



# Recreational Fishing Licence Trust Account 2019-20

A report to each House of Parliament on the disbursement  
of Recreational Fishing Licence Revenue



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Cover image: Woody habitat placed in a stretch of the Goulburn River by the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority which will benefit populations of Murray cod, golden perch and other native fish species, and improve recreational fishing.

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# Foreword

## A report to each House of Parliament on the disbursement of Recreational Fishing Licence Revenue from the Recreational Fishing Licence Trust Account, 2019-20

Every year the revenue that is collected from the sale of Recreational Fishing Licences is paid into the Recreational Fishing Licence (RFL) Trust Account, and the funds are then used for projects and activities that improve recreational fishing in Victoria in many ways.

As the Minister for Fishing and Boating, I recognise the significant contribution that recreational fishing continues to make to the State's economy and the social wellbeing it brings to those who participate in this popular outdoor activity.

Over the past 12 months, the Recreational Fishing Grants Working Group has continued to provide valuable advice on how RFL funds should be disbursed through the Recreational Fishing Grants Program.

In August 2020, I announced that over \$510,322.37 (GST exclusive) will be allocated to 10 new projects through the 2019-20 round of the Large Grants Program. These projects include continuation of the Victorian Wild Trout Fisheries Management program, habitat restoration in the Gippsland Lakes, Pyramid Creek near Kerang, and the Mitta Mitta River, improved access at Rainbow Lake and the Campaspe River at Rochester, and solar lighting along the St Helen's rock wall at Geelong.

A further \$453,000 was allocated via the Commissioning Grants Program; \$290,000 to produce a range of popular education and communication products that assist recreational anglers to understand and comply with fishing regulations, and \$163,000 for the monitoring of key marine and estuarine fisheries.

The Small Grants Program has continued to be popular with \$66,506.38 being provided for 30 projects during 2019-20. This program has now funded over 405 projects worth more than \$1,034,000 since its inception in 2010.

During 2019-20, Recreational Fishing Licence Trust Account funds were also committed or disbursed to fund:

- Increased fish stocking into lakes and rivers, including Murray cod and golden perch into iconic waters such as the Goulburn River, Lake Eildon, Lake Eppalock, Rocklands Reservoir, and brown trout and chinook salmon into the renowned crater lakes, Bullen Merri and Purrumbete;
- The deployment of 13 Fisheries Officers to boost enforcement and education and protect our valuable fisheries;
- Programs and projects under the Target One Million Phase 2 Plan, which has included even more fish stocking as well as improvements to on-water access for recreational fishing at key inland reservoirs including Barkers Creek, Tullaroop, Lauriston, Upper Coliban, Malmsbury and Hepburn Lagoon;
- VRFish, to provide advice to the Victorian Government about the broad range of recreational fishers' views on the management of the State's fisheries resources;
- The Victorian Fishcare program, which delivers responsible fishing education and events to the community;
- Projects approved through previous rounds of the Recreational Fishing Grants Program; and
- The costs incurred in the administration of the Recreational Fishing Licence and Grants Program, including Recreational Fishing Licence commissions paid to sellers.

I'm sure that recreational fishers across the state would be very happy to know that money from their licence fees is being put towards increased fish stocking, better facilities, improved habitat, fisheries research, and more enforcement and education. There is no doubt that this investment will keep recreational fishing in Victoria as good as it can possibly be and ensure that it is enjoyed by the next generation of anglers and well into the future.

I have pleasure in providing to each House of Parliament this report on the receipts and disbursements from the Recreational Fishing Licence Trust Account for 2019-20.



**The Hon Melissa Horne MP**  
Minister for Fishing and Boating  
**08 December 2020**

## Fisheries Act 1995

Pursuant to Section 151B(4) of the *Fisheries Act 1995*, the Minister (responsible for Victoria's fisheries) must cause a report on how amounts paid into the Recreational Fishing Licence (RFL) Trust Account were disbursed –

- (a) to be prepared by 1 October each year; and
- (b) to be laid before each House of Parliament on or before the seventh sitting day of that House after the report has been prepared.

For the information of Honourable Members, the RFL Trust Account came into effect on 1 April 2001.

The role of the Victorian Fisheries Authority is to administer the Recreational Fishing Licence Program and manage the amounts determined by the Minister for Fishing and Boating for the purpose of improving recreational fishing.

The Victorian Fisheries Authority also administers the Recreational Fishing Grants Program and provides support to the Recreational Fishing Grants Working Group which provides advice to the Minister for Fishing and Boating on how funds from the sale of licences should be spent to improve recreational fishing in Victoria.

The 2019-20 financial year is the nineteenth full year of the RFL Trust Account's operation.

The Victorian Auditor-General's Office has audited the receipts received, and disbursements made from the RFL Trust Account in 2019-20.

# Enforcement & Education

In 2019-20, Recreational Fishing Licence (RFL) Trust Account receipts contributed \$2,016,409 to the Victorian Fisheries Authority's compliance budget.

RFL Trust Account receipts, when added to ongoing recurrent funding of fisheries compliance (education and enforcement) activities, contributes substantially to the delivery of recreational fisheries compliance services in Victorian coastal and inland locations.

Fisheries Officers have continued to have good contact with recreational fishers in the field during the last year. Table 1 summarises yearly totals for contacts in the recreational fishing sector. The work is divided into categories based on species, locations or other activities. Over 64,000 total contacts were made with recreational fishers by Fisheries Officers during the reporting period. Compliance contacts with Fisheries Officers totalled over 54,400, with Table 1 showing the number of offenders, verbal warnings, official warnings, infringement notices, and briefs of evidence for the year.

In addition, Fisheries Officers attended 10 angling club meetings, conducted 5,677 advisory contacts with recreational fishers and over 4,000 contacts during recreational fishing related shows, forums, clinics and events.

All Fisheries Officers provide services to the recreational fishing sector and interact with recreational fishers through:

- contact with recreational fishers in the field;
- attending angling club meetings;
- attending recreational fishing-related shows, family fishing events, forums and clinics;
- attending fish stocking events;
- liaising with grant recipients regarding the successful completion of infrastructure projects under the annual Recreational Fishing Grants Program (Large Grants);
- advising fisheries management on issues relating to recreational fishing;
- assisting Fisheries Management, Policy, Science and Licencing Branch on matters relating to recreational fishing;
- responding to recreational fishing issues raised from the 13FISH Offence Reporting Line;
- producing recreational fishing-related media releases/distributing booklets and pamphlets;
- investigating recreational fishing-related offences and prosecuting where necessary;
- collecting intelligence related to recreational fishing offences;
- participating in recreational fishing-related educational activities with school groups and the broader recreational fishing community; and
- engaging with culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

The Victorian Fisheries Authority in conjunction with the recreational fishing community strives to achieve high levels of voluntary compliance amongst recreational fishers. By working collaboratively and by continuing to promote responsible and ethical fishing, we are better positioned to ensure both fish for now and fish for the future.

