

Explore Queensland

North Queensland fishing trail



The North Queensland fishing trail is a joint initiative of the Queensland Government and the Freshwater Fishing and Stocking Association of Queensland Inc.

North Queensland stocking groups

- Burdekin Fish Restocking Association Inc.
- Faust Dam Fish Stocking Association Inc.
- Ravenshoe and Koombooloomba Fish Restocking Committee Inc.
- The Tableland Fish Stocking Society Inc.
- Townsville Barramundi Stocking Society Inc.



Interpreter service

If you need an interpreter to help you understand this document call **13 25 23** or visit daf.qld.gov.au (search 'interpreter').

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The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries proudly acknowledges all First Nations peoples (Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders) and the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the country on which we live and work. We acknowledge their continuing connection to land, waters and culture and commit to ongoing reconciliation. We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.



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North Queensland fishing trail

Queensland's stocked dams and weirs offer fantastic recreational freshwater fishing experiences – and our regional fishing trails are a great way to *explore Queensland*.

With more than 60 dams and weirs across 5 regions – **North Queensland, Central Queensland, Wide Bay-Burnett, South East Queensland and the Murray–Darling** – there are plenty of places to wet a line and catch a great feed!

The **Stocked Impoundment Permit Scheme (SIPS)** provides a sustainable fishing option, with over 2 million fish stocked in Queensland dams and weirs every year. The money you pay for your SIPS permit is used by community stocking groups to maintain fish stocks so you can enjoy your fishing – now and in the future.

Before you head off ...

- **Download the Qld Fishing 2.0 app** so you have Queensland's recreational fishing rules at your fingertips.
- **Buy your SIPS permit** via the **Qld Fishing 2.0 app** or at fisheries.qld.gov.au, or call **1300 575 359** (or at Queensland and selected New South Wales Australia Post outlets).
- **Check with the relevant local authorities** (e.g. local council, Seqwater, Sunwater) that the dam or weir is open and safe to use.
- Make sure your vehicle is suitable to drive on **unsealed roads** (e.g. gravel and dirt) if required, check if you need **4WD capability** and make sure your **registrations** are up to date.
- Check the **weather conditions** and make sure you have all necessary safety gear.
- **Download** the Freshwater Fishing and Stocking Association of Queensland's **Fish Monitoring App** to keep track of your catches

More information: visit fisheries.qld.gov.au or call **13 25 23**

* All people over 18 years must have a permit to fish in stocked dams and weirs that are listed in this guide at time of printing.

Gone fishing...

