

Newsletter

Volume 20 Issue 8

March 2017



Jon Vogel – Armchair Angler: The Three Amigos/Stooges Go Fishing

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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 everyone,

What a great month March is going to be.

The March outing will be to Narooma this Canberra Day Long Weekend for the annual Narooma Convention. This is traditionally a great outing for the Club and a great opportunity to show other ANSA clubs how good we are. The Canberra Fisherman's Club has won this event several times in the past; and I reckon this might be our year again. I hope you can make it!



At the end of March, the Club will be hosting this year's Canberra Carp-Out. Thanks very much to the members that have already volunteered their time over the last few weeks to help sell tickets in the Fish Stocking Raffle at stands across Canberra. There will be further opportunities to help over the weeks leading up to the event, and it's fun. The feedback and recognition that the Club receives when we're out there in the community is absolutely fantastic.

Anthony has our Facebook advertising campaign up and running. It's amazing how many people have seen the ad already and have shared it with their mates. This will be our tenth year running the Carp-Out and it's really pleasing to see the level of recognition and respect that the Canberra Fisherman's Club receives for this event.

There are many people out there having a whinge about the state of our environment, our local lakes and the carp problem. But it's the Canberra Fisherman's Club that's getting out there and doing something about it!

On top of all the kudos, it's also heaps of fun. If you can spare a couple of hours to help out on the day, please put your name on the roster at the next meeting or contact a committee member (or just email the Club). Not only will you be supporting the local environment, but also our local community through the Cancer Support Group.

See you at the Carp-Out,

Glen Malam

Secretary's Report



For anyone that hasn't renewed their club membership yet, please do so as soon as possible to avoid missing out on everything our club offers. You can renew your membership through the web site.

It's been busy end to February and beginning to March getting ready for the 2017 Carp-Out. Hopefully, this will be the last one with the release over the Crap Virus.

Some Club members have been giving up a Saturday to sell raffle tickets in the Clubs

Native Fishing Stocking Raffle and promote the Carp Out. There are a few weekends till the Carp-Out so if you are interested in doing a Saturday at a venue you can get permission for, let the Committee know.

With the club spending money over the last few years to improve it as per member's requests, more information is being uploaded to and I encourage you to log in and have a look. Those that don't have or forgotten their logon's email me (secretary@canberrafishos.com) and I will reset your password.

I have been down the coast fishing over the last couple weekends and it has been a bit tough with the weather and this then causing a lot of sea weed washed up on the beaches. It must have come from somewhere and I have noticed my favourite set of rocks, are looking a bit barren now.

I am looking forward to March outing at Narooma for a good chance to put the kayak back in the water and fish a few different spots and styles

Tight lines

Kevin Spriggs
secretary@canberrafishos.com



Recorder's Report

Hi Everyone

I hope that you have been able to wet a line in this past month. It has been a very quiet year for me so far fishing but I hope to take some time off in April to get in a bit of trout fishing.

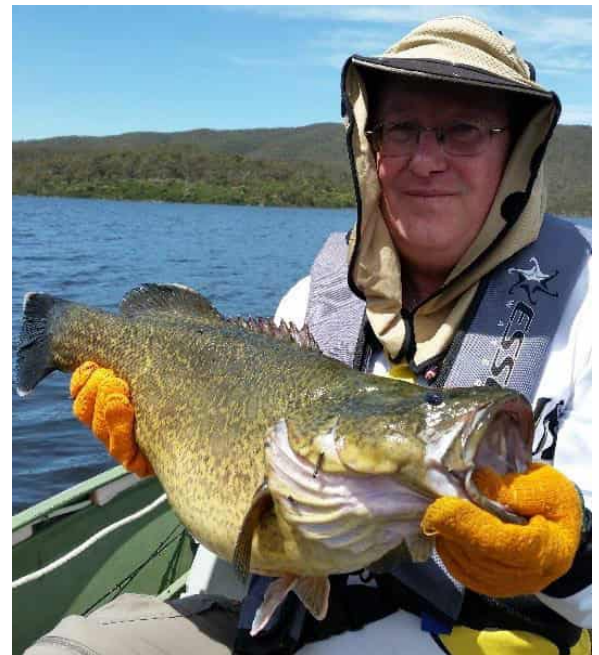
So far there has been 355 fish recorded as being captured by our members. The following is some of the numbers that have been caught:

Black Bream	68
Yellowfin Bream	26
Dusky Flathead	11
Brown Trout	29
Estuary Perch	2
European Carp	13
Golden Perch	93
Murray Cod	8
Sand Flathead	14
Sand Whiting	14
Snapper	8
Tailor	6

This is not a complete list but if you would like to find out more on what species have been caught let me know. It is interesting to note that Golden Perch lead the quantity caught and that has mainly been attributed to three members.

There were a couple of length errors in last month's report which I have since corrected so the report should now be accurate. If you think that I still have errors in the report, please send me an email at recorder@canberraflashos.com or see me at the meetings or you can call me on 0429 918 013.

