

Recreational Fishing Trust Advisory Council (RFTAC) meeting outcomes (draft)

Meeting Number: 1 **Date:** 23 April 2026 **Time:** 2:00pm – 5:15pm

Location: Via Microsoft Teams

Invitees:

Dr Geoff Allan AM FTSE	Chairperson
Mr Sami Omari	Finance and Project Management
Dr Lee Baumgartner	Fisheries Science
Mr Troy Bright	Project Management and Construction
TBA	Probity and Governance
Mr Michael (Harry) Davey	General Member
Mr Wayne McPherson	General Member
Mr Aku Valta	General Member
Ms Kate Shelton	General Member
Mr Martin Priest	General Member
Ms Melissa (Mel) Palagiano	General Member
Ms Audette (Audi) Croft	General Member
Dr Heath Folpp	Nominee of Secretary - Director, Fisheries Management

1. Chairperson's introduction, welcome and acknowledgement of Country

The Chairperson welcomed members to the inaugural meeting of RFTAC.

2. Apologies

Nil

3. Member introductions

A brief introduction was provided by each member about their background and interests.

4. Disclosure of interests

As part of the appointment process, Council members disclosed their interests prior to the meeting. Member Michael Davey declared during the meeting that he is a Fishcare Volunteer under that Recreational Fishing Trust (RFT) funded program.

5. Role, Terms of Reference, responsibilities and operation of RFTAC

The Council ratified the Council Charter outlining the role, terms of reference, responsibilities and operation of the Council.

6. Operation of Recreational Fishing Trusts

The Council was provided with an overview of the operation of the RFT including background, the types of projects funded and current RFT projects.

7. Confidentiality and Communication

The importance of maintaining confidentiality with funding application assessment and the decision-making process was discussed with members.

8. Assessment of funding applications

The Council was provided with an overview of the application assessment process including the NSW Grants Administration Guidelines and the eligibility and assessment criteria for applications.

9. Next meeting and close

The next meeting of Council will be held in Sydney on 21 May 2026.

Action items

Action item	Responsible
DPIRD to circulate copy of meeting 1 presentation, RFT Annual Report 2024/25 and current RFT Investment Plan.	DPIRD