

MEDIA RELEASE

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Recfishwest announces 2014 Expression of interest for Recreational Fishing Initiatives Fund

Western Australia’s peak fishing body Recfishwest has today announced that the expression of interest (EOI) period for the 2014 round of Recreational Fishing Initiatives Fund (RFIF) projects is now open. Funding is available for incorporated individuals, research institutions, clubs/organisations or community groups and joint applications are encouraged.

Recfishwest Chief Executive Officer Dr Andrew Rowland said the State Government made a commitment, upon the introduction of the Recreational Fishing from Boat Licence in March 2010 that funds generated by the licence would be used to benefit recreational fishing in Western Australia.

“Recfishwest is excited that recreational fishing licence money is being reinvested into projects that will enhance the recreational fishing experience,” Dr Rowland said

Already this fund has invested millions of dollars into projects to benefit recreational fishing in Western Australia such as;

- Restocking mulloway along the lower West Coast of Western Australia;
- Restocking prawn in the Swan /Canning River system;
- Research into various species including Bream, Blue Swimmer Crabs, game fish, Western School Prawns and Mulloway;
- The establishment of artificial reefs;
- Expansion of current Fish Attracting Devices (FAD) program in Perth metropolitan waters;
- Fishing safety officer for the WA recreational fishing community;
- Investigating the health and wellbeing impacts of recreational fishing;
- Mapping of disabled fishing locations;
- Postgraduate studies focussing on recreational fishing;
- Using recreational fishers to monitor artificial reefs.
- Investment in training the next generation of recreational fishing leaders;
- Promotion of recreational fishing including regional seminars and YouTube videos.

Grants will only be made to projects that promote or benefit recreational fishing in WA. A list of strategic priorities for RFIF funding in 2014 can be found on the EOI application form available from www.recfishwest.org.au and projects can be spread over a period of up to three years (Maximum). The EOI period for 2014 RFIF funding closes at 5pm on Wednesday the 12th February 2014.

All expression of interest applications must be made on the 2014 EOI form available from the Recfishwest website. It is important that all sections of the EOI form are completed. Recfishwest encourages all applicants to contact the Recfishwest office on 9246 3366 or email recfish@recfishwest.org.au to discuss potential projects before submitting an EOI.

Recfishwest advocates for sustainable fishing resources and policies that ensure long term benefits to all recreational fishers.

For more information on Recfishwest visit www.recfishwest.org.au or phone 9246 3366.

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