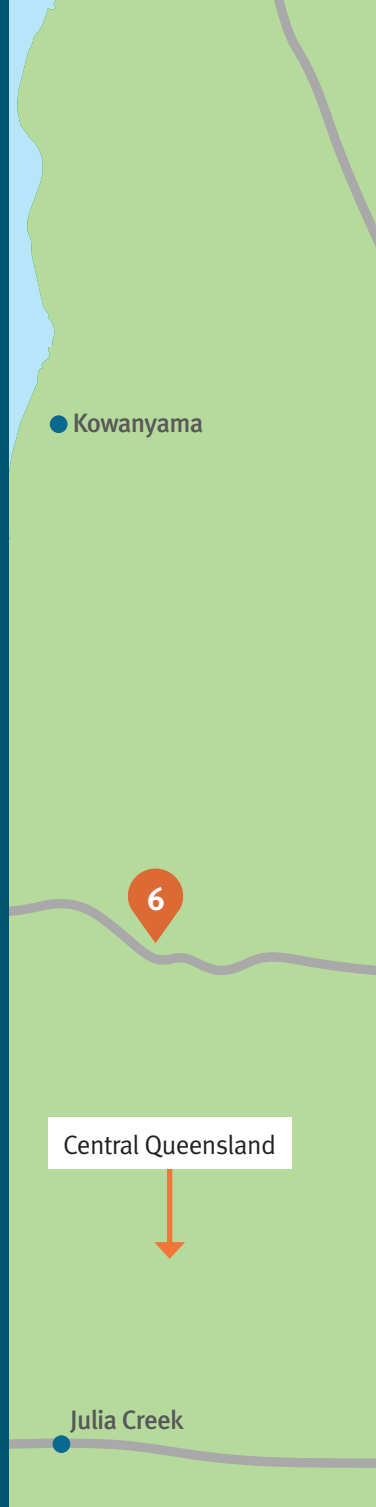
in North Queensland

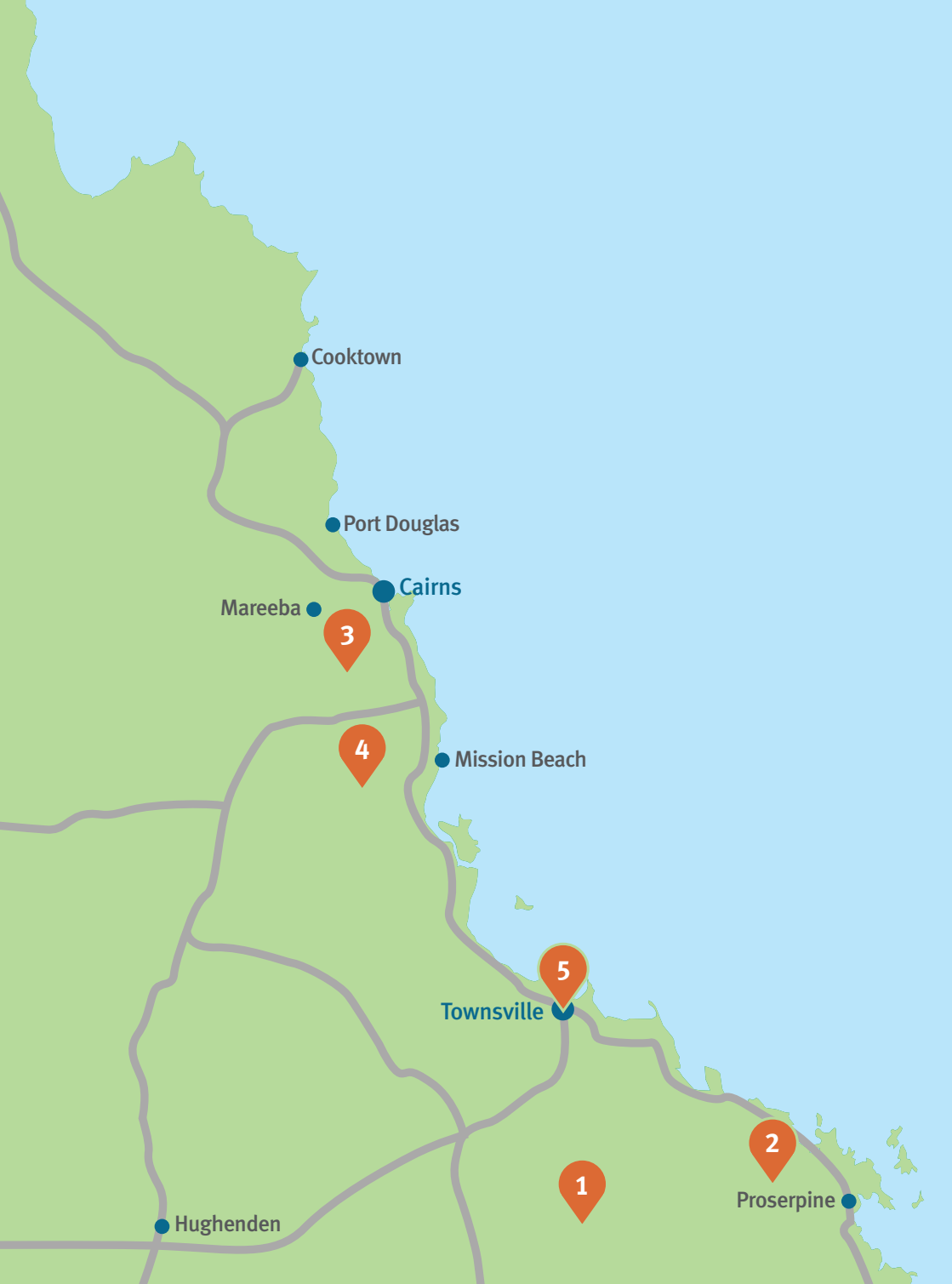
With temperatures rarely dipping into single digits, North Queensland is the perfect place to visit to escape the winter chills – winter is also the dry season up north, so access to dams won't be affected by rain.

Famous for the Great Barrier Reef, North Queensland also boasts great barramundi fishing.

The Gulf region is known as Queensland's savannah where the outback meets the sea, and although out of the way for most, it's worth a visit with an array of species on offer.

1. Burdekin Falls Dam (Lake Dalrymple)
2. Peter Faust Dam (Lake Proserpine)
3. Tinaroo Dam
4. Koombooloomba Dam
5. Aplins Weir
5. Black Weir
5. Gleeson Weir
6. Lake Belmore





Cooktown

Port Douglas

Cairns

Mareeba

3

4

Mission Beach

5

Townsville

1

Proserpine

2

Hughenden

Stocked fish

Barramundi

Reaching over 1 m long, barramundi is a very popular sport fishing species.

