

1. Introduction

Recreational fishing is not permitted from any land or within any wetland or waterway of Sydney Olympic Park, as wetlands and waterways are environmental conservation areas where aquatic organisms are protected. Additionally, a legislated 'fishing closure applies to many of the Park's waterways due to historic pollution.

2. Requirements

Prohibition of recreational fishing

1. Recreational fishing is not permitted within any wetland or waterway of Sydney Olympic Park. This includes:
 - fishing with rods, nets, or traps;
 - electrofishing;
 - 'catch and release' fishing;
 - fishing from the River Walk, when standing above high tide level.
2. Fishing for scientific studies or environmental management is permitted only with written SOPA approval.
3. This procedure does not apply to fishing from lands or waterways not managed by Sydney Olympic Park Authority including:
 - 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.
4. For the purpose of this procedure, '*fishing*' means catching or capturing (or attempting to catch or capture) finfish (including Eels or alike) and non-finish (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

5. Fishing and carrying of fishing equipment is not permitted at Sydney Olympic Park without SOPA approval, as prescribed in the *Sydney Olympic Park Authority Regulation 2018*:

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.

January 2024

6. A 'fishing closure' made under the *NSW Fisheries Management (general) Regulation 2019* applies to the waters of Homebush Bay and all its tributaries (including Powells Creek and Haslams Creek – see Appendix 1). All methods of fishing are prohibited.

3. To whom this procedure applies

Rangers and field-based SOPA staff have lead responsibility for on-ground implementation of this procedure, and providing advice and instruction to park visitors.

4. Procedure

1. SOPA Rangers and staff are to actively discourage fishing across all areas of Sydney Olympic Park, and instruct persons found fishing to cease. Key messages are:
 - Sydney Olympic Park is important fish breeding and nursery habitat - all fish are protected and fishing is not allowed
 - Fishing is banned in Homebush Bay, Powells Creek and Haslams Creek due to past pollution.
 - Fishing within Sydney Olympic Park, carrying a fishing rod or net, and setting of traps is illegal and you can be fined by both SOPA Rangers and Officers of the Department of Primary Industries.

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 to assist in identifying hotspots for monitoring, and identifying repeat offenders.
3. Report incidences of illegal 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**.

5. Failure to comply with this procedure

Fines may be issued under the *Sydney Olympic Park Authority Regulation 2018*, and under the *NSW Fisheries Management Act and Regulations*.

6. Review timeframe

SOPA Urban Renewal & Environment branch will review this procedure no later than three years from the date the document is approved. The document may be reviewed earlier in response to post-implementation feedback, changes to legislation, or as necessary.

7. Related documents

None

Procedure metadata

Table 1 – Procedure metadata

Category	Description
Status	Active
Date of approval	25 January 2024
Approver	Director Urban Renewal & Environment
Group	Homes, Property & Development
Division	Sydney Olympic Park Authority
Policy owner	Manager Environment & Ecology
Branch	Urban Renewal & Environment
Document location	SOPA Intranet and/or Internet
Next review date	January 2027
Associated procedure	-
Any additional applicability	-
Superseded document	POL09/3 Recreational Fishing Policy
Further information	Kerry.darcovich@sopa.nsw.gov.au
Document Reference	PRO24/2

