



Media Release

DATE: May 19th, 2008

FROM THE OFFICE OF VRFISH – VICTORIA’S RECREATIONAL FISHING PEAK BODY

NEW BOAT RAMP IS THE TALK OF TORQUAY!

The Victorian Recreational Fishing Peak Body (VRFish) Chairman, Geoff Cramer, today complimented the Minister for Roads and Ports, Tim Pallas, on the announcement of the release of tenders to build a new ramp adjacent to the Torquay Angling Club.

The Victorian Government announced earlier this year that it would provide \$749,000.00 to construct a two lane beach access ramp, with two single lane inter-tidal side ramps, at Torquay through Marine Safety Victoria’s *Boating Safety and Facilities Program* funded by recreational boat operator licensing fees and vessel registration revenue:

Mr Cramer said “VRFish have raised concerns about the inadequate state of boat launching facilities at Torquay and see the announcement of this tender process as a major contributor to boat launching facilities and the safety of all recreational boaters in the region”

“As Torquay and the entire Surf Coast region is experiencing phenomenal population growth we are especially pleased to see that the outdated and decaying boat launching ramp at Torquay is to be replaced with greatly improved facilities.” VRFish has long considered this ramp one of the highest priorities requiring improvements in the State.”

He also pointed out that the recreational fishing industry contributes \$1.7 Billion p.a. to the Victorian economy, especially the manufacturing sector which produces boats, trailers and accessories for recreational fishing. Approximately 75% of trailerable boats manufactured in Victoria are for recreational fishing purposes.

“We welcome this initiative by the Brumby Government and their support for recreational fishing and we look forward to the commencement of works on this very worthwhile project” concluded Geoff.

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