Rocky foreshores and headlands are a good spot to target them as they herd around these areas looking for bait.

Large lures (around 15–20 cm) are recommended with a 20 pound line so you can land a big one!



Sooty grunter

While they may not be as big as barramundi, they make up for it with attitude.

Sooty grunter are strong and very aggressive at times, making it an exciting catch. They can often be found hiding around submerged structures, waiting to ambush their prey. Use cherabin, shrimps and worms as bait, or catch them on lures.



Pest fish

If you catch a pest fish, do not release it back into the water – you must dispose of it appropriately.

If caught, tilapia must be humanely destroyed immediately and disposed of as soon as practicable by burying a suitable distance from the waterway where it was caught or placing it in a rubbish bin.

If you spot a pest fish outside their known distribution, please take a photo and call **Biosecurity** on **13 25 23**.

The most common types of pest fish are **carp**, **tilapia** and **gambusia** (mosquito fish).

Common carp



Gambusia (mosquito fish)



Mozambique tilapia



Spotted tilapia



Stocked dams and weirs

Facilities guide



Accommodation
within 5 km



Picnic tables



Boat hire



Camping
within 5 km



Playground/
kids activities



Boat ramp



Campfires



Toilets



Water sports



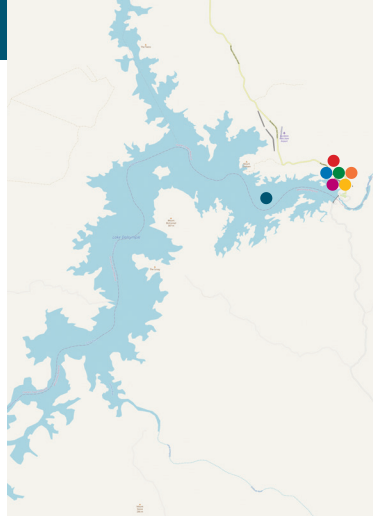
BBQs



Stocked dams and weirs

Burdekin Falls Dam (Lake Dalrymple)

- Located approx. 100 km south of Charters Towers
- Stocked with barramundi
- Popular for fishing and watersports
- Largest dam in Queensland
- Powered and unpowered campsites – don't need to prebook

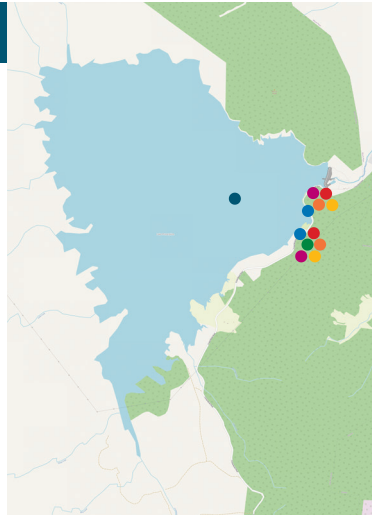


Facilities



Peter Faust Dam (Lake Proserpine)

- Located 20 km west of Proserpine in the Whitsundays
- Stocked with barramundi and sooty grunter
- Renowned for catches of barramundi greater than 1 m long all year round
- Offers guided fishing trips all year
- Popular for fishing and water sports
- Amenities with disability access
- Fishing from banks only permitted in the recreational area



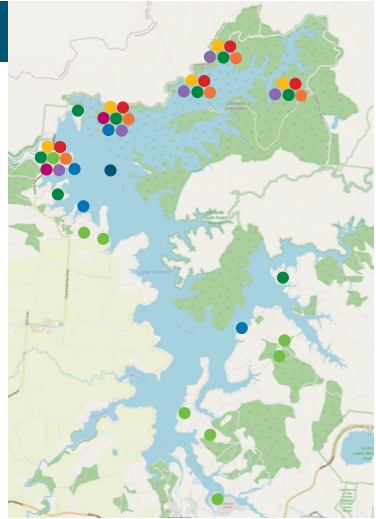
Facilities



Stocked dams and weirs

Tinaroo Dam

- Located on the Atherton Tablelands, approx. 80 km southwest from Cairns
- Stocked with barramundi and sooty grunter
- Popular for fishing and watersports
- Annual Tinaroo Barra Bash held October/November

