

Sydney Olympic Park Authority Policy

Policy Name	Environmental management: Recreational Fishing Policy
Policy No.	POL09/3
Department File No.	F02/1538
Business Unit	Environment & Planning
Office Responsible	Senior Manager Environment & Ecology
Approving Officer	Executive Director Asset Management & Environmental Services
Date of Approval	March 2009

Version	Review	Date	Approved by
1		March 2009	CEO
2	Minor Update	29 October 2010	CEO
	Reviewed	November 2012	GMOS
	Reviewed by SM, E&E	January 2014	
2.1	Reviewed by SM Environment & Ecology	January 2015	GMOS
2.2	Reviewed by SM, Environment & Ecology	March 2017	
2.3	Reviewed by A/SM, Environment & Ecology	June 2018	Director Environment & Planning
2.4	Reviewed by SM, Environment & Ecology	August 2019	Director Environment & Planning

RECREATIONAL FISHING POLICY

Policy

1. Recreational fishing is not permitted within any wetland or waterway of Sydney Olympic Park.
2. Fishing for scientific studies or environmental management is permitted only with written Authority approval.

Background

This policy applies to fishing in any wetland or waterway within Sydney Olympic Park including:

- fishing with rods, nets, or traps;
- electrofishing;
- 'catch and release' fishing;
- fishing from the River Walk, when standing above high tide level.

This policy does not apply to fishing on lands or waterways not managed by the Authority:

- fishing within the Parramatta River or Homebush Bay from a boat;
- fishing within the Parramatta River or Homebush Bay from the seawall, when standing below high tide level.

For the purpose of this policy, '*fishing*' means catching or capturing (or attempting to catch or capture) finfish (including Eels or alike) and non-fish (including crabs, prawns/shrimps, oyster and other shellfish or alike), live or dead, from the waterways and wetlands of Sydney Olympic Park for recreational, consumption or business purposes.

Regulatory provisions

1. Under the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*, Homebush Bay and all its tributaries (including Powells Creek and Haslams Creek and Lake Belvedere) are subject to a fishing closure. All methods of fishing are prohibited. Further information is available from the [Department of Primary Industry website](#).
2. *Sydney Olympic Park Authority Regulation 2018* states that:

5(1) A person must not do any of the following at Sydney Olympic park, except as authorised by the Authority:
(ad) destroy, capture, injure or annoy an animal,
(ae) be in possession of a trap or device for the hunting or capturing of animals,
Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units (currently \$2200).

Policy implementation

1. Sydney Olympic Park Authority's (the Authority's) Rangers and the Authority's Park Rangers have lead responsibility for on-ground implementation of this policy, and are to actively discourage fishing, and instruct persons found fishing to cease. Key messages are:
 - Fishing within Sydney Olympic Park, or carrying a fishing rod or net, is illegal and you can be fined
 - Sydney Olympic Park is important fish breeding and nursery habitat - all fish are protected here
 - There are health risks in eating fish or crustaceans caught west of the Harbour Bridge
 - Officers of the Department of Primary Industries patrol Haslams Creek, Powells Creek and Homebush Bay regularly, and can also issue fines to people fishing or setting traps.

(Enforcement actions under the regulations to the *Sydney Olympic Park Authority Act* may be considered for repeat offenders or serious situations)
2. Record incidences of fishing or observations of traps and nets in Place Manager/MEX or similar
3. Report incidences of fishing or observations of traps and nets to Department of Primary Industries:

Fishers Watch Phone line: **1800 043 536**;

Weekends and after-hours: District Fisheries Officer **0419 185 363**.

Contact Officer

Any enquiries relating to this Policy should be addressed to:

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