



**Monaro Acclimatisation Society Inc**  
**9 Thompson Drive**  
**Tathra, NSW. 2550**

*Sustainable future fishing for trout and native fish*

Mr. Sean Sloan  
Acting Director-General  
Department of Primary Industries  
Locked Bag 21  
Orange. NSW. 2800.

Dear Mr. Sloan,

### **Economic and Social Impact of Stocking Bans within the Snowy Catchment**

In a recent letter to the Hon Steve Whan, I raised the issue of the economic impact of the stocking bans on the townships of Dalgety and Delegate. In the case of Dalgety, the Snowy River runs through the centre of town, where there is a large caravan park. Because Dalgety is such a small and sleepy town, the major reason people stay at the caravan park is because they get to enjoy its proximity to the Snowy River and the good fishing therein. The same considerations apply for Delegate. The Delegate River flows adjacent to the town and there is a caravan park. The Delegate township is much further away from the snowfields, so visitors are primarily there for the very good fishing for which the river and the district are known.

The Monaro Acclimatisation Society (MAS) knows that the trout fishing experience in both the Snowy and Delegate Rivers are presently excellent. We are extremely concerned that when the next dry spell (drought) impacts the Monaro, the fishing experience will diminish enormously. It is possible that the flows in the Snowy will be sufficient to sustain a viable population of trout, but not so for the Delegate. There is also the issue of the Maclaughlin River that (at this moment) offers excellent fishing: the Maclaughlin is and has been one of the most famous freshwater fishing streams on mainland Australia. The river, though, is susceptible to drought – and the next one is likely to see the fishery decline dramatically.

While the MAS commits itself to the stocking ban readjustments, it wishes to negotiate a suitable recovery plan in the stocking regime in years following droughts within the Delegate and Maclaughlin Rivers, when the fish stocks will have been reduced and/or annihilated.

The MAS fears for the economic viability of the small businesses within the townships of Dalgety, Delegate and Nimmitabel, whose tourism is largely dependent on keen freshwater anglers.

I am always available to discuss these issues with you, and hope our request receives your favourable consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Kerry Pfeiffer  
President  
MAS  
14<sup>th</sup> February 2024