



Recreational Fishing Alliance Of NSW Inc

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE
RECREATIONAL FISHING ALLIANCE OF NSW INC**

**South Sydney AFA Clubhouse,
Cnr Hastings and Macquarie St, Chifley
Saturday 19th March 2011**

1. OPENING

Mal Poole welcomed those present and opened the meeting at 10.00am.

2. ATTENDANCE

Those in attendance where:

Stan Konstantaras (ANSA NSW) Joe Garufi (ANSA NSW), Peter Saunders (USFA NSW), Peter Gibson (NSWCFA), Mal Poole (NSWFCA), David Screen (NSWCFA), Radge Diakiw (NSWCFA)

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received from:

Michael Hirst (NSWFCA), Steve Williamson (PFIGA), Todd Young (PFIGA), Mel Brown (USFA), Max castle (ANSA NSW)

4. GUESTS

Nil

5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes presented and moved that they be accepted by Stan K, seconded Peter G. Stan noted that minutes of previous meetings are online and Delegates and Committee should access them this way.

Available at following link <http://rfansw.com.au/Meetings.html#minutes>

6. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

- RFA Volunteer Survey – FRDC is investigating getting this survey model expanded. Mal P to liaise with Peter G on a possible project to take this to the next level.
- Fishing Inquiry Report is available online, including recommendations. All RFA members should read the report.
- JBMP and SIMP reviews completed.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

Stan gave an overview of the current project reporting and general RFA accounts.

Bank Balance as of 16/10/10 was \$45,563.00**

Income - RFA Fees	\$1,100.00
- Project Fees	\$6,600.00

Expenses- RFA Expenses	\$824.00
- Project Expenses	\$19,878.00
- Bank Fees	\$40.00

Closing Balance as of 01/03/11 was \$32,521.00

** (RFA Operational Funds account for \$8,982.00 of Bank Balance)

Discussions occurred around the GST implications to RFA and that our first BAS Statement was due on the 23 August 2011.

Stan K gave a snapshot of a project to give the RFA an idea of how accounting systems operate and discussed the new RFA Project Account that had been set up to operate the L071 Access Officer Project. A new online account is operational with two (2) debit cards for Contractor and Peter G as project manager. These cards are limited to \$2000 limits to allow contractor to debit charges like accommodation and meals and allows Peter G to purchase computer and electronic equipment needed for the project.

Stan K discussed upcoming management fees of \$15,000 for Project L071 which will be claimed in 3 equal payments and be transferred to RFA Operational Funds for 2011/2012

Stan to circulate copies of RFA Expense Claim Form and Updated Project Expenditure Spreadsheet

8. DELEGATE REPORTS

The delegates present were asked to provide an update/overview on their group's activities as a way of updating the other delegates and as a way to further gather support for issues if needed.

ANSA NSW

ANSA NSW is currently upgrading its website and is looking at expanding its membership. ANSA NSW is currently helping clubs at a local level with local fishing issues. Joe G gave an overview of the Angel Ring Project and where the project is heading. One of the main issues is succession and recruitment to the ANSA NSW Committee.

NSWCFA

Peter G commented on the RFA Access Project and that the presentation by the Access Officer received a very good reception at the NSWCFA meeting.

NSWCFA is looking at submitting a review of ACoRF and the Trusts to the NSW Government as part of some other recommendations that the NSWCFA made during the Fishing Inquiry. These include;

- Changes to the fishing licence to include insurance for anglers and landholders
- Better data collection and communication from the licence
- Lack of compliance officers
- Dissatisfaction with transparency and reporting from these bodies

Peter G reported that the western division is experiencing access problems on reserves NSWCFA is awaiting a cheque for Freshwater Fishing Safety DVD reproduction.

Peter G spoke on the Progress of the Murray Darling Basin management plans and the status of the Redfin legislation and management.

NSWCFA is investigating the possibility of working with the Environmental Defenders' Office in order to pursue legal action on behalf of anglers.

NSWFCA

Mal P gave an update of the Trust Fund Grant that NSWFCA had received. NSWFCA are working on maintaining and installing angel rings in areas local to their clubs in collaboration with ANSA NSW.

NSWFCA are working with the Australian Angling Association event at South West Rocks with approx 300 entrants from around Australia

NSW USFA

USFA have 2 applications in with the Trust, 1 to look at analysing results from their spearfishing competitions and the other one is for reproduction and distribution of the completed Spearfishing Safety DVD.

Peter S gave us an update on prop strike incidents and their discussions with Maritime.

USFA is looking at assisting groups like Ozharvest about giving fish from spearfishing competitions to this group to utilise.

