

MEDIA RELEASE

September 28, 2010

QUEENSLAND
MURRAY-
DARLING
COMMITTEE



Major carp haul for St George

It might have been a bit wet but that didn't deter more the 381 keen anglers who spent the weekend on the banks of the Balonne River for the St George leg of the Carp Buster fishing series.

St George and District Fishing and Restocking Club treasurer Kerry King said competitor numbers were up for the September 25-26 event.

"Despite the wet weather, our competitor numbers rose from 345 last year to 381 this year with the anglers hauling in 364 carp," Ms King said.

Event coordinator Lavinnia Fiedler from the Queensland Murray- Darling Committee (QMDC), said the fishing series helped to raise the awareness of the threat of European Carp to waterways and native fish.

"Carp have invaded many waterways in South West Queensland, and a lot of people aren't aware of the damage they cause," Ms Fiedler said.

St George angler Scott Olive caught the heaviest carp of the competition at 4.43kg while Shane Kings, also of St George, caught the most.

"For our St George competition, the overall winner is actually determined by 'secret weight' where about a month before the event we draw target weights out of hat and then put them in sealed envelopes," Ms King said.

"This gives everyone a great chance of winning a prize and this year, the overall winner was St George's Henry Thurlow with Goondiwindi's Jeff Ricketts and St George's Shane Kings in a tie for second and Iris Troutman, St George, third.

"And as usual, all of the totals for the carp caught during the two days go toward our anglers' overall tally in the Carp Buster Fishing Series with points added both for carp caught and number of events attended."

The next event will be at Dirranbandi on October 23 and 24 (please note this date has changed).

The Queensland Murray-Darling Committee is a natural resource management organisation that supports communities in within the Queensland Murray-Darling Basin to sustainably manage their natural resources. Visit www.qmdc.org.au for more information.

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Photographs are available upon request. Captions below.

QMDC_01

Felicity Hodges, Thallon, shows off part of her catch at the St George Carp Buster event on the weekend.

QMDC_02

St George locals Beau (6), Rhyley (7) and Keeley Petfield (10) with some of their catch from the St George Carp Buster Fishing event on September 25 and 25.

QMDC_03

Five-year-old Kobie Turnbull, St George, is one of the 381 anglers who lined the Balonne River for the St George Carp Buster event on the weekend.

QMDC_04

Anglers, including St George's Jamie-lee Lawson and Tayla Lawson, hauled in 364 carp during the town's Carp Buster Fishing Series event on the weekend.