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Casting Around the Internet with Recfishwest

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Lobby group Recfishwest under threat:- increase membership or government funding in jeopardy

Enormous pressures and challenges face recreational fishing:- diminishing stocks, more people wanting to fish, aggressive moves to exclude fishing from vast amounts of inshore waters and resource sharing with the commercial sector. The recreational fishing community desperately needs ongoing representation. The consequences of not having a lobby group looking after our interests doesn't bear thinking about. No good complaining about the deteriorating state of fishing unless you are prepared to do something about it.

<http://www.thewest.com.au/default.aspx?MenuID=157&ContentID=42661>

Environmental Protection Authority delays opening of Denmark's Wilson Inlet sand bar

EPA says it is highly unlikely the sand bar across the Wilson Inlet will be artificially opened this year. When the bar was breached this time last year, it had a negative impact on seagrass, fish and birds.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2007/10/08/2053607.htm>

Sharing the recreational and commercial crab and fish catch in the Mandurah estuary

Enhanced research effort for Mandurah is welcomed, two month crab closure is supported. A resource sharing agreement between the commercial and recreational fishing sectors is needed to ensure the long term sustainability of all fishing on the Peel-Harvey Estuary. There hasn't been enough money spent on monitoring the effect the Cut and changed marine environment has had on all of the estuary's fish stocks.

<http://www.abc.net.au/landline/content/2006/s2048620.htm>

DNA tester will show if fish really is the variety claimed.

A DNA "dipstick" being developed looks for and reacts with molecular genetic DNA markers that are unique to each fish species. Will initially be used to enforce fish catch limits of commercial and recreational fishers.

<http://www.news.com.au/couriermail/story/0,23739,22349921-3102,00.html>

Plastic pellets are pollutants in the South West coastal marine environment

There is concern about the increased number of plastic pellets polluting the marine environment in the South West. Many forms of sea life mistake pellets for fish eggs and accidentally ingest them. Research is being conducted to find out how plastic pellets enter the marine environment to develop strategies for prevention.

http://swcatchmentscouncil.com/uploads/File/Plastic%20Pellets13_9_07.pdf

High price paid for excess catch of undersized crabs at Mandurah

Four men have been fined \$15,070 for being in joint possession of 161 (158 undersize) blue manna crabs in the Peel Inlet in March 2007. Each had exceeded the daily bag limit of 20 blue manna crabs and had failed to release the undersize crabs within five minutes of taking them. Bag limits are reduced to 10 from Nov 2007.

<http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/media/index.php?0000&mr=491>

Next generation of recreational fishing leaders program is outstandingly successful

This program has started the process of filling the void of new leaders and increasing the capacity of the recreational fishing sector to meet the needs of the sector in the years ahead. With 19 participants from 7 states and territories, very confident these aspiring new leaders have a great deal to offer into the future.

http://www.recfish.com.au/hot_topics/pdf/media%20release%20NGL%20post%20program.pdf

Recfishwest Annual General Meeting and election of Board Members

Recfishwest's 2006/7 annual report will be presented to members at the AGM 7.30pm Friday 19 October at the Fremantle Sailing Club, Marine Terrace, Fremantle. There are three "new faces" in the five nominations for the Board. After the formal business of the AGM, Recfishwest members can ask questions and discuss anything about RFW or recreational fisheries management, and then share some refreshments afterwards.

<http://www.recfishwest.org.au/AGMNotice2007.htm>

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