



FFSAQ News

April, 2024

Media Officer - Lloyd Willmann
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From the Media Officer's Desk :-

FFSAQ - Charlie Ladd

Hi all,

The FFSAQ Management Team hopes your April month has been a great one with the opportunity to continue to improve our freshwater native fish stocking and fishing throughout the state.

The FFSAQ management team looks forward to seeing club's Facebook posts of many photos over the next couple of months of fingerlings being released into Queensland waterways throughout the state.

"Help us to be able to help you"

To keep our contact database up to date we need your help, if you have had some changes in your club's contact details lately, can you please advise the FFSAQ Treasurer by completing a membership form with the new details and email the completed form to treasurer@ffsaq.com.au so we can update your information on our system.

It is very important that we have your current contact details as there is a lot of information that DAF and others send to us to forward on to our network.

For those of you who like Facebook, we recommend you check out FFSAQ's Facebook site:

www.facebook.com/ffsaq/

Please visit the FFSAQ website, www.ffsaq.com.au first press F5 on your keypad to update to the new version on your computer.

We invite any feedback, good or bad you have on our Facebook and Website sites.

For enquires regarding Freshwater Fish Stocking, below is the Fisheries Queensland contact officer's details in the Freshwater Team.

Thomas Hart

Fisheries Manager (Freshwater), Fisheries Queensland
Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

Phone: 07 3087 8131

Mob: 0467 956 667

Email: thomas.hart@daf.qld.gov.au

For enquires regarding Pest Fish, below is the phone and email details for Biosecurity Queensland.

Hayden Ferguson

Principal Policy Officer - Pest Fish, Invasive Plants and Animals
Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

Mob: 0491 260 167

Email: hayden.ferguson@daf.qld.gov.au

or the below links

<https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/contact/report-a-biosecurity-pest-or-disease> or Email pestfish@daf.qld.gov.au

or 13 25 23 or Fishwatch Hotline on 1800 017 116

Link to the fish hatchery page is: <https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/activities/boating-fishing/rec-fishing/dams/stocking>

Note: The information on the DAF Website is current with the information as provided by the hatcheries.

Action Items

FFSAQ General Meeting & AGM

The next FFSAQ general meeting and AGM is scheduled for **16th June 2024** at 11 Meier Road, Camira commencing at 9:30am.

If you are planning to attend, can you please advise the secretary on secretary@ffsaq.com.au thank you.

New QAFCA email and postal address's

For the clubs that are with QAFCA for public liability insurance you should have received your 2024/2025 membership renewals, if you haven't sent an email to QAFCA via the email address below.

Email address - gafcamail@gmail.com

Postal address - QAFCA, 7 Rosella Street, Wellington Point, Qld. 4160.

2024 Freshwater Fish Stocking Workshop

The 2024 Freshwater Fish Stocking Workshop is scheduled for 25th, 26th & 27th July in the Wide Bay Region, so start the discussion on delegates your group will send to the workshop.

Additional information will be sent out as the workshop gets closer.

Fish n' SIP\$ Tagged Fish Competition 2.0

\$100,000 up for grabs in Queensland's stocked impoundments

Published Thursday, 28 March, 2024 at 03:14 PM

Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities - The Honourable Mark Furner

- 140 tagged fish released into seven of Queensland's stocked impoundments
- \$20,000 prize for first tagged fish caught and reported, with prizes also available for the first tagged fish from each impoundment
- Fishers expected to flock to fishing spots over Easter

At least 15 lucky fishers could win prizes up to \$20,000 by catching specially tagged fish in one of seven Queensland stocked impoundments.

The [2024 Fish N SIPS competition](#) has built on the massive response to last year's competition by extending this year's event to two new fishing spots – Wyaralong Dam and Leslie Dam.

Queensland Fisheries partnered with the Freshwater Fish Stocking Association of Queensland and InfoFish teams to tag and release 20 fish in each location.

The first 15 fishers who catch the tagged fish and claim through the InfoFish hotline will claim the prizes.

Tagged fish must be caught and reported by **November 30 2024** to be eligible.

Before you go fishing in these impoundments, check the [interactive search tool](#) for which ones require a permit.

