

# Gaden Committee Meeting 2024

Mitchel Elkins



# Gaden Trout Hatchery

- Staffing- James McKinnon and Patrick Martin have joined the team on a fulltime basis, with Taylor Elkins back from maternity leave (6 hatchery staff total) 2 Fisheries Officers, 1 fisheries manager (murray-darling) and 2 Game licencing staff also use the offices
- Total stocked numbers have been close to 850,000 per season, with almost 60% of fish released as fingerling size or bigger - a huge achievement considering the amount of time and effort used to produce these larger sized fish!
- Work on the upgrades has nearly concluded after a 16 month build time. These upgrades include a state of the art hatchery and updated tourist facility. During this time hatchery staff used a makeshift hatching shed in the maritime shed and were made to do a large portion of their work outdoors. This included stripping eggs and milt in sometimes freezing temperatures outside!
- With the new build comes increased travel food and maintenance costs
- The new tourist centre will be a fantastic addition to the site, showcasing the history of the trout industry in NSW and the outstanding job the staff do here at Gaden
- A 3 year trial on Tiger Trout produced at Gaden Trout Hatchery has now wrapped up, with fisheries researchers and managers gathering data and information which may be used to stock these wonderful fish in other impoundments in the future.
- Vehicles and plant- A new truck funded by the trust is getting built and will be used by staff when releasing the larger sub adult sized fish or high volumes of smaller fingerlings, like we release in Jindabyne and Eucumbene. Some plant such as transporters and our main trailer, as well as a new fleet vehicle are nearly due for replacement.



**GADEN 23/24**

	TAS RT	DPI RT	TAS BT	DPI BT	DPI TT	DPI Brook	DPI Atlantic
JUL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
AUG	-	1,905	-	-	1,300	-	-
SEPT	201,500	2,450	800	-	650	-	-
OCT	62,500	1,250	153,500	4,500	960	-	-
NOV	1,000	1,500	6,000	11,250	-	-	-
DEC	2,000	16,000	1,750	-	750	5,000	-
JAN	11,150	13,500	9,950	-	350	5,000	-
FEB	-	275,000	50	-	-	2,000	-
MAR	-	10,450	-	-	350	-	-
APR	530	-	550	-	-	500	-
MAY	-	-	-	-	-	-	120
JUN	-	-	-	-	-	-	2000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>278,680</b>	<b>322,055</b>	<b>172,600</b>	<b>15,750</b>	<b>4,360</b>	<b>12,500</b>	<b>2120</b>

# Tiger Trout

- 2023/24 saw Gaden Hatchery staff produce tiger trout for the third and final year year of a fisheries trial stocking fish into Lake Lyell, Lake Wallace and Thompsons Creek Dam.
- Tiger Trout are a sterile Hybrid between a female Brown Trout and a male Brook Trout, and are known to be largely piscivorous.
- For the 23/24 stocking season, approximately 4500 Tiger were released across the 3 sites
- Fisheries managers will assess the success of this new species and determine if future releases into new impoundments are an option in the future.

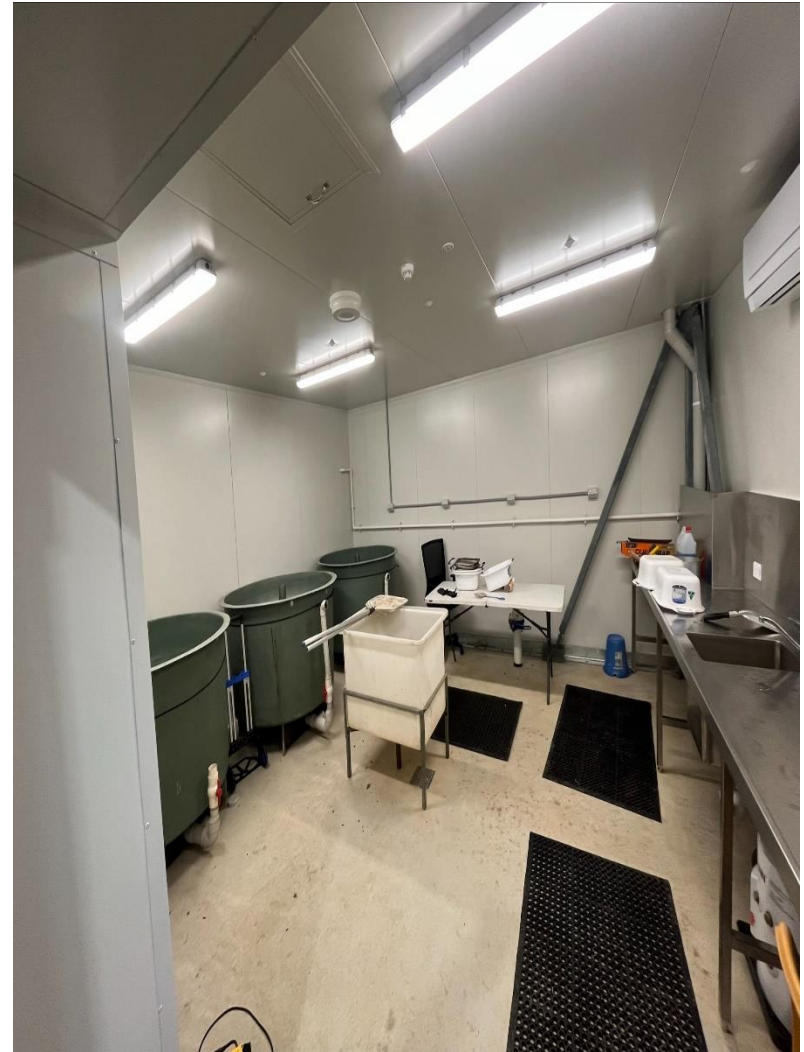


# Hatchery Upgrades



















# What Are Recirculating Aquaculture Systems (RAS)

**Recirculating aquaculture systems (RAS)** are indoor, tank-based systems in which fish can be grown at high densities under strictly controlled environmental conditions.

The RAS systems installed at Gaden will be used to:

- reduce reliance on large quantities of water
- control the environment and water conditions to maintain the health of cultured fish
- Working hand in hand with our warm water egg upwellers, these RAS systems will assist staff in producing a superior product in a much shorter timeframe.
- Using RAS, fisheries management now have a means of reacting to times of drought or collapsed fisheries much more effectively



# Recirculating Aquaculture Systems



# Recirculating Aquaculture Systems







# Upgrade Benefits

- RAS systems- for temperature control and fingerling grow out. These systems will assist in failure recovery such as drought and disease
- Water security- additional water storage, upgraded intake/ back up supply
- Biosecurity- technical room for dissections/disease protocols, isolation areas
- Temperature controlled room- bio secure area for additional species (as outlined in the brief for grant funding)
- Tourist centre upgrades- including upgraded aquaria (which has the capacity to showcase the work of DPI restocking programs) showcase of Gaden history, trout industry significance and potential externally run cafe
- Hatchery upgrades ensure a better working environment for staff



# Snowy Hydro Funding- Gaden hatchery Upgrades

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- The trout fishery in NSW is set to benefit from a \$5m funding package as part of the Snowy 2.0 renewable energy project.
- The funding has been provided by Snowy Hydro to offset any potential risks to the trout fishery as a result of the Snowy 2.0 development and to ensure the long-term viability of the fishery.
- NSW DPI Fisheries is currently working with Snowy Hydro and the Monaro Acclimatisation Society to develop options to provide the Gaden Trout Hatchery, near Jindabyne, with long-term water security as well as enhanced production capacity of up to 100,000 sub adult fish



