



Australian National Sportfishing Association Ltd  
ACN 063 293 514

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COMMITTED TO CONSERVATION AND INTEGRITY IN SPORTFISHING SINCE  
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**MEMO**

Attached is a media release from ARFF detailing the position of its members in respect of the Magiris Super Trawler. The ARFF position was agreed to earlier this week following extensive discussions with senior staff from AFMA and Minister Ludwig's office. The preferred position of ARFF and its members (including ANSA) is to not support the Magiris being licenced to operate in Australia unless there is better science and controls to guard against local stock depletion. This stance reflects the ANSA position statement detailed in the letter sent to Minister Ludwig and several other politicians last week and circulated to you.

There is a National Day of Action to protest against the Magiris to be held this Saturday 11 August. Events have been organised for Hobart, Launceston, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Fremantle. These events have not been organised by ARFF or its members or ANSA but they do provide an avenue for recreational fishers and concerned citizens generally to demonstrate their opposition to the Magiris. Public pressure upon the government is the only way this vessel can be stopped from fishing in Australian waters.

**Hobart:** 10.45am on the water at Lindisfarne, 12.30pm outside Blue Skies, Watermans Dock

**Launceston:** 9.30am, Launceston Mall

**Melbourne:** 11am St Kilda Beach, behind Luna Park

**Perth:** 11am Julie Bishop's office, 414 Rokeby Road, Subiaco

**Fremantle:** 11am meet outside Little Creatures, 40 Mews Road, Fremantle

**Adelaide:** 11am Port Adelaide Lighthouse

**Albany, WA:** 10am, Tony Crooks Office, Shop 5 The Link Centre, St Emilie Way

Please circulate to your club and member network and anyone else who has concerns over the future of our fisheries.

Regards

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# Australian Recreational Fishing Foundation

The Voice of Australia's Recreational Fishing Community

Media Release – 10 August 2012

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## Aussie anglers express 'grave concerns' about super trawler

The Australian Recreational Fishing Foundation (ARFF), the national peak body representing the interests of Australia's 5 million anglers, is delaying its final policy statement on the Dutch-owned super trawler, FV Margiris, due to a lack of science regarding possible localised depletion issues with baitfish stocks off eastern Australia.

ARFF representatives this week met with Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) officials in Canberra and were given a detailed briefing on the current science on the Small Pelagic Fishery (SPF), which the 142m super trawler proposes to target.

"We are committed to examining this issue in the light of the best available science, as is appropriate with all fisheries management and conservation issues.

"At present the science on the stocks and movement of baitfish to give us the confidence that the Margiris will not have a detrimental effect on local bait stocks, the marine food chain or local communities that rely on recreational fishing, does not seem to exist.

"Unless new information or processes come to hand that can convince us otherwise, we cannot support the arrival of this super trawler into Australian waters." ARFF spokesperson Allan Hansard said today.

ARFF will release a final policy statement on the super trawler issue following assessment of any new information or processes.

The Australian Recreational Fishing Foundation (ARFF) is the newly formed national peak body representing Australia's Recreational Fishing Community and is supported by the Australian Fishing Trade Association (AFTA), Recfish Australia, Game Fishing Association Australia (GFAA), Sunfish Queensland, Amateur Fishermen's Association of the Northern Territory (AFANT), Recfishwest, Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW (RFANSW), Underwater Skindivers and Fishermen's Association (USFA); Australian National Sportfishing Association (ANSA), and the Professional Fishing Instructors and Guides Association (PFIGA).

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