

PFA NEGOTIATES BETTER OUTCOMES FOR THE SUPPORTING SEAFOOD FUTURES PROGRAM

The PFA has expressed its thanks to the NSW Government regarding its \$1million announcement of the NSW Supporting Seafood Futures Program, but also our concerns regarding its application criteria. Specifically, these issues included not recognising the industry's in-kind contributions and a requirement of matching \$ for \$.

After working with the Minister's Office and the Department through these issues, the NSW Government has agreed to consider applications that include in-kind contributions as part of 50% industry contribution requirement. For example, donated seafood as part of a seafood BBQ or festival.

In response to our issues with the limited timeframes for expenditure of funds within the 1st round, the NSW Government is unable to adjust due to the complicating issue of the state elections and the caretaker mode rules that they must abide by. The amended guidelines for the program can be viewed at [Supporting Seafood Future Guidelines](#). The information will appear on the very bottom.

If you need help in putting together a grant application for the NSW Supporting Seafood Futures Program, please contact the PFA – we are only too happy to help

NSW STATE ELECTIONS

The NSW State elections are scheduled for Saturday, 23 March 2019 from 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM.

PFA has already sent advice to the major political parties seeking their support for the NSW commercial fishing industry and their advice on the election platforms. We will compile these into advice to our members to assist them in their voting decisions.

Online or telephone voting - iVote

[iVote](#) is the new *technology assisted voting service*.

You can [apply to use iVote online](#) or by calling:

- 1300 2 iVote (1300 24 86 83) within Australia
- +61 2 9290 5287 from overseas

Applications open at 10am on Monday, 11 February 2019 and close at 1pm on Saturday, 23 March 2019.

Votes can be cast using iVote from 8am on Monday, 11 March 2019 to 6pm on Saturday, 23 March 2019.

PIPI CLOSURE CONFIRMED

The Department has advised that the seasonal fishing closure will be for five months, **1 February to 30 June 2019**. DPI has sent out confirmation via email and text to all Pipi shareholders.

NATIONAL AUSTRALIAN SALMON WORKSHOP

I, and a number of other NSW and national seafood industry representatives, fishers, post-harvesters, marketers and researchers are attending the FRDC's National Australian Salmon Market Development Workshop next week in Melbourne. The workshop is to look at Australian salmon market opportunities, drivers and barriers, opportunities and threats – and to look at how we, collaboratively through the states and supply chain, establish the market for the long-term.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NIKKI

Congratulations to Nikki our PFA Office Manager for successfully being given a place on this year's National Seafood Industry Leadership Program. Our thanks to Sydney Fish Market for their sponsorship of Nikki to attend! The National Seafood Industry Leadership Program (NSILP)

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)

is the only national industry-specific leadership program designed in consultation with seafood industry people for people wishing to take up leadership roles within the seafood industry.

AMSA SMS

The PFA is working with AMSA to strengthen its SMS templates to ensure we meet the National Maritime Safety Guidelines. We are finalising our templates now to include Authority Statements and Maintenance Plans and strengthen the existing operational risk assessments within the SMS. Once finalised we will email or post to all our members so you can include them into your existing SMS.

SEAFOOD DIRECTIONS CONFERENCE 2019

9 - 11 OCTOBER 2019 | MELBOURNE

Register your email to receive a reminder the day before tickets go on sale, access to early bird specials, accommodation deals and more. Go to <https://www.sd2019.com.au/>

FISH DEATHS

DPI has advised:

- The Darling River and adjacent banks within the Menindee township have now been cleared of dead fish following the clean-up by contractors working for Central Darling Shire Council. Four tonnes of dead fish have been removed from the area, the majority of fish were Bony Herring with some Golden Silver Perch and non-native carp.
- **The Murrumbidgee River**
 - DPI Fisheries officers investigated a recent fish kill at Redbank Weir that has affected thousands of fish.
 - The cause is believed to be related to low dissolved oxygen levels associated with the same cool weather that contributed to the recent fish deaths at Menindee.
 - Up to 10,000 fish are believed to have died including Murray Cod, Golden Perch, Silver Perch and Carp.
 - Significant numbers of dead fish are visible in the Murrumbidgee River downstream of Redbank Weir, however these are likely to have been washed downstream following the deaths within the weir pool. Water quality remains poor within the weir pool
 - DPI Fisheries is continuing to work with other state and federal agencies to consider the use of environmental water holdings within the Murrumbidgee to address ongoing water quality concerns.
- **Lake Keepit**
 - DPI Fisheries officers undertook further inspections of Lake Keepit yesterday evening and reported 10 large Murray Cod and numerous Golden Perch had died within the area previously affected by fish kills.
- **Lake Inverell**
 - Fisheries officers have investigated additional fish deaths downstream of Lake Inverell. Up to 100 fish have died in an isolated pool that is disconnected from river flow
- **Hot and dry conditions are likely to pose ongoing threats to native fish.**

Report similar incidents

Community members are encouraged to report any similar incidents or observations: Fishers Watch Phonenumber on 1800 043 536.

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.