Mick Peel



Club Championship

Open

Steve Bailey	769
Chris Lemmon	407
Anthony Heiser	368
Brian Stacy	278
Greg Davis	117

Ladies

Karen Malam	35
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Junior

Kyle Walton	75	<i>(less than 2 outings attended)</i>
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Land Based

Steve Bailey	566
Chris Lemmon	407
Anthony Heiser	188
Brian Stacy	186
Chris Head	108

Fresh Water

Steve Bailey	469
Anthony Heiser	191
Chris Lemmon	141
Greg Davis	117
Chris Head	108

Salt Water

Steve Bailey	300
Brian Stacy	278
Chris Lemmon	266
Anthony Heiser	177

Most Versatile Angler

Steve Bailey	7	
Anthony Heiser	5	<i>(less than 3 sections entered)</i>
Chris Lemmon	4	<i>(less than 3 sections entered)</i>
Brian Stacy	3	<i>(less than 3 sections entered)</i>
Greg Davis	2	<i>(less than 3 sections entered)</i>

Salt Water Length *(Black Bream, Pikey Bream, Tarwhine, Yellowfin Bream)*

Steve Bailey	12,170
Chris Lemmon	7,200
Chris Head	3,020
Wendie McDonald	2,220
Anthony Heiser	1,880
Narelle Tate	16,890
John Bosch	9,705
Paul Breeze	6,130
Steve Bailey	2,090
Mick Jewry	455

Tagging Award

TBA

Board Fish - Weight

Atlantic Salmon	1.57 kg	Glen Malam
Australian Salmon	2.22 kg	Chris Lemmon
Black Bream	1.46 kg	Steve Bailey
Brown Ray	0.60 kg	Anthony Heiser
Brown Trout	3.32 kg	Steve Bailey
Common Shovelnose Ray	2.80 kg	Brian Stacy
Dusky Flathead	0.96 kg	Brian Stacy
Dusky Flathead	0.96 kg	Jackson Guion
European Carp	4.16 kg	Steve Bailey
Golden Perch	2.08 kg	John Bosch
Morwong	0.88 kg	Eustice Tonna
Murray Cod	4.68 kg	John Bosch
Pig Fish	0.53 kg	Anthony Heiser
Rainbow Trout	0.59 kg	Eustice Tonna
Redfin Perch	1.01 kg	John Bosch
Sand Flathead	1.39 kg	Eustice Tonna
Sand Whiting	0.53 kg	Glen Malam
Snapper	3.70 kg	Brian Stacy
Tailor	0.77 kg	Steve Bailey
Yellowfin Bream	0.84 kg	Chris Head

Board Fish - Length

Atlantic Salmon	530 mm	Glen Malam
Australian Salmon	680 mm	Chris Lemmon
Black Bream	440 mm	Chris Lemmon
Black Bream	440 mm	Steve Bailey
Black Bream	440 mm	Wendie McDonald
Brown Trout	700 mm	Steve Bailey
Dusky Flathead	530 mm	Brian Stacy
Dusky Flathead	530 mm	Jackson Guion
Estuary Perch	320 mm	Susan McNeice
European Carp	680 mm	Steve Bailey
Golden Perch	525 mm	John Bosch
Mako Shark	1500 mm	Zane Zhao
Morwong	410 mm	Eustice Tonna
Murray Cod	950 mm	Steve Bailey
Pig Fish	320 mm	Eustice Tonna

Rainbow Trout	400 mm	Chris Lemmon
Redfin Perch	380 mm	Zane Zhao
Sand Flathead	590 mm	Eustice Tonna
Sand Whiting	400 mm	Glen Malam
Sweep	320 mm	Eustice Tonna
Tailor	360 mm	Anthony Heiser
Yellowfin Bream	390 mm	Keith Smith

Best Fish

Fresh Water
European Carp
 4.16kg on 1 kg
 Steve Bailey

Blue Water
Snapper
 3.70kg on 4 kg
 Brian Stacy

Estuary
Black Bream
 1.46kg on 1 kg
 Steve Bailey

Beach
Australian Salmon
 2.22kg on 1 kg
 Chris Lemmon

All Tackle Championship

Open

Steve Bailey	28
Anthony Heiser	25
Kevin Spriggs	21
Chris Lemmon	14
Brian Stacy	11

Junior

Zachary Zhao	1
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Soon to Expire Scales

134	McNeice, Daniel	Berkley	23 kg	24/03/2017
142	Guion, Chris	Optia	25 kg	12/04/2017

Fishing news and competitions

Changes to IGFA Rules



Dear ANSA colleague,

All ANSA members need to be aware that IGFA has introduced a number of changes to its rules, world record requirements and eligible game fish species - these changes will take effect from 1 April 2017.

Assisting the Angler

Current IGFA International Angling Rules state that "the act of a person other than the angler touching the rod, reel, or line either bodily or with a device once the fish strikes or takes the bait" constitutes a disqualification.

However, nowhere in the IGFA's rules do we discuss the legality of another person touching or making contact with the angler. The IGFA is frequently questioned on the legality of touching the angler while they are fighting a fish.

In order to clarify this important subject, the IGFA will be adding the following language to the section 3 of Disqualifying Acts:

"Holding or touching an angler in a manner that assists them in fighting the fish or takes pressure off the angler. Touching or briefly holding the angler to prevent them from falling does not constitute a disqualification".

