless steel cover to the existing concrete table top for health reasons.	Harwood Island Fishing Club Inc.		\$7,525 SW	\$0	\$0
Keeping Recreational Fishing Access on Sydney Harbour Wharves & Piers Sydney Harbour's 50 ferry wharves network and Walsh Bay piers are the most valuable access asset to recreational fishers in the Sydney region, providing safe and convenient fishing platforms for everyone. Given their huge popularity, there is unfortunately ongoing anti-social behaviour by some recreational fishers. This project involves facilitating Water Police patrols at night to provide a highly visual deterrent on the wharves and piers and to promote fishers to behave respectfully and to be courteous to ferry commuters and other user groups. The project also involves some cleaning services for the Walsh Bay piers. These funds are disbursed to Transport for NSW which manages the patrols in consultation with Water Police.		DPIRD Fisheries (in partnership with Transport for NSW)	\$250,000 SW	\$250,000 SW	\$250,000 SW
Lake Lyell Fishing Access Upgrade A project to enhance and retain foot-based angler access for recreational fishers with limited ability to the Farmers Creek arm of Lake Lyell.	Wallerawang CAS		\$8,500 FW	\$0	\$0

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Maintaining and enhancing angler access in inland NSW Great fishing depends on accessing great places to fish! In order to ensure NSW's 1 million + recreational fishers enjoy great fishing now and into the future, DPIRD's Angler Access team delivers a range of projects to maintain and enhance access to inland NSW recreational fisheries. Key priorities of our two person team include identifying new access opportunities, maintenance and promotion of the Angler Access website, assessment and input into public road and land closures/acquisitions, actively encouraging responsible fishing and stewardship via the Angler Access Code of Conduct, developing and implementing an Angler Access Action Plan and working with land managers and partner agencies to promote the benefits of well-managed access to provide diverse angling opportunities.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$378,251 FW	\$390,322 FW	\$401,530 FW
Maintenance of Spencer Park Floating Jetty/Fishing Platform To assist the management of the new Spencer Park Merimbula Floating Jetty adjacent to the Merimbula Big Game & Lakes Angling Club Inc's Club house at Merimbula. The new jetty is a very popular community facility, now used daily by both local and visiting anglers as a fishing platform.	Merimbula Big Game & Lakes Angling Club Inc.		\$2,890 SW	\$0	\$0

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Recreational fishing access – maintaining and enhancing land and boat access for fishers along the NSW coast Great fishing depends on accessing great places to fish! In order to ensure NSW's 1 million + recreational fishers enjoy great fishing now and into the future, DPIRD's Angler Access team delivers a range of projects to maintain and enhance access to NSW recreational fisheries. Key priorities of the Coastal Access Officer include identifying new access opportunities, assessment and input into National Parks plans of management, actively encouraging responsible fishing and stewardship via the Angler Access Code of Conduct, and working with land managers and partner agencies to promote responsible fishing while fishers are interacting with the many other water user groups on our busy coastal waterways.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$208,204 SW	\$214,000 SW	\$219,300 SW
Replace fishing platform Lintern St Wharf, DAVISTOWN. NSW 2251 To replace an aging wooden fishing platform at Davistown with marine/weather durable material including a pedestrian bridge. The project will enable people with disabilities to better access the facility.	Davistown Progress Association Inc.		\$11,035 SW	\$0	\$0
Sandy Point - Fisherman's Bend Platform To reconstruct a failing retaining wall to allow better and safer access to the Fisherman's Bend Platform and the Sandy Point boat ramp.	Hay Shire Council		\$98,300 FW	\$0	\$0
Tumbulgum village fish cleaning facility To provide the local community & tourists with a quality fish cleaning facility to go alongside the existing boat ramp and jetty with disabled access. This facility will give the village a facility that complies with the DPIRD rules for cleaning fish.	Tumbulgum Fishing Club Inc.		\$26,210 SW	\$0	\$0

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Introduce Beach Fishing to BWSP by creating an accessible walking track for all visitors To make beach fishing accessible to all park visitors by building an accessible walking track, connecting a central point within the park to the beach frontage.	Belmont Wetlands State Park		\$0	\$8,060 SW	\$0
South Terrace Boat Ramp Fish Cleaning Table & Shelter Upgrade Upgrade the deteriorating fish cleaning table at Wooli Terrace Boat Ramp with a new accessible fish cleaning table and shelter that meets community expectations.	Clarence Valley Council		\$0	\$11,987 SW	\$0
Riverside Park wharf upgrade Replacement of existing decking reaching end of life, and reinstallation of accessibility buffers at Riverside Park wharf in Moruya.	Eurobodalla Shire Council		\$0	\$16,606 SW	\$0
Greenwell Point Boat Ramp Access Upgrade and Facilities Enhancement To improve boat ramp access, angler safety and all-weather cleaning areas.	Greenwell Point Recreational Fishing Club		\$0	\$14,410 SW	\$0
Tea Gardens Fishing Jetty Upgrade To upgrade the existing fishing jetty, including the replacement of the jetty decking and other associated works to improve fishing access in Tea Gardens.	MidCoast Council		\$0	\$41,640 SW	\$0
2 Fish Cleaning Tables for Red Rock Reserve Construct new cleaning tables to offer more controlled disposal of fish waste and provide essential facilities for fishers.	NSW Crown Holiday Parks Land Manager - Reflections Red Rock		\$0	\$17,544 SW	\$0
Bendalong, Berringer Lake and Cunjurong Point Fish Cleaning Tables Replacement of the fish cleaning tables with new stainless steel tables at these 3 locations.	Red Head Village Association Inc		\$0	\$8,000 SW	\$0

