



PROJECT 6.2: OPPORTUNITIES & IMPACTS FOR RECREATIONAL FISHING FROM THE PROPOSED WESTPORT PROJECT

What is the project about?

Cockburn Sound is an important part of recreational fishing in Western Australia, providing easy access for Metropolitan fishers, and supporting many of the species that fishers love to catch.

This project aims to:

- 1) Capture the value that Cockburn Sound provides to recreational fishers;
- 2) Understand how the proposed Westport development might impact recreational fishing in Cockburn Sound;
- 3) Identify opportunities to improve outcomes and enhance recreational fishing experiences in Cockburn Sound.

This project is being developed by a team of independent researchers from Murdoch University, The University of Western Australia and Edith Cowan University.

What are the benefits of this project?

This project provides an opportunity for recreational fishers to contribute to a better understanding of how Cockburn Sound is used and valued by recreational fishers and how future developments might impact these values.

The results will be communicated to the Westport Project Office. This will include findings about perceived impacts of future developments on recreational fishing experiences, and opportunities to minimise negative impacts or enhance fishing experiences.

Findings will be made available in a public report.

Need more information?

You can contact the project team at socialvalues@wamsi.org.au to learn more about Project 6.2.

For further information about the Westport Program, please visit www.westport.wa.gov.au or contact enquiries@westport.wa.gov.au

How is the project being developed?

Step 1

Stakeholder meetings

Meet with people and organisations associated with recreational fishing to introduce the project and research team, and discuss key topics of focus for the face-to-face survey.

Step 2

Face-to-face survey

The survey targets Cockburn Sound recreational fishers. Questions include:

- 1) Basic demographic information.
- 2) Mapping of recreational use.
- 3) Views on developments and the future of fishing in Cockburn.

Step 3

Data Analysis

Researchers collate data to identify range, distribution and patterns of recreational fishing in Cockburn Sound as well as views on development and future use.

Researchers also develop tools to explore future scenarios for Cockburn Sound, to understand impacts on values and changes in use and behaviour that might result.

Project Partners

