EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In tabling this report, the Standing Committee on State Development seeks to increase awareness of the major problems facing the State's fisheries and, through its recommendations to the Government, address existing shortcomings in the present fisheries management system. The Report is divided into four parts. The first introduces the principal issues by examining the New South Wales fishery's history and predominant physical and administrative characteristics. Part two

The History of Fishing and Fisheries Management in New South Wales

Prior to European colonisation, fish and other aquatic species constituted a significant source of food for both inland and coastal aborigines. Aboriginal fishing activity appears to have had little impact on fish populations or distributions.