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Boonerah Point Reserve Boating and Wharf Facility Renewal Renewal of Boonerah Point Reserve Wharf Facility with long lasting materials. The upgrade ensures safe, accessible access for all, including those with disabilities, enhancing opportunities for recreational fishing.	Shellharbour City Council		\$0	\$200,000 SW	\$0
Tumbulgum Village Fishing Platform To construct an accessible fishing platform in Tumbulgum village including disabled parking, ramp, handrails and seating.	Tumbulgum Fishing Club		\$0	\$198,524 SW	\$0
Terranora Creek Foreshore Fishing Platform Construct a small fishing platform on the foreshore of Terranora Creek, West Tweed Heads. The platform will support fishing in this location by locals, particularly youth, and will be designed to accommodate all ability access.	Tweed Shire Council		\$0	\$82,000 SW	\$0
Bingara Boat Ramp Access Improvements Improvements to the Bingara boat ramp access, including drainage and bitumen seal to create an all-weather access for recreational fishers.	Bingara Anglers Club Inc		\$0	\$57,500 FW	\$0
Swampy Plain River - Angler access improvement – phase 2 Further improve angler access to provide a hardstand track, suitable for pedestrian and wheelchair, linking the two fenced off areas below the spillway. This will build on previous access enhancements from a previous RFT funded project Essential Angler Access-Swampy Plain River.	Khancoban Angling Club		\$0	\$9,800 FW	\$0
Fish Cleaning Structure with Solar Lighting for Gogeldrie Riverside Park To install a fish cleaning table with solar lighting on a bank of the Murrumbidgee River at Gogeldrie Riverside Park premises.	Leeton Shire Council		\$0	\$19,540 FW	\$0

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Lake Oberon Fish Cleaning Table Supply and install a concrete slab, fishing table to utilise existing water supply adjacent to new solar powered amenities building at Lake Oberon's Crown Reserve controlled by Oberon Council.	Oberon Council		\$0	\$19,104 FW	\$0
Recreational Fishing at Spring Creek Dam-Improvements to Angler access Improve access for anglers by constructing hardstand carparking at the entrance improving the accessibility and safety.	Orange City Council		\$0	\$33,748 FW	\$0
Thompsons Creek Dam signage, tree planting and information hub project Install much needed signage, to provide an information shelter and to plant shade trees in a car parking area to provide shelter for anglers and their vehicles. Thompsons Creek Dam (Reservoir) located near Wallerawang is a privately owned dam where access is permitted under agreed terms between Energy Australia and the NSW Government.	Wallerawang Central Acclimatisation Society		\$0	\$19,790 FW	\$0

Table 2: Summary of projects approved for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trusts 2024/25 – 2026/27.

Platform: Recreational fishing enhancement

Note: SW and FW denote the Saltwater and Freshwater Trusts, respectively. Amounts shown are the approved funds for each project.

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
\$2 for \$1 native fish stocking program This highly popular project “doubles down” on volunteer efforts to boost freshwater native fish stocks via an innovative fish stocking program where Trust funding is provided at a rate of \$2 for every \$1 from community groups.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$500,000 FW	\$500,000 FW	\$500,000 FW
Accelerating eastern freshwater cod production in the hatchery and the wild This project builds on recent success with nest box experimentation for eastern freshwater cod. The aim is to improve freshwater recreational fisheries in NSW which will result in economic, social and environmental benefits.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$546,352 FW	\$460,068 FW	\$431,389 FW
Assessing and managing freshwater fish stocking proposals. Boosting recreational fishing opportunities via effective and efficient assessment of freshwater stocking proposals. This project boosts recreational fishing opportunities in inland NSW via the effective and efficient assessment of freshwater fish stocking proposals. This involves the preparation of fish stocking plans, site assessments, analysis of fish stocking data, liaison with fish stocking groups, and issuing fish stocking permits. Regular engagement with stakeholders to discuss options for fish stocking within public waterways and to provide advice on current fish stocking programs is a key aspect of the project.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$161,548 FW	\$166,323 FW	\$170,730 FW

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Boosting freshwater fish stocks in NSW with popular species to enhance recreational fishing opportunities Further boost and enhance freshwater fishing opportunities for popular native and salmonid species across NSW by enabling the Dutton, Grafton, Port Stephens and Narrandera fish hatcheries to produce and stock more fish.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$713,875 FW	\$736,555 FW	\$758,105 FW
Boosting our fisheries: stocking NSW estuaries with popular species to enhance recreational fishing opportunities This marine stocking program involves the breeding and release of key species including Mulloway and Dusky Flathead along the coast of NSW using the world's best stocking practices to enhance recreational fishing in estuaries. Stockings are guided by a Fisheries Management Strategy to ensure a responsible approach.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$525,204 SW	\$562,000 SW	\$602,300 SW
Cracking the Code on Captive Breeding of Macquarie perch This project will 'crack the code' on captive breeding of Macquarie perch, allowing for the species to be reliably and consistently bred in captivity using hatchery broodstock, rather than relying on harvest of broodstock from dwindling wild populations. This work will save Macquarie perch from extinction and ultimately re-establish recreational fisheries for Macquarie perch across its former range in NSW, Victoria and ACT.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$75,000 FW	\$75,000 FW	\$75,000 FW
Enhancing coastal fisheries: Making reefs and FADs happen Artificial reefs and fish aggregating devices (FADs) are two of the most popular programs funded by the Recreational Fishing Trusts providing new high quality, fishing locations for anglers. This project involves a dedicated fisheries manager to manage and coordinate the programs to make them happen. The role facilitates environmental assessments, State and Commonwealth approvals, tenders and monitoring of artificial reefs.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$321,000 SW	\$327,579 SW	\$333,592 SW

