



## 2007-08 SA RECREATIONAL FISHING SURVEY

Update 3

July 2008

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***Welcome to the third newsletter covering the April to June quarter of the recreational fishing survey.***

### **On-site survey of marine fishers**

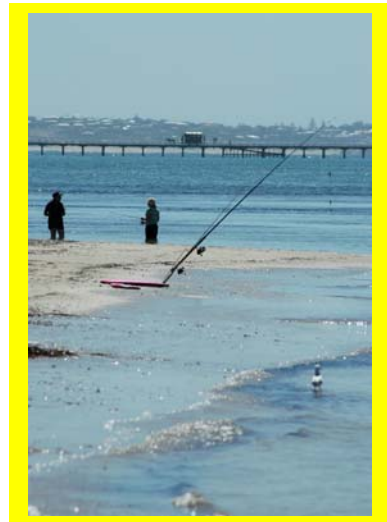
Surveys in all marine regions of the state, (except the south-east) were undertaken during this quarter.

Since the Recreational Fishing Survey commencement in October, 2007 a total of 1,920 interviews of fishing parties have now been undertaken, with continuing very high response rates in all areas surveyed.

Over this nine month period, these surveys have resulted in a total of just over 23,000 retained fish/shellfish being measured. The measurements will be used to estimate the average harvest weights of key species by fishing region and by fishing platform for each season.

All data collected to date has been entered into a database, and data entries have been validated.

These on-site surveys have also provide an excellent opportunity for PIRSA Fisheries staff to “get to know” recreational fishers in SA, as well as providing some indicative information about interstate anglers fishing here.



Also, by following this information over the three quarters, we’re starting to see seasonal patterns in the types of species targeted, as well as the sizes of some of the key species.

### **Recreational fishing logs**

More than 60 avid marine and/or freshwater anglers reported on their fishing activities during this last quarter through the PIRSA Fisheries recreational log book program.

Their fishing activities covered many marine and freshwater fishing sites throughout the state, with data on the lengths of both retained and released fish provided by these avid anglers.

Regular contact with these fishers has been maintained throughout the survey by phone calls, emails or through the PIRSA Fisheries web-site.

The lengths of the retained fish will supplement the data collected from the on-site surveys with those gathered on species landed at night or at sites not sampled as part of the on-site surveys.

All freshwater data to date, comprising more than 140 freshwater fishing events by the avid anglers, have now been entered into the access database. The marine log book data for the period up to March, 2008 has now also been entered.

### **Phone/diary survey**

During this quarter, all 1,300 randomly chosen recreational fishing households were regularly monitored through the phone/diary survey to gather catch (numbers) and fishing effort information through our four experienced phone interviewers.

Edited data from this component of the survey is currently being entered into the database.

### **Next Quarter and completion of the survey**

The fourth quarter (July – Sep, 2008) will complete the data collection phase of the 12 month survey. Due to closed seasons for rock lobster and pipis, the level of on-site sampling will be less in some areas during this quarter.

In October, a short wash-up survey will be run with the 1,300 fishing households, seeking views on their recreational fishing motivations and awareness of fisheries information and regulations. Also, a sample of non-eligible respondents will be interviewed to determine the level of additional effort by those households, who did not originally intend to fish, but actually went fishing during the survey period.



These components have to be carried out at the completion of the general survey to ensure that no changes in fisher reporting behaviour take place during the survey. This part of the survey will greatly assist in the interpretation of the final catch and effort estimates.

By the end of October, all data should have been entered into the databases, and analysis of the data is to commence. Data will be expanded to reflect the SA population, through the ABS census records for 2007 (available late in 2008).

