



# Fish-e-Fax

A fortnightly round-up of recreational fishery management issues

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## ***Goulburn River trout stocking a huge success***

Fisheries Victoria has released 2300 trout (1500 rainbow and 800 brown trout) at nine locations along the Goulburn River between the Eildon Pondage and Molesworth as part of a three-year stocking and monitoring trial. All of these trout are of a catchable size (greater than 200 grams) with more than half weighing between 1 and 3 kilograms. The stocking is generating a significant boost for regional economies trying to recover from the bushfires.

To raise awareness of the high quality recreational fishing on offer in the Goulburn River, three of the recently liberated trout have been dart tagged before being released. A competition has been set up whereby the first angler to catch one of these tagged trout is eligible for one of three prize packs valued at \$250 each which have been provided by local fishing tackle retailers.

A lucky Yarra Glen angler, Daniel Bouma caught one of the tagged fish on Saturday 5 September, which also marked the opening of trout season. The one kilogram rainbow trout was caught on a Celta lure during an exciting four hour morning fishing session.

Anglers catching one of the two remaining tagged fish can claim some great new fishing gear as a prize from local bait and tackle shops. To claim a prize, the claimant must contact the DPI Centre at Alexandra on 5772 0200 and provide the following information (within 48 hours of capture):

- a. Tag number;
- b. Name and address;
- c. Recreational Fishing Licence number (or reason for exemption); and
- d. Date, time and specific location of capture.

More information on the competition can be obtained by ringing the DPI Customer Service Centre on 136 186 or visiting [www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing).

## ***New Fisheries Consultative Body calling for members***

Participants from Victoria's fishing sector are being sought to join a new Fisheries Consultative Body which will help to guide Victoria's statutory consultative processes in relation to fisheries.

The creation of the new body follows the passage of new legislation in July 2009 to establish clear principles to guide fisheries consultation in the future.

Fisheries Victoria has high expectations for effectively engaging stakeholders and seeking their views when making decisions about the use and conservation of Victoria's fisheries resources.

The Fisheries Consultative Body will provide advice on the design and implementation of purpose-specific and cost effective engagement processes on matters requiring consultation under the *Fisheries Act 1995*.

It will include people who have skills, expertise and knowledge regarding fishing and fisheries related matters from each of the following fisheries sectors:

- Recreational fishing;
- Commercial fishing;
- Aquaculture;
- Aboriginal fishing; and
- Conservation interests.

FCB members will require comprehensive knowledge of their sector in order to provide advice on who should be consulted on a matter and how they should be best consulted.

Expressions of Interest for membership of the Fisheries Consultative Body close on Friday 23 October 2009. For more information visit [www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing) For an Expression of Interest form contact Mr Robin Billen from Horton International on (03) 9650 2555.

## ***'Catch a New Hobby' with Port Phillip and Western Port Let's Go Fishing Guide***

Fisheries Victoria has released two information guides to help beginner anglers 'catch a new hobby' in Port Phillip Bay and Western Port this spring. The free guides complement other popular products, such as the 2009 Calendar, Let's Go Fishing cards and the Family Fishing Guide.

These are all produced as part of the \$3.2 million Go Fishing in Victoria initiative, which aims to make fishing more appealing to families. The new guides feature tips on how to catch popular species such as King George whiting, flathead and snapper, and handy hints on what bait to use, the best tides and hot spots for each species.

Each guide contains a map which identifies nine shore-based fishing destinations in each of Western Port and Port Phillip Bay. They describe each destination, identify useful family amenities such as toilets, playgrounds and car parking and even include a Melway reference to help you get there with minimum fuss.

Printed on water-resistant paper to withstand the occasional splash in the great outdoors, the guides will be great for parents who want to get their children involved in a healthy outdoor activity but don't have much knowledge of fishing themselves. These guides are a fabulous addition to Hopkins River Let's Go Fishing Guide and are sure to be a popular item.

Both guides are available free of charge for a limited time by calling 136 186, contacting DPI offices in the metropolitan region or emailing your name and postal address to [go.fishing@dpi.vic.gov.au](mailto:go.fishing@dpi.vic.gov.au).