

CLOSED JETTY | Fishermen's message for State Cabinet

We've had enough

XANTHE KLEINIG

ANGLERS have lost patience over the closure of the Rapid Bay Jetty on Fleurieu Peninsula, snipping a hole in the wire fence to regain access to one of the state's best fishing spots.

The jetty, closed in December, 2004 for safety reasons, is among the few where anglers can fish in deep water. Friends of Rapid Bay Jetty spokeswoman Glenice Galbraith said the action was because of "total frustration".

"People are just so frustrated because for 12 months there has been no action and we keep coming up against the same brick wall," she said.

The group, when it met Transport Minister Patrick Conlon in December, was told the cost of repairing the jetty could be \$8 million. They now have written to

all members of Cabinet, asking them to approve the jetty's repair.

They hope for a positive response before the state election on March 18.

The group estimated the camp ground alone was worth \$800,000 to the community each year. "We are trying to make them very aware of the impact on the area here," Ms Galbraith said. She said the camp ground usually was full for six months each year but, without the jetty, it was almost empty.

South Australian Recreational Fishing Advisory Council spokesman Trevor Watts said anglers wanted the jetty open for good.

"It's a destination. It has access to beautiful, pristine deep water to cater for mum, dad and the kids," he said.



THE PROBLEM

Rapid Bay jetty closed to recreational users for more than 12 months.

WEEKS ON WATCH

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WHO'S RESPONSIBLE

NAME: Dr James Horne, Department of Transport, Energy and Infrastructure

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THE RESPONSE

Spokeswoman Nicki Stewart told *The Advertiser* refurbishment would cost "many millions of dollars" and "much more than originally anticipated." She said options would be considered by a committee of Cabinet early this year.

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SHORT CUT: Shannon Leimann of Aldinga climbs through the barrier.

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