



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

15 January 2020

Members & Supporters

Christmas Greetings

Native Fish Australia (Vic) would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

We thank you for your great support in our many activities including our endangered native fish hatchery, our many angling adventures, and our endeavours to enhance our native fisheries and the health of our waterways across the state and beyond.

We are looking forward to 2020 and the opportunity to work with you on these and other fantastic projects.



Southern Pygmy Perch

Our collaborative project with ANGFA (Vic), the NCCMA & City of Greater Bendigo continues to develop. We have recently collected the last batch of broodstock from a private dam in North East Victoria. These will be used in next year's breeding endeavours, and add great genetic diversity to the broodstock already collected.

There have already been some great results from Chris Lamin at Middle Creek Farm. More than 2000 fish have been produced and some are ready for release into prepared habitat areas of Bendigo Creek and a number of wetlands within Gunbower forest. Approval from the VFA is through and we are going to release some of the Southern Pygmy's early next week.

Macquarie Perch Fingerlings

The Macquarie Perch fingerlings are continuing to grow in the hatchery. We have recently changed from Otohime to Ridley 2mm pellets with the fish continuing to do well.

We hope to get another batch of fingerlings from the VFA in the next few weeks and replicate last year's trials.



Macquarie Perch fingerling held in the NFA (Vic) hatchery

New NFA Branch

A new branch of Native Fish Australia has recently started in Deniliquin. We look forward to working closely with them on the restoration of native fish populations in waterways around the Murray Darling Basin

New NFA (Vic) Hatchery

The new NFA hatchery continues to progress. La Trobe University have developed a fantastic concept plan for a new hatchery and we are now waiting for the Federal government to officially respond.

Fish in Schools

We have recently been successful in 2 small grants to place fish tanks containing Southern Pygmy Perch into schools in the 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, 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 now seeking a couple of project partners to help with this great project that will hopefully allow the project to reach its full potential.

Live Native Fish Display at the Codference

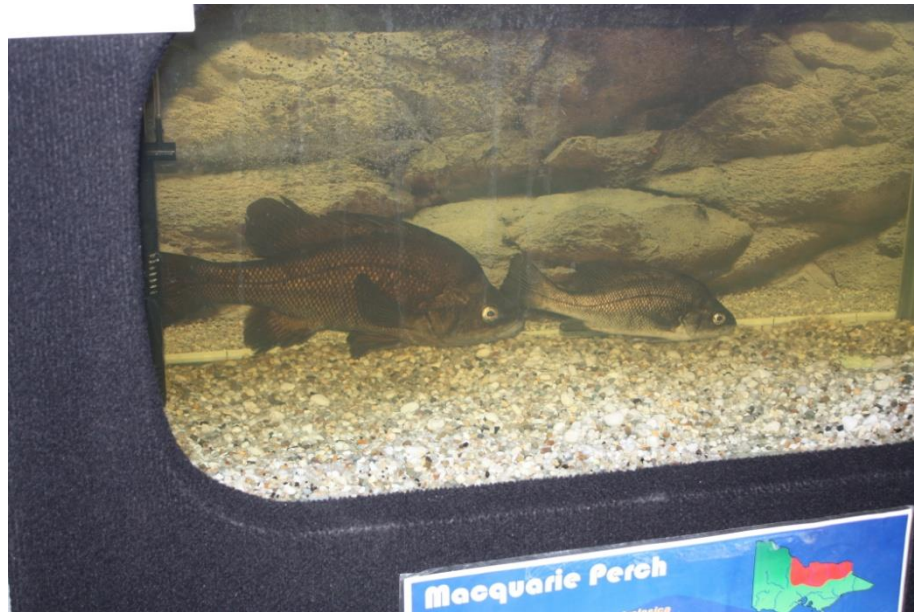
After a request from the VFA, we set up a live fish display at the recent Codference in Shepparton. On display were a Murray Cod (Polly), a Trout Cod (Lynden) and two Macquarie Perch (Nancy and friend). The display and particularly the fish were very well received with many stating it was great to see a live Macquarie perch for the first time. There we also many fishing stories shared especially of the numbers of Trout Cod being caught and the fantastic return of this once critically endangered species. Special thanks to Gazza, Paul, Geoff and Jim for their help in the running of the display.



