

2008 RECFISHING 2020

CANBERRA

Friday 17 & Saturday 18 October 2008

*Forrest Suite, Rydges Capital Hill,
Cnr Canberra Avenue & National Circuit Forrest*



The 2nd National Conference on Recreational Fishing is presented by Recfish Australia and sponsored by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry and the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation, the conference theme is ***“Recreational Fishing 2020 – A Shared Vision”***.



The conference focus is the challenges facing recreational fishing which include: sustainability of fish stocks; developing partnerships between fishers, the industry, the community and government and establishing a secure funding base for the sector.

PRINCIPAL CONFERENCE SPONSORS:

Recfish Australia is the peak national body for recreational and sport fishing in Australia. Members include:

- Amateur Fishermen’s Association of the NT (AFANT)
- New South Wales Advisory Council on Recreational Fishing (NSW ACoRF)
- Western Australian Recreational & Sportfishing Council Inc (Recfishwest)
- Tasmanian Association for Recreational Fishing (TARFish)
- Victoria’s Recreational Fishing Peak Body (VRFish)
- Australian National Sportfishing Association (ANSA)
- Australian Underwater Federation –Spearfishing (AUF)



Australian Government
Fisheries Research and
Development Corporation



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Recreational Fishing Community Grants Programme

DAY 1 FRIDAY 17TH OCTOBER

SESSION		START
Welcome to country		09:30
Welcome & Opening	Recfish Australia Chair Bruce Schumacher	
Introduction	Introduction to conference theme and structure: Facilitator, Ian Cartwright	
Keynote Address	Frank Prokop	
10:30 – 10:45 MORNING TEA BREAK		
Overview Session	Some Key Issues for the future	10:45
	Andy Bodsworth: Resource Allocation - a fair and equal outcome?	
	Jo-Anne Ruscoe: investing in people and leadership programs	
	Cameron Westaway: meeting the challenge of access for recreational fishers	
	Open Discussion: questions	
12:00 – 12:45 LUNCH BREAK		
A view from the states	Recreational fishing bodies (each speaker has 10 minutes)	12:45
New South Wales	NSWACoRF	
Northern Territory	AFANT	
Tasmania	TARFish	
	AAT	
Victoria	VRFish	
Western Australia	Recfishwest	
Breakout Session	Five groups discuss key state issues	
Groups Report Back	Identify key state issues	
15:20 – 15:45 AFTERNOON TEA BREAK		
National Vision	Views of national bodies	15:45
ANSA		
AUF		
NFA		
GBRMPA		
Breakout Session	Five groups discuss key national issues	16:00
Groups Report Back	Identify key national issues	16:30

SESSION		START
Recap and present agreed issues and where they fit		08:30
Overview Session	Some Key Issues for the future	
	Kim Ritman: Climate change and marine fisheries	
	Steve Sutton: Social evaluation of recreational fishing	
	Bob Audsley: the role of volunteers and education in building a better future	
	Bill Sawynok: community based monitoring of recreational fishing	
	Michael Sawyer: Innovative solutions to information sharing	
10:40 – 11:00 MORNING TEA BREAK		
Reviewing the National Recreational Fishing Policy. (Group discussion)		11:00
Quality fishing is ensured, fish stocks are maintained and enhanced and their habitats are protected, for present and future generations as part of the environmental endowment of all Australians		11:10
Partnerships between governments, the recreational fishing community, and associated industries are developed to conserve, restore and enhance the values of recreational fisheries throughout Australia		11:35
Australian recreational fishers are allocated a fair and reasonable share of the resources, taking into account the needs of other user groups.		12:00
Information is shared at national and regional levels to meet the needs of recreational fisheries management		12:25
There is a strong, reliable funding base to effectively manage the nation's recreational fisheries		12:50
13:15 – 14:00 LUNCH BREAK		
Groups Report Back		14:00
Conference wrap up	Concluding remarks, agreed vision and priority areas	15:00
	Is the National Policy appropriate as a vision, what needs to change?	
16:00 CONFERENCE END		

FRANK PROKOP

For the last 10 years, Frank Prokop has been Executive Director of Recfishwest, the peak body representing the estimated 640,000 recreational fishers in Western Australia. For two years he was President of Recfish Australia, the national peak body. Frank is now a Board member of FRDC.



Frank has extensive experience in fisheries management in NSW and Western Australia and was the first dedicated recreational fisheries manager in Australia. He has also been the manager of the Western rock lobster fishery and minor commercial fisheries. Frank has written a number of books on recreational fishing and many fisheries management papers.

