



# NEWSLETTER

## Volume 15 Issue 9 April 2012

Winner of the March 2012 Photo Competition



Steve B with a nice PB South Coast Flathead

[www.canberrafishos.com](http://www.canberrafishos.com)

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## About the Club

The Canberra Fisherman's Club Inc. is a sport fishing club that endeavours to promote a social awareness among its members, single or family. General meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at the **Eastlakes Football Club No 3 Oxley St Griffith ACT** beginning at 7:30pm. All members and visitors are most welcome.

Members of the Canberra Fisherman's Club are eligible to set Club Records and, upon payment of an Australian National Sport fishing Association (ANSA) affiliation fee, also able to set Australian records, and World records (through ANSA affiliation with the International Game Fishing Association (IGFA)).

## Aims of the Club

- To promote sport fishing
- To foster the art of angling
- To teach the art of angling to new members and particularly juniors
- To promote the study and conservation of fish species and the environment
- To co-operate with and support other bodies with similar aims and ideals.

The Club also supports the Recfish Australia National Code of Practice for Recreational and Sport Fishing, which endorses:

1. Quickly and correctly returning unwanted or illegal catch to the water
2. Quickly killing fish that are kept for consumption

3. Using only appropriate, legal tackle, attending gear and valuing the catch
4. Taking no more than our immediate needs
5. Supporting and encouraging activities that preserve, restore and enhance fisheries and fish habitat
6. Understanding and observing all fishing regulations and reporting illegal fishing activities
7. Preventing pollution and protecting wildlife by removing rubbish
8. Taking care when boating and anchoring to avoid damage to wildlife and habitat
9. Using established roads and tracks
10. Reporting environmental damage
11. Avoiding unnecessary interactions with wildlife species and their habitats
12. Practising courtesy towards all those who use inland and coastal waters
13. Obtaining permission from landholders and traditional owners before entering their land
14. Caring for our own safety and the safety of others when fishing

# President's Report

Hi all,

Well it doesn't take too long for the days to deteriorate does it? First daylight savings ends, and then it's dark by 6:00pm. A few weeks later and Anzac Day's been and gone, and it was dark when I left work just after 5:30pm tonight. It's time to get the heating sorted and start planning the annual service of your gear.

All is not lost though, there are still a few weeks left if you want to chase trout in the streams and rivers, and there is still some good fishing to be had down the coast for the next couple of months, before it gets really cold.

Zane Zhao is kicking himself for not attending last month's meeting. That expired leave pass cost him \$125 and the Lucky Membership Draw has yet again jackpotted. The May meeting could make you a cool \$150 richer, just for braving the cool weather. Remember, it's not whether your name is drawn; you need to be there, so see you at the meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> May.

## Next Year's Outings

The May meeting is the time we determine the outings for the next 12 months. I think this year's outings have worked well, with them being well attended, those attending having a good time, and some decent fish being caught as well. I'd be happy if they remained the same next year; however there may be a couple of things to consider.

This year in February we attended the Nowra Convention at Crookhaven Heads and surrounding areas. I've not heard of a date for next year, personally I hope it does go ahead again, I guess we could plan for it and see what happens. The April outing could be a topic of discussion too. Anzac day in 2013 is on a Thursday, so with one day's leave, we could be off to Windamere.

I'll come armed with calendars and moon phase information, and I'll also bring school holiday dates. If you think an outing venue needs a change, bring along a suggestion and we can discuss it on the 8<sup>th</sup> May.

## We have a new Member

Congratulations to our Secretary, Zane Zhao, and his wife Sarah, on the birth of their first child Zachary. I think the proud Dad has more details in his report.

## Other Stuff

We're planning a couple of activities for future meetings. At the last committee meeting we decided that we'll join the Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW as a voting club. We're going to invite them to come along in the near future so they can inform you of all the good things they are doing to protect our sport. If you want to check them out, follow the link <http://www.rfansw.com.au/>

We're also looking at a Beach Fishing presentation, and also a Fishing Photography one. If you have an idea that would make a good activity for a monthly meeting, let me know and we can explore it. Have you had a really great fishing trip that you'd like to share? Let me know.

Have you thought about joining the committee and shaping your fishing club? It's fast approaching that time of the year again. The AGM will probably be on the 14<sup>th</sup> August. Now is the time to start thinking about whether you have time to put into your club. There will be some Executive positions and Committee positions that will need filling. Have a think about, your club needs you!

## Recent and Future Outings

The Bega/Brogo/Tathra outing has been and gone. I haven't heard much about it to be honest. I know there we're a few fish caught in the All Tackle division, but haven't heard of any decent point scoring fish. One piece of good news is that there were no accidents this year, very good news indeed.

Unfortunately I'll miss the next outing to Kalkite (Jindabyne) on the 19<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> as I'll be away for work. Not sure if I'm looking forward to the trip to London or not, have you seen the hassles they're having at Heathrow! There are about 14 names on the list for the Kalkite outing, so the accommodation may be tested. Better let Keith or myself know soon if you want to attend.

In June, Rose and I'll be joining the tribe that heads down to Narooma for the long weekend outing, 9<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> June. We already have 13 names on the list, and there are some usual attendees' names absent from the list. This is always a great outing. I had my best ever Salmon bite on Cemetery Beach, or anywhere for that matter, at this outing several years ago.

And then in July we're off to Kioloa/Ulladulla on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Last year at this outing we got blown off the water, hopefully its better this year. In 2010 we cleaned up on Kingies just off Ulladulla, I'm looking forward to that happening again. We already have 12 names on the list for this July, so it's shaping up to be a great event. Accommodation is never a problem, so if you want to come along, put your name down.

Well, that's it for me this month.

Cheers,

Greg Davis

President

## Secretary's Report

Hello everyone, I hope everyone had a good Easter break and ate heaps of chocolates and was able to attend the ANZAC Day March. Thanks to those members who messaged to inform me that my number came up for the members draw and missed out on the prize while I was waiting at home with Sarah for her to go into labour, this baby started to cost me before he is even born.

### 2012 Pirtek Challenge

On April 15<sup>th</sup> I managed to sneak out for would be my last flick for a while to fish the Pirtek challenge, the challenge raises money each year in support of the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia in raising awareness and funding. My mind being focused on other things, I actually forgot that the challenge was on that day and did not get out until 2:00pm that after. I headed for Dunlop pond and fished with worms for a little while which resulted in me dropping a fish that took the worm for a run around the weeds. Later on I met up with Dion



*The grandsons enjoying a day's fishing.*





and Kristin from our club who just got back from a trip to Melbourne (talk about keen), they kindly showed me their local spot and we started peppering the spot with spinner and shads.

