

# TRAPS

Opera house style yabby traps can **only** be used west of the Newell Highway.

While crab traps can legally \* be used in estuaries, it is very unlikely that crabs will be caught high up in the estuaries where platypus and turtle populations are often found.

These traps require a current recreational fishing licence.

\* Please refer to the NSW Recreational Saltwater & Freshwater Fishing Guide from the DPI Fisheries website before you use ANY traps [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au)



**Fish responsibly  
and protect native wildlife**



## In Port Macquarie Hastings

Enjoy the company of one of the world's most unique animals when you fish in the Hastings. Platypuses occur throughout the Hastings River catchment and numerous platypus are found upstream of Bain Bridge.

## The Hastings PACT - Platypus Awareness & Conservation Team *recommend:*

That Crab Traps are only used **BELOW** Bain Bridge.

By setting your crab trap in the lower more saline parts of estuaries it is less likely that that platypus or turtles will get caught in the trap and drown.

Using opera house style yabby traps is illegal in NSW waters where platypus are known to live because they can become caught in them and drown.

# Fishing, Traps & Wildlife

Help protect native wildlife and prevent them from drowning

Created by The Hastings PACT - Platypus Awareness & Conservation Team



Supported by





## OPERA HOUSE YABBY TRAPS



The opera house style yabby trap (pictured above ) are **banned** in public waters (rivers, creeks and lakes) where platypuses are found, which is east of the Newell Highway.

This is because air breathing wildlife such as platypuses, turtles and some waterbirds can enter traps looking for food, get caught and drown in minutes.

Platypuses are a protected animal throughout Australia - in NSW under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974

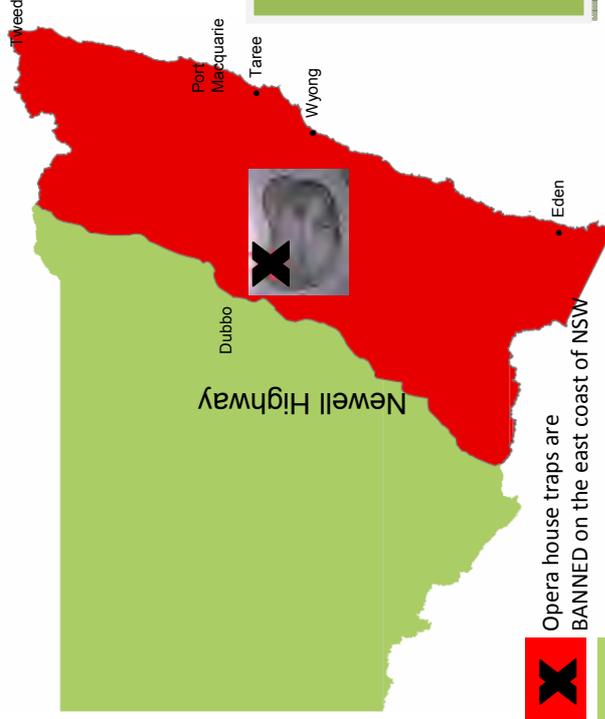
Anyone caught using illegal traps may face heavy fines.

## WHERE ARE PLATYPUSES FOUND?

Platypuses are found in streams, river, lakes, ponds in the eastern part of NSW. East of the Newell Highway, which runs from Tocumwal in Victoria through Dubbo and Moree to Goondiwindi on Queensland border.

[www.dpi.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au)

Opera house style yabby traps are **banned** in NSW waters Where platypuses are found



Opera house traps are

**BANNED** on the east coast of NSW

Modified opera house traps permitted this area as no platypus are found west of the Newell Highway.



## AS A RESPONSIBLE FISHER WHAT CAN I DO?

- Discourage others from using ANY illegal fishing methods.
- Report all illegal activities to the DPI Fisheries 24 hour Fishers Watch Phone line 1800 043 536 National Parks and Wildlife Service or the NSW Police.
- Take your pieces of tangled line, hooks or other fishing tackle away with you.
- Try to retrieve as much snagged gear as possible.
- Even if it isn't your line, hooks or rubbish along the stream or lake shore, collect it and remove it from the habitat.
- Think before buying or using stainless steel hooks - they will last forever - use degradable hooks
- Never just cut the line if you do hook a platypus or other wildlife. They will probably die from infection or starve. Contact FAWNA

To avoid the possibility of being spurred, platypuses can be safely held by the tail, then wrapped in a sack, towel or jacket while the hook is removed.

**REPORT ILLEGAL FISHING IMMEDIATELY**  
24 hour Fishers Watch  
Phoneline 1800 043 536



**FAWNA 24 hour Injured Wildlife Hotline 6581 4141**

Or search on [www.fauna.org.au](http://www.fauna.org.au) for your local wildlife rescue group