

The Hon Sonya Kilkeny Minister for Outdoor Recreation

Outdoor Recreation Portfolio

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee



Jobs, Skills,
Industry
and Regions

Victorians are heavily involved in outdoor recreation

- Around **1 million recreational fishers**, creating over **27,000 jobs**
- **620 commercial fishing licences**, annual economic value of **\$62.3 million**
- **120 aquaculture licences**, annual economic value of **\$59.7 million**

- **222,012** registered boating vessels
- **446,946** recreational boating licence holders
- **26,662** direct and indirect jobs across Victoria



Since 2018, we have:

- Built a **new native fish hatchery** at Arcadia
- **Invested over \$40 million removing industrial netting** from Port Phillip Bay and the Gippsland Lakes
- **Provided over 600 tonne** of Snapper, Whiting, Flathead
- **Stocked nearly 10 million fish annually** throughout Victoria's rivers and waterways
- Made **all Victorian boat ramps free** to launch and park
- **Upgraded boating facilities across Victoria**
- Developed a **Traditional Owner Game Management Strategy**



More outdoor recreation opportunities for all Victorians



The 2023-24 Budget builds on our record investment across the portfolio, delivering on all our election commitments

Responsible game management and better access to waterways

We are investing:

- **\$26.5 million over four years to improve access to waterways including:**
 - **\$22.1 million** to deliver 15 ramps, jetties and car parks across Victoria
 - **\$4.4 million** to deliver upgrades at Tarago Reservoir, opening it up to motorised boats and recreational fishing
- **\$2.3 million to continue the work of the Game Management Authority**



Growing our fishing and aquaculture sector

We are investing \$32 million over four years to grow recreational fishing in Victoria and grow Victoria's aquaculture sector including:

- **\$10.0 million** to triple the size of the native fish hatchery at Arcadia
- **\$5.0 million** to build new facilities at the Snobs Creek Fish Hatchery
- **\$10.0 million** to keep our fish stocking at national record levels
- **\$1.5 million** to grow fishing participation in school aged children through a Little Anglers initiative
- **\$5.25 million** for grants to recreational fishing and aquaculture, including **\$1 million** for Aquaculture Jobs Fund and **\$0.250 million** for Oyster Farm in Lakes Entrance.

We will also continue to support the **Women in Recreational Fishing and Boating (WIRFAB)** network.

