



NSW Native Fish Drought Response: Fish Rescues and Relocations

**TO REPORT A FISH DEATH OR OBSERVATION, PLEASE
CALL THE FISHERS WATCH HOTLINE ON 1800 043 536**

NSW DPI is working closely with communities and other groups to identify high risk areas for fish deaths and poor water quality, and determine appropriate response actions for native fish protection across the State.

We are taking action by relocating fish in priority areas to ensure sufficient genetic strength for recovery efforts, especially for threatened species, and to preserve iconic native species, like Murray Cod and Golden Perch, for when flow returns.

There is a strong likelihood of further fish death events due to the continuing hot and dry conditions across most of the State.



PHOTO: LARGE ADULT MURRAY COD BEING RELEASED INTO BETTER HABITAT,
IMAGE © NSW DPI



While we will not be able to protect or rescue all fish, we will be prioritising locations and working with communities and other groups as more waterways become disconnected and the number of drying pools where fish are under stress increases throughout NSW.

Every fisher has a role to play with conserving our waterways.

If you have concerns about native fish in your area, please contact us at fish.rescues@dpi.nsw.gov.au or on **0427 842 940**. We'll ask you a number of questions to establish the most appropriate course of action and will endeavour to provide as much information, advice and support as possible.

If you have observed any fish kills, please call the **Fishers Watch Hotline on 1800 043 536**. NSW DPI looks forward to working with the NSW recreational fishing community to help our iconic native fish during this unprecedented drought crisis

Rescue actions must be appropriately planned for and covered under a Permit that meets relevant legislation under the *NSW Fisheries Management Act 1994* and the *NSW Biosecurity Act 2015*.

For more information visit the DPI website: www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing



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