

Fish Forever 2030

A shared 2030 vision for the future of fishing and aquaculture in Australia

Fish Forever - A shared 2030 vision for Australia's fishing and aquaculture community has been developed as a collaboration across Australia's fishing and aquaculture community, including commercial wild-harvest, aquaculture, Indigenous, recreational, and post-harvest sectors, and the fisheries management agencies, research providers and environment bodies that support them.

This document sets a shared vision for fishing and aquaculture, and how we can work together to continue providing benefit to the Australian people in perpetuity, delivering *Fish Forever*. The result is an agreed view of what we – the fishing and aquaculture community - want fishing and aquaculture to look like by 2030, and how we can work together to make it happen.

Fish Forever is built upon elements considered important by all sectors of the fishing and aquaculture community. Participants from across fishing and aquaculture, coordinated through our Representative Organisations, will play a critical role in implementing *Fish Forever*, supported by investment bodies including the FRDC, research agencies, and management organisations.

Fish forever is consistent with and seeks to promote action against the United Nations [Global Sustainability Goals](#) adopted by all UN Member States in 2015, as part of the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#). The sustainable development goals mandate economic growth, while also seeking to protect environmental and social values.

Version 4.0



Australia's fishing and aquaculture community, working together to deliver the 2030 Vision:

“Fish Forever: Collaborative, vibrant fishing and aquaculture*, creating diverse benefits from aquatic resources, and celebrated by the community.”

* Includes commercial wild catch, aquaculture, recreational, Indigenous and post-harvest sectors, and representatives of the fisheries management agencies, research providers and environmental bodies that support them.

Fish Forever. A touchstone for the future

Human societies are facing rapid environmental, political, and economic change. Fishing and aquaculture, as a crucial contributor to food security and human well-being, will both experience these changes and form part of a global response to them. Within this response will lie opportunities for fishing and aquaculture to grow and prosper as part of an increasingly vital Blue Economy. Predicting the exact nature and timing of the challenges and opportunities we face is not always possible, but building the capacity and wisdom to meet them is. Fish Forever has been developed to set a shared, aspirational vision of the future for Australian fishing and aquaculture, and to establish strategic opportunities to focus efforts to enable its attainment. All sectors within Australian fishing and aquaculture have collaborated to develop Fish Forever, ensuring that the vision it captures is shared and inclusive.

Fish Forever is consistent with Australia's obligations under key international policy instruments. Fish Forever is also evidence-based, with desired outcomes derived from research defining what it means to 'fish well'. These traits mean Fish Forever will provide a trusted and defensible reference point for fishing and aquaculture in the years to come.

What does success look like in 2030? – opportunities to create a shared future.

The following opportunities, grouped under five strategic outcome areas, will help fishing and aquaculture maintain a course towards prosperity and sustainability in 2030, and are consistent with Australia's commitment to the United Nations Global Sustainability Goals. These opportunities are not exhaustive, nor are they mandatory. Rather, they provide potential 'light on the hill', to unify and harness collective efforts across fishing and aquaculture over years to come.

Outcome 1: Growth for enduring prosperity

Enduring and balanced ecological, social, and economic growth, for the community benefit.



Opportunity 1: By 2030 commercial **seafood production is valued at \$6B**, and Australia is recognised as a market leader in the production of sustainable, nutritious and responsibly produced seafood.



Opportunity 2: By 2030 **expenditure on recreational fishing** exceeds \$3B, and average **satisfaction** with experience is rated as 'high'.



Opportunity 3: By 2030 **cultural fishing** is more widely practiced and celebrated among **First Nations people**, who are also enjoying more **economic opportunities** in fishing and aquaculture, and occupying more **decision-making** roles.



Opportunity 4: By 2030 investment in shared **biosecurity control** nationally is **risk-based**, and improved effectiveness is reducing risks.



Opportunity 5: By 2030 ALL assessed Australian **fish stocks** are classified as **sustainable or recovering** (green or yellow).



Opportunity 6: By 2030 investment in **regenerative activities** has tripled, and the 2031 State of the Environment Report describing 30% improvement in condition of waterways and marine environments.



Opportunity 7: By 2030 **cost** of effective fisheries and aquaculture regulation as a proportion of GVP has halved.



Opportunity 8: By 2030 all fisheries management **decisions are evidence based**.

Outcome 2: Best-practice and production systems

Diverse benefits from aquatic resources to be consistent with shared principles



Opportunity 9: By 2030 Australia's fishing and aquaculture sectors are operating in a **circular economy** to achieve zero nett waste and carbon neutrality.



Opportunity 10: By 2030 best practice in **animal welfare** is widely applied across all sectors.



Opportunity 11: By 2030 Australian fisheries and aquaculture is recognised for providing **healthy and safe workplaces and experiences**, and achieving zero deaths.

Outcome 3: A culture that is inclusive, forward thinking and capable

A fishing and aquaculture community that is cooperative, diverse, and well equipped to enable growth and adaptability in a complex and uncertain world.



Opportunity 12: By 2030 all **decision-making processes** across fishing and aquaculture are diverse, inclusive and equitable just like our community.



Opportunity 13: By 2030 the frequency of **inter-sectoral conflict** across fishing and aquaculture is halved.



Opportunity 14: By 2030, the primacy of Australia's First Nations people as custodians of sea country is recognised, and all **sectors are valued equitably**.

Outcome 4: Fair and secure access to aquatic resources

Integrated management of Australia's aquatic resources, providing certainty and confidence.



Opportunity 15: By 2030 three Australian regions are being managed under an integrated, rights-based **multi-use framework**.



Opportunity 16: By 2030 80% of Australian fisheries are being managed in a **shared approach** between managers and resource users, each with specific responsibilities relating to information and decision-making.

Outcome 5: Community trust, respect and value

People feel good about using the products, services and experiences provided by fishing and aquaculture



Opportunity 17: By 2030, 75% of **Australians are positive** about the future of fishing and aquaculture.



Opportunity 18: By 2030 **traceability technology** is deployed throughout the Australian Seafood value chain, demonstrating provenance, sustainability and safety.