# ROCKHAMPTON REGION RECREATIONAL FISHING



## **VOLUNTARY CODE OF PRACTICE**

Your pledge to the following values will help to protect our community resource!

### Value 1: Maintaining healthy fish stocks through sustainable harvest behaviours

- Limit the take of Barramundi and King Threadfin to a maximum of two of each species per trip.
- When keeping Barramundi, limit the size to between 580mm and 1000mm in length.
- When keeping King Threadfin, limit the size to between 650mm and 1000mm in length.
- Do not target or keep Barramundi, King and Blue Threadfin within the known spawning area during the recommended periods as set out in the map below.

Fishers are asked to not target Barramundi, King and Blue Threadfin within the red shaded area during the following months:



- Barramundi October to January (inclusive)
- King Threadfin October to January (inclusive)
- Blue Threadfin (Salmon) September to October (inclusive)

## Value 2: Proper care and handling of all fish being released to maximise survival rate

- Ensure fish longer than 400mm that are to be released are supported along their length if removed from the water.
- Do not lay fish on hot surfaces during the removal of hooks.
- When intending to catch and release, consider using barbless

or squashed barbed hooks to minimise damage.

• Use knotless landing nets for catch and release fishing.

#### Value 3: Zero tolerance for Illegal fishing activities

- Immediately report any illegal or suspicious fishing activity observed within the Net Free Zone to the QLD Boat & Fishing Patrol or Police.
- Promote the Code of Practice among friends and visitors fishing in the Rockhampton Region.

#### Value 4: Care and respect

- Do not litter the waterways you bring it, you take it home.
- Look after nursery areas such as lagoons, brackish and freshwater wetlands.
- Willingly provide information and data regarding your fishing outings and experiences if requested by researchers, agencies and organisations involved in monitoring the status of the Net Free Area.
- Assist with the removal of rubbish, pest species and pest plants that impact the marine ecosystem.

Keep up to date on Recreational Fishing in the Rockhampton Region





