

14 January 2022

Victorian Fisheries Authority Via email <u>Lachlan.smith@vfa.vic.gov.au</u>

Dear Sir,

RE: Draft Corner Inlet Fishery Management Plan

Thank you for the opportunity for Wellington Shire Council to comment on the release of the draft Corner Inlet Fishery Management Plan ('Draft Plan').

Council welcomes the preparation of the Draft Plan and the identified Vision that:

Corner Inlet is a productive and sustainable fishery that supports the interests of all user groups, is highly valued by the broader public for supplying outstanding quality seafood for Victorians and provides one of the State's best recreational fishing experiences.

As identified in the Draft Plan, the Corner Inlet fishery is one of Victoria's and Gippsland's most important fisheries. It is a significant local seafood supplier, supports significant economic activity and employment (including within the Wellington Shire), and provides Victoria's best recreational fishing experiences. Therefore, the establishment of a holistic Draft Plan to guide future management of the fishery, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, is supported.

The proposal to establish an ongoing, stakeholder-based Corner Inlet Fishery Management Advisory Committee (CIFMAC) is seen as a positive initiative to ensure that all stakeholders are closely involved in future management decisions of the fishery resource.

Following consultation and consideration of submissions received, the Council looks forward to the finalisation of the Corner Inlet Fishery Management Plan.

Yours sincerely

BRENT MCALISTER General Manager Development

ECM Ref: 2888549

