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# *Casting Around the Internet with Recfishwest*

Issue 79

8 January 2010

## **Help clean up the North Mole**

Western Angler Fishing Forum members, Recfishwest members and staff, and Fisheries volunteers will be present at a cleanup day on Sunday 7 February, followed by a free sausage sizzle, cool drinks and giveaways.

<http://www.recfishwest.org.au/NorthMoleCleanupDay7Feb2010.htm>

## **Win a free safety lifejacket**

Fishing, especially rock fishing, can be dangerous. "Don't put your life on the line" has safety tips. Surf Life Saving Australia is giving away two lifejackets every month in a rock fishing safety life jacket competition.

<http://www.safefishing.com.au/Life%20jacket%20competition.html>

## **Dying part of Swan gets oxygen boost**

The Swan River Trust has started pumping nearly one tonne of oxygen into the Swan River every day in an attempt to keep plants and animals alive in a dying section of the river. Without the extra oxygen from the pumping system fish and other river life would die and the river would release an odour like rotten egg gas.

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/a/-/newshome/6650632>

## **Appeal fails to stop Fremantle dredging**

As the barge dug its first scoop in Fremantle Ports' harbour dredging program, Fremantle MP Adele Carles issued a plea for the dredging to be stopped and for the Environmental Protection Authority to reassess the pollution risks posed by the project to the Swan River and nearby ocean beaches. The port's environmental monitoring plan had been published for the first time just days earlier with little time for community scrutiny.

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/a/-/newshome/6650626> and [www.fremantleports.com.au/Planning/5403.asp](http://www.fremantleports.com.au/Planning/5403.asp)

## **Kimberley fishermen act on oil spill**

Commercial fisherman operating out of Broome were unable to fish in a significant section of their waters for much of 2009 because of the West Atlas oil spill which lasted for more than 70 days between August and November. Environmental tests conducted so far have found that a range of marine animals was affected by the spill. Uncertainty also remains about the long-term impact of the spill on the fishing stocks in the region.

<http://www.theage.com.au/national/action-on-timor-oil-spill-20091231-1kz1.html>

## **Lobster prices set to dive after changes to lobster fishery**

The price of western rock lobsters is set to plummet when a ban on commercial fishing is lifted later in January, because the market will be flooded with an oversupply of stock. The Fisheries Minister had suspended commercial rock lobster fishing in the fishery's B and C zones from Christmas Day, based on concerns over higher than expected catches so far this season. Catches so far this season are from the relatively good puerulus settlement which occurred in 2005/06, before the low to very low settlements that had occurred since.

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/a/-/newshome/6650656> and

<http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/media/index.php?0000&mr=696> and

<http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/pub/RockLobsterProdFigures/index.php?0405>

## **Marron season now earlier and longer**

Marron stocks were in a stable phase and would have benefitted from the good winter rains of 2009. The 28 day season runs from noon 8 January to 5 February, 3 days longer than last year. The same dates will apply in future years, simplifying holiday planning and ensuring at least one dark phase of the moon in the season.

<http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/media/index.php?0000&mr=697>

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