PFIGA

Steve W reports that a lot of time and effort is going into an educational project

9. AGENDA ITEMS

9 a. Fishing Inquiry Status

It was discussed that the RFA will seek clarification on what will happen with the outcome and recommendations handed down by the Inquiry. A few of the recommendations were discussed with the Shadow Minister for Fisheries, Duncan Gay.

There were 66 recommendations of which 38 were approved.

RFA members need to look at and comment on the recommendations and how to deal with the ones that were left out. The RFA members need to offer up solutions as comment on how to deal with these issues.

9 b. RFA Peak Body Update

The RFA has been asked to provide a model. The RFA Committee needs to complete work on RFA peak body model, including co-management with commercial fishers. Mal P is to seek input from RFA members before seeking a meeting with Duncan Gay.

9 c. Access Project Update and Trust Committee Nominations

Christopher Robertson has been contracted by the RFA to start work as Access Project Officer. Stan K is to provide project update to members. Stan K has Letter of Offer and Objectives and Guidelines on file if any members wish to view them.

Currently Chris R is looking at Aboriginal Land Claims to see how the impact on the process of establishing fishing reserves. The first milestone report has been finalised and copies are available upon request.

Radge D stated that the NSWCFRA was enthusiastic about the project and looking at ways to further extend the project and Chris's tenure in the role.

Radge D provided the RFA committee and update on the issue with Paddy's Corner on the Thredbo River and the Aboriginal Land Claim over the very first recreational fishing reserve. Mal P advised that Chris R was looking into the ALC over the site and had organised a meeting with the LPMA and their ALC Officer and will advise the NSWCFRA of outcomes.

Trust Committee- As part of the project the RFA needs to form a Trust Committee to oversee the management of any new recreational fishing reserves it forms. Discussions occurred around the roles and members duties and it was decided that the following be nominated to the RFA Reserve Trust Board

1. Peter Saunders
2. Mal Poole
3. Peter Gibson
4. Radge Diakiw

Mal Poole moved motion that the aforementioned be accepted to the Board, motion seconded by Radge D. Motion approved unanimously.

It was also discussed that 4 more members be asked to sit on the Board. The additional members should consists of the following representatives

5. Independent Observer
6. NSWII
7. LPMA
8. LPMA – ALC Officer

Mal to discuss this further with Steering Committee members.

9 d. Trust Fund, ACoRF and DII – Fisheries Updates

Next Trust Fund meeting will be held on the 4th and 5th of April.

Max C has been re-appointed to ACoRF.

Stan K gave overview of discussions the RFA had with Duncan Gay re: ACoRF and Duncan G indicated that there is a role for ACoRF under his planned department and it will stay in place after a review.

The previous ACoRF meeting was a closed meeting and discussions occurred around disbanding the Trusts and bringing their roles under ACoRF.

The members agreed that nothing will happen until after the election and will be interested to see in which direction the new Government take ACoRF, the Trusts and DII – Fisheries.

9e. Website and Promotions

Joe Garufi indicated that the RFA website was up to date and thanked Peter G for his work.

Bulletins and items of interest are continually being sent out by Joe G and Peter G who handles the Safefishing website and safety alerts.

Joe G to chase up some relevant publications and submissions to add to the RFA website as content.

Peter G to design some small banners we can link to other websites promoting the RFA.

9f. 2011 State election and Meeting with Political Parties

Discussion occurred around the impending state election and implications of outcomes. To date the RFA had done a good job in presenting its position and had been consistently circulating election material in an impartial manner.

It was agreed by all those present that recreational anglers in NSW needed representation in the upper house of NSW Parliament.

9g. Constitution Update

Stan K spoke about the recent changes that Fair Trading NSW had circulated and all agreed that all clubs and associations will have been informed of the changes by Fair Trading.

No implications for the RFA apart from the option of hosting electronic meetings, including AGM in the future.

No implications with the 2 tier system of reporting financials at this stage, the RFA is still in the lower end of the spectrum that does not require external auditing of accounts.

Spoke about PLI insurance and Mal P to seek policy from Firth for RFA members as currently all the association carry insurance for their delegates and members to the RFA.

9h. Project Updates

See Attached

9i. General Business off the floor

- Merroo – Review is ongoing on RFA is hopeful that access to boat ramp stay open, but the option to submit a FOI claim to ascertain what level of consultation occurred if access is lost. Max C to keep RFA members updated on process
- Stan K to consult and select meeting dates for rest of 2011
- David S will provide outline of processes required for succession planning and restructuring of RFA to streamline processes. Assistance will also be provided in formulation position descriptions for the RFA.
- Martin Salter report into recreational fishing has not been released yet.
- Peter S spoke on the draft Black Cod Recovery Plan. The USFA has a sightings register that provides anecdotal evidence that they are prolific and hope to use this to offset any possible closures.
- Joe G to organise RFA shirts for committee and delegates
- Radge D discussed his concerns around the fragmentation of the fisheries conservation and Mal P stated that this was one of the things the RFA spoke to Duncan G about at the last meeting. Even he was unsure how to tackle the problem.
- Radge D asked where the RFA was up to with access to freshwater water supplies. The RFA has provided 2 comprehensive documents to Duncan G on the subject.

