

Fisheries Trust Fund reports

Commercial Fishing Trust Fund

DPI provides a range of monitoring, scientific, compliance and administrative services to the commercial fishing industry. DPI expenditure on commercial fishing activities is funded from consolidated revenue, with a contribution from the Commercial Fishing Trust Fund. Charges are levied for services such as licence administration and management but are not project specific. The Commercial Fishing Trust Fund also contributes to research and uses funds to leverage research and development support from other sources.

The NSW abalone and rock lobster fisheries are subject to cost recovery of attributable costs, although there is still some degree of government contribution and budgets are negotiated in detail with the relevant management advisory committees.

In 2022-23, the Commercial Fishing Trust Fund contributed \$2.919 million to DPI's commercial fishery-related programs.

Aquaculture Trust Fund

DPI provides a range of monitoring, scientific, compliance and administrative services to the aquaculture industry. The aquaculture industry is subject to full cost recovery for administration charges only and charges are not project specific. DPI's expenditure for aquaculture management and policy development is funded from consolidated revenue, with a contribution from the Aquaculture Trust Fund. The Aquaculture Trust Fund also contributes to research and uses funds to leverage research and development support from other sources (for example, Fisheries Research and Development Corporation, Seafood CRC).

In 2022-23, the Aquaculture Fishing Trust Fund contributed \$1.1 million to aquaculture related programs.

Fish Conservation Trust Fund

The Fish Conservation Trust revenue is sourced from fish conservation related permit fees and other charges. In 2022-23, the Fish Conservation Trust contributed \$164,000 toward fish habitat and fisheries conservation outcomes.

Aboriginal Fishing Trust Fund

The Aboriginal Fishing Trust Fund provides grants and loans for the enhancement, maintenance and protection of Aboriginal cultural fishing as well as for Aboriginal communities to develop businesses associated with fisheries resources throughout NSW.

In 2022-23, the Aboriginal Fishing Trust contributed \$145,000 towards Aboriginal fishing related projects.

Recreational and Charter Fishing Trust Funds

The Department of Regional NSW received funds from the Recreational and Charter Fishing Trust Funds to undertake various programs during the year as follows:

Table 9: Funds received by Department of Regional NSW

Fish Trust Fund	2022-23
	\$11,168,000
Recreational Fishing (Saltwater) Trust Fund	
	\$7,264,000
Recreational Fishing (Freshwater) Trust Fund	
	\$94,000
Charter Fishing Trust Fund	

In 2022-23 funds from the Recreational Fishing (Saltwater) Trust Fund were used for the following projects:

Table 10: Recreational Fishing (Saltwater) Trust Fund Project allocations

Project	Allocated	Expenses	Carry Forward
Coastal fish habitat protection and management	\$143,000	\$143,000	0
Eco-huts for recreational fishers	\$13,000	\$13,000	0
Expenditure committee meeting expenses	\$20,000	\$20,000	0
External large grants – disbursements made to various organisations for approved projects	\$1,874,000	\$1,874,000	0
Fish aggregation devices (FADs) and artificial reefs program boat motor and trailer replacement	\$46,000	\$46,000	0
Fishcare advisory trailers	\$39,000	\$39,000	0
Flagship habitat program	\$133,000	\$133,000	0
FADs operations	\$304,000	\$304,000	0
Fishcare volunteer program	\$630,000	\$631,000	-\$1,000
Fisheries officers (9 coastal officers)	\$1,398,000	\$1,398,000	0
Fisheries officers (mobile squads)	\$471,000	\$471,000	0
Gamefish tagging program	\$202,000	\$202,000	0
Great swordfish race	\$17,000	\$2,000	\$15,000
Marine stocking of key recreational fish species in coastal waters	\$237,000	\$237,000	0
Offshore artificial reefs	\$122,000	\$122,000	0
Recreational fisheries enhancement (artificial reefs and FADs coordination)	\$277,000	\$277,000	0
Recreational fishing access (coastal)	\$196,000	\$196,000	0
Recreational fisheries monitoring program: state-wide fishing and charter surveys	\$692,000	\$692,000	0
Recreational fishing trust executive officer	\$190,000	\$190,000	0
Research angler program	\$200,000	\$201,000	-\$1,000
Research on black bream fishery	\$5,000	\$5,000	0
Research on blue swimmer crabs in Lake Macquarie	\$13,000	\$13,000	0

