



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

3rd March 2020

Members & Supporters

Welcome to new members

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

Graeme Creed Native Fish Challenge2020

The 26th Native Fish Challenge was held recently. Overall the number of anglers was up from last year but the total number of fish caught was a bit over half of last years total.

Results were as follows;

Team Award

The adult team award again went to Wayne, Rod, Dave and Brian Coulton from NFA (Vic) with a combined fish length of 349 cm.



The Coultons won the team Award

Individual Awards

Wayne Coultou (NFA Vic) Murray Cod 94cm

Gaye Silva (KBFC) Murray Cod 67.9cm



Gaye Silva won the largest Murray Cod award

Dave Brauman (WDSFC) Golden perch 57.5 cm

Greg Niven (PNFC) Silver perch 42cm

Tenaya Brandi (PNFC) Murray cod 60 cm (Junior)

Jaxon Brandi (PNFC) Silver perch 47cm (Junior)

Katie Harris (PNFC) Golden perch 44 cm (Junior)



The prize winners

Individual Aggregate

Wayne Coulton (NFA Vic) - Total 152 cm.

Family Award

The Brandi family (PNFC)

Meetings

After much discussion we have decided to trial a different format for general and committee meetings this year.

General consensus to:

- (i) Move to bimonthly general/committee meetings (see below).
- (ii) All NFA members are welcome and encouraged to attend committee meetings.
- (iii) Committee meetings & general meetings on first Wednesday of the month.
- (iv) All meetings to be held at the Latrobe Uni Wildlife Sanctuary (unless agreed otherwise)
- (v) Starting time for committee meetings is 7:30pm, 8:00pm for general meetings.

January: Committee meeting

February: General meeting (With Speaker)

March: Committee meeting

April: General meeting (With Speaker)

May: Committee meeting

June: General meeting (With Speaker)

July: Committee meeting

August: General meeting (**AGM**) (With Speaker?)

September: Committee meeting

October: General meeting (With Speaker)

November: Usually no meeting/Committee meeting

December: General meeting (**Xmas party/breakup**)

The next scheduled meeting is a committee meeting. For the April general meeting I hope to have a freshwater ecologist from Deakin University talking about his Blackfish work.

Murray Weekend

The Murray camping/fishing weekend is on this weekend. It's a great opportunity to catch up with fellow NFA members and friends, in a beautiful part of the world. As per usual we will be camping at Burkes Beach #1. There are quite a few members who have already confirmed they are coming and with good weather predicted & great fishing only two weeks ago, there are not too many good excuses for not coming along. Check out the ANGFA (Vic) or NFA (Vic) face book pages for more details of the weekends. Please come and join us for what should be a relaxing yet informative weekend.

I have attached a map showing the way into Burkes Beach #1 from the Murray Valley Highway & an old ANGFA report detailing the weekend

Hope to see you there!!

Ovens River Challenge 27-29 March

NFA (Vic) & the ATF are again running the Ovens River Challenge. For the second year we will be running the catch, measure and release event that encompasses the Ovens River and most of its catchment down to Lake Mulwala. In a similar way to the Graeme Creed NFC, we hope to use data on fish captures to help manage the river better. Citizen Science at its best!! I have attached an updated flier with all the details.

We have arranged for NFA (Vic) members to camp on private property just outside Myrtleford. Please register if you are planning to attend.

All welcome!!

Southern Pygmy Perch – Bendigo Creek

The first release of Southern Pygmy perch occurred in late January. Juvenile Southern Pygmy Perch, from Murray Darling Basin brood stock, bred by Chris Lamin at Middle Creek Aquaculture were released into 4 carefully selected sites in the Bendigo Creek catchment around Bendigo. Each site had to meet Habitat, Water chemistry, existing fish fauna (none) and DO requirements to qualify.



Southern Pygmy Perch ready for release



Tim Curmi (NFA), Peter Rose NCCMA & Chris Lamin (Middle Creek Aquaculture) about to release the Southern Pygmy Perch.

The City of Greater Bendigo, North Central Catchment Management Authority, Native Fish Australia and ANGFA Vic have all collaborated for this exciting project. The next stage (stage 3) will be another release of juvenile fish in late March at another site in Bendigo and also at a couple of sites in the Gunbower region along the Murray River.

Fish Tanks in Schools

We have recently been successful in 2 small grants to place fish tanks containing Southern Pygmy Perch into schools in our local area. The grants are part of the Communities Environment Program from the Federal Department of Industry, Innovation and Science.

The grants will enable us to place a number of tanks in selected schools in the federal electorates of Menzies & Cooper, develop and deliver some curriculum focusing on endangered native fish and waterway health, and ultimately release the fish into two small local waterways. We are still seeking a couple of project partners to help with this great project that will hopefully allow the project to reach its full potential.



The first fish tank installed at Bundoora Secondary College

The first fish tank has been installed at Bundoora S/C last week. We have a number of other schools lined up to receive similar tanks in the next few weeks including Heatherwood School and Templestowe College.

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



ADVENTURE CAMPING,
FISHING & FIREARMS



Compleat Angler

Where service costs no more



AQUARIUMS
by design



Wildlife Sanctuary

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

Upcoming Events

Committee Meeting La Trobe Uni Wildlife Sanctuary **Wednesday 4th March**

Murray Fishing weekend (with ANGFA Vic) Yarrawonga **7-9 March 2020**

Ovens Rive Challenge Myrtleford **28/29 March 2020**

General Meeting La Trobe Uni Wildlife Sanctuary **Wednesday 1st April - Guest Speaker TBA**

Live Fish Display Discover Dandenong Creek **Thursday 2nd April** Volunteers needed

Committee Meeting La Trobe Uni Wildlife Sanctuary **Wednesday 6th May**

Any question please contact me on the details below

Tim Curmi

President

Native Fish Australia (Vic)

nfavic@yahoo.com.au

0417419765