



Media Release

FROM THE OFFICE OF VRFISH - VICTORIA'S
RECREATIONAL FISHING PEAK BODY

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GROWING OUR OWN FISH FOR THE FUTURE

VRFish, the peak body representing Victorian recreational fishers, welcomes the commitment to build a new purpose-built native fish hatchery in Victorian by a re-elected Labor Government.

VRFish Chairman, Mr. Rob Loats said, "VRFish have been advocating for a new native fish hatchery. We need to be growing our own fish to secure Victoria's fishing future."

A re-elected Labor will commit \$7 million to build a new native fish hatchery in Shepparton to breed warm water native species such as Murray cod and golden perch.

Recreational fishing in Victoria is booming with over 6-million fish stocked in the past year, however, close to 4-million were purchased from interstate suppliers.

"Our native freshwater fisheries are growing in popularity. A new hatchery is necessary to keep up with demand and ensure we can continue to boost Victorian native fish stocks."

A purpose-built hatchery will better suit the needs of warm water native fish than the only Victorian Government run hatchery, Snob's Creek Hatchery, which was established to breed cooler water salmonids.

"We look forward to seeing the Liberal-National's plan to boost our Victorian native fish stocks."

VRFish will continue to advocate for the future of recreational fishing in Victoria. This once again demonstrates the value of having a strong and independent recreational fishing peak body.



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