

## **No3. Angling Guides Policy**

### **NSW CFA Policy Statement No. 3 (revised) August 2001**

#### **OBJECTIVE**

The NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers represents the interests of all freshwater anglers in NSW and as such it is appropriate that a policy be established from the client's perspective as to what the angling public expectations should be for a high level of professionalism in angler guiding.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Angling guides primarily provide an introduction to fishing for novices and guiding services to experienced visiting anglers. In many countries guides are the main source of information and assistance to tourists. Indeed, in some countries, it is now obligatory that tourists use the services of a registered guide. The Professional Fishing Instructors & Guides Association is widely recognised in this role of setting high ideals of ethics and standards of performance in angler guiding, and has a constitution that reflects many of the needs and expectations of the angling public. The Council also acknowledges that such an association of professional guides should be a self regulating body with accreditation from the State Government and the tourism industry. While recognising the good work of associations such as PFI&GA, the Tasmania's premier Fly Fishing Guides, and the like, NSW CFA seeks to ensure that the highest of guiding standards, ethics and recognition in guiding service are achieved for all anglers throughout NSW.

#### **POLICY**

The NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers supports the registration of members and adoption of a minimum standard of professional conduct for angler guides that embraces the following in their Profession's code of conduct.

Guides are to

- provide an accurate and clear statement as to the nature of:
  - the service to be provided in line with that requested,
  - the type, condition and facilities of the accommodation to be used and/or the food to be provided,
  - details of the gear to be provided by the guide & client,
  - transport arrangements as to whose vehicle is to be used, -arrangements to ensure fishing licence coverage for the period involved,
  - the timing of the service and expected fishing hours, and
  - the cost of the service and method of payment required:
- possess both the knowledge and ability to ensure the client's safety and provide adequate and appropriate insurance cover:
- observe, foster and promote the State's fishing regulations, conservation of the environment, promote catch and release, and possess an authoritative knowledge and understanding of the fishery's natural history, heritage and surrounds:
- maintain exemplary standards of behaviour and sportsmanship in line with the profession, and not fish while guiding a client unless invited to do so by the client~ or that the charter specifies a fishing companion and not a guide:
- ensure the appropriate image for the profession by ensuring the condition and maintenance of all equipment and tackle at all times reflects a high standard of professionalism: and
- that due recognition is formally gained from an appropriate authoritative body (State Government or State Government Department) to provide public recognition and confidence in the standard adopted and adherence to an adequate code of ethics.