Backing & Top-Shot

Current IGFA International Angling Rules state: "If the fishing line is attached to backing, the catch shall be classified under the heavier of the lines."

This rule has long been contested in cases where the main line or top shot is lighter than the underlying backing, as logic dictates that the lighter line will break before the heavier backing. This is also contrary to IGFA angling rules for fly fishing where the catch is categorized based on the breaking strength of the class tippet, which must be a minimum of 15 inches.

To address this issue, IGFA will be making the following alterations to Equipment Regulation A:

- Title change from "LINE" to "LINE & BACKING"
- Adding a new subsection that reads: "3. The use of backing is permissible."
- Adding a new subsection that reads: "4. The catch shall be classified under the breaking strength of the first 16.5 feet (5 metres) of line directly preceding the double line, leader or hook. This section must be comprised of a single, homogenous piece of line."

Minimum Ratio Requirements

Currently, to submit a line class or tippet class (fly rod) world record, the only weight requirement is that the fish must weigh at least .45 kg (1 lb). As a result, the IGFA has accumulated a significant amount of records where the weight of the fish is much lighter than the size of the tackle used to land the fish.

In an effort to have IGFA world records better recognize outstanding angling achievement, the IGFA has established the following minimum ratio requirements for all new line class and tippet class world records:

For line class categories up to and including 10 kg (20 lb) and all tippet class (fly rod) categories:

- The weight of the catch must weigh at least ½ as much as the line class it is eligible for. For example, a fish entered for the 6 kg (12 lb) line class or tippet class category must weigh a minimum of 3 kg.

For line class categories greater than 10 kg (20 lb):

- The weight of the catch must be equal to, or greater than the line class it is eligible for. For example, a fish entered in the 24 kg (50 lb) line class category must weigh a minimum of 24 kg.

Minimum ratios will not be retroactive and records that currently do not meet the new minimum weight requirements will not be retired. Records listed in the 2017 World Record Book and IGFA website will have a new column that instructs anglers what the minimum weight necessary is to establish a record for each line class.

CHANGES TO RECOGNIZED GAME FISH SPECIES

Eligible Game Fish Species

The IGFA maintains All-Tackle world records for thousands of different species, however only certain game fish species are eligible for the additional line class, tippet class (fly rod), and Junior Angler world record categories. In an effort to better recognize premier game fish species around the world that merit having line classes, the IGFA will no longer be accepting line class, tippet class (fly rod), and Junior Angler world records on the 45 species of freshwater and saltwater fish listed below:

Freshwater: rock bass, shoal bass, white bass, yellow bass, bluegill, black bullhead, brown bullhead, yellow bullhead, burbot, white catfish, black crappie, white crappie, freshwater drum, Florida gar, shortnose gar, spotted gar, oscar, European perch, white perch, yellow perch, chain pickerel, red piranha, shorthead redhorse, silver redhorse, sauger, American shad, hickory shad, splake, green sunfish, redbreast sunfish, redear sunfish, tench, warmouth, lake whitefish, mountain whitefish, round whitefish

Saltwater: Pacific barracuda, black seabass, Japanese parrot perch

These IGFA rule changes have no direct impact upon ANSA membership fishing activities or records and no changes to the ANSA Rule Book or eligible species list will be required. However, those ANSA members who do fish for IGFA World Records etc. need to be made aware of these changes so as to not risk possible disqualification by IGFA.

The backing line rule change is a very welcome change and will be incorporated into the next print version of the ANSA Rule book. From a practical perspective ANSA has already addressed the issue of backing line in the current rule book which states that the IGFA backing line rule is non applicable to ANSA when using break away line combinations and in which case the breaking strain of the breakaway line will be the prevailing line class.

Can you please circulate to your club and member networks

Regards

John Burgess
Executive Officer/ Director
ANSA National Ltd

The Canberra Carp-Out: 26 March 2017



CANBERRA FISHERMAN'S CLUB



Invites you to the

CANBERRA CARP-OUT

MAJOR PRIZES - \$5,500 BOAT PACKAGE

(plus \$\$\$'s worth of gift vouchers, fishing gear and other prizes)

Permit No ACT TP 17/00069

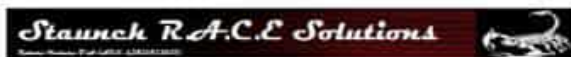
Sunday, 26th March - Lennox Gardens

Lake Burley Griffin

Details at www.canberra-carp-out.com



ACT Eden Monaro's own.



The Kid's Fishing Clinic: 25 March 2017



Canberra Fisherman's Club Inc.



2017 FISHING CLINIC INFORMATION PACK

Dear fishing friends,

As part of the lead up to the Canberra Carp-Out being held on Sunday 26 March 2017, the Club, is running a fishing clinic to give the opportunity to a limited number of people to **"Learn To Fish"** which will give them the basics on how to catch maybe a winning fish in the Canberra Carp-Out.

Please take the time to read the information below and send a registration form to secure a place as places are limited. Parents and or Guardian **must attend** to supervise their children.

