Victorian Fisheries Authrority

Stocking Fish in Aquariums

(Non-Commercial)

Application for exemption from s42(1)(ba) of the *Fisheries Act 1995*

1. **Applicant details.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name: | | | |
| Contact Person (if company name provided above): | | | |
| Postal address: | | | |
| City/Suburb: | State: | Postcode: | |
| Phone: | Email: | |

1. **Where will the fish be stocked?**

|  |
| --- |
| Address of property where fish will be stocked: |

You will be exempted from section 42(1)(ba) of the *Fisheries Act 1995* (the Act) provided:

1. the fish to be stocked are obtained legally from an aquaculture facility licensed under the Act or facility with equivalent interstate authorisation, or Australian retail/wholesale aquarium businesses, or another non-commercial aquarium owner, or in accordance with the regulations that apply to Victorian recreational fishing; and
2. the fish are not declared as noxious aquatic species under the Act or protected or threatened under Victorian legislation (excludes protected or threatened aquatic biota obtained lawfully from an aquaculture facility or Australian retail/wholesale aquarium); and
3. you stock the fish on your property in a secure indoor premises sufficient to prevent fish escape or accidental release; and
4. the total volume of water on any property title to which fish can be stocked must not exceed 10,000 litres; and
5. the fish will not be used for sale or other commercial purposes; and
6. you do not stock the fish, or discharge aquarium water, into any public waters or the stormwater drainage system.

**I hereby declare that the information contained in this form is true, accurate and complete and that I will comply with the above conditions for stocking.**

**Name:**       **Signature:**       **Date**      **/**     **/**

*Please note: Section 148(7) of the Fisheries Act 1995 provides for penalties if the applicant provides false or misleading information.*

*By not complying with the above controls no exemption applies, leaving the applicant in breach of S.(42)(1)(ba) of the Fisheries Act 1995*

**Office use only**

Receiving officer: ………………………………………………….………Date received ………./…….…./………

**Application Explanatory Notes**

**Submit application via** **email** to [fish.translocations@vfa.vic.gov.au](mailto:fish.translocations@vfa.vic.gov.au)

Translocation Administration Officer, Victorian Fisheries Authority, PO Box 114, Queenscliff, Vic 3225

**Notes on conditions**

All the conditions must be complied with in order to manage the biosecurity risks associated with stocking fish to aquariums. If the conditions are not complied with then the applicant will be in breach of Section 42(1)(ba) of the *Fisheries Act 1995* (the Act).

Public waters has the same meaning as the definition for inland and marine waters under Section 5 of the Act. Effectively any public waterway, stream, creek, lake, river, billabong, lagoon, water storage, channel, bay, inlet etc.

1. Stock must be sourced legally from licensed aquaculture facilities and from an Australian retail/wholesale aquarium business. Non-commercial exchange between hobyists is also allowed. Stock obtained legally using a recreational fishing licence (RFL) and in accordance with possession/bag limits and regulations that apply to RFLs can also be stocked to an aquarium.
2. No noxious, threatened or protected aquatic species can be stocked in an aquarium. The only exclusion applies to threatened or protected aquatic species obtained legally from a licensed aquaculture facility or aquarium business. Examples of threatened aquatic species that are available from aquaculture facilities include Murray cod, silver perch and freshwater native catfish.
3. Fish must be stocked in a secure indoor container, sufficient to prevent the escape or release of fish.
4. The total volume of water on the premises to which you can stock fish can not exceed 10,000 litres. Fish stocked into volumes above 10,000 litres may be considered commercial scale and may require an aquaculture licence.
5. The fish must be stocked for personal use and not for sale or other commercial purposes. The stocking of fish for any commercial purposes will require an aquaculture licence.
6. No fish can be stocked, or aquarium water discharged to any public waters or the stormwater system. Escaped or released fish can cause serious environmental damage and can compete with and spread disease to native fish. Similarly, aquarium water must not enter public waters as it can contain disease and exotic plant material that is harmful to the environment and its inhabitants.

**Aquarium fish must never be stocked or allowed to escape into public waters.** **Heavy penalties apply for illegal stocking of public waters.**