

NSW DEPARTMENT OF
PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

MF06/1874

(stamped 21 JUN 2006)

Mr Phillip Ingram
President
Anglers Action Group
PO Box 630
NARRABEEN NSW 2101

Dear Mr Ingram

Thank you for your letter of 3 May 2006 to the Hon Ian Macdonald MLC, NSW Minister for Primary Industries regarding the Manning River Recreational Fishing Haven (RFH). The Minister has asked me to respond to you on his behalf.

I note your concerns regarding the major proposal put forward by commercial fishers to change the boundaries of the Manning RFH.

The Minister has previously advised that small changes to the boundaries of existing havens will only be considered on the basis of strong community consensus, including the advice from the Advisory Council on Recreational Fishing (ACoRF). It is apparent that a consensus has not been reached on this proposal.

However, the Minister has approved a minor change to re-align the upstream boundary of the Manning RFH near Ghinni Ghinni Creek so that it would run at a right angle to the River, rather than diagonally. The re-alignment, which has been endorsed by ACoRF, should simplify both compliance and commercial fishing operations.

NSW Department of Primary Industries will develop a formal process for understaking community consultation (particularly with regional communities) on future proposals for RFH adjustments in consultation with ACoRF and the Seafood Industry Advisory Council.

Yours sincerely

RENATA BROOKS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL
AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND REGIONAL RELATIONS

