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Casting Around the Internet with Recfishwest

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Murdoch University and Recfishwest seek fishers' input into research model

The computer model being developed in this study will help recreational fishers and fisheries scientists answer key questions about the biology and recreational fisheries for important WA demersal fish species. We need your help by completing a short survey and then join in a group discussion to capture fishers' knowledge about the habitat preferences, and movements between habitats, of Dhufish and Pink Snapper.

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

Tempers flare over fishing rights

Decisions made by the Minister and decisions pending on whether to close some areas to professional fishing have led to a row over fishing rights, claims of death threats and intimidation over photographing the fishing.

<http://www.fishingworldmag.com.au/news/tempers-flare-in-territory>

Submissions sought for Blackwood River mouth opening strategy

The mouth of the Blackwood River has migrated approximately two kilometres to the east. The changes to the mouth of the river contribute to an increased flood risk and reduced water quality in the lower reaches. The river's last commercial fisherman says its estuary in Augusta is turning putrid as the mouth slowly silts up and closes over. The mouth of the river is to be closed at the end of summer 2010 and reopened during winter 2010 at the western end of the sand bar. If work is not possible in 2010, then it will be done in 2011.

<http://www.amrsc.wa.gov.au/exec/files/090806BlackwoodRiverMouthStrategy.pdf> and

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/a/-/wa/5789249/blackwood-estuary-dying-says-last-fisherman/>

Showing the way in recreational fishing information

Solid data on recreational fishing and its economic and social value in Australia is limited, even though fishing is generally regarded as the biggest participation sport in the country. A recent report prepared in the United States provides a blueprint on the sort of information that can be obtained and how it can be used to influence government and interest groups, particularly the importance fishing plays in young peoples' lives.

<http://www.fishingworldmag.com.au/news/opinion-us-leads-way-in-fishing-info>

Federal trawl plan 'would devastate WA fisheries'

WA fishermen and environmentalists have condemned a Federal fishing proposal that could open up more than 10,000 sq km of ocean floor to trawlers. Fishermen say trawling will devastate ecosystems and could damage stocks of bottom-dwelling species such as pink, goldband and ruby snapper. A proposed redrawing of the 200m depth line would allow trawling into 4000 sq km in Gascoyne and 6000 sq km in the Kimberleys.

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/a/-/wa/5797496/federal-trawl-plan-would-devastate-wa-fisheries/>

More public say on aquaculture urged as prices plummet

The failure of a west coast venture should trigger a rethink on how the public can have more say on aquaculture development. Tuna prices have plummeted as Japanese consumers tighten their purse strings, and producers are also under pressure from conservationists as campaigns against tuna fishing gather pace.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/08/17/2658221.htm> and

<http://www.abc.net.au/landline/content/2008/s2663962.htm>

Fish deformities – suspected link to agricultural chemicals

Calls continue for a moratorium on the use of some farm chemicals after the discovery of more deformed fish, including a three-headed embryo, in stock from a local river. One suspected cause of the deformities is the toxic pesticide endosulfan used on plantations. Australia continues to allow the use of endosulfan, despite its use being banned by more than 60 countries, and manufacturer's plans to stop production because of the risks.

<http://www.fishingworldmag.com.au/news/bass-deformities-cause-chemical-reaction>

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