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Fish Aggregation Devices (FADs) – more places for people to fish The FADs program provides reliable offshore fishing locations where recreational fishers can target a variety of popular pelagic fish over the spring, summer and autumn months. This project involves a dedicated FADs officer responsible for procurement of hardware, assembly and installation of FADs, replacement and maintenance where required, removal of all FADs at the close of each season and providing fishers with up-to-date FADs information via a range of media avenues including email, social media and smartphone apps.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$378,366 SW	\$383,449 SW	\$388,097 SW
Fuel cards assistance program Assisting community groups with transport costs to and from fish stocking events and other recreational fishing enhancement activities via the management and provision of fuel cards.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$15,000 FW	\$15,000 FW	\$15,000 FW
Funding support to assist with continued operation of the volunteer-run Manilla Native Fish Hatchery To obtain funding support from the Recreational Fishing Trust to enable this long-running volunteer operated community hatchery to continue operations to produce and stock native fish for the benefit of local and visiting anglers to the Manilla region and surrounds.	Manilla Fishing Club & Hatchery Inc		\$10,000 FW	\$0	\$0
Gaden Trout Hatchery - Boosting salmonid fish stocks in southern and central NSW. This project ensures the continued delivery of high-quality fishing via the production and stocking of Rainbow Trout, Brown Trout, Brook Trout, Tiger Trout and Atlantic Salmon in rivers, streams and impoundments across NSW's premier salmonid fisheries including the Snowy Mountains, Southern Highlands and Central Tablelands.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$896,842 FW	\$946,436 FW	\$999,013 FW

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
NSW DPIRD Freshwater Fish Tagging To increase the number of fish tagged and broaden the species included in the current tagging program. This will focus on increasing the number of tagged fish released by NSW DPIRD trout hatcheries and expanding the locations of where these fish are stocked. This would also look at the expansion of the program to include tagging of native species by NSW DPIRD.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$15,000 FW	\$20,000 FW	\$25,000 FW
Restoring catfish through partnerships – A partnership based traditional approach to restocking and restoring native fish Catfish have significant cultural and recreational value. Restocking catfish populations at crucial traditional creek and wetland locations, is a vital step toward revitalizing the profound cultural and recreational significance that catfish hold for the local and visiting community.	Edward-Wakool Angling Association (EWAA)		\$25,000 FW	\$25,000 FW	\$25,000 FW
Upgrading Water Supply and Filtration Infrastructure for Gaden Trout Hatchery. The current \$8.657M upgrade of the Gaden Trout Hatchery is progressing on program and will deliver a new hatchery building and dedicated refurbished tourist facility. However, the project's construction has highlighted the need to upgrade the ageing water supply infrastructure and water filtration system. Much of the hydraulic infrastructure is 50 years old. Many valves are inoperable, pipework is at end of life and the existing bell filter is inoperable, redundant and bypassed. To future-proof the ongoing operation of the station, an upgrade of main supply line/associated components as well as an advanced filtration system is required. This upgrade would also greatly benefit the proposed Snowy 2.0 concept works that are slated to begin in the coming years.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$600,000 FW	\$0	\$0
Funding Support for continued operation of not-for-profit Hatchery Upgrading of the Manilla Fishing Club Hatchery to increase production by 70%.	Manilla Fishing Club Hatchery Inc		\$0	\$10,000 FW	\$0

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Penrith Lakes Family Fishing Park – Review of Environmental Factors The Penrith Lakes Family Fishing Access project aims to provide quality fishing access for recreational fishers using a sustainable, responsible, and managed approach, with direct benefits to local communities. A Review of Environmental Factors (REF) is needed to determine if the Penrith Lakes can be developed for recreational fishing outcomes.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$0	\$20,000 FW	\$0
Targeted Review of Elements of the Freshwater Fish Stocking Fisheries Management Strategy (FMS) A targeted review of the Freshwater FMS is to be undertaken by an independent supplier to ensure the continued delivery of a State-wide managed fish stocking program which identifies and mitigates impacts on threatened species.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$0	\$70,000 FW	\$0
Dutton Trout Hatchery – Boosting salmonid fish stocks in Northern NSW This project ensures the continued delivery of high-quality fishing via the production and stocking of Rainbow Trout and Brown Trout in rivers, streams and impoundments across NSW's northern and central salmonid fisheries including the New England and Central Tablelands.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$0	\$928,443 FW	\$965,274 FW

Table 3: Summary of projects approved for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trusts 2024/25 – 2026/27.

Platform: Recreational fishing education

Note: SW and FW denote the Saltwater and Freshwater Trusts, respectively. Amounts shown are the approved funds for each project.

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Broken Bay Game Fishing Club Junior fishing Development program Introduction to fishing for parents and children of all ages. Rods and fishing tackle to be provided by Broken Bay Game Fishing Club for all participants to take home and use at later date. Lunch and refreshments provided at end of fishing day. Junior development program to run throughout the year, one day per month. Junior development program open to all juniors with parents wanting to learn the basics of safe boating with all aspects of fishing on board and off board our club boats.	Broken Bay Game Fishing Club \ Division of RMYC		\$4,500 SW	\$0	\$0
Casting and Connecting - Mental Fitness, Recreational Fishing Retreats The 'Casting and Connecting' program will see 36, four-day recreational fishing, mental fitness retreats hosted at both freshwater and coastal fisheries in NSW, supporting 360 NSW community participants over three years.	The Fly Program		\$36,000 SW	\$36,000 SW	\$36,000 SW
			\$36,000 FW	\$36,000 FW	\$36,000 FW
Come Fish With Us – Teaching the fishing custodians of tomorrow, instilling passion & drive that encourages continuation in the sport This interactive Come Fish with Us program runs around 90 fishing workshops each year for 8000 kids and adults per year how to fish throughout NSW in a responsible and sustainable manner. Creating a fun, enjoyable educational experience, teaching the basics of fishing so they continue in the sport for life. Our mission is to create the fishing steward's and champions of tomorrow. The workshops are inclusive involving people from diverse backgrounds, including people with disabilities, multicultural communities, the elderly etc and promote the positive physical and mental wellbeing benefits of recreational fishing.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$42,000 SW	\$42,000 SW	\$42,000 SW
			\$28,000 FW	\$28,000 FW	\$28,000 FW

