



KATFISH

DEMONSTRATION REACH

Community awareness has also been vital with the project joining forces with local schools to develop riparian educational programs, involving local fish stockers in creel surveys to monitor native fish populations and educating fellow anglers about the dangers of translocating pest fish.

The Reach Steering Committee is made up of a range of community representatives from local and state government, the Condamine Alliance, Murray–Darling Basin Authority and local schools.

Above: Installing snags at Bowenville Reserve as part of the Dewfish Demonstration Reach near Condamine in Queensland.
Below: The Loudoun Weir fishway.



The Katfish Demonstration Reach project covers an area of nearly 9000 hectares and traverses over 38 kilometres of River Murray frontage. The site is a South Australian River Murray priority floodplain.

One of the major threats to river health in the area is the lack of environmental flows. To halt the widespread ecological decline currently being experienced, the project plans to implement a range of water and fish passage management options to achieve an adaptive hydrological system. Manipulating the site’s hydrology will lessen the impact of future droughts and climate change.

The hydrological adaptive system will be created by:

- increased flows and fish passage through 56 kilometres of waterway,
- flooding at low flows of more than 1000 hectares of floodplain,
- temporary partial drying and variable pool levels along 20 kilometres of waterway and associated wetlands.

continued overleaf

Above: Katarapko Creek is a slow flowing creek, with a diverse in-stream habitat including small and large bodied fish. Dominant species include Golden Perch, Bony Herring, Un-specked Hardyhead and carp. The Katfish Demonstration Reach project is aiming to improve water flows and fish passage in the Katarapko Creek.

Right: The Katarapko stone weir is a major barrier to Katarapko Creek, and is proposed to be modified to increase fish and flow passage as part of the Katfish Demonstration Reach.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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