

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 4- CUSTOMER SERVICE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

MEDIA RELEASE

Parliamentary committee to visit Narooma for the cultural fishing inquiry

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 27 July 2022

A parliamentary committee from the NSW Upper House will be visiting Narooma on the south coast of New South Wales on Thursday 28 July 2022 as part of the inquiry into the commencement of the Fisheries Management Amendment Act 2009.

The inquiry was established to investigate why legislative provisions for Aboriginal cultural fishing, passed in 2009, have not yet commenced. These provisions would allow an Aboriginal person to take fish despite the limits prescribed by the Act, where the fish are taken for the purpose of Aboriginal cultural fishing. The inquiry will examine challenges or barriers to the commencement of these provisions, along with the impact non-commencement is having on Aboriginal cultural fishing, and other issues.

The committee will hold a community roundtable in Narooma with invited participants, including affected individuals and representatives of the South Coast Aboriginal Fishing Rights Group and Katungal Aboriginal Corporation Regional Health and Community Services.

Details for the roundtable are:

| Date | Location | Time |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------|
| Thursday 28 July 2022 | Club Narooma, 88 Princes Highway, Narooma | 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm |

Committee Chair, the Hon Mark Banasiak, MLC said: "The committee looks forward to meeting Aboriginal community members and representatives of local Aboriginal organisations, and hearing about how the lack of provisions for Aboriginal cultural fishing are having an impact on the community."

The committee is made up of seven members of Parliament from the opposition, crossbench and government. The committee will gather evidence through submissions, site visits, and public hearings, and publish a report which will include recommendations to the government. Members of the public are welcome to watch the roundtable at Club Narooma or online.

Roundtable details

The hearings and public forums will be broadcast live on the NSW Parliament's website: https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/Pages/webcasts.aspx

The roundtable schedule is on the committee's website:

https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/inquiries/Pages/inquiry-details.aspx?pk=2850#tab-hearingsandtranscripts

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