



# Gladstone

---

## FLY AND SPORTFISHING

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 10AM WEDNESDAY 14/3/19**

#### ***Local business support key to Hook Up success***

Boyne Tannum Hook Up President, Jenny McGuire was out on Lake Awoonga this morning to celebrate the local partnerships that help make Hook Up such a success each year.

Ms McGuire was joined by two local partners, the Gladstone Area Water Board (GAWB) and Gladstone Fly and Sportfishing as they released the last of the season's Barramundi fingerlings into Lake Awoonga this morning.

Ms McGuire said it was great to see businesses of all sizes supporting the event and encouraging sustainable recreational fishing in the region, from Lake Awoonga to the Boyne River, Gladstone harbour and beyond.

"There are so many businesses that get behind Hook Up and the event just wouldn't be possible without them," Ms McGuire said.

"This morning we were offered the opportunity to join GAWB as they released the last of there Barramundi fingerlings for the season".

GAWB Hatchery and Fishery Manager, Thomas Hayes said that as part of GAWB's environmental obligations, they breed and release about 300,000 Barramundi fingerlings into Lake Awoonga each year.

"Apart from the environmental benefits, we also have the added advantage of creating an active recreational fishery at the Lake," My Hayes said.

"That's why we are pleased to announce our support for the Boyne Tannum Hook Up for the third year, by sponsoring the three tagged Barramundi in Lake Awoonga, worth \$5,000 each if caught over the Hook Up weekend.

"For GAWB, this is the perfect partnership, because, like the Hook Up team, we want to promote sustainable recreational fishing within the region."

The three adult Barramundi will be caught from Lake Awoonga and fitted with a tags before being released back into the lake just prior to the event.

Page 1 of 2

McGuire and Hayes were joined by small business owner and sponsor, Justin Nye of Gladstone Fly and Sportfishing, who has sponsored the new Fly Fishing category at this year's event.

"It's great to see the event diversifying and encouraging different styles of fishing," Mr Nye said.

"In recent years we've seen the Hook Up Committee encourage more live weigh ins and now we are seeing specialist categories like the Human Powered Water Craft category and the Fly Fishing category, keeping the event contemporary and encouraging anglers to try new things.

"Fishing is like any sport, it requires knowledge, technique and practice but it really doesn't take much to pick up a line, give it a go and get involved.

The Fly Fishing category will target Golden and Giant Trevally, with prizes for the longest fish and the most centimetres of combined fish caught.

This year's Boyne Tannum Hook Up will be held from 3 to 5 May at Bray Park, Boyne Island.

Tickets are available at [www.boyntannumhookp.com.au](http://www.boyntannumhookp.com.au) or at Pat's Tackleworld Gladstone, LJ's Complete Angler Gladstone or Boyne Bait and Tackle.

Ends...

**For more information, please contact:**

Brianna Kasper (07) 4976 3054 / 0438 673 776