

# SUNFISH FRASER COAST



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## MEDIA RELEASE

### TRAVESTON DAM NOT CROSSING

"A huge win for fish in the Mary River and and anglers in the Great Sandy Strait" was the way the new Chairman of the Sunfish Fraser Coast Mr Scott Mitchell described the decision not to proceed with the Traveston Crossing Dam.

He went onto to congratulate the Federal Minister for the Environment Mr Peter Garrett for taking such a decisive stand in maintaining the intrinsic values of the Mary River and the Sandy Strait.

Mr Mitchell said "Mr Garrett's conclusions were based on sound scientific values and facts, and he dismissed many of the conclusions and deductions in the EIS and the subsequent EIS with its 1200 conditions."

"Sound conclusions were drawn by many leading experts that the downstream flows were inadequate to ensure the long term sustainability of the Mary River and Great Sandy Strait. "

"The minor flows and their contribution to the maintenance of a sustainable fishery in the Sandy Straits would have been lost with dire consequences for the economy of the Wide Bay Area considering that the dam, if built, would have little direct benefit to the area."

The alienation of 7500 ha of prime Agricultural was going to be an enormous blow to the Mary Valley Community and was against the much touted peak oil talk from previous Qld ministers.

"Mr Garrett only considered the environmental issues and did not even need to consider the other flawed justifications from the Qld government. Statements such as "drought-proofing SE Qld" when even 5<sup>th</sup> graders could tell you that a relatively small dam (by comparison to Wivenhoe and Summerset) would leak and dry up and be useless long before the a major drought was over."

"Sunfish wishes to acknowledge the efforts of all the interested groups who fought so hard to bring about the correct decision. In particular we congratulate Darryl Stewart and his hard working team in the Greater Mary association, without whom it is almost certain that the decision would have gone the other way. " said Mr Mitchell.

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