

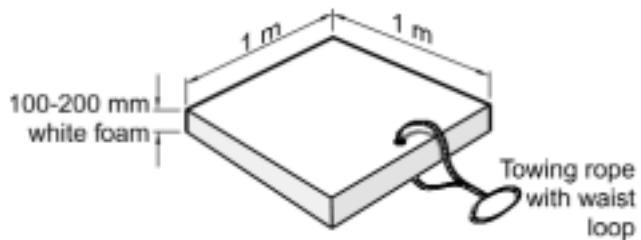
## Make your own sorting table

Sorting bait from mud is easily done in the water and it enables you to return the mud to its original location, which is better for the environment.

There are two ways to make a floating sorting table.

You can tie fly mesh across a car inner tube or use a piece of foam. To prolong the life of the foam, coat it with paint mixed with Bondcrete, cover with an old sheet of material while still wet, and recoat with the mixture.

Tie the sorting table to your waist to stop it floating away.



*Remember to wear protective footwear when wading in the river.*



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# FISHING FOR A HEALTHY RIVER

Advice for recreational fishers to  
protect the Swan and Canning rivers



## Damage to shorelines

It is very important to protect fish habitat to ensure good fishing in the future.

Many places around the Swan and Canning rivers shorelines have been damaged by people:

- ❖ pulling out reeds and digging in the banks for worms, clams and mussels;
- ❖ dumping mud on the reeds and foreshore; and
- ❖ trampling vegetation to get to the river or to make a fishing spot more comfortable.

This spoils the environment for everybody and damages the habitats that fish need to survive.

## Why is the shoreline vegetation important?

The reeds, bushes and trees along the rivers:

- ❖ are an important habitat and food source for fish and other fauna (e.g. insects are an important source for fish and fish are attracted to shaded places);
- ❖ stabilise the shoreline and help prevent erosion;
- ❖ filter out nutrients that would otherwise contribute to algal blooms; and
- ❖ are an important part of the beauty of the river scenery.



## Fishing with care

By following these simple rules you will be able to fish while minimising environmental damage and protecting your chances of catching fish in the future:

- ❖ fish from jetties or fishing platforms where possible – standing or sitting on reeds kills them;
- ❖ put all litter, tackle and unwanted fish or prawns in the bin, or take it home with you – litter destroys the beauty of the river, and plastic and tackle is a danger to wildlife;
- ❖ sort diggings and return mud to where it was sourced (see tips for sorting) – mud smothers and kills vegetation; and
- ❖ launch boats from approved launching sites – pulling boats over foreshores or through vegetation damages the shoreline.

## Where to dig for bait

Digging for bait is **not permitted** within the Swan Estuary Marine Park or the Canning River Regional Park or rehabilitation areas as signposted. See the current street directory or Swan and Canning rivers Boating Guide for location of parks.

Digging for bait is **permitted** everywhere else along the river that is **at least five metres away** from the bank or any vegetation. This includes trees, reeds, bushes and aquatic plants.

## Damaging shorelines and vegetation is illegal

There are penalties of up to \$5000 and on the spot fines of up to \$100 for causing damage to shorelines or vegetation.

It is an offence under the *Swan River Trust Regulations 1989* to cause the collapse or movement of the river bank or remove or injure any tree, shrub or other plant.

These regulations apply to the:

- ❖ Swan River – Fremantle Bridge to Moondyne Brook;
- ❖ Canning River to Stinton Creek;
- ❖ Helena River to the lower diversion dam; and
- ❖ Southern River to the Allen Road crossing.