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Engaging, educating, and empowering at-risk rock fishing communities to fish safely on our coastlines. Delivering targeted rock fishing safety education through the provision of 1,500 lifejackets into community along with rock fishing safety workshops, classroom-based education, family targeted school programs, advanced practical skill sessions, lifejacket libraries and rock fishing safety resources.	Surf Life Saving NSW		\$298,590 SW	\$0	\$0
Fishcare Grassroots Fishing Education The dedicated and passionate network of Fishcare Volunteers across NSW provides face to face and hands-on education to recreational fishers on the ground. Targeted messaging is used to promote responsible and sustainable fishing ('Fish for Life'). Fishcare also plays a key role in the running of the Get Hooked...its fun to fish schools' program and the many Come Fish with Us sessions held each year. Our mission is to create a team of fishing stewards that champion, responsible fishing and a sustainable secure fishing future for our fishing community. Fishcare Volunteers are serviced by 6 dedicated Recreational Fishing Education Officers based regionally throughout NSW.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$840,912 SW \$360,391 FW	\$861,108 SW \$369,046 FW	\$879,575 SW \$376,960 FW
Fishing 4 All Introduce people with disabilities specifically those with Intellectual Impairment to Fishing through education, mentorship and volunteering. The program aims to bring joy and friendship into people's lives through fishing and the outdoors, building networks and support groups for those that can feel isolated and unable to take the first step of wetting a line alone. As an accredited NDIS provider, we will work with local partners to deliver 2x 8 weekly programs with the view that the projects will continue with supported assistance over the next 12 months.	4Titude		\$10,000 SW	\$0	\$0
Fly Fishing Day for people who have experienced breast cancer The exercise of fly fishing is beneficial to all who have experienced breast cancer not only the physical but the mental aspect of joining with people who have much in common. Annual events will be held for people who have experienced breast cancer.	New England Acclimatisation Society		\$2,000 FW	\$2,000 FW	\$2,000 FW

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Get Hooked It's Fun to Fish! Free schools program This interactive discovery program introduces around 4000 primary school students to freshwater and marine fishing, the significance of aquatic life, catch and release skills and the importance of sustaining a quality fish habitat, while practising safe and responsible fishing behaviours. The program is open to all schools in NSW, including home schools and delivers targeted messaging through a series of practical in class lessons and practical fishing workshops at a local waterway. While the focus has been on primary schools, the high schools program is being launched in the first half of 2024.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$343,819 SW \$147,351 FW	\$353,275 SW \$151,404 FW	\$361,925 SW \$155,110 FW
Gone Fishing Day The annual Gone Fishing Day is run in October each year to celebrate recreational fishing as a fun, healthy, outdoors activity that everyone can participate in. DPIRD continues to run 6 major events across NSW on the Day to celebrate the day with various community-based activities (try fishing sessions, casting competitions, giveaways etc). Fishing clubs and organisations are also provided the opportunity for funding grants or fishing packages to run their own events on the Day. In 2023, over 100 fishing organisations participated in Gone Fishing Day.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$95,000 SW \$35,000 FW	\$95,000 SW \$35,000 FW	\$95,000 SW \$35,000 FW
NSW Recreational Fishing Trusts Annual Report – Creative design of print and online publications To create an online and print publication for the Recreational Fishing Trust Annual Report, which promotes the achievements of programs supported by the Recreational Fishing Trust. The publication will be highly graphic (including photographs and infographics) and high profile, available as a printable A4 document.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$28,000 SW \$12,000 FW	\$28,000 SW \$12,000 FW	\$28,000 SW \$12,000 FW

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
NSW Saltwater and Freshwater Recreational Fishing Guides – One stop shop for all essential fishing information These guides provide an easy-to-read summary of essential information fishers need before they go fishing. This includes important information like fishing rules, gear descriptions, licences and Recreational Fishing Trusts information, sustainable fishing practices and much more. It is proposed to produce 200,000 per year. The guides represent a one stop shop for anglers to access their fishing information. It is especially popular with new or beginner fishos, but it is still readily requested by experienced anglers at tackle shops and events.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$87,500 SW \$37,500 FW	\$87,500 SW \$37,500 FW	\$87,500 SW \$37,500 FW
Recreational Fishing for Students with a Disability – Morisset High School Development of social skills, engagement with leisure activities and awareness of local waterways through recreational fishing for students with disabilities at Morisset HS.	Morisset High School		\$2,515 SW	\$0	\$0
St Peter’s Anglican College Marine and Aquaculture Technology Purchase and organize fishing tackle, books and equipment to deliver an extensive marine and aquaculture program.	St Peter’s Anglican College Broulee		\$5,500 SW	\$0	\$0
Winter School Holidays Junior Fishing Competition 2024 Run a Winter School Holidays Junior Fishing Competition over the winter school holidays including education workshops and a presentation afternoon, supporting recreational angling and Merimbula’s local businesses.	Merimbula Big Game & Lakes Angling Club		\$4,100 SW	\$0	\$0
Fish for Life - Rod building and repairs – Cooks Hill To establish a fishing rod building project at the Alesco Secondary College Cooks Hill campus to extend engagement with recreational fishing across the student cohort.	Alesco Secondary College – Cooks Hill		\$0	\$7,215 SW	\$0
Fish for Life - Rod building and repairs – Tomaree To establish a fishing rod building project at the Alesco Secondary College Tomaree campus to extend engagement with recreational fishing across the student cohort.	Alesco Secondary College - Tomaree		\$0	\$7,215 SW	\$0

