

Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries

Mr Phillip Ingram
President
Anglers Action Group (Sydney Northside) Inc
PO Box 630
NARRABEEN NSW 2010

Dear Mr Ingram

Thank you for your letter of 17th November concerning recommendations contained in the Auditor-General's Report to Parliament 2002.

Following release of the Auditor-General's Report to Parliament in 2002 clarification was sought with respect to the trust funds administered by NSW Fisheries and the associated reporting requirements.

I am advised that as the trust accounts are not separate accounts of NSW Fisheries they do not require separate financial statements or an audit in their own right.

Whilst I note your comments, all the information you request is already available from the annual report. In particular appendix 36 of the 2002/2003 report provides information on each of the trust funded projects and the financial statements provide details on the funds placed in the trusts. Funds placed into the two recreational fishing trusts are raised through the sale of the recreational fishing license and the way the funds are spent is shown through the financial statement and appendix 36. I have enclosed a copy of the NSW Fisheries Annual Report for 2002/03 for your information.

The Marine Parks Authority budget is provided to the three agencies involved in the management of the Authority, the National Parks and Wildlife Service, NSW Fisheries and the Premier's Department. These funds form part of each agency's appropriations and details on revenue and expenditure are consolidated and incorporated within the annual accounts details of the relevant agency. The Government has yet to respond to the Auditor General's recommendation on this matter.

If you have further enquiries please do not hesitate to contact Mr Tim Powys, Principal Manager, Administration and Finance on (02) 9527 8534.

Yours Sincerely

Ian MacDonald MLC
NSW Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries

(stamped 2nd Jan 2004)

