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Let's release barras of war!

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BARRA should soon be on the hunt to knock off the dreaded marine pest tilapia after Fisheries Queensland issued a permit to allow barramundi to be released in Mackay's Gooseponds.

Fishing commentator Lance Murray relayed the news and said 400 barra-

mundi were on standby.

More than \$7000 has been raised in the Buy a Barra campaign, with the fish to feast on tilapia in the Gooseponds. Money can be donated at fishing supply outlets Nashy's Compleat Angler and Tackle World.

The money raised includes a substantial donation by Mackay MP Tim Mulherin and \$800 from Mackay Amateur Fishing Clubs Association. Electro fishing was done to tilapia downstream of the lagoon.

Reef Catchments will run a planning meeting on June 25 for stakeholders involved in the eradication.

Businessman Bruce Nash will host a sausage sizzle for volunteers at the Gooseponds aquatic weed removal blitz next month.



BUY A BARRA: Nashy's employee and fisherman Ashley Sims wants more fishers to buy a barra to stock the Gooseponds and help get rid of tilapia. PHOTO: PETER HOLT