



# kakadu™

NATIONAL PARK



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## Fishing & Boating

Kakadu is a World Heritage listed park. The park is listed for its natural and cultural values.

When boating and fishing in Kakadu, you are expected to obey laws created to protect the park's values. These include the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000* and the *Northern Territory Fisheries and Marine Acts*.

These laws require you to carry the correct safety equipment in your vessel and observe fish possession limits. Northern Territory bag limits apply unless otherwise specified.

Commercial fishing is not permitted in Kakadu National Park. Fishing tour operators may conduct tours with a current Kakadu National Park permit.



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Kakadu is a great place for boating

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Please obey fishing and boating regulations

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Do not clean fish within 50 metres of a water body unless using a designated fish cleaning facility

### RESTRICTED WATERWAYS

For environmental and cultural reasons fishing and boating are prohibited in certain areas. Refer to shaded areas on the maps on the following page.

### MORE INFORMATION

Laws relating to fishing and boating are regularly reviewed and may change.

For current recreational fishing information and reporting any suspicious activity or crocodile incidents call Kakadu Park Headquarters on (08) 8938 1120.

Refer to the *Northern Territory Recreational Fishing Controls* booklet for more detailed information, including fishing tips and images to help with fish identification.



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Australian Government



## PARK NOTE

# Fishing rules

The following regulations apply to fishing in Kakadu National Park.

## FISH POSSESSION LIMITS

Kakadu National Park has the same catch limits as other parts of the Northern Territory. From **1 January 2010**, each person may have the following numbers of managed species in their possession:

5 Barramundi (minimum overall length 55cm, fillet 27cm)

2 Black jewfish - previously 5

2 Spanish mackerel - previously 5

5 Golden snapper

3 sharks (sawfish may not be taken) - previously no limit

The spartooth shark *Glyphis glyphis* and a river shark *Glyphis garricki* are threatened species and must not be taken

A general possession limit of 30 fish also applies to each person. This limit includes managed species. To assist with identification and effective enforcement:

The entire skin must be left on fillets or trunks

If a fillet is dissected, each portion will be considered a whole fillet and equal to half a fish

Fillets of managed species must be kept separate from fillets of other species

## OTHER RULES

You may not use or possess nets, firearms, spears, traps or any device designed for taking an animal or fish other than:

Rods or handlines with a single hook or lure attached

Landing nets are permitted only for landing fish. They may not be used for any other purposes

A live animal (including fish) cannot be used as bait

Dead bait fish may be used only if caught within Kakadu

The use of processed bait is restricted to coastal areas of the park, except the West Alligator River where all fishing is prohibited

Do not leave a fishing line unattended

Do not tether fish

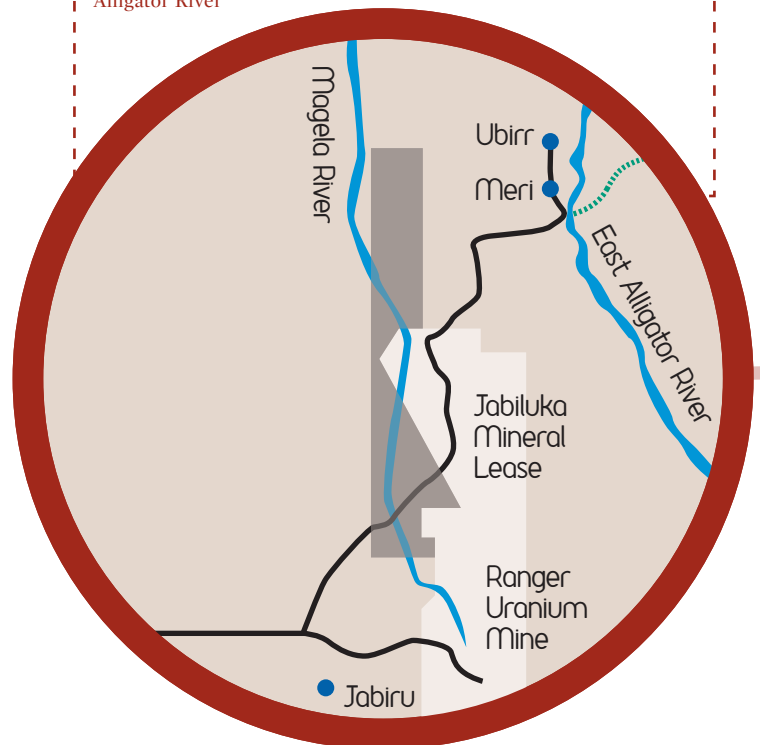
Do not clean fish within 50 metres of a water body unless using a designated fish cleaning facility