Version control

Table 2 - Version Control

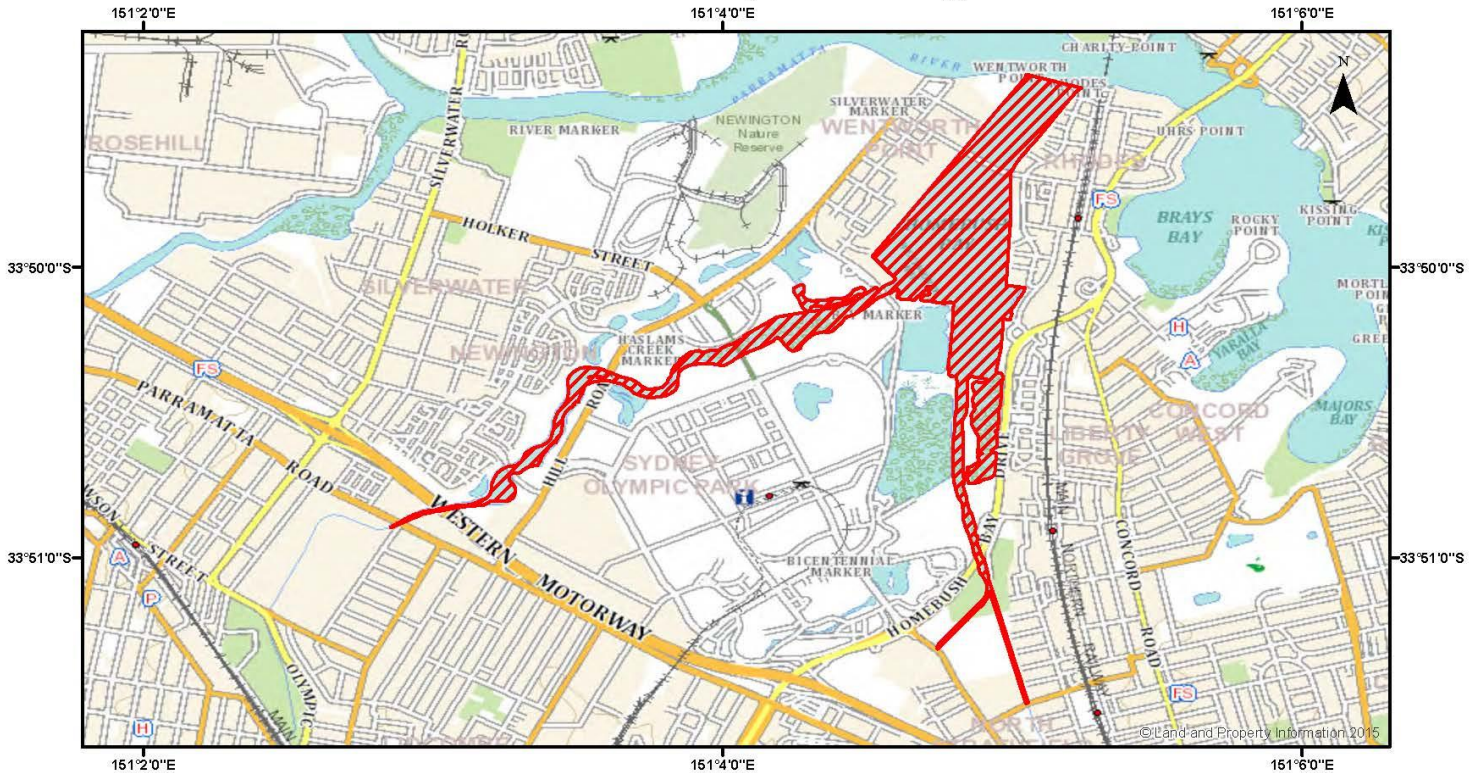
Version Number	Date Issued	Changes
1	October 2015	Approved by CEO
1.1, 1.2, 1.3	2018-2021	Review and minor editorial updates
2	November 2023	Conversion to DPHI policy format; minor editorial updates

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Waters closed to fishing under the *Fisheries Management (General) Regulation 2019*

Appendix 1 – Waters closed to fishing under the NSW Fisheries Management (general) Regulation 2019

Parramatta River (Homebush Bay)



Closure
NSW DPI 9 May 2018
Coordinates are shown in WGS84

Notice to Map Users
Additional closures may apply. Primary Industries and its employees disclaim all liability for any actions or consequences arising from the use of this information. This map is not to be used for navigational purposes as it is indicative only and not guaranteed to be free of error or omission.

Closed Waters
The whole of the waters of Homebush Bay and its tributaries, upstream (south) to its source from a line drawn between Rhodes Point and Wentworth Point.

Prohibited Method
Any method

