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Casting Around the Internet with Recfishwest

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Christmas 2009 prize draw for Recfishwest members

Prize draws for a 40 litre Engel fridge/freezer, Daiwa rod and reel, Halco lure pack and eight Recfishwest T-shirts featuring a Tailor, gave lucky Recfishwest members some great Christmas presents.

<http://www.recfishwest.org.au/XmasPrizes2009.htm>

Fishing groups call for delay on mako ban

Recfish Australia, the Game Fishing Association of Australia and the Australian National Sportfishing Association have called on Federal Environment Minister Peter Garrett to delay legislating of three important gamefish species (mako sharks) as Migratory Species under national environmental law. All believe the Minister has a range of options under the EPBC Act to grant an exemption or approval to recreational fishers.

<http://www.fishingworld.com.au/news/rec-groups-call-for-delay-on-mako-ban> and

http://www.makofishingaustralia.com.au/web_documents/GFAV_Makos_Update_20091219.pdf

Chief scientist to undertake further research into river dolphin deaths

The Swan River Trust's situation report into the deaths of dolphins in the Swan and Canning rivers has been referred to the WA's Chief Scientist. The review will consider the dolphin deaths in the context of ecosystem health of the Swan and Canning rivers, and advise on actions to better understand the cause of the deaths. Levels of pesticide, metal and other contaminants in dolphins and recreational fish to be studied further.

<http://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/Results.aspx?ItemID=132967> and

<http://www.swanrivertrust.wa.gov.au/News%20Library/news48.aspx>

Plan launched to reduce nutrients and increase health of rivers

The 7 year Swan Canning Water Quality Improvement Plan aims to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus input from catchments into the rivers. Feasibility studies include a nutrient stripping wetland in the Ellen Brook catchment; construction of nutrient stripping wetlands on the Southern River; remediation and removal of contaminants in a Mills Street drain basin; and nutrient intervention and binding material to the Canning River.

<http://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/Results.aspx?ItemID=132966> and

<http://www.swanrivertrust.wa.gov.au/science/catchment/Content/ccisquip.aspx>

How green and clean are salmon

The Atlantic salmon industry is worth \$350 million and growing rapidly. Salmon has become a staple on Australian tables. But critics contend that while salmon is marketed as a clean green super food grown in pristine waters off Tasmania, the reality is it's more like the battery hen of the sea. Antibiotics and other chemicals are used during farming, and huge amounts of wild fish need to be caught to feed the hungry salmon.

www.abc.net.au/7.30/content/2009/s2766962.htm & www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/12/08/2765421.htm

Anglers land salmon for Christmas

The fishing prospects have improved with a Christmas gift from local salmon farms, after a thousand trophy sized Atlantic salmon have been released into three lakes. The fish weigh between four and six kilograms and are excess breeding stock from a local salmon farm. Fisheries say it's a great way to get rid of unwanted fish.

<http://www.abc.net.au/worldtoday/content/2009/s2775820.htm>

Anglers alarmed at call to lock up river fisheries

A call for the creation of freshwater protected areas similar to marine parks because native fish stocks are facing major problems due to river regulation, overfishing and decreased water quality has alarmed anglers. Fishing bans reducing the number, if not totally prohibiting the take of fish would be an important part of the proposed protection strategy, with claims strict measures need to be put in place if results are to be achieved.

<http://www.fishingworld.com.au/news/call-for-marine-parks-on-murray-darling> and

http://www.vrfish.com.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=157

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