

Weipa, Qld: Jewel Of The Gulf, P-2

From the mudflats and mangrove's to the coral bommies on the beaches, Weipa really has everything any fisherman could ever want. In this, the Second Part of Damon Olsen's special report on this top end fishing haven, Damon makes sure you'll have enough basic knowledge about fishing the Weipa area to go there yourself and expect to have a great time - that's providing you can handle the **ACTION !!**



After the previous couple of days action, we were wondering if this fishing heaven called Weipa could possibly dish up any more surprises.

Our third full day saw us leave the Mission River boat ramp with a plan to fish Noname and Duyfken point. We never got to Duyfken, but plan B was pretty good anyway.

Our morning was spent up Noname creek until about 11am. The morning session again provided us with an absolutely incredible time. As a good 20 knots of south-easterly whistled past the mouth of the

creek, we charged up to the top of the creek and began fishing our way down to the mouth. Being in Noname was like another world. The wind from the outside could not penetrate the dense foliage surrounding the creek; inside the creek, it was a typically hot and humid tropical climate which prevailed.

This little creek which would probably be lucky to appear on any official map of the area, was again treating us to tropical lure fishing at its very best.

Every cast was closely watched with the expectation that

something could happen at any moment.

Again, Noname produced excellent results with about 16 good quality barra, a few jacks and a lone fingermark being the tally by late morning. One highlight of the morning was your scribe's unlucky encounter with a big jack of about 55 cm, but the fish was able to shake the lure free in the snags before we could try to net it.

In actually landing 16 barra on lures, we would have seen probably 40-50 fish for the morning.

Some fish fell off before they got to the boat. Some would hit and miss the hooks, or

some of them merely flashed at the lure. The point is, that the fun in lurecasting is seeing the fish chase your lures and the fight (or whether you get them to the boat or not) is often irrelevant.

Fighting the fish can be fun, but it is usually only secondary to the initial deception. Most lurecasters find the greatest thrill lies in convincing a wild fish that it should eat their piece of timber or metal - that is the challenge of lure fishing.

Anyway, after lunch near the mouth of Noname Creek we pulled a few barra off the rocks at the

mouth of the creek before deciding to head back up the Mission River in an attempt to escape the prevailing winds.

The afternoon was spent chasing barra around the drains from the Mission's many small feeder creeks. The drain fishing was fairly similar to the Nominata, but it was a little slower for some unknown reason. It may have been that there was less water movement this afternoon, but we still pulled quite a few nice fish from the drains in the river.

The late afternoon and early evening session was spent casting at snaggy