



MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE VRFISH OFFICE AUGUST 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 to be added to the distribution list.

- **Measures for Control Area Extended** – Fisheries Victoria has reissued another Fisheries Notice to restrict abalone fishing activities to provide for assessment of the impact of the herpes-like virus on stocks and the revision of the harvesting strategy. The Fisheries Notice applies to the area bounded by the high water mark from approximately one kilometer west of Craggs car park to Killarney Beach car park and includes marine water extending seaward for between 500 to 700 metres. The Notice will also reduce the risk of the virus spreading by human activity. The Notice has been introduced for a period of 60 days starting on 15 August 2006. For full details and a detailed map of the control area, check out www.vrfish.com.au/angler_info
- **Transit Only Zone** – The Port of Melbourne Corporation has extended the Transit Only Zone in Port Phillip Bay. The new regulations state that “the owner, master or person in charge of a vessel must not allow a vessel to be anchored in a channel that is marked with beacons or buoys. Also “the operator, master or person in charge of a vessel must not use a Transit Zone other than for transiting of the vessel and must not permit the vessel to be anchored in, or allow the vessel to drift in a Transit Zone”. Boaters please take care as marking of the additional area to the south of the existing buoyed areas will not be installed until mid September. For a detailed map check out http://www.vrfish.com.au/Angler_Info.htm.
- **2006/2007 VRFish Business Plan** – boring news but important! VRFish has released its 2006/2007 Business Plan. This document will guide VRFish through the next twelve months, we have some big challenges ahead but the reward of addressing these challenges will help achieve our vision ‘to ensure full access to a diverse and healthy Victorian recreational fishery’ and mission ‘to represent and advocate the interests of the Victorian recreational fishing community’.
- **Recfishing Awards Nominations** – Recfish Australia has initiated the inaugural Recfishing Awards to acknowledge individuals contributions toward recreational fishing. Hundreds of people who are passionate about recreational and sport fishing have for many years, in some cases decades, been the backbone or cornerstone or representing the interests of the recreational and sport fishing industry to governments, its agencies and to many other groups that can and do have an impact on recreational fishing. Much of their work and effort goes unnoticed by the millions that enjoy recreational fishing. The nomination form is available from the Recfish Australia website www.recfish.com.au. Nominations close 18 September 2006.

- **Community Grant Programs of Melbourne Water and Port Phillip & Westernport CMA** – three grant programs have been streamlined to provide a single point of application for the Port Phillip & Westernport CMA Community Grants Program, Melbourne Water Community Grants Program and the Melbourne Water Corridors or Green Program. Grants will be offered for Group Support Grants, Group Promotion and Develop Grants and Project Grants. Applications close Friday 6 October 2006. For further details check out www.melbournewater.com.au and www.ppwcm.vic.gov.au.
- **Family Fishing at Lilydale Lake** – the inaugural family fishing day, as part of the Go Fishing in Victoria initiative will be held at Lilydale Lake on Saturday 16 September 2006 between the hours of 9am to 3pm. This initiative aims to promote recreational fishing and tourism opportunities throughout Victoria. To avoid disappointment, Fisheries Victoria strongly encourages participants to register for the event through the Department of Primary Industries Customer Service Centre 136 186. This will guarantee a place in the various workings and activities held during the day. A detailed timetable of this event will be published in Fish-e-Fax Issue 180 to be issued on 14 September 2006. Family fishing events will be held on a regular basis at five Premier Lakes throughout Victoria: Lilydale Lake, Eildon Pondage, Kennington Reservoir (Bendigo), Jubilee Lake (Daylesford) and Hyland Lake (Churchill). (*Source Fish-e-Fax Issue 179*)
- **Upcoming events -**
 - 8/9 – VRFish Board Meeting, Kew
 - 9/9 – VRFish Annual General Meeting and State Council Meeting, Beaumaris Motor Yacht Squadron
 - 16/9 – Premier Lake Family Fishing Day, Yarra Valley Fly Fishers Club, Lilydale Lake
 - 3-4/10 – Rock Lobster and Giant Crab TAC Management Forum, PIRVic, Queenscliff