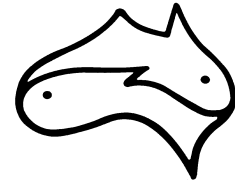




Australian Government
**Fisheries Research and
Development Corporation**



RECFISH AUSTRALIA

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12 August

Workshop heralds new vision for recreational fisheries in Australia

A national approach to the direction of future research and development (R&D) supporting recreational fisheries was discussed yesterday at a forum in Hobart.

Participants were representatives from state and industry peak councils, fisheries management, researchers and fishing media.

This was the first time these groups had met to discuss and debate this sectors future direction. Issues raised included how to engage grass-roots anglers to contribute to their future vision for recreational fishing and how to increase the stewardship by anglers to encourage them to provide input into the future direction on where to invest in R&D.

The workshop reflects the growing recognition by the community and the government of the importance of recreational fishing to Australians, from both regional and rural areas, not just as an enjoyable past-time, but also as a contributor to human well-being.

Mr Frank Prokop, President of Recfish Australia, has recently returned from the World Recreational Conference in Norway, 'Scandinavia continues to invest health dollars in recreational fishing as it has been shown to reduce anti-social behaviour in children and result in improved community well-being.

The event was hosted by Recfish Australia with financial investment by the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC).

Recfish Australia will work with FRDC to ensure the outcomes developed by the participants are realised.

***** Ends *****

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Media Release