

# LAKES AND RIVERS FISHING REPORT AUTUMN EDITION



The Region's rivers have been fishing very well, with plenty of pan size brown and rainbow trout caught and the odd much better fish as well. The regular rain we have been getting has kept the streams running high and well oxygenated and this has kept the fish active. The good fishing should continue through till the end of the season in early June, though it will slow down as temperatures start to drop approaching winter.

Lake Nillahcootie has fished well for Golden Perch and Murray Cod, mainly caught by bait anglers using scrubworms and yabbies. The odd good size Cod has been caught on lure, mostly by trolling deep divers or casting rattling lures around the timber. Strangely, not much Redfin is being caught from here which is odd as that fish is booming in waterways across the rest of Victoria.



Lake Eildon has still a fair bit of boat traffic on the weekends however during the week the fish have been getting a reprieve from all the noise and have started to come back on the chew. The main target has been Redfin with an unsubstantiated report of a 7kg Redfin having been landed. Anglers fishing with worms have been catching plenty of fish, but the better fish seem to be getting caught by lure anglers using metal and soft vibes, soft plastics, and ice jigs. Those lure fishermen are also getting the odd surprise, landing good size Yellowbelly, Trout and the odd Cod. The trout and Cod in particular seem to be hanging around the schools of Redfin in deep water as plenty of times they've been seen following up a hooked Redfin from the depths.

The native fish usually start to feed up at this time of year to put on condition for the winter so Cod and Golden's should start to show a bit more in the next month. And as the water cools the trout will start to come nearer the surface and will be able to be caught trolling. They too will be feeding hard in preparation for spawning at the beginning of winter, so the next month or so should see some great fishing on the Lake.

If you are interested in hiring a boat in the district - **Lake Eildon Cruises located at Kennedy's Point Boat Ramp, Bonnie Doon** (just 3kms from the bridge) offer 4.1mt Polycraft boats to help you land that big one! – No licence required! For bookings or further information give Jeff a call on 0422 166 986. They also offer tow /drive option so give them a call.

Anglers are reminded that fishing officers are patrolling the waters, checking fishing licenses, bag limits and equipment throughout the season. Happy fishing for all!

*This fishing report has been collated with the assistance of Rick Formica at **Outdoor Pleasure, High Street, Mansfield**. Rick would love to speak to you – hear your fishing stories and give you any assistance or advice you need in choosing the bait and tackle you may need to land that big one!*

*Fishing bait and tackle is also available from a wide range of outlets in the Mansfield district including **Snowy Mountain Outdoor Centre** on the edge of town next to BP roadhouse, **Gough's Bay Caravan Park**, **Howqua Valley Caravan Park**, **Bonnie Doon Central Roadhouse**, **Peppin Point Caravan Park**, **Jamieson General Store** and the **Bonnie Doon Caravan Park** (tackle only) If you are looking for maps, info on boat ramps, accommodation or any other queries – call into the **Mansfield Visitor Information Centre** or phone **Freecall 1800 039 049***