

1 July 2022

The Hon Dugald Saunders MP
Minister for Agriculture and Minister for Western New South Wales
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Minister,

Denial of access to Travelling Stock Reserves

The NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers (NSWCFA) is the peak body for freshwater recreational fishing organisations in NSW, representing more than 30 fishing associations and clubs. Access to waterways adjoining Travelling Stock Reserves (TSRs) is very important to members of the public for recreational fishing.

In recent months Local Land Services (LLS) managers have, without warning, closed access to some TSRs. The NSWCFA understands that there may be valid reasons to restrict access from time to time. But some of these arbitrary actions by LLS are inconsistent with the NSW government's *Travelling Stock Reserves State-wide Plan of Management* which promises—under the heading on page 10—'Mitigating our reputation risks' 'Keeping all interested people and organisations informed'.

These LLS actions also compromise the utility of the NSW DPI Fisheries NSW Angler Access website (https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/resources/angler-access) which was set up to help anglers in NSW access fishable waters. Disturbingly, NSW DPI Fisheries managers we spoke to were unaware of the unannounced closures when we reported to them.

It appears that there is a lack of interaction between the NSW DPI Fisheries and LLS on decisions affecting access to TSRs. As both these bodies come within your ministerial responsibilities, can you please advise what actions might be possible to ensure that such interaction occurs, and that any decisions affecting access to TSR's are disseminated properly to those in the community who may be affected.

I have attached a copy of a letter to NSW DPI Fisheries which details a recent case.

Yours faithfully,

Peter Gibson

President

NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers

M. has

Ph: 0425 211 313