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Let's Go Fishing – Educating School Children on the Sustainable & Social Engagement Benefits of Recreational Fishing: Phase 6 AFTA has successfully delivered Phases 1 to 5 of the NSW “Let’s Go Fishing” Schools Program in partnership with the Marine Teachers Association (MTA). Phase 6 will comprise of re-stocking, updating and replacing equipment where required to the 138 MTA member schools and producing and delivering “Series 3” online educational support in the form of a six-part video series complete with supporting Q & A sheets. The support of the program provides continuity for schools and teachers in delivering quality education and inclusion on recreational fishing.	Australian Fishing Trade Association		\$0	\$125,000 SW	\$0
Banora Point High School Academic Anglers Project The aim of the project is to establish a fishing club for students at Banora Point High School and make recreational fishing accessible to all students. The club will provide a platform to encourage students to get outside and enjoy recreational fishing in the beautiful waterways of the Tweed Valley. Through workshops, educational material and outings the project will promote sustainable fishing practices and encourage students to take an active role in the management of our water ways and fish stocks.	Banora Point High School		\$0	\$7,510 SW	\$0
BBGFC Junior development program Introduction to game fishing for parents and children of all ages. Rods and fishing tackle provided by Broken Bay Game Fishing Club during fishing sessions. Junior development program to run one day per month between November and March. The program will be open to all juniors with parents wanting to learn the basics of all aspects of game fishing onboard Broken Bay Game Fishing Club registered boats paying particular attention to safe boating practices and safe handling of fish.	Broken Bay Game Fishing Club Division of Royal Motor yacht Club		\$0	\$4,500 SW	\$0
Recreational fishing education and participation for people living with disabilities Breakaway will assist 100 people living with disabilities to access recreational fishing on the Tuggerah Lakes over 10 support programs which will provide education & promotion of responsible fishing.	Camp Breakaway Inc.		\$0	\$6,500 SW	\$0

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Aboriginal students educational learning and workshops on recreational fishing Educating Aboriginal students on fishing and marine life, caring for the ocean environment also involving workshops with project workers from Ozfish, National Park Rangers on beach fishing. This will be achieved through 2 day camps, three times per year.	Great Lakes College Forster Campus		\$0	\$8,505 SW	\$0
Maclean High School learning support Securing resources for learning support classes at a regional public high school to fund a new program initiative called "Coastal Explorers".	Maclean High School		\$0	\$4,000 SW	\$0
Port Stephens Youth Fishing Workshop Port Stephens Youth Fishing Workshops form a youth based Spring school holiday program that aims to promote recreational activities and skills to Port Stephens youth. The workshops will run over multiple days in 4 different locations around the LGA.	Port Stephens Council		\$0	\$6,000 SW	\$0
Fishing Futures: Youth-Led Recreational Fishing & Community Connection Program Empowering neurodivergent youth in Port Stephens through youth led co-designed recreational fishing events, promoting sustainable practices, blue health and community connection over 12 months.	re:think dyslexia pty ltd		\$0	\$10,000 SW	\$0
Sawtell Public School Fishing Club Recreational fishing for sport will be run every Friday during the school year. Students will be taught about casting, tackle, responsible and sustainable fishing practices and fish ID.	Sawtell Public School		\$0	\$8,300 SW	\$0
Engaging, educating, and empowering at-risk rock fishing communities to fish safely on our coastlines Delivering targeted rock fishing safety education through the provision of 1,500 lifejackets into community along with rock fishing safety workshops, classroom-based education, family targeted school programs, advanced practical skill sessions, lifejacket libraries and rock fishing safety resources (third project phase).	Surf Life Saving NSW		\$0	\$339,186 SW	\$0

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
FiSHEr Leadership Forum The FiSHEr Leadership Forum empowers aspiring female leaders in recreational fishing with skills, mentorship, and sustainable practices to foster inclusivity and increase participation across New South Wales.	Women's Recreational Fishing League Inc.		\$0	\$22,050 SW \$9,450 FW	\$0
Fishing (Tweed) Fishing for wellbeing primary school program.	Tweed Heads Public School		\$0	\$2,500 SW	\$0
Fishing for wellbeing and cultural connection This fishing program aims to enhance primary school students' overall wellbeing while fostering cultural connections with Aboriginal traditions and promoting awareness of marine ecosystems. It integrates hands-on activities, cultural storytelling, and environmental education to create a holistic learning experience.	Tweed Heads South Public School		\$0	\$2,500 SW	\$0
Tight Lines – fishing for youth mental health and education A fishing and mentorship program empowering youth to tackle mental health challenges, build resilience, education and reel in confidence through connection with mentors, life skills, the great outdoors and fishing.	Byron Youth Service inc.		\$0	\$9,600 SW	\$0
Fishing for Wellbeing Program - Cudgen Public School To implement an innovative wellbeing program aimed at fostering positive mental health, resilience, and social-emotional skills among students. The program will focus on creating a supportive and inclusive school environment where every student feels valued, safe, and empowered to thrive both academically and personally. The project will enable the school to acquire necessary resources, run targeted workshops, and measure the program's impact to ensure long-term success.	Cudgen Public School		\$0	\$2,500 SW	\$0
Fishing for Youth Mindfulness Weekly fishing expeditions for youth suffering from mental health issues while remaining in a residential care school setting.	Dunlea Centre		\$0	\$2,000 SW	\$0

