

## From the Fisher's Mouth

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12<sup>th</sup> April 2010

What a difference a few weeks makes. Torrential rain fills our lake up overnight, adds a bulging five metres of water to the river and breeds swarms of mosquitoes the size of sparrows!

Now that the drama of the high river has passed, I have been out on the river a lot lately and the changes are staggering. The power of the high river has undermined a lot of



riverside trees felling them into the river to form new structures for the fish. The surge of water also carved new channels, created new sandbars and gouged at the shore leaving the banks a bit worse for wear, but the impact to the fish has been immeasurable. The fish are fit, healthy and hungry.

The river has been scrubbed clean by the flush of water and the fish are clean and free from the anchor worm parasite that is often associated with low water quality. The influx of food into the water is seeing the fish put on weight and they are attacking lures more freely than they were before the rain.

The river has changed a lot and care must be taken when navigating as some snags have moved and depths changed significantly. I found out the hard way with my Honda smacking into a new log at speed leaving a chip in the skeg.

Speaking of Honda's....Dave Carter and my new boats are finally complete and ready for action. These 5.8m plate alloy beasts are powered by 150hp Honda's and are capable of almost 80km/h. At this speed, the expansive waters of Blowering, Burrinjuck and Mulwala shrink significantly, allowing the far corners of each waterway to be safely fished with minimal time lost in travel.

Wagga Marine and Riverina Sport Fishing are planning an 'on water' day toward the end of May. Our new boats will be on display, whilst Wagga Marine will have a range of Stacer and Tournament boats available for test drives. More details and a date will be available soon.

The best places to fish at this time of year are the Murrumbidgee and Mulwala for the boat anglers and the Old Man Creek for shore based anglers. As we head toward winter, now is the time to plan for a trip to the Murray in search of giant winter cod.

Jamin Forbes