

# Riverina Sportfishing Report

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2008

If you can't catch a fish at the moment, you're probably doing something wrong or your lure/bait isn't actually in the water.

There are very few locations that aren't producing fish, however on the whole this is peak season with fish biting everywhere from trout in the mountains lakes and streams to native fish in the rivers and creeks.

If trout are your thing, the Tumut River is firing. You don't need anything complicated to fish this great river – a Celta or bunch of worms will catch fish at certain times of day, with the peak fishing time being early morning and late afternoon.

The Murrumbidgee below any of the weirs west of Wagga are producing golden perch, primarily on bait, but there have been a few fish attacking small hard body lures and spinnerbaits. The cod are also very active, but remember that the season is still closed so enjoy the capture and throw them back.



Upstream from Wagga the river is flowing very fast due to the increased water released for irrigation, but despite this the fish are aggressively hitting lures. The peak time to fish is through the middle of the day as the fish are going off the bite as the shadows lengthen.

The Old Man Creek continues to be a reliable place to soak a bait for a golden perch. The humble worm or shrimp will usually entice a golden to bite, but if you want more action then walking the bank casting spinnerbaits is the technique for you. It's likely that you'll lose a spinnerbait or two when fishing from the shore, so I tend to keep a handful of old, well worn lures that are almost due for retirement. If you lose an old 'ratty' one it's no big loss. The Creek isn't very deep and often you can wade in and unhook the lure, but if the water is cold a sacrificial lure can keep you warm and dry.

Blowering and Burrinjuck are both fishing well with some large cod being landed in the past week from Blowering. The golden perch are active in both dams, but it can take a while to find out where they are biting and what they are eating at the time. Ask a few questions of the fisherman around you as a tip on the water from someone who has been fishing for a week can save a lot of your precious fishing time.

I'm starting to get a lot of interest for fishing tours in the next few weeks, so if you want to secure a day(s) book now to make sure you get the time that suits you. Fishing the Murrumbidgee is my preference, but I can fish Blowering, Burrinjuck, Mulwala or anywhere native fish live and I will show you the preferred method, how to read the water and identify where the fish will be.

Riverina Sportfishing operates as a registered business, is approved by NSW Maritime, has extensive public liability insurance, and I am accredited member of the Professional Fishing Instructors and Guides Association ([www.fishingguides.org.au](http://www.fishingguides.org.au)). This ensures that my clients enjoy safe fishing in the knowledge that my equipment and training is first class and in the unlikely event of a mishap, that they are covered under my insurance policy. Ensure that if you choose a guide to check that their equipment, training and insurance is legitimate.