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# *Casting Around the Internet with Recfishwest*

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## **New chief executive officer for Department of Fisheries**

Minister for Fisheries has announced the appointment of Stuart Smith as the CEO of the Dept of Fisheries for a term of five years. A national search and independent recruitment and selection process was conducted by the Commissioner for Public Sector Standards. Mr Smith has 20 years experience in State and Federal public sector.

<http://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/RecentStatements.aspx?ItemId=130837>

## **Minister reconsiders decision on power winches**

Feedback to Fisheries Minister about the use of power winches by elderly or disabled people when recreational lobster fishing has led to the deferral of a plan to ban the use of power winches to lift rock lobster pots for the coming 2008-09 season.. Conflict between commercial and recreational rock lobster sectors will be investigated.

<http://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/WACabinetMinistersSearch.aspx?ItemId=130842>

## **Launch of Future Leaders in Recreational Fishing program**

One of the key challenges is to ensure that more recreational fishers are able to make a lasting contribution towards improving the quality and enjoyment of the future fishing experience. Future Leaders in Recreational Fishing project will bring together recreational fishers who want to, or are making a real difference.

[www.freshwateranglers.com.au/Adobe\\_Files/Press%20Release%20Future%20Leaders%208-10-08.pdf](http://www.freshwateranglers.com.au/Adobe_Files/Press%20Release%20Future%20Leaders%208-10-08.pdf)

## **The future of recreational fishing looks secure**

The Canberra national conference titled "Recreational Fishing 2020 - a shared vision", aimed to develop a consolidated vision for recreational fishing and was attended by 75 of the country's most knowledgeable experts on recreational fishing. A common theme to emerge was the issue of access to fishing opportunities.

[www.recfish.com.au/hot\\_topics/pdf/MR%20-%20Recreational%20fishing%20conference%20a%20success.pdf](http://www.recfish.com.au/hot_topics/pdf/MR%20-%20Recreational%20fishing%20conference%20a%20success.pdf)

## **Researchers tune in to vocal fish**

Mulloway suffer badly from barotrauma, the effects of the expansion of gases inside a fish's body as it is brought to the surface. Studying their movements through catch-and-release tagging doesn't work because the first time the fish is caught and returned to the water may be fatal. Highly directional arrays of hydrophones with modern digital recording technology can identify the croaks of individual fish and their position and depth.

<http://www.thewest.com.au/default.aspx?MenuID=157&ContentID=103861>

## **Jetty closed amid collapse fears**

A popular Esperance fishing spot has been fenced off because of fears the structure could collapse, after it was found the frames supporting the concrete path are badly corroded and the concrete deck is breaking up.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2008/10/21/2397259.htm>

## **Code of Practice for recreational fishers**

The simple principles contained in this code recognise the laws and that many animals have an important role for human industry, consumption and recreation, plus they also have intrinsic value as living creatures and should always be treated in a humane way. Released fish should be handled to maximise their survival rate.

<http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/op/op051/index.php>

## **Great Australian shark count comes to Hillarys**

The Australian Underwater Federation, Recfishwest and federal government are holding a "Great Australian Shark Count - WA launch" at AQWA from 7-9pm on Friday 14 November 2008. Two presentations:- on Whale Sharks from Dr Mark Meekan from Australian Institute of Marine Science and Dr Adam Smith on community monitoring of sharks. Numbers limited, RSVP to Michael Rupnik at [shark@auf.com.au](mailto:shark@auf.com.au) or 0400 367 424

<http://www.auf-spearfishing.com.au/administration/events/documents/85.pdf>

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