



## **SUNFISH QUEENSLAND INC**

Friday 17 December 2010

### **New permit fees aimed at penalising and stopping Snapper anglers**

Sunfish, the peak organisation representing recreational fishing in Queensland totally rejects the use of annual fishing permit fees as a means of discouraging anglers from fishing for Snapper.

In the paper on Snapper management released by the Queensland Government this week there are proposals to introduce annual fees for recreational fishers to catch Snapper in Queensland. The reason given in the Queensland Government paper for introducing the relatively high annual fees for recreational fishing is that such fees are a disincentive for recreational fishing.

The Queensland Government paper (page 9) states: "Introducing a fee or cost for individuals to access a fishery can act as a disincentive to fishing, thus reducing impacts on fish stocks". The paper further states: "For recreational fishers, a vessel-based recreational permit with a fee is a plausible way to curb demand"

Sunfish totally opposes the proposed use of annual recreational fishing permit fees as a method of discouraging people from going recreational fishing. Pastime fishing must remain a low-cost recreational activity that is available to all persons.

Dr Barry Pollock  
Chairman  
Sunfish Queensland  
Tele 07 33989306