Table 1.

| Recreational                | Contacts with recreational fishers | Number of offenders | Verbal warnings issued | Official warnings issued | Infringement notices issued | Briefs of evidence compiled |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Abalone Central Waters      | 1,392                              | 205                 | 28                     | 120                      | 150                         | 5                           |
| Abalone (intertidal zone)   | 203                                | 99                  | 14                     | 69                       | 99                          | 8                           |
| Abalone (other waters)      | 382                                | 45                  | 7                      | 23                       | 33                          | 1                           |
| Bass yabbies                | 69                                 | 8                   | 1                      | 4                        | 2                           | 1                           |
| Bay & Inlet - other         | 5,170                              | 338                 | 85                     | 112                      | 124                         | 0                           |
| Bay & Inlet - Port Phillip  | 14,838                             | 1,059               | 212                    | 457                      | 401                         | 8                           |
| Bay & Inlet - Western Port  | 2,519                              | 170                 | 26                     | 81                       | 65                          | 0                           |
| Corner Inlet                | 232                                | 23                  | 9                      | 3                        | 8                           | 0                           |
| Estuary                     | 1,998                              | 134                 | 34                     | 68                       | 30                          | 0                           |
| Freshwater                  | 5,772                              | 499                 | 181                    | 165                      | 145                         | 0                           |
| Golden perch                | 2,306                              | 109                 | 22                     | 40                       | 37                          | 0                           |
| Illegal equipment           | 43                                 | 18                  | 4                      | 9                        | 4                           | 0                           |
| Intertidal - other          | 250                                | 70                  | 13                     | 31                       | 37                          | 0                           |
| Intertidal - pipis          | 832                                | 35                  | 10                     | 15                       | 9                           | 0                           |
| Intertidal - Port Phillip   | 274                                | 127                 | 43                     | 99                       | 49                          | 0                           |
| Intertidal - red shore crab | 303                                | 23                  | 2                      | 14                       | 14                          | 0                           |
| Marine Parks                | 1,742                              | 119                 | 9                      | 39                       | 74                          | 0                           |
| Murray cod                  | 2,085                              | 131                 | 31                     | 43                       | 44                          | 0                           |
| Ocean                       | 5,121                              | 382                 | 64                     | 182                      | 104                         | 3                           |
| Rock lobster                | 461                                | 27                  | 16                     | 9                        | 7                           | 1                           |
| Salmonids                   | 2,223                              | 160                 | 36                     | 46                       | 67                          | 1                           |
| Sand crabs                  | 19                                 | 1                   | 0                      | 0                        | 1                           | 0                           |
| Scallops                    | 56                                 | 0                   | 0                      | 0                        | 0                           | 0                           |
| Spearfishing                | 554                                | 25                  | 7                      | 9                        | 7                           | 0                           |
| Spider crab                 | 221                                | 15                  | 3                      | 8                        | 5                           | 0                           |
| Spiny Cray                  | 484                                | 40                  | 10                     | 21                       | 24                          | 0                           |
| Squid - cephalopods         | 366                                | 7                   | 1                      | 3                        | 0                           | 2                           |
| Tourism Operators           | 23                                 | 0                   | 0                      | 0                        | 0                           | 0                           |
| Trout cod                   | 3                                  | 0                   | 0                      | 0                        | 0                           | 0                           |
| TSV – Marine Safety         | 3,449                              | 605                 | 261                    | 306                      | 192                         | 1                           |
| Tuna                        | 992                                | 22                  | 1                      | 13                       | 8                           | 0                           |
| Yabbies - freshwater        | 100                                | 17                  | 6                      | 10                       | 3                           | 0                           |
| <b>Totals</b>               | <b>54,482</b>                      | <b>4,513</b>        | <b>1,136</b>           | <b>1,999</b>             | <b>1,743</b>                | <b>31</b>                   |

# Snobs Creek Fish Production and Stocking

In 2019-20, Recreational Fishing Licence (RFL) Trust Account receipts contributed \$2,098,440 to the Victorian Fisheries Authority's fish production and stocking budget. This includes \$895,839 of the base amount of \$920,000 (approved by the RFGWG in May 2012, ongoing) to support fish production and stocking from Snobs Creek, and an additional \$1,202,601 from the Target One Million initiative to boost fish stocking to over 6.1 million fish. Additional funding was provided by the State Government which contributed towards achieving this year's record fish stocking.

RFL Trust Account receipts, when added to state government funding of fish stocking and production activities, contributes significantly to the delivery of recreational fisheries state-wide stocking program.

The combined funds are used to operate the fish hatchery at Snobs Creek, meet costs associated with the delivery of fish across the state and for the purchase of additional fish.

In 2019-20 the Victorian Fisheries Authority grew 703,679 native fish and 981,743 salmonid fish that were stocked into public waters. In addition to these fish the VFA purchased 4,446,606 mixed species of fish that were picked up and delivered to various locations across the state.

During 2019-20 VFA staff associated with the production and delivery of fish carried out the below activities:

- Management of broodstock across all species
- Harvesting of eggs from all species
- Feeding fish of all ages
- Careful movement of fish as they develop
- Animal health monitoring and management
- Our stocking vehicles travelled 205,740 km's which took 470 days to undertake

The VFA works closely with anglers and other key stakeholders to coordinate the successful breeding and delivery of fish across the state.

A list of all waters stocked can be found at <https://vfa.vic.gov.au/stockingdatabase>

| Species                | Barwon<br>South West | Gippsland      | Grampians      | Hume             | Loddon<br>Mallee | Port Phillip   | Grand<br>Total   |
|------------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Australian Bass        | 5,000                | 352,300        | -              | -                | -                | 1,000          | 358,300          |
| Estuary Perch          | 32,000               | 125,000        | -              | -                | -                | 75,000         | 232,000          |
| Golden Perch           | 100,000              | -              | 213,500        | 882,606          | 908,152          | 32,426         | 2,136,684        |
| Macquarie Perch        | -                    | -              | -              | 1,920            | -                | -              | 1,920            |
| Murray Cod             | 496,095              | -              | 105,000        | 927,150          | 485,059          | 21,683         | 2,034,987        |
| Silver Perch           | -                    | -              | 105,000        | 40,000           | 135,000          | 60,450         | 340,450          |
| Trout Cod              | -                    | -              | -              | 26,894           | -                | -              | 26,894           |
| <b>Natives Total</b>   | 633,095              | 477,300        | 423,500        | 1,878,570        | 1,528,211        | 190,559        | 5,131,235        |
| Brown Trout            | 86,750               | 14,500         | 78,560         | 113,726          | 113,511          | 5,010          | 412,057          |
| Cheetah Trout          | 2,450                | -              | -              | -                | -                | -              | 2,450            |
| Chinook Salmon         | 50,000               | -              | -              | -                | -                | -              | 50,000           |
| Rainbow Trout          | 162,450              | 30,000         | 108,644        | 140,340          | 54,871           | 39,981         | 536,286          |
| <b>Salmonids Total</b> | 301,650              | 44,500         | 187,204        | 254,066          | 168,382          | 44,991         | 1,000,793        |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>934,745</b>       | <b>521,800</b> | <b>610,704</b> | <b>2,132,636</b> | <b>1,696,593</b> | <b>235,550</b> | <b>6,132,028</b> |



## Target One Million – Phase 2

In 2019-20, Recreational Fishing Licence (RFL) Trust Account receipts contributed \$2,218,270 towards the Victorian Fisheries Authority's implementation of the Target One Million initiative to grow participation and provide more fishing opportunities.

