



CANBERRA ANGLER'S ASSOCIATION Inc.

GPO Box 2237
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<http://www.canberra-anglers.asn.au/>

Newsletter – Apr 2013

Coming Events

Next Meeting – Wed 10 Apr – 8pm as usual at Weston Club – speaker will be Rory Benn-Clibborn on fishing for natives locally.

Monaro Streams – Fri-Sun 19-/24 Apr – organised by Greg W. Relocated to Adaminaby due to poor conditions on the Goodradigbee.

Fly Tying – change of date (will be confirmed) to Wed 17 Apr (to move away from ANZAC Day) – 7:30pm at Weston Club.

Some News Regarding Paddy's Corner

From: Steven Samuels

Sent: Monday, 25 March 2013 4:19 PM

Subject: Paddys Corner Reserve

Dear Paddys Corner Supporters

I am sending this email to advise you that the Aboriginal Land Claim for the Paddys Corner Reserve on the Thredbo River has been dismissed and that the Monaro Acclimatisation Society (MAS) will be installed as Trustee Managers of the reserve. I would like to thank all of you who supported us in this matter and ask you refer this email to others who may be interested.

The MAS will now be seeking funds to upgrade Paddys Corner Reserve and we will also be endeavouring to contact the local Aboriginal Land Council to consult with them over the management of the reserve.

On behalf of the MAS I wish you all good fishing and I hope your access to the Thredbo River through Paddys Corner Reserve is respected as a privilege.

Steve Samuels

President

Monaro Acclimatisation Society Inc

Report from Ian on His (second for the year) Trip to NZ

From: Ian Keightley

Sent: Tuesday, 2 April 2013 3:55 PM

Subject: Mataura in March

Hello Bill

Here's a few photos from last week in NZ. I fished by myself most of the time as one of my friends had flu and stayed at the cottage and the other one went home when I arrived, probably to avoid getting the flu (or to avoid me?).

The Mataura was quite low and the fish very wary. I had some great fun figuring out how to cast to sighted fish without spooking them. Some other fish were in tricky locations and I left many flies on gorse bushes, thistles, willows and reeds. Occasionally I left one in a fish.

The first two photos were taken on the Mataura near Croydon, where I eventually managed to get a nice fish to take a pheasant tail nymph from the edge of a large eddy off the edge of the main current. The next two were taken at a spot we call the power lines, near the cottage at Gore. The fish was feeding in and around the cover near the shore. It took a small emerger and fortunately headed for mid-river rather than back under the tree roots. The last photo shows a fish sipping something unknown off the surface in a large pool near the cottage. I spent some time trying to entice a take but finally spooked it. A larger fish nearby had earlier taken an emerger but dropped it after running about three metres.

Regards,

Ian







Report from Owen on the Coast Outing

From: L Kershaw

Sent: Tuesday, 2 April 2013 9:49 PM

Subject: Tuross Catch

Hi Bill

A couple of photos from the Tuross weekend, Saturday morning 1x54cm Salmon, 3 x 38,46,and 33cm Taylor. Late afternoon 1 x 44cm Taylor.

Sunday morning 1 x 40 cm and 44cm Taylor plus 1 Mullet.

Regards

Owen





Snippets from NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers News

RFFTEC minutes finally released

RFFTEC minutes from the last meeting in August last year are now online...[click here](#) to see how your licence money was spent.

Crown road closures

President Don Barton advised that he had been involved with the RFA in drafting guidelines for a working party overseeing the Crown roads closure process and had had further consultations with the NSW Canoeing and Kayaking Association.

Lands still refuses to provide recreational anglers to a centralised database of road closure applications.

The Council believes that Lands has been inept or uninterested in managing some of its Crown lands/roads by not taking action when potentially fraudulent activity such as:

- Locking gates to deny access to
- Erecting “No Trespassing” signs etc to discourage access;
- Demanding money to gain access; and
- Erecting “No Trespassing” signs on either side of a Crown road to give the impression that those signs apply to the Crown road.

The Council agreed that Don Barton draft formal complaints to the NSW Ombudsman and the NSW Government Auditor in respect of Crown Lands’ failure to exercise its functions resulting in mismanagement of crown lands and roads which among other things leads to denial of legitimate public access to these lands and roads. To support this action the Council also agreed that other groups be invited to join in the complaints. The Council remains frustrated with DPI and Lands for not allocating sufficient resources to Fisheries so that Fisheries can properly assess road closure proposals. Of particular concern are reports that Lands has diverted an additional 60 odd staff to assess road closures whereas DPI has diverted one person to the task. That person is doing an excellent job but that person was also doing an excellent job in opening up and publicising inland angling opportunities such as the Swampy Plains, Duckmoloï and sections of the Murrumbidgee River as well as waterways in the Ebor area (a RFFTEC project). Essentially, then Fisheries is cost shifting by taking money from the Trust Fund rather than using its core funds to pay for activities associated with the new road closure process.

The Council will continue its efforts to improve the road closure process by seeking support from more groups including the Nature Conservation Council. The Council noted that Don Barton and Rodney Tonkin may attend a meeting in Wellington in March in an effort to alert the NCC to NSWCFCA concerns with the road closure process.

