



REEL NEWS

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Abrolhos Beckons for Young Future Leaders

In March of 2008, Recfishwest ran a program to bring together the next generation of young future leaders in recreational fishing, in order to educate and mentor them on recreational fishing advocacy and management. The inaugural program was hailed as an overwhelming success, with many participants taking up key roles within the industry following the completion of the course.

Recfishwest is excited to announce that it has received funding to repeat the program in 2011, which is taking place this week. The Abrolhos Islands have again been chosen as the location for the course, with participants staying at the Saville Kent centre on Big Rat Island. The islands are an iconic remote and unique recreational and commercial fishing location and provide an ideal location for the course.



Participants will be educated and mentored by experienced and recognised leaders from a range of industries involved in the fisheries management process. Topics covered include a fisheries management overview, as well as how management arrangements relate to fishing in Western Australia. Presentations from different sectors, including recreational and commercial fishing, fisheries compliance, research, governance, consultation and community sectors will all enhance participants' understanding of the fisheries management process.

Recfishwest Policy Officer, Matt Gillett, a graduate of the 2008 program, believes that this program is a critical step in ensuring the recreational fishing industry has the capacity to achieve its full potential, both now, and into the future.

The 2008 course provided an insight into the processes and considerations of fisheries management in WA, and the 2011 course will be no different. Recfishwest designed the course as an intensive training program in order to ensure that there are a number of young fishers capable of taking up leadership roles within the industry..



The selection process for this year's course was very competitive, with the 15 participants selected being of the highest calibre. Recfishwest is confident that the program will again provide quality young leaders for recreational fishing management and advocacy.

The 15 young future leaders are:

Kane Dysart
Joachim Azzopardi
Suze Gerovich
Andy Congram

Taygen Dray
Richard Carpenter
Natasha Prokop
Jodie Fissioli

Ben Malton
Tania Douthwaite
Wesley Juniper
Brody Laroux

Patrick Maher
Hayley Gebbie
Ben Collins

The program is funded by the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation.

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