

**Submission
No 138**

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

Name: Mr Peter Stanton
Date received: 16 December 2016



Registered office:
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Via Wiseman's Ferry
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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: PETER STANTON

Address: _____

Date: 28/11/16

Please sign every page.....



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Commercial Fisher Personal Comments to the Inquiry

Introduction:

I am a commercial fisher working in Region: 6

I have been in the Fishing Industry for: 25 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>375</u>
Fishery <u>Prawning</u>	Shares held: <u>100</u>	Shares now required <u>150 min</u>
Fishery <u>handline haul crew</u>	Shares held: <u>100</u>	Shares now required <u>? will sell</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 _____
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:

I have tried to buy shares for the last 2 years on fisheries share trade web site. I have had only 1 response. I still have no extra shares.

Please note the following personal views of the impacts to my business and my personal situation: these new reforms

have potential to destroy my fishing, my sons future, and the future of my grandchildren



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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? *Have applied for Gov 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

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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:

I Put in my bids for shares needed. I still don't know if bids were successful. I don't know what percentage fisheries are going to subsidize my offers so it is very hard to know what to offer



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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:

How can I make a informed
business decision on how much money
to spend on shares when I don't know what
percentage fisheries are going to subsidize my kids

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 will only bring conflict to
long term fishers who work along
fisheries will be worked harder

Were you adequately advised of these changes? Yes / No

your views: my views were put in writing and
ignored as usual practice from
NSW fisheries

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

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don't know enough to make a
informed decision

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

Please explain:

all sustainable fishing businesses that have been proven to be able to make a living over a period of time at least 10 years have no good reason to be destroyed by NSW fisheries

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

^{Why?}
no because the quota in each region was caught in that region. if you move quota from 1 region to another it will result in over fishing region quota moved to very basic to work that out



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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)**
not yet

If you're an Indigenous Fisher:

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

Please explain:

my son is indigenous he currently
leases my fishing licence. I am
very worried for his and his
family's future he has 2 young boys
A house to pay off put food on the
table ect. he has worked with me for last
10 years.

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

Please explain: I don't have these endorsements

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: I don't have these endorsements
any more



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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:

The people of NSW have a right to eat fresh fish from their state. The majority of fish eaters don't catch their own fish. It is my job as a commercial fisherman to supply people of my state of NSW with fresh local fish.

Further Comments.

If my job as a commercial fisherman is sustainable with all reports from scientists confirm and my business is profitable there is no reason why any government should try its best to destroy it. Fishing is a lifestyle and these reforms will destroy a lot of fishermen's lifestyles.

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



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they will lose all self worth
there place in there community ect.
all because of Political Pressure
from amateur fishing Lobbyist
who only care about themselves
they are the Greedy fisherman
10% of amateurs catch 90%
of the fish caught by amateurs.
this 10% has already had a big
impact on commercial fishing
in my region with around 30%
of fishing grounds shut down
to commercial fishing already.
and they want more - they dont care
about the science. I remember
Australia as the country giving
the small bloke a fair go. Governments
all say they want small business
to thrive, yet this current government
is trying to destroy small fishing
businesses. for what reasons we dont know
because there is no valid reasons only
political gain. The people of NSW
deserve the right to eat fresh local fish.