



Dear Member,

I would like to personally thank everyone who participated in our recent membership survey, the response was fantastic. I am currently attempting to contact all members who left feedback. From this survey AFANT has been able to form an accurate picture of what our members expect from the association and their views and opinions on future infrastructure programs and recreational fishing enhancement projects. This is especially important with the threat of an early election on the cards as it allows AFANT to effectively represent our members views and opinions to all major political parties to ensure these parties are willing to commit to the future of recreational fishing in the NT.

As I mentioned in our last newsletter AFANT is attempting to improve our communication strategies to our members. Our website is currently undergoing a facelift to become more user friendly and our Facebook page is updated weekly with any issues that are relevant to the recreational fishing community. Our Facebook page recently reached the milestone of 2,200 likes and if you haven't subscribed to our newsfeed I encourage you to do so. It can be accessed by clicking here [Amateur Fishermen's Association NT \(AFANT\)](#)

AFANT is an organisation built for recreational fishermen by recreational fishermen so please don't hesitate to contact me with any issue you feel needs attention.

Regards

Tristan Sloan
Executive Officer

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

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Cabomba Weed in the Darwin River

AFANT has been contacted by the Department Land Resource Management to urge all fishermen to respect the current quarantine zone in the Darwin River for the aquatic weed Cabomba. Cabomba (*Cabomba caroliniana*) is an aggressive aquatic weed that, if allowed to spread, could place our Territory lifestyle at risk by preventing fishing, boating and swimming. If Cabomba was to spread into other Top End waterways, the cost of management would be immense, particularly if it was to infest Darwin River Dam.



AFANT's Submission on the Tom's Gully Mine

The Amateur Fishermen's Association of the Northern Territory (AFANT) recently provided a submission on the Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Tom's Gully Mine Underground Project. This mine was particularly concerning to AFANT due to its potential to affect the Mary River catchment and its fantastic recreational fishing opportunities.

To read the submission [click here](#)



Community Fishing Equipment

AFANT was recently granted funding under the Department of Sport and Recreation in order to encourage grassroots participation in the sport of fishing. This funding was used to purchase thirty junior fishing outfits which will be made available for use by local schools, community organisations and our affiliated fishing clubs for fishing clinics and education events. In addition, \$1000 has been set aside by AFANT to help fund fishing clinics run by our more remote fishing clubs that will be unable to access these outfits. For more information please e-mail research@afant.com.au

McArthur River Mine Fish Monitoring Program

Due to concerns from recreational fishermen over heavy metal concentrations in Barneys and Surprise Creeks in the McArthur River AFANT recently travelled to the McArthur River Mine (MRM) site to meet with environmental scientists and discuss the mines environmental issues and monitoring programs. AFANT is comfortable that MRM is taking the necessary steps to remediate any problems that have been identified and they are actively working with local fishermen to collect fish samples for monitoring. To get involved in the monitoring program please contact Rebecca Gentle on (08) 8975 8216



Fish skeletons:

- Leave the guts in if possible
- Keep the fish as clean as possible when filleting
- After filleting, place in bag, keep cold and freeze ASAP
- Fill in the record card
- IPE will take a tissue sample from the head (and liver)



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CROC BYTE #2



Love to fish? Don't be an amateur when it comes to your safety. **Be CrocWise.**

Always stay vigilant when launching and retrieving boats, as crocodiles are particularly common near boat ramps.

For more Croc Bytes download the [Be CrocWise fact sheet](#).

Removal of 8 Inch Gill Nets from Barramundi Fishery

At the recent Barramundi Management Advisory Committee meeting AFANT was happy to support the removal of the 8 Inch gill net from the commercial Barramundi fishery. The removal of this gill net size reduces the likelihood of commercial Barramundi fishermen from catching and retaining large breeding female barramundi which are vital for the future of the fish stocks.



Gillnet selectivity

size class	6	7	8
<51	1	0	0
51-60	36	5	1
61-70	38	37	8
71-80	19	42	53
81-90	5	15	32
91-100	1	1	5
>100	0	0	1
av size	65	72	79