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The Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW

"Promoting Sustainable Fishing"

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Anglers Unite Over NSW Marine Park Reviews

A interactive website has been set up by concerned NSW South Coast anglers, spear fishermen, game fishers, land based anglers and sport fishers in response to the current review of the Jervis Bay Marine Park.

The www.savejb.com website allows interested members of the public to easily make a submission to the JBMP review with the aim of maintaining sustainable recreational fishing access in Jervis Bay and surrounding waters.

The fully automated submissions, which take only a few minutes to complete, must include personal details and a brief personal statement.

The completed submissions will be automatically emailed to the JBMP offices, as well as to the NSW Environment Minister, the NSW Fisheries Minister and the NSW Shadow Fisheries Minister.

The www.savejb.com campaign has been established along similar lines to the successful www.savesol.com campaign, launched last month in response to a review into the Solitary Islands Marine Park on the NSW North Coast. The www.savesol.com campaign has already recorded more than 1000 submissions supporting the continuation of well managed and sustainable fishing in the park.

Local anglers involved with the formation of the www.savejb.com website say the focus of the campaign is to maximise environmental outcomes while minimising the marine park's impact on recreation fishing opportunities for local and visiting anglers and their families.

"Fishing is the most popular activity in the Jervis Bay Marine Park. It is a great family-based activity that is well managed, has minimal environmental impact and which is a vital part of the local economy. Anglers are happy to work with the JBMP to protect the environment but we wish to ensure that fishing access is maintain and improved. We will not accept unfair lock-outs based on dodgy science and the devious machinations of anti-fishing group" said spokesman Jim Hamwell, a long-time Jervis Bay resident, keen angler and former member of the Jervis Bay Marine Park Advisory Committee.

"This www.savejb.com website allows anglers from the local area and from around Australia to have a say on how the Jervis Bay Marine Park is managed. We expect thousands of submissions over the next month and we expect the NSW Government and its Marine Parks Authority to heed what we are saying."

The www.savejb.com website is supported and endorsed by the Jervis Bay Game Fishing Club, the Shoalhaven Gamefishing Club, the Bay & Basin Lure & Fly Fishing Club, the Australian National Sportfishing Association, the Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW, the Australian Fishing Trade Association, the Underwater Skin-divers and Fisherman's Association, local fishing tackle shops, local fishing charter businesses and national fishing and spearfishing media organisations.

The closing date for submissions to the review of the Jervis Bay Marine Park and Solitary Is Marine Park is 5pm on September 17, 2010.

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