“The barrage fished well into the outgoing tide as well. It will be standing room only for a while now”

be a few crabs around.

“The whiting haven’t showed up yet. I went looking the other day at Gunn Point. I thought they would have been there by now, but there were plenty of queenfish and milkfish working the beach out there.”

“The Gunn Point tourist camp is already well and truly under way.” Craig Fishing Warehouse’s Trevor Robb said his experience at the Barra Nationals showed how things could change on the river.

“A fortnight before the comp, on the new moon spring tides, you could walk on the mud,” he said.

“And then on the full moon spring tides there was no mud. I reckon I have seen the same trend before.

“But it might have just been the phase of the run off that changed things.

“Our biggest barra at the Nats was mid-70s, we didn’t even encounter a big fish. We started to work out a pattern and on the last day we caught about 14 fish.

“I wouldn’t say the river was low, it was more a case of there being loads of sediment and a lot of timber. We never hit anything, and we finished sixth overall.

“Closer to home the barramundi has been consistent with smaller barra. Jewies have been biting at Dundee.

“The wind has kicked off as a big high-pressure system pushes through down south.

“Out the front of Byrnes Harbour there have been jewies on the chew.

“Mackies and tuna have been biting in the harbour. Off the billabongs, Hardy’s Lagoon has been OK.”

“In the fishingterritory.com FFF Seadogs brag mat competition, the jewie and Barra round for May has seen medium barra and a small jewie entered, so it is still open for anyone who slams a decent jewie.

“South of Darwin, Katherine Rod and Rifle’s Warren de With said there was reasonable rain earlier in the week.

“It was enough to make the Katherine River chocolate, but it didn’t flow,” he said.

“The river will take a while to clear now.

Those small falls of rain dump the sediment in, but there is no flow to flush it out.

“The south-easterly wind kicked in after the rain and it went down to 9°C the other night.

“There was a strong wind warning in the Gulf of Carpentaria.

“It has been a funny start to the Dry. It was humid and hot, and then it rained, and then the dry season just smashed us.

“The cool weather is nice, but the wind is going to slow the fishing down.

“Roper Bar is low now, with only the odd fish caught at night by those who brave the crocodiles.”

Chris Rainbird with a chinaman fish caught wide of the Peron Islands

Anella Zamolo, 13, with her first catch on Mother’s Day

WHAT STATE (OR TERRITORY) WILL YOU BE IN FOR THE EVENT OF THE SEASON?

WHAT is possibly the biggest day target team event in the entire nation is on next Sunday, right here in the Territory.

Field and game clay target shooters should pull their boots on for the State of Origin Simulated Field Clay Target Shoot next weekend.

Normal handicap prizes will be on offer for first to sixth but, in addition, shooters will be asked to nominate their birthplace and shoot for their State or Territory.

It will be mate against mate, state against state (or territory).

Using each shooter’s handicap and averaging the scores for the state they are shooting for will see everyone shooting for their team.

If you were born overseas there will also be an international team.

The winning team will have their name engraved on the Perpetual Cup and displayed at the club, giving much sought after bragging rights to the victors.

So drag your Maroons, Blues, Big White V, Croweater, Devils and Sandgropers guernseys out of the mothballs.

I am gonna try and squeeze into the Big White V last worn in the Under 12s over 40 years ago.

The 75-target event kicks off at 8.30am at NT Field and Game at Micket Creek Shooting Complex, Bradnt Rd, Berrimah, on Sunday, May 22.

Training for the big game will be from 4pm till 9pm as usual every Friday. All welcome.

In the words of Mr Football, Teddy Whitten, “Stick it up em!”

Join Field and Game, www.fga.net.au
Join SSAA, www.ssa.org.au
Join Australian Deer Association www.austdeer.asn.au
Like NT Field and Game on Facebook.
Email info@f隔id.com.au

— BART IRWIN

NT Field and Game holds many innovative shooting events, including an Elvis-inspired shoot last year, as depicted by Brendon Auld and Bart Irwin. Next Sunday is the State of Origin event

HOW do you choose the lure colours for barramundi fishing?

For most situations, I have my own rules. Match the lure colour with the water. Match the lure colour with the structures in the water. Match the lure colour with the bottom of the sea. Match the lure colour with the bait.

Try the gold or silver in colour. Try the chartreuse yellowish green in colour. Try the white in colour.

By looking at the seawater condition of the fishing location, I’ll give these above works priority. It’s a rotational system operation. That’s the reason why I’m a frequent lure-changer. I know from experience that this method pays off in the long run. Everyone has their own method though.

I went to Channel Island to fish in the morning. The sea water was clear-murky and greenish in colour. I chose a Squidgy Pro Mongrel 90mm Aussie Herring.

The sea surface was calmly rippled. Therefore, I wound the fishing reel at a constantly slow speed without any fishing-rod actions. As a result, I caught a 50cm barramundi.

LOWDOWN

Squidgy Pro Mongrel

Colour: Aussie Herring

Size: 90mm

Where: Shallow water 30cm - 50cm

Water: Clear - Murky Outgoing

Line: Fins 30LB Braid

Reel: Shimano Scorpion 1500XT

Rod: ST CRIOX

6’6” Medium power, First action, 10-17lb, 1/4-5/8Bz.

Customized by Mr Matt West (Barra Classic 2010 Champion)

Clip: Force Ten Stainless Duo Lock

Snaps #2

Action: Steady retrieve

Check out Hiro’s blog:
secretbarramundi.blogspot.com.au