Regards
Glen Malam
President, CFC

Presenter: Canberra Fisherman's Club members

Dates: Saturday, 25 March 2017

Time: 2:00pm – 5:00pm

Location: Lennox Gardens, Lake Burley Griffin (see map below)

Cost: \$10.00 per person

Queries: 0402 560 880 or info@canberrafishos.com





Canberra Fisherman's Club Inc.



Junior Fishing Clinic Registration

Parent/guardian details			
1.	Name:		
2.	Name:		
3.	Name:		
4.	Name:		
Email:			Phone:
How did you hear about the event?		Facebook	Otto's Tackle World Canberra
		Radio	Canberra Fisherman's Club Website
		Word of mouth	
		Other:	

Attendee details (juniors under 16 years)			
1.	Name:		
2.	Name:		
3.	Name:		
4.	Name:		
5.	Name:		
6.	Name:		
How many of the attendees are:		First time fishers?	
		Novice fishers? (some fishing experience but still relatively new to fishing)	
The Canberra Fisherman's Club will also publish photos of the event on its Facebook Page, web page, Club Newsletters and its reports to sponsors (and may also submit photos to fishing magazines) for articles writing about the event.			
Do you consent to the above use of photos taken of the above attendees participating in the Junior Fishing Clinic? Yes / No			
Signed:		Date:	

Indicative Program (subject to change):

Time	Section	Activities
2:00 – 2:30	Intro & Overview	Housekeeping (toilets etc) Assign helpers and introductions Rules and regulations Safety and equipment (sunglasses, hat, sunscreen) Fish species in ACT
2:40 – 3:50	Knots, Rigs and how to Cast	Different hooks, sinkers and their use Demo from instructor and helpers Kids to practice tying knots (hands on) How to put on bait (hands on) Overview of rods and reels Demonstration from helpers Casting practice (hands on) ***break if needed***
4:00 – 5:00	Fishing	How to fight a fish How to net a fish Questions and answers

What to bring:

- Glasses or sunglasses (compulsory equipment)
- Broad brim hat
- Sunscreen (plenty of shade at venue)
- A drink (Esky storage will be available. Limited drinks will be available for purchase)

Bring your fishing gear; for those who may not have fishing gear yet, rods, reels and all necessary tackle will be available for use on the day. Each registered person will receive a Hook-Eze and a small tackle pack to take home.

News & Stories

The Local Lakes Outing: 11-12 February 2017

by Anthony Heiser



Chris Lemmon reeling in a kilo plus Carp at the Carpathon.

It's been several years since we had a local lakes outing and for those who attended this year, it was a lot of fun. I must admit not being very enthusiastic as the weekend approached given the outing took place in the middle of a mini-heatwave. Others were far more enthusiastic, with Steve Bailey and Chris Lemmon getting up before sunrise on Saturday to target natives. Unfortunately, they discovered the angling equivalent of stalking the jungle for a lion and coming home with a kitten (or a few small Redfin in this case). Nevertheless, those Redfin gave Steve some strategic All Tackle Points that later saw him take the lead in the All Tackle Championship.



I did put a rod out during the BBQ but because I was soooo organized, I forgot my rod holders. Chris Lemmon kindly lent me his Cattle Prod Rod Holder – I've never used one of these before and did not realise you had to use something lighter than my usual girly drag when using one of those rod holders. No prizes for guessing what happened next – a Carp took my bait and ran and my favourite Lox Rod flew into the water and took off like a torpedo.

Steve Bailey figured 'finders keepers losers weepers.' With that said, we were both in the water trying to find my Lox Rod. We both waded almost to the other side and covered a lot of water between the two of us but darkness began to fall and we could see lightning in the distance so we called off the search party and went home.



Steve Bailey and Anthony Heiser searching for the missing Lox Rod

Sunday morning was the annual Carpathon. Steve Bailey and I arrived at Grevillea Park and fished two different locations – I was near the Boathouse Restaurant while Steve fished in front of the new rowing club. I had to contend with cyclists and kayakers whizzing past and I packed up at 8 am and joined Steve at his spot. By then, Steve had already landed one Carp. Steve also reported having a few hits but unable to get to the rod in time because of cyclists in the way.

Despite the nice weather and calm conditions, the fish were not showing much interest in our baits. We had the spot to ourselves until Chris Head, Chris Lemmon and Kevin Spriggs joined us around 11 am. Glen and Karen Malam turned up for the BBQ (which they cooked at the electric BBQs at Molongolo Reach and transported back to us).

It was not until the wind started blowing over 10 knots when we finally got another bite – Steve Bailey's rod went off after 11.30 and he reeled in a nice 2.03 kg Carp.

It seemed that the more the weather deteriorated, the more fish we caught. Or to be more precise, the more fish Chris Head and Chris Lemmon caught. They both seemed to have put their rods in the magic spot as their rods accounted for most of the fish caught today.



Steve Bailey about to set the hook into a 2.03 kg Carp

But in the end, everyone except Kevin had caught a fish on Sunday but we all caught at least one fish over the weekend.

