

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 Chief Executive Officer (0429303371)

NOTICE OF PFA AGM

All PFA members are advised that the **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** will take place on **Friday the 30th of November** at the **COFFS HARBOUR YACHT CLUB**. The AGM will be your opportunity to hear firsthand from Directors on the progression of PFA over the past 12 months. We ask you to keep a look-out for additional information which will be sent to you in the next week.

QUOTA ALLOCATION

I've been meeting and speaking with PFA members from across NSW regarding their devastation of their quota allocations and fears that they will not be able to remain the industry. The PFA continues to discuss these issues with DPI and the Minister's office to find some form of solution and assistance to our members. We have also been in discussions regarding the TAC setting process and ways to reduce uncertainties to improve the levels of the TACs.

LOST CONTAINERS

PFA and the Commercial Fishermen's Cooperative are meeting with the shipping company's insurers AusShip next Thursday in Newcastle regarding the lost containers and assistance measure for fishers. Due to our issues with the compensation criteria and dissatisfaction over offers to date, the PFA has been calculating the value of previous catches in the relevant grids. We will be providing these figures to AusShip as a basis for our discussions.

CATCH REPORTING ISSUES

We are currently working with DPI, the Commercial Fishermen's Cooperative and Coffs Harbour Fishermen's Cooperative to address possible misunderstandings regarding requirements compliance and practical reporting issues for quota fisheries for the cooperatives and fishers. Hopefully this will be resolved shortly with clarification provided to both cooperatives and fishers.

TRAWLER FUEL EFFICIENCY & BRDs

You may recall that PFA has been trying to get an open permit from DPI for trawlers to test a range of fuel efficiency and bycatch reduction methods and devices. We have also requested technical assistance so that fishers can be given help to monitor any of the permitted modifications to determine their effectiveness – fuel efficiency (drag) and how modifications perform underwater.

We need to provide advice to DPI of a list of fishers interesting in such a permit and program. Please contact us to be included in our advice to DPI for this program as soon as possible.

OCEANWATCH

OceanWatch is collecting (anonymous) information on outboard engine ownership. Legislation next year will encourage uptake of 4 stroke outboards based on cleaner emissions. We are keen to understand current usage and test for future incentives. Can you help us by indicating the outboard(s) your own?

The survey is only 4 questions and will take 1 minute to complete. If you have multiple outboards it would be appreciated if you could take the survey for each engine you own. Thanks.

www.surveymonkey.com/r/RZ7FC2B

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HEY!

Remember the safety survey you might've completed for either one or both of these two - Dr Kate Brooks and Alex Thomas some months ago?



YOU HAVE BEEN HEARD!

...And your feedback is being channelled back to the right people... but we want to double check with you that we have it right!

We're coming to a wharf near you and we'd love you to join us for a chat to check the results. We're asking for an hour of your time in groups of 6 - 8 of you, and will try our damndest to make it at time that suits you!

DATES

SYDNEY Friday 9th November
HAWKS BURY Saturday 10th November
BALLINA Monday 12th November
McLEAN & ILLUKA Tuesday 13th November
COFFS HARBOUR Wednesday 14th November
PORT STEPHENS Thursday 15th November
NEWCASTLE Thursday 15th November

Confidentiality is GUARANTEED

If you're interested in participating, please contact **Kate Brooks** on kate@kalanalysis.com.au



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The following advice has been provided directly by the DPI for the PFA. We intend to constantly have this direct communication from DPI available to our members as we believe it is important to have these DPI statements or reminders. If you have questions re the info please contact DPI directly.

MESSAGE FROM NSW DPI FISHERIES

Key dates

20 Nov 2018	New linkage commences - Estuary General prawn running net determination
23 Nov 2018	New linkage commences - Estuary General prawn set pocket draws and determinations
28 Nov 2018	Closing date for appeals to the Share Appeal Panel against the number of quota shares issued to a shareholder

Assistance measures open – for shareholders who have received new quota shares

From 1 November 2018 to 31 May 2019, shareholders who have received new quota shares may apply for assistance measures to help transition their businesses to the new arrangements. These assistance measures include low interest rate loans, business advice grants and free advice from the Office of the Small Business Commissioner, fishing business buyouts and retraining grants.

See <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/commercial/reform/assistance-measures> or application forms on the Rural Assistance Authority website: <https://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/assistance/bap>

Share appeals process

Please note that the Share Appeal Panel is independent, and DPI cannot provide advice on whether a shareholder should lodge an appeal, nor what issues the Panel may consider. Please see information on the DPI website at <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/commercial/reform/new-quota-shares> and if unsure, seek independent advice.

Commencement of new linkage in Estuary General prawning priority determinations

New Determination Certificates have been posted to estuary general prawning shareholders to notify the number of ballots (votes or nominations) available for priority determinations, before the new process starts on 20 Nov (running nets) or 23 Nov (set pocket nets).

Guidelines and fact sheets are available on the DPI website at <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/commercial/fisheries/eqf>

Proposed juvenile king prawn closures off Ballina

The Department is now seeking industry feedback on the proposed closure of two areas off Ballina to prawn trawling for a period of three months (1 December to 28 February) each year for the next five years (2018 - 2023). The closing date for submissions is **Wednesday 21 November 2018**.

A consultation paper detailing the proposal can be found on the NSW DPI website at

<https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/commercial/open-for-comment>

Send your submission to: georgina.eliason@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Commercial Fisheries hotline - 1300 726 488

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