



Niall Blair

Minister for Primary Industries
Minister for Lands and Water

MEDIA RELEASE

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FRESHWATER FISH STOCKING KICKS OFF ACROSS THE STATE

Minister for Primary Industries Niall Blair has announced the start of the 2015/16 fish stocking season which will see millions of fish released into NSW waterways to maintain and enhance our inland recreational fisheries.

To kick-start the highly anticipated freshwater fish-stocking season, Department of Primary Industries' fish hatchery staff will today release up to 50,000 juvenile Australian bass into Glennies Creek Dam near Singleton.

"This State's world-class fish stocking program is not only a great benefit to recreational fishers wetting a line, but also provides a boost to our regional communities by creating jobs and generating tourism to some of NSW best fishing spots," Mr Blair said.

"This is yet another great example of how funds raised through the NSW Recreational Fishing Trusts are invested back in to an industry that generates about \$1.6 billion for the NSW economy and creates about 14,000 jobs."

This week, DPI will also stock 15,000 juvenile Australian bass into Lostock Dam near East Gresford and up to 70,000 juvenile Australian bass into Glenbawn Dam near Scone.

The bass, which were bred at the DPI Port Stephens Fisheries Institute near Nelson Bay, will be ready to catch in three to four years.

Following on from these fish releases, hatchery staff will next week stock 80 large adult Rainbow Trout, bred at the DPI Dutton Trout Hatchery near Ebor, into Sheba Dams, Hanging Rock near Nundle.

The trout range in size from two to five kilograms, are between 50 and 70 centimetres in length and will give anglers the chance of catching a trophy trout in the coming weeks and months.

Sheba Dams are a great place to catch a trout and the addition of these fish will provide an extra incentive for anglers to visit these areas.

Last season approximately five million native fish, trout and salmon were stocked in NSW waterways.

Recreational fishers are reminded that they are required to carry a NSW current recreational fishing fee receipt at all times while fishing.

Recreational fishers are encouraged to use the NSW Recreational Fishing Guide, available from DPI Fisheries Offices, most tackle shops or online at www.fisheries.nsw.gov.au

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