I doubt many of us would have fished that weekend had it not been for the outing. But despite the mini heatwave on Saturday and winds gusting up to 30 knots on Sunday, the fishing was fantastic. Glen Malam was questioning the wisdom of the Club's decision last year to move the Carpathon from Bowen Park to Grevillea Park. However, the new spot certainly produced fish under some rather crappy weather conditions so I'd be open to going back there for next year's Carpathon.



Anthony Heiser with the last fish caught on his favourite Lox Rod



Freshwater Seahorse in LBG



Seagull stealing berley



Steve Bailey with a 2.03 kg Carp



Chris Head with a 1.62 kg Carp



This is how windy it got on the lake!



Anthony Heiser with a 1.33 kg Carp



Took this photo after Chris Lemmon announced that the wind was dropping off



Chris Lemmon netting Chris Head's fish caught on film– could this be a nomination for the net award?



Chris Head with a 2.17 kg Carp



This time the tables are turned – Chris Head and Kevin Spriggs with nets at the read as Chris Lemmon reels in a Carp



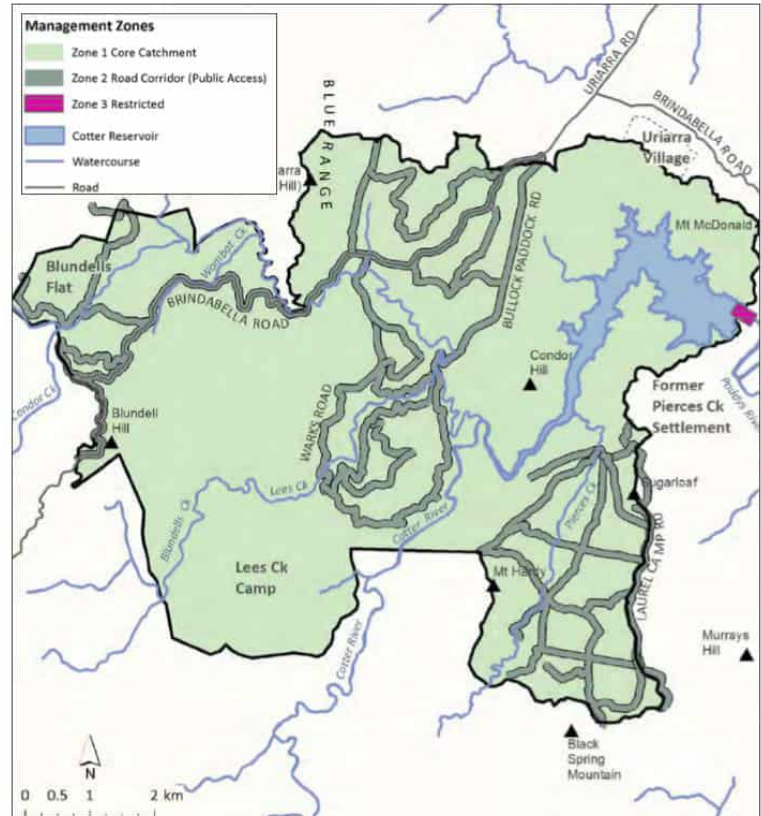
Two nets but who is netting?



Chris Lemmon with a 1.41 kg Carp

Lower Cotter Catchment Draft Reserve Management Plan

by Anthony Heiser



Thank you to those who responded to my request for comments on the outline of the Club's submission to the ACT Government on the Lower Cotter Catchment Draft Reserve Management Plan. You can find the draft plan at <https://yoursay.act.gov.au/lower-cotter-catchment-draft-reserve-management-plan>.

Just to recap from the last newsletter, the LCC is part of the larger Cotter River Catchment comprising of the LCC, and the Bendora Catchment and Corin Catchment upstream. For our members' point of view, the draft plan has minimal impact on fishing as fishing is prohibited in Cotter Dam and the Cotter River upstream to the Condor Creek Junction, leaving little room if any for recreational fishing. The Plan simply restates the current rules and restrictions on fishing in the Cotter River Catchment.

The Club lodged its submission on 7 March 2017, which follows the outline circulated in my email to the members on 19 February 2017. Thank you to those who sent in your comments. We used most of your comments in the submission.

The ACT Government is taking a cautious approach to managing the LCC and it is difficult to say with certainty what the Club's prospects are in opening the LCC to recreational fishing. However, we think the submission strikes the right balance between adequately acknowledging the ACT Government's concerns with opening the LCC to recreational fishing and advancing the interests of our members.



Canberra Fisherman's Club Inc.



7 March 2017

Sent via email: environment@act.gov.au

Manager
Conservation Planning
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate
ACT Government
PO Box 158
Canberra ACT 2601

Comments on the Lower Cotter Catchment Draft Reserve Management Plan

On behalf of the Canberra Fisherman's Club, I thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Lower Cotter Catchment (LCC) Draft Management Plan.

About the Canberra Fisherman's Club

The Canberra Fisherman's Club currently has 81 members, who mostly reside in the Australian Capital Territory and Queanbeyan. Many of our members regularly fish in many of the ACT's waterways. Our members are committed to improving Canberra's recreational fishing opportunities and have raised \$56,409 over the last nine years to stock native fish fingerlings in the ACT's local lakes. Since 2008, the Canberra Fisherman's Club (together with the ACT Government, National Capital Authority and Otto's Tackle World Canberra) has helped stocked over 420,000 Murray Cod and Golden Perch fingerlings into ACT's urban lakes and ponds.

