

Australian Prawn Farmers Association

(June 2014. Volume 2)



APFA engages Spencer Jolly as Media, Communications and External Relations consultant

At the January APFA executive meeting it was decided to employ the services of Spencer Jolly – retired well known political Channel 9 news reporter, to assist APFA advance our strategic activities.

In a short space of time Spencer has been able to organize key ministerial meetings with Ministers John McVeigh and Andrew Powell, a Cabinet Select Committee meeting held in Brisbane March 19, has been proactive with media releases and

submissions, facilitated farm tours and organised meetings at Parliament House with key influencers.

Spencer reported at the last Executive meeting that there is now a buzz inside three state departments – State Development, DAFF and EHP who have resolved to fix Queensland aquaculture farm expansion issues.

The push for Northern Australia development has seen key officials visit our Northern farms and gaze in astonishment at piles of paperwork that have amounted to just that.

APFA Board came to Brisbane

Mid February a delegation from APFA and ABFA met in Brisbane at Environment Heritage Protection (EHP) offices for continued discussion on getting the aquaculture Operational Policy changed.

Queensland Competition Authority (QCA) staff was in attendance at this meeting as was staff from GBRMPA via teleconference.

QCA put out an aquaculture issues paper in February and called for submissions to issues raised. The issues paper and submissions to the issues can be found at the following link

<http://www.qca.org.au/Productivity/Productivity-Projects/Review-of-Queensland-Aquaculture-Regulation/In-Progress/Review-of-Queensland-Aquaculture-Regulation/File-List?cat=Submissions&num=6>

QCA staff as part of this review visited several farms to educate themselves in aquaculture farming practices.

Special activities

General meeting and AGM to be held 6th August at Sea World Resort Gold Coast.

APFA presents to Cabinet Select Committee panel March 19.

Queensland Competition Authority(QCA) releases draft aquaculture issues paper

**Ridley Aqua feed
Prawn and
Barramundi Farmers
Symposium 6-7th
August at Sea World
Resort, Gold Coast.**



Sea World bears...



NSILP 2014 future Leaders for the seafood industry visiting GCMA earlier this year.

March Cabinet Select Committee hearing

March 19, the APFA President together with key industry stakeholders – Dr Nigel Preston, CSIRO and Robert Harvey, Ridley Aqua feed made presentations to Queensland State Ministers and officials about the issues that have restrained this industry for more than ten years.

There were 20 key and influential Ministers and their advisors at this hearing and attendees were told to take comfort that something will be done.

Post the hearing Deb Freklington, (then the Assistant Minister for Finance, Administration and Regulatory Reform) recently promoted to Assistant Minister to the Premier, requested that she visit a prawn farm. Thanks to GCMA for facilitating this visit in early April.

APFA has heard that as a result of this meeting the Minister for State

Development is outraged at the treatment of aquaculture and has instructed his staff that reform is required.

APFA continues to work with EHP to reform the aquaculture Operational Policy, respond to submissions relative to offsets, GBRMPA and Country of Origin labelling. Since January this year APFA have made submissions to ten enquiries.

APFA continues to influence for change in all departmental, Ministerial conversations and meeting as well as in submissions.

Other Snippets

- ❖ On behalf of APFA – Helen Jenkins and Warren Lewis spoke to future leaders of the National Seafood Industry Leadership Panel in May at the Gold Coast. Flying the flag for aquaculture leadership this year is John Moloney from Pacific Reef Fisheries. This is a very worthwhile program and already expressions of interest are being called for 2015 participants. Do you have a future leader on your farm that would benefit from this highly recommend program?
 - ❖ APFA members cleaned up the medals again in this year's Sydney Royal Show. Congratulations to all medal winners.
 - ❖ Just to hand (May 26th) the budget seems to have had an effect on FRDC with calls for TRF projects due in June now postponed indefinitely.
 - ❖ Landline story featured recently on Novaq feed developments has created renewed interest in prawn farming.
 - ❖ Cate Blanchett and those prawn ear rings – where do we get some???
- <http://www.smh.com.au/lifestyle/fashion/cate-blanchetts-prawncocktail-style-20140516-zrf2d.html>



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**Are you friends with
the APFA on facebook
yet? Look for
Australian Prawn
Farmers Association
and Love Australian
Prawns facebook
page.**

Love Australian Prawns

Love Australian Prawns campaign continues to gain momentum. Year one has been completed and an inaugural Retailers Awards presentation night and gala dinner were held earlier this year in Sydney.

Retailers, who had been provided merchandising kits, were encouraged to send in photos of their store transformation and staff engagement in the campaign.

The high level received astounded the judging panel and the overall winners Fishermen's Wharf Seafood, at Nelson Bay (NSW) truly embraced all aspects of the campaign. Reg from Brand Council was so happy to see the logo splashed on the wall at the awards – see photo...

Annual Ridley Aqua feed Prawn and Barramundi Farmers event

This year World Aquaculture Society will be holding their event in Adelaide at the start of June. Such a big event puts pressure on sponsors as well as delegates but both APFA and ABFA decided they still wanted to hold our annual event.

A Symposium will be held at the Gold Coast 6-7th August at Sea World.

Thank you to all who have agreed to sponsor events this year. A changed format has enabled us to provide a budget event.

Have you checked out the APFA web site lately. It is being regularly updated and will be revamped shortly. If you need membership passwords for the member only section please contact Helen Jenkins.

Minimal costs to register, excellent accommodation rates have been negotiated at Sea World Resort, those who attend the prawn or barramundi General and AGM will be given free access to Sea World for the remainder of the day on 6th August.

At the end of the Welcome Reception on 6th Aug and the BBQ dinner and entertainment on 7th August a bus will be made available to take delegates from Sea World to the Casino. This year's event has been planned to benefit you the member so please come along and support your industry.



Ridley Aqua feed Australian Prawn and Barramundi Farmers Symposium 6-7th August 2014 at Sea World Resort, Gold Coast.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/ridley-aqua-feed-prawn-and-barramundi-farmers-symposium-2014-tickets-11134741311>

Schedule of events for the upcoming Symposium.

Wednesday 6th August Set aside for APFA and ABFA General Meeting and AGM's. This is your chance to come along and have a say in what happens in your association and your industry. Being held at Sea World Resort the meetings will commence at 10.00am sharp.

9.30am arrive

10.00am General Meeting starts and continues through to 4.00pm with breaks for morning tea and lunch.

Attendees at the General Meeting will be given free access to Sea World Resort until close time on this day only.

6.00pm – 8.00pm Welcome Reception and canapés.

8.30pm For those who would like to party on and attend the casino a bus will be available to take guests to the Casino. Guests must find their own way back however!!!

Thursday 7th August – one day only of speakers and presentations.

8.30am The symposium will commence and key note speakers will deliver presentations up to 12.30pm when lunch will be served.

1.30pm Prawn farmers and barramundi farmers split into two groups for an afternoon session on updates of research over the past twelve months.

4.30pm Symposium closes.

6.30pm – 11.00pm BBQ dinner and magical entertainment around the pool.

11.30pm A bus will be available to take guests to the Casino.

Friday 8th August – a tour of Bribie Island Research Facility has been organized. This is free and a bus will pick up guests at 8.00am. At the end of the tour the bus will drop guests at the airport at 3.15pm before returning to Sea World.

