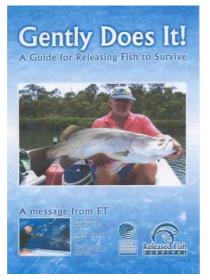
This bulletin is produced by Infofish Services on behalf of the Released Fish Survival Initiative

NEWS BULLETIN 6

25 February 2003

Gently Does It! Best Practices Pamphlet



The Gently Does it! best practices pamphlet is now available. It can be obtained from the website and will soon be available from Australian Fishing Tackle Association outlets, the Australian National Sportfishing Association, Recfish Australia and State Fisheries agencies.

It will also be made available at key fishing events that feature releasing fish so that participants will have the latest information on releasing fish correctly.

The pamphlet provides information on the best practices for releasing fish based on the ANSA code of practice.

Roy Morgan Research report now available



The Released Fish Survival National Survey report by Roy Morgan Research is now available from the Released Fish Survival website.

Log onto www.info-fish.net/releasefish to get your copy. The report provides information on attitudes and practices on releasing fish by recreational fishers as well as their views on changing practices.

88% of fishers surveyed at least occasionally released fish voluntarily while 12% of fishers never released caught fish.

88% of fishers saw benefits in releasing fish; 87% did not believe most released fish die and 72% believed they know the proper catch and release techniques.

79% of fishers believed that barbless hooks increased the survival rate of released fish however only 5% used a barbless hook on their most recent fishing trip.

48% of fishers stated that they would use new fishing gear that improves fish survival even if it makes no difference to catch rates while 25% said they would use new gear even if it reduced catch rates.

This email bulletin is to keep stakeholders up to date with what is happening in the National Strategy. Anyone with an interest in the subject can subscribe just by sending an email with "subscribe to Released Fish Survival News" to infofish@zbcom.net or subscribe through the website at www.info-fish.net/releasefish.