

# The Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW “Promoting Sustainable Fishing”



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## The 2010 Federal Election and Recreational Fishing

There are many issues to consider when deciding who to vote for this weekend, but in an election that seems devoid of sensible policies and leadership, you might like to consider how your vote will affect recreational fishing. Many emails and chats on forums have been passed between recreational anglers during the past few weeks, now its time to act as a united group.

### **The Greens**

We believe that the Greens are a serious threat to our fishing in NSW and around Australia. The Greens want **fishing bans** via the National Representative System of Marine Protected Areas program and want legislated targets of a minimum of 30% ‘no take’ areas per bioregion by 2012. The Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW is opposed to the introduction of this Green Policy without proper consideration and scientific support. We are also opposed to heavy handed use of no-take zones as a fisheries management tool.

There is no science behind the Greens’ magical one-size-fits-all 30% figure.

You can click here to read the details of the [Greens Party - Marine and Coastal Policy](#)

### **Liberal/National Coalition**

You can read the Coalition’s policy at [Liberal - Marine Protected Areas Policy](#) and at [Real Action Plan](#)

### **Labor**

Labor has released a statement on Fishing and Seafood and can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

### **You have two votes**

The first is the smaller **GREEN** ballot paper for the House of Representatives, where you can vote for the local candidate you want in government, eg Labor, Liberal, National or Independent. On this paper you will need to number every box. By ensuring that all Green votes are nominated last in numerical order you will then be aiding in blocking The Greens gaining the power they require to lock anglers out of their traditional fishing areas.

Your second vote is the large **WHITE** ballot paper for the Senate election. The Senate reviews all legislation by the House of Representatives. If the Greens hold the balance of power in the Senate, it is possible they will influence decisions on recreational fishing in Australia.

If you do not want this to happen, you can choose to vote **BELOW THE LINE** on the large ballot paper, and number every candidate of your choice, with your last votes going to the Greens. Alternatively, you may wish to consider a party who is supporting the fishing cause (The Shooters and Fishers Party —a vote above the line for that Party will automatically ensure that none of your preference votes go to the Greens.)

**It’s your decision, but if recreational fishing is important to you and your family, we strongly recommend that you do not vote in a way that will support the Greens.**

**THINK CAREFULLY AS THE GREENS MARINE PARK POLICY HAS BEEN THE GREATEST THREAT TO RECREATIONAL FISHERS WE HAVE SEEN. PLEASE PASS THIS MESSAGE ONTO OTHER PEOPLE WHO CONSIDER FISHING AS IMPORTANT AND YOU DO.**

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