After 20 minutes or so, I managed to land the first fish of the day, a 29cm redfin which got me the fish I need to at least enter the challenge. That was quickly followed up by Dino who pulled in a slightly smaller redfin. I called it a day not long after that and headed home. It was the first time I fished Dunlop Pond and I will definitely be back for another go in the future (hopefully not too long).

### Upcoming events

We have the club's Kalkite outing 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> May, this outing is always a lot of fun and Jindy is suppose to be fishing really well at the moment, so if you have not already put your name down for the outing and want to go, please let Keith know by our monthly club meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> May.

Steve Williamson is running a trout fishing competition at Lake Jindabyne on 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> May with the proceeds going to MS (Multiple Sclerosis) Australia. For more information please go to the following website <http://swtroutfishing.com.au/Fishing%20Competitions.htm>.

### Future Fishing Champ

Our little boy Zachary Zhao was born on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, weighing 3.41kg. After a day in our arms, he spent the next 4 days in the Neonatal intensive care unit at the Canberra hospital. He has made a full recovery and is now causing me to work on two hour sleep cycles, but just writing about it is bringing a tear to my eyes as it was the scariest moment of my life so far, so I would like to say thanks to the staff there for their good work and if you want more information about what they do there, please visit <http://canberrahospitalfoundation.org.au/nicu>.

As you can see from the photo, he is already hard at it, practising his casting arm so that when the time comes he will be able to impart good action to any lure to pull in the big ones!!



Till next month!

Zane Zhao

## Recorder's Report

We're getting down to the business end of the annual Club competition. The early lead of Mitchell McGovern is being reeled in, so it will be a tight run to the finish. The next two outings will be to Kalkite and Narooma, so I'm expecting heaps of entries before the competition comes to a close.

Remember; if you plan to fish more than just at outings, you'll need to make sure the captures are weighed on scales that have been certified within the last 12 months. CFC By-laws state that captures on out-of-date scales cannot count toward the Club Championship even if the scales are subsequently checked and certified. Here's a list of Club members' personal scales and their expiry date – if your scales are out of date, get them to me quick (and perhaps go fishing with a member with scales that are current in the meantime).

<b>CFC</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Brand</b>	<b>Max - Kg</b>	<b>Expiry Date</b>
1	Jamie Stanfield	Rapala Digital	8	February-2012
2	Chris De La Rue	Salter Little Samson	6	November-2011
3	Dave Walton	Salter Super Angler	10	October-2012
5	Chris Lemmon	Salter Super Angler	10	October-2007
7	Chris De La Rue	Salter Super Angler	20	November-2011
8	Mario Imbriano	Salter Super Angler	20	November-2009
9	Darren Hossack	Salter	6	March-2009
13	Chris De La Rue	Salter	25	April-2009
14	Andrew Butt	Salter Little Samson	6	October-2006
15	Chris De La Rue	Salter Super Angler	6	April-2005
16	Chris Clark	Salter Super Angler	10	July-2011
17	Steve Bailey	Salter Super Samson	20	May-2006
18	Chris De La Rue	Salter 15	10	1/112011
22	Chris Lemmon	Salter Little Samson	6	October-2007
25	Frank Res	Salter	5	October-2008
27	Mario Imbriano	Salter Little Samson	3	April-2008
29	Shane Japrizza	Salter Little Samson	3	January-2013
30	Rob Safran	Salter Little Samson	10	October-2007
31	Mario Imbriano	Salter Little Samson	6	April-2008
33	Colin Clark	Salter Super Samson	20	July-2011
36	Chris Clark	Rapala Digital	8	July-2011
37	Darren Hossack	Rapala Digital	25	April-2013
51	Craig Kolstad	Salter Little Samson	3	January-2005
52	Craig Kolstad	Salter Little Samson	6	January-2005
53	Steve Bailey	Salter Little Samson	3	February-2011
54	Steve Bailey	Salter Little Samson	6	February-2011
55	Chris De La Rue	Salter Drag Scales	10	July-2006
56	Shane Jasprizza	Salter Baby Scales	10	January-2013
58	Andrew Butt	Rapala Digital	25	January-2011
60	Jamie Stanfield	Salter Super Samson	20	January-2013
61	Shane Jasprizza	NoName Digital	11	October-2010
62	Shane Hyland	Berkeley Digital	18.8lb	September-2007
64	Frank Res	Salter Clock Face	10	April-2009
66	Steve Borkowskis	Senior Digital	50	July-2011
67	Steve Borkowskis	Salter Little Samson	6	September-2007
69	Chris De La Rue	Digital	7.5	November-2011
70	Shane Jasprizza	Salter	10	September-2006
71	Scott Bensley		10	October-2008
72	Dave Jenkins	Rapala Digital?	25	October-2007
73	Angelo Miris		45	November-2006
74	Graham Ogg	Rapala Digital	25	June-2007
75	Chris Clark	Rapala Digital	25	July-2011
76	Steve Borkowskis	Berkley Digital	23	September-2012
79	Brian Stacy	Rapala Digital	8	July-2012
80	Greg Davis	Rapala Digital	25	April-2012
81	Rob Safran	Rapala Digital	25	October-2008
83	Rod Drayton	Berkley Digital	23	May-2008
84	Anthony Heiser	Berkley Digital	23	September-2010
85	James Morgan	X-Tools Digital		August-2008
86	Frank Res	Berkley Digital	23	October-2008
87	Patrick Luttrell	Rapala Digital	25	April-2012
88	Brian Stacy	Rapala Digital	25	April-2012
89	Chris De La Rue	Angyu Digital	5	November-2011
90	Shane Jasprizza	Angyu Digital	5	January-2013
91	Chris Lemmon	CIL Digital	10	January-2013
92	Patrick Martin	Berkley Digital	16	March-2009
93	Chris Head	OCS 2	50	June-2012

94	Ben Lemmon	OCS 2	50	July-2009
95	Glen Malam	Rapala Digital	25	April-2013
96	Andrew Butt	Shimano	45	February-2011
97	Dave Walton	Shimano	45	October-2012
98	Andrew McGovern	Berkley Digital	23	March-2011
99	Keith Smith	Crane Sports		March-2011
100	Pat Luttrell/Rob Taylor	WeiHeng	45	July-2012
102	Pat Luttrell/Ben Bennett	WeiHeng	45	July-2012
105	Anthony Heiser	Berkley Digital	14	September-2012
106	Steve Bailey	Rapala Digital	25	September-2012
118	Albert Magassy	Rapala Digital	25	January-2013
173	Andrew McGovern	PHS-20		November-2008

For those members that would like to do some gamefish tagging, I have received fresh batches of billfish, shark and large pelagic tags. The tags came with a stern reminder from NSW DPI that tags should only be used on target species, and only on fish that are longer than 600mm (except for Yellowtail Kingfish, where the minimum length is 700mm). I've reproduced the list of recommended species from the DPI website (below).

