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Australian town, 326 miles from river, hit by raining fish

Residents in a remote desert town in Australia, 326 miles from the nearest river, are recovering after witnessing two days of fish raining from the sky.

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Local Christine Balmer sent in pictures of the fish in a bucket Photo: NT NEWS NEWSBREAKER CHRISTINE BALMER

Lajamanu in the Northern Territory, population 669, has seen hundreds of small white fish fall from rain clouds with many still alive.

Weather experts in Australia believe the fish, spangled perch, were sucked up in a thunderstorm before being dumped over the tiny town.

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Mark Kersemakers, the senior forecaster at the Australian Bureau of Meteorology, said: "It could have scooped the fish up to 40,000 to 50,000 feet in the air.

"Once they get up into the system they are pretty much frozen. After some period they are released."

It is the third time in less than 30 years that Lajamanu has been bombarded by falling fish, according to Northern Territory News, after reports of the phenomenon in 1974 and 2004.

Joe Ashley, 55, from Jabiru an outback town in the Northern Territory, said: "Usually fish are in the water now they are falling out of the sky what if anything bigger falls out of the sky next?