

**Submission  
No 84**

**INQUIRY INTO COMMERCIAL FISHING IN NEW SOUTH  
WALES**

**Name:** Mr Warren McWilliam

**Date received:** 6 December 2016

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**Registered office:**  
577 Singleton Road  
Loughtondale 2775  
Via Wiseman's Ferry  
ABN: 97200112909  
Email: admin@wildcaughtcoalition.com

November 2016

**NSW Parliamentary Inquiry  
MEMBER PERSONAL  
SUBMISSION**

**Send to:**  
**The Director**  
**Inquiry into commercial Fishing NSW**  
**Upper House Committee**  
**Parliament of NSW 2000**  
**SYDNEY**  
**NSW**

**From:**

**Name:** Warren McWilliam

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** 3/12/16

Please sign every page.....



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## Commercial Fisher Personal Comments to the Inquiry

### Introduction:

I am a commercial fisher working in Region: 4

I have been in the Fishing Industry for: 16 Years

I have many concerns for the way the commercial fishery is being managed in NSW and draw your attention to my personal views on the following:

### The Impact to my Business Shareholding is as follows:

Fishery	<u>Meshing</u>	Shares held:	<u>125</u>	Shares now required	<u>225</u> extra
Fishery	<u>Cat 2 Hauling</u>	Shares held:	<u>125</u>	Shares now required	<u>Nil</u>
Fishery	<u>Fish trap</u>	Shares held:	<u>125</u>	Shares now required	<u>250</u>
Fishery	<u>Mud crab trap</u>	Shares held:	<u>125</u>	Shares now required	<u>Nil</u>
Fishery	<u>Handline &amp; haul</u>	Shares held:	<u>125</u>	Shares now required	<u>250</u>
Fishery	_____	Shares held:	_____	Shares now required	_____
Fishery	_____	Shares held:	_____	Shares now required	_____
Fishery	_____	Shares held:	_____	Shares now required	_____
Fishery	_____	Shares held:	_____	Shares now required	_____

I have had to pre purchase shares because:

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please note the following personal views of the impacts to my business and my personal situation: Reforms will reduce my catch by approx 60% making it unviable.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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### Commercial Fisher Personal Comments to the Inquiry

#### Subsidised Trading:

(circle the answer you support)

- In Your opinion is it fair? ..... Yes /  No
- Has the process been adequately explained? ..... Yes /  No
- Can you access a computer? .....  Yes / No
- Did the training answer your questions? ..... Yes /  No
- Can you have ease of trading your shares knowing that you will get  
enough to continue what you did pre the reform? ..... Yes /  No
- Do you agree that you are trying to buy back your job? .....  Yes / No
- Have you borrowed money? ..... Yes /  No
- How will the debt you have incurred affect your viability?  
It will be better? ..... *N/A* ..... Yes / No
- Do you see that you will have more value in your business? ..... Yes /  No
- Do you agree to the need to linking shares with effort or quota? ..... Yes /  No
- Do you perceive that the process has made it impossible for you to  
regain shares to reach the level of effort for your business viability? ....  Yes / No
- Did you support the message to the Minister that inactive share  
holders should be offered a buy-out first with a fair offer? .....  Yes / No
- Did you support the message to the Minister that NO fisher should be  
Forced to buy back their jobs to do what they do today? .....  Yes / No
- Is paying even 5% or 10% for the shares taking you into too much debt?  Yes / No
- Are you able to participate in the share trading? ..... *Unsure* ..... Yes / No
- Do you support how this reform has been structured? ..... Yes /  No
- In the period 2007 to 2016 have you ever agreed to a Reform in this manner? ... Yes /  No
- Did your Management Advisory Committee agree to a reform in this manner? ... Yes / No  
*Unsure*

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### Commercial Fisher Personal Comments to the Inquiry

(Circle the answer you support)

Did you know about the 'Pyrmont Pact' and the decision by NSW Seafood Industry Advisory Committee? To remove 100% inactive effort and 50% active effort? ... Yes  No

Do you support this to be a fair strategy for 2016? .....Yes  No

Do you agree to the method selected by DPI to use the collective Catch History of the individual fisher, divide this with all fishers across the state in a pro rata distribution for some fisheries to develop quota and or effort? ..... Yes  No  \*

If you disagreed with the Linkage options and the reform; were you welcome to sit at the working group meetings ..... Yes  No

Can you clearly make a business decision from the information that has been provided to you for this Business structural adjustment program at this stage? ..... Yes  No

Are you aware of any harvest strategy or cost benefit analysis? ..... Yes  No

**Mock/Preview Share trading:**

Did you participate in this? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes  No

Did this resolve your questions? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes  No

**Please explain:**

There was no feedback. Process is/was not transparent. I lack trust in DPI to provide correct analysis of the share trading.

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## Commercial Fishers Personal Views

(Circle the answer you support)

Has DPI given you any information and analysis of the outcome of the trading?  
.....Yes /  No

Is it a satisfactory result? ..... Yes /  No

Please explain:

I still have no idea if I will be able to  
purchase shares or if shares are even  
available and how much they will cost.

Is your current debt prohibiting you from borrowing for your business? Yes /  No

Please verify did you utilize the grant for financial advisor? ..... Yes /  No

Did the advisor confidently recommend investment? ..... N/A ..... Yes / No

Do you support the changes for unendorsed crew brought out in July? Yes /  No

Why? This will put increased pressure on fish  
stocks.

Were you adequately advised of these changes? ..... Yes /  No  
your views: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have the changes in writing that give you clear directions on what is  
permissible in your region? ..... Yes /  No



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**Personal Commercial Fishers views:**

**(Circle the answer you support)**

**Do you have issues in your region with the Prawn Draw?      Yes /  No**

**Please explain**

N/A

**Do you support the further culling of Active commercial fishers from the inshore waters estuaries and lakes in NSW? .....      Yes /  No**

**Please explain:**

Unless they are adequately compensated.

**Do you support the movement of Quota into other regions .....      Yes /  No**

**Why?**

i strongly believe things should be left as they are.



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## Personal Commercial Fishers views

(Circle the answer you support)

Given there is approximately 1% of the Australian Population allowed to commercially fish to provide seafood for approximately 78% of the population who do not fish recreationally do you agree that there is a major management issue in providing local seafood to local communities in NSW? .....Yes / No

Your views:

Unsure. Don't understand the question.

Further Comments.

The 16 million dollars in funding should be used to buy out fishers who want to leave the industry, assuming the government wants to reduce the number of fishers. With current proposals, most fishers will have to pay money to keep a viable business. This doesn't make sense! I bought my business in good faith, knowing the rules & regulations that were in place. Since then, the governments

Remember to attach correspondence you have sent to DPI, or the Minister,





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in power have eroded away my fishing rights and my means to make a living.

I believe the current reform proposals are straight out theft of my business. I am very angry at how I am being treated.