The Display



Rob Paxevanos at our display



Nancy & friend

Blue Rock Bass Bash

Native Fish Australia (Vic) has scheduled a day's adventure to **Blue Rock Dam** to chase **Australian Bass**. The fifth Blue Rock Bass Bash is to be held on the weekend **1/2 February**. It will again be a **one day event** and NFA (Vic) will put on a **free BBQ lunch** for all members attending. The final day will be decided closer to the date and will depend on weather.

Fishing is best from a boat. There is however, good fishing from the bank with access at many points around the dam. At this stage I have one spot available in my boat.

If you would like to join us for a day of exciting (I hope) Australian Bass fishing please contact me on **0417 419 765 / nfavic@yahoo.com.au** by **Thursday 30st January for catering purposes**.

February General Meeting

Our first general meeting for 2020 is Wednesday 5th February at the La Trobe University Wildlife Sanctuary. As per usual the meeting will commence at 8pm. The theme for the meeting will be **"How to catch a Murray Cod & other native fish"** with a number of short "how to" sessions run by experienced NFA members. We will also be discussing final details for the NFC. We will continue to have the **Buy/Swap/Sell table**.

Native Fish Challenge 2020

The 2020 Native Fish Challenge is fast approaching. In respect of the enormous amount of work done organising & coordinating by Graeme over the last 25 years we have decided to rename the NFC as the **"Graeme Creed Native Fish Challenge"**. **Dates below**. All documents for the challenge are attached. Final details will be discussed at the February meeting. **. If you a planning to attend please let me know**. A number of members will be camping on the Murray River at Burkes Beach #1. If you would like to join them please contact Mark on 0402 329 855 / markfishoadams@hotmail.com for more details.

Ovens River Challenge

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!! Dates below. I have attached a flier with more details.

GoFishVic app from the VFA

The GoFishVic app is now live and available for you to download and try from the app store and google play!

The app helps you improve your fishing success and have heaps of fun. It also helps provide catch and effort information to best manage our fisheries and continue to make them better for us.

To introduce the app to anglers and get feedback on improvements, VFA are holding forums starting next week at the following locations:

- Nagambie Angling Club, Monday 13 January 2020, 6.30pm
- Ballarat Fly Fishers Club, Tuesday 14 January 2020, 6.30pm
- The Pavilion, Warrnambool, Wednesday 15 January 2020, 6.30pm
- Albert Park Angling Club, Monday 20 January 2020, 6.30pm

To attend a forum, please email taylor.hunt@vfa.vic.gov.au

Every week over summer VFA are also giving away a \$100 tackle voucher to a lucky angler who uses the app and records a fishing trip in ones of Victoria's key fishing locations.

For more information about GoFishVic app, visit: <https://vfa.vic.gov.au/recreational-fishing/gofishvic#>

New VFA Hatchery location announced

In a recent media release the VFA has announced the location for their new Native Fish Hatchery. It will be located at Acardia. For full details please check out the attached media release.

Membership renewals for 2019/20

There are still quite a few members who have not renewed (paid) their membership for this year.

Membership/renewal forms can be found at <https://www.nativefish.asn.au/home/page/Membership>



We have two face book pages – NFA & NFA (Vic). Please check them out and follow them to get up to date information

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.



Predator Lures Australia



Wildlife Sanctuary

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

Upcoming Events

Blue Rock Bass Bash Blue Rock Dam 1st or 2nd February 2020

General Meeting La Trobe Uni Wildlife Sanctuary Wednesday 5th February – “How to catch a Murray Cod & other native fish” Details soon

Native Fish Challenge Yarrawonga 14th – 16th February 2020

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

Ovens Rive Challenge Myrtleford 28/29 March 2020

Any question please contact me on the details below

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