



Friday 31 October 2014

Joint statement

NSW Minister for Primary Industries, Katrina Hodgkinson

Victorian Minister for Agriculture and Food Security, Peter Walsh

NSW and Victoria coordinate Murray cod size limits

The Victorian and NSW Governments have agreed to common Murray cod size limits in the interests of recreational fishers.

In the upcoming season, a recreational slot limit of 55-75cm will apply to all Murray cod caught in Victorian and NSW waters, from the opening of the Murray cod season on 1 December.

Minister Hodgkinson and Minister Walsh agreed it was necessary to have consistent size limits.

This consistent approach between the States will reduce any potential for confusion among recreational anglers along the border region and will improve compliance outcomes to protect this important native species.

Ms Hodgkinson said these changes will improve the sustainability of our Murray cod fisheries and improve long-term fishing opportunities for recreational anglers.

“In NSW, existing bag limits remain for Murray cod, and those lucky enough to catch one outside of the new size limits need to remember that these fish are catch and release only,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

“This is a commonsense outcome for Murray cod anglers on both sides of the State border.

“The NSW Government conducts periodic reviews of recreational fishing rules to provide for fairer sharing of the catch between recreational fishers.”

Mr Walsh said it was important for anglers to note that Victoria would still be adopting a daily limit of one Murray cod in rivers.

“The Victorian slot limit and reduced bag limit in rivers will be reviewed once the results of Murray cod population monitoring in both States are reviewed,” Mr Walsh said.

The Murray cod recreational fishing rules for NSW and Victoria are as follows:

- both States - size limit of 55 to 75 cm;
- Victoria – daily bag limit of one in rivers, two in lakes;
- NSW – daily bag limit of two, possession limit of four; and
- note in NSW, the new size limits apply from 3 November in Copeton Dam, which will now be open year-round.

For more information, visit www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/recreational or www.depi.vic.gov.au.
