Clarence recreational fishing rules

Fisheries, Compliance and Regional Relations

Recreational fishing havens

Recreational Fishing Havens (RFH) in four sections of the Clarence River came into effect on 1 September 2002.

The following areas are closed to commercial fishing:

1. Middle Wall – a 2 kilometre stretch at the Clarence River mouth near Yamba (subject to B).
2. Romiaka Bridge – waters adjacent to the Romiaka Channel Road Bridge, near Yamba.
3. Oyster Channel Bridge – waters adjacent to Oyster Channel Road Bridge, just outside Yamba.
4. Entrance of Saltwater Inlet – a 300 metre stretch of River on the eastern side of North Arm, between Arris Island and Saltwater Inlet, near Iluka.

The boundaries of RFHs 2, 3 & 4 are marked with blue posts, the letters RFH and an arrow in the direction of the RFH waters.

B. At Wave Trap Beach inside the Iluka breakwall, endorsed commercial fishers are permitted to use a hauling net between 1 April and 31 August each year during the annual mullet run.

Spearfishing

Spearfishing is prohibited in the following areas.

- The entrance waters of the Clarence River from a line between the upstream end of Collis’ Wall and upstream end of Freeburn Island downstream to a line between the eastern extremities of the Yamba and Iluka Breakwalls. Ocean waters from the Yamba Breakwall south to and including Yamba Point to a distance of 400 metres from shore are also closed (see Figure 1).
- Woody Bay adjacent to Woody Head just north of the Clarence River (see Figure 2).

Notes

A. Commercial fishers are permitted to travel through the Recreational Fishing Havens to go about their legal fishing operations.

It is illegal to spearfish with the aid of a light or in inland waters.
Inland fishing closure

**Mann River**

There is a **total closure to all fishing** in all waters of the Mann River and its tributaries upstream of its junction with the Clarence River, including the Nymboida River and its tributaries from its junction with the Mann River upstream to Platypus Flat. This closure applies from **1 August to 31 October** each year, inclusive. This closure is to specifically protect the endangered Eastern Cod during their breeding season. Possession of fishing gear in, on or adjacent to these waters during the closed period is also an offence.

**Contact**

NSW DPI Maclean Fisheries Office
18A River Street
Maclean NSW 2463
Ph (02) 6645 0500
Fax (02) 6645 1326

Report illegal fishing:
Fishers Watchline 1800 043 536

---

**Disclaimers:**

© State of New South Wales through NSW Department of Primary Industries 2008. You may copy, distribute and otherwise freely deal with this publication for any purpose, provided that you attribute NSW Department of Primary Industries as the owner.

ISSN 1832-6668

Check for updates of this Primefact at:

Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (March 2008). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of New South Wales Department of Primary Industries or the user’s independent adviser.

Job number 8596

---

**Nets and traps**

**Traps**

Crab traps may only be used in waters of the Clarence River downstream from the boat ramp adjacent to the court house in Maclean (see Fig. 3).

All traps are prohibited in Lake Arragan (north of Brooms Head in Yuraygir National Park).

---

**Figure 2. Woody Bay spearfishing closure**

**Figure 3. Crab Trap Closure**

---

**Figure 3. Crab Trap Closure**

**Eastern Cod**