You can search by location, facilities or fish species.

There are more than 60 impoundments (dams and weirs) in Queensland that require a [Stocked Impoundment Permit \(SIP\)](#) to fish with a line.

These impoundments are stocked with native fish specifically for recreational fishing. The scheme provides a sustainable fishing option that reduces the fishing pressure on wild fish stocks.

With fishing expected to be a popular activity over the Easter break, fishers are being urged to [download the Fishing 2.0 app](#) to stay across all of the recreational fishing rules.

Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol officers will be out and about during the Easter break.

For more information on the rules, including fish identification and SIPs, download our FREE Qld Fishing 2.0 app, visit www.fisheries.qld.gov.au or call 13 25 23.

Quotes attributable to Acting Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities Scott Stewart:

"Last year's Fish N SIPS competition attracted thousands of recreational fishers to our regions, supporting the many good jobs in those communities," Mr Stewart said.

"With two new locations we expect this year's competition to be even more popular and I hope thousands of people enjoy these fantastic fishing environments.

"The Easter break is traditionally a popular time for new and experienced fishers to take to the state's waterways.

"We want people to enjoy their holidays, but to take care and follow the relevant rules and regulations."

2024 Stocked Impoundment Permit Scheme Survey

SIPS surveys have been distributed. They have been sent out in four batches between 16th & 18th April 2024. If

you do not receive an email by Friday, please follow the link to complete the

survey <https://daf.engagementhub.com.au/202324-sips-angler-participation-survey>. We will also be posting a link to the survey on our social media channels by next week.

Please remind your stocking groups to check their junk email. The SIPS survey will come from the following email address departmentofagricultureandfisheries@daf.qld.gov.au and the subject title will read "**SIPS update: Stocked Impoundment Permit Scheme survey**".

The survey closes at **5.00 pm, Friday 17 May 2024**.

Have your say: Conciliation open on new SIPS Impoundments and Opera House style traps

Stocking Groups,

Please find linked and **attached information** about proposals to add new SIPS Impoundments to the scheme and changes to the use of Opera House style traps. Fisheries Queensland is seeking feedback from commercial, recreational, charter and traditional fishers, environmental groups and other stakeholders on management reform options proposed by parts of the commercial sector and presented in this discussion paper.

All stocking groups and freshwater stakeholders are encouraged to provide feedback on the proposed changes.

Feedback will be used to guide the future management strategies to ensure the sustainable management of Queensland Fisheries. The fastest and easiest way to provide your feedback is to complete the online survey at: [Department of Agriculture and Fisheries | Recreational fishing in Queensland consultation \(engagementhub.com.au\)](#)

The survey questions are also available at the end of the attached documents if you would prefer to print the survey and post your submission to:

Update from the Queensland Office of Fair Trading

The below information was received via email from the Office of Fair Trading, check with your club Secretary to discuss implications for your group, if any.

Queensland Office of Fair Trading

Less than three months to go! Is your incorporated association ready?

The countdown is on for the July 2024 incorporated association law changes to begin, and it's time to get ready!

What's changing?

From 1 July 2024, incorporated associations must:

- disclose remuneration paid and any benefits given to committee members, senior staff and their relatives at their Annual General Meeting
- follow the [grievance procedure in the model rules](#) to resolve disputes or include a compliant grievance procedure in their own rules.

These changes will help improve transparency and accountability in your association.

What do you need to do now?

If you wish to create a grievance procedure for use from 1 July 2024, you should submit your amended constitution to the Office of Fair Trading by **30 April 2024** to allow sufficient time for us to review and register it.

You can still submit it after 30 April if you wish, but if we don't complete the registration process by 1 July, you'll need to follow the model rules grievance procedure until we do.

Find out how to [create a compliant grievance procedure](#) and [change your association's constitution](#).

You won't need to make any changes to your constitution if you:

- already have a compliant grievance procedure in your constitution
- wish to follow the model rules' grievance procedure – it will automatically apply.

More information

For more information, visit [Getting ready for the July 2024 changes](#).

If you have any questions, contact us at Registration.Services@justice.qld.gov.au or phone 13 QGOV (13 74 68).