The Council noted that Steve Samuels had submitted an objection on behalf of MAS to a road closure in the Tumut area. Steve Samuels estimated that it took over 10 hours to prepare. Don Barton advised that this document was very comprehensive and that it could easily be used as a template for others and save them a lot of time when preparing objections to proposed road closures.

Don Barton also advised that Peter Gibson was putting notifications of proposed road closures he receives from Fisheries onto the NSWCFCA and RFA of NSW Facebook pages. He encouraged those who objected to any particular proposed road closure, be they individuals or groups, to submit an objection to Lands.

.....In the meantime, whenever possible, we will list any applications that we become aware of on our Facebook page. Anglers should also closely monitor their local

newspapers where these applications for closure will be advertised.

Go to our Facebook page for info. <http://www.facebook.com/NSWCFA>

Impact of Salmonids on Native Fish

Rodney Tonkin advised the Council that he was still to seek a copy of a report on the Impact of Salmonids on Native Fish by Wayne Fulton from the Federal Minister of the Environment. Should this be unsuccessful, the Council agreed that obtaining this document through FOI be investigated.

Murray cod make a splash at Gungahlin

Recreational fishers and the environment will benefit from the release of 6000 Murray cod fingerlings into Gungahlin Pond on 8 January, Environment and Sustainable Development Acting Director-General, Ben Ponton, has announced.

Another 100,000 golden perch will be released in the next few weeks in urban waterways.

“The release of these native fish is part of the ACT Fish Stocking Plan and involves the ACT Government, National Capital Authority and Canberra Fisherman’s Club,” Mr Ponton said.

“The ACT Government’s contribution this year is the 6,000 Murray cod and 40,000 golden perch, which adapt well to our local lakes and improve the biodiversity of our local waterways.

“The fish are only 4-7cm long on release, but this is the optimal size as the fingerlings are past the high mortality of larval stage fish and are able to adapt to the lake environment more easily than older captive-bred fish in that may have difficulty acclimatising.

“The Murray cod should be the legal angling size for recreational fishing in three to four years and the golden perch in two to three years.”

About 1.5 million fish have been introduced to Canberra’s lakes and ponds since the program started in the mid-1990s. Species for stocking are chosen following biennial fish surveys.

“Stocking our lakes provides both environmental and recreation benefits by increasing the number of native fish in our waterways and giving Canberrans greater opportunities for fishing closer to home,” Mr Ponton said.

“The program supplements existing native fish populations, which are currently dominated by introduced species. Introducing native species makes for a more balanced ecosystem as the native fish will compete with pest carp and, when adults, may even eat small carp.”

See copies of the Fish Stocking Plan 2009 - 2014 at <http://www.environment.act.gov.au/water>, ACT public libraries and local tackle shops.

Alpine lakes weather monitoring

NSW Maritime has several online services to help anglers monitor conditions on alpine waters. The [Lake Eucumbene web camera](#) provides a constant live view of weather conditions, plus other information including temperature, wind chill, wind direction and speed, moon phases and a Snowy Mountains weather forecast from the BOM. There is also a link to Snowy Hydro's lake levels calculator/graph.

You can also sign up for weather alerts via email for various coastal locations in NSW and a number of alpine waters. The coastal alerts seems to work fine but Freshwater Fisher has been signed up for the alpine alerts for nearly a year and never received any, so we suspect they aren't working. Enquiries to the website about this have not been answered. We'd be interested to hear if any other anglers have had the same problem.

MINUTES OF CAA MEETING 13 Mar 2013

Members present: Stefan, Bill B, Jason M, Jason Q, Greg S, Greg W, Ian , Peter K, Norm, Charlie, Owen and Ed.

Apologies: Geoff, Damien and Cate .

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of Feb meeting were accepted.

Matters Arising

The question of public liability insurance remains extant. Will need to be resolved before the AGM in order to be factored into discussion on fees.

Correspondence

NSW Government grant giving dollar for dollar funding for stocking has been advised. Meeting expressed interest in "Westerly flowing waters" ie stocking for Golden Perch/Murray Cod, preferably in local area. Secretary to make further enquiries wrt potential for stocking in Queanbeyan River (possibly the CRFA snag locations).

Treasurer's Report

No recent expenditure. \$3686.98 at bank as at 28 Feb. Have received bill for PO Box. Meeting briefly discussed the merit of retaining the PO Box and concluded this was essential.

General Business

Extended discussion was undertaken on further clarifying trophy rules. The key rationale was to ensure that particular fish (not angler) cannot 'dominate' by winning several trophies. Treatment of junior awards and the Mick Cornish/Mick O'Brien trophies were also clarified. In particular Mick Cornick was confirmed as a trophy limited to streams. Guidelines on the web will be amended and will apply to trophies for the forthcoming awards in August.

Club Events

The March coastal trip is being coordinated by Owen. Email has been sent however there has been limited interest so cabin has been cancelled. Owen and Alan may be the only contenders for the Saltwater Trophy.

The April trip to Koorabri was discussed led by Greg W. The fishing situation at Koorabri is quite poor. Greg will seek an updated situation report and will advise if change of location, probably to Adaminaby, is required.

Fishing reports

Members participated in a round table discussion of recent fishing.

Closure

The chair declared the meeting closed before Greg W, Jason M, Ian, Peter K and Bill B spoke on their recent trip to New Zealand

Stefan

Vice President

Bill B

Secretary