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Fishing for Mental Health: Reducing Stigma and Promoting Well-Being Among Young Males Promoting mental health in young males through fishing mindfulness programs in Batemans Bay and Narooma, combining cognitive behavioural techniques (CBT) and fishing education to address stigma and build resilience.	Relationships Australia Canberra and Region		\$0	\$7,400 SW	\$0
Breaking down the clinical service delivery in working with young people with complex and severe mental health To provide fishing gear to help break the barrier of confrontation for young people receiving mental health support and for young First Nations People and provide a great purpose of connecting back to Country and Culture.	Youth Enhanced Services - EACH		\$0	\$400 SW	\$0
Casting for Resilience: Growth Room Fishing Events for Men's Mental Health A mental health initiative using recreational fishing to support wellbeing, social inclusion, and resilience through regular fishing events for participants in 10 Growth Rooms across regional NSW.	Regional Counselling Limited		\$0	\$11,500 FW	\$9,500 FW (\$9,500 FW in 2027/28)
Reel Connections: Youth Fishing & Wellness Camps Youth Fishing Camps (ages 12-17) offer outdoor education, teaching fishing skills and environmental awareness, while promoting mental health through nature, teamwork, and personal growth in a supportive, engaging environment.	Kiama Municipal Council		\$0	\$10,000 FW	\$0
LFC -Lomandra Fishing Club The Lomandra School Fishing Club (LFC) will be a regulation, social, and sports program designed to support students with severe mental health, trauma, and behavioural conditions, fostering engagement and resilience	Lomandra School		\$0	\$6,000 FW	\$0
Fishing For Fun & Mental Health Fishing guidance for Nepalese families in the Shoalhaven region.	Shoalhaven Nepalese Community Incorporated		\$0	\$6,398 SW	\$0

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Fishing for sanity Teaching teenagers and also newly arrived refugees from Gaza some fishing guidelines as well mental wellness.	The Australian Palestinian Club		\$0	\$9,674 SW	\$0
Casting for Recovery - A weekend Fly Fishing Retreat for Women with Breast Cancer Through the gentle sport of fly fishing, ACT Fly Fishers Inc. seeks to enhance the quality of life of women recovering from breast cancer treatment by providing a Casting for Recovery weekend retreat.	ACT Fly Fishers Inc		\$0	\$9,491 FW	\$0
Recreational Fishing Trust Communications, Promotions & Engagement Officer More effective, timely and focused promotion and communication of the various initiatives and projects delivered by the Recreational Fishing Trust has been identified by RFNSW as a priority requirement to further build and strengthen the NSW recreational fishing sector. A dedicated communication manager with broad expertise in recreational fishing is required to deliver engaging content across a suite of engagement platforms to promote and enhance Trust-funded initiatives.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$0	\$153,092 SW \$65,611 FW	\$157,643 SW \$67,561 FW (\$162,331 SW \$69,570 in 2027/28)

Table 4: Summary of projects approved for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trusts 2024/25 – 2026/27.

Platform: Aquatic habitat protection and rehabilitation

Note: SW and FW denote the Saltwater and Freshwater Trusts, respectively. Amounts shown are the approved funds for each project.

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Aquatic habitat protection and fish conservation – Greater Murray NSW Provision of fish conservation management services for the Murray, Lower Darling and Murrumbidgee catchments of NSW, to enhance key fish habitat protection and recreational fisher involvement in fish habitat protection, management and rehabilitation.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$237,204 FW	\$243,000 FW	\$249,000 FW
Flagship Habitat Action The Flagship Habitat Action program will continue to engage and facilitate key stakeholders in the development and delivery of large-scale strategic coastal fish habitat rehabilitation activities; restoring highly productive, resilient fisheries.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$447,444 SW	\$448,630 SW	\$449,671 SW
Habitat Action Program – “Making More Fish Naturally” – 2.0 Saltwater - Habitat Action Grants (Sub Program) - Coordination and management of the devolved grant to enhance fish habitat in coastal NSW and support healthy, resilient recreational fisheries (up to \$50,000 per grant with total funds of \$570,000 annually). Freshwater - Flagship Fish Habitat Rehabilitation Program (Pilot Sub Program) -Strengthen partnerships to achieve significant on-ground actions to support the protection and improvement of fish habitat at priority locations across inland catchments (between \$100,000 - \$400,000 per grant with total funds of \$400,00 annually). ‘Fishers for Fish Habitat’ (Sub Program) - The Habitat & Threatened Species Unit will continue to engage with and support recreational anglers across inland and coastal New South Wales in meaningful activities to enhance fish habitat, fish/habitat research activities/citizen science and threatened fish species awareness and recovery, education and capacity building.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$780,493 SW \$490,211 FW	\$784,550 SW \$491,950 FW	\$788,260 SW \$493,540 FW

Projects	Partner Organisation	Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Otyhuca Pandylil Project (Fish Salvage Project) Over a 2-year co-funded initiative, Traditional Owners, subject matter experts and volunteers collaborate to rescue and relocate native fish to secure refuge areas during the winter shutdown of Murray Irrigation Limited channels.	Western Murray Land Improvement Group		\$25,000 FW	\$25,000 FW	\$0
Stage 2 – Rec Fisher Habitat Capacity: Building the fish habitat capacity, knowledgebase, delivery capability and leadership qualities of NSW recreational fishers. Based on the first 12 months successes and feedback from NSW recreational anglers on what they would like to see in a continued program, OzFish has conceptualized additional leadership and development pathways for training (science and practical) that will further equip NSW recreational fishers with the skills and resources needed to advocate and engage with habitat restoration actions, providing better fishing outcomes and experiences in NSW.	OzFish Unlimited		\$118,000 SW \$79,200 FW	\$118,000 SW \$79,200 FW	\$0
Driving Fish Habitat Action – a Landcare NSW / OzFish community partnership Forty (40) waterways will have their local community taking action to improve their health, at fish habitat restoration sites established by OzFish and Landcare across NSW. OzFish and Landcare will combine resources and utilise a network of skilled volunteers to continue this work well into the future.	OzFish Unlimited		\$0	\$175,000 SW \$118,000 FW	\$175,000 SW \$118,000 FW
Repair and upgrade to the telemetry system of the Marsden Weir Fish Loch (Parramatta River, Parramatta) The Marsden Weir Fish Loch has been repaired recently to operate manually. The wiring system requires repair for the gate opening and closing system to operate automatically. This Grant request is to repair damaged wiring and upgrade the telemetry from 2G to 4G.	City of Parramatta Council		\$0	\$56,697 FW	\$0

Table 5: Summary of projects approved for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trusts 2024/25 – 2026/27.

