



Australian Government
**Fisheries Research and
Development Corporation**

For immediate Use

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CALL FOR FISHERIES SOCIAL SCIENCES RESEARCH PROJECTS

Rural and regional communities rely on the primary production sector not only for its financial contribution but to hold the social fabric of regional communities together. For many coastal communities the fishing industry complements or entirely fills this vital role.

The Fisheries Research and Development Corporation Social Sciences Research Coordination Program is now calling for research pre-proposals, for the 2010 funding round. Identified priority research areas include, data to identify the (changing) demographics of the industry; social impact assessments of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), climate change, disease, and resource access and sharing and economic shifts; management arrangements – including alternative models, and co management arrangements.

The objective of the Social Sciences Research Coordination Program is to encourage and assist the development of research that will provide insights and answers to issues and challenges facing the different aspects of the fishing industry, the use of marine resources, and how best to manage the interaction of these activities.

Understanding how the fishing industry (commercial, recreational and customary) interacts and relates with its communities is very important for the long term health of the industry, and its associated urban and regional communities.

Full details of the Priority Research Areas identify by the Social Sciences Research Co-ordination Program, along with information on how the program operates and applying for FRDC funding are now available on the FRDC website at www.frdc.com.au/social . Applicants are also encouraged to contact the Fisheries Research Advisory Body in their state or territory.

All research Project pre proposal submissions must be made via the FRDC's Fishnet website www.fishnet.gov.au by **July 20th, 2009**, with full final proposals due November 1st, 2009.

*** Ends ***

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Media Release