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## CATCH REPORTING MEETING

The PFA will be holding a Northern, Central and Sydney PFA Member Meeting in January next year to capture any concerns or issues members are having with the:

1. Catch reporting system
2. Management arrangements around the linkages.

The purpose of the meeting is to gather members concerns and suggested solutions to put forward to DPI Fisheries. As you may recall, DPI has previously advised that they understood there may be issues around the new systems and were willing to re-evaluate for practical and effective solutions. We will advise by next week the locations and dates of these meetings.

## NATIVE TITLE

Due to recent media reports and advice from concerned commercial fishers, the PFA spoke with the NSW Government regarding statements that "Native Title settlement recognises commercial trading rights in a first for NSW". The following formal advice has been received:

*"DPI Fisheries manages the State's fisheries resources on behalf of, and for the benefit of, all of the people of NSW. The management of this resource observes the objects and provisions of the Fisheries Management Act 1994, the Marine Estate Management Act 2014, and other applicable fisheries related legislation. Native Title holders' rights related to fishing are recognised and supported in the course of managing the State's fisheries resources with the understanding that native title holders are not bound by all of the State's fisheries laws when exercising their native title right to fish and gather resources for non-commercial use. **Commercial access to the wild fisheries resources is managed in line with the State's statutory commercial fishery framework. There are no exemptions to these rules being applied. Native title commercial rights that have been recognised are subject to management in line with the commercial fishery framework**".*

## CLARENCE - PRIVATE MOORING PROPOSAL

RMS is in receipt of a request for a Private Mooring Licence to be issued to a client with absolute waterfront property at Ulmarra. The client seeks that the site be approved outside the 'approved' mooring area/s upon the Clarence River, adjacent to his property at 1431 Pacific Highway, Ulmarra. The location is immediately downstream of the Ulmarra Vehicular Ferry on the Eastern Shoreline. RMS seeks the concurrence of the members of the PFA before proceeding with the issuance of a Private Mooring Licence as described. We have already received concerns from our PFA members who have rejected the proposal due to interference with an existing EPT shot – we have advised RMS accordingly.

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## INDEPENDENT ALLOCATION PROCESS

### Independent Allocation Panel Consultation Process

The IAP are inviting fishers to meet with them (one-one or in small groups) at the following locations and dates.

Location	Date
Sydney	14 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> December, 2017
Wollongong	18 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> December, 2017
Newcastle	9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 January, 2018
Coffs Harbour	17 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> January, 2018
Port Macquarie	23 <sup>rd</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> January, 2018
Eden	30 <sup>th</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> January, 2018
Ballina	7 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> February, 2018
Clarence	16 <sup>th</sup> January 2018, 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2016

**PLEASE NOTE:** Bookings will close 48 hours prior to the first date at each location.

To book go to <https://meetme.so/IAPBooking> and follow the steps. Alternatively, you may call Grant Thornton on 02 9286 5800 to book a time and location.

## EXPIRED FLARE DISPOSAL

Roads and Maritime has launched a program to help boaters dispose of expired flares, with mobile collections set up along the NSW coastline.

Examples of hand-held flares and parachute-rockets (marine pyrotechnics) commonly returned for disposal at nominated Expired Flares collection sites. It is an offence to set off flares except in an emergency. Flares signal that you are in trouble and provide an exact location for searching aircraft or vessels. Only ignite them when rescuers are in view and can spot your flare.

Most flares have a use-by date of three years and they must be replaced before the expiry date. Penalties apply. More information about flares



For locations of collection points, times and dates in your local area follow the link <http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/maritime/safety-rules/safety-equipment/flare-disposal.html>

## TWEED HEADS TO PORT MACQUARIE 2018

Location	Date	Time
Kennedy Drive Boat Ramp, Tweed Heads	Friday 5 January	2pm - 6pm
Fishery Creek Boat Ramp, Ballina	Saturday 6 January	8am - 12pm

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Location	Date	Time
Evans Head Boat Ramp, Evans Head	Saturday 6 January	2pm - 6pm
Yamba Road Boat Ramp, Yamba	Sunday 7 January	8am - 12pm
Coffs Harbour Boat Ramp, Coffs Harbour	Sunday 7 & Friday 12 January	2pm - 6pm
Fishing Tackle Australia, Coffs Harbour	Saturday 13 January	8am - 12pm
Stuart Island Boat Ramp, Nambucca Heads	Saturday 13 January	2pm - 6pm
Mattys Flat Boat Ramp, South West Rocks	Sunday 14 January	8am - 12pm
Westport Boat Ramp, Port Macquarie	Sunday 14 January	2pm - 6pm

Taree to Gosford, Ulladulla to Ballambi & ACT will be later in **January 2018** and we will advise dates in future newsletters.  
Greater Sydney region will be in **February 2018**.

## **SYDNEY FISH MARKET ACKNOWLEDGES PIONEERING FISHERS OF EVANS HEAD**

The Sydney Fish Market has committed \$10,000 to The Evans Head *Living* Museum towards the establishment of a memorial dedicated to the fishers of Evans Head. The contribution was announced last weekend at the opening of the Exhibition *First Bites* on the early days of fishing at Evans Head. Dr Richard Gates, President of the Evans Head *Living* Museum, said his organisation and the fishermen and their families were delighted with the generous support for the memorial. "The positive feedback we've had since the announcement has been amazing, and it's not just from the fishermen and their families. The wider community is also delighted with recognition of the role that Evans Head has played in the fishing industry both in Australia and around the world, and very much appreciates the support of the iconic Sydney Fish Market," he said.

Bryan Skepper, General Manager of Sydney Fish Market, said "that the Market wanted to acknowledge the important and historic role of Evans Head's fishers".

"We have collected considerable material over the past 15 years which helps not only tell the Evans Head narrative but also some of the story of fishing around the world and impact Evans Head has had from Somalia to PNG. The collection contains interviews with some of the Pioneers of the industry, various pieces of memorabilia including photographs and collections of newspaper cuttings, but also rare colour film taken in the early 1950's," he said.

The Exhibition was opened in conjunction with a Fishermen's Reunion organised by Merv Hargraves and Lill Colless and attended by more than 200 fishermen and their families.

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## **\$5m IN GRANTS FROM COLES**

The Coles Nurture Fund annually offers up to \$5m in grants and \$5m in interest-free loans to existing small to medium Australian producers, farmers and manufacturers to help innovate and grow business. Deadline January 19. More? <https://www.coles.com.au/corporate-responsibility/our-suppliers/working-together/coles-nurture-fund-guidelines>

*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.*