

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 6  
Inquiry into the management and use of Crown land in NSW

### Questions on Notice 15 August 2016

#### **Transcript Page 25**

under the Crown Lands Act, for illegal occupation and so on. That is a significant rider. **The only other thing I would like to add to our submission is we should have pointed out there are significant social and recreational benefits to freshwater fishing and recreational fishing generally and there is some study that has been commenced of this by people interested in public health. If the Committee is interested I could undertake to forward a URL where that can be located. I notice some members of the Committee nodding, so I will attend to that.**

**The CHAIR:** Yes, please, that would be great.

Please see attached pdf files,

1. *Identifying the health and well-being benefits of recreational fishing*, Prof A. McManus, Dr. W. Hunt, J. Storey & J. White, Curtin University 2011.

<http://cessh.curtin.edu.au/local/docs/RecFishinglr.pdf>

2. *Investigating the Health and Well-Being Benefits of Recreational Fishing in Western Australia*, Prof A. McManus, Dr. W. Hunt, J. McManus & Dr R. Creegan, Curtin University 2014.

<http://recfishwest.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Recfish-Report-Final-September-2014.pdf>

In respect of the former, attention is drawn to other research publications at pages 43 & 44, and in respect of the latter, similar references pages 52-55 (inclusive).

Apart from the psycho-social benefits, the benefit of any outdoor activity in mitigating myopia is a topical concern. See French, A.N., Ashby, R.S., Morgan, I.G. & Rose, K.A. 2013. Time outdoors and prevention of myopia. *Experimental Eye Research*. 134: 58-68 (under reference in A.McManus et al 2014).

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**Mr BARTON:** If you look at the drawcard of freshwater fishing in New Zealand, one of the attractions in New Zealand is that there is very good access in place in a way that is not here.

**The Hon. CATHERINE CUSACK:** Can you tell us on notice what the differences are?

Freshwater fishing in New Zealand is managed by the Fish and Game Council, pursuant to certain statutory powers. The access guides are published by and vary between regions.

Some examples;

**Central South Island access guide**, see <http://centralsouthisland.fishandgame.org.nz/content/local-fishing-locations-access-3> This is entirely text based. An interactive map based access guide can be found at <http://centralsouthisland.fishandgame.org.nz>

**Otago access guide**, see <http://otago.fishandgame.org.nz/content/local-fishing-locations-access-4>

This page contains links to pdf access maps. For example, see the Catlins

<http://otago.fishandgame.org.nz/sites/default/files/The%20Catlins.pdf>

In addition, the Regional Fish and Game Councils negotiate access with private landholders, and such access is marked with prominent signs indicating "ANGLER ACCESS".

The Fish & Game Council also issues a periodical e-newsletter, "Reel Life". The August edition can be found at <http://www.fishandgame.org.nz/newsletter/reel-life-aug-2016>

The regional Fish & Game Councils also issue regular reports that touch on access. For example, see <http://centralsouthisland.fishandgame.org.nz/central-south-island-weekly-fishing-report>

The software for some of the access guides in New Zealand was adopted and refined by Paddle NSW, the peak canoeing body, for the Waterways Guide, its access guide to NSW waters;

<http://www.waterwaysguide.org.au>. Individual NSW freshwater anglers are using the site (with the encouragement of Paddle NSW) to post information relating to recreational fishing, including access information. Interactive mapping is used commencing at <http://www.waterwaysguide.org.au/map>

Yours faithfully



Don Barton  
President