BUDGET 2007: RECREATIONAL FISHING IN THE TERRITORY

“Fishing is part of our great lifestyle and continues to be ‘the lure of the Territory’,” Minister for Fisheries, Chris Natt said.

“The Martin Government continues to support anglers throughout the Territory and Budget 2007 sees that strong commitment continue,” Minister Natt said.

A NEW BOAT RAMP FOR EAST ARM

“We have allocated $2.8 million to build a new boat ramp at East Arm – a popular ramp for Darwin Harbour and beyond,” he said.

FISHING INFRASTRUCTURE

“$500 000 will fund recreational fishing infrastructure to improve facilities for anglers across the Territory.

“Territory anglers will be asked for their opinions on where this money should be spent,” Minister Natt said.

FUNDING FOR AFANT

“The Territory Government ensures amateur fishers continue to receive support, providing $170 000 to the Amateur Fishermen’s Association this year, which includes $10 000 in grants to fishing clubs throughout the Territory” Mr Natt said.

FUNDING FISHING RESEARCH

“Budget 2007 provides $1.84 million for funding research into fisheries, to ensure that the fishing we all enjoy today continues into the future,” Minister Natt said.

THE LIVING RIVERS PROGRAM AND THE DALY RIVER

“The Territory Government understands that rivers form the lifeblood of the environment as a whole and act as nurseries for young fish as well as providing for great fishing.
“Our barramundi fishery relies on healthy rivers,” Minister Natt said.

“This year $1 million will be provided to a Living Rivers Program to support Territory rivers.

“In particular, $1 million will be provided for development and implementation of the Daly River Adaptive Management Plan,” Minister Natt said.

SHOWCASING RECREATIONAL FISHING

“Budget 2007 funds the showcasing of recreational fishing with logistical support for the organisers of five major annual fishing tournaments and funds for fisheries exhibits on the show circuit,” Minister Natt said.

ROADS FUNDING BOOST WILL HELP FISHING

“The addition of an extra $35 million over four years to the roads repairs and maintenance program will help fishers get to their fishing spots.

“Budget 2007 understands the importance of securing and supporting our great lifestyle and fishing is an important part of that. That’s why the Martin Government continues with its record spending on fishing in the Territory,” Minister Natt said.

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** Please note this press release covers portfolios under the jurisdiction of other Ministers. Please direct inquiries as appropriate. Eg, for inquiries relating to roads, contact the office of the Minister Infrastructure and Transport, Delia Lawrie. **