With no more general business Mal Poole closed the meeting at 12.47pm

**Stan Konstantaras
RFA of NSW Secretary
12th June 2011**

Abbreviations:

**NSW DII – Department of Industry and Investment – Fisheries NSW
ACoRF – NSW Advisory Council on Recreational Fishing
RFSTEC- Recreational Fishing Saltwater Trust Expenditure Committee
RFH – Recreational Fishing Haven
NPWS- National Parks and Wildlife
FRDC – Fisheries Research and Development Corporation
LMPA – Land and Property Management Authority**



Recreational Fishing Alliance Of NSW Inc

RFA Project Update March 2011

Current Projects:

- L047- RFA NSW Fishing Safely Within NSW**
- L050- RFA NSW Future Leaders Project**
- L063- RFA NSW Rockfishing Safety Resource Folder Mailout**
- L070- RFA NSW Rock Fishing Safety Workshops**
- L071- RFA Access Officer Project**
- L096- RFA NSW Asian Angler Awareness Project**

Project LO71 - RFA Access Officer Project

The main objectives of the project will be to achieve the following as well as seek out other additional opportunities and benefits in the process;

1. Establish a recruitment process for this project position,
2. Develop, and establish project strategies, plans and procedures around management, reporting and governance issues,
3. Develop a database to hold record and hold such information for the management of Crowns reserves, allowing easy public access, reporting, monitoring, reviewing and updating processes to occur,
4. Develop suitable generic Plans of Management for Terrestrial and Aquatic Public Recreational or Fishing Reserves,
5. Establish the RFANSW Lands Trust Boards, board structure, recruitment and membership selection, strategies and action plans, protocols around ethics and governance, prioritised vesting (reserve management) of a list of Crown reserves or the creation of new Crown reserves for areas identified with a need to be managed,
6. Develop and implement a reserve management process with Lands, Industry & Investment - Fisheries, local stakeholders following a prioritised list, investigate other reserve management opportunities within the same Regions,
7. Engage and consult with local, regional and state based representative fishing groups, around the objectives of care, control and management of such Crown reserves,
8. Develop and co ordinate the communication strategy, reports and ongoing awareness of the projects actions and activities.

The RFA received and signed the I&I NSW – Fisheries contract for the project, implemented a project panel, developed an initial strategy to recruit the project officer, liaise with various departments and recreational fishing groups and lead the development of the project plan to meet its objectives. Between Nov-Dec 2010 a recruitment process was completed and the Alliance appointed Christopher Robertson from Branxton in the Hunter Valley as the Project Officer. Chris is a past Lands employee with experience in dealing with land matters relating to public land usage on, or near waterways.

A number of meetings and discussion have been convened since Dec 2010 with the Land and Property Management Authority LPMA and I&I NSW – Fisheries staff, and angling groups such as the NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers and the Fly Fishers in the Southern Highlands club, with the view to establishing the project and building partnerships that will lead to securing a number of priority parcels of terrestrial and submerged public lands, leading to securing the future for fresh and saltwater recreational fishing access in NSW.

The LPMA have welcomed the project providing assistance with a dedicated LPMA Liaison Officer based in Sydney, Newcastle office space with computer access and training in LPMA process, systems, archives access and planning.

The evolving communication strategy is currently being implemented, this will allow the public to use social media options and the project web site www.nswangleraccess.com.au , these

will be operational by mid March 2011, they will be user friendly public access points displaying the project deliverables, and contain short detailed project updates & reports, minutes of meetings, past/current/future events, newsletters, a searchable site database with photos & video, publications, links, project action plans, and the important project milestone priority and evolving site lists with progress updates and outcomes.

Contact details for Chris: Mob Ph 0428 187 874 email info@nswangleraccess.com.au .



Project L47 - RFA NSW Fishing Safety Within NSW – “Dont Put Your Life On The Line”

As part of this Project, The RFA of NSW is producing 3 fishing safety DVDs to compliment its Rockfishing Safety DVD.

To date the Freshwater Fishing Safety DVD has been produced and is being reproduced by the NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers on our behalf for distribution.