RFL Trust Account receipts, when added to state government funding, contribute significantly to the delivery of the Target One Million plan. The State Government has extended its commitment to recreational fishers in Victoria, with Phase 2 of the Target One Million plan. The renewed plan invests over \$35 million to continue to grow participation and fishing opportunities around the state.

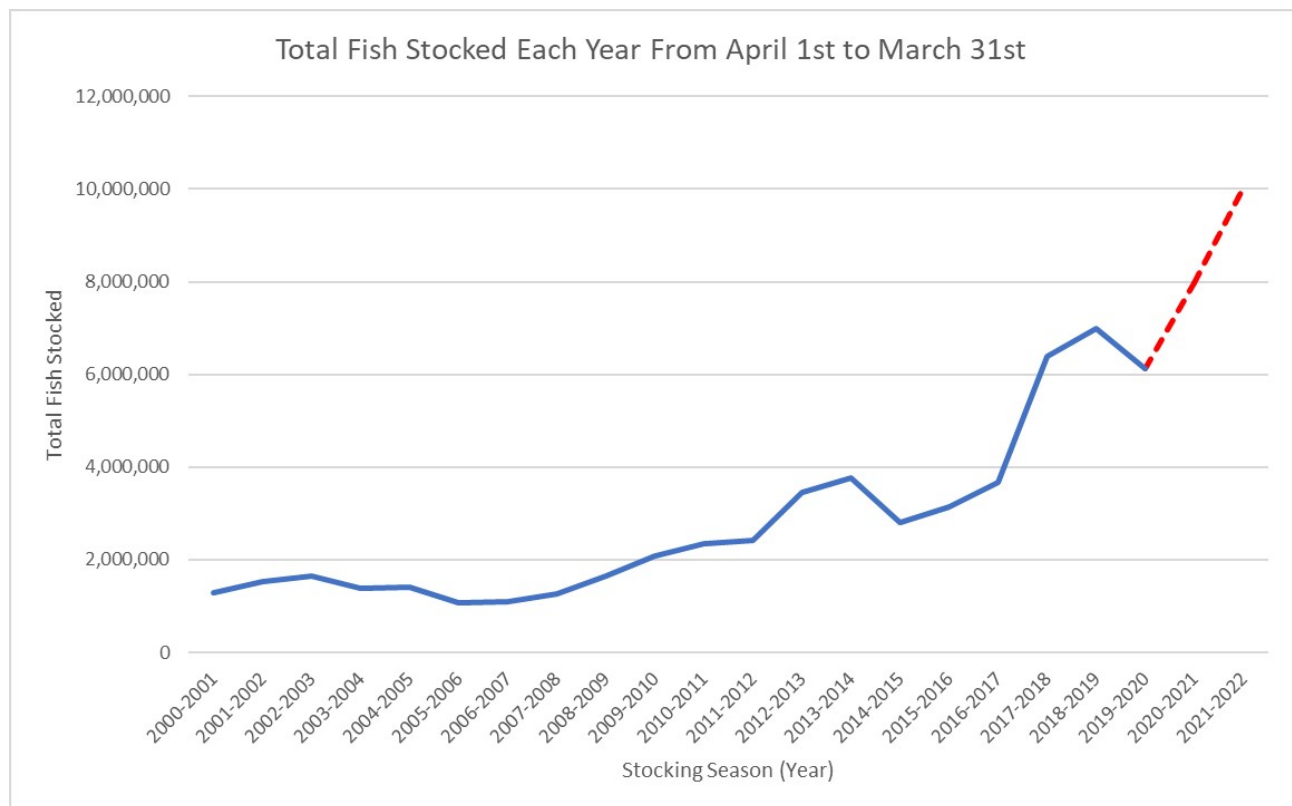
The RFL investment has contributed significantly to several aspects of the plan including improved access, fish stocking, events and engagement, the Go Fish Vic app, and the rock lobster tagging program. A summary of achievements in each of those areas is presented below.

### Improved Access for Anglers

A total of \$329,427 has been spent on improving access in 2019-20. A highlight of this year has been improvements to on-water access for recreational fishing at key inland reservoirs including Barkers Creek, Tullaroop, Lauriston, Upper Coliban, Malmsbury and Hepburn Lagoon. This includes facilities for tinnies, canoes and kayaks and boats with electric motors.

### Fish Stocking

We are on a journey towards stocking 10 million fish per year by April 2022. This year \$1.2 million of Target One Million RFL dollars purchased an additional 2.8 million fish that were stocked into Victorian waterways. Overall Victorian waters were stocked with more than 6 million fish, keeping us on track towards 10 million by 2022.



## Events and Engagement

The VFA, anglers and the broader community continue to benefit from regular engagement in various forms. During 2019-20 we held numerous events and conferences attracting thousands of attendees to visit regions all over the State from Portland to Lakes Entrance to Shepparton.

Some of this year's highlights include:

- Hooked on Portland festival held annually on the January long weekend in partnership with the Glenelg Shire Council celebrates Portland as a fishing and tourism destination. The festival this year attracted its biggest crowd to date with an estimated 10,000 visitors to Portland over two days, generated an estimated \$1.9 million in direct economic activity, and increased employment by 45 full time jobs in the Glenelg Shire.
- The annual Trout Opening Fishing Festivals in Goulburn and Ballarat continues to attract crowds from around the State to visit these regions to showcase the fishing opportunities and celebrate the fishing history associated with these areas.
- The Women in Recreational Fishing (WIRF) Network continues to inspire more females to give fishing a go. We currently have over 2,100 members in the group. The annual WIRF Leadership Program held at Australian Fishing Trade Association Tradeshow provides selected WIRF Leaders (who are everyday women within the community) the opportunity to share their views and ideas with some of the key leaders in the industry to influence change. This initiative continues to deliver and create more opportunities for the WIRF message to reach wider audiences in the community and contributes to the diversity and future of fishing.

The Target One Million RFL investment towards this was \$494,259.

## Go Fish Vic App

Go Fish Vic App is a new way of recording recreational fishing data that will allow fishery managers to make more informed decisions about fish stocks into the future. During 2019-20 the application has been rolled out to several angling clubs to encourage anglers to enrol and start recording data for the waters that they fish. We have 2,300 users and around 20 angling clubs who have recorded 4,260 fish captures across Victorian waters.

## Rock Lobster Tagging Program

The VFA have implemented a rock lobster tagging program that is collecting information on the annual recreational catch of rock lobster. The number of tags used each year represents the number of rock lobsters caught by the recreational sector. This information is improving annual stock assessments to ensure that a thriving rock lobster fishery is accessible for future generations. The initial trial has been highly successful to date and our initiative has been heralded by the Fisheries Research Development Corporation (FRDC) and stakeholders both nationally and internationally. Information collected under the program is enhancing our capacity to make robust fishery management decisions that maintain a healthy, sustainable rock lobster fishery. After now committing to transition the initial trial to an ongoing program, the VFA looks forward to undertaking work over the next 12 months with our key stakeholders to build on this initial success and further improve the program.

