

The Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW

“Promoting Sustainable Fishing”

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PRESS RELEASE – 19th November 2009 (*for immediate use*)

Rock Fishing Safety Campaign Goes National

On Saturday 7th November 2009 a new National Rock Fishing Safety Campaign was launched by the Federal Member for Kingsford Smith, Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts, Peter Garrett. The “Don’t put your life on the line” campaign is an extension of the work ANSA NSW and the RFA of NSW have been undertaking over the past few years within NSW.

The National Rock Fishing Safety Campaign is a project funded by the Australian Government through the Department of Health and Ageing, with assistance from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and the NSW Recreational Fishing Trust.

The launch was held at the national headquarters of Surf Life Saving Australia in Bondi. The national launch announced the new partnership between the Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW (RFA of NSW), the Australian National Sportfishing Association (ANSA), the Australian Recreational and Sport Fishing Industry Confederation (Recfish) and Surf Life Saving Australia (SLSA) and its state branches.

The rock fishing safety initiative originated with the RFA of NSW and incorporated the long standing efforts of ANSA NSW and its Angel Ring Project. Since its beginnings, the Rock Fishing Safety Campaign has evolved greatly. Workshops have been held within NSW with hundreds of thousands of free copies of the rock fishing safety DVD distributed to all interested parties and individuals. Community service announcements, translated adverts and resource materials have also been distributed.

Surf Life Saving Australia and its involvement will see many new initiatives and resources added to the campaign and SLSA have been instrumental in the national expansion.

A rock fishing safety work shop was held directly after the launch and involved Korean, Vietnamese and Chinese anglers. The New South Wales work shop was held simultaneously with similar rock fishing safety works in Victoria and Western Australia. All the work shops held were a great success.

Coupled with the launch, was an update of the existing Safe Fishing website. The RFA of NSW, with SLSA’s help has set up a website for all recreational anglers and the general public. This website covers all fishing safety related matters, including translated resource material and links to our subtitled fishing safety videos.

Visit the www.safefishing.com.au website for more fishing safety information.

For further information please contact Stan Konstantaras on 0407 131 714 or Joe Garufi on 0417 491 868.

The RFA of NSW- “PROMOTING SAFE AND ENJOYABLE FISHING”

For more translated material and downloads on rock fishing safety visit

www.safefishing.com.au

RFA of NSW - Member of NSW Recreational Fishing Trust Fund Expenditure Committee -
Member of NSW Advisory Council on Recreational Fishing