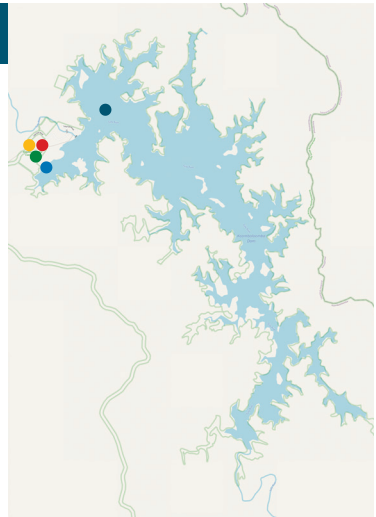


Facilities



Koombooloomba Dam

- Located 90km south of Atherton
- Stocked with barramundi
- Popular for fishing and water sports
- Vessels restricted to 4 hp or less when the dam is greater than 90% or less than 25% capacity – between 25% and 90% capacity there are no restrictions
- Camping at Koombooloomba National Park and Conservation Park
- Wheelchair accessible toilets



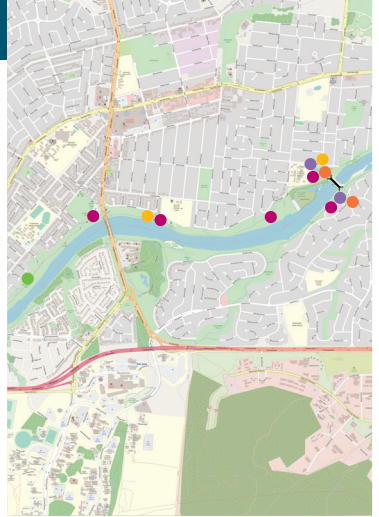
Facilities



Stocked dams and weirs

Aplins Weir

- Located on the Ross River in Townsville – an urban paradise for fishers
- Stocked with barramundi
- Suitable for paddle craft and small powered vessels
- Boat hire in Townsville

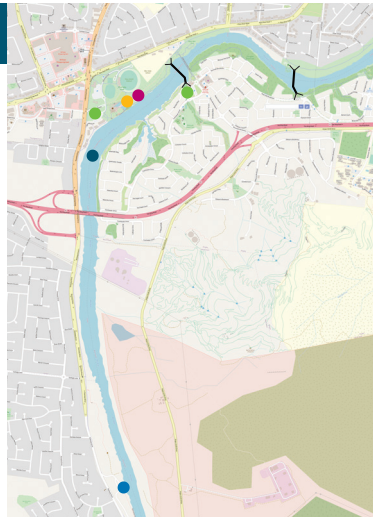


Facilities



Black Weir

- Located on the Ross River in Townsville – an urban paradise for fishers
- Stocked with barramundi
- Suitable for paddle craft and small powered vessels
- Boat hire in Townsville
- Water sports on Black Weir require a permit from Townsville City Council



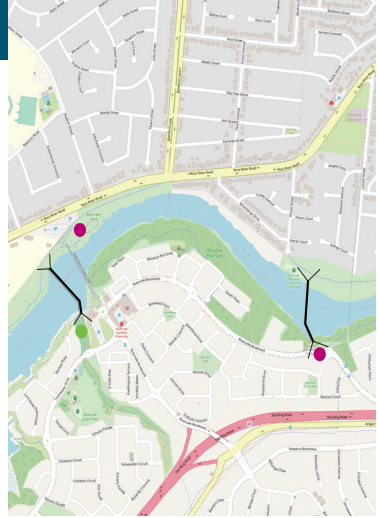
Facilities



Stocked dams and weirs

Gleeson's Weir

- Located on the Ross River in Townsville – an urban paradise for fishers
- Stocked with barramundi
- Suitable for paddle craft and small powered vessels
- Boat hire in Townsville

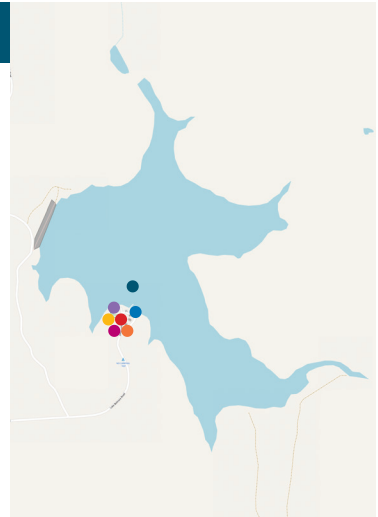


Facilities



Lake Belmore

- Located 4 km northeast of Croydon in the Gulf
- Stocked with barramundi, sooty grunter and redclaw crayfish
- Popular for fishing and water sports
- Largest body of fresh water in the Croydon region
- Access is via a fully sealed bitumen road
- Annual Barra & Bream Fishing Competition



Facilities