More information on Target One Million – Phase 2 can be found at

[www.vfa.vic.gov.au/recreational-fishing/targetonemillion2](http://www.vfa.vic.gov.au/recreational-fishing/targetonemillion2)

# Financial Report

Report concerning how amounts paid into the Recreational Fishing Licence Trust Account were disbursed in 2019-20 financial year

| Receipts 2019-20  |                | \$  |
|---|----------------|---|
| <b>Total receipts from Recreational Fishing Licence sales</b>   | \$7,501,237.68 |   |
| 226,030 RFL's sold including: 31,079 three-year licences, 103,280 one-year licences, 7,725 28-day licences, 83,945 three-day licences and 1 48-hour licences. |                |   |
| <b>Interest – investments</b>   | \$26,858.32    | <i>Fisheries Act 1995, S. 151B(5) enables money standing to the credit of the Account to be invested in any manner in which funds may be invested under the <i>Trustee Act 1958</i>.</i>  |
| <b>Refunds: Recreational Fishing Grants Program projects</b>  | \$34,230.53    | Project LG14/15/15 Association of Geelong & District Angling Clubs. Fishing Platform on the Gellibrand River, Princeton. \$27,642.44<br>Project SG602 Wimmera Offshore Anglers Sport & Game Fishing Club. Boating Safety and Fishing Education Event. \$3,000.00<br>Project SG686 Australian Trout Foundation. Ovens River Challenge (2019). \$1,402.90<br>Project SG621 Fishcare East Gippsland. Catch a Carp Day. \$1,270.00<br>Project SG721 St Paul's Anglican Grammar School Traralgon. Carp a Thon Family Day. \$431.82<br>Project SG707 Yarra Valley Fly Fishers. Community Fishing Festival 2019. \$325.48<br>Project SG672 Tatong Anglers Group. Lake Benalla Fish Habitat Project. \$87.49<br>Project SG727 Horsham Angling Club. Gone Fishing Day 2019. \$40.40<br>Project SG738 Horsham Angling Club. Twilight Fishing in 2020. \$30.00 |
| <b>GST Receipts</b>   | \$0.00         |   |
| <b>Total receipts for the year</b>  | \$7,562,326.53 |   |

| <b>Disbursements 2019-20</b>   |                       | <b>\$</b>  |
|--|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Recreational Fishing Grants Program and other projects</b>  | \$1,123,705.71        | Payments to 63 projects - see Note 2.  |
| <b>Target One Million Implementation</b>   | \$2,218,270.00        |  |
| <b>Fisheries Enforcement &amp; Education Branch</b>  | \$2,016,409.00        |  |
| <b>Fish Stocking</b>   | \$895,839.00          |  |
| The purchase and stocking of native and salmonid fish.   |                       |  |
| <b>VRFish</b>  | \$469,631.07          |  |
| <b>Fishcare Victoria Inc.</b>  | \$229,193.12          |  |
| <b>Community Information</b>   | \$41,243.16           |  |
| Recreational Fishing Grants Program/Recreational Fishing Licence disbursement reporting related advertising & publicity.   |                       |  |
| <b>Recreational Fishing Licence (RFL) 6% sales commissions</b>   | \$56,971.10           |  |
| Applicable to sales commissions incurred during 2018-19, paid in 2019-20 financial year.   |                       |  |
| <b>Costs and expenses incurred in the administration of RFLs</b>   |                       |  |
| Salaries and on-costs.   | \$377,251.94          |  |
| Business, corporate & other levies (common domain access levy, OH&S levy, training & development levy, centre leader levy, accommodation, workstation and computer lease costs). | \$0.00                |  |
| Professional and contract services.  | \$270,979.31          |  |
| Agency labour hire.  | \$82,234.89           |  |
| Postal expenses, parking, vehicle hire, accommodation, printing, stationery, telephones, banking charges, office equipment, external learning and IT assistance.                 | \$1,915.79            |  |
| <b>Recreational Fishing Grants Working Group</b>   | \$32,708.00           |  |
| Sitting fees, sustenance, accommodation, vehicle hire, venue hire, and personal expenses.  |                       |  |
| <b>Snobs Creek Advisory Board</b>  | \$5,588.00            |  |
| Sitting fees, sustenance, accommodation, vehicle hire, venue hire, and personal expenses.  |                       |  |
| <b>Total RFL Expenses for 2019-20</b>  | \$7,821,940.09        |  |
| Timing impacts of differences between expenses and the drawdown of payments from the RFL Trust Account.  | \$3,441,155.33        | See note 5   |
| <b>GST Payable</b>   | \$0.00                |  |
| <b>Total disbursements for the year</b>  | \$11,263,095.42       |  |
| <b>Net cash inflow/(outflow)</b>   | (\$3,700,768.89)      |  |
| <b>Cash as at 1 July 2019</b>  | \$10,519,406.92       |  |
| <b>Cash as at 30 June 2020</b>   | <b>\$6,818,638.03</b> | Provision to fund previously approved RFGP projects extending into 2020-21 and beyond as applicable and other items totalling \$1,565,465.68 - see Note 3.<br>Cash balance includes \$2,537,067.40 which has been invested – see Note 4. |

Amounts are net of applicable GST

## Notes to the Financial Report

These notes form part of and should be read in conjunction with the financial report of the Recreational Fishing Licence Trust Account.

### Note 1 - Statement of Accounting Policies

#### *Basis of preparation*

This special purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Fisheries Act 1995*.

The Recreational Fishing Licence Trust operates under section 151B of the *Fisheries Act 1995* to distribute revenue derived from the sale of Recreational Fishing Licences to projects that will further improve recreational fishing opportunities in Victoria, and to fund costs incurred in the administration of recreational fishing licences.

Funds received by the Trust include:

- All levies and fees in respect of recreational fishing licences
- All income from the investment of funds within the Trust
- Any other money authorised to be paid to the Trust by the Minister.

These are reported as receipts in the Financial Report.

Disbursements from the Trust include improvements to recreational fishing as determined and the costs incurred to administer the recreational fishing licences.

The report has been prepared on a cash basis to report on how levies and application fees received in respect of recreational fishing licences have been disbursed from the Trust Account.



