MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 18 October 2012

REC FISHERS CONSULTED ON CROWN ROAD CLOSURES

Deputy Premier Andrew Stoner has assured recreational fishers that their interests are considered under the program to close Crown roads on or adjacent to private land.

“The NSW Government understands the importance of ensuring fishers’ rights are protected and that access to waterways is maintained,” Mr Stoner said.

“Crown Lands met recently with representatives from the Recreational Fishing Alliance, the Angler Access Project and NSW Fisheries to discuss this very issue.

“While the NSW Government is accelerating the closure of Crown roads to clear a large backlog of applications, there is a robust consultation process.

“Our priority is to close unnecessary Crown roads not required for public access.

“Road closure applications are referred for comment to relevant government agencies, adjacent land holders and local councils, as well as advertised in local media.

“Importantly, road closure applications that may potentially affect fishing access are referred to NSW Fisheries for consultation regarding access requirements.

“It is the role of NSW Fisheries to liaise and advise local fishing groups that might be affected by a road closure application.

“Each application is considered on its merits, and affected parties or objectors are given full opportunity to state their case.

“This robust referencing system is working well and will continue under the current program.

“We are lucky to have thousands of beautiful fishing spots across regional NSW.

“Recreational fishing provides a great boost to regional NSW and has the full support of the NSW Government.”

Fishers wanting information about road closure applications can contact Crown Lands on (02) 4925 4104.

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