



Fish-e-Fax

A fortnightly round-up of recreational fishery management issues

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Great ideas coming out of the Recreational Fishing Forums

Seven of the eight Recreational Fishing Forums have been held to date across the state and Fisheries Victoria and our VRFish and Futurefish partners have been very impressed with the quality of ideas and the enthusiasm of the participants.

To date, the open public forums have been held at Melbourne, Torquay, Warrnambool, Horsham, Wangaratta, Bairnsdale and Mallacoota. Examples of some of the ideas are:

- Investigate stocking larger numbers of freshwater fish or stocking more frequently, taking account of water carrying capacity and fishing activity levels;
- Provide better information about spear-fishing (e.g. education information and signage);
- Identify and map key crown land access points;
- Investigate the development of a marine stocking program; and
- Develop a primary schools fishing education program.

The next forum will be held at the Swan Hill Town Hall, 6 pm on Tuesday 8 September. To find out more information about the forums, view a full list of the ideas raised and read about what we are planning to do with these ideas, visit www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing.

Silver Trevally Legal Minimum Size Limit

The legal minimum size limit for silver trevally caught in Victorian waters has been re-adjusted to 20 centimetres following consultation with commercial and recreational fishing groups.

Earlier this year, a regulatory review that aimed to simplify rules for recreational fishers resulted in the minimum legal size for silver trevally being changed to 23cm. This regulatory change was also applied to the Victorian commercial fishery.

Since the introduction of the new regulations, members of the Victorian commercial finfish sector have identified unforeseen and significant impacts on business viability and marketing. We have responded quickly to this issue by returning the legal minimum size limit for silver trevally in Victorian waters to 20 centimetres, following consultation with the main recreational and commercial fishing representative organisations.

There is no evidence to suggest commercial (or recreational) fishing for this species poses a sustainability concern in Victorian waters.

A new Fish Length Ruler is currently in production that will display the change and will be available soon.

DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

Fisheries Victoria is committed to providing high quality opportunities for recreational fishing, as well as opportunities for all Victorians to buy fresh seafood from our local commercial fisheries.

Winter Calamari Safari

There continues to be great calamari fishing opportunities in Port Phillip Bay and Western Port this winter.

Calamari's predictable habit of aggregating in accessible shallow areas make them an easy and fun catch for anglers from piers, boats or kayaks – with the added excitement of dodging a squirt of ink.

Fishing calamari, like other fast-growing and short-lived species, is sustainable. A recreational catch limit of 10 per person per day applies in Victoria and, unless exempt, a Recreational Fishing Licence is needed to catch them.

Stocking Summary

The following waters were stocked by Fisheries Victoria during the month of June and July 2009.

Date	Water	Species	No.	Date	Water	Species	No.
1/06	Hopkins River	BT	2,000	19/06	Sparvan Lake	RT	300
3/06	Eildon Pondage Weir	RT	5,000	22/06	Dunkeld Old Arboretum	RT	200
4/06	Konong Wootong Reservoir	BT	2,000		Hamilton Lake	RT	200
	Konong Wootong Reservoir	RT	1,000		Coleraine Lagoon	RT	250
9/06	Mount Emu Creek	BT	2,000		Ess Lagoon	RT	500
10/06	Eildon Pondage Weir	BT	50	22/06	Berwick Springs Estate Lake	RT	1,000
	Eildon Pondage Weir	RT	200	23/06	Mooroopna Rec Reserve Lake	RT	100
11/06	Mount Emu Creek	BT	1,100		Kennington Reservoir	RT	400
15/06	Garfield Lake	RT	250		Forest Lake	RT	200
	Morwell Lake	RT	750		Tom Thumb Lake	RT	200
	Hyland Lake	RT	100		Old St Arnaud Swimming Pool	RT	200
	Heyfield Racecourse Lake	RT	200	24/06	Quarry Street Reserve Lake	RT	200
	Guthridge Lake	RT	250		Haddon Reservoir	RT	200
15/06	Glenlyon Dam	RT	200		Tea Tree Lake	RT	200
	Calembeen Lake	RT	200		Pertobe Lake	RT	300
	Esmond Lake	RT	250		Cobden Lake	RT	200
	Victoria Lakes	RT	400	26/06	Lillydale Lake	RT	300
	Alexandra Lake	RT	200	25/06	Lillydale Lake	RT	850
	Cato Lake	RT	300	30/06	Purrumbete Lake	BT	2,750
17/06	Don Lake	RT	200	02/07	Banboola Lake	BT	3,000
	Emerald Lake	RT	500	06/07	Hume Lake	BT	5,000
	Rowville Lakes	RT	550	07/07	Holland Creek	BT	1,000
17/06	Arboretum Dam	RT	200		Ryans Creek	BT	500
	Fosters Dam	RT	200	08/07	Hume Lake	BT	3,270
	Sambell Lake	RT	500	09/07	Hume Lake	RT	5,000
	Allans Flat Dredge Hole	RT	250		Purrumbete Lake	BT	5,000
18/06	Navan Lake	RT	300	13/07	Hume Lake	RT	5,000
	Darlingford Lake	RT	300	15/07	Blue Rock Lake	BT	4,250
	Seagull Lake	RT	800	16/07	Hume Lake	BT	5,000
	St Augustines Water Hole	RT	300	20/07	Rocklands Reservoir	BT	2,500
	Bannockburn Lagoon	RT	200		Rocklands Reservoir	RT	2,500
	Lethbridge Lake	RT	200	22/07	Blue Rock Lake	BT	750
	Karkarook Lake	RT	900		Blue Rock Lake	RT	1,500
	Casey Fields Lake	RT	500	24/07	Jubilee Lake	RT	380
19/06	Yarrambat Lake	RT	300	27/07	Bellfield Reservoir	RT	5,000
	Jackroper Reserve	RT	300	29/07	Hume Lake	BT	5,000
	Roxburgh Park Lakes	RT	250	31/07	Hume Lake	BT	5,000

(BT = brown trout, RT = rainbow trout)