**Note 2 - Payments to Recreational Fishing Grants Program and other projects during 2019-20**

|   |                    |   |
|---|--------------------|---|
| <b>Projects initially announced in 2014-15</b>  |                    |   |
| <b>Large Grants Program</b>   |                    |   |
| Rebuilding the trout fishery at Barkers Creek (Harcourt) Reservoir. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$24,946.  | \$2,494.60         | Bendigo & District Fly Fishers Inc.                 |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>  | <b>\$2,494.60</b>  |   |
| <b>Projects initially announced in 2015-16</b>  |                    |   |
| <b>Large Grants Program</b>   |                    |   |
| Creating Sustainable Anglers Program (600 school-based workshops and 150 community events). Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$109,090.91.  | \$10,909.09        | Fishcare Victoria                                   |
| Partnering with recreational fishers in a tagging program to understand the movements of Victorian King George whiting to their spawning areas. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$69,944.55.   | \$6,994.45         | University of Melbourne                             |
| Create marine fish habit maps which can be used by key managers of marine habitats and associated catchments to improve recreational fishing outcomes. Balance of funding. Total project funding of \$30,000.   | \$2,840.00         | Victorian Fisheries Authority                       |
| Monitoring of river blackfish that were translocated into rehabilitated habitat sites in the Tarwin River. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$20,191.04.  | \$2,019.11         | West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority       |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>  | <b>\$22,762.65</b> |   |
| <b>Projects initially announced in 2016-17</b>  |                    |   |
| <b>Large Grants Program</b>   |                    |   |
| Wild Trout Fisheries Management Program – Phase 2. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$105,454.55.   | \$10,545.45        | Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning |
| State-wide recreational tagging program to investigate mulloway movements. 90% instalment of year three funding. Total project funding of \$51,272.72.  | \$9,425.45         | Nature Glenelg Trust                                |
| Wild Trout Fisheries - Upper Goulburn Instream Habitat Enhancement. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$65,681.82.   | \$6,568.18         | Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority      |
| Lower Buckland River In-stream Habitat and Riparian Restoration. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$58,100.   | \$5,810.00         | Australian Trout Foundation                         |
| Goulburn River Instream Habitat Enhancement - Mid Goulburn River - Mangalore. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$21,560.00.   | \$2,156.00         | Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority      |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>  | <b>\$34,505.08</b> |   |
| <b>Projects initially announced in 2017-18</b>  |                    |   |
| <b>Commissioning Grants Program</b>   |                    |   |
| 2018-19 Communication and Compliance Products (production of a series of communication products and measuring devices to provide recreational fishers with up-to-date information on Fisheries regulations). Partial year one funding. Total project funding of \$219,055.70. | \$37,319.00        | Victorian Fisheries Authority                       |
| Informing sustainable management and optimisation of Victoria's wild catch marine and estuarine recreational fisheries. Partial year one funding. Total project funding of \$140,000.   | \$28,450.00        | Victorian Fisheries Authority                       |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>  | <b>\$65,769.00</b> |   |

|  |                     |  |
|--|---------------------|--|
| <b>Large Grants Program</b>  |                     |  |
| Victorian Game Fishing: knowledge, movement and best practice for catching and releasing shortfin mako sharks. Partial year one funding. Total project funding of \$205,000.00.  | \$113,251.00        | Victorian Fisheries Authority                  |
| Maribyrnong River Native Fishery Revival. Year one funding. Total project funding of \$200,000.00.   | \$47,023.00         | Victorian Fisheries Authority                  |
| Metropolitan Migrant and Refugee Seniors Sustainable Fishing Education Program: Overcoming Multicultural Barriers to Sustainable Recreational Fishing. 90% instalment of year two funding. Total project funding of \$29,649.09. | \$13,158.00         | Macedonian Community Welfare Association Inc.  |
| Improving Instream Habitat for Key Recreational Species in the Snowy River. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$100,000.00.   | \$10,000.00         | East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority  |
| Mitta Rehabilitation Project - Mitta Mitta River, from the high-water mark of Lake Hume to the township of Eskdale. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$80,000.00.  | \$8,000.00          | North East Catchment Management Authority      |
| Enhancement of citizen science in the recreational fishery for southern bluefin tuna in Victoria. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$50,936.37.  | \$5,093.64          | Pepperell Research & Consulting Pty Ltd        |
| Establishing a Southern River Blackfish spawning and recruitment monitoring network in the Gellibrand River Catchment. 90% instalment of year two funding. Total project funding of \$31,345.45                                  | \$4,156.36          | Deakin University                              |
| Lower Goulburn River: Re-snagging for native fish habitat. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$40,763.64.   | \$4,076.36          | Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority |
| Rubicon River Fish Habitat Enhancement Project. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$22,272.73.  | \$2,227.27          | Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority |
| Merri River Fish Habitat Hotspot - Stage 2 Platypus Park. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$12,510.00.  | \$1,251.00          | Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>   | <b>\$208,236.63</b> |  |
| <b>Projects initially announced in 2018-19</b>   |                     |  |
| <b>Commissioning Grants Program</b>  |                     |  |
| 2019-20 Communication and Compliance Products. Partial year one funding. Total project funding of \$300,000.   | \$151,623.19        | Victorian Fisheries Authority                  |
| Informing sustainable management of Victoria's wild catch fisheries. Partial year one funding. Total project funding of \$166,000.00.  | \$117,345.00        | Victorian Fisheries Authority                  |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>   | <b>\$268,968.19</b> |  |
| <b>Large Grants Program</b>  |                     |  |
| Gippsland Lakes Habitat Restoration project. 90% instalment of year one funding. Total project funding of \$100,000.00.  | \$90,000.00         | East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority  |
| Creating two new recreational fishing lakes at Rainbow and Yaapect. 90% instalment of year one funding. Total project funding of \$100,000.00.   | \$90,000.00         | GWM Water                                      |
| Increasing fish habitat in the Little Murray River - Phase Two. 90% instalment of year one funding. Total project funding of \$100,000.00.   | \$56,152.64         | North Central Catchment Management Authority   |
| All Ability Clinics - Fishing is for Everyone program. 90% instalment of year one funding. Total project funding of \$115,636.36.  | \$56,127.27         | Fishcare Victoria                              |
| Creating Sustainable Anglers & Empowering Angling Clubs program. 90% instalment of year one funding. Total project funding of \$51,363.64.   | \$46,227.27         | Fishcare Victoria                              |
| Fishing facility enhancements at Ferntree Gully Quarry Recreation Reserve. 90% instalment of year one funding. Total project funding of \$48,070.00.   | \$43,263.00         | Knox City Council                              |
| Improvements to the Reeve Landing Jetty at Lakes Entrance. 90% instalment of year one funding. Total project funding of \$45,454.55.   | \$40,909.09         | Gippsland Ports Committee of Management        |
| Rapid Sand Filtration System to improve fish survival rates. 90% instalment of year one funding plus 10% balance of funding. Total project funding of \$18,518.31.   | \$18,518.31         | Ballarat Fish Acclimatisation Society          |
| Refurbishment of the Rippleside Jetty in Geelong. 90% instalment of year one funding. Total project funding of \$14,739.55.  | \$13,265.60         | City of Greater Geelong                        |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>   | <b>\$454,463.18</b> |  |

