

# EXPLORING QLD'S MAGNIFICENT CURTIS COAST

Report & Photography by Damon Olsen

Finally, after nearly 6 years of wishing, wanting and waiting, we were off on our adventure. Aiming the Kevlcat 7.2 northwards from Mooloolaba, signalled the start of a trip we'd been planning for a long time. Ahead lay the warm, fish-rich waters of the Curtis Coast, and in particular, the area around The Town of 1770, where we planned to spend two and a half weeks camped on the beach front



overlooking Round Hill Creek. From there, Plan 'A' was to fish out to the Great Barrier Reef coral islands off 1770. If the weather let us down, Plan 'B' would see us fishing the inshore creeks and estuaries around this central Queensland fishing hot-spot. Under Plan 'C', we'd do both.

As noted last month, driving the boat to 1770 presented an adventure in itself. We were confronted with the challenge of having to navigate up through the Great Sandy Straits, pass through Hervey Bay (and adjacent Fraser Island) before heading further north to reach the 1770 entrance.

This month, we explore the extraordinary fishing potential on the Barrier Reef off 1770, and take a careful look at the huge array of options available to all types of boaties once in 1770. Regardless of the type of boat you have, or how you get it to 1770, there is enough fishing and boating opportunities to keep you exploring this area for years, let alone a visit of a few weeks. Join us now, as we head out to Fitzroy Reef . . .

***Part 2/2 Featuring 1770 - Fitzroy Reef - Lady Musgrave - Pancake Creek - Middle Creek - Eurimbula Creek - Bustard Head***



Matt (left) with his 16 kg wahoo and Julian holding the author's 19 kg 'hoo. Many experts believe that kilo for kilo, wahoo are one of the toughest fighting fishing in the ocean.