

## Recreational Fishing Freshwater Trust Expenditure Committee (RFFTEC) meeting outcomes

**Meeting Number:** 73      **Date:** 4 December 2024      **Time:** 2:00pm – 4:00pm  
**Location:** Microsoft Teams Videoconference  
**Invitees:** Bruce Schumacher AM (Chair), Max Graham (Region 1), Ron Butler (Region 2), Ron Croker (Region 3), Michael Davey (Region 4), Paul Mullen (Region 5), Debbie Lennon (Region 6), Jasen Ramien (Region 7), Troy Bright (Region 8), Brett Richards (Professional Fishing Instructors & Guides Association), Darren Reynolds (A/Director DPIRD Fisheries and Aquaculture Management)

### 1. Chair's introduction, welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

### 2. Apologies

Michael Davey, Jasen Ramien, Darren Reynolds

### 3. Confirmation of outcomes from previous meeting

The draft outcomes of the 72<sup>nd</sup> RFFTEC meeting held on 26 June 2024 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. **Moved Ron Croker, Seconded Troy Bright, Carried.**

### 4. Recreational Fishing Trust items

#### a. Status of the Freshwater Trust

The financial status of the Freshwater Trust was presented to members.

#### b. Current Trust funding round

On 6 November 2024, the Minister announced the opening of the next funding round with a closing date of 18 December 2024.

#### c. Status of Trust projects

A summary of current active and recently completed Trust projects was provided for RFFTEC's information.

#### d. Update on Licence Holder Survey

The Minister previously announced DPIRD will undertake a licence holder survey to seek feedback on current Trust programs and new priorities for expenditure in the future. The survey commenced

on 4 November 2024 and survey invites are being sent to 350,000 licence holders. An update was provided at the meeting.

**e. Recreational Fishing Trust Audit recommendations**

An update was provided on implementation of the Audit recommendations.

**f. Project variations**

A project variation was sought by DPIRD for Project DPIF068 Stocking of Estuary Perch within Brogo Dam and to investigate stocking Estuary Perch within Danjera Dam, Glennies Creek and Lake Toolooma to reallocate \$5,000 from the \$25,000 post-stocking monitoring component of the project towards the purchase of more fish for stocking. RFFTEC supported the project variation. **Moved Ron Croker, Seconded Ron Butler, Carried.**

RFFTEC was provided with clarification from DPIRD that there is no overlap in activities and deliverables between DPIRD's recently approved Project DPIJ066 Habitat Action Program – "Making More Fish Naturally" – 2.0 and OzFish Unlimited's previously approved Project LJ012 Fishers for Fish Habitat 2 in response to a past request from the Committee.

**5. Project updates**

Presentations and project updates were provided for the following projects:

- Freshwater fish stocking.
- Gone Fishing Day.
- Fishing access.
- Murray cod movements in Copeton Dam.
- Fish for Life program.