

National Fisheries Plan Coordination Group Communique

This week, representatives from the Commonwealth, state and territory governments, Seafood Industry Australia, the Australian Recreational Fishing Foundation, and the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation's Indigenous Reference Group, have come together to agree on a way forward to progress the National Fisheries Plan.

Australia's first National Fisheries Plan (the Plan) was released on 5 April 2022 with the support of all state and territory fisheries ministers and the commercial, recreational and First Nations fishing sectors. The vision of the Plan is: *Sustainable growth and development of Australia's fishing, aquaculture and seafood community for the benefit of all Australians and our aquatic ecosystems now and into the future.*

The Plan provides a shared vision and strategic framework to prioritise actions and enhance collaboration amongst Australian governments and relevant sectors to drive sustainable growth of the Australian fishing, aquaculture and seafood community.

All involved identified the importance of collaboration between the sectors and governments to achieving outcomes for the fishing and seafood industry. The groups first meeting is an important milestone as we move to implementation of the Plan.

The Coordination Group will develop and oversee the progress of a framework to coordinate and monitor the implementation of initiatives for fisheries managers and sectors set by the National Fisheries Plan.

At the meeting, the Coordination Group committed to further exploring:

- The large range of actions underway to address the priorities of the Plan
- The identification of priority areas for collective action, and
- Opportunities for collaboration

The group will meet again in mid-2023.