Do not clean fish on the water if within one kilometre of land

Crabs must not be taken

Nets, traps and pots used for recreational fishing outside the park may be transported into or through the park only along the Oenpelli Road, Arnhem Highway and Kakadu Highway. These items must be securely stowed at all times and not used

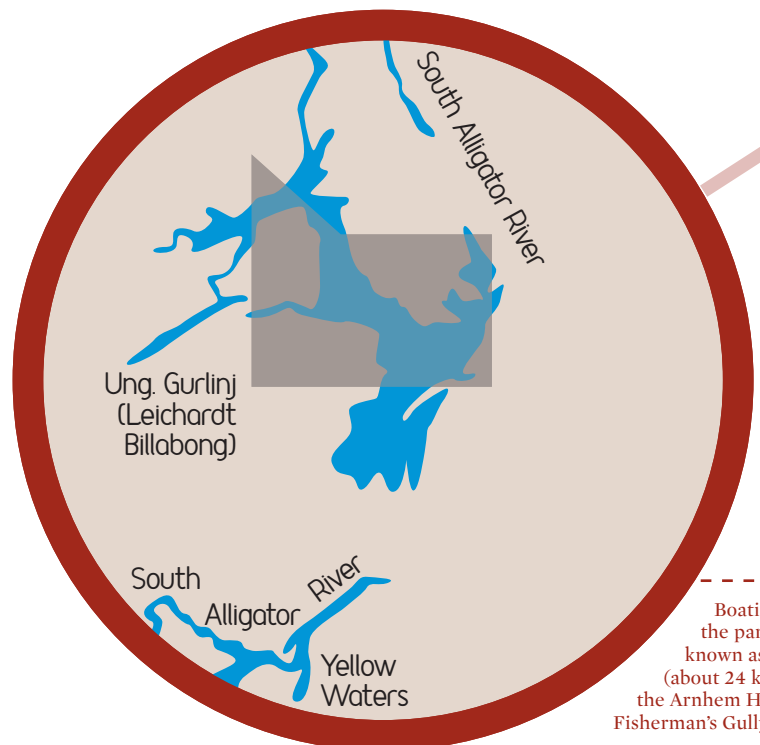
While fishing is permitted on the Magela downstream of the crossing, boating is not. A permit is required to boat on Magela Creek from Mudginberri to Nankeen Billabongs, including the Oenpelli Road crossing. This does not apply to the tidal area of Magela Creek accessed by boat from the East Alligator River. Note that a permit is required to enter Arnhem Land on the eastern side of the East Alligator River



## Map legend

- No fishing in these areas
- Formed boat ramp
- Unformed boat ramp
- Road distances
- Principal locations
- Unsealed 2WD (may only be 4WD accessible during wet season)
- Sealed road
- Unsealed 2WD (closed during wet season)
- Walking track
- 4WD (closed during wet season)

