

Access rights for recreational fishers

The NSW Department of Planning, Industry & Environment (the department) is streamlining the assessment and determination process for proposed Crown road sales.

To reduce the backlog of Crown road purchase applications, the department has improved the internal processes and employed additional staff. The department has also adopted a policy for the administration of Crown roads and supporting guidelines. The existing rights of procedural fairness to applicants and objectors are not affected.

The submission period for Crown road purchase proposals remains the same. The time taken to assess submissions depends on the complexity involved.

Recreational fishing access

Road purchase applications undergo the following process where recreational fishing access may be affected:

- publication of the road purchase proposal in a local newspaper*
 - notification of the road purchase proposal is sent to adjoining land holders, relevant utility providers and government agencies including NSW Fisheries*
- *Note: A 28-day submission period applies
- a centralised referencing process with NSW Fisheries and other parties to identify potential issues such as access requirements
 - the department and NSW Fisheries share information and spatial data where needed
 - submissions received during the 28-day submission period are examined before determining each application
 - NSW Fisheries can seek time extensions where additional assessment is considered necessary or where negotiations with applicants or other landowners may be required.

Parties are encouraged to reach agreement however, where this is not possible, the application will be determined by the department.

The department will continue to work with NSW Fisheries to address the concerns of recreational fishers.

More information

If you have questions about Crown road purchases, please contact the Newcastle roads project team:

Email: roads.newcastle@crowmland.nsw.gov.au

Phone: 1300 886 235 (Option 2, Option 1)

Web: www.industry.nsw.gov.au/lands.