



MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE  
VRFISH OFFICE  
APRIL 2006

## Welcome to the Monthly Report from the VRFish Office.

This newsletter should be sent on to all clubs and members of associations that you represent. Anyone wishing to receive this newsletter directly can e-mail Alison at [alison@vrfish.com.au](mailto:alison@vrfish.com.au) to be added to the distribution list.

- **VRFish farewell's David** – Our Executive Officer, David Kramer, has been drawn away to the fishing in Queensland – I think the tourism slogan caught his eye 'beautiful one day, perfect the next!' David will be sadly missed by the VRFish team, along with his positive and outgoing nature. Over the last nine months, David's contributions to VRFish and the recreational fishing community has been invaluable. David has achieved so much in such a short period of time, such as the release of the new three-year recreational fishing licence and building strong relationships with Stakeholders. The VRFish Board wishes David all the very best in his future endeavours. We will be expecting some great fishing stories to head south from time to time.
- **Three-year recreational fishing licence** – The Premier's Office has notified the fishing community that the three-year recreational fishing licence (RFL) is now available. The three-year RFL costs \$60, providing a 10 per cent saving compared to the three years of annual licences. Anglers who purchase a three-year licence will also receive a reminder notice shortly before their licence is due to expire. The RFL is available from many Department of Primary Industries (DPI) offices, online at the DPI website and more than 980 retail businesses throughout Victoria, including most retail fishing tackle stores. A complete list of licence outlets is available on the DPI website: [www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing). The same exemptions apply to the three-year RFL as other RFL's i.e. under 18 years of age or 70 years of age or over, or the holder of an appropriate concession card.
- **Glenelg Hopkins Inland Fishery Management Plan** – Fisheries Victoria has released the draft Glenelg Hopkins Inland Fishery Management Plan and is seeking comments. The purpose of the Management Plan is to specify the objectives, strategies and performance measures for managing recreational fishing activities in the estuaries, rivers, lakes and impoundments across the Glenelg Hopkins Region. Submissions are due to Fisheries Victoria by 30 June 2006; see the Department of Primary Industries website for further details, <http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing>. VRFish who have been involved in the development of the draft plan through the stakeholder steering committee will also make a submission through this process.
- **Anderson Inlet Fisheries Reserve Management Plan** – After several months of drafting and stakeholder consultation, the Anderson Inlet Fisheries Reserve Management Plan has been declared. Copies of the Plan can be obtained from the Department of Primary Industries website, <http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing>. The Plan sets out the objectives, strategies and performance measures for managing activities within the fisheries reserve.

- **Remaking of Fisheries (Inland Fish Habitat) Notice 2006** – Fisheries Victoria has remade the Fisheries (Inland Fish Habitat) Notice to extend the strengthened legislative protection for fish habitat in selected waters affected by dry conditions for an additional 12-month period, which commenced on 24 March 2006. The intention of the Notice is to provide enhanced protection from harvest to exposed dead timber, known to form critical fish habitat when submerged during non-dry years. A copy of the Fisheries Notice can be obtained from the VRFish office.
- **Economic and Social Valuation Studies for key Bay and Inlet Fish Species** – The Fisheries Co-Management Council (FCC) have released two reports, 'Victorian Bay & Inlet Fisheries Resource Allocation Valuation Study' and 'Community Preferences for Alternative Uses of Key Victorian Fish Resources', were commissioned by Fisheries Victoria on the Economic and Social Valuation Studies for key Bay and Inlet Fish Species, these key species include: Snapper, King George Whiting, Bream, Garfish and Calamari Squid. Copies of the reports can be obtained from the FCC website, <http://www.fcc.vic.gov.au>.
- **Upcoming events-**
  - 29/5 – Club talk – South Gippsland Angling Clubs Association Meeting