Project	Allocated	Expenses	Carry Forward
Research on estuary cockles	\$60,000	\$60,000	0
Research on marine fish stocking	\$273,000	\$273,000	0
Research on fish usage of oyster reefs	\$26,000	\$26,000	0
Small grants – disbursements made to various organisations for approved projects	\$88,000	\$88,000	0
Sydney Harbour wharves compliance initiative	\$230,000	\$230,000	0
Trust grants governance enhancement project	\$127,000	\$127,000	0
Total	\$8,026,000	\$8,013,000	\$13,000

*The available column consists of funds from the trust fund in 2022-23, amounts carried forward from projects in 2021-22 and any unused project funds from previous years returned to the trust.

In 2022-23 funds from the Recreational Fishing (Freshwater) Trust Fund were used for the following projects:

Table 11: Recreational Fishing (Freshwater) Trust Fund Project allocations

Project	Allocated	Expenses	Carry Forward
Dollar-for-dollar native fish stocking program	\$220,000	\$220,000	0
Enhanced fish production at hatcheries for stocking (Port Stephens, Narrandera, Dutton and Grafton)	\$413,000	\$413,000	0
Expansion of Narrandera Fisheries Centre Hatchery	\$600,000	\$600,000	0
Expenditure committee meeting expenses	\$16,000	\$16,000	0
External large grants – disbursements made to various organisations for approved projects	\$648,000	\$648,000	0
Fishcare volunteer program	\$331,000	\$331,000	0
Fisheries officers (inland)	\$932,000	\$932,000	0
Freshwater fish tagging	\$10,000	\$10,000	0
Freshwater recreational management program	\$198,000	\$198,000	0
Fuel cards for fish stocking	\$6,000	\$6,000	0
Gaden Trout Hatchery	\$694,000	\$694,000	0
Hatchery technician at Narrandera Fisheries Centre	\$70,000	\$70,000	0
Inland stocking management	\$118,000	\$118,000	0
Making more maccas (Macquarie perch research)	\$97,000	\$97,000	0
NSW cold water pollution mitigation strategy	\$133,000	\$133,000	0
Recreational fishing access (inland)	\$300,000	\$300,000	0
Regional inland fish habitat protection and management	\$185,000	\$185,000	0
Research on freshwater recreational fishery in NSW	\$676,000	\$676,000	0
Screens for streams	\$184,000	\$184,000	0
Small grants – disbursements made to various organisations for approved projects	\$44,000	\$44,000	0
Stocking of advanced Murray cod to assist with post-flood recovery	\$8,000	\$8,000	0
Update of NSW trout strategy	\$38,000	\$38,000	0
Total	\$5,921,000	\$5,921,000	0

* The available column consists of funds from the trust fund in 2022-23, amounts carried forward from projects in 2021-22 and any unused project funds from previous years is returned to the trust.

In 2022-23 funds from the Recreational Fishing (Saltwater and Freshwater) Trust Fund were used for the following projects:

Table 12: Recreational Fishing (Saltwater and Freshwater) Trust Fund project allocations

Project	Allocated	Expenses	Carry Forward
Advisory Council meeting expenses	\$62,000	\$62,000	0
Fish for Life project	\$83,000	\$83,000	0
Get Hooked... It's Fun to Fish schools program	\$458,000	\$462,000	-\$4,000
Habitat Action Program 2018/19 and beyond	\$1,090,000	\$1,094,000	-\$4,000
NSW Gone Fishing Day	\$85,000	\$85,000	0
NSW fishing workshops	\$55,000	\$55,000	0
NSW recreational fishing environmental assessment	\$70,000	\$70,000	0
Recreational fisher research database	\$18,000	\$18,000	0
Recreational Fisheries Infrastructure Management Program	\$189,000	\$189,000	0
Recreational fishing fee administration project and Government Licensing Service transactions fees	\$2,164,000	\$2,164,000	0
Recreational fishing fee renewal notice system	\$93,000	\$93,000	0
Recreational fishing guides	\$120,000	\$120,000	0
Recreational Fishing Trust annual report	\$29,000	\$29,000	0
Total	\$4,516,000	\$4,524,000	-\$8,000

* The available column consists of funds from the trust fund in 2022-23, amounts carried forward from projects in 2021-22 and any unused project funds from previous years is returned to the trust.