He has also been a Board member of the Perth Wildcats basketball team and on the Board of the WA Sports Federation for 4 years

ANDY BODSWORTH

Andy Bodsworth is a Canberra based Director of Cobalt Marine Resource Management. Cobalt MRM is a private company delivering focused and innovative consultancy services to support ecologically sustainable use of marine resources. Cobalt's primary clients are government, the commercial and recreational fishing sectors, and communities. Through Cobalt, Andy maintains a strong professional and private interest in facilitating efficient and collaborative fisheries management, and fair and sustainable use of fisheries resources.



Prior to his involvement with Cobalt, Andy was employed as the Senior Manager for Northern and Torres Strait Fisheries at the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA). He held a range of other fisheries management roles during a 9 year career with AFMA including Manager of AFMA's Harvest Strategy development program, Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery Manager, and Small Pelagic Fishery Manager.

JO-ANNE RUSCOE

Jo-Anne Ruscoe joined the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC) in May 2007 in the new position of People Development Program Manager. Her appointment reflects the FRDC's commitment to supporting the development of people who will help the fishing industry to meet its future needs. Jo moved with her family from Charles Darwin University in the Northern Territory where she fulfilled several roles including management and practice in primary industries education and training, and educational design. Prior to her time in the NT, Jo spent several years in aquaculture in Tasmania, NSW and Queensland.



CAMERON WESTAWAY

Cameron Westaway, Diploma Applied Science (aquaculture). Cameron has over 15 years experience in fisheries management and industry including a management role in commercial finfish aquaculture, an aquaculture extension and policy officer for Fisheries WA, Senior Policy Advisor to the WA Minister for Fisheries on commercial and recreational fishing, agricultural business development for Agriculture WA and was also Manager of the Bateman's Marine Park during the zoning and implementation phase. In his current role as Senior Fisheries Manager Inland with the NSW Department of Primary Industries, he is responsible for the maintenance and improvement of NSW's freshwater native and salmonid fisheries.



KIM RITMAN

Kim Ritman is General Manager of the Fisheries, Land and Forestry branch in the Bureau of Rural Sciences (BRS), within the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF). BRS relies heavily on its expertise and long history in resource assessments to underpin science-based policy advice.

The sustainable management of fisheries in Australia is a complex task. BRS advises on trends in the status of Australian Government managed fisheries, delivering scientific analysis, advice and reports relating to management of key fisheries, shared international fisheries and marine environment issues.



STEVE SUTTON

Steve Sutton is a researcher in the Fishing and Fisheries Research Centre at James Cook University.

His research focuses on understanding peoples' attitudes, values, and behaviours as important considerations in natural resource management. He has been conducting research on the social aspects of recreational fisheries in Queensland since 2002. Steve is also a keen recreational fisher and spends most of his spare time trying to feed flies and lures to whatever fish will eat them.



BOB AUDSLEY

Bob Audsley a NSW Fishcare Volunteer Leader was the winner of the Inaugural 2006 Recfishing Awards Volunteer of the Year. In 1999 Bob took a redundancy package from QANTAS after nearly 40 years service and started in a part time job with NSW Fisheries as Interviewer on the Recreational Angling Survey in 2000-2001. Bob joined Fishcare Volunteers in 2001 to try to pass on some of his 60 years of fishing and spearfishing experience and knowledge.

Bob is passionate about getting kids involved in fishing. He has run many Fishing Clinics and put Local Scout Groups through their Fishing Badge (one night of theory and one night of fishing).

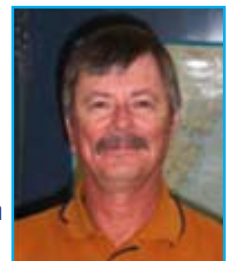


BILL SAWYNOK

Bill Sawynok runs his own business Infofish Services based in Rockhampton in Queensland. He manages Recfishing Research, a group that is promoting research into national recreational fishing issues.

He also manages the Suntag fish tagging program and CapReef, a community based monitoring program in Central Queensland.

He is a director of the Australian National Sportfishing Association, a past director of the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation and a past director of the CRC Reef Research Centre and past board member of Recfish Australia.



MICHAEL SAWYER

Michael Sawyer grew up in the South West of Western Australia and from 2004-2006 he studied Marine Science at Murdoch University, Perth. He spent 2007 in Canada doing Sockeye Salmon research for Simon Fraser University. In March 2008 he attended the Recfishwest Young Future Leaders Program. As a result of this, Recfishwest nominated him for the 2008 FRDC National Seafood Industry Leadership Program. Over the past 5 months he has attended the 3 residential sessions of the program and graduated last month.

