



The Queensland Recreational Fishing Sector May 2011

Sunfish Queensland, in representing the interests of recreational fishing in Queensland, requests all elected representatives, candidates and Parties to consider the following proposals. Recreational fishing is an important activity with a \$1.5billion value in Queensland involving some 750,000 adult Queensland residents. Recreational fishing is carried out in waters across the length and breadth of Queensland. The economic, health and social benefits associated with recreational fishing are immense.

Fisheries Management, Consultation and Engagement

- Establish a new Recreational Fishing Enhancement Programme with a suitable allocation annually over the next three years. The distribution of these funds is to be recommended by an advisory committee predominately from the recreational sector reporting directly to the Minister.
- Establish a small recreational advisory committee to consider and recommend to the Minister the allocation of funds raised from the levy for recreational fishing via boat registrations (currently raising more than \$4million annually).
- Provide continuing financial support for practical Angler Education programs towards inculcating responsible recreational fishing attitudes and practices among the public, and especially the young.
- Develop and implement a policy on off-sets for application in cases where there are losses or degradation of recreational fishing resources.
- Properly define recreational fishing its purposes, and how it must be managed within the Queensland Fisheries Act

Particular Fisheries Management Issues

- Totally ban commercial gillnetting.
- Introduce, in consultation with stakeholders, commercial Total Allowable Catches and or ITQ (Individual Transferable Quota) for the commercial fishing sector on all species which have a recreational bag limit.
- Introduce zoning for all east coast commercial net, crab and line fisheries.
- Make all important recreational species such as tailor, barramundi, flathead, swallowtail dart, Australian bass, winter whiting and bream non-commercial species.
- Increase the visible presence and responsiveness of Fisheries Inspectors.
- Remove netting from creeks, rivers and estuaries to protect nursery areas and spawning fish stocks.

Queensland Marine Park Issues

- Review the science of and application of Green Zones within the Moreton Bay Marine Park in line with the advice of the Queensland Government Independent Scientific Advisory Committee.
- Amend the Queensland marine park regulations so that all permitted activities in yellow (conservation) zones are consistent and uniform throughout the State. In particular prohibit all commercial netting in all yellow zones and allow the use of 2 rods in all yellow zones.

Contact: Judy Lynne

07 3882 4518

Mob 0409 056 437

judylynn@sunfishqld.com.au

