WELCOME TO COUNTRY

Prior to European settlement the Daly River area was an important traditional meeting place for Aboriginal people to trade and hold ceremonies.

The river comprises a broad range of rich and diverse habitats supporting a vast array of species such as migratory birds, native marsupials, reptiles and fish which in turn provide abundant resources for Traditional custodians and local Aboriginal communities.

The traditional owners of the middle reaches of the Daly River and the surrounding area are the Malak Malak people, some of whom live in Nauiyu and in the downstream community of Wooliana.

The Malak Malak welcome recreational fishers to their country and an agreement between the Traditional Owners, the Northern Land Council and the Northern Territory Government has been reached to guarantee ongoing access for recreational fishers to the waters over the Malak Malak Aboriginal Land Trust on the Daly River.

Recreational fishers should respect and recognise the cultural importance of these waters to the Malak Malak people.

CODE OF CONDUCT

RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES.

Recognise the cultural and spiritual attachment Aboriginal people have to their land and water.

- Respect Aboriginal cultural ceremonies. This may mean that a particular area is temporarily closed to access.
- Be courteous to other water users and those who belong to the local Aboriginal community.
- Do not land ashore without first obtaining a separate Aboriginal land permit, from the Northern Land Council.
- Do not clean or dispose of fish within the vicinity of a local Aboriginal community.

Respect Sacred Sites

- Do not enter any part of the waters containing identified sacred sites unless specifically permitted to do so by the relevant authorities.
- Take care when boating to avoid damaging sensitive areas.

Take no more than your immediate needs

- Carefully return excess or unwanted fish into the water using best practice catch and release methods.

Understand and observe all fishing regulations and report illegal fishing activities

- Keep up-to-date with regulations and observe them. They are based on the best available scientific evidence.

Prevent pollution and protect wildlife by removing rubbish

- Rubbish must be disposed of correctly to avoid potentially entrapping birds and other aquatic creatures.
If you are in the area within the red line on the Daly River map, the following rules apply:

**POSSSESSION LIMITS:**

3 barramudi per person including a vessel limit of 1 fish over 90cm. Minimum overall length 55 cm.

3 king threadfin per person including a vessel limit of 1 fish over 90cm (fork length).

A combined personal possession limit of 30 freshwater crustaceans which includes a maximum personal possession limit of 10 cherabin.

A total combined vessel limit of 90 freshwater crustaceans which includes a maximum vessel possession limit of 30 cherabin when there are 3 or more people on board.

Berried females must be released unharmed.

**SEASONALLY CLOSED AREA**

(Shown as the shaded areas on the map)

If you are in the seasonally closed area between 1 October and 31 January you must not fish, or have in your possession a barramundi or a fishing line to which a hook, lure or bait is attached. It is during this period that most barramundi spawning occurs and these areas are thought to contain significant spawning habitat.

A berried female cherabin will have a cluster of eggs attached under the abdomen and must be released (as shown above).

Distance in kilometres (approx) from Daly River Crossing

Please be aware that this map does not depict small sandbars and submerged logs as these tend to shift from year to year.
CROCODILES

Both freshwater and saltwater crocodiles inhabit the Daly River and its tributaries. Saltwater (Estuarine) Crocodiles in particular are potentially dangerous to humans, so for your own safety do not swim in the river or approach the edge of waterways. Clean fish away from the water’s edge.

Tidal variation to Browns Creek approximately opposite scheduled Darwin tides

Covers most of river. Stay in middle between bouys.

Stay on left close to sandbar on inside corner.

Covers most of river. Stay on left.
DREAMING SITES

Indigenous names prefixed with WANI, indicate a dreaming site. Pronunciation of the ‘ty’ in these indigenous names is as the ‘ch’ in ‘chess’. Malak Malak People

FRESHWATER POTS

Maximum of 3 freshwater pots or dillies per person possession limit with a maximum of 6 freshwater pots or dillies per vessel when 2 or more people are on board.

A complying freshwater pot:

- Must not exceed 70 cm in length or 50 cm in width or height.
- Must be constructed of flexible net material that has a minimum mesh size of not less than 15 mm when stretched.
- Must have no more than 2 openings into any enclosure (excluding any opening for emptying catch from it, or for placing bait in it).
- Must have a rigid turtle excluder ring with a maximum diameter of 90 mm fitted to all entrances.
- The use of freshwater pots which are constructed of entanglement material, such as witches’ hat pots is prohibited.

DILLY POT

Min. mesh size 15 mm when stretched
15 mm

FRESHWATER POT

Rigid ring fitted
90 mm max. diameter
70 cm max.

POT USER IDENTIFICATION

A freshwater pot / dilly must have a float attached that is no less than 80 mm in diameter or length. The float must be visible at all times when in use and have the user’s first and last name marked on it. The user’s name must be clearly visible and legible.
Fishwatch Hotline 1800 891 136 (report suspicious fishing activity)

Malak Malak Land and Water Rangers Ph 8978 1260

The information in this booklet does not replace the controls in the NT Fisheries legislation, but provides a summary of its general intent. For the most up to date recreational fishing regulations visit the Fisheries website at www.nt.gov.au/marine or contact Fisheries on 08 89992144.

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