



Purchasing Crown roads – access rights for recreational fishers

July 2015

NSW Department of Primary Industries – Lands (the Department), is streamlining the closure and disposal of Crown roads through internal process improvements and employing extra staff.

The purpose is to help clear the backlog of applications for road closures and the existing rights of applicants or objectors are not affected.

The time period for submissions has not been altered. After receiving submissions the time period for assessing them varies from case to case depending on the complexity of the submissions received and parties involved.

Where road closure applications may have an impact on recreational fishing the following process is followed:

1. Once a Crown road closure application is received and its status confirmed it is advertised in local print media. Adjoining land holders, relevant utility providers and other government agencies are notified.
2. From this date there are 28 days to lodge a submission.
3. The Department commences a centralised referencing process with NSW Fisheries and other relevant government agencies to identify related issues including access requirements.
4. The Department and Fisheries share information and spatial data where available.
5. After the 28 days, all submissions received are examined and a decision is made on the merits of each application.
6. Extensions of time can be sought by Fisheries where it is considered additional assessment is necessary or where negotiations with freehold land owners may be required regarding easements.
7. Possible outcomes of application include approval to close, approval to close with easement for access or refusal of application.

The Department makes every effort to encourage parties to reach agreement though in some cases where this is not possible a decision is required to be made.

The program has run successfully for a number of years and the Department is continuing to work with Fisheries to address the concerns of recreational fishers.

More information

Should you have any further queries about specific road closure applications or require additional information please contact the Department of Primary Industries - Lands Roads Project Team on

T 1300 886 235

E roads@lands.nsw.gov.au

T 4925 4104

W www.crownland.nsw.gov.au

© State of New South Wales through the Department of Industry, Skills and Regional Development 2015. You may copy, distribute and otherwise freely deal with this publication for any purpose, provided that you attribute the NSW Department of Industry, Skills and Regional Development as the owner.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (July 2015). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the NSW Department of Industry, Skills and Regional Development or the user's independent advisor.

[DOC13/139080]