

Temporary fishing arrangements in place

Territory Government acts to overturn court decision on fishing

What's it about?

The Federal Court has recently made a decision affecting fishing in the Territory known as the *Blue Mud Bay* case.

The Territory Government disagrees with the decision and wants to see the decision overturned.

The Territory Government remains opposed to recreational fishing permits and licences.

What's happening now?

The Territory Government has begun legal action to overturn the court's decision.

In the meantime, discussions have occurred to minimise disruption to Territorians and allow fishing to continue unaffected.

What areas are affected?

Approximately 80% of the Territory coastline but not Darwin Harbour.

Can I still fish now?

Yes, absolutely. Following discussions between stakeholders, **all fishing will continue unchanged** until 31 May 2007.

Territorians can fish over Easter with certainty.

All current controls – such as bag limits – remain in operation.

What happens by 31 May 2007?

Recreational fishers will need to apply, before 31 May 2007, to the Northern Land Council (NLC) for a temporary licence and permit, backdated to the court's decision.

The NLC temporary licence and permit will:

- be free
- be automatically granted
- cover all areas affected by the court's decision
- last until after the High Court makes its decision.



Northern
Territory
Government

Where can I get more information?

An information campaign will keep Territorians informed about this issue or call the *Temporary Fishing Arrangements Hotline* on 1800 171 285 or visit www.nt.gov.au/fishing