In the interests of the Club, please remember to write "Canberra Fisherman's Club" on the tags issued by the Club, even if you are using the tags in gamefishing competitions run by other clubs – NSW DPI keep records of how many tags they issue to each club and keep note of how many tag cards are returned. If you don't write Canberra Fisherman's Club on the cards, they don't know they're tags issued by CFC (they don't record the tag numbers issued clubs), so they think CFC has heaps of outstanding tags and don't need any more.

#### Billfish (to be tagged with the billfish tag only)

- Black Marlin
- Blue Marlin
- Striped Marlin
- Sailfish
- Broadbill Swordfish
- Shortbill Spearfish

#### Mackerels (to be tagged with the large pelagic tag only)

- Narrow-barred Spanish Mackerel
- Broad-barred Mackerel
- Spotted Mackerel
- School Mackerel
- Wahoo

#### Tuna (to be tagged with the large pelagic tag only)

- Albacore

- Big-eye
- Bonito
- Dogtooth
- Shark Mackerel (Large Scale Tuna)
- Longtail (Northern Bluefin)
- Mackerel (Kawa Kawa)
- Striped (Skipjack)
- Pacific Bluefin
- Southern Bluefin
- Yellowfin

#### Sharks (to be tagged with the steel-headed shark tag only)

- Blue
- Hammerhead
- Tiger
- Mako
- Thresher

- Whaler
- School

Carangids (to be tagged with the large pelagic tag only)

- Amberjack
- Samsonfish
- Rainbow Runner
- Yellowtail Kingfish (only fish over 70cm)

Miscellaneous (to be tagged with the large pelagic tag only)

- Dolphinfish (Mahi Mahi)
- Cobia
- Barracuda
- **NOTE:** All other fish including freshwater, endangered, protected and vulnerable species are not to be tagged under the I&I NSW Game Fish Tagging Program.

Keep the Capture Forms rolling in – I'm looking forward to a busy end to the fishing year!  
Keep safe on the water and keep the capture forms rolling in.

Glenn



## Club Championship – 2011/12

### Open

MITCHELL MCGOVERN *	1,095 Points
ANTHONY HEISER	868 Points
COLIN CLARK	631 Points
ZANE ZHAO	588 Points
STEVE BORKOWSKIS	547 Points

### Ladies

KELSEY MCGOVERN	326 Points
KAREN MALAM	320 Points
ROSE DAVIS	126 Points

### Junior

MITCHELL MCGOVERN *	1,095 Points
TOM STANFIELD	422 Points
KELSEY MCGOVERN *	326 Points
KYLE WALTON	270 Points
MITCHELL BRYANT*	39 Points

### Land Based Club Champion

MITCHELL MCGOVERN *	1,046 Points
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ANTHONY HEISER	832 Points
STEVE BORKOWSKIS	547 Points
CHRIS CLARK	513 Points
SHANE JASPRIZZA	444 Points

#### Freshwater Club Champion

MITCHELL MCGOVERN *	669 Points
STEVE BORKOWSKIS	547 Points
ANTHONY HEISER	510 Points
TOM STANFIELD	422 Points
JAMIE STANFIELD	332 Points

#### Saltwater Club Champion

COLIN CLARK	631 Points
CHRIS CLARK	493 Points
MITCHELL MCGOVERN *	426 Points
ANTHONY HEISER	358 Points
ZANE ZHAO	339 Points

**\* need to attend one more Club outing to be eligible for Club Championship**

#### Most Versatile Angler

STEVE BORKOWSKIS	16 Points
MITCHELL MCGOVERN	16 Points
ZANE ZHAO	13 Points
ANTHONY HEISER	12 Points
COLIN CLARK	11 Points
SHANE JASPRIZZA	11 Points

#### Total Length Award – Australian Salmon

MITCHELL MCGOVERN	17,068 mm
COLIN CLARK	9,025 mm
CHRIS CLARK	5,445 mm
SHANE JASPRIZZA	1,015 mm
CHRIS LEMMON	550 mm

#### Total Length Award – Salmonoids

ANDREW MCGOVERN	26,340 mm
BEN LEMMON	11,091 mm
MITCHELL MCGOVERN	5,295 mm
STEVE BORKOWSKIS	4,870 mm
CHRIS HEAD	4,865 mm

### All-Tackle Club Champion – 2011/12

#### Open

ANTHONY HEISER	23 Points
TOM STANFIELD	16 Points
ZANE ZHAO	16 Points

COLIN CLARK	15 Points
KEITH SMITH	15 Points

### Sub-Junior

KYLE WALTON	6 Points
MITCHELL MCGOVERN	3 Points
KELSEY MCGOVERN	3 Points
TYSON DAVIS	1 Point
SEBASTION DAVIS	1 Point
CONNOR DAVIS	1 Point

### Boardfish – 2011/12

<b>AUSTRALIAN BASS</b>	1.14 kg	SHANE JASPRIZZA
<b>AUSTRALIAN BONITO</b>	1.71 kg	GLEN MALAM
<b>AUSTRALIAN SALMON</b>	3.56 kg	MITCHELL MCGOVERN
<b>BARRACOUTA</b>	1.08 kg	ANTHONY HEISER
<b>BARRAMUNDI</b>	30.50 kg	STEVE BAILEY
<b>BLACK BREAM</b>	0.59 kg	CHRIS HEAD
<b>BROWN TROUT</b>	2.10 kg	TOM STANFIELD
<b>COMMON SHOVELNOSED RAY</b>	3.36 kg	ZANE ZHAO
<b>COMMON STINGRAY</b>	1.89 kg	CHRIS CLARK
<b>DUSKY FLATHEAD</b>	3.30 kg	CHRIS HEAD
<b>EEL TAILED CATFISH (FRESHWATER)</b>	1.67 kg	STEVE BORKOWSKIS
<b>EUROPEAN CARP</b>	12.12 kg	STEVE BORKOWSKIS
<b>FIDDLER RAY</b>	2.43 kg	COLIN CLARK
<b>GOLDEN PERCH</b>	3.34 kg	CHRIS LEMMON
<b>HAIRTAIL</b>	1.38 kg	COLIN CLARK
<b>MURRAY COD</b>	2.90 kg	STEVE BAILEY
<b>RAINBOW TROUT</b>	1.23 kg	STEVE BORKOWSKIS
<b>SAND FLATHEAD</b>	0.66 kg	CHRIS CLARK
<b>SILVER TREVALLY</b>	0.82 kg	KEITH SMITH
<b>SNAPPER</b>	1.01 kg	BRIAN STACY
<b>TAILOR</b>	0.79 kg	CHRIS CLARK
<b>YELLOWFIN BREAM</b>	1.05 kg	ZANE ZHAO
<b>YELLOWTAIL KINGFISH</b>	4.30 kg	BRIAN STACY

