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Labor’s arrogance with fishermen will come back to bite it

The arrogant dismissal by Government of criticism levelled at it by Amateur fishing’s peak body could comeback to bite it, Country Liberal Party’s Stephen Dunham warned today.

“Simply blowing off criticism from AFANT about Labor’s recreational fishing policy as “part of the whirlwind of a Territory election Campaign” is arrogance at its worst and reinforces why AFANT has been so scathing of the Labor Government,” Mr Dunham said.

“Four years ago when Labor needed AFANT’s vote it was offering the world no matter what the ‘ask on government’ was’.

“The complete dismissal of the relevance of AFANT by Minister Vatskalis smacks of a Government that feels it is does not need the vote of AFANT any longer.

“Labor claims it has delivered on its promises to recreational fishing. AFANT rightly says it hasn’t. I know who my money is on as to telling the truth.”

“Territorians who love their fishing and our unique lifestyle now have a clear choice of who to vote for in this election

“The Country Liberal Party Leader has worked very hard in consultation with AFANT and other recreational fishing bodies to develop our policy. It is a rock-solid commitment to ensuring the future of our fishing through a dedicated strategy addressing resources, protection and access to our fish stocks.

“ To this end, we will:

- buy back at least 10 barramundi licences,
- review capture methods, net sizes and effort location,
- and close Bynoe Harbour and the Finnis River,

by the end of our first term of government.”

Ends