

**Submission
No 124**

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

Name: Mr Wayne Meyer

Date received: 9 December 2016

From Wayne Leslie Meyer

To the Commercial Fishing Inquiry

9/12/16

I have been fishing for 15 years and my parents fished for about 25 years.

If this restructure comes in, my family and I will have to sell our house and business because we have a house mortgage and a personal loan.

And why should we have to pay more money to buy more shares when we have already paid enough as it is.

If this goes through, we will need to access at least:

- 25 Estuary General Prawn (Region 2) shares
- 100 Estuary Prawn Trawl - Clarence River shares
- 500 Estuary General Mud Crab (Regions 2) shares
- 250 Estuary General Handline & Hauling Crew (Region 2) shares

As yet there has been absolutely no indication what the expenditure would be to achieve this additional shareholding, and yet we are being expected to accept the reform as it is proposed.

I cannot borrow any more money to buy more shares, and the quota for Region 2 Mud Crabbing is not enough: 735.6 kg is insufficient to cover the costs of being endorsed for Mud Crabbing and remain profitable.

I have great concerns about the Clarence River Fishermen's Co-operative (Maclean, Iluka, Yamba) if this reform comes in, as fishers will be forced out of the industry and Co-operatives could close down.

We have had meetings about mud crabbing regarding the quota and how many traps we can run. Our point made was "No fisher should run more than 20 traps", and we have had no feedback at all.

I hope that you reconsider this reform because it is going to destroy a lot of families. Maybe the people responsible for this reform should buy their jobs back, too.

Regards,

Wayne Meyer

Fishing Registration number 040004