



Tasmanian Seafood Industry Council (TSIC)
Submission to
Tasmanian Recreational Sea Fishing Strategy

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Outcome 2: Involving the community in fisheries management

1. Involving fishers more in managing fisheries, including taking responsibility to protect them

The Tasmanian recreational and commercial fishing community have equal opportunity to contribute to fisheries management– i.e. Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee; TARFish representation; direct representation to the Minister; public consultation processes etc.

As with the commercial fishing sector, just because you don't like, agree or understand a decision doesn't mean you did not have opportunity to be involved.

2. Involving fishers more in citizen science programs

Any data used from a citizen science program must be robust, and the methodologies peer reviewed.

Outcome 3: Making it easier for people to go fishing

1. Program support to make fishing more accessible

What programs would you like to see implemented to make fishing more accessible?

Any promotion or strategies to increase recreational fishing effort must acknowledge increased recreational take. With many recreational target species already needing attention, government must implement appropriate management to constrain any increased take because of increased participation / recreational fishing effort.

2. Making fishing easier by changing group fishing rules

TSIC does not support the inclusion of 'group fishing rules' for species such as scallops and rock lobster.

3. Targeted promotion of Tasmania as a fishing tourism destination, and charter fishing

What actions are needed to promote sea fishing to tourists?

Fishing tourism is best accommodated through controlled and regulated charter activities. TSIC recommends the establishment of a non-Tasmanian sea fishing licence for interstate / international tourists. This should be at a higher rate than local costs, on par with inland fisheries and National Parks fees.

What actions are needed to support the charter fishery?

TSIC has for some time advocated for a regulated fishing / seafood charter sector, as these businesses are financially benefiting from Tasmania's marine resources. TSIC recommends the following:

- Establishment of a Seafood Charter Licence, inclusive of renewal fee to increase contribution to the management of Tasmania's marine resources.
- Establishment of a Seafood Charter Management Plan to better regulate this growing sector. This would include separate (non-recreational) catch limits and controls on some fishing activities.
- Establishment of mandatory daily logbook / reporting requirements for this sector.

4. Enabling fishing access through providing and improving facilities

What types of facilities would improve access and where?

TSIC notes that MAST hold the jurisdiction for boat ramps, jetties and other fishing facilities in Tasmania and must be included in any discussions around this topic.

TSIC further notes that improved and or increased accessibility will bring increased recreational (and commercial) fishing effort.

What actions do you think should be undertaken in relation to FADs and artificial reefs?

TSIC supports the further exploration of artificial reefs as a habitat to promote and support fish nursery habitats.

Like FADS, any structure that promotes the aggregation of fish – and fishing effort – would need careful monitoring and potential fishing restrictions to reduce localised depletion / excess fishing effort.

Outcome 4: Promoting responsible recreational fishing

It is important that the recreational sector is aware of and abide by the recreational fishing rules. Recreational fishing rules are readily accessible online.

Compliance and enforcement of the rules is a different problem and requires consideration. Any increased recreational fishing effort will require increased resourcing for and on ground surveillance by Tasmania Police

Improved communication of all (commercial and recreational) measures taken to improve sustainability should also be communicated to the recreational sector. This would improve the general knowledge and understanding of the measures / contribution of the commercial sector to sustainability.

Outcome 5: Ensuring the long-term sustainability of fish stocks and habitats

TSIC supports the mandatory requirement for recreational fishers to log and report their catch to DPIPWE and Fisheries

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Harrington', with a long, sweeping underline.

Julian Harrington
Chief Executive