

KOI SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Message from the President on the Governments

Strategic Approach to the Management of Ornamental Fish in Australia

The KSWA for almost 3 years has been taking an interest in the Government's approach to the above topic. Over 2 years ago; we, along with the koi societies in Sydney put a comprehensive document and DVD collection to the then Government Committee. We received a favorable response to our request that domestic koi be taken off the Noxious Listing of fish. In essence it was argued that due to their commercial and hobbyist interest and importance, domesticated koi should be managed differently from European Carp.

Due to a number of changes of personnel on the Government Committee and our concern that we the koi hobbyists of W.A. were not being represented, the KSWA recently sent a letter of concern to the Fisheries Minister, Norman Moore. He has since replied.

Both these recent letters are posted here on our website for your information.

In brief summary. At our KSWA Committee discussions we feel that it will be difficult for the Government to ban domesticated koi in those States where koi are currently accepted. We believe however that it is important for us to continue to take every opportunity to communicate with Federal and State Governments demonstrating that domesticated koi are low risk in terms of environmental impact. When first viewed the response to our letter from the Minister may appear rather negative. The important fact however is that domesticated koi (currently on the so called ' grey list') will not be placed on the noxious list without consultation with us the stakeholders.

Our focal point for this issue within the KSWA is Allan Bennett. He is currently liaising with the West Australian Fisheries and the Koi Societies in Sydney in an effort to bring about a favorable conclusion for all Australian koi keepers.

I will keep you informed of any further developments.

Regards
Bill Passey, President. KSWA
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