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Casting Around the Internet with Recfishwest

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New RFW Board members and Annual Report.

The 2009 Recfishwest AGM and elections held on 30 October have resulted in 7 new people on the Board, 2 Public, 1 Association and 4 new Bioregional members. The Annual Report for 2008/9 was presented.

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

Recreational rock lobster rule changes

Fisheries Minister Moore announced that some sustainability rule changes applying to commercial rock lobster fishing would also apply to recreational lobster fishing in 2009/10, with larger escape gaps in 2010/11.

<http://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/Results.aspx?ItemID=132692> and

<http://www.recfishwest.org.au/RockLobsterConsultation2009.htm>

Survey of fishing in Commonwealth Waters

Survey is to provide information to help recreational fishers demonstrate to the Australian Government that there is significant interest in keeping access to fish resources and fishing opportunities in Commonwealth Waters. Government plans to establish an Australia wide network of Marine Parks with no fishing zones.

http://www.recfish.com.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=80

Recreational Fishing 2020 - a shared vision of the future for the recreational fishing sector

The conference focus was on recreational fisheries management on a national level and the development of a shared vision for the future. Other items were: Recreational fishing involvement in the Marine Parks process; Federal and state future perspectives; Role of volunteer programmes; Animal ethics; Sharing the catch; Recreational fishers as researchers; Technology, efficiency and sustainability, managing innovation.

http://www.recfish.com.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=55&Itemid=48

Will there be fishing in the future

If recreational fishing is to survive, as it must, then we have to make sure that we continually look backwards to see how far we have come before looking at the enormity of the task in front of us. We also have to engage in a reasonable and responsible manner with all sectors and with politicians. We have to expose the fundamentalists from within our own and within other sectors and work hard to follow the creed for fisheries management - To do today, that which in 5 years will be proven to be correct.

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

What's killing the Swan River's dolphins

Six dolphins have died since June, with at least four of the six dead dolphins suffering from failing immune systems. Significantly elevated levels of the pesticide dieldrin were found in three dolphins, despite this being banned since 1988. These were comparable to the highest levels reported in marine mammals globally. Dolphins are at the top of the food chain so they reflect everything else that goes on in the ecosystem underneath them. Two of the dolphin deaths were linked to the mammals becoming entangled in fishing line.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/video/2009/11/13/2742737.htm> and

<http://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/Results.aspx?ItemID=132778>

New Fisheries strategy to boost industry, reduce complexity

Over many years, a vast amount of rules, regulations, limits and permit conditions have built up to cover fisheries management. It is too complex, too cumbersome and too inflexible. One of the major aims of the new strategy is to reduce the complexity of fisheries management while also ensuring sustainability.

<http://statements.cabinet.qld.gov.au/MMS/StatementDisplaySingle.aspx?id=67339> and

<http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/pub/StrategicPlan/index.php?0701>

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