

# QUICK IDENTIFICATION COMMON LOCAL FISH



**CENTRAL VICTORIA  
& THE HIGHLANDS**

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# QUICK IDENTIFICATION OF COMMON LOCAL FISH

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A simple Educational guide

A basic database of some of the common fish in the lakes, rivers and streams of Central Victoria and the Central Highlands. The book is based almost entirely on public domain imagery.

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Project commenced 9th June 2013  
Last published Wednesday, 18 November 2020

**An Artworkz Publication**

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# LOCAL FISH



Brown trout by Virgil Beck - Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources CCL2.0.

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## BROWN TROUT



An introduced fish found in all states of Australia (except Queensland and the Northern Territory). It grows to 6 kg and 89 cm, feeding on other small fish, as well as invertebrates including flies, nymphs, beetles and grasshoppers. It is popular for sport fishing, eating and Aquaculture.

Family: Salmonidae  
Genus: *Oncorhynchus*  
Species: *Oncorhynchus mykiss*



NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory CCL2.0

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## EUROPEAN CARP



An introduced fish found in all states of Australia (except Northern Territory). It grows to 60 kg and up to 1 metre, feeding on insects and plants from the surface as well as sucking on mud from the bottom and straining it for food. This species is considered a pest in Australia and causes considerable damage to fish habitats, especially that of trout.

Family: Cyprinidae  
Genus: *Cyprinus*  
Species: *Cyprinus carpio*



Public Domain Image

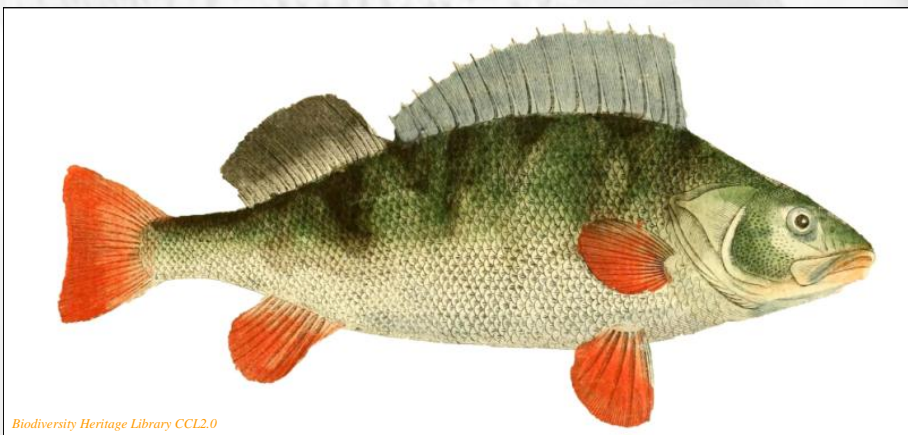
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## RAINBOW TROUT



An introduced species of Salmonid, found in all states of Australia (except Queensland and the Northern Territory). It grows to 5 kg and 61 cm, feeding on invertebrates, including insects, nymphs and beetles. It is popular for sport fishing, eating and Aquaculture.

Family: Salmonidae  
Genus: *Oncorhynchus*  
Species: *Oncorhynchus mykiss*



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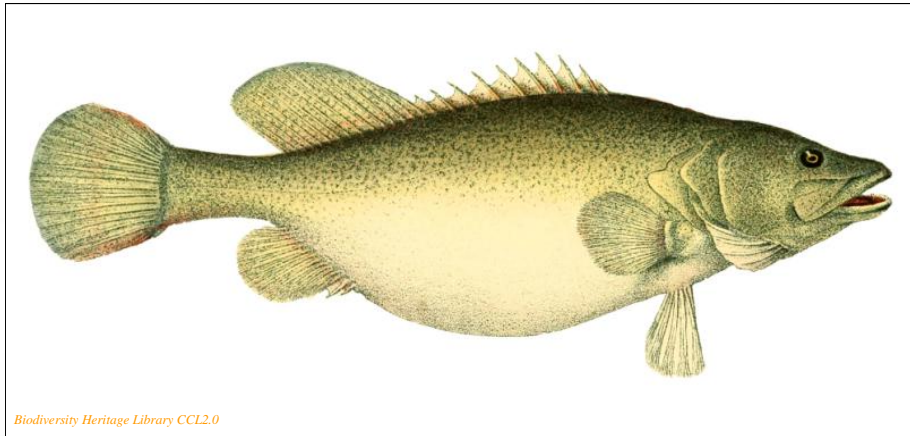
## REDFIN PERCH



