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Metro area public briefings:- sustainability of demersal fish and recreational management options

Dept of Fisheries will hold public briefings at Hillarys, Fremantle and Mandurah on **9, 10, 11 October** with details of important research on WA demersal fish species and the need for a new approach to manage and control recreational catches of these species to ensure long-term sustainability. Public encouraged to attend.

www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/media/index.php?0000&mr=488 www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/media/index.php?0000&mr=487

Reality bites for metropolitan recreational fishing management and accountability

The metro recreational fishermen will soon be required to manage their catch at a sustainable level and will have no one else to blame if the local stocks do not recover. Will impose a new level of accountability and responsibility on recreational sector requiring significant research and compliance resources. Reasonable that ongoing access to some scalefish resources should attract a management fee - a recreational fishing license.

http://conservationwa.asn.au/images/stories/mediareleases/19_9_07fishingrealitybites.pdf

Fisheries Minister explains impact of Perth metropolitan commercial fishing closure

Metro commercial fishing closure will affect about 6 shark boats and potentially 28 scalefish fishery permit holders. The majority of these operators are not entirely dependent on access to the Metropolitan zone. Will reduce the volume of fish for commercial market by approx. 270 tonnes, an extremely small portion of the total commercial catch from WA. No requirement for compensation but Government has committed \$7.6M.

www.parliament.wa.gov.au/hansard/hans35.nsf/NFS/61ab4dad56f8c7a0c8257364002f89ea?OpenDocument

Blaming sustainability initiatives for fish price increases is 'way off the mark'

Fisheries Minister Jon Ford said attempts by some parts of the commercial fishing industry sector to blame recent hikes in fish prices on Government initiatives to ensure fishing remained sustainable showed that they were ignoring the real reasons. Changes would not be implemented until November. Catch records over the past two years showed there had been an increase in pink snapper and only a slight decrease in dhufish catch.

<http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/media/index.php?0000&mr=490>

Have your say in regional marine planning and no fishing areas for WA's south coast

Community workshops will provide an opportunity for interested groups and general public to find out more about the planning process and provide input about the things that are most important to them. Esperance 10 October, Kalgoorlie 11 October, Manjimup 22 October, Kojonup 23 October, Albany 24 October, more TBA.

<http://portal.environment.wa.gov.au/pls/portal/url/item/3B15B296540BA7A0E04010AC6E054266>

Court punishes greedy fishers' grab for pink snapper with \$10,000 in fines

Three men have been fined a total of more than \$10,000 for taking 24 pink snapper plus other undersize protected fish from Freycinet Estuary, Shark Bay, despite having pamphlets outlining the fishing rules, regulations and locations of no fishing zones. The penalties recognised the gross exploitation of a highly vulnerable species by these fishers.

<http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/media/index.php?0000&mr=485>

Recfishwest at the Mandurah Boat Show - meet us and sign up new members.

Recfishwest will be at the Mandurah Boat Show from 11 to 14 October 2007 on Stand 114 near the Aquatank. New members who join at the show will be entered in a draw to win a day's bream fishing at Walpole with well known local guide and bream expert Mark Halse, plus a night's accommodation in his chalet. Will also receive a free Halco Laser Pro 45 in 'Recfishwest' special colour while stocks last and be in the draw for other valuable prizes to be drawn before Christmas.

<http://www.recfishwest.org.au/index.html> <http://www.recfishwest.org.au/MandurahBoatShowStand2007.jpg>

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