| <b>Small Grants Program</b>                                   |                       |   |
|---|-----------------------|---|
| Lake Eppalock Habitat   | <b>\$5,000.00</b>     | Midland and North Central Angling Association   |
| Fish Cleaning Table Shelter                                   | <b>\$5,000.00</b>     | Moyne Shire Council                             |
| Community Fishing Festival 2019                               | <b>\$4,950.00</b>     | Yarra Valley Fly Fishers                        |
| Promotion of endangered native fish                           | <b>\$4,490.00</b>     | Native Fish Australia                           |
| Kids Come and Try Fishing Day                                 | <b>\$4,425.00</b>     | Nathalia Angling Club                           |
| Mates Day by the Bay 2019                                     | <b>\$4,082.73</b>     | Futurefish Foundation                           |
| Education and Training for Community Groups and Local Schools | <b>\$3,900.00</b>     | Upwey Angling Club                              |
| Kids Come Try Fishing Day                                     | <b>\$3,180.00</b>     | Kyabram Anglers Club                            |
| Family Fishing Day  | <b>\$2,885.00</b>     | Lions Club of Churchill & District              |
| Ron Nelson Memorial Junior Fishing Clinic                     | <b>\$2,724.55</b>     | Association of Geelong & District Angling Clubs |
| Women in Fishing Talk Night 2.0                               | <b>\$2,500.00</b>     | Didyabringyarodalong Angling Club               |
| Promoting Benefits of Recreational Fishing                    | <b>\$2,485.00</b>     | Victorian Fly Fisher's Association              |
| Kids Fishing Fun program and FISHATHON event                  | <b>\$2,144.95</b>     | City of Wodonga                                 |
| Introduction to Fishing                                       | <b>\$2,080.00</b>     | Mitcham Angling Club                            |
| Campaspe Carp Catch 2019                                      | <b>\$1,818.18</b>     | North Central Catchment Management Authority    |
| Encouraging New Memberships Project                           | <b>\$1,812.73</b>     | Watsonia RSL Angling Club                       |
| Friends Fishing Day   | <b>\$1,560.00</b>     | King River and District Fishing Club            |
| Healthy Rivers, Healthy Fish                                  | <b>\$1,454.55</b>     | Benambra Neighbourhood House                    |
| Annual Fishing Event  | <b>\$1,363.64</b>     | Ramahyuck District Aboriginal Corporation       |
| Come and Try Fishing Day                                      | <b>\$1,195.00</b>     | Ballarat District Anglers Association           |
| Gone Fishing Day Event  | <b>\$1,130.00</b>     | Omeo Angling Club                               |
| Disadvantaged Schools Fishing Program                         | <b>\$1,000.00</b>     | Fishcare Central Highlands                      |
| Gone Fishing Day Event  | <b>\$929.60</b>       | Horsham Angling Club                            |
| Cops Versus Kids Fishing Day                                  | <b>\$700.00</b>       | That's the Thing About Fishing                  |
| Fishcare Fun Day  | <b>\$700.00</b>       | Bemm River Angling Club                         |
| Fishing Clinic – Rainbow Secondary College                    | <b>\$695.00</b>       | Bellarine Light Game & Sportfishing Club        |
| Come n Try Fishing - Seadays Festival 2020                    | <b>\$650.00</b>       | Port Welshpool Working Group Inc.               |
| Twilight Fishing on the River 2020                            | <b>\$638.63</b>       | Horsham Angling Club                            |
| Gone Fishing Day Event  | <b>\$580.00</b>       | Kyneton Angling Club                            |
| Carp A Thon Family Day 2019                                   | <b>\$431.82</b>       | St Paul's Anglican Grammar School               |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>  | <b>\$66,506.38</b>    |   |
| <b>Disbursements net of GST</b>                               | <b>\$1,123,705.71</b> |   |

**Note 3 - Proposal to fund 2019-20's approved Recreational Fishing Grant Program projects, and other items in 2020-21 and beyond as applicable**

Proposal to fund previously approved Recreational Fishing Grants Program projects extending into 2020-21 financial year and beyond as applicable, and other items

| Project No. | Region                      | Project category                     | Proponent                                     | Project site                | Type of waters     | Project duration | Proposal   | Funding (Exclusive GST) | Other contributions/comments  |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------------|--|-------------------------|---|
| CM192000002 | State-wide                  | Commissioning Grant                  | Victorian Fisheries Authority                 | State-wide                  | State-wide         | 1yr              | 2020-21 Communication and Compliance Products. Total project funding of \$290,000.00   | \$290,000.00            | VFA in-kind project management.   |
| CM192000001 | State-wide                  | Commissioning Grant                  | Victorian Fisheries Authority                 | State-wide                  | Marine & Estuarine | 1yr              | Informing sustainable management of Victoria's wild catch fisheries. Total project funding of \$163,000.00.                                      | \$163,000.00            | VFA in-kind project management.   |
| CM1819002   | State-wide                  | Commissioning Grant                  | Victorian Fisheries Authority                 | State-wide                  | State-wide         | 1yr              | 2019/20 Communication and Compliance Products. Total project funding of \$300,000.   | \$148,376.81            | VFA in-kind project management.   |
| LG1718110   | Port Phillip & Western Port | Sustainability & Habitat Improvement | Victorian Fisheries Authority                 | Port Phillip & Western Port | Estuarine          | 3yr              | Maribyrnong River Native Fishery Revival. Balance of funding. Total project funding of \$200,000.00.   | \$138,169.93            | VFA: \$415,000, Melbourne Water: \$300,000, Parks Vic/ DELWP: \$400,000.                            |
| LG192037    | State-wide                  | Sustainability & Habitat Improvement | Victorian Fisheries Authority                 | State-wide                  | Inland             | 2yr              | Report cards for key native recreational fisheries. Total project funding of \$120,000.00  | \$120,000.00            | DELWP: \$328,340 and VFA: \$50,000, both over 3 years. In-kind: DELWP - \$140,000, VFA - \$120,000. |
| LG192015    | Gippsland                   | Sustainability & Habitat Improvement | East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority | Gippsland Lakes             | Estuarine          | 1yr              | Gippsland Lakes Habitat Restoration. Total project funding of \$100,000.00   | \$100,000.00            | Annual works to improve waterway health (\$5M/year).  |
| LG192033    | Northern                    | Sustainability & Habitat Improvement | Australian Trout Foundation                   | Northern                    | Inland             | 1yr              | Victorian Wild Trout Fisheries Management Program and the Victorian Wild Trout Strategic Plan 2020 - 2025. Total project funding of \$100,000.00 | \$100,000.00            | VFA: \$280,000 over 3 years. ATF In-kind \$255,000.   |
| LG1819028   | State-wide                  | Education, Information & Training    | Fishcare Victoria Inc.                        | State-wide                  | State-wide         | 2yr              | All Ability Clinics - Fishing is for Everyone program. 2nd year and balance of funding. Total project funding of \$115,636.36.                   | \$59,509.09             | In-kind program support, volunteer involvement, etc. \$44,110.                                      |
| LG192007    | State-wide                  | Education, Information & Training    | Fishcare Victoria Inc.                        | State-wide                  | State-wide         | 1yr              | Fishcare Responsible Anglers Academy. Total project funding of \$54,545.45   | \$54,545.45             | In-kind \$60,000.   |
| CM1819001   | State-wide                  | Commissioning Grant                  | Victorian Fisheries Authority                 | State-wide                  | State-wide         | 1yr              | Informing sustainable management of Victoria's wild catch fisheries. Total project funding of \$166,000.00.                                      | \$48,655.00             | VFA in-kind project management.   |