An introduced predatory species found in all states of Australia (except Queensland and the Northern Territory). It grows to 10 kg and 60 cm, feeding on invertebrates, including insects, nymphs, beetles and other fish. It is popular for sport fishing and eating. It has caused considerable damage to our native fish population.

Family: Percidae  
Genus: *Perca*  
Species: *Perca fluviatilis*

# LOCAL FISH



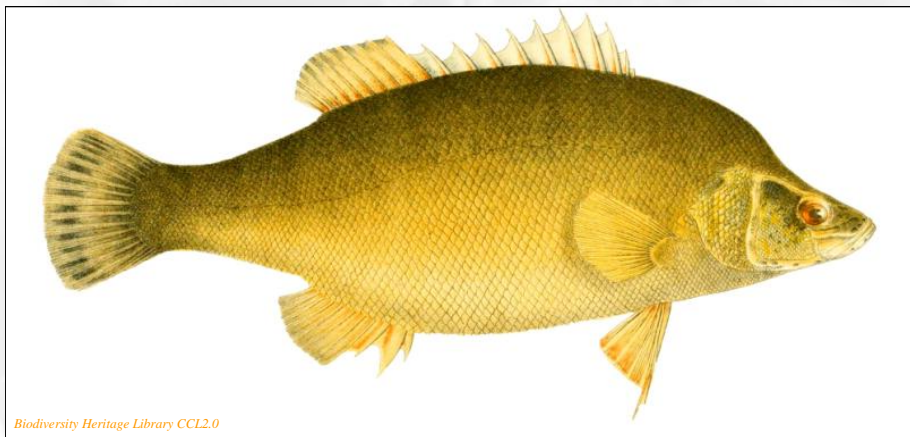
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## MURRAY COD



A large Australian predatory species found in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. It grows to 113 kg and 180 cm, feeding on other fish, frogs and crayfish. It is popular for sport fishing and eating. It is primarily found in the Murray Darling Basin. It was once found in the Goulburn River, though cooler waters have stopped this.

Family: Percichthyidae  
Genus: *Maccullochella*  
Species: *Maccullochella peelii*



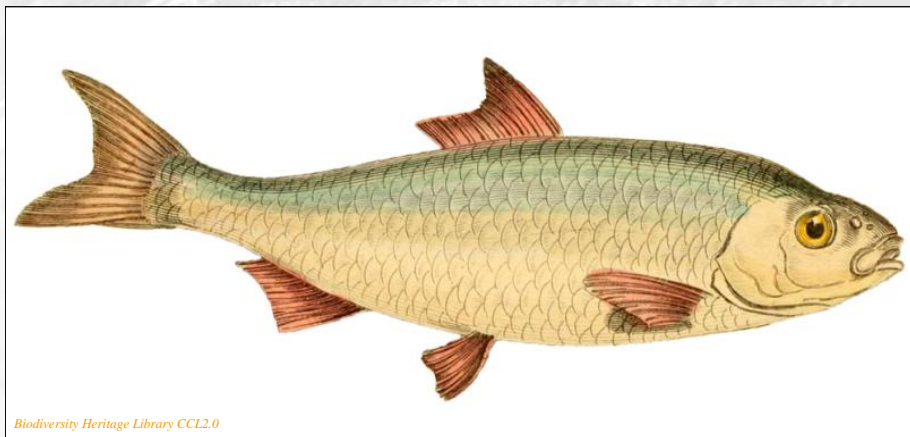
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## GOLDEN PERCH



A native Australian fish found in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. It grows to 23 kg and 76 cm, feeding on other small fish, as well as yabbies, shrimps, mollusks and aquatic insects and their larva. It is popular for sport fishing, eating and Aquaculture.

