



FRDC
FISHERIES RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Strategic Opportunity 10



Deploy a regional network to facilitate greater adoption of R&D

Research and development (R&D) only delivers benefits for industry when results are shared and used. A 2019 review of FRDC's past extension (and adoption) highlighted variable results. In response, FRDC created a network of regionally-based Extension Officers across Australia to directly engage with people involved in fishing and aquaculture to increase the adoption of research outcomes and to help tailor research and development (R&D) to their needs.

Successful extension of research requires awareness of local context, effective networks and understanding who the 'adopter' is, what they need, what will encourage them and any constraints they are facing along the way. FRDC's nationwide extension network provides region-specific officers who communicate priorities, challenges and provide access to the latest research from around the globe.

FRDC's Extension Officer Network has successfully completed its first year of operations. The network is moving to the next phase of operation which involves:

- Working with end users and R&D providers with recently approved and completed R&D investments to maximise adoption of knowledge generated and ensure outputs are in an 'adoption ready' form
- Continuing to create collaboration by connecting stakeholders and researchers for possible future impact
- Extending the reach of their engagement to stakeholders not typically involved in FRDC structures or processes
- Continuing to broaden and build trusted stakeholder relationships including with FRDC Principal Investigators
- Executing extension activities (outside of projects and programs) based on the needs of stakeholders – i.e. marine literacy
- Defining and supporting strategic extension challenges
- Continuing to work closely with FRDC's Research Advisory Committees.

