

Fisheries Act 1995

FISHERIES NOTICE 2026

I, Luke O’Sullivan, Director Fisheries Management, Science, Policy, Licensing and Communications Division of the Victorian Fisheries Authority, as delegate the Minister for Outdoor Recreation and having considered the outcome of consultation in accordance with Section 3A of the *Fisheries Act 1995* (the Act), make the following Fisheries Notice under Section 152 of the Act:

Dated: 7/04/2026



Luke O’Sullivan

**Director of Fisheries Management and Boating
Victorian Fisheries Authority**

FISHERIES (WESTERN MURRAY COD) NOTICE 2026

1. Title

This Notice may be cited as the Fisheries (Western Murray cod) Notice 2026

2. Objectives

The objectives of this Notice is to open waters within the Wimmera Catchment and Land Protection Region to Murray Cod fishing the whole year with the exclusion of the Wimmera River.

3. Authorising provision

This Notice is made under sections 67 and 152 of the Act.

4. Commencement

This Notice comes into operation on the day it is published in the Victorian Government Gazette.

5. Definitions and interpretive provisions

(1) In this Notice –

“*Murray cod*“ means *Maccullochella peelii*;

“*the Act*“ means the **Fisheries Act 1995**

“*Wimmera Catchment and Land Protection Region*“ means the area of Victoria within the boundaries of the Wimmera Catchment and Land Protection Region as determined and defined by Order in Council under section 10 of the **Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994**.

6. Open season for Murray cod in the Wimmera and Millicent Basins

- (1) For the purposes of section 67(1) of the Act, the open season for the taking of Murray cod from waters within the Wimmera Catchment and Land Protection Region other than the Wimmera River is the whole year.
- (2) Despite regulation 164(1) and 164(2) of the **Fisheries Regulations 2019** –
 - (a) the taking of Murray cod from waters within the Wimmera Catchment and Land Protection Region (other than the Wimmera River); and
 - (b) the possession of Murray cod in, on or next to waters within the waters within the Wimmera Catchment and Land Protection Region (other than the Wimmera River) – during the open season is allowed.

7. *Revocation*

Unless sooner revoked, this Notice will be automatically revoked 12 months after the day on which it comes into operation.

Notes:

Section 152(3) of the Act provides that if a Fisheries Notice is inconsistent with any regulations, management plan, Ministerial direction, licence or permit, the Fisheries Notice prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

The boundaries of the Wimmera Catchment and Land Protection Region were defined by Order in Council made under section 10 of the **Catchment and Land Protection Act 1995** on 29 November 1994 and published in Government Gazette G 48 on 1 December 1994 at pages 3182 to 3183.