In addition, the Canberra Fisherman's Club is part of the Capital Region Fishing Alliance, which has undertaken habitat restoration projects in the ACT and Queanbeyan, including the resnagging of the Queanbeyan River and the deployment of reef balls in Yerrabi Pond.

Comments on the LCC Draft Reserve Management Plan

The Canberra Fisherman's Club notes that the LCC Draft Reserve Management Plan has little direct impact on recreational fishing in the ACT as fishing is prohibited in most if not all of the entire LCC including Cotter Dam.

Naturally, the Club acknowledges that the need for water security should be paramount and precede any consideration of recreational activity. That said, if there is a way of safely providing for recreational fishing, then our members would like the opportunity to explore this further. This requires an understanding of how the previous/envisaged threats to water contamination might occur and a subsequent risk assessment undertaken. Although the draft

PO Box 325 Civic Square ACT 2608

plan identifies several threats resulting from fishing, in particular threats to existence of native species and water contamination for human consumption, it does not detail how these might occur.

It is the Club's understanding while laboratory tests show native fish species may be susceptible to the Epizootic Haematopoietic Necrosis (EHN) Virus, Australian field studies have only detected EHN virus infection in Redfin Perch and farmed Rainbow Trout. In addition, while fishing has been permitted in the Cotter River upstream of the junction of Condor Creek, the Club is not aware of any outbreak of EHN virus downstream in the LCC including Cotter Dam.

The Club notes that the LCC contains important populations of Macquarie Perch, Two Spined Blackfish and Murray Crayfish. These species are already subject to protections under ACT laws. These protections are clearly working to protect Macquarie Perch spawning upstream of Vanity's Crossing in the permitted fishing area. In addition, the LCC contains non-native species such as Rainbow Trout and Brown Trout which pose a risk to native fish species.

In the circumstances, the Club would be grateful if the current restrictions on fishing in the LCC be reviewed.

Proposal to allow fishing in the LCC including Cotter Dam

The Club requests consideration be given to allowing limited recreational fishing activities (such as lure and fly only) in Cotter Dam on a trial basis:

- Kayaks, canoes and small boats with electric motors are less polluting than motorised boats and might be considered low impact.
- Defined entry points for boats would limit the number of trails and hence reduce soil erosion contamination.
- Fishing restricted to Fly and Lure only
- As well as no bait fishing, there would have to be no bait traps or use of burley.
- Gutting and filleting of captured fish in the LCC be prohibited.
- Bag and size limits could be modified to prevent overfishing.
- If beneficial, specific fishing seasons could help with population maintenance.
- Anglers wishing to fish Cotter Dam could be required to
 - undertake an accreditation process designed to inform anglers of the environmental sensitivities of the LCC, and precautions they can take to mitigate any risks to the LCC
 - submit a modest processing fee to help offset the cost of the accreditation process
 - submit fishing logs to assist in the management of the fishery.

Other considerations

Representatives of the Club attended an information session on the LCC Draft Reserve Management Plan on 15 February 2017 where members of the public were asked to bear in mind that recreational activities, including fishing, are permitted in other parts of the Australian Capital Territory. With that in mind, the Club requests that the ACT Government ensure that no further restrictions are placed on recreational fishing in ACT's waterways.

This includes ensuring developments on the foreshores of Canberra's local lakes do not restrict access for recreational anglers, and to allow adequate parking for cars and trailers at boat ramps.

In addition, the Club requests the ACT Government give consideration to allowing the use of four-stroke engines on local lakes with a suitable speed limit and to simplify or remove the permit requirements for boats. Four-stroke engines do not pollute waterways in the same way as two-stroke engines. In addition, their use will assist in aerating the waterways thereby reducing the risk of blue-green algae outbreaks.

Simplifying or removing the permit requirements will also encourage greater use of the local lakes by all anglers and help promote Canberra as a premier native fishery destination for interstate anglers. Increasing access for recreational anglers in Canberra's local lakes will also help alleviate angling pressure on wild populations of native fish in the Cotter and Murrumbidgee Rivers.

Once again, we thank you for the opportunity to comment on the LCC Draft Reserve Management Plan and look forward to discussing our proposals further.

Finally, we would be grateful for your attendance at one of our general meetings to discuss fishing in the LCC in the near future.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Glen Malam', is written over a horizontal line.

Glen Malam
President
Canberra Fisherman's Club

Total Length Award species for 2016-17

The Total Length Awards bring on healthy competition from the ranks of the CFC and for 2016-17, the target species are Bream for the Saltwater section and Yellow Belly for the Freshwater. There's plenty of time to get involved and put some points on the board to have a shot at these highly contested trophies. Minimum legal lengths apply for fish to be considered eligible for entry.

The target species for the 2016-17 fishing year are:

Bream* in the Saltwater section



Golden Perch in the Freshwater section



*Includes all Tarwhine and all species of Bream caught in Australian Territorial Waters.
Note, this does not include freshwater species such as Bony Bream.

How many metres can you catch?

Thank you to the sponsors of the 2016 Canberra Carp Out!

