

# DRAFT TASMANIAN RECREATIONAL SEA FISHING STRATEGY 2021 - 2030



The Tasmanian Recreational Sea Fishing Strategy is a forward-thinking approach to marine recreational fishing.

It recognises the importance of recreational fishing while addressing the challenges of maintaining healthy fish stocks in a changing environment.

The proposed Vision for recreational sea fishing in Tasmania is:

***The diverse recreational fishing aspirations of Tasmanians are met by promoting shared responsibility for stewardship and making sure our fish stocks are managed sustainably.***

Fifty-two Actions are identified under the Strategy including:

- A Flathead for the Future program to improve fishing for flathead
- Developing harvest strategies for abalone, rock lobster, scallop and key recreational scalefish species to safeguard fish stocks and incorporate recreational fishing goals
- Developing policy on resource sharing including considering recreational fishing zones
- Reviewing appropriate recreational fishing methods and gears
- Establish a recreational fishing infrastructure fund
- Making fishing easier for youth, women, and people of all abilities
- Modernising the sea fishing website.



We are seeking your views on the proposed Outcomes and Actions in the Draft Strategy. The final Strategy will be released by September 2021.

# ACTIONS IMPLEMENTATION TABLE

 <b>1. Valuing recreational sea fishing</b>	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Ongoing
Include recreational fishing performance measures in fishery harvest plans						
Develop policy to address resource sharing						
Undertake statewide socioeconomic research						
Assess options to recognise recreational fishing in planned <i>Living Marine Resources Management Act</i> review						
Work with TARFish, IMAS, IFS and national fishing organisations to monitor national and global recreational fishing developments						
Promote the importance of recreational fisheries and the needs of fishers						
 <b>2. Involving the community in fisheries management</b>	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Ongoing
Conduct annual Fishing Forums						
Engage fishers at public events						
Review RecFAC reporting and representativeness						
Work with TARFish, local fishing clubs, IMAS and CMS to review processes by which the community provides advice to Government						
Work with organisations to involve recreational fishers in data collection						
Promote citizen science and stewardship projects and establish a register of volunteers						
Investigate fishers nominating partial licence fees for preferred use						
 <b>3. Making it easier for people to go fishing</b>	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Ongoing
Convene a workshop to understand participation barriers						
Draft a 'No Barriers' policy						
Establish a female fishing network						
Assess the feasibility a 'buddy style' program for mobility impaired fishers						
Complete an audit of recreational fishing infrastructure						
Establish a Recreational Infrastructure fund						
Conduct a study on artificial reefs and FADs to better understand their impacts and value						
Work with MAST and TARFish to develop a code of practice for fishing around FADs and artificial reefs						
Review rules to allow catch sharing among lobster pot fishers						
Review rules to allow catch sharing among scallop divers						

 <b>4. Promoting responsible recreational fishing</b>	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Ongoing
Build a new sea fishing website						
Streamline the Recreational Sea Fishing Guide						
Enhance the Tasmanian Sea Fishing Guide App						
Work with IMAS to communicate more fisheries science and management						
Produce videos on responsible fishing, fisheries management and science						
Engage fishing identities and sponsor champions to promote messages						
Reinvigorate the Fishcare program						
Engage with tackle shops, charter fishers and marine businesses on key messages						
Develop partnerships with organisations who employ CaLD fishers						
Work with TARFish to update the Recreational Marine Fishing Tasmanian Code of Conduct						
Assess trends in fisheries offences						
Work with science communicators to better use innovative technologies						
 <b>5. Ensuring the long-term sustainability of fish stocks and habitats</b>	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Ongoing
Launch the Flathead for the Future program						
Develop harvest strategies for the abalone, rock lobster, scallop and some scalefish fisheries						
Undertake an audit of recreational gillnetting, beach seining and set-lining						
Evaluate recreational gear impacts and methods						
Review the Recreational Fishing Survey						
Develop a new project to better understand the implications of climate change for recreational fishing						
Promote understanding of stock health						
Establish a code of practice for wildlife interactions and a reporting mechanism for threatened and endangered species interactions						
 <b>6. Improving capacity to support recreational fishing</b>	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Ongoing
Consult with fishers on options to improve recreational fisheries management						
Develop efficiencies and collaborations with the IFS						
Conduct annual meetings with IFS and MAST to develop partnerships						
Ensure a partnership approach with TARFish and IMAS to target priority Strategy actions						
Establish collaborative Recreational Fishing Inter-Department Committee						
Identify co-investment opportunities with other agencies and partners						
Assess the feasibility of partnering with sponsors and philanthropic organisations						
Increase staff capacity to progress Strategy priorities and emerging management issues						
Improve compliance reporting services including lost gear						

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Developing the Strategy has relied on extensive stakeholder engagement over the past year:

- 150 key stakeholders, mainly recreational fishers were interviewed.
- The *For a Better Fishing Future* survey captured broader community views from 3208 respondents.
- Over 40 state-wide public meetings were held seeking feedback on 17 initiatives proposed in a discussion paper, *Towards a 10 Year Vision for Recreational Fishing in Tasmania*.

## How to make a submission

Download a copy of the Draft Strategy at [www.fishing.tas.gov.au/rec-strategy](http://www.fishing.tas.gov.au/rec-strategy).  
Submissions close on 26 July 2021.

- Online:** Fill out the response form at [www.fishing.tas.gov.au/rec-strategy](http://www.fishing.tas.gov.au/rec-strategy)
- Email:** Submissions can be emailed to: [recfishingstrategy@dpiwwe.tas.gov.au](mailto:recfishingstrategy@dpiwwe.tas.gov.au)
- Post:** Recreational Fishing Section, DPIWWE, GPO Box 44, Hobart, TAS 7001

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SEA FISHING  
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