

Australian Lure Fishing Podcast Episode 256



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Romen Dicovski

Freshwater Specialist And Fishing Videographer

Romen has been Murray cod fishing in Googong Dam, for over a decade and specialises in catching very large fish – he’s developed some specialised and very effective techniques too. When Romen isn’t fishing he’s producing fishing DVD’s such as the “Googong Green and Gold” series and his current project “Green and Gold on the road”.



Romen’s Googong Murray Cod Fishing Tips

- There’s no substitute for time on the water when it comes to Murray Cod fishing. There are things you can do to minimise wasted time, but you have to put in the hours to reap the rewards.
- Googong cod are not only long, they’re very thick and heavy for their size, so don’t go under-gunned and make sure your knots and every aspect of your tackle are rock-solid.
- It’s important to keep good records of the basic conditions, when and where you see fish and what tackle you are using when you catch a fish. Patterns emerge over time, and you’ll begin to understand when, where and how to fish a given waterway.
- Googong is a daylight access only storage, so anglers don’t have the advantage of being able to fish after dark. Early mornings and late afternoons when the sun is low fish best in the shallows, with fish usually moving into deeper water of 5-20m once the sun gets higher.

- Murray cod fishing in Googong is a year-round option except during the closed season (spring). However, it's a lot easier to catch quantities of fish from November to May, with smaller numbers, but larger sized, fish usually coming through the cooler months.
- Prime bite times are dependent on conditions but Romen usually finds any kind of changing weather patterns (wind shifts, barometer changes, water level/quality etc) will stimulate bites. If any of these coincides with dawn/dusk and peak solunar times from the almanac you have the ingredients for the best cod fishing. Or not.
- When fishing shorelines, put in a cast, move 5 feet and put in another. Keep doing this and don't cast twice at the same spot unless you get a follow or a hit.
- Murray cod in Googong Dam don't stay in one place, they have a territory that may be 100-500m long. Watch them on your sounder until you figure out their movements. Mark every fish on your sounder and spend time figuring out what's holding them in that particular spot.

Romen's Murray Cod Fishing Tackle

- Roman fishes fast tapered baitcast rods with matching reels and 40-60lb Suffix 832 braid, plus a 40-60lb thin, supple and abrasion resistant fluorocarbon leader.

Romen's Murray Cod Fishing Lures

- The 70mm Rapala Rippin Rap is Romens first choice of lure, which he usually fishes vertically in deeper water. The technique is to find the fish on the sounder and drop the Rippin Rap down to it, working it with vertical hops in close proximity to the fish. The combination of noise and vibration often results in the lure being taken. It can also be cast and retrieved along shorelines, keeping it as close to the bottom as possible.
- Storm SX Soft Vibe is fished in the same way as the Rapala Rippin Rap and is a great option if the fish are a bit quiet and not as active in taking lures. Being smaller and thinner profile, it's also a good choice if there are yellowbelly in the mix.
- Storm 8" RIP Shad soft plastic swimbait in redfin pattern with a beetle spin accessory. Romen rigs this lure on a standard jig head but puts two stingers in the lure body. The beetlespin arm can be added with different colour blades if the water is a little less clear and he's looking for additional flash and vibration.