FFSAQ Native & Pest Fish Education Display

FFSAQ's Native & Pest Fish Education Display attended four events in April 2024 :-

Wandoan Regional Show, Wandoan - Western Downs Regional Council - Friday 5th - Cancelled by WDRC due to a weather event.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council's Kids Fishing Workshop - Blackall -Tambo Regional Council - Tuesday 9th.

The Blackall-Tambo Regional Council was fortunate to have Charlie Ladd from the Freshwater Fishing & Stocking Association of Queensland visit to participate in a fishing workshop held on 9 April at the Blackall Racecourse. Council received funding for the workshop which enabled 2 Bent Rods to attend to teach the children knot tying and casting along with water safety and responsible and sustainable fishing practices. Charlie taught the children the difference between native species and introduced species and the impact of those introduced species on the waterways. The tanks containing the fish were well received by everyone who attended, although there was plenty of conversation held with Council staff about the temperature of the water. The native fish tanks were filled last to ensure that the water was suitable. This was an education to those involved. Charlie had plenty of literature to hand out to the participants and some extra information for the Blackall Visitor Information Centre to inform visitors to the region. Charlie and his fish left later that afternoon to present to the children in Longreach. Thanks for visiting us Charlie. We hope to see you and Bruce again one day



Longreach Regional Council's Kids Fishing Workshop - Longreach Regional Council - Wednesday 10th.

Longreach Regional Council reeled in the excitement during Youth Week with a thrilling fishing workshop held at Apex Park. The event, which saw two sessions catering to 5-10 year-olds in the morning and 11-17 year-olds in the afternoon, proved to be a reel success, showcasing how fun and education can harmoniously come together. Led by the seasoned experts of 2 Bent Rods, the workshop delved into the intricate art of fishing, covering essential skills such as knot tying, bait hooking, and the nuances of the angling world.

Freshwater Fishing & Association of Queensland (FFSAQ) joined the fray, enlightening the eager participants about the diverse array of native and pest fish inhabiting our river systems. Vital lessons on legal sizes for native fish and humane disposal of pest species were also imparted. The educational journey continued with Desert Channels Group, shedding light on the fascinating world of water bugs. As the youth marvelled at the various specimens found in our waters, they discovered that each bug is graded on a scale from 1 to 10 with the Thomson River boasting an impressive array of category 8 bugs—a testament to the river's robust ecosystem.

Amidst laughter and excitement, participants were delighted to receive their very own fishing rods, and some even reeled in their first catch by the day's end. Smiling faces dotted the scene, embodying the spirit of camaraderie and adventure fostered by the event.

As the day ends filled with newfound knowledge and unforgettable experiences, Longreach's young anglers eagerly look forward to future rendezvous at the Thomson River, armed with their newfound skills and a passion for fishing.





Moura Muddy Water Classic Family Fishing Competition - Moura Fish Stocking Club - Fri 12th to Sun 14th

A Muddy Water comp by Helen Abdy.

A minor flood in the Dawson River brought down some muddy water for the Moura Muddy Water Fishing Competition which proved appropriate. Fishing was going to be a bit of a challenge for the 320 entrants this year but that dirty water didn't deter anyone.

A lot of boats and kayaks and plenty anglers fishing off the banks managed to catch, mainly Catfish but Saratoga, Black Bream, Spangle Perch and Sleepy Cod were brought into the weigh station:-

- Heaviest Catfish was 4.6 kg caught by senior angler Grant Burns.
- Heaviest Saratoga was 2.194 kg and 62cm caught by senior angler Dawson Foden.
- Heaviest Black Bream was .858 kg and 34 cm caught by junior angler Khobe Millen.
- Heaviest Sleepy Cod was .148kg caught by senior angler Chad Eyles.
- Heaviest Spangle Perch was 012 and caught by junior angler Flynn Hoare.

In total there were only 114 fish caught; 100 Catfish, 5 Saratoga, 4 Black Bream, 3 Sleepy Cod and 2 Spangle Perch.

The numbers were very much down on previous years and quite probably had a lot to do with all that new water that came down from further upstream. Good for the river but a challenge for anglers.