## Best Fish Championship – 2011/12

### BEACH

#### AUSTRALIAN SALMON

2.09kg on 1 kg

#### MITCHELL MCGOVERN

251 Points

### BLUEWATER

#### YELLOWTAIL KINGFISH

2.76kg on 4 kg

#### MITCHELL MALAM

103 Points

### ESTUARY

#### DUSKY FLATHEAD

2.85kg on 1 kg

#### KAREN MALAM

285 Points

### FRESHWATER

#### BARRAMUNDI

30.50kg on 10 kg

#### STEVE BAILEY

458 Points

### ROCKS

#### AUSTRALIAN SALMON

2.08kg on 1 kg

#### SHANE JASPRIZZA

250 Points

### BEST SHARK OR RAY

#### COMMON SHOVELNOSED RAY

3.36kg on 2 kg

#### ZANE ZHAO

168 Points

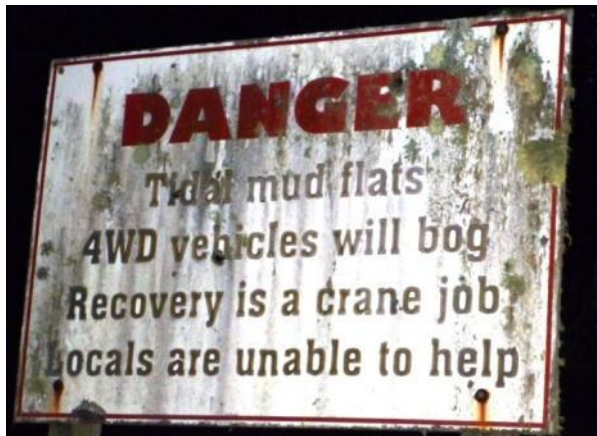
# News & Stories

## Brogo-Tathra Outing, 21-22 April 2012

By Anthony Heiser

With the hustle and bustle of the Carp-Out finally behind us, the April outing in Tathra proved to be a relaxing weekend. Dave and Kyle Walton pre-fished the Bega River on Thursday and Friday. However, the Bega River looked more like the Brisbane River after the recent heavy rains and they saw no action other than one lost fish. They later caught two shrimp while prawning in Wallagoot Lake. Keith also fished the Bega River on Friday to no avail. Afterwards, Charlie Curtis, Chris Head, Wendy MacDonald, and myself all arrived by Friday evening.

We rose early on Saturday and made our way to Lake Wapengo, only to find the water was only ankle deep at the boat ramp. With the lake seeming more like Lake 'Wapen-not-go', we all headed to Merimbula Lake instead. The water at Merimbula was clear and there were already a few boats in the water by the time we arrived.



Left: If you see this sign, you know you took the wrong turn-off to the Lake Wapengo boat ramp! Right: Riptide mullet ripped to pieces by tailor.

Dave and Kyle went trolling and landed a 40 cm tailor. They later got busted off by something large and unseen while bait fishing. Chris and Wendy fished off an artificial reef. Chris got a 29.5 cm pinky and an undersized flathead while Wendy dropped a nice flounder just out of range of the landing net. Chris then got a 35 cm bream on a blue gill patterned cranka lure. Charlie landed a 45 cm dusky flathead and later dropped what was probably a tailor or trevally.

Keith landed a nice fat 0.82 kg trevally near the oyster leases on a blade. However, apart from that, it was quiet around the oyster leases so we moved to the northern end of the lake where tailor had trapped a big school of baitfish in the little bay. With tailor busting up all around the boat, I landed seven tailor and lost four or five from bite offs.





Keith's trevally and Anthony's tailor



Charlie's flathead

Charlie and I later fished Bega River without success while Chris and Wendy scoped out the feasibility of fishing the beach and the Tathra Jetty. With the beach covered in three foot of brown foam and the jetty looking no better, we all followed Chris's recommendation to relax and empty a few bottles of red instead.

On Sunday, Dave and Kyle returned to Merimbula Lake and landed some undersized snapper and tailor, and dropped a flathead. Kyle also landed a nice trevally.

Charlie, Chris, Wendy and I eventually made our way to Brogo Dam (someone removed the Brogo Dam sign at the turn-off) and fished there till midday. While we saw plenty of fish on the sounder, none of them seem interested in our offerings of vibes, blades, spinner baits, minnows and soft plastics. Eventually, Chris landed a 25 cm bass.

While the fishing was not the best, we all enjoyed a relaxing weekend down the coast. Keith has once again done a wonderful job organising the outing and thanks to Wendy for bringing the smoked trout dip!

Finally, since the outing Keith and I both found some more information about fishing Lake Wapengo. So stay tuned for future reports when Keith and I finally get around wetting a line at Wapengo.



Dave and Kyle trolling for tailor by the oyster leases.





Charlie chasing bass at Brogo Dam



Chris and Wendy chasing bass at Brogo Dam



Chris with a 25 cm bass.

## Fish Stocking – Your raffle money at work

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2012 a delivery from ( <http://www.silverwaternativefish.com.au/>) Silverwater Native Fish of approx 8,500 Golden Perch fingerlings was delivered to Canberra. This delivery was made possible by all the people that purchased tickets in the fish stocking raffle over the last 2 years.

Approx 4250 fingerlings at an average size of 30cm were released into both West Belconnen (Dunlop) Pond & Point Hut Pond with the assistance of Mark Jekabsons & Matt Beitzel from ACT Government Conservation Planning and Research team.



This is the second stocking of these ponds and monitoring will be carried out in a couple of years by Mark & Matt, collecting data of the growth rates of these stocked fish to hopefully give us a snap shot of the benefits of stocking the smaller waterways in our local regions.

All the other waterways that have already been stocked over the years are now starting to show the fruit of our labours with good Murray Cod and Golden Perch capture being reported by anglers.

Please let us know of your captures in the local area, we don't need to know your secret spot but if you can drop us a line of the length, weight of the fish and the general location this will assist us in the future to plan our fish stocking of the local region.





