**Gippsland Lakes 1mt flathead**

**Competition Rules**

1.Gippsland Lakes 1mt+ flathead (Competition) is being conducted by the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) ABN 60 297 360 647.

2. The competition start date is 18th March 2024.

3. Entry is open to Australian Residents aged 18 and over and entrants aged under 18 who have the permission of their parent or guardian to participate (Eligible Entrants).

4. Employees and contractors of VFA (including their immediate families) are ineligible to enter.

5. To win, Eligible Entrants must be the first verified capture of a 1 metre dusky flathead from the Gippsland Lakes and claim the prize (following the process in paragraphs 10 -14 below) after the start date of the competition.

The Gippsland Lakes means the catchment and waterways between Lakes Entrance, Bairnsdale and Sale known as the Gippsland Lakes this waterway includes the main lake areas of Lake King, Lake Victoria and Lake Wellington it also includes McLennan Straits, Reeve and Hopetoun Channels, Cunninghame and North Arm and all of the rivers flowing into the Gippsland Lakes.

The Gippsland Lakes does not include waters that are outside of the Gippsland Lakes catchment.

6. Fish caught in the Promotion are above the legal maximum size for dusky flathead and must be released.

7. Prizes will only be awarded for fish caught using legal recreational fishing equipment and in compliance with current Victorian fishing regulations.

8.Only one prize will be awarded.

9. The claimant must choose one of the following participating tackle outlets to claim the prize

* Bass Strait Bait and Tackle – 24 Barkes Ave, Lakes Entrance VIC 3909
* Lakes Entrance Angler,--577 Esplanade, Lakes Entrance, VIC 3909
* Riviera Bait Supplies --243 Esplanade Lakes Entrance, VIC 3909
* Paynesville Bait Shack -- 1/77 The Esplanade Paynesville VIC 3880
* BCF Bairnsdale -- 201 Main Street Bairnsdale VIC 3875
* BCF Sale-- 82 MacArther Street, Sale, VIC 3850
* Mad Outdoors-- 209-213 York Street, Sale VIC 3850

10. The first Eligible Entrant who catches a 1 metre dusky flathead in the Gippsland Lakes after the competition start date and submits a valid prize claim will win a $1000 fishing tackle voucher that can be claimed at one of the participating fishing tackle stores.

11. Claiming a Prize, to claim a prize an Eligible Entrant must:

1. record the location and date that the fish was caught;
2. measure the length of the fish and photograph the fish on either a tape measure or brag mat; and
3. as soon as practical after the recapture or when made aware of the 1mt Gippsland Lakes Dusky Flathead promotion contact the VFA on 0437 639 358 or your nearest Victorian Fisheries Authority office.

12. Eligible Entrants will be provided with a Prize Claim Declaration Form.

13. The Prize Claim Declaration Form will require Eligible Entrants to confirm the date and location of the catch and their compliance with these Terms and Conditions.

14. Before awarding a prize VFA will verify the validity of entries and eligibility of entrants.

* The VFA reserves the right to verify that the fish was caught in the Gippsland Lakes.
* To verify a successful claim the VFA reserves the right to request access to phone and photo data
* VFA may refuse to award a prize to any individual who VFA reasonably believes has breached any of these terms or engaged in any unlawful or other improper conduct in participating in the Promotion.

15. Prize winner will be notified on the outcome via email within 14 days of VFA receiving and verifying a Prize Claim Declaration Form.

16. The winner will have their details published on the VFA website and social media.

17. The prize will be available for collection from the nominated participating tackle outlet after notification of the successful claim.

18. VFA will collect and use entrants’ personal information in conducting the Promotion in accordance with its Privacy Policy.

19. For further details or to claim the prize contact the VFA on 03 9658 4737 or email [craig.ingram@vfa.vic.gov.au](mailto:craig.ingram@vfa.vic.gov.au)