



2 November 2012

Commonwealth Fisheries Management Review
GPO Box 858
Canberra
ACT 2601

Dear Mr Borthwick

Submission to the Review on Commonwealth Fisheries Management

The Australian Fishing Trade Association (AFTA) is the national peak body representing the suppliers of goods and services to Australia's 5 million recreational fishers. Each year Australia's recreational fishers spend over \$10 billion on the act of going fishing. AFTA is proactively engaged in ensuring the rights of Australia's recreational fishers are maintained through constructive participation in policy development at the local, regional, state and national level.

AFTA is a founding member of the Australian Recreational Fishing Foundation (ARFF), the national peak body representing Australia's recreational fishing community. AFTA supports the submission by the ARFF to the Review on Commonwealth Fisheries Management, specifically the following recommendations.

Recommendations

1. Recreational fishing needs to be formally recognized in the relevant policies and legislation relating to fisheries management;
2. Recreational fishing representation needs to be involved at the development stage of policy and legislation;
3. Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) Ecosystem based fisheries management must be incorporated and underpin fisheries policy and legislation;
4. Funding must be forthcoming to address known scientific gaps;
5. Management measures must be proactive rather than reactive;
6. Environmental considerations such as by-catch provisions and local area depletion must be effectively addressed by policy and legislation;
7. Economic, social and environmental should be clearly enunciated in the objectives of the Acts;
8. Broader social benefits of recreational fishing should be recognized by policy and legislation;
9. Property rights and resource allocation for recreational fishers should be clearly defined and recognized in policy and legislation;
10. Alignment of Commonwealth and state/territory laws and regulation; and
11. Granting of foreign fishing licenses should be in accord with the Commonwealth Fisheries

AFTA wishes to constructively engage with the Review into Commonwealth Fisheries Management and further information on our Submission can be obtained from contacting me directly.

Yours sincerely

Allan Hansard
Chief Executive Officer