| Project No. | Region                      | Project category                     | Proponent                                      | Project site         | Type of waters | Project duration | Proposal  | Funding (Exclusive GST) | Other contributions/comments  |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|----------------------|----------------|------------------|---|-------------------------|---|
| LG1819055   | Northern                    | Sustainability & Habitat Improvement | Victorian Fisheries Authority                  | Northern             | Inland         | 1yr              | Recreational fish stocking sourced from fish translocated from Goulburn Murray Water irrigation channels. Total project funding of \$37,000.00.                                     | \$37,000.00             | Financial: \$40,000<br>In-kind: \$24,000.   |
| LG192005    | Northern                    | Sustainability & Habitat Improvement | North East Catchment Management Authority      | Northern             | Inland         | 1yr              | Katie Peters Reserve River Restoration Project, Mitta River. Total project funding of \$35,801.09   | \$35,801.09             | NECMA project management in-kind \$6,000 and 15 lunkers at a cost of \$4,500.                                     |
| LG1718146   | State-wide                  | Research                             | Victorian Fisheries Authority                  | State-wide           | Marine         | 2yr              | Victorian Game Fishing: knowledge, movement and best practice for catching and releasing shortfin mako sharks. Balance of funding. Total project funding of \$145,000.00.           | \$31,749.00             | VFA financial: \$88,000<br>In-kind: Deakin, VRFish, volunteers - \$47,000.  |
| LG192009    | Northern                    | Access & Facilities                  | Hindmarsh Shire Council                        | Northern             | Inland         | 1yr              | Rainbow Recreational Fishing Lake Access Improvements. Total project funding of \$22,655.45   | \$22,655.45             | Various in-kind: \$21,000.  |
| LG192041    | Northern                    | Sustainability & Habitat Improvement | North Central Catchment Management Authority   | Northern             | Inland         | 1yr              | Increasing fish habitat and fishing opportunities at Box-Pyramid Creek near Kow Swamp. Total project funding of \$22,034.55   | \$22,034.55             | NCMA \$3,060 for hydraulic modelling, \$3,500 project management.   |
| LG192008    | Gippsland                   | Sustainability & Habitat Improvement | OzFish Unlimited                               | Gippsland Lakes      | Estuarine      | 1yr              | Fish Castles in the King. Gippsland Lakes. Total project funding of \$20,909.09   | \$20,909.09             | Ozfish: \$10,000 contribution for additional incurred costs.<br>In-kind: Volunteers \$15,000, Ozfish \$17,160.    |
| LG192030    | Port Phillip & Western Port | Access & Facilities                  | Association Geelong and District Angling Clubs | Geelong              | Marine         | 1yr              | St Helen's solar lights along rock wall. Total project funding of \$20,400.00   | \$20,400.00             |   |
| 12/1317     | Northern                    | Research                             | Greenfish Consulting Pty Ltd                   | Murray Darling Basin | Inland         | 3yr              | Develop and implement a consistent method for assessing the sustainability of Murray cod in the Murray Darling Basin. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$150,000.00 | \$15,000.00             | FRDC \$375,000, Native Fish Strategy \$23,900, Fisheries Victoria \$36,000, PIRSA Fisheries \$30,000.             |
| LG192018    | Northern                    | Access & Facilities                  | North Central Catchment Management Authority   | Rochester            | Inland         | 1yr              | Improving fishing accessibility, Campaspe River Rochester. Total project funding of \$13,976.74   | \$13,976.74             | \$200,000 - DELWP Boosting Recreational Water Use Initiative<br>\$60,000 - Australian Government Basin Plan grant |



| Project No. | Region                      | Project category                     | Proponent                                     | Project site        | Type of waters | Project duration | Proposal   | Funding (Exclusive GST) | Other contributions/comments   |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------|----------------|------------------|--|-------------------------|--|
| LG1718156   | South West                  | Research                             | Victorian Recreational Fishing Peak Body      | South West          | Marine         | 2yr              | Pilot study of striped trumpeter in western Victorian waters through citizen science. 2nd year and balance of funding. Total project funding of \$21,938.18. | \$11,825.46             | Various in-kind: \$30,920.   |
| LG1819052   | Northern                    | Access & Facilities                  | GWM Water                                     | Northern            | Inland         | 1yr              | Creating two new recreational fishing lakes at Rainbow and Yaapeet. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$100,000.00.                           | \$10,000.00             | GWM Water project contribution up to \$46,200.   |
| LG1819040   | Gippsland                   | Sustainability & Habitat Improvement | East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority | Gippsland Lakes     | Estuarine      | 1yr              | Gippsland Lakes Habitat Restoration project. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$100,000.00.  | \$10,000.00             | Annual works to improve waterway health (\$5M/year).   |
| LG1718144   | State-wide                  | Education, Information & Training    | Fishcare Victoria Inc.                        | State-wide          | All            | 1yr              | Fishcare - Get Hooked on Fishing App. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$97,768.18.  | \$9,776.82              | Fishcare \$6,000+ financial and \$26,000+ in-kind.   |
| 16/17/48    | State-wide                  | Research                             | IMAS - University of Tasmania                 | State-wide          | Marine         | 1yr              | Assessing post-release survival of Swordfish from recreational fishing. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$80,549.09.                        | \$8,054.91              | \$68,580 - Fisheries Research and Development Corporation.<br>\$30,000 - Tasmanian State Government. \$5,000 - Game Fishing Association of Australia. \$9,000 - TarFISH. |
| 1415/40     | Gippsland                   | Research                             | University of Melbourne                       | Venus Bay           | Marine         | 3yr              | Assessing the sustainability of Venus Bay's recreational and commercial pipi harvest. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$71,565.00           | \$7,156.50              | Financial: \$8,600.<br>In-kind: \$89,105.  |
| LG1718120   | Port Phillip & Western Port | Access & Facilities                  | Corinella Foreshore Reserve Inc.              | Corinella           | Marine         | 1yr              | Stair Access to Corinella Foreshore. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$64,909.09.   | \$6,490.91              | Corinella Foreshore Reserve Inc. \$14,240.   |
| LG1819041   | Northern                    | Sustainability & Habitat Improvement | North Central Catchment Management Authority  | Little Murray River | Inland         | 1yr              | Increasing fish habitat in the Little Murray River - Phase Two. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$100,000.00.                               | \$6,239.18              | Extensive supportive work by CMA. \$5,600 in-kind project management.  |
| LG1819023   | State-wide                  | Education, Information & Training    | Fishcare Victoria Inc.                        | State-wide          | State-wide     | 1yr              | Creating Sustainable Anglers & Empowering Angling Clubs program. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$51,363.64.                               | \$5,136.36              | In-kind: \$56,760.   |

