



Media Release

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

30 OCTOBER 2020

FEDERAL FISH HABITAT FUNDING FLOWS TO VICTORIA

VRFish, the peak body representing the interests of Victoria's recreational fishers, commends the Morrison Government's investment of nearly \$3-million in nine coastal and marine habitat restoration projects across Victoria.

VRFish Chairman, Mr. Rob Loats, said "We welcome the investment in our marine and coastal habitat which will deliver more snags and 'fish hotels', restore vital living shellfish reef, mangroves and seagrass habitats and healthier waterways."

"Recreational fishers are passionate conservationists and are at the forefront of fish habitat restoration efforts. Healthy habitat is vital to making fishing better and providing anglers with more fishing opportunities."

VRFish is offering its support to the implementation of the *Fisheries Habitat Restoration Program* projects by Victoria's coastal Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs) as well as promoting ways recreational fishers can roll up their sleeves and give back to their fishery.

"Our vision to make fishing better through better fish habitat and we are proud of the strong partnerships recreational fishers have with our catchment managers in Victoria."

The projects will benefit habitat that estuarine and coastal recreational species such as black bream, estuary perch, snapper, whiting and flathead rely upon.

"Through restoring fish habitat, there will be an immense long-term benefit to recreational fishers through healthy, resilient and more productive fish stocks."

Recreational fishers seeking to become involved in these coastal and marine fish habitat projects are encouraged to make contact with OzFish Unlimited www.ozfish.org.au or the respective Catchment Management Authority.



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Habitat



Water



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Fisheries Habitat Restoration Program – Victorian Funded Projects

Barwon Estuary Fish Habitat Restoration Project	VIC	\$298,677	Corangamite Catchment Management Authority
Corio Bay Fish Habitat Project	VIC	\$297,795	Corangamite Catchment Management Authority
Port Phillip Community Shellfish Reef Project	VIC	\$299,000	Port Phillip Western Port CMA
Reel Big Fish – Western Port	VIC	\$305,000	Port Phillip Western Port CMA
Snowy River Estuary Fish Habitat Restoration Program	VIC	\$495,262	East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority
Corner Inlet Posidonia Partnerships: fishers protecting water quality and restoring seagrass	VIC	\$400,001	West Gippsland CMA
Curdies Estuary Fish Habitat Restoration Project	VIC	\$298,886	Corangamite Catchment Management Authority
Enhancing estuaries in the Portland Basin	VIC	\$285,201	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Habitat for the rivers of Warrnambool	VIC	\$301,795	Glenelg Hopkins CMA



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