



## Media Release

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

4 JUNE 2021

### **MARIBYRNONG RIVER RECREATIONAL FISHERS SOLD TO THE DOGS**

VRFish, the recreational fishing peak body in Victoria, today questioned the State Member for Essendon District Danny Pearson for his blindside delivered to recreational boaters in his electorate and the many Victorian recreational boaters and fishers who like nothing better than to cruise up the 'Nong'.

VRFish Chairman, Mr. Rob Loats, said "Victorian recreational fishers and boaters should be rightly miffed at the State Member's abandonment of more than 10,000 recreational boaters in his electorate, 5,500 of whom live in the Moonee Valley LGA."

"A Facebook post with a copy of a Ministerial letter that he hadn't bothered to send is an affront to all the people who put the many hard yards into this project with his encouragement."

"To also think that local government councillors have been underhandedly working with an anti-fishing environment group and dog walkers to pressure the State Member into reversing his support, I don't know which is worse."

"We will be calling on the Andrews Labor Government to honour its better boating and fishing election promise and deliver on safe access to the Maribyrnong River."

"I now call on all Victorian boaters and fishers to speak up and let the Minister for Fishing and Boating know that you support improved recreational boating access to the Maribyrnong River."

"This doesn't bode well for any of the planned future boating improvements across Victoria. The dog walkers may come after your river next," said Rob Loats.

Send your letter of support for improved access to the Maribyrnong River to the Minister for Fishing and Boating, The Hon. Melissa Horne, by contacting [melissa.horne@minstaff.vic.gov.au](mailto:melissa.horne@minstaff.vic.gov.au)

**ENDS**

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