



Dear Member,

I hope all our members had a safe and enjoyable holiday period and Santa gave you the exact fishing outfit you wanted for the runoff this year.

2016 will prove to be a big year for recreational fishing as the Northern Territory elections are scheduled for August and AFANT has plans to ensure that improving recreational fishing opportunities and infrastructure is on the agenda for all political parties.

In addition to the election, numerous long awaited infrastructure projects are scheduled to be completed this year by the CLP Government including the Dundee Beach boat ramp and improvements to the ramp at Shady Camp. Be assured AFANT is committed to seeing these projects completed and is actively involved in the stakeholder consultation process to make sure these facilities are built to a high standard in order to guarantee their longevity for many years into the future.

As always if you have any issues or concerns regarding recreational fishing please don't hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to seeing you out on the water in 2016.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tristan Sloan'.

Tristan Sloan  
Executive Officer

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

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## Palmerston Lakes Fish Stocking Project

For more than 12 months AFANT has been working with the Palmerston Council and local MLA Lia Finocchario to get approval and funding for stocking the Durack lakes with barramundi fingerlings. We are excited to announce that this project was approved by Palmerston Council in December last year. 9000 barramundi fingerlings will be stocked into lakes 5, 6 and 10 at the end of the wet season this year. At a length of 150-200mm these barramundi should reach legal size within three years. AFANT believe this stocking project will provide considerable social, recreational and lifestyle benefits to the local community with further opportunities provided for education of school children, university students from CDU, angler education clinics and fisheries research



### Permit Update- Stingray Head, Finnis River Station

AFANT attended a community meeting in November at Dundee Beach to discuss the closure of public access to Stingray Head at the mouth of the Finnis River through Finnis River Station.

Fences and signs were to be erected late last year to prevent access to the property.

AFANT is currently undertaking discussions with the owners of the Finnis River Station to implement a permit access system for AFANT members and affiliated clubs in time for the run-off this year.

For any further information please e-mail [research@afant.com.au](mailto:research@afant.com.au)



## Project Update- Dundee Boat Ramp

GHD has been contracted by the NT Government to undertake the coastal engineering studies for the construction of the Dundee Boat Ramp. Presently this involves surveying the substrate and modelling the historic wave patterns in the boat ramp area. They hope to have construction design options available in February 2016 with actual construction to commence after the project is put out to a six week tender process by the NT Government

## CROC BYTE #3

# BE CROCWISE

Don't be lured into a false sense of security on the water – Be CrocWise.

Keep away from the water's edge and do not reach into the water to bring up a fish, use a landing net instead.

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



## Nightcliff Jetty Repairs

AFANT recently welcomed the decision by the CLP to commit to spend \$700,000 to repair the damaged Nightcliff jetty. Nightcliff Jetty is a popular destination for recreational fishermen to target pelagic species from the Darwin foreshore. Immediate work includes repairs to the light poles and structural bracing straight away with a tender to go out to the public for the remainder of the work including replacing cross beams and work to the concrete footings.

## Fines for Anchoring in the Darwin Harbour Shipping Channels

AFANT would like to remind recreational fishermen that anchoring in the Darwin Harbour shipping channel can result in hefty fines if recreational boats are determined to be obstructing the safe passage of shipping.

Marine (General) Regulation 16 makes it an offence to anchor in a shipping channel except in an emergency. The Shipping channels with GPS coordinates in Darwin Harbour are declared in a Port Notice available by clicking [here](#).

Water Police have corresponded with AFANT on this issue and will be fining any vessel found to be obstructing shipping traffic in the Harbour. Fishermen are asked to please respect both the speed and limited turning capacity of these large vessels.



## Vale Tony Hare

The Northern Territory lost a true gentlemen and an iconic fisherman with the passing of Tony Hare in late December.

Tony was a lifetime AFANT member and regularly served on the AFANT committee. He contributed enormously to the sport of recreational fishing in the NT and the enviable position that we are in today was due in a large part to Tony's selfless work in the early days of lobbying government to remove commercial barramundi fishing from river systems.

Rest in Peace Tony.