We thank you for support and for being such a big part of this year's event!



ACT
Government



CANBERRA



ACT Eden Monaro's own.



From the Editor

The lead up to the Carp-Out is a very busy time for the Committee and others, with Sarah organising the bookings at Barlens and organising the CFC display at the Connect and Participate Expo at the Bus Depot Markets on 25 March 2017, Greg and Kevin selling raffle tickets at Charnwood, Mick sorting out the database, Chris Head and I selling raffle tickets at Jerrabomberra, Mick Jewry and Mel Marlborough doing the same at the Calwell shops and so on. So, we've not mucked around too much with this month's newsletter so we can focus our attention on the upcoming Carp-Out.



Love our lakes: Fisherman call for more bins, express concerns about effects of carp virus

The Canberra Fisherman's Club is calling for more bins along the territory's waterways to prevent dead fish and other material from endangering wildlife and...

WWW.CANBERRATIMES.COM.AU

You might also have noticed Zachary Zhao's photo on the front page of the *Canberra Times* last month. Thank you to Zach and Zane and other members who turned out for the photo shoot with the *Canberra Times*, even if it did get rescheduled three times.

I understand there were one or two unhappy anglers on Fishbook upset with Glen Malam's concern about the adverse environmental impact of the dead carp in our waterways when the Cyprinid herpesvirus 3 is eventually released without adequate resources for a clean-up.

On the other side of the coin, our Facebook page was targeted by an upset Koi fancier in Queensland who used our page to spread rumours that the virus will be spread by frogs and mosquitoes leading to the death of countless birds and fish and other wildlife. This gentleman continued to repeat his alarmist comments until my patience ran out and he is the first person I have ever banned from our page since it was set up on 6 February 2013.

In anticipation of the potential controversy surrounding the release of the Cyprinid herpesvirus 3, I did some research and fact checking and published a [Q&A on the virus for our members last year](#). I had intended to follow this up with a further article to address the logistics of deploying the virus and the clean-up operation. However, the initial research and fact checking exercise took me three months and I decided I needed to take a break.

Only I've never got around to resuming the research and fact checking. This will be another job to take place *after* the Carp-Out. In the meantime, Steve Samuels, Vice President (ACT, Monaro & Snowy Mountains), NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers provided me the following update:

"Latest on carp is that Matt Barwick has been appointed to head the project by the Commonwealth Government. The planning for the release will take some time as will getting all the States on board to support the project (there is still some concerns by certain State Governments). All this will take time and at the NSWCFWA meeting held on Saturday 18 Feb, the President remarked that his consultations with Matt indicate the virus will not be released "any time soon". Going back a bit I was advised by NSW Fisheries that expecting the virus to be released before 2020 would be very optimistic. The virus will be discussed at the next RFNSWAC meeting on 3 March, so I may have an update then."

Some of you might be aware that I was unable to attend the *Canberra Times* photo shoot when the Carwoola bush fire struck last month. I understand the fire started around midday but only found out around 2 pm. I hastily left work and I got as close as 4 km to my house where police had blocked the road. Watching the dark smoke billowing into the sky was one of the most confronting sights I have seen in a long time.

The police had their hands full dealing with motorists trying to get past the roadblock which allowed me to slip past on foot and hurry home and rescue my Bengal cats Toby and Yuki. Fortunately, I didn't have to run the full 4 km as a journalist spotted me along the way and gave me a lift home. A neighbour then gave me and my two cats a lift to the Carwoola Community Hall where I stayed until 9 pm when it was deemed safe to return home.

It wasn't the best night's sleep, you could smell smoke in the house and hearing trucks going up and my street during the night was unsettling.

I attended a community meeting afterwards and learnt a few things. I was a little surprised that residents who lived in Carwoola much longer than I have and were clearly more prepared for bushfires than I was pretty



Smoke rising over Carwoola as seen from the Roadblock on Captains Flat Road



Stony Creek Rural Fire Brigade Station, taken on Friday evening.

much had the same questions I had about the fire. So, I thought it may be useful to share what I learnt. This is obviously not a complete list of things to know in the event of a fire but I hope this information is useful for others in the future.

Firstly, the fire in Carwoola spread very quickly at 10 metres per second or 36 km/h. Back in high school, I could run 10-12 km/h on my best day!

Without going into detail, I did weigh up the risks very carefully before I decided to slip past the roadblock on foot. However, this isn't something you do lightly as you cannot outrun the fire if you find yourself in trouble.

Secondly, the roadblocks are as much for the safety of emergency personnel and the RFS as well as the public. Country roads are not the widest roads around and there is a risk of civilian vehicles colliding into a fire truck as it is racing to attend a fire. Add in bad visibility due to smoke and the risks get bigger.

Thirdly, if you are concerned about family stuck in the bushfire area, ring 000 and don't just rely on the police or RFS at the roadblock to sort things out. The police or RFS personnel at the roadblock will have their hands full and, through no fault of their own, may be unable to pass on the information to their HQ in a timely fashion. Ringing 000 will ensure that the information makes its way to the HQ where it can hopefully be acted upon.