Platform: Research on fish and recreational fishing

Note: SW and FW denote the Saltwater and Freshwater Trusts, respectively. Amounts shown are the approved funds for each project.

Projects	Partner Organisation	Government Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Enhancing and monitoring the freshwater recreational fishery in NSW This project builds on the long-term recreational fishing monitoring and research program undertaken throughout NSW. The aim is to improve freshwater recreational fisheries in NSW which will result in economic, social and environmental benefits.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$757,747 FW	\$769,631 FW	\$772,301 FW
Laying the foundation for Mulloway stock recovery through filling critical knowledge gaps and modelling This project will inform rebuilding efforts and future management to recover the NSW Mulloway stock within the species' harvest strategy by filling critical research knowledge gaps and population modelling.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$125,000 SW	\$125,000 SW	\$0
NSW Game Fish Tagging Program – the largest of its kind in the world. The NSW DPIRD Game Fish Tagging Program is the largest citizen science tagging program of its kind in the world and has been in operation since 1973. It uses anglers to obtain vital information on the biology of billfish, tunas, sharks and sport fish while encouraging fishers to participate in the management of the fishery.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$225,751 SW	\$234,072 SW	\$238,980 SW
NSW Recreational Fisheries Monitoring Program The New South Wales Recreational Fisheries Monitoring Program (RFMP) provides regular surveys of recreational fishing activities, which contributes preeminent information to inform evidenced-based decision making and ensure the interests of recreational fishes can be represented in the management of NSW fisheries resources.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$594,146 SW \$254,634 FW	\$692,080 SW \$406,460 FW	\$635,029 SW \$272,155 FW

Projects	Partner Organisation	Government Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Research Angler Program – Fish into fillets, frames into facts – A key citizen science initiative The Research Angler Program is a citizen science initiative that enables fishos to donate their fish frames which are used by scientists to obtain essential biological information for stock assessments such as fish age, reproductive status and other life history information. Fishers are also provided feedback about their catch and enables fishers to be involved in the management of their recreational fishery.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$219,098 SW	\$225,323 SW	\$230,980 SW
Science-based sustainable and productive fisheries enhancement in NSW This project builds upon previous work, undertaking the required monitoring of DPIRD marine stocking programs. Recreational anglers are engaged through a citizen science program, thereby directly providing information that supports fish stocking in NSW.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$324,926 SW	\$339,890 SW	\$346,528 SW
Community Water Quality Audits – Our journey towards breathing life back into NSW waterways. Stage 1. Scoping the concept Water is fundamental fish habitat, but its quality is declining in many NSW waterways. This project will devise a strategy to reverse this worrying trend by designing an independent, community based Water Quality checking/audit process.	DigsFish Services		\$0	\$93,000 SW \$93,000 FW	\$0
All dried up and nowhere to go – Facilitating fish movement through regulated floodplains in the Lower Murrumbidgee Valley This project will reveal how flow regulation can be used to manipulate the movement of native and invasive species, reconnecting fragmented floodplains with main river channels to enhance freshwater fisheries.	School of Biological, Earth & Environmental Sciences (BEES)		\$0	\$127,313 FW	\$0

Projects	Partner Organisation	Government Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Murray Crayfish Recovery through partnerships The Edward-Wakool Angling Association, the Western Murray Land Improvement Group, the Joint Indigenous Group, and the Deniliquin Kolety Lagoons Landcare Group are working in partnership to restore the crayfish population in the Murray-Edward-Wakool region. The recovery of crayfish in the Edward-Wakool region is essential to restore the cultural and recreational value of the species, allowing local communities to reconnect with this iconic species. However, a lack of scientific information on the current population and community structure within the Edward River is hindering evidence-based decision making on how crayfish can be re-integrated into the recreational and cultural fisheries within the region.	Edward-Wakool Angling Association		\$0	\$10,000 FW	\$0
NSW Game Fish Tournament Monitoring Collate data to support fisheries research and management of game fish species and to strengthen negotiations between recreational fishers, Government and other interested organisations regarding fishery access and resource sustainability.	Ghosn Consulting Services		\$0	\$90,000 SW	\$93,000 SW (\$96,000 SW in 2027/28)
Monitoring and Research on Landed Fish at Game Fishing Tournaments in NSW: 2025/26 The project organizes, facilitates and conducts monitoring, sampling and biological research on billfish, tuna, sharks and other gamefish captured and weighed at the major game fishing tournaments in NSW.	Pepperell Research & Consulting Pty Ltd		\$0	\$36,800 SW	\$0
Provision of Annual Report for the Gamefish Tagging Program for 2024/2025 Provision of an informative, attractive and readily accessible report on the Gamefish Tagging Program for the year 2024/25.	Pepperell Research & Consulting Pty Ltd		\$0	\$7,200 SW	\$0

Projects	Partner Organisation	Government Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
A review of potential resilience of rocky intertidal communities to recreational harvesting in NSW To facilitate a desktop review of available scientific information on the impacts of recreational hand gathering on intertidal rock platforms following a recommendation from RFNSW, noting the activity is popular and widespread along the NSW coast.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$0	\$69,422 SW	\$0

Table 6: Summary of projects approved for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trusts 2024/25 – 2026/27.

Platform: Enforcement of fishing rules

Note: SW and FW denote the Saltwater and Freshwater Trusts, respectively. Amounts shown are the approved funds for each project.

