

**“I was amazed at the enjoyment people with disabilities found in doing something most of us take for granted.”**

“Regardless of ability or skill, both our participant or volunteer alike are so happy just being outdoors and enjoying the experience. I wanted to be able to help people with disabilities do things for themselves.

I thought about all the people who have never been able to fish because of their challenges, and those who thought they could never fish again.”

*Neville Thomas - Fishability Founder*



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**“To enhance the quality of life & self esteem of people with disabilities.”**



## Fishing is one of the most popular recreational activities in Australia.

Every year, over 700,000 West Australians bait-up and cast a line. However, in 2000 it was evident many barriers were in place preventing participants from experiencing the joys of fishing. This awareness led to the development and growth of the current programs to provide opportunities for children and adults in the community to have the freedom of being outdoors to enjoy the excitement, reward and camaraderie of fishing.

Fishability provides a range of activities and advocates for inclusive participation in recreational fishing for the community. Fishability is represented in the Perth metropolitan areas and regional locations such as Mandurah, Albany, Busselton and more.

Our objectives are reached through specially structured, fully supervised fishing activities in areas with accessibility or from one of the purpose built boats equipped to carry participants with disabilities off shore to where the fish are biting!

Independent participation in fishing is aided by the use of specially designed motorised reels and casters. All programs focus on ability rather than disability.



## Participation

Fishability recognise the need to ensure recreational fishing is accessible and affordable to all in the community, regardless of ability, skill level or experience.

With the support of a large team of volunteers and thanks to our sponsors, Fishability deliver both jetty and boat programs regularly in the Perth metro areas and regional centres free of charge.

With motorised reels and casters and modified vessels, we can accommodate children and adults with disabilities. All volunteers have Working with Children Cards and receive regular training to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the participants and support workers.

<http://fishability.org.au/modified-equipment/>

If you are keen to participate either independently, or through your Care Organisation, it is a very simple process. Simply email your expression of interest to the contact details over the page and nominate the date and activity you wish to participate. A representative will confirm your booking, and forward any relevant information about how to prepare for your fishing experience.

<http://fishability.org.au/come-fishing-with-us/>



All activities are provided at no cost, however we do request that support workers accompany the participants and play an active role in the overall wellbeing of the individual. Trained volunteers will offer the training and specialised skills in catching fish and ensure the safety of all participants and support workers at the activity.

The contact person nominated will be notified in the event of a cancellation of activity due to inclement weather.

## Benefits of going fishing

Come along to one of our activities if you;

- 🐟 Enjoy the outdoors
- 🐟 Enjoy meeting people
- 🐟 Enjoy working as part of a team
- 🐟 Have never tried fishing before

Or simply

- 🐟 Want to give it a go!!!

