



# Media Release

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

## **RECREATIONAL FISHING BENEFITS FROM \$296,000 FUNDING.....**

Victorian recreational fishers will benefit from the Australian Governments funding of 14 recreational fishing projects.

The Australian Government has allocated up to \$296,244 for 14 projects in Victoria under Round 1 of the Recreational Fishing Community Grants Programme. This Program is contributing \$15 million over three years for projects that enhance recreational fishing opportunities and activities throughout Australia in fresh and salt water.

Victorias slice of the funding was welcomed by VRFish, Victorias recreational Fishing Peak Body. Executive Officer, David Kramer said "This is a great programme that recreational fishers should be thankful for. The Australian Government is injecting a huge amount of money to improve recreational fishing. This is a clear sign of the value this Government puts on recreational fishing's' contribution to the economy and lifestyle of so many Australians."

Mr Kramer continued, "Victorias allocation could have been bigger had more organisations applied for funding for projects that meet the programmes guidelines. The \$5 million allocated for all states for this year has not been fully allocated, so Round 2 has opened and will close on 17 March 2006".

VRFish was pleased to see that it played a helping hand in 6 of the 14 successful projects. In particular, 2 organisations that host recreational activities for the disabled were successful in obtaining \$26,000 after taking advice from VRFish on how to apply for funding.

The Geelong and Apollo Bay areas also benefited from funding of \$90,000 for 2 projects after VRFish Board member, John Hotchin assisted preparing applications for these projects.

VRFish is willing to assist any organisation to apply for funding through this programme and would like to play an increasing role in assisting Project applicants in the future to ensure Victoria gets an increased share of funding to improve recreational fishing for all Victorians.

Further information on Round 2 of the Recreational Fishing Community Grants Programme is available at [www.daff.gov.au/recfishinggrants](http://www.daff.gov.au/recfishinggrants) or by email [fishinggrants@daff.gov.au](mailto:fishinggrants@daff.gov.au)

VRFish – Victoria's Recreational Fishing Peak Body  
Suite 509, 89 High Street Kew VIC. 3101

Telephone: 9854 6167 Facsimile: 9854 6169 Web: [www.vrfish.com.au](http://www.vrfish.com.au)

## **Victorian Recreational Fishing Community Grants Programme Round 1 Grant Recipients**

### **Apollo Bay Fishing Group**

The Apollo Bay Fishing Group will receive up to \$76,995 to build a fishing cleaning and education station and floating jetty at Apollo Bay.

### **Tigrey Pty Ltd**

Tigrey Pty Ltd will receive up to \$49,844 for the project 'Hook to Cook and Not Getting Crook'. The project will, through the Recfish Australia web site, inform recreational fishers about issues relating to fish and seafood food safety.

### **Allansford and District Angling Club Inc.**

The Allansford Club will receive up to \$31,450 to build a rigid floating fishing jetty on the Hopkins River.

### **Fishcare Melbourne**

Fishcare Melbourne will receive up to \$31,127 for the Fishcare Port Phillip Region – 'Embracing our Estuaries' project to establish a formal link between four existing Fishcare volunteer groups in the region, and develop and deliver a comprehensive package of educational programs with recreational fishing significance.

### **Fishcare East Gippsland Inc.**

Fishcare East Gippsland will receive up to \$26,400 for 'Fishing for Everyone Forever' to promote responsible fishing in East Gippsland. The project will provide holiday family fishing workshops and other recreational fishing activities at popular tourist locations.

### **Australian National Sportfishing Assn, Vic. Branch Inc Vic. Tag Programme**

The Vic. Tag programme will receive up to \$22,780 to tag 5,000 bream in the Gippsland Lakes system and 5,000 King George whiting in the state's bays, inlets and coastal waters.

### **Rosebud Motor Boat Squadron**

The Rosebud Motor Boat Squadron will receive up to \$21,000 to build a community jetty and boat ramp.

### **Association of Geelong and District Angling Clubs Inc.**

The Geelong and District Angling Clubs will receive up to \$13,000 to upgrade the Murdeduke boat ramp.

### **Tooradin Foreshore Committee of Management**

The Tooradin Foreshore Management Committee will receive up to \$6,100 to build an access track to Second Island off Sattells Inlet, Toorandin. The pathway will provide safe and defined access to an area popular with recreational fishers.

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**Corinella Foreshore Reserve Inc.**

The Corinella Foreshore Reserve will receive up to \$5,600 to revamp Finger Jetty No 1. The project will involve replacing the ladders and fenders on the loading jetty associated with the public launching ramp.

**Care Connect Pty Ltd**

Care Connect Men's Recreational Fishing Group will receive up to \$4,848 to enable men suffering from brain injury to participate in recreational fishing activities with the group.

**Crib Point Stony Point Foreshore Committee of Management Inc.**

The Committee of Management will receive up to \$3,000 for a solar light at Stony Point to provide safe lighting for fishermen using the ramp and cleaning tables.

**Great Ocean Road Coast Committee of Management**

The Committee of Management will receive up to \$2,600 for a fish cleaning table at Anglesea boat ramp.

**Horsham Fishing Competition Inc.**

The Horsham Fishing Competition will receive up to \$1,500 for education for sustainable aquatic habitats at the competition event. The project will develop and distribute a pamphlet that will seek Wimmera River anglers' help in maintaining the revegetated riparian zones of the river.

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