



**NATIVE FISH AUSTRALIA (Vic) Inc.**  
PO Box 162 Doncaster 3108

19<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Members & Supporters

**Welcome to new members**

A warm welcome to our new members Daniel, Andrew, Lucas and Jack. We hope your membership will be long and rewarding for both you and Native Fish Australia.

**Meetings**

Due to the COVID-19 situation, Native Fish Australia (Vic) has cancelled all General meetings and other face to face activities until further notice. I hope that after the current lockdown is over, we can recommence planned meetings and other face to face activities. I hope that this will start with the October general meeting on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October. Hatchery activities continue with daily feeding & routine maintenance. We have scheduled the **AGM for Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> August** and will be via zoom. More details below.

Please keep up with us via the following;

Facebook

[www.facebook.com/NativeFishAustralia/](https://www.facebook.com/NativeFishAustralia/)

& [www.facebook.com/Native-Fish-Australia-NFA-Vic-139524932756775/](https://www.facebook.com/Native-Fish-Australia-NFA-Vic-139524932756775/)

Our Website

<http://www.nativefish.asn.au/home/page/Home>

**Annual General Meeting**

The 2020 Annual general Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 19 August and due to COVID-19 restrictions will be via Zoom. It will commence at around 7:30pm.

We welcome nominations for the following positions:

- President
- Vice president
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Committee member(S)

As per all AGMs, all positions will be declared vacant and if necessary, elections for contested positions held by our public officer. We will review the year past and discuss future plans.

If you would like to nominate for one of the positions please contact me

If you would like to take part in the AGM please contact me so that I can ensure you get an invite to the zoom meeting. All financial members should get an invite via email. We hope for a good turnout on the night.

## Hatchery

We continue to on grow Macquarie perch fingerlings on a totally artificial diet. We have trialled a number of different pellets and the fish continue to grow slowly.



*Macquarie perch fingerlings eating from a feeder cone*

150 of these fingerlings, kept in the NFA (Vic) hatchery for around 4 months, were recently stocked into the Buffalo River above lake Buffalo as part of bushfire recovery.

For more information on this project please check out the following:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=1poAGYGJE90](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1poAGYGJE90) &

[www.facebook.com/DELWPHume/videos/279226680161997](https://www.facebook.com/DELWPHume/videos/279226680161997)

We have recently submitted a new ethics application to the Wildlife and Small Institutions Animal Ethics Committee for hatchery and netting operations for the next three years. The application will be assessed this week – fingers crossed for a successful outcome.

In partnership with Landcare Australia we have successfully applied for a medium sized grant as part of bushfire recovery. The grant will assist with our Macquarie breeding this year with fish produced stocked into the Buffalo River as part of the recovery of this system after recent bushfires.

We also continue to hold a number of fish in the hatchery that are used for educational displays. These fish are kept under permit from DELWP.



*Lynden – our beautiful Trout cod*



*One of our adult Macquarie perch*

There is a member going to the hatchery every day to feed the fish and conduct routine maintenance of the tanks and other equipment. **If you would like to have a look through the hatchery once restrictions are lifted please let me know.**

### New Hatchery

**La Trobe University have offered us a new building to house our hatchery.** After working in the current hatchery for more than 25 years, this is fantastic news for us. The new building is an old piggery with a concrete floor, a central underfloor drain and heaps of overhead power outlets. It is **around 90 m2** compared to around 40 m2 in the present hatchery with lots of secure area outside the building. We hope to move in February 2021 with lease negotiations starting soon.

**The new premises will greatly strengthen our hatchery operations and allow us to diversify into other endangered native fish species, as well as develop a hands-on educational program.**

### Hughes Creek habitat work

In partnership with the GBCMA and local Landcare and angling clubs we had a planting day scheduled for the 5<sup>th</sup> July. Unfortunately, it had to be cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns. We hope to have other habitat days once restrictions are lifted.

For more information on our habitat work in Hughes Creek see;

<https://enews.madwebskills.com/t/ViewEmail/y/B89F505C62292FC2/49B0404199639F90942A2DF08F503B7C>

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=c8BggTCPiVk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c8BggTCPiVk)

### Fish Tanks in Schools

This program is unfortunately on hold to COVID-19 restrictions and the uncertainty of schools opening. We managed to install 4 tanks into local schools with at least another 8 planned.



*Fish tank installed at Templestowe College*

I have attached a brief Q&A sheet that explains how the program works.



## **Membership**

It's that time again.

It is now that time of year to renew your membership of NFA (Vic) for next year. We have been very active over the last year or so, and with your continued support, we can continue to actively support native fish and angling around the state and beyond. Members need to be financial to be covered by our insurances & participate in hatchery and netting activities as well as vote at the AGM. We recently trialled a text message to financial members regarding the release of Macquarie perch into the Buffalo River. If you did not receive the text message it is very likely you were not financial in 19/20.

**I have attached a membership/renewal form**

## **Bits & Pieces**

I have attached a number of documents that may be of interest.

- A recently sent letter regarding a recreational fishery for Trout cod.
- A short article documenting some potential problems with Snowy 2
- A short paper from Melbourne Water on E flows in the Yarra River
- A fact sheet from the GBCMA on fish populations in King Parrot Creek
- A Native Fish Recovery Strategy brochure from the MDBA
- A recent paper documenting how many of our small bodied native fish are in major trouble.

## **Our Great Sponsors**

We would like to thank our sponsors who have assisted NFA (Vic) over many years with prizes for the Native Fish Challenge as well as various raffle prizes and assistance in the hatchery.



# WILSON



## Predator Lures Australia



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### **Wildlife Sanctuary**

A special thanks to the La Trobe University Wildlife Sanctuary for hosting our monthly meetings

#### **Upcoming Events**

**AGM Via Zoom Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> August**

**Committee Meeting Via Zoom Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September**

**General Meeting La Trobe Uni Wildlife Sanctuary Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October**

**Albert Park BBQ & Fish – Melbourne Cup day**

**General Meeting & Christmas BBQ La Trobe Uni Wildlife Sanctuary Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**

**Cod Opening Weekend Gapsted 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> December**

**Blue Rock Bass Bash Blue Rock Dam 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021**

**Graeme Creed Native Fish Challenge Yarrawonga 19-21<sup>st</sup> February 2021**

**Murray Fishing weekend (with ANGFA Vic) Yarrawonga 6-8<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

**Ovens Rive Challenge Myrtleford 20-21<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

**Any question please contact me on the details below**

Tim Curmi

President

Native Fish Australia (Vic)

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