



## Media Release

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

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### **BRINGING NATIVE FISHING TO SUBURBAN ANGLERS**

VRFish, the peak body representing Victoria's 838,000 recreational fishers, is ecstatic to see the first native fish stocked as part of a new metropolitan lakes native fish stocking program by the Andrews Labor Government.

VRFish Chairman, Mr. Rob Loats said, "VRFish have long advocated for more native fish to be stocked outside of their natural range into metropolitan lakes to boost the quality of fishing in suburban areas."

"Ron Lewis, VRFish's delegate from Native Fish Australia, championed such a program for well over a decade and I thank him for his efforts that have led to today's historic stocking."

The metropolitan lakes native fish stocking program was launched today by Minister for Fishing and Boating, Jaala Pulford with stocking of 250 'ready-to-catch' Murray cod into Karkarook Lake in Moorabbin.

Further stockings of native fish are planned for lakes at Rowville, Lilydale, Casey Fields, Navan Park, Roxburgh and Melton.

"Recreational anglers enjoy the thrill of catching our iconic natives like Murray cod, golden perch and silver perch but not everyone can regularly travel to regional areas to target them. Stocking natives into suburban lakes provides recreational fishers, particularly kids and their families, with quality fishing opportunities closer to home."

"Fishing is a terrific, family friendly activity. By stocking natives into suburban areas, there is an opportunity to increase angler participation which is the key objective of the State Government's 'Target One Million' to get more people fishing, more often."

"We look forward to working with the State Government and the Victorian Fisheries Authority to identify other urban waters that could be transformed into quality recreational fisheries."



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