



19 August 2022

Cultural Fishing Inquiry into the commencement of the Fisheries Management Amendment Act 2009

Aboriginal Fishing Trust Fund expenditure

The Aboriginal Fishing Trust Fund provides grants and loans for the enhancement, maintenance and protection of Aboriginal cultural fishing as well as for Aboriginal communities to develop businesses associated with fisheries resources throughout NSW.

To date, 28 projects and close to \$1 million (\$944,800) have been approved and supported under the AFTF since the first funding round in 2017/18 across inland and coastal locations of NSW.

A further \$1.8 million is available in the trust and the latest funding round offers \$500,000 which is open until 24 August.

Table. Summary of the 28 Aboriginal Fishing Trust Funded projects 2017-18 to 2020-21 - regional split and funding type

| Region | Funding Platform | Totals (\$) |
|---|------------------|----------------------|
| South Coast | Cultural | 60,253 |
| | Economic | 374,173 (40%) |
| | Research | 0 |
| | TOTAL | 434,426 (46%) |
| Greater Sydney Region (Newcastle-Wollongong) | Cultural | 37,470 |
| | Economic | 103,000 |
| | Research | 0 |
| | TOTAL | 140,470 (15%) |
| North Coast (including Mid North Coast) | Cultural | 43,480 |
| | Economic | 110,000 |
| | Research | 70,244 |
| | TOTAL | 223,724 (24%) |
| Inland | Cultural | 146,180 |
| | Economic | 0 |
| | Research | 0 |
| | TOTAL | 146,180 (15%) |
| GRAND TOTAL | | \$944,800 |

Summary of the 28 projects funded by the Aboriginal Fishing Trust Fund 2017/18 - 2020/21

| Year | Applicant and Project Summary | Amount | Funding Platform | Location/ Region |
|-------|--|-----------|------------------|---------------------------|
| 17/18 | Aboriginal oyster business This project sought funding for infrastructure to re-establish a rundown inherited family oyster aquaculture business in Wonboyn Lake NSW. The aim was for the business to be economically and environmentally sustainable and profitable for the applicant and family, and to assist the community with employment opportunities. Lease clean-up was finalised in December 2018. Two thirds of the new infrastructure had been settled by July 2019 with those new lines producing stock whilst the project was completed (December 2020). | \$117,736 | Economic | Coastal / Far South Coast |
| 17/18 | Moringa Aquaculture Aboriginal Corporation Funding for resources needed to continue cultural fishing/net hauling in Botany Bay. | \$5000 | Cultural | Coastal / Sydney |
| 17/18 | NSW Aboriginal Fishing Rights Group auspices by Katungul Aboriginal Corporation Community & Medical Services Running a series of workshops for the Wallaga Lake Village Men's Group where they will make their own gillnet that they could use for cultural gatherings and events. | \$3940 | Cultural | Coastal / South Coast |
| 17/18 | Commercial fishing business Funding was provided to support their business to access a new boat, trailer and motor to operate and meet their business objectives - commercial fishing and training young Aboriginal people how to fish. Funding was also provided for the development of a business and marketing plan. | \$55,000 | Economic | Coastal / South Coast |
| 17/18 | Commercial fishing business Grant for the purchase of capital equipment for a commercial fishing business. | \$12,000 | Economic | Coastal / South Coast |
| 17/18 | Forbes Aboriginal and Community Working Party (Sponsored by Lachlan Landcare Inc): Bundaburrah Creek Dabu yarra muran project This project links revegetation of specific native plants to provide materials for weaving and fishing workshops to facilitate cultural fishing practices with equipment (fish/yabbie traps) and improved education of broader community. | \$67,585 | Cultural | Inland / South West |
| 17/18 | Peak Hill Aboriginal Working Group Party (sponsored by Central West Lachlan Landcare): Educating students about cultural fishing and enhancement of Bulgandramine fish habitat This project educates the community on cultural fishing and increase habitat at the Bulgandramine Mission site through planting of native species and weed reduction. | \$5000 | Cultural | Inland / Central West |
| 17/18 | Coffs Harbour and District Local Aboriginal Land Council Development of a Land and Sea Country Management Plan. | \$2350 | Cultural | Coastal / North Coast |
| 17/18 | Commercial fishing business Grant for the purchase of capital equipment for his business. | \$10,000 | Economic | Coastal / Central Coast |