# Fishing Soft Plastics with Big E

## Starting out with soft plastics for Flathead

Fishing with soft plastics for species like Flathead has become a very popular way to fish these days & I am going to outline a few tips. I don't feel there is a right or a wrong way to fish plastics & some days the fish will strike any plastic on just about any type of retrieve & other days are very fussy about retrieve speed & lure type / colour. There are many colours & types of soft plastics on the market these days but I will just cover a few of my most commonly used types here. Fishing soft plastics is a fun way & a very challenging way to fish & once you start having success it gets very addictive. It's currently my favorite way of fishing & hopefully after this you may decide to give it a go yourself. My main target on soft plastics is flathead so this is the species I will cover. This is just a starting point & there are many factors & methods which come in to being a good plastics fisherman & hopefully this article will help point you in the right direction.

## Tackle

### Rods

To fish successfully with soft plastics you need a rod that will give good distance with the small weights used. A threadline or baitcaster reel can be used for this type of fishing so the rod needs to suit that type of reel. Most of the jigs I cast are either 3/8th ounce or 1/2 ounce. The rod needs to have a light & sensitive tip without being too light, otherwise it will affect the working of the plastic, but with enough power in the butt to stop big flathead. The breaking strain of leaders most commonly used varies from 2 kilo through to 4 kilo, so it needs to be suitable for this class of line. I also use fluoro carbon in the same breaking strain when fish are timid or quiet. I mentioned the breaking strain of the leaders instead of the line as I use 4 pound Fins to 10 pound Fins or 6lb Super PE & both of these break well above the rated breaking strain, so pick a rod to suit the leader more than the actual breaking strain of the main line. I prefer a carbon fibre or graphite rod myself as they cast well & provide excellent "feel" when used with Braided lines. There are many suitable rods on the market & they range in price from \$100 to \$600. I cannot name specific rods at this stage but all I can say is buy the best rod you can afford. It needs to be light to medium weight & have quality guides on it with preferably a cork grip as this transmits gentle takes better than hypalon or other grip materials. The length is personal preference again depending on the type of area you will be fishing. I use 2 types of outfits, the threadline is a 7 foot rod and the baitcaster is a 5 foot 6 inch rod, it is a bit more powerful than my 7 footer. When buying a rod weight is very important as fishing soft plastics generally involves a lot of casting & a heavy rod will soon tire your wrists out.

### Reels

As for reels I prefer to use a Shimano Calcutta 200 baitcaster or a Pflueger Supreme threadline for my soft plastics fishing. They are very suitable for this type of work & very reasonably priced. They have an excellent drag system & lay the line very evenly which is important when using braid. There are other brands available that will do the job, so it's up to your own liking and your favorite brand. A metal spool is a must as are coated bail rollers as braid will rapidly wear away the lip of a graphite spool & cut a groove in a soft bail roller. Again weight is important so look for a nice light reel.

### Main Line

In my opinion a braid line like Fins or Super PE braided line is by far & away the best type of line for fishing soft plastics. The very thin diameters allow for long distance casts with the almost non existent stretch makes for instant "feel" of a touch on the lure. I use Fins and Super PE in 6 pound for long distance casting on my threadline outfit & 6 - 10 pound Fins on my baitcaster. I prefer the "yellow" Fluoro Green so I can watch the line on the waters surface as the jig sinks & detect takes. I think normal mono line runs a very poor second to the lines mentioned above for this type of fishing. A point I would like to make is rinse the line on the reel well after each trip as salt gets trapped in these lines & can lead to spool corrosion.

## Leaders

I always use a leader when I am fishing soft plastics. The reason is the mainlines mentioned above are very visible in the water & these can spook fish so a thin less visible leader is important particularly in clear shallow water, and braid lines are not as easy to tie knots in as monofilament line. I use FC Rock or Nitlon DFC Fluro Carbon for my leaders & I use 1, 2, 3 & 4 kilo breaking strains depending on where and when I am fishing. I find it has excellent knot strength & is very fine for its breaking strain. It wears well & I have no knot problems when I join it to my main line.

## Bits & Pieces

A couple things you need as well is a "Worm proof" tackle box to store your soft plastics in. They will eat away at normal plastic boxes. Do not mix different colours of plastics together or the colours will run into each other. A small pair of nail clippers or a pair of surgical scissors are very handy for trimming knots. A diamond hone should be carried for touching up jig hook points. I always use Owner #2 S/S Duo clips for attaching my jigs to the leader as they make changing jigs easy. They come in packets of 20. Last but not least is a bottle of Spike IT scent. I don't think that the scent on your plastics is VERY important, but the colour contrast does make the difference & I have found that Spike It is easy to use & last for ages. I use the "game fish" scent in either red or hot pink & only dip the tail of my soft plastic into it as per instructions on the bottle. Immersing the whole plastic affects the rubber & they can split or fall apart. Now for the nitty gritty

## Jigs

I use only 2 brands of jig heads & these are AusSpin and Nitro Pogy. The reason I use only these brands is for the sharpness, strength & length of the hooks. They are extremely sharp & this is very important when fishing soft plastics even more so than in other forms of fishing. They don't come cheap but are well worth the money for the increased hook up rates. There are plenty of cheaper brands around & if you must use them make sure you get the point really sharp before using them. AusSpin 3/8oz #4/0 & #6/0 Shad jig head is a great size for most shad style plastics to fish edges and into mid water depths allowing slower retrieves & with the bigger hook size for slightly bigger profile plastics, long shank Mustard Aberdeen chemically sharp black nickel hooks get to the rear of the plastic for a better hook up rate with excellent quality finish, and they are Australian made. Below are some pictures of my most commonly used jig head.

Length: #4/0 & #6/0

Weight: 3/8oz

Average Depth: medium, deep

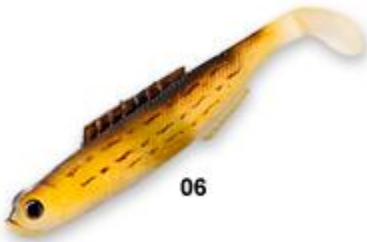


## Soft Plastic Baits

As I mentioned previously there are many different brands, colours & sizes of soft plastics available & they will all take fish if used correctly. Once you start using plastics your collection will grow like mine has but I'm just going to mention a few of my more commonly used types & colours that are consistently successful for me. The brands I use most are RipTide, Berkley, Cocohoe & Softies. Under most circumstances I prefer a soft plastic bait of 3 inches to 4 inches, when I'm chasing Flathead the bigger the better. I have found using too small a plastic for Flathead results in a lot of small or undersize fish. Below are pictures of some of my favorites. The selection below is only a small sample of the soft plastics available.



