

Office of the New South Wales Liberal Leader

1 December 2008
Mr Phillip Ingram
President
Anglers Action Group
PO Box 630
NARRABEEN NSW 2101

Dear Mr Ingram,

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding the NSW Labor Government's decision to close the Gaden Trout Hatchery at Jindabyne.

Nathan Rees' decision to close the hatchery is short-sighted and ill-conceived. Thankfully the community's strong and united voice has resulted in an initial reprieve and the Rees Government has agreed to "delay the process of closing" it.

The NSW Liberal/Nationals are strongly opposed to the closure of the Hatchery. We will continue working with local residents and stakeholder groups in fighting Nathan Rees' decision.

In difficult economic times the Labor Government should be doing all it can to boost the economy and generate jobs. Instead the Minister of Primary Industries Ian Macdonald and his Parliamentary Secretary Steve Whan are jeopardising up to 700 jobs in the Cooma/Snow Mountains Region if the Gaden Trout Hatchery is closed.

The NSW Liberal/Nationals are firmly committed to closing the gap between metropolitan and regional economies. Central to this is opposing attempts by Labor to close important regional research centres and tourism attractions, such as the Gaden Trout Hatchery, which are an important part of our community.

Thank you again for your correspondence.

Yours sincerely

Barry O'Farrell
NSW Liberal Leader