Family: Percichthyidae  
Genus: *Macquaria*  
Species: *Macquaria ambigua*



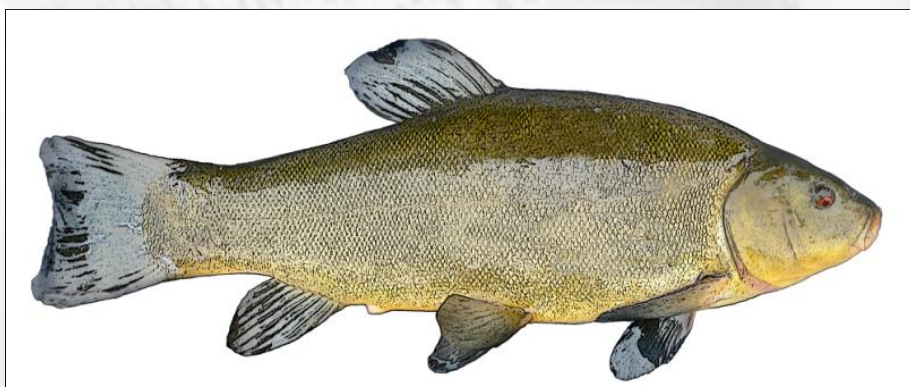
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## ROACH



Also known as the Common Roach, it was introduced to Australia and is considered a pest. It is found in Victoria and New South Wales. It grows to 2 kg and 45 cm, feeding on plant material, plankton and small invertebrates. It prefers still waters, where it competes against native fish for food.

Family: Cyprinidae  
Genus: *Rutilus*  
Species: *Rutilus rutilus*



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## TENCH



Also known as the Doctor Fish, it was introduced to Australia in the 1870s. It is found in Victoria and New South Wales. It grows to 7 kg and 70 cm, though is rarely seen at this size. It feeds mainly on aquatic insects. It prefers still waters, where it competes against native fish for food.

Family: Cyprinidae  
Genus: *Tinca*  
Species: *Tinca tinca*

# BASIC GLOSSARY OF TERMS

<b>ANTHROPOD</b>	<i>(noun)</i> An invertebrate animal with an exoskeleton (skeleton on the outside of its body), a segmented body, and jointed appendages.
<b>CARNIVORE</b>	<i>(noun)</i> An animal or plant that feeds on flesh.
<b>COLD BLOODED</b>	<i>(noun)</i> Organisms that take on the body temperature of their surrounding environment.
<b>DORSAL</b>	<i>(noun)</i> Relating to the back.
<b>ENDEMIC</b>	<i>(adjective)</i> prevalent or regularly found among a people or in a district; confined to a particular area ( <i>biology</i> ).
<b>FIN</b>	<i>(noun)</i> A membranous appendage extending from the body of a fish or other aquatic animal, used for propelling, steering, or balancing the body in the water.
<b>FORAGE</b>	<i>(Verb)</i> To search for food.
<b>GILL</b>	<i>(noun)</i> The respiratory organ of most aquatic animals that breathe water to obtain oxygen.
<b>INSECT</b>	<i>(noun)</i> Any small arthropod animal that have three sections to their body (head, thorax and abdomen) six legs and generally one or two pairs of wings.
<b>JUVENILE</b>	<i>(noun)</i> A young immature.
<b>LARVA</b>	<i>(noun)</i> A baby insect, usually just after hatching.
<b>LARVAE</b>	<i>(noun)</i> More than one Larva.
<b>NAPE</b>	<i>(noun)</i> The surface area behind the head and before the dorsal fin.
<b>NYMPH</b>	<i>(noun)</i> An young immature form of some insects.
<b>ORGANISM</b>	<i>(noun)</i> An individual plant, animal or single celled life form.
<b>PARASITE</b>	<i>(noun)</i> Any organism that lives on and from another organism and survives by feeding on that organism.
<b>SCALE</b>	<i>(noun)</i> Small thin plates made of keratin that protect the skin of fish and reptiles. They will usually overlap one another.
<b>TAXONOMY</b>	<i>(noun)</i> The branch of science that deals with the naming and classification of all living and extinct organisms.



