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Casting Around the Internet with Recfishwest

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Pew plan a travesty for Australia: Fishermen don't matter

The world's most powerful international environmental organization is sending the message to an estimated five million Australian anglers and their economic contribution that you and your sport are not important whatsoever. Pew literature maintains that the *only* way to protect the reefs and their resources is to close vast areas to any activity that might extract anything whatsoever. An interview with a Pew Environmental head raised concerns over just how much interest Pew really has in working with recreational anglers, and that Pew's goals may indeed be the juggernaut that rolls over those who love the sport of recreational fishing. www.sportfishingmag.com/blog.jsp?blogID=300 and www.fishingworld.com.au/news/fisho-s-pew-interview

Recfish Australia joins boating and fishing Alliance

Recfish Australia members unanimously agreed to join the newly formed Boating and Fishing Council of Australia (BCFA) at Recfish's 26th AGM. The Council is a significant step in strengthening the partnerships within the recreational fishing sector and it will greatly assist in presenting unified policy and position statements to government. Frank Prokop from Recfishwest joined the Recfish Australia board and was elected Chairman. <http://www.fishingworld.com.au/news/recfish-joins-alliance>

Fish stock status report released within three months

Ministry of Fisheries has released information on the status of stocks managed under the Quota Management System. NZ Fisheries have been able to provide their research data up to the end of June 2009 which covers most of the main commercial species. Meanwhile we await the data from 2007/8 for Western Australian fish. www.fish.govt.nz/NR/rdonlyres/7B36281A-2B26-4148-AF49-6C6A45BB0142/0/Updatedstatusoffishstocks.pdf

Report sheds new light on management of Commonwealth fish stocks

Fishery Status Reports 2008 is the first joint independent evaluation of the biological and economic status of fish stocks and fisheries managed or jointly managed by the Australian Government. The number of stocks that are overfished or subject to overfishing remains a cause for concern. The number of stocks classified as uncertain remains high. Reducing uncertainty in stock status remains a priority. The document has scientific and economic information for many Commonwealth managed fisheries but only up to the 2007/8 year. http://www.daff.gov.au/brs/fisheries-marine/info/fishery_status_reports_2008

Major changes outlined in Fisheries annual report

In many areas of the public sector, major reforms of legislation, governance and stakeholder consultation happen every one to two decades. WA Department of Fisheries is currently managing reforms of all these areas while facing some particularly challenging circumstances in key fisheries. Peak bodies WAFIC and Recfishwest will provide important industry and stakeholder representation, along with a state-wide fisheries strategy group. The Department is also holding discussions with Regional Recreational Fishing Advisory Committees and Recfishwest about RRFACs being replaced by a new regional representation model. www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/ar/index.php?0701 & www.recfishwest.org.au/MediaReleaseRegionalPolicyOfficer.htm

Empowering fishing industry research, development and extension

Grass roots people from the recreational fishing industry need Research Development and Extension (RD&E) to specifically address their requirements. To help improve in this area, the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation has approved a three year project to gather RD&E ideas from industry people on a national and regional scale. These ideas will be used to develop projects to address recreational fishing needs and shape future RD&E in their fishing industry. Your suggestions and involvement are sought and welcomed. <http://www.fishwell.com.au/Empowering/empoweringindustry.aspx> and <http://www.recfishwest.org.au/EmpoweringRDandE.htm>

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