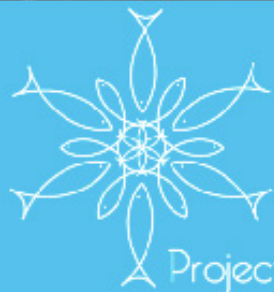


Using Ice Slurry to Maximise Fish Welfare and Flesh Quality

As recreational fishers it is important that we use methods for killing fish for food that both respect the welfare of the fish, and maximise the quality of the flesh.

For best effect, ice slurry should only be used on legal-sized fish that are <500g in weight, and are from tropical or temperate waters. This will maximise fish welfare, and will also help to improve the taste.

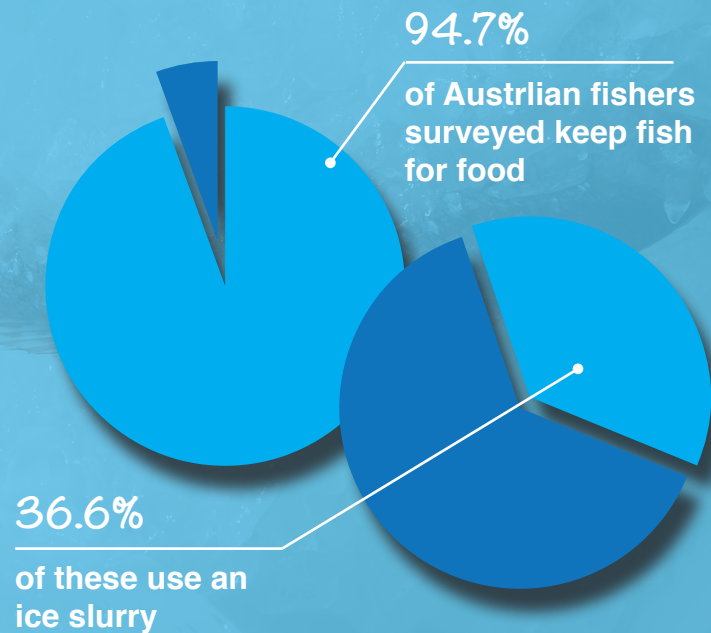
**AUSTRALIAN
ANIMAL
WELFARE
STRATEGY**



Project Icefish

Current practices by Australian fishers

In a recent nation-wide survey of Australian fishers it was found that most (94.7%) keep fish for food from time to time. Of those, some (36.6%) use ice slurry to kill fish, mostly to enhance flesh quality/taste.



The survey also discovered:

- 58.3% of people surveyed who use ice slurry to kill fish said they use it on 'all fish regardless of size'.
- The main reasons recreational fishers use ice slurry: 62.3% said it was to improve taste, 29.2% said it was to deliver improved welfare outcomes.
- Bream, Flathead, Snapper and Whiting were particularly prevalent in the species groups killed using ice slurry by recreational fishers.

What is an ice slurry and how do I make one?

1:1 The ratio: At least 1 part ice to 1 part water

An ice slurry is made by filling a container (like an insulated cooler or fish bin) with ice and then adding water. For rendering fish quickly unconscious, ice slurries made using ratios of at least 1 part ice to 1 part water is recommended, producing a slurry with a temperature of around 2°C to -2°C.

When is it effective to use an ice slurry?

Very little is known about use of ice slurry on Australian species. From what has been learned from species overseas it would appear that use of ice slurry is an effective and humane way to kill temperate/tropical species of fish 500g and under. However more research is required, as this will vary with species.

So how should I kill fish that are from cold waters, or larger than 500g?

Either a firm knock on the head or spiking of the brain (called iki jime) will kill fish instantly and humanely.



Visit <http://www.ikijime.com> for more information or download the app on [iTunes](#) or [Google Play](#).

For more information about the Aquatic Animal Welfare Strategy and relevant projects go to <http://www.australiananimalwelfare.com.au/aquatic-animals>