**Cocohoe Minnow**



**Berkley Saltwater Power Mullet**



**Rip Tide Curtailler**



**Rip Tide Mullet**

This should give you an idea of what has worked for me in the past & provide an idea of what to buy to get yourself started off. I have the above soft plastics in many different colours & they all have taken fish at some stage or another. A rule of thumb is to use dark colours on dark days & light colours on bright days & mostly this will work. Don't be afraid to experiment with different types & colours. Often I have changed from a paddle tail in say Amber to a wriggle tail in Amber & just the different action in the tail was enough to get fish going & produce several fish in the same water I had been fishing for no result. Always take a few types & colours along with you to give yourself the best chance of success.

### **Rigs & tips for fishing soft plastic baits**

#### **Soft Plastic Rigs**

#### **Main Line - Leader - Jig**

The rig I use for when I'm setting up my rod for soft plastics fishing is pretty simple but you need to take care with your knots when tying braids. The diagram below shows the leader knot I use & its simple to tie as well.

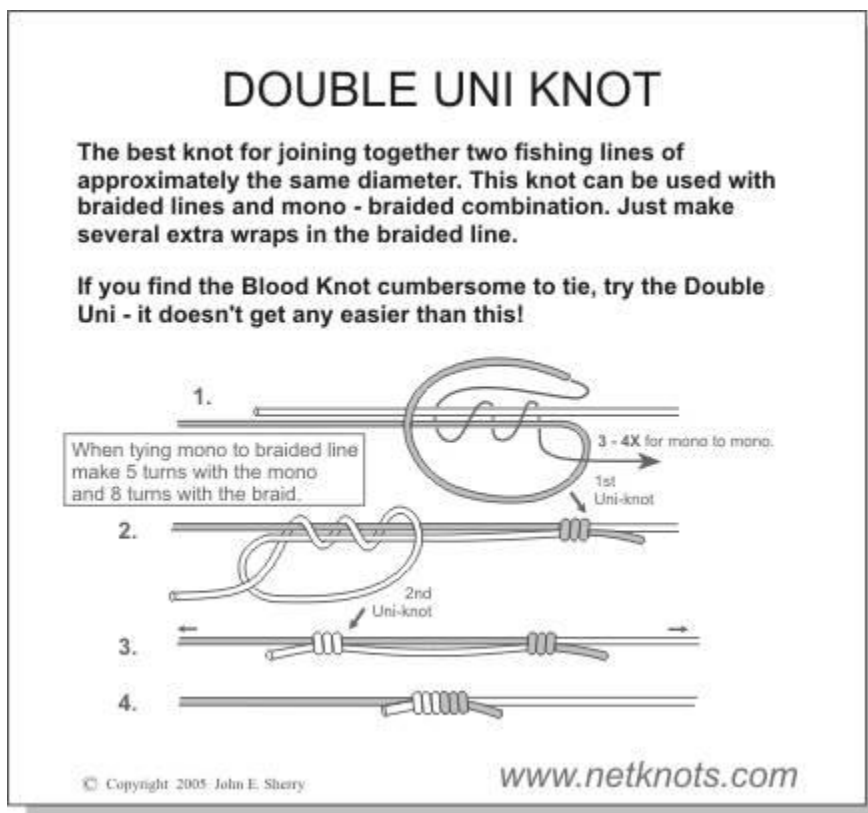


## Double Uni-Knot

A better join can be made using the Double Uni-Knot.

This is a knot used for attaching the main line to the leader.

1. Overlap the two lines for about 15cm.
2. Using one end, form a circle that overlies both lines.
3. Pass the end six times around the two lines.
4. Pull the end tight to draw the knot up into shape.
5. Repeat the process using the end of the other line.
6. Pull both lines to slide the two knots together.



## Rigging Soft Plastic

It is VERY important to put your soft plastic on the hook properly. A few extra seconds taken here can make all the difference between getting strikes & not getting strikes. The plastic bait must lay straight & not be bunched up & the hook must be central in the bait or it will interfere with the action & not swim correctly. The soft plastic bait MUST have action both as it sinks & as it is retrieved to be really successful. Some plastics if not correctly rigged will still swim in a fashion on the retrieve but do nothing or just spiral as they sink. You need to have that tail working hard as they sink as flathead especially will strike as it is sinking provided it looks life like. Start by measuring your soft plastic alongside the jig head & take note of where the hook will need to exit the body in order for it to be straight & not bunched or stretched when the front of it is sitting against the head of the jig. Most plastics have a seam running along the centre in line with the tail so this shows where the hook needs to come through to be central & line up with the tail as well. Start the hook point in the centre of the plastic & thread it round the hook making sure to keep it central & bring the hook point out through the seam & you should have your plastic then laying nice & straight & not bunched up or stretched.

## Retrieves

What is the "right" way to retrieve a soft plastic? The answer is simple, there isn't one! I take fish on many types of retrieves but I think the biggest factor that makes the difference between success & failure is the speed. Soft plastics work best when used SLOWLY. Using them too fast I think is the main cause of people not being successful. I can't tell you what speed to wind the handle you have to learn it. I can only suggest getting a rigged plastic in the pool or in the river & watching it. You only need to move it enough to get the tail working to provide some action & that is all that's needed speed wise to get strikes, get used to that speed then add a few gentle lift & drop actions with the rod & your on your way. Keep experimenting until you get hits. Don't fall into the trap of sticking with one type of retrieve if your not getting strikes, vary it every few casts until you find something that works. A tip when your targeting flathead is give the rod a good hard rip to lift the jig well off the bottom then let it drop again & that really works with Flathead. Just remember keep varying that retrieve & try everything from a dead slow straight one through to a faster jigging type until you find what the fish respond too. In colder water try fishing the plastic very slowly & the same goes for murky water as well. Fish will often take a plastic sitting stationary on the bottom so give it a pause from time to time as well.

## **Fishing Methods**

### Flathead

If you are looking for a fish to start off with I suggest the Flathead. They love eating soft plastics. When you want to catch Flathead I suggest using a plastic at least 75mm (3 inch) in length. If you use smaller you will be plagued by small & undersize flatties. Trust me you will get enough littlies on 75mm plastics & remember you pretty well can't go too big for flathead. I don't use any special leader when after them just my "standard". Provided you keep a Flathead's head under the waters surface it won't saw you off, I've taken Flatties over a meter on 2 kilo leaders & had no problems at all.