Fourthly, if there is a total fire ban in your area, do not rely on getting an SMS notification to alert you of a bushfire. I did not get a notification and this was one of the reasons I attended the community meeting. What I discovered was that process involved in issuing an SMS notification takes around 20 minutes. The SMS is only delivered to mobile phones whose billing addresses are on streets selected for notification. This is something to remember if you have a work phone or your billing address is not the same as your street address.

The authorities will be balancing the need to ensure the notifications are sent to those who are most at risk with the need to avoid clogging up the phone network. Accordingly, my street was not one of those selected for SMS notification. In addition, I was also told that the radiation caused by the intense heat of bushfires can interfere with mobile phone reception. So, the bottom line is to be proactive during Total Fire Ban days and keep your eye on the RFS website or the Fires Near Me App rather than relying on getting an SMS notification.

Finally, the ads are not kidding when they say you need a bushfire plan. I kept a basic bushfire plan in my head which pretty much consisted of (1) take the cats to the pet motel and then (2) check myself into a motel in Queanbeyan or Canberra. I discovered I was not even prepared to execute a simple plan as this. I wasted time trying to find the cat cage in our shed and the circumstances made it difficult to think clearly when working out what to pack. I would have found myself in a spot of bother if the fire had been any closer. Since then, I have pinned a list of things to pack on the wall at home and keep the cat cages permanently on the veranda.

I hope the things I learnt will help others if they find themselves in a similar position to me. And to the Stony Creek Rural Fire Brigade – a great big thank you. They saved over 100 homes, there were no fatalities and I heard only 15 pets/livestock perished in the fire.

Moving on from bushfires, a big thank you to everyone who submitted photos to the Photo Comp. Please start sending me your entries for the January photo comp competition for a chance to win a \$20 Tackle World voucher if you are the monthly winner.

The rules if the photo comp are:

- Members can submit up to two photos per month
- The photo must either be taken by the member submitting the photo or a photo of the member
- No photo shopping or other digital enhancements are allowed

The winner for February photo comp is Jon Vogel with the group shot of the Whiting. Like me, Matt Perdrau from Otto's Tackle World Canberra was impressed with the quality and number of photos submitted last month. The majority of photos submitted were composed rather well, there were some impressive captures and some of our members showed a bit of technical skill (like Zane Zhao's photo of the Southern Cross and Milky Way over Mossy Point and Chris Head's silhouette shot of Wendie and Tim fishing off Stu Hindson's boat).

Finally, if you have some gear to sell, swap, wanted or barter then send through the details to info@canberrafishos.com. Also, a reminder for the lucky member number draw at each general meeting, you must be there to win the cash or it JACKPOTS each week until a winning member is present.

Anthony Heiser



The view from my house the day after the fires.

February 2017 Photo Competition



Kevin Spriggs - Durras: Whiting 38cm ,0.44kg on 2 kg line



Steve Bailey - - A well-earned Masters Capture on the South Coast: 1.46 kg 44 cm Black Bream on 1 kg line



Anthony Heiser - Masters Black Bream: 1.02 kg 40 cm on 1 kg line on the South Coast



Steve Bailey - Chris Lemmon's 42 cm South Coast Black Bream



Chris Lemmon -2.22 kg Australian Salmon on 1 kg line



Colin Clarke - Chris holding Colin's 2.6 kg 62.5 cm Australian Salmon



Susan McNiece - PB EP 37cm 450gms on a Blade



Susan McNiece - Showing how much my girl has improved her casting



Chris Lemmon - 37 cm Yellowfin Bream on Zmann Grub



Jon Vogel - Armchair Angler's Cracker South Coast Catch Of The Day



Jon Vogel - The Three Amigos/Stooges Go Fishing



Daniel McNiece - One of Lilly's fish caught at Tuross



Daniel McNeice. - The paly of colours with sunrise over Tuross lake racks.



Zane Zhao - Fishing under the stars at Mossy Point, Tuross outing weekend.



Chris Head - Wendie 44cm bream



Chris Head - Tim & Wendie early morning surface fish



Zane Zhao - Zach's first whiting 27cm at the Clyde river, Tuross outing weekend.

Winner of the December Photo Comp:



Jon Vogel – The Three Amigos/Stooges Go Fishing

As always, a huge thank you goes out to our major sponsor, Otto's Tackle World Canberra.



Thank you to everyone at OTWC for supporting this photo competition. More than that, thank you OTWC for the ongoing support extended to the Canberra Fisherman's Club throughout the fishing year. Not to mention, thank you for continually stocking such a great range of gear and always being happy to extend some of the best fishing advice available in Canberra.

2016-2017 Club Outings & Meeting Calendar

Outing Date	Outing	Monthly Meetings
25th March	Fishing Clinic	
26th March	Carp-Out	
22nd – 23rd April	St Georges Basin	11th
20th – 21st May	Bega/Brogo	9th
10th – 12th June	Narooma	13th
22nd – 23rd July	Ulladulla	11th

Canberra Fisherman's Club Sponsors 2016-2017

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Membership & Contact Information

Membership Fees

	CFC	ANSA
Junior	\$5	\$4
Student	-	\$7
Senior	\$20	\$20
Family	\$30	\$25

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