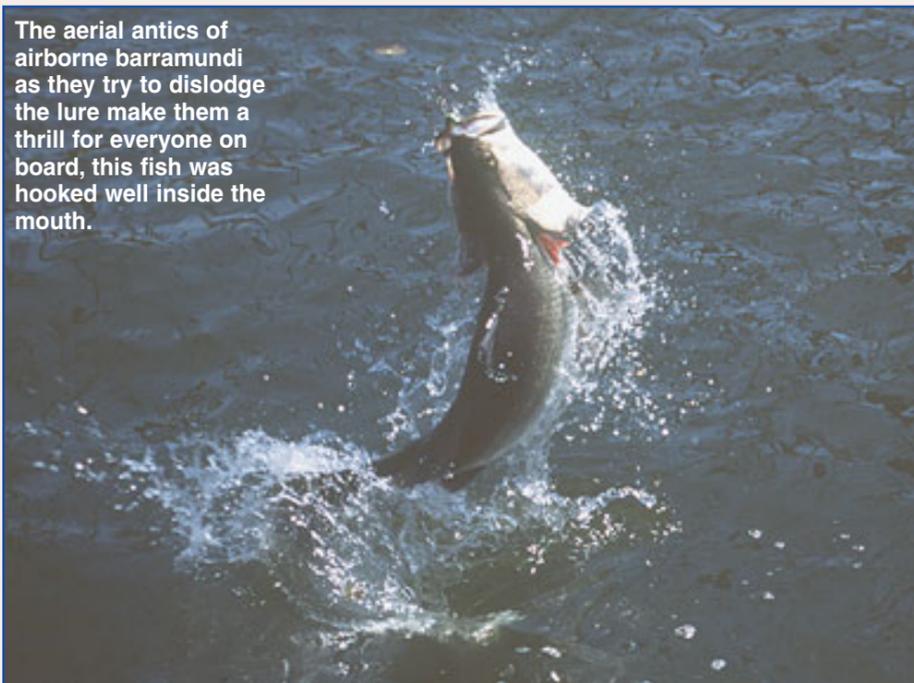


# Lake Teemburra

Story & Pics by Kim Bain

*Kim introduces us to Mackay's Lake Teemburra and passes on a few barra technique tips to turn your stories about the one that got way into snapshots in your photo album.*

The aerial antics of airborne barramundi as they try to dislodge the lure make them a thrill for everyone on board, this fish was hooked well inside the mouth.



**T**eemburra, is one of the prettiest little lakes that I've fished, it's a lurecaster's dream, with just about every snag option available - from weedbeds to fallen and vertical trees, sunken and exposed islands, coves, rocky shorelines, snag riddled banks.

Arriving at Teemburra and launching the boat just after lunch, fishing buddy Peter Mammino and I drove straight to a likely looking spot. Geographically where the spot is on the lake is irrelevant, as many spots are just like it and with a bit of a Sherlock Holmes you'll

find one that will work for you. When we visited the lake in November the water level was at 70% and dropping (in December it measured 59% and 49% in January). A few drops of rain and the fish holding territory may be completely different when you visit the lake. It's also only a small lake so it doesn't take too long to try a few different locations on your way to finding the fish.

A good strategy and one that worked well for us on our trip, was to locate combinations of structure; weed walls, timber and points that are situated

either on the edges or near the old creek beds or drop-offs. Then look for bait (eg bony bream) activity, hopefully the barramundi will be in close proximity. If all else fails, troll the edge of the tree line in open water. If you mark fish on your sounder then put a lure in front of their face and all going according to plan, they'll eat it.

I've previously written in these pages about lure selection, but I may have omitted one commonly used guideline for choosing the right lure at the right time. And that gem of advice is.... have a look over the

local's shoulder and follow their lead. When in Rome! After noticing that local legend Peter Mammino had opted to use a lure that he had custom tuned with suspend dots (stick-on lead) to alter its float rate. I rummaged through my tackle box for a suspending Wally Diver in bright red/blaze orange. The colour seemed a bit obnoxious but after the first sign of piscatorial interest, I was pretty happy with my selection.

My first bite came within the half an hour of start fishing. The fish was hooked after my Wally

Kim displays the tackle they evolved for Teemburra barra with some proof of the pudding. The successful lure was a brightly coloured suspending Wally Diver worked deep around timber (and believe it or not - these hard-bodied lures are surprisingly snag resistant).