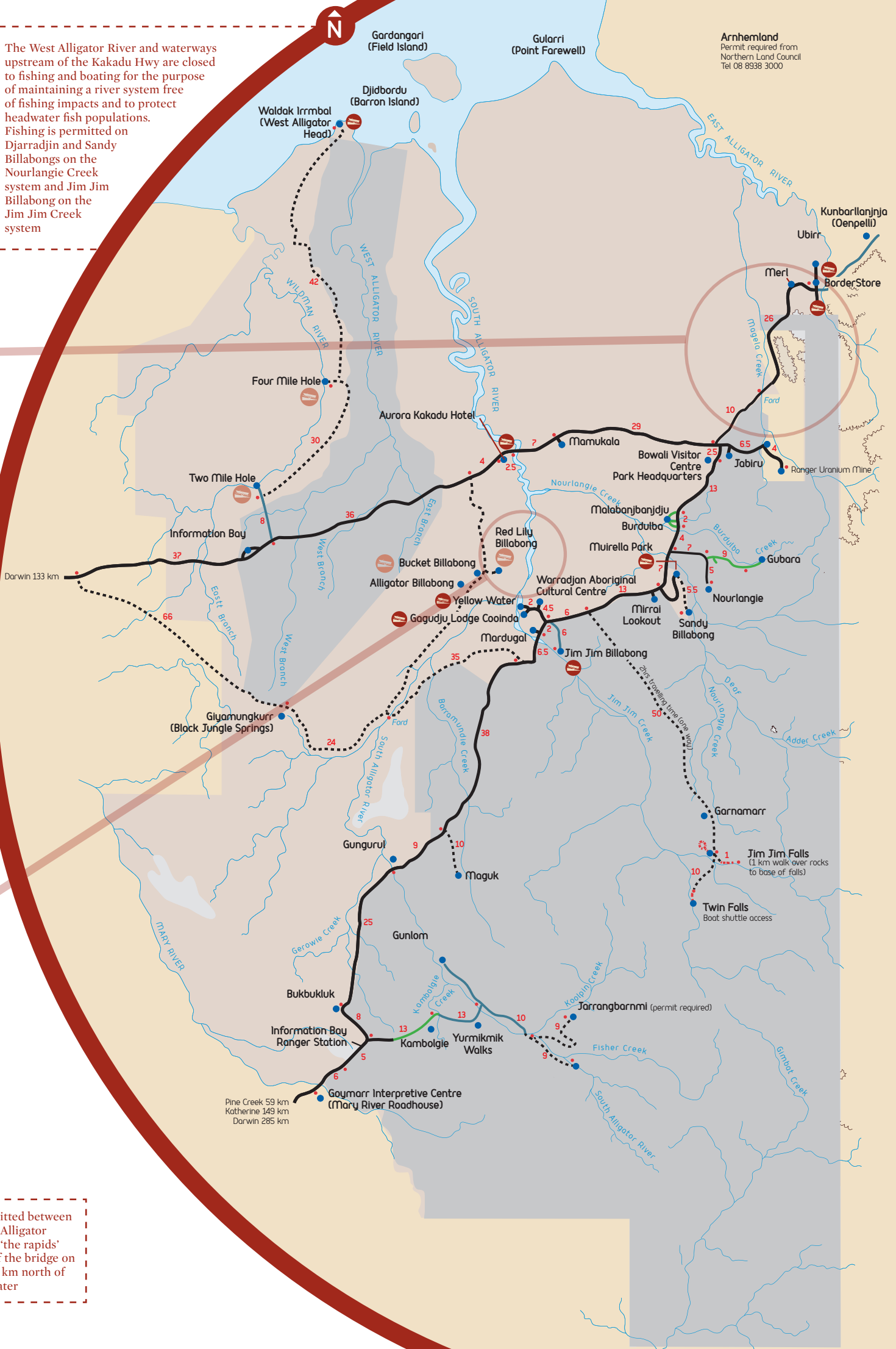
See the Kakadu National Park Visitor Guide for a detailed map of the park



Boating is the part of the park known as 'the Yellow Waters' (about 24 km up the Arnhem Highway from Fisherman's Gully on

The West Alligator River and waterways upstream of the Kakadu Hwy are closed to fishing and boating for the purpose of maintaining a river system free of fishing impacts and to protect headwater fish populations. Fishing is permitted on Djarradjin and Sandy Billabongs on the Nourlangie Creek system and Jim Jim Billabong on the Jim Jim Creek system

**Arnhemland**  
 Permit required from  
 Northern Land Council  
 Tel 08 8938 3000



is not permitted between the forks or 'the rapids' upstream of the bridge on (highway) and 2 km north of on Yellow Water

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Navigating on an outgoing or low tide can be hazardous. If in doubt seek local advice



### BOATING SAFETY

Boating in Kakadu's waterways can be dangerous due to strong currents, sand bars, submerged logs and crocodiles. For your safety:

- All non-powered vessels are prohibited
- Tell a responsible adult where you are going and when you expect to be back
- Make sure you comply with NT Marine Safety legislation and have enough safety equipment for every person on board - life jackets, drinking water, oars, flares, torches, tool kit, extra fuel and a satellite phone
- Ensure your boat and motor are in sound working order and drain plugs are tightly inserted
- Check the tides. For Cahill's Crossing add 5 1/2 hours to Darwin tide times. For the South Alligator River bridge, add 4 hours on to Darwin tide times
- Check the weather. Where possible seek local knowledge. If in doubt, don't go out

### CROCODILE SAFETY

Estuarine (saltwater) crocodiles are extremely dangerous and present a risk to people boating or fishing in Kakadu. For your safety:

- Avoid crocodiles - do not approach or feed them
- Keep well away from the water's edge and do not enter the water
- Be alert when fishing on riverbanks
- Take extreme care when launching and retrieving boats
- It is an offence to clean fish within 50 metres of a water body unless at a designated fish cleaning facility

Use a landing net to boat fish

When releasing fish, do not put any part of your body in the water

Camp in designated camp sites well away from waterways

Do not go near the water at night

Be alert and look out for crocodiles if collecting water from waterways

Do not get into regular daily routines near the water



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Keep your hands well out of the water, use a landing net

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The tracks show a crocodile has visited this campsite.



For more information contact:

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Kakadu National Park  
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Tel: (08) 8938 1120 Fax: (08) 8938 1123  
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