This year we had anglers come from Brisbane, Toowoomba, Dalby, Rockhampton, Yeppoon, Emu Park, Sunshine coast, Gold coast, Trangie in NSW, Kabra, Blackwater, Gladstone, Bundaberg, Childers, Rolleston, Taroom, Miles as well as the local district like Monto, Biloela, Baralaba.

Popular little spot and such a great camping area with toilet and hot/cold gold coin shower amenities, right on the water with a cement boat ramp for easy launching. I have to mention the kitchen staff here who do an awesome job supplying food all day with a menu to rival a lot of restaurants, including sweets. No need to bring food when you come to this comp.

This year we had live music from Deal'n, sponsored by Moura Tavern, a duo guitar team who played all the old favorite songs on the Friday night that had everyone singing along too.

Making his way down from Townsville again to this place he admires so much was Dave 'Hodgie' Hodge 'the Barefoot fisherman' who entertained the crowds with his casting skills and tips for catching fish. Showing different casting outfits and how to rig them and answered multiple questions from the ever-interested crowd. He also ran two casting comps and the Junior winners were Grace Taylor and Jackson Sorrensen, Milton McGechin and Billy Davidson, Tai Marianetti, Declan Mitchell and Clancy Eyles and Senior winner was Mark Hutchinson.

Another welcome visitor was Charlie Ladd representing FFSAQ who brought along the fish display trailer containing native and pest species for viewing. Always popular and Charlie always informative with the rules and regulations that seem to elude a lot of people. Maybe the way it is that we need reminding always to keep up to date with changes in our lives and pastimes.

Stocking this section of the Dawson River is done by a very passionate group of locals called the Moura Fish Stocking Group who are not on the SIP scheme so every fingerling put in the river is bought by hard earned money raised by this group. The main fund-raising event for the year is the family fishing competition so everyone who supports this event not only have a great weekend catching up with friends new and old, they win a prize or two and help to buy fingerlings for future stocking.

Like every event the Sponsors are so important and we want to thank Hutchinsons Ag, Apex Moura, Mining & Energy Union, Secure Well Services, Banana Shire, Moura AMWU, Santos, Mitre 10, Yarraboldy, Queensland Cotton; as well as Anaconda, Anglo Dawson management, BDS Mechanical, Bush n Beach, Cornetts IGA, Country Atmosphere Café, Dawson Valley Tilt Tray, Home & Garden Café Theodore, Hourn & Bishop Qld, Macmahon Holding, Melwood Pastoral, Moura Accounting, Moura Backhoe/Plant hire, Moura Bus service, Moura meet, Moura news, Moura PO & Real Estate, Moura Tavern, Moura Tyre Centre, Qld Nitrate, Ron Tarry Transport, Theodore Family, Ventia, Westside Corporation and new sponsor Geteminya Spinnerbaits.

Sponsors and locals who get in and help Zelma, Ken and Graham and all the stocking group members is why we have such a popular event.

You can catch us on Facebook by searching for 'Moura Fish Stocking Group'.

Also follow Hodgie on his You Tube channel and search for 'hodgie the barefoot fisherman' and see some of his highlights from the weekend.

Hope to see you there next year, keep safe and happy fishing.



Charlie & friends



Dave Hodge & Junior casting winners



FFSAQ Display by night, Oh, the serenity !



Fishing & lunch by the river



Friday night music show



Khomeini Millen 34cm Black Bream



Dawson Foden 62cm Saratoga

Displays for Catch & Snap Competition - Ipswich City Council - Saturday 20th.

FFSAQ's Native & Pest Fish Education Display is scheduled to attend four events in May 2024:-

- Cunnamulla Fishing & Restocking Club Fishing 2 Day Fishing Competition, Cunnamulla - Cunnamulla Fishing & Restocking Club – Friday 3rd to Sunday 5th.
- World Science Festival Queensland - Cob & Co Museum, Toowoomba - Queensland Museum - Friday 17th & Saturday 18th.
- Miles Regional Show - Miles Showgrounds, Miles - Western Downs Regional Council - Tuesday 21st
- Chinchilla Regional Show - Chinchilla Showgrounds, Chinchilla - Western Downs Regional Council - Friday 24th.