Fish any of the normal areas you would for flathead, along the edges of channels, drop-offs & around weed beds on sandbanks. I generally like to fish the falling tide. Remember flathead generally face into the current so its important to retrieve your lure in the same direction the current is running rather than against it. Try working the jig over the top of weeds as well as along the edges. Use the appropriate size jig head that will get to the bottom under the conditions. I use a pretty active retrieve most of the time when I'm targeting flathead & mix that up with the odd dead slow straight retrieve. I jig the soft plastic back by starting off with the rod horizontal & sharply lifting it to about 60 degrees then lowering the rod tip, taking in slack while I wind the reel. Every few cast I will just retrieve the jig slowly without applying any type of action at all. Mix it up a bit until you find what's working on the day. I don't think flathead are as particular & fussy about the type of retrieve, but you still need to be putting your soft plastic down there where the flathead lives. The bite is generally a hard bump or 2 then you feel the fish's weight on the end. Strike as soon as you feel the fish's weight & you shouldn't miss too many. This is a starting point for catching flathead on soft plastics & good sport is not restricted to boat fishing either. I recommend it for a bit of fun.



# Burrinjuck Waters State park report

## Fishing & Lake Report 25/04/12

**Rain last 7 days:** 38.5mm

**Water level current:** 94.4%

**Water level :** 18 /04/2012 92.2%

**Current discharge:** 2150 ml per day.

**Current inflow:** 3750 ml per day

**Water visibility:** 30cm, on improve, still dirty

**Weather:** For the weekend, sunny & winds to 16 km hr. on Saturday. Temps between 4 & 19 degrees. reading 962 hp down from 1034 hp a week ago.

**Full moon** = 6 May

**New Moon** = 21 May

**Water Temperature** =19-22 degrees

**Murray Cod:** I am starting to get some good reports of big cod captures. Jon from Wagga has managed a 1.010 metre & a 63 cm fish. Caught at the Top end of Wade Island while trolling at 7.5metres with a bright green with painted bib 75 mm Orgee. A bright green pee wee orgee accounted for another 4 smaller cod between the bluff and McPhersons Creek on Tuesday. Trolling very close to the rock walls, Lures to a depth of 4 metres did the trick. Another Wagga angler also picked up a 93 cm fish while trolling a bright green spinner bait. With the water clearing and with stable water levels the cod fishing will continue to pick up over the coming weeks.



**Yellow Belly:** Have been quieter this week (low Barometer) and not as many big fish were landed. More fish are being picked up trolling between 2 to 4 metres down in close to rock walls or along the shallower margins, Most popular colours being used are red & black, Black & white or bright Green. Most popular lures, No 2 Stump jumper, Orgee Pee Wee, RMG Poltergeist. The old favourite of trolling a copper spoon or flash ,a bunch of worms on a hook and some lead on the line is also accounting for a lot of fish. Reports of catches are certainly wide spread. From Hatchery Point, near the wall, the area from Macey's Bay through to Scruby's is still very popular & upstream of Hume Park is also providing some good fish. The bait fishermen are still having a lot of success with the humble worm accounting for many of the big fish caught in the last weeks. Small yabbies accounted for 9 yellows caught on Tuesday.

**Redfin:** Use the same methods as with the yellow belly, most of the fisherman, catching the yellows, have landed more redfin then they have yellows. There are not too many big fish being caught. General rule with the redfin, being a school fish, is to troll back over the area several times, once you have located them. Even try flicking a few lures around. Bait fishing from the shoreline of the park with worms or shrimp has also been productive.

**Carp:** Worms & Corn in the shallows or try your hand at fly fishing.

**Silvers:** The occasional 1 or 2 fish have been landed over the last 2 weekends falling victim to a worm on a hook.

**Trout:** No reports yet but hopefully wont be long. Several browns over 50 cm were taken by anglers from the bank last winter. We have had regular Rainbow releases over the last few years which should be growing nicely.

**Park News:** Just a reminder that Burrinjuck Dam is a designated alpine Water & visitors need to be aware of the life jacket requirements particularly if your boat is less than 4.8 metres in length.

I will be advertising next week for a couple to work and live at the park. Adds will be in local papers and the land.

**Dean Brind**

Manager: Burrinjuck Waters State Park .



## From the Editor

More great photos have come in so keep them coming to [info@canberrafishos.com](mailto:info@canberrafishos.com) for your chance to win a \$20 Tackle World voucher. Also a reminder you can enter the Tackle World photo competition to be in the running for a \$30 gift voucher.

<http://www.tackleworldcanberra.com.au/videosold/local-heroes-photos>

So if you were really lucky and had that winning shot you could end up with \$50 worth of Tackle World vouchers.

I am still looking to members to send me photos, stories, jokes and information that can be used in the newsletter and or website. So if you have been away and have a few photos from the trip send them in with a paragraph or two, don't have to be many words but will be of interest to members I am sure. Thanks to the usual suspects for their input, especially Anthony's for the outings report and some proof reading while on holidays. Also to Big E (Ian Phillips) for allowing me to reproduce his article in the newsletter.

Also if you have some gear to sell, swap, wanted or barter then send me the details and we can put it into the newsletter.

All of the above should be emailed to [info@canberrafishos.com](mailto:info@canberrafishos.com) , hand delivered or drop me a line on my mobile 0408 225 794.

Also keep an eye out for Members only deals coming up, and more presentations on the way

Also a reminder for the lucky member number draw at each general meeting, you have to be there to win the cash or it JACKPOTS each week until a winning member is present.

## March Photo Competition entries



## 2011-2012 Canberra Fisherman's Club Outings & Meeting Calendar

<i>Outing Date</i>	<i>Outing</i>	<i>Monthly Meetings</i>
<b>19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Kalkite (Jindabyne)	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Narooma (3-day outing)	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> July</b>	Kiola/Ulladulla	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>



# Canberra Fisherman's Club Sponsors 2011 - 2012

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<b>SAGA TACKLE MARKETING</b>		<b>02 4971 2517</b>
<b>SITA ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS</b>	Steven Rees	<b>02 6260 1544</b>
<b>THE TACKLE SHED</b>	David Wescombe	<b>c/- Wagga-Wagga Boat Club Anglers</b>
<b>SIGNFLAIR</b>	Mike & Colleen Connors	<a href="mailto:signflair@bigpond.com">signflair@bigpond.com</a>
<b>WAGGA FISHING WORLD &amp; LEGEND LURES</b>	Graeme & Wendy Clark	<a href="http://www.waggafishingworld.com.au">www.waggafishingworld.com.au</a>
<b>WETSPOT WATERSPORTS</b>	Scott Hunter	<b>02 6239 1323</b>



