

## INQUIRY INTO COMMERCIAL FISHING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

**Name:** Name suppressed – Partially confidential

**Date received:** 9 December 2016

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Partially  
Confidential

WILD  
CAUGHT  
FISHERS  
COALITION  
INC

BY FISHERS. FOR FISHERS

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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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date: 9/12/16

Please sign every page.....

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_ 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 Estuary General Shares held: 125 Shares now required 500

Fishery Meshing 4 Shares held: \_\_\_\_\_ Shares now required \_\_\_\_\_

Fishery Estuary General Shares held: 225 Shares now required 150

Fishery Handline Shares held: \_\_\_\_\_ Shares now required \_\_\_\_\_

Fishery \_\_\_\_\_ Shares held: \_\_\_\_\_ Shares now required \_\_\_\_\_

Fishery \_\_\_\_\_ Shares held: \_\_\_\_\_ Shares now required \_\_\_\_\_

Fishery \_\_\_\_\_ Shares held: \_\_\_\_\_ Shares now required \_\_\_\_\_

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Fishery \_\_\_\_\_ Shares held: \_\_\_\_\_ Shares now required \_\_\_\_\_

Fishery \_\_\_\_\_ Shares held: \_\_\_\_\_ Shares now required \_\_\_\_\_

I have had to pre purchase shares because:

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Please note the following personal views of the impacts to my business and my personal situation: \_\_\_\_\_

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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? *Applied for loan* ..... ☒ Yes / No
- How will the debt you have incurred affect your viability?
- It will be better? ..... 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? ..... ☒ 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

## Commercial Fisher Personal Comments to the Inquiry

(Circle the answer you support)

Did you know about the 'Pymont 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:

No information was returned  
regarding my bid. No report  
was issued to participants  
as promised by DPI.  
I firmly believe the mock preview  
was for solely for the benefit of DPI.

## 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:

It was claimed that this was to answer  
questions for industry. But has only  
caused more anxiety and distrust.

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? ..... Yes / ☒ No

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

Why? It was done without any thought of having  
unrestrained effort for 12 months without the  
proposed linkages in place. Was done to keep  
happy a small group that have much influence in  
DPI and National

Were you adequately advised of these changes? ..... Yes / ☒ No

your views: It has devalued the crew share class  
a year before expected.

Do you have the changes in writing that give you clear directions on what is permissible in your region? .....

Yes / ☒ No

Personal Commercial Fishers views:

(Circle the answer you support)

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

Please explain

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

Please explain:

It will reduce the supply of local seafood to the consumer, caught by an invested business owner. Will affect the coastal communities that rely on the seafood supply chain for income, ie seafood outlets, fuel, transport, marinas, restaurants

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

Why?

allows for unprecedented concentration of Effort. Not in the best interest of the stocks of Fishery

## Personal Commercial Fishers views

(circle the answer your support)

Is there now a visible Increase of trap setting in your region that concerns you?

Yes / No.

If you're an Indigenous Fisher:

Have you been informed of your future participation in the reform adequately?

Please explain:

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Are you being ostracised by other fishers since the trapping and hauling net and prawn draw changes have occurred ..... Yes / NO

Please explain: Skipper opting for unendorsed  
crew over shareholder.

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If you are a Line West or Line East Fisher please state which fishery and if you know what is proposed for your fishery..... Yes / No.

Please clarify: \_\_\_\_\_

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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:

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Further Comments.

*See attached*

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



WILD CAUGHT COALITION

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Estuary General		
Region 4	Shares Currently Owned	Shares Needing to Purchase
Meshing	125	500
Category One Hauling		
Category Two Hauling		
Fish Trap		
Eel Trap		
Mud Crab Trap		
Prawning		
Hand Gathering		
Handline and Haul Crew	225	150

Estuary General		
Region 5	Shares Currently Owned	Shares Needing to Purchase
Meshing		
Category One Hauling		
Category Two Hauling		
Fish Trap		
Eel Trap		
Mud Crab Trap		
Prawning		
Hand Gathering		
Handline and Haul Crew		

Estuary General		
Region 6	Shares Currently Owned	Shares Needing to Purchase
Meshing		
Category One Hauling		
Category Two Hauling		
Fish Trap		
Eel Trap		
Mud Crab Trap		
Prawning		
Hand Gathering		
Handline and Haul Crew		