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Guy Barnett, Minister for Primary Industries and Water

Delivering Tasmania's first 10-year Recreational Sea Fishing Strategy

The Tasmanian Liberal Government is getting on with delivering our clear plan laid out during the election to Secure Tasmania's Future.

As part of that plan, we are delivering the State's first 10-year strategy for recreational sea fishing and public submissions are being sought before the final strategy is released.

Tasmania has some of the best recreational sea fishing in the world and strategy will guide the future of recreational sea fishing and help maintain healthy fish stocks for current and future generations of Tasmanians.

To encourage fishing in the community, our election commitment included \$2 million for new and upgraded facilities and amenities, for example jetties, ramps and associated facilities. We are also providing \$1 million for new and upgraded facilities to support inland fishing access.

The Tasmanian Government is focused on the long-term viability of our valuable recreational fisheries which is enjoyed by more than 100,000 Tasmanians each year showing just how important recreational fishing is to the Tasmanian way of life.

The draft strategy released today has a strong focus on diverse stakeholder engagement, including recreational fishers, non-fishers, industry and community organisations and government bodies.

It proposes 52 actions across six outcomes focused on:

- · valuing recreational fishing;
- involving the community in fisheries management;
- making it easier for people to go fishing;
- promoting responsible recreational fishing;
- ensuring the long-term sustainability of fish stocks and habitats; and
- improving capacity to support recreational fishing.

The Draft Tasmanian Recreational Sea Fishing Strategy sets a decade-long vision for recreational sea fisheries in Tasmania.

To date, there have been three major public consultation stages, interviews with key stakeholders, a public questionnaire that received over 3200 responses and feedback on a discussion paper released in September 2020.

Consultation meetings will be held in Launceston, Burnie, St Helens and Hobart to discuss the draft strategy and seek public input on proposals.

Final submissions are open until July 26 and can be sent to <u>recfishingstrategy@dpipwe.tas.gov.au</u> and the final strategy is expected to be released by September.

For more information about the Tasmanian Recreational Sea Fishing Strategy visit the DPIPWE website: www.fishing.tas.gov.au/rec-strategy