



AAA NEWSLETTER NO 3



We are moving along steadily with the organisation of the 36th National Angling Championships and Convention. We have about 16 months to go before it's Queensland's time in the sun to show you all what the Sunshine State can provide in the way of fishing and entertainment around the Discovery Coast. Neither fire, floods, cyclones or drought (and we have had it all lately) are going to stop us putting on a good show, so I hope you all come along and enjoy yourselves.

The first thing that comes up is the Mid-Term Annual General Meeting and Federal Executive Meeting to be held on the Discovery Coast in September this year. We need to show the delegates the venues that competitors will be fishing in the titles, so this has all been planned. We would like to meet the delegates on Wednesday night, 4th September, in a convenient place, probably the local Tavern, to plan the next day's outing.

September 5 – Meet at Sandcastle's Resort 8.30 am, where I will have three 4 x 4 twin cabs available for the run. First, we will travel to the boat ramp (the only concrete ramp in the area). From there, we will go up on top of Round Hill, where just below you is the bar crossing; straight North is Bustard Head and the estuary boundary. To the west, there is Round Hill Ck, and as your eyes scan up the beach, you will see Eurimbula Creek, Middle Creek and Jenny Lind Creek - all are in bounds for the estuary.

To the north, you will be able to see Bustard Head where the lighthouse sits. All around the headland is excellent rock formation, where a fair number of pelagics are taken. Looking south from the headland, you can see many rock formations jutting on to Agnes Water beach. The boundary for the estuary is an imaginary line drawn directly between Bustard Head and the Round Hill headland. This will allow boats to come out of Round Hill Creek, into the bay, and enter any of the other 3 creeks.

We will then show the delegates the Community Centre where the final presentation will be held and the Discovery Coast Sport and Recreation Club which will be our headquarters. From here, we travel along the main road to Eurimbula National Park and the two creeks - Eurimbula Creek and Middle Creek, where smaller boats can be launched on earth ramps. You cannot reach Jenny Lind by road, as it is washed out; you will have to go by sea.

Then we travel down the bitumen to Baffle Creek (southern boundary of the Rock and Beach) and Rules Beach. We return through Deepwater National

Park, looking at some magnificent and well known rocky headlands such as Wreck Rock, Flat Rock and Middle Rock, and then a final look at the beaches around Agnes.

September 6 – Mid Term Meetings at Sandcastles commencing at 9.00 a.m.

We have not purchased a lot of prizes as yet, except for the Alvey reels and accessories that will take care of the rock and beach section. Some 20 odd AAA perpetual trophies have already been delivered from NSW to my home. There would be 35 still to come.

From Alveys, I have ordered a Memorabilia Board and 25 Alvey awards. There are 350 badges to be ordered, along with 92 patches. There are 100 Australia maps to be made.

We will be using the headquarters sports grounds for the casting and it is my belief that we will get three courts in, as a field is currently under construction and will be finished by 2020.

The dates for the National Titles are set in stone from August 19 to September 1 and will not change, as these dates lead up to the full moon. This allows for two days of estuary, two days of rock and beach, two days of offshore and 2 days of casting. We will have 3 rest days where we will run our social events: a trip on the lark to Bustard Head, a trip to the Bundaberg to the Rum Distillery just to mention a couple.

If you are a fisherperson and have never before experienced a National Championship, it's something you just have to do. I went to my first carnival in 1977 and haven't missed one since, so I'll see you there!



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#Only 5 hours drive north of Brisbane

The advertisement features a background image of a boat on the water. A smaller inset image shows a person on a boat with several large fish, likely prawns, on the deck.

The National Parks of Deepwater and Eurimbula have no access charge, but if you intend to stay, you must buy a permit. To get to Eurimbula National Park, travel the main road back 10 km out of town, and you will see a dirt road

turning right. A further 15 km up that road, you will come to Bustard Head Camping Area and the mouth of Eurimbula Creek. It is quite deep in places, but you need to be watchful of the tide in these areas as it goes out a long way.

By the way, there are plenty of mud crabs on the Discovery Coast, but Eurimbula Creek is a crab sanctuary – DO NOT CRAB in this creek. It is an ideal place to take a smaller boat, although I have seen some quite big fibreglass boats in there. Beware, the track in is soft and sandy in places. It can be traversed in a conventional vehicle, but I wouldn't try it. In the wet weather, it is impossible. There is another track branching off to your right a little further back from Eurimbula, which goes to Middle Creek, the shallower of the two creeks, but that doesn't mean it does not hold fish. Don't try to go to Jenny Lind Creek, because the track is washed away and impassable. Go by boat and enter from the Bay.

All of those Creeks I have mentioned hold fish in differing numbers and probably the most prolific species of them all would be whiting, followed by bream and flathead. Then if you move around you might come on to the more sought after fish like Mangrove Jack, Grunter, Moses Perch and on one comp we had there, one gentleman caught a large Queen fish. Also don't be surprised if somebody pops up with a Barra. So you see, there should be plenty of fish in the estuary!



Of course, the best bait in the world for whiting is live worms; cured worms will also catch fish, and yabbies to a lesser degree. In the past, it has been easy to get worms from diggers in Brisbane, but with that dreaded white spot disease, we cannot use them outside of the Moreton Bay area. So we'll have to look for another supply. I spoke to Tony from the local bait shop and he gets plenty of a

cured red worms and he tells me the whiting just love them. So just look him up when you get there.

Whiting in Queensland have a legal length of 23 cm with a bag limit of 30 fish

Bream	25 cm	bag limit of 30 fish
Flathead (Dusky) Spot the dot on the tail	40 min 75 max	bag limit of 5 fish
Flathead (All Others)	30 cm	bag limit of 5 fish
Mangrove Jack	35 cm	bag limit of 5 fish
Grunter (Javelin Fish) small spot	30 cm	bag limit of 10 fish
Grunter (Javelin Fish) Barred or large spot	40 cm	bag limit of 10 fish
Moses Perch	35 cm	bag limit of 5 fish
Queenfish	50 cm	bag limit of 5 fish
Barramundi	58 min 120 max	bag limit of 5 fish
Garfish	23 cm	bag limit of 20 fish

These are not the only the fish you will catch in the estuary, but they are the main ones. The trap for unknowing fishers is that the bag limits are **IN POSSESSION LIMITS**, so what's in your freezer can be counted as well as what is in your bag. Fisheries have the right to come into your house and check. It a trap for young players!

Something else that could make our lives a misery is Fisheries changing the rules before we have our Championships. It's hard to tell what is going on with them.

I can't wait to see the delegates in September; then I know it will be just 12 months to go. Until I send the next newsletter, good fishing; may your rods bend often!

J. A Crone

AAA President