



Dear Member,

I would like to thank all AFANT members including our affiliated clubs who attended the AFANT AGM last March. The event was well attended with over 250 members as well as guest politicians and speakers. Highlights of this event included long time serving AFANT committee member Geoff Bird receiving his life membership and a hotly contested election for the three vacant committee positions in which Melita McKinnon, Andrew Warton and Geoff Bird were successfully appointed.

While AFANT is in close discussions with the CLP Government in regards to their election commitments in order to secure the best possible future for recreational fishing in the Northern Territory it was disappointing that the CLP government failed to announce any commitments or policies for recreational fishing at the AFANT AGM. This was in stark contrast to the election policy paper released on the day by Territory Labour which committed to a staggering \$50 Million infrastructure package for recreational fishing as well as outlining their policy for strengthening of environmental regulations, protection of water resources and a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing (fracking) while sufficient research is being undertaken.

AFANT continues to work hard to strengthen the future of recreational fishing in the Northern Territory. We will be keeping a close eye on the progress of the Dundee Beach and Shady Camp boat ramps as the tender process for construction draws to a close in the coming month.

Regards

Tristan Sloan
Executive Officer

Representing recreational fishing in the NT and ensuring the quality of our sport

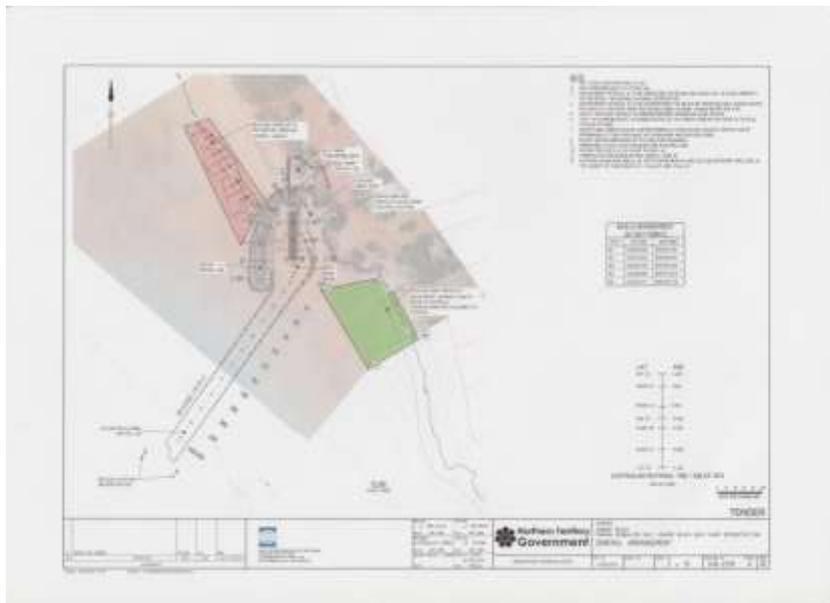
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Project Update –Dundee Beach Boat Ramp

The NT Government released the tender document for the construction of the Dundee Beach Boat Ramp late last month.

Works at Dundee Beach will include all tide access in the form of a 245 metre navigation channel to beyond the low tide mark, a new boat ramp next to the extended rock groyne and additional work to prevent sand drift onto the launching area.



Recreational Fishing Snags \$50M Investment

AFANT was pleased to recently view the Territory Labour Policy Paper as part of the Labour party's commitment to recreational fishing and the Northern Territory lifestyle. While a core component of this policy paper was improving fishing infrastructure through a \$50 Million investment the paper also addresses community concerns over a variety of environmental issues related to recreational fishing.

A full copy of the policy paper can be viewed by clicking [here](#)



CROC BYTE #1

Fishing with your mates this holiday season? Always remember to Be Crocwise.

Saltwater crocodiles can attack people in boats – the smaller the boat, the greater the risk.

Before you head out on the water, check out our recent catch up with Will Hopoate and Corey Norman from the Parramatta Eels.

[Be Crocwise - With Parramatta Eels](#)

Nightcliff Jetty Reopens

The Nightcliff jetty is a popular landbased fishing location that was closed for safety reasons in October last year. AFANT is pleased to report that the Stage one structural works have now been completed and the jetty is open to being enjoyed by the public once again. Stage one works involved structural repairs to jetty braces, the stairwell and hand railing, as well as the replacement of light poles and new navigation lights.

AFANT is pleased that the Northern Territory Government listened to the community on this issue and decided to invest \$1 million to give the jetty a new lease on life. Stage two structural works for the jetty will involve repairs to the concrete base of the jetty and replacement of the protective wrapping.

Barramundi Fingerlings for Durack lakes

In partnership with Lia Finocchiaro, Member for Drysdale, AFANT has worked to develop a stocking program for the Durack Lakes. Late last month 9000 fingerlings were released into lakes 5, 6 & 10. These fish will provide an opportunity for the public to catch a Barramundi in a safe and easily accessible location and are expected to reach legal size in roughly two years. These fingerlings follow on from a successful stocking of 40,000 Barramundi into Manton Dam earlier in the month.



FISHERIES TIP #3

Want to ensure that all fish released have the best chance of survival?

Use best practice for handling and releasing fish.

Just because you didn't catch the fish you wanted, you shouldn't treat them differently to more desirable species.

For more information visit the Fisheries website at www.dpif.nt.gov.au/Fisheries or use the NT Fishing Mate App.

Good fishing!



Northern Territory Balanced Environment Strategy

AFANT has a strong commitment to ensuring the protection of the quality of the fishing experience available in the NT which is inextricably linked to the health and quality of the NT waterways, landscapes and coastal areas.

AFANT recently submitted our views on the Draft Northern Territory Balanced Environment Strategy which can be viewed [here](#).

In Memory of Martin Hall

AFANT would like to thank Jenny Hill and Tony O'Malley for the donation of a great fishing rod rack to used to store our junior fishing outfits. This rod rack was donated in memory of their good friend Martin Hall; fishermen, outdoorsman and a great bloke.



Productivity Commission Issues Paper for Marine Fisheries and Aquaculture.

AFANT recently made a submission to the Productivity Commission Issues Paper for Marine Fisheries and Aquaculture. AFANT believes that serious consideration must be given to the legislation in which Commonwealth fisheries currently operate.

AFANT believes recreational fishing needs to be formally recognised as major stakeholder in Commonwealth fisheries and the fisheries legislation and management procedures must be amended accordingly.

Our full submission can be viewed by clicking [here](#).