



RECFISHWEST REEL NEWS

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BARRAMUNDI RELEASE ABOUT TO MAKE HISTORY

Kimberley TAFE's Broome Aquaculture Centre is a world class facility which houses WA's only barramundi hatchery. Although primarily a training organisation, the Broome Aquaculture Centre also offers expertise and services to the aquaculture industry throughout Northern Australia.

One of those services is the production of barramundi fingerlings for growing out in commercial aquaculture ventures. Due to the nature of fingerling production, from time to time the Broome facility is left with barramundi fingerlings surplus to industry orders and teaching needs.

Recently, Recfishwest and the Broome Aquaculture Centre approached the Department of Fisheries for permission to release approximately 500 surplus juvenile Barramundi into Dampier Creek which borders the Broome Township. Dampier Creek is a very popular fishing spot and the location where the parents of these fish had been collected over the past few years.

In a small win for Broome recreational fishers and a big win for those juvenile individuals of this iconic species, Department of Fisheries gave a green light for release.

Recfishwest welcomes the Department of Fisheries objective assessment of the risk posed by releasing these fish into the wild. Setting free these fish will mark the first ever sanctioned release of barramundi into WA waters.



Frank Prokop and Kimberley TAFE's Jeff Cooper inspect a juvenile barramundi to be released.

Recfishwest praises the Kimberley TAFE for its role in this release. Locals and visitors should commend this superb initiative which will enhance the fishing quality in Dampier Creek and the community ownership of the highly prized barramundi resource.

These small barramundi are ready to go! So keep an eye on news bulletins because history is about to be made!!

Fish today for tomorrow

www.recfishwest.org.au