# FISHING RESTRICTIONS

*For our local area*

## BROWN TROUT

Minimum Legal Size: None

**FAMILY FISHING LAKES (Lake Eildon National Park & Gallipoli Lake)**

- ◆ 5 in one day (of which no more than 2 can exceed 35cm)

**Lakes & impoundments:**

- ◆ 5 in one day.
- ◆ Closed season - None

## EUROPEAN CARP

Minimum Legal Size: None

**Across our area:**

- ◆ no limit.
- ◆ Must not be returned to the water alive given noxious status.
- ◆ Closed season - None

## GOLDEN PERCH

Minimum Legal Size: 30 cm

**Across our area:**

- ◆ 5 in all rivers and streams.
- ◆ 10 in all lakes and impoundments.
- ◆ Landed whole or as a carcass.

## MURRAY COD

Minimum Legal Size: 60 cm  
Maximum Legal Size: 100 cm

**Across our area:**

- ◆ no limit.
- ◆ Closed season - 1st September - 30th November inclusive.

## RAINBOW TROUT

Minimum Legal Size: None

**FAMILY FISHING LAKES (Lake Eildon National Park & Gallipoli Lake)**

- ◆ 5 in one day (of which no more than two 2 can exceed 35cm)

**Lakes & impoundments:**

- ◆ 5 in one day.
- ◆ Closed season - None

## REDFIN PERCH

Minimum Legal Size: None

**Across our area:**

- ◆ no limit.
- ◆ Anglers are encouraged not to return Redfin back to the water as they are a voracious predator that prey on native fish species and other aquatic organisms.

## ROACH

Minimum Legal Size: 60 cm

**Across our area:**

- ◆ 5 in one day.

## TENCH

Minimum Legal Size: 60 cm

**Across our area:**

- ◆ no limit.
- ◆ Must not be returned to the water alive given noxious status.



# FISHING DEFINITIONS

*For our local area*

**CATCH LIMIT:**

Any limit on catching or possession of fish. This is an umbrella term that includes bag limits and possession limits.

**POSSESSION LIMIT:**

The maximum number of fish of one type that a person can possess at any time. As long as the type of fish is not protected aquatic biota or a priority species, it is allowed for one person to possess numerous day's catch. Though that person must be able to prove they never exceeded the catch limit on each included day.

**BAG LIMIT:**

The maximum number of a particular fish that a person may take from the waters on any given day.

**CLOSED SEASONS:**

A period during which you must not remove or attempt to remove any species of fish from waters that has a restriction for that fish type during that part of the year.

**OPEN SEASON:**

A period during which you can legally remove or attempt to remove any species from waters that has no restriction for that fish type and part of the year.

**FAMILY FISHING LAKES:**

Retarded basins, ponds, lakes that are usually smaller than 3ha. Though in our case, the much larger Lake Eildon Pondage also shares this classification. The only other lake that shares this classification in our district is the small Gallipoli Lake located in Gallipoli Park, Marysville.

**LAKE & RIVER BOUNDARIES:**

The boundary between a lake and a river. This is where you would expect to see waters from the river meet the waters of the lake (regardless of the lakes current volume).

**SCAKE FISH:**

Any fish species (other than sharks, rays and skates) that have fins.



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