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|-------|---|-----------|----------|---------------------------------|
| 17/18 | Yarkuwa Indigenous Knowledge Centre: Werrpanakata Fish Park Development of a fishing park, and associated facilities, to provide educational material on the environment, fish habitat, wetlands and Indigenous cultural values. | \$73,300 | Cultural | Inland / South West |
| 18/19 | Nambucca Local Aboriginal Land Council: Enhancing garlaany (pipi) (Plebidonax deltiodes) population in Gumbayngirr Investigation of garlaany population structure, abundance and distribution using cultural knowledge and western scientific assessment methods for a reseedling trial in locations identified as optimal for survival and grow out. | \$70,244 | Research | Coastal / North Coast |
| 18/19 | Commercial fishing Business Funding was provided to acquire more quota within commercial hand gathering industry to continue professionally. | \$100,000 | Economic | Coastal / Far North Coast |
| 18/19 | Miimi Aboriginal Corporation: Remember your dreaming - fishing on Country Funding was provided to facilitate local Aboriginal elders and community members to access cultural fishing sites, and practice cultural fishing activities, whilst recording and sharing their knowledge with other community members. | \$8,330 | Cultural | Coastal / North Coast |
| 18/19 | Moringa AAC cultural fishing project Funding was provided to continue cultural fishing previously approved under Section 37 cultural fishing permits. We arrange 2 activities/workshops for children in December/January each year and we also seek to fish for travelling mullet from March to May each year. | \$5,000 | Cultural | Coastal / Sydney |
| 18/19 | Back to Country - cultural fishing and education Funding was provided to educate Yuin men, young and old, in Yuin ways of knowing, learning, doing and being with fish in a respectful and sustainable practice(s). | \$8,000 | Cultural | Coastal / South Coast |
| 18/19 | Magick Dennis Family Clan (Sponsored by Milan Dhiyaan): Guya yalaayn, guya yinabil (fishing line and fishing hook) Funding was provided to help recreate the opportunity to learn traditional laws about fishing while also learning the ancient crafts of hand making string for traditional fishing lines and hand carving traditional fishing hooks from shells and bones. | \$5,000 | Cultural | Both / North West & South Coast |
| 18/19 | Wellington Local Aboriginal Land Council - Wellington Wiradjuur Wambool Fishing Camps Funding was used to provide a camping experience where Elders and community members can share cultural fishing, river and land management knowledge to youth | \$10,530 | Cultural | Inland / Central NSW |
| 18/19 | Moogahlin Performing Arts Inc: Fishing competition and carp muster as part of the Festival of Baiame's Nghunnu Funding was provided to support a fishing competition and carp muster which included information about water quality, river habitat and cultural heritage. The event raised community skills and knowledge. | \$3,500 | Cultural | Inland / North West |
| 19/20 | Thaia Country Aboriginal Corporation Funding was provided to assist in netting fish that will be handed out to Aboriginal community and Elders. The fish will be handed out to community at no fee or exchange for goods. | \$10,956 | Cultural | Coastal / Far South Coast |

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|-------|---|-----------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 19/20 | South West Rocks Figtree Descendants Aboriginal Corporation Workshops making traditional fishing spears and traditional fishing nets for community members to have an opportunity to connect to culture and country. | \$5,000 | Cultural | Coastal / North Coast |
| 19/20 | Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council Undertake four cultural 'Fish for a Feed' camps during spring time for Aboriginal young people (13-17 years) on Darkinjung Ngura (Country) to maintain and protect Aboriginal cultural fishing. | \$13,735 | Cultural | Coastal / Central Coast |
| 19/20 | Katungul Aboriginal Corporation Community & Medical Services The aim of project is to make traditional fish nets and a small boat with community members to help improve health and exchange traditional culture skills. Further, the project will conduct Aboriginal cultural water-based training to promote knowledge and learning opportunities for members of the Aboriginal community through employment, training, and education. Also, this strategy allows the participants to catch fish to supply to their local Aboriginal community. | \$19,357 | Cultural | Coastal / South Coast |
| 19/20 | Jerringa55 Funding was provided to conduct Aboriginal cultural camps to educate the community about sustainable take of marine resources. | \$8,000 | Cultural | Coastal / South Coast |
| 19/20 | Birpai Local Aboriginal Land Council Funding was provided to support developing an Aboriginal Cultural Fishing (ACF) program to be run in conjunction with the new draft Hastings Cultural Fishing LMP. A multi-year program, with year one as a standalone project to improve capacity and develop ACF in the region. | \$22,800 | Cultural | Coastal / North Coast |
| 20/21 | Joonga Land and Water Aboriginal Corporation Funding has been provided to purchase a purpose-built vessel that will conduct cultural water-based tours to promote economic opportunities for members of the community through employment, training and education. | \$189,437 | Economic | Coastal / South Coast |
| 20/21 | South Coast Seaweed The project seeks to run two workshops for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people on the South Coast to learn about traditional uses of seaweed and identify different types and uses of seaweed in their local region. | \$5,000 | Cultural | Coastal / South Coast |
| 20/21 | Thunggutti Local Aboriginal Land Council The project looks to link a riparian repair project currently being delivered, planting grasses and reeds appropriate for weaving and involve a series of hands-on weaving workshops. | \$5,000 | Cultural | Coastal / North Coast |
| 20/21 | Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council The Badhugal Project looks to deliver activities to improve the marine environment, including marine debris clean ups, seeking improvement of water quality and fish habitat. | \$103,000 | Cultural/ Economic | Coastal / Central Coast |