



**The Hon. Adam Marshall MP**  
Minister for Agriculture  
Minister for Western New South Wales

OM20/5771

Mr Peter Gibson  
President  
NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers  
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Dear Mr Gibson

Thank you for your letter of 1 September 2020 regarding recreational fishing access in Sydney water supply reservoirs. I appreciate the reasons that have prompted you to write.

I understand that many recreational fishers are interested in the potential opportunities offered by these reservoirs and note that a preliminary quantitative risk assessment was undertaken on fishing access in Prospect Reservoir, Cataract Dam and Woodford Dam. A copy of the report is attached for your information.

A key finding of this initial study was that a more detailed qualitative risk assessment would be required to provide higher level detail on potential water quality risks and mitigation options at Prospect and Cataract Reservoirs, which are an integral part of Sydney's water supply. This was confirmed by the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, in correspondence to me earlier this year. Implementation costs should also be assessed as part of any further work.

I am pleased to advise that senior officials from DPI Fisheries recently met with WaterNSW where it was agreed to set up a DPI / WaterNSW working group to progress fishing access opportunities in certain water supply reservoirs.

Enhanced fishing access for fishers will undoubtedly be well received by the NSW fishing community and generate important economic activity in these regions and I look forward to receiving advice from this working group in the near future.

I trust this is of assistance, however if you have any further enquiries, I have asked Mr Peter Turnell, Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture Management, to be available to answer any questions you may have. Mr Turnell can be contacted on (02) 4424 77420.

Thank you again for your continued interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely

Adam Marshall  
**MINISTER**

30/4/2020