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Dear Jim,

**Royal National Park Plan of Management.**

The NSWCFCA notes that the Plan of Management for **Royal National Park, Heathcote National Park and Garawarra State Conservation Area** was released by National Parks and Wildlife Service in late December 2022.

You will recall that we expressed concern to your office that in our opinion, the draft Plan of Management downplayed the benefits to the community, including recreational anglers, of the fishing opportunities, the Park, if managed appropriately, could offer. As well, the draft Plan of Management:

- Incorrectly stated that “Fishing is not permitted upstream of the Audley weir”; and
- Was mute on fishways as a means of improving connectivity within the Park

Whilst we believe that Plan would have benefitted by the inclusion of a bit more information on recreational fishing, we are pleased to note that the new Plan:

- States “Fishing upstream of the Audley weir will be regulated in accordance with a plan to be developed in consultation with DPI Fisheries”; and
- Alludes to fishways (Table 6 outcome 4) as improving the condition of priority habitats

Now that NPWS states that a plan on regulating fishing above Audley weir will be developed in consultation with DPI Fisheries, if not already started, can you please advise what arrangements have been or are being made for these consultations and when you expect to notify the community of their outcome.

Further, since NPWS have identified fishways as a means of improving the condition of priority habitats, can Fisheries NSW also consult with NPWS on the feasibility of repairing/remodelling the Audley weir fishway.

We look forward to a timely response so we can advise the angling community of the status of these two issues.

Thank you

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Secretary

10 January 2023