Link to Freshwater DVD

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0aAqEYW2ovs&feature=mfu_in_order&list=UL

Next we focused on a Spearfishing Safety DVD which has recently been completed and a funding application is currently being submitted by the Underwater Spearfishers and Fisherman's Ass to reproduce and distribute this DVD.

Link to new Spearfishing DVD

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kJGfCmx7xIQ>

As part of our Milestone Payment of 70% Year 2 Funding we were required to complete the 2 aforementioned DVDs

Our final DVD in the series will be a Saltwater Fishing Safety DVD which has already commenced. Andrew ET Ettinghausen has completed 12 segments of this DVD to date. As part of this report we will also be submitting a claim for the 70% of year 2 funding that will enable us to complete the final DVD in the series.


Project L096- RFA NSW Asian Angler Awareness Project

This project was completed and value added to by pooling the original funding amount with a \$2000 contribution from ANSA and a \$6000 matching contribution from Surf Life Saving Australia. The funds were used in a large scale ethnic media buy in 2009.

I have attached an abridged version of the full advertising report. We also leveraged another \$6000 of free advertising in the editorials of these papers as we negotiated with the advertisers when the adverts were placed.

Daily Chinese Herald
14-15 November 2009

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**千萬不要令自己生命
懸毫一線
礁石垂釣安全守則**

在緊急情況下
應知道怎麼辦

Lif jackets - Useless unless worn

由二〇〇九年十一月開始十二個月內
每月有兩套救生衣
免費送出。

欲知參加手續請趕快查詢
WWW.SAFEFISHING.COM.AU
網頁。

要安全 了解情況

- 了解潮汐與天氣
- 千萬不要獨自一人垂釣
- 若天氣轉壞找一處比較平靜，有遮蔽的地點或回家去
- 詢問當地人士的意見
- 祇在你知道是安全的地方垂釣
- 讓別人知道你的所在地
- 花最少半小時觀察風勢和浪浪情況
- 計劃逃生路線
- 千萬不要背向大海

做好準備 攜帶合適的裝備

- 穿著救生衣
- 穿著有防滑鞋底的鞋
- 穿著輕便衣物
- 隨身攜帶手提電話
- 隨身攜帶一條繩索及浮泡

求救 - 在緊急情況下應知道怎麼辦

- 若有人被浪沖走千萬不要跳入水
- 用你的手提電話致電 112 或 000 或尋求幫助
- 用你備有的繩索或一些能浮水的物品去拯救他人
- 若你被浪捲入水中，要保持鎮靜，然後游離礁石
- 若附近有天使環救生圈，要懂得怎樣使用

欲知更多有關礁石垂釣安全的資訊，包括已翻譯成韓文，更多的資料單張及免費下載，請瀏覽 www.safefishing.com.au

Logos: NSW Government, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, NSW Communities Sport & Recreation, Australian Government, Department of Regional Affairs

Project L70- RFA NSW Rock Fishing Safety Workshops

As part of this project the RFA is holding 5 rockfishing safety workshops in NSW. Anglers from Korean, Vietnamese and Chinese backgrounds will be invited to attend.

To date we have completed a combined workshop of Korean / Chinese and Vietnamese rock anglers in which 3 interpreters were utilised and then subsequent to that we have held 3 more workshops.

On the 28th August 2010 a workshop was held at Port Kembla for Vietnamese anglers

On the 19th July 2010 a workshop was held at Harbord for Korean anglers

On the 19th June 2010 a workshop was held at Nth Curl Curl for Chinese anglers.

We have also participated in a rockfishing workshop at Avoca, near Gosford on the 12th December 2010 in much the same format as above, except the participants were invited to attend on the day rather than being picked up by coach and transported to the location.

On all of these days we average 30-40 NESB anglers attending and we utilise the Angel Ring Display trailer as well as the Fishcare Volunteer Trailer. We have contracted Alex Bellissimo, an expert rock angler as a teacher and incorporate a small fishing session and BBQ lunch. Surf Life Saving also attends and provides some advice on water safety as well.

In 2011 we have a session planned in conjunction with I&I staff on the 27th of February at Kurnell and a workshop planned for the 27th March at Cape Banks.







Project L63- RFA NSW Rockfishing Safety Resource Folder Mailout

Under this project it was originally envisaged that 5,000 resource folders would be reproduced and distributed. The A4 folders that were originally planned to be used were superseded by updated and modernized down to a single DVD case package size without loss of any content or messages. A DVD, tri-fold and printed messages are still contained within the smaller package that essentially when opened is the size of a standard A4 page. Under the original funding agreement 30,000 of these were reproduced.

To date almost 15,000 copies have been distributed via our www.safefishing.com.au portal and via angler interaction at shows, tackle shops, Fisheries Offices and Fishcare Volunteers.

