



Chief Executive Officer

10^h October 2024.

Victorian Fisheries Authority

Re: FISHERIES (PORTLAND BAY COMMERCIAL FISHERY) NOTICE 2024

Dear Travis,

As a Life Member of the Portland Sport Fishing Club Inc. I note that the Portland Bay Commercial Fishery notice 2024 is nearing its expiry date.

We therefore write to you registering our support for the actions taken to date, as well as seeking the continuation of the notice until the Fisheries Act 1995 is able to be amended to reflect the measures taken.

As you are aware the topic of netting within Portland Bay stirred many emotions within the Recreational sector when it last occurred, so extending the current notice period is seen as vital by not only our members, but also the larger recreational fishing community.

On top of the large number of Portland residents that fish there are many anglers within a 250 kilometre radius that visit Portland regularly to fish the more protected waters of Portland Bay.

On top of the previously mentioned angler groups there are also the ones that travel from further away with their families and friends for extended visits. If netting were to resume within the currently designated zone, the impacts to Portland as a recreational fishing destination of choice would be significant.

I ask that the continuation be granted at your earliest opportunity to ensure Portland Bay retains its current level of protection from commercial netting.

Thank you for your time and kindest regards,

Darren Dyson
Portland Sport Fishing Member