Projects	Partner Organisation	Government Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Coastal Fisheries Officers x 9 Funding for 9 coastal fisheries officers maintaining capacity of NSW DPIRD to enforce fisheries rules and regulations including recreational fishing fee requirement across NSW coastal areas.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$1,533,256 SW	\$1,599,418 SW	\$1,668,421 SW
Coastal Rec Mobile Squad Officers x 3 Funding for 3 regional mobile squad officers maintaining capacity of NSW DPIRD to enforce saltwater recreational rules and regulations in particular recreational fishing fee requirements whilst patrolling popular fishing areas including recreational fishing havens.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$511,085 SW	\$533,139 SW	\$555,781 SW
Inland Fisheries Officers x 6 Funding for 6 inland fisheries officers maintaining capacity of NSW DPIRD to enforce fisheries rules and regulations including recreational fishing fee requirement across NSW inland areas.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$1,022,170 FW	\$1,066,279 FW	\$1,112,280 FW

Table 7: Summary of projects approved for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trusts 2024/25 – 2026/27.

Platform: Licence fee payment system & Trust management

Note: SW and FW denote the Saltwater and Freshwater Trusts, respectively. Amounts shown are the approved funds for each project.

Projects	Partner Organisation	Government Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
RFSTEC and RFFTEC meeting expenses The Recreational Fishing Saltwater and Freshwater Trust Expenditure Committees (RFSTEC and RFFTEC) are advisory committees that review applications for funding and make recommendations on priorities for expenditure from the Recreational Fishing (Saltwater and Freshwater) Trusts.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$39,200 SW \$39,200 FW	\$39,200 SW \$39,200 FW	\$39,200 SW \$39,200 FW
Recreational Fishing NSW (RFNSW) Advisory Council consultation and meeting expenses RFNSW advises the Minister for Primary Industries on recreational fishery policy issues including maintaining and improving the quality of recreational fishing opportunities.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$62,300 SW \$26,700 FW	\$64,050 SW \$27,450 FW	\$65,800 SW \$28,200 FW

Projects	Partner Organisation	Government Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Recreational Fishing Licensing Fee and Customer Services–facilitating a convenient system for the sale of fishing licences and renewal notices for fishers Provides for the safe and secure collection of recreational fishing licences fees (public money) which are deposited into the Recreational Fishing Trusts daily. It provides a convenient payment network for fishers using a variety of methods such as a dedicated webpage, sales agents (fishing tackle stores etc) throughout NSW, BPAY, automated telephone, and mail. It caters for all types of fishers. There is 1) an electronic sales platform provided by Department of Customer Service – Licence NSW which DPIRD uses to manage electronic licences and 2) a manual payment system of agents run by DPIRD. This includes the data entry of 1 year and 3-year paper fishing licences sold at tackle shops into the Licence NSW database. The project also provides an efficient licence renewal notice system (via external contractor) to provide opportunity for recreational fishers to renew their fee when it expires for all 1 year and 3-year fishing licences.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$1,534,313 SW \$657,562 FW	\$1,357,935 SW \$581,972 FW	\$1,400,224 SW \$600,096 FW
Recreational Fishing Trust Executive Officer - ensuring accountability and transparency The Executive Officer is responsible for the overall coordination and financial management of the Recreational Fishing Trusts to facilitate a transparent and accountable Trust system, on behalf of the recreational fishing community. This includes implementation of good governance processes to, disbursement of funds to Trust projects and ensuring quality delivery of project outcomes to improve recreational fishing.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$284,037 SW	\$292,022 SW	\$299,321 SW

Projects	Partner Organisation	Government Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Recreational Fishing Facilities and Grants Management Project To target recreational fisher identified gaps in fishing facilities throughout NSW, including fishing platforms, fish cleaning facilities and waterway access infrastructure. To provide support to the Trust Executive Officer for financial and auditing management of Trust programs to ensure timely and quality service delivery. The role provides quality advice to the public on all Trust enquiries and application development.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$170,563 SW \$42,641 FW	\$175,200 SW \$43,800 FW	\$179,440 SW \$44,860 FW
Recreational Fishing Trust grants administration program – supporting the delivery of Trust funded projects To improve the delivery and performance of Recreational Fishing Trust funded projects by assigning essential resourcing to grants administration and management. The position facilitates funding agreements to applicants, receives milestone reports and final reports, processes project invoices and purchase orders for Trust grants etc. It is an integral position of the Trust management team to facilitate effective governance controls including audits and monitoring to maintain and improve the standard of project delivery and accountability across all Trust funded projects.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$151,812 SW	\$156,023 SW	\$159,873 SW
Inland fisheries project and policy services and management. This project plays a key role in co-ordinating an array of Trust funded community fishing grants including the two dollars for one-dollar native fish stocking program and the fuel cards assistance program and enables the efficient operation of RFFTEC and its subgroups (fuel card evaluation panel and the Gaden hatchery management advisory committee). Additional behind-the-scenes work involves updating recreational fishing legislation and the development of policies to enhance inland fishing opportunities.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$210,173 FW	\$223,500 FW	\$229,300 FW

Projects	Partner Organisation	Government Agency	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
New Integrated Voice Recognition System (IVR) recreational fishing fee receipt (existing project additional costing) Recreational fishers are currently using an IVR that is licenced from a company called Temenos. Temenos is bringing the IVR to end of life and as a result, DPIRD Fisheries needs a new payment IVR built which will allow recreational fishers to purchase new fishing fees receipts over an automated IVR phone line - providing an over the phone payment by credit card channel to ensure it remains as easy as possible for people to pay the legal fishing fee applicable to fish recreationally.		DPIRD Fisheries	\$0	\$38,500 SW \$16,500 FW	\$0

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