Full list of booked events for 2024 is on the FFSAQ's Facebook Page.

If you are planning an event in 2024 & 2025 and the FFSAQ native & pest fish education display can be of assistance, please drop me an email or call and if the FFSAQ display is available we will endeavour to be there.

NOTE: Please book your event as early as possible, 2024 is becoming very very busy with groups and others becoming aware of the display and the assistance it would provide at their event.

If your event is not listed above and you would like to have the FFSAQ Native & Pest Fish Education Display there, send an email now.

Contact details are as follows, treasurer@ffsaq.com.au or Mob: 0490 661 445.

SIPS Dams Trail Guide

A new updated combined SIPS Dam Trail Guide has been printed and quantities of the Trail Guide will be distributed around the state as the FFSAQ Native & Pest Fish Education Display travels to events and the guides will be made available.

Digital copies of the issues have been uploaded onto Fisheries Queensland Website in the "Fishing on Stocked Impoundments" tab, use the following link:-

<https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/activities/boating-fishing/rec-fishing/dams>

Most important of all:

"Do not tell fish stories where the people know you. Particularly, don't tell them where they know the fish." Mark Twain.

C R Ladd

Charlie Ladd
President/Treasurer FFSAQ
Mob: 0490 661 445

Dept of Agriculture & Fisheries

Stocking Groups,

Working Group/SIPSAC

Both the Freshwater Fisheries Working Group and the SIPS Advisory Committee are meeting in the week of 20th May. Please reach out to your [regional/industry members](#) if you have items you would like to raise (please note membership of the SIPSAC should be updated next week).

Unfortunately we did not receive any nominations from stocking groups in central or north regions for the SIPSAC. We will still discuss any issues impacting these regions at SIPSAC meetings, and we hope to get nominations for these regions in the future. If your group is interested in nominating a member please reach out.

End of year SIPS processes

At that time of year again, please ensure all acquittals, carryover applications and grant applications are submitted by 17 May at the latest so they can be considered by the SIPSAC. Failure to do so may result in the Advisory Committee not being able to fully consider your application.

Fish 'n' \$IPS

Following the successful rollout of the pilot Fish 'n' \$IP\$ program we have been lucky enough to secure additional non-SIPS funding for a new and improved competition this year with three new impoundments in southern Queensland, as well as additional prizes for the first fish caught in each impoundment. Full details can be found [here](#). Thankyou to FFSAQ and their partners for the hard work in rolling out Fish 'n' \$IP\$ 2.0.

Recreational Paper

Please find linked information about proposed changes to the use of Opera House style traps and other recreational fisheries reforms, including additions to the SIPS scheme. Fisheries Queensland is seeking feedback from commercial, recreational, charter and traditional fishers, environmental groups and other stakeholders on management reform options proposed and presented in this discussion paper.

Feedback will be used to guide the future management strategies to ensure the sustainable management of Queensland Fisheries.

The fastest and easiest way to provide your feedback is to complete the online survey at: [Department of Agriculture and Fisheries | Recreational fishing in Queensland consultation \(engagementhub.com.au\)](#)

You can also

email fisheriesmanagers@daf.qld.gov.au or print the survey questions at the end of the discussion paper and post your submission to:

Recreational fishing discussion paper
Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
GPO Box 46
Brisbane Qld 4001

Submissions close 5 pm, 9 May 2024

SIPS Survey

The annual SIPS Survey was released on the 16th of April for those people who had a SIPS permit during the previous 12 months (March 2023 – Feb 2024). If you did not receive an email, please follow the link to complete the survey <https://daf.engagementhub.com.au/202324-sips-angler-participation-survey>. We have also posted a link to the survey on our social media channels which you are welcome to share.

Please remind your stocking groups to check their junk email. The SIPS survey will come from the following email address departmentofagricultureandfisheries@daf.qld.gov.au and the subject title will read "SIPS update: Stocked Impoundment Permit Scheme survey".

The survey closes on 17 May 2024

Kind regards,

The Freshwater Team

Thomas Hart

Fisheries Manager (Freshwater)

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E Thomas.Hart@daf.qld.gov.au W www.daf.qld.gov.au

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