

*The PFA represents its members' interests. If you need our help on any issue, please do not hesitate in contacting the PFA head office (6652 7374) &/or the Executive Officer (0429303371)*

## **ADVICE FROM THE DPI - COMMERCIAL FISHERIES ADJUSTMENT SUBSIDY PROGRAM - Registrations for the subsidised share trading market open 30 January 2017.**

*All fishing business owners will receive a registration pack in the mail with registration forms and information on how the subsidised share trading market will work. This information will also be available on the DPI website.*

*Please note, those who register to participate in the subsidised share trading market cannot trade shares on the 'open' market from 30 January 2017 until the subsidised share trading market has closed.*

*All fishing business owners are being encouraged to register to participate in the market so they have the opportunity when the market opens in early May 2017, even if they don't intend to participate now. This will be the only opportunity 'active' fishers will have to purchase subsidised shares, and for buyers and sellers to be anonymously 'matched' making the share trading process much easier than trading on the 'open' market.*

*Some owners may currently hold more shares than they require to be endorsed by the new share linkage arrangements. They do not need to purchase shares but may be interested in selling extra shares they hold when the price of shares is determined by the market in round one. Please note, share prices may vary between share classes and rounds of share trading, and owners must place at least one bid to buy or offer to sell shares in a share class in a round of trading, to participate in any subsequent rounds of trading. Up to three rounds of share trading may be held.*

*For more information on the Adjustment Subsidy Program please call the information hotline on 1300 726 488 or visit [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/asp](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/asp)*

## **Parliament**

As you may already know, due to the NSW Premier resigning, the Ministerial Cabinet has been disbanded. I was at Parliament this week and all things are on hold while Ministerial placements are being sorted. We do not believe that Minister Blair will change his Ministerial Portfolio of Primary Industries but I understand that announcements will be made next week about what Ministers will be responsible for what. In the meantime, having spoken with both the Minister's Office and Shadow Minister it was made clear that the Reform would continue, that the DPI had been given a strong message to roll out the Reform early this year and that the establishment of Ministerial Advisory Council for Commercial Fishers and the Independent Allocation Panel would be occurring shortly. They expressed their understanding of industry's concerns and issues put forward through the representative bodies and the Committee Inquiry but believed that it was important for the Industry to understand that the Reform was happening.

## **PIPI WORKSHOP – HELD ON FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2017**

We are just finalising the workshop report and will provide the DRAFT copy of the workshop outcomes to participants for their advice by early next week. Once participants are satisfied with

the accuracy of the report I will send it to the DPI in the following week. DPI Fisheries have committed to produce a Discussion Paper based on these recommendations for all pipi fishers' comments. I wish to thank all those who did attend the workshop – thank you for your contributions and sacrificing a day of week to attend. I believe the workshop was a great success and will drive much positive change for the Papi fishing industry. The PFA hopes that this approach can be adopted across other interested shareclasses.

## **SUBSIDISATION PROGRAM INFO FOR PFA CoM**

DPI Fisheries would like to provide a briefing to the PFA regarding the Subsidisation Program – how it will work etc. This has been schedule for Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February at 1:30pm at the DPI conference room. While we would like to invite all PFA members to attend, space is limited. We do suggest you seek your region Board member and provide any questions or concerns you may have for them to put forward on the day.

## **NSW MARINE ESTATE**

PFA is greatly concerned by statements made in the Marine Estate Management Authority recently released draft Threat and Risk Assessment Report for the NSW marine estate (media release attached). The purpose of the threat and risk assessment (draft statewide TARA) was to identify, assess and prioritises the threats to the social, economic and environmental benefits the NSW community, derive from the marine estate. However, there appears strange linkages, assumptions and misunderstanding in the initial documents. We are still going through the information and I intend to provide an initial briefing later next week for members.

## **CHEMICAL CONTAMINATION FROM PFOS IN WATERWAYS – TWEED RIVER**

As a result of the Williamtown contamination, it was strongly recommended that a number of “priority sites” be sampled for levels of PFAS. As part of this process, Airservices Australia has announced that it is investigating potential PFAS (per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances) chemical contamination from historical use of fire-fighting foams at Gold Coast Airport. Further investigations by Airservices will help to determine the extent of the contamination and if there are ways local residents might come into contact with these chemicals The EPA is working with other agencies including Department of Primary Industries, NSW Health, and NSW Food Authority to ensure the investigation is suitable, scientific and risk- based by closely monitoring results and keeping the community informed. More information on PFAS is available at [www.epa.nsw.gov.au/MediaInformation/pfas\\_investigation.htm](http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/MediaInformation/pfas_investigation.htm)

Information about the investigation is also available from:

- GCAPL at

[www.goldcoastairport.com.au/community/pfass-coast-airport/](http://www.goldcoastairport.com.au/community/pfass-coast-airport/)

If you have any questions or concerns, call the NSW Environment Line on 131 555.

## **MUST WATCH FOR ALL!!!**

Seafood Escape - Schedule for shows is below.

Episode 3 is Victoria Eastern School Whiting is airing Sunday January 29th

Episode 4 is Sydney Leatherjacket is airing Sunday February 5th

Episode 5 is WA Mullet is airing Sunday Feb 12th

Episode 6 is Hawkesbury River Prawns Sunday February 19th

Andrew Ettinghausen takes a journey with fishers and chefs around Australia to look at commercial fishing and the many species available. The Professional Fishermen's Association aided the FRDC in organising the shoot. We wish to express our sincere thanks to our PFA Director Mr Gary Howard and PFA Chairman Diego (Richie) Bagnato in taking ET out!!

*The content of this update is provided for information purposes only. The information on these updates are provided on the basis that all persons accessing the information undertake their own responsibility for assessing the relevance and accuracy of it.*