

Dear Federal Candidate,

I am currently collating answers to the questions on freezer factory trawlers in the small pelagic fishery. It is known there are other freezer factory trawlers operating in a different fishery and this is understood and accepted. This questionnaire is only in regard to Australia's small pelagic fishery.

All responses will be published in the June edition of Tasmanian Fishing and Boating News and on the Tasmanian Fishing News Website and Facebook pages. These mediums have a following of some 20,000 Tasmanian recreational fishers.

We may suggest to readers which candidates best support recreational fishing interests.

Your support and help to build a better recreational fishing economy would be appreciated.

Recreational fishers are a huge part of the economy and their concerns for their sport and its future are being brushed off with poor excuses, rhetoric, secret deals, secret operations and constant support for a company that is foreign owned, are convicted environmental vandals and contributing very little to Australia economically, socially or morally.

We would appreciate it, if, as briefly as possible, you could provide a response to the following questions and return them to myself at [fishingnews@gmail.com](mailto:fishingnews@gmail.com) by Friday 20 May.

I have attached the Borthwick Review and suggest you read it, particularly 7.5.3 on recreational fishing. There are other attachments I encourage you to read as well.

Currently AFMA don't consider recreational fishing and I quote from the Borthwick Review.

"The objectives in the FMA and FAA are currently pitched toward economic and commercial outcomes (particularly to "efficient and cost-effective fisheries management", "exploitation of fisheries resources" and to "maximising the net economic return to the Australian community") and these factors have historically – at least in terms of the degree of assessed overfishing – been accorded precedence over maintaining ecological functions and relationships and long-run sustainability of fisheries."

Seafish Tasmania P/L is owned by NZ and NSW interests. Seafish Tasmania is no shining light in any regard and their recent admission and conviction for a blatant and known pollution event at Triabunna near their factory in Tasmania shows that.

Seafish Tasmania Pelagic P/L and the Geelong Star factory trawler are owned by convicted Netherlands serial fishery offenders Parlevliet and Van der Plas. See attached.

As a candidate whose job would be to represent Tasmania, I would encourage you to support Tasmania and your Tasmanian constituents first and foremost.

A non-reply will be taken as support the Freezer Factory Trawlers such as the Geelong Star and will be published as such.

Questions:

1. Do you support the foreign owned factory freezer trawler Geelong Star Venture? Yes or No
2. Would you support similar vessels fishing in the Commonwealth small pelagic fishery? Yes or No
3. Would you support a permanent ban on all large factory freezer trawlers in the Small Pelagic Fishery in and around Tasmania?
4. What do you believe is the Geelong Star's economic worth is to the state of Tasmania?

5. What do you know of the economic recreational fishery worth to Tasmania?
6. Do you know who owns the Geelong Star and Seafish Pelagic? See attached.
7. Who do you think owns Seafish Tasmania? See attached.
8. If you win a seat, who would you represent and work for?
9. Does your party have a policy statement to share on this issue
10. In a few words, if elected, what measures would you undertake to ensure Tasmania's recreational fishers can enjoy improved fishing into the future.

I will give you an idea to start you off.

No Freezer Factory Trawlers inside 20 nautical miles of Tasmania's coast ever. (State waters extend to three nautical miles from shore.)

I repeat from earlier:

Your support and help to build a better recreational fishing economy would be appreciated.

Mike Stevens

Publisher of Tasmanian Fishing and Boating News

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