| Project No. | Region                      | Project category                     | Proponent                                     | Project site                | Type of waters              | Project duration | Proposal   | Funding (Exclusive GST) | Other contributions/comments  |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|--|-------------------------|---|
| 16/17/63    | State-wide                  | Research                             | Nature Glenelg Trust                          | State-wide                  | Marine & Estuarine          | 3yr              | A state-wide recreational tagging program to investigate mullock movements. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$51,272.73.  | \$5,127.27              | Recreational fishers in-kind: \$74,000. VFA, Fishcare and the Australian National Sportfishing Association in-kind: \$20,000. Nature Glenelg Trust in-kind: \$10,000. |
| LG1819042   | Port Phillip & Western Port | Access & Facilities                  | Knox City Council                             | Ferntree Gully              | Port Phillip & Western Port | 1yr              | Fishing facility enhancements at Ferntree Gully Quarry Recreation Reserve. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$48,070.00.   | \$4,807.00              | Knox City Council: \$350,000.   |
| LG1819053   | Gippsland                   | Access & Facilities                  | Gippsland Ports Committee of Management       | Lakes Entrance              | Gippsland                   | 1yr              | Improvements to the Reeve Landing Jetty at Lakes Entrance. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$45,454.55.   | \$4,545.45              | In-kind: \$12,250.  |
| LG1718153   | South West                  | Sustainability & Habitat Improvement | Deakin University                             | Gellibrand River            | Inland                      | 2yr              | Establishing a Southern River Blackfish spawning and recruitment monitoring network in the Gellibrand River Catchment. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$31,345.45.                                 | \$3,134.55              | Deakin University in-kind: \$14,350.  |
| LG1718130   | Port Phillip & Western Port | Education, Information & Training    | Macedonian Community Welfare Association Inc. | Port Phillip & Western Port | All                         | 2yr              | Metropolitan Migrant and Refugee Seniors Sustainable Fishing Education Program: Overcoming Multicultural Barriers to Sustainable Recreational Fishing. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$29,649.09. | \$2,964.91              | Total financial and in-kind contributions from MCWA = \$29,500.   |
| LG1819058   | South West                  | Access & Facilities                  | City of Greater Geelong                       | Geelong                     | Marine                      | 1yr              | Refurbishment of the Rippleside Jetty in Geelong. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$14,739.55.  | \$1,473.95              | Financial: \$11,000<br>In-kind: \$5,000   |
| 16/17/66    | South West                  | Education, Information & Training    | Balmoral & District Angling Club Inc.         | Balmoral                    | Inland                      | 1yr              | Balmoral Fishing Information Shelter. Balance of 10% funding. Total project funding of \$7,416.36.   | \$741.64                | \$550 financial contribution.<br>\$2,400.00 labour in-kind.   |
|             |                             |                                      |   |                             |                             |                  | <b>Sub-total</b>   | <b>\$1,539,136.30</b>   |   |

#### Other items

| Project No.    | Region     | Project category | Proponent              | Project site | Type of waters | Project duration | Proposal   | Funding (Exclusive GST) | Other contributions/comments |
|----------------|------------|------------------|------------------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|--|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Not applicable | State-wide | Not applicable   | Fishcare Victoria Inc. | State-wide   | State-wide     | 1yr              | 2018/19 Core funding. Total project funding of \$225,939.60. Balance of 10% funding. | \$22,955.46             | Nil financial contributions. |
|                |            |                  |                        |              |                |                  | <b>Sub-total</b>   | <b>\$22,955.46</b>      |                              |
|                |            |                  |                        |              |                |                  | <b>Sub-total</b>   | <b>\$ 1,562,091.76</b>  |                              |

#### Proposal to fund RFL sales commission not claimed

|  | Proposal         | Funding (Exclusive GST) |  |
|--|------------------|-------------------------|--|
|  |                  | \$3,373.92              | Excludes RFL sales commission receipts not submitted by licence sellers. |
|  | <b>Sub-total</b> | <b>\$3,373.92</b>       |  |
|  | <b>Sub-total</b> | <b>\$1,565,465.68</b>   |  |

**Note 4 - Cash assets**

Cash as at 30 June 2019 of \$6,818,638.03 shown in the financial statement includes \$2,537,067.40 which has been invested pursuant to Section 151B(5) *Fisheries Act 1995*.

**Note 5 - Payable to Victorian Fisheries Authority**

The Recreational Fishing Licence Trust Account is administered by the Department of Transport. The Victorian Fisheries Authority administers the Recreational Fishing Licence Program and manages the amounts determined by the Minister for Fishing and Boating for the purpose of improving recreational fishing.

Timing impacts relate to the difference between the occurrence of expenses as part of the Recreational Fishing Licence Program, and the reimbursement of the expenses through a draw down from the Trust. The process to recover expenses of the Recreational Fishing Licence Program is to draw down funds from the Trust. The Victorian Fisheries Authority will recognise this reimbursement as grant revenue. The Department of Transport will recognise the reimbursement from the Trust as a grant expense.

For 2019-20 the timing impacts were net additional disbursements from the Trust Account of \$3,441,155, which largely reflected reimbursements from the Trust Account for expenses incurred as part of the Recreational Fishing Licence Program during 2018-19.

# Statutory Certification

I certify the attached Financial Report for the Recreational Fishing Licence Trust Account has been prepared in accordance with the *Fisheries Act 1995*.

I further state that, in my opinion, the information set out in the Receipts and Disbursements Report and notes to the financial report, presents fairly the financial transactions during the year ended 30 June 2020.

At the time of signing, we are not aware of any circumstance which would render any particulars included in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.



**Travis Dowling**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Victorian Fisheries Authority  
11 / 11 / 2020



**Paul Younis**  
Secretary  
Department of Transport  
11 / 11 / 2020



# Independent Audit Report from Auditor-General

OFFICIAL



## Independent Auditor's Report

### To the Secretary of the Department of Transport

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Opinion</b>   | <p>I have audited the special purpose financial report of Recreational Fishing Licence Trust Account (the trust) which comprises the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• financial report as at 30 June 2020</li><li>• notes to the financial report</li><li>• statutory certification</li></ul> <p>In my opinion the special purpose financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the receipts into and disbursements from the Recreational Fishing Licence Trust account for the year ended 30 June 2020 in accordance with the <i>Fisheries Act 1995</i>.</p>  |
| <b>Basis for Opinion</b>   | <p>I have conducted my audit in accordance with the <i>Audit Act 1994</i> which incorporates the Australian Auditing Standards. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the <i>Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report</i> section of my report.</p> <p>My independence is established by the <i>Constitution Act 1975</i>. My staff and I are independent of the trust in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 <i>Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants</i> (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Victoria. My staff and I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.</p> <p>I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.</p>                             |
| <b>Emphasis of Matter - Basis of accounting for financial report</b> | <p>Without modifying my opinion, I draw attention to Note 1 Statement of Accounting Policies to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the financial reporting obligations under the <i>Fisheries Act 1995</i>. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.</p>   |
| <b>Other Information</b>   | <p>The Secretary of the Department of Transport is responsible for the Other information, which comprises the information in the trust's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2020 but does not include the financial report and my auditor's report thereon.</p> <p>My opinion on the financial report does not cover the Other information and accordingly, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion on the Other information. However, in connection with my audit of the financial report, my responsibility is to read the Other information and in doing so, consider whether it is materially inconsistent with the financial report or the knowledge I obtained during the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude there is a material misstatement of the Other information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.</p> |

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| <b>Secretary's responsibilities for the financial report</b>            | <p>The Secretary of the Department of Transport is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the <i>Fisheries Act 1995</i> and for such internal control as the Secretary determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.</p> <p>The Secretary of the Department of Transport has determined that the financial report is appropriate to the needs to the Minister for Fishing and Boating.</p>  |
| <b>Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report</b> | <p>As required by the Audit Act 1994, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit. My objectives for the audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.</p> <p>As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.</li><li>• obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the trust's internal control</li><li>• evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Secretary</li><li>• evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.</li></ul> <p>I communicate with the Secretary regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.</p> |

MELBOURNE  
16 November 2020



Simone Bohan  
as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria

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