



**MEDIA RELEASE**

***For immediate release***

***July 21, 2017***

**Proserpine hosts Australian Fishing Championships**

If you plan on going fishing this weekend make sure you get home early and check out the televised opening round of the Australian Fishing Championships Series XIII, held in Proserpine.

The AFC Series XIII is the pinnacle of tournament fishing in Australia, and the opening round of the championships, on Lake Proserpine, will be broadcast across Australia on TEN this Saturday, July 22 at 2pm, and then on ONE at 11am on Sunday, July 23.

In the show, filmed in November 2016, Team Hobie's® Stephen Maas and Stewie Dunn take on Team BCF's Russell Babekuhl and Dean Silvester.

The show, which was made possible by the efforts of Tourism Whitsundays, will bring national attention to Lake Proserpine, considered by many to be the country's premier barra fishing location.

Tourism Whitsundays CEO Craig Turner believes the event will help grow recreational fishing tourism in the Whitsundays.

"Fishing in the Whitsundays is a popular recreational experience for visitors, whether near the Great Barrier Reef, around the islands, or fishing for barramundi at Lake Proserpine," he said.

"This is a great opportunity to put Lake Proserpine on the international map."

Lindsay Dobe, a fishing tour operator and tackle specialist from Barra World, congratulated TW for attracting the event to Proserpine.

"It's great to see them getting involved and promoting Proserpine," he said.

"Lake Proserpine is the premier impoundment fishery in Australia and this is something that Prossie as a town can be really proud of.

"People know about the Whitsundays but what they don't know is that only a 30-minute drive from Airlie Beach you have a world-class impoundment fishery."

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