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<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	<b>Shane Jasprizza</b>	<b>0413 803 409 (m)</b>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	<b>Zane Zhao</b>	<b>0411 668 083 (m)</b>
<b>ASSISTANT SECRETARY/ EDITOR</b>	<b>Chris Head</b>	<b>0408 225 794 (m)</b>
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>Anthony Heiser</b>	<b>0402 560 880 (m)</b>
<b>RECORDER/TAGGING OFFICER</b>	<b>Glen Malam</b>	<b>0417 455 878 (m)</b>
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<b>Committee</b>	<b>Patrick Luttrell</b>	
<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chris Lemmon</b>	
<b>Committee</b>	<b>Brian Stacy</b>	

## Membership & Contact Information

### Membership Fees

	<b>CFC</b>	<b>ANSA</b>
<b>Junior</b>	<b>\$5</b>	<b>\$4</b>
<b>Student</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$7</b>
<b>Senior</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>\$20</b>
<b>Family</b>	<b>\$30</b>	<b>\$25</b>

**All Correspondence to the  
CFC Secretary  
PO Box 325  
Civic Square, ACT 2608**

**Articles for inclusion in  
the  
CFC Newsletter to be  
Forwarded to the Editor**

**Chris Head  
[info@canberraflashos.com](mailto:info@canberraflashos.com)**

### CFC Life Members

**Mike Penkethman**

**Alan Matthews**

**Brian Ray**

**Laurie Nolen**

**Jamie Stanfield**

**Chris De La Rue**

# For Sale / Wanted, Swap or Barter

**Quintrex 480 Freedom Sport bow-rider**, first registered in 2005 (see attached photos)

Boat is 4.8m, white with red and blue accents, has been immaculately maintained and is in excellent condition - would suit a new boat buyer. The Evinrude 75hp E-Tec outboard (with cover) has less than 70hrs use since new.

Fitted with:

- Garmin GPS Chartplotter/fishfinder,
- 27mhz marine radio,
- Fusion iPod/MP3 player & radio,
- inshore safety gear,
- full covers including trailerable full boat cover,
- bimini with removable clears,
- removable bait-board
- provision for dual batteries (only one fitted).

The Dunbier trailer is in excellent condition and has bearing-buddies fitted. Both boat and trailer have just been re-registered for a full 12 months (NSW). All navigation lights are fitted. Carpet and upholstery are in perfect condition and with the bow rider comfortably seats 5 adults. The boat has been garaged and covered since new. This boat represents savings of thousands over buying new, yet looks new. This is a perfect fishing/pleasure craft and can be easily towed by a family sedan. Reluctant sale but you won't be disappointed!

Located at Basin View, NSW (near St George's Basin/Jervis Bay) but relocation to ACT possible.  
\$26,500 ono.

Contact: **Kathy Winterton**

Mobile: 0403 886 148

Email: [klw890@gmail.com](mailto:klw890@gmail.com)



## Outboard Motor Oil

Out board Plus 2 stroke Boat Engine oil

Suitable for all water cooled outboards

Pre Mix or injected Systems

\$90.00 for 20lt

Contact **Brian Stacy 0408 466 596**

## **WANTED –**

### **Large trees/logs for river restoration project.**

We (the Capital Region Fishing Alliance) have received a grant to rehabilitate a section of the Queanbeyan River and restore fish habitat through resnagging with logs. We are having trouble however finding a source of large logs for the project.

If anyone has a property or farm with some large recently-fallen trees that they don't want, I'd be happy to speak to you. Prefer eucalypt or hardwood logs with the root ball still attached, 0.5m/50cm diameter. Willows and pine are no good. We can pay removal costs.

Or if anyone notices any fallen trees on public land, I'd be grateful to know the location.

Thanks in advance.

Shane

CRFA President

I : .....

Signature : .....

Nominate for the position of (*Circle as appropriate*)

President

Vice President

Secretary

Assistant Secretary

Treasurer

Committee Position

Nominated by : .....

Seconded by : .....

I : .....

Signature : .....

Nominate for the position of (*Circle as appropriate*)

President

Vice President

Secretary

Assistant Secretary

Treasurer

Committee Position

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Seconded by : .....

I : .....

Signature : .....

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President

Vice President

Secretary

Assistant Secretary

Treasurer

Committee Position

Nominated by : .....

Seconded by : .....



# 201%1 & MEMBERSHIP FORM

## CANBERRA FISHERMAN'S CLUB INC

Affiliated with the Australian National Sportfishing Association ([ANSA](#))



Surname:					
First Name:					
Partner's Name:					
Child 1:		DOB:			
Child 2:		DOB:			
Child 3:		DOB:			
Address:					
Suburb:		State:		Postcode:	
Email:					
Phone:	(h)		(w)		(mob)

Proposed By: \_\_\_\_\_ (N/a for renewal)

Seconded By: \_\_\_\_\_ (N/a for renewal)

**Pqvg** Optional ANSA affiliation entitles you to National/International Record Claims and NSW Sporting Injuries Insurance.

CFC Senior	<b>&amp;42"</b>		ANSA Senior	<b>&amp;42"</b>	
CFC Family	<b>&amp;52"</b>		ANSA Family	<b>&amp;47"</b>	
CFC Junior <16	<b>&amp;7"</b>		ANSA Junior <16	<b>&amp;6"</b>	
			ANSA Student	<b>&amp;9"</b>	

I / We agree to abide by the rules of the Canberra Fisherman's Club Inc Constitution, By-Laws and ANSA Code of Ethics...

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Annual Renewal is due by 30<sup>th</sup> June each year. Cheques to be made payable to - Canberra Fisherman's Club Inc.  
Membership form and payment should be forwarded to - **Vj g'Uget gvt { 'RQ'Dqz '547'Ekle'Us wct g.'CEV'482:**

**Dqc v'Qy pgt <'[" gu''T''P q''''** If yes, please complete the following section...

Manufacturer:		Boat Name:		Boat Rego Number:	
Length:	Beam:	Draught:	Hull Colour:	Deck Colour:	
Trailer Manufacturer:			Trailer Registration:		
Radio Fitted: Yes / No			Call Sign:		

**Rgt uqp 'vq'eqpcev'lp'ecug'qh'go gti gpe{ í** Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**QHHEG'WUG'QPN "**

CFC Fee: \$\_\_\_\_\_.00 ANSA Fee: \$\_\_\_\_\_.00 Total amount due: \$\_\_\_\_\_.00"

Treasurer's Receipt No: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_.

CFC Membership Recorded and Included on Mailing Lists: Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_.

ANSA Membership: Registered or Renewed Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_.