



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 4- CUSTOMER SERVICE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Aboriginal cultural fishing inquiry

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**17 August 2022**

A parliamentary committee from the NSW Upper House will be having a public hearing on Friday 19 August 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.

Committee Chair, the Hon Mark Banasiak, MLC said: "The committee recently travelled to Narooma to meet with Aboriginal cultural fishers on the South Coast and other key community organisations. We heard firsthand how the non-commencement of this provision is having an impact on members of the Aboriginal community. At our hearing on Friday we will take further evidence from a variety of witnesses, including commercial fishers, lawyers, academics and government representatives".

While members of the public are welcome to observe the hearing, seating is limited due to covid restrictions. Members of the public can watch the hearing live via the Parliament's website:  
<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/pages/webcasts.aspx>.

For more information about the inquiry, including details of who will be giving evidence, please see the committee's webpage: <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/inquiries/Pages/inquiry-details.aspx?pk=2850#tab-hearingsandtranscripts>

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*For media enquiries please contact the Chair the Hon. Mark Banasiak, MLC on 02 9230 3511*