

Title: **The Recreational Fishing Story: A Role for the Economist Because Conventional Biological and Effort Restrictions are not Enough**

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Abstract: Many of Australias most valuable fisheries are not appreciated as such and so have miniscule management budgets. This situation is considered to be common elsewhere too.

The paper argues this situation needs to be addressed from both scientific and community perspectives, but is ultimately doomed to fail unless the political and economic aspects are fully appreciated and addressed.

The paper explores why community fishing policy in Australia as elsewhere lacks rigor from the social, legal, economic and environmental perspectives. Such fisheries are undermanaged and so under-resourced - almost everywhere despite being politically and economically very important.

Politicians and fishery managers have yet to come up with really successful win-win strategies which are both widely accepted and widely adopted.

This paper looks at some of the political and community constraints and proposes some really simple workable fisheries management solutions which satisfy fundamental economic and societal principles.

The paper uses both Australian/New Zealand and north American/European case studies to illustrate the key points made.