



Media Release

DATE: January 18th 2007

FROM THE OFFICE OF VRFISH – VICTORIAS' RECREATIONAL FISHING PEAK BODY

HAVE YOUR SAY ON BAG AND SIZE LIMITS...

Victoria's Fisheries Regulations, had their last major review almost ten years ago and is due for a full review by March 2008. The Victorian Recreational Fishing Peak Body (VRFish) will be undertaking a full review of the Regulations and providing a submission containing recommendations for change to Fisheries Victoria on behalf of Victoria's recreational fishers.

The review by VRFish will be unrestricted in scope within the fisheries regulations, so all inputs are welcome, however, it is clear that there will be a process applied to the area of size and bag limits to ensure that these reflect a sustainable and appropriate framework for our contemporary fisheries and the future. The review will also be seeking to make the regulations as simple and readable as possible.

It should be noted that the provisions of the Flora & Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 may not allow the fisheries review to make certain changes with regard to some freshwater natives.

VRFish have formed a Review Panel from its members and Board representatives. The Review Panel is charged with the task of seeking views and opinions from Victorian Recreational Fishers on the current Fisheries Regulations and suggested changes with the view of formulating a submission to Fisheries Victoria. The Review Panel is very interested in obtaining your thoughts, opinions and suggestions on how the current Regulations can be improved and where possible made simpler. All members of the Review Panel are willing to talk to you, as VRFish's submission is your collective submission.

The Review Panel consists of the following VRFish members:

Doug Evers-Buckland [Chair]	Metropolitan
Pat Washington	Gippsland/Eastern Vic
Rob Loats	Western Victoria
Brett Moyes	Metropolitan
Gordon Howlett	Metropolitan
Mike Edwards	Central Victoria

For a full listing of current bag and size limits, please refer to the Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide 2006-2007 www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing.

For a copy of the Fisheries Regulations 1998, follow the links through 'Victorian Law Today' www.dms.dpc.vic.gov.au.

No matter where you fish, whether you are a member of a club or not, your say is important to VRFish. Your say can be sent direct to VRFish at fishregs@vrfish.com.au for inclusion in our submission. Any comments or submissions should be provided to VRFish by Monday 19 February 2007.

Once the submission has been completed it will be posted on the VRFish website and sent to Fisheries for their review. This submission will contain the Recreational Fishers wants and needs for now and the next ten years.

This is your opportunity to have a say in the future of the fisheries regulations, so please make it count.

VRFish – Victoria's Recreational Fishing Peak Body
Marine House, Ground Floor, 24 York Street South Melbourne Vic 3205
Telephone: 9686 7077 Facsimile: 9682 1066 www.vrfish.com.au