

Media Release

The Hon Melissa Horne MP

Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation

Minister for Ports and Freight

Minister for Fishing and Boating



Friday, 13 November 2020

MAJOR UPGRADE FOR POPULAR BOAT RAMP

Fishers and boaters will benefit from better facilities and improved access to the iconic Gippsland Lakes, with the Victorian Government investing in major upgrades to the Seacombe boat ramp.

Minister for Fishing and Boating Melissa Horne today announced the popular boat ramp will get a \$435,000 makeover.

The improvements will deliver better access to McLennan Strait thanks to a new six-metre-wide, all-tide boat ramp and new fish cleaning facilities with a solar-powered pump and lights.

The works will include the construction of a new accessible platform, which will allow people to enjoy the fishing opportunities at the landing. The project will also improve safety, with new pathways and lighting to be installed.

To prevent erosion, work will be done to stabilise the adjacent banks, including replacing existing concrete sheet piling.

Seacombe Boat ramp is popular among recreational fishers and boaters because of its central location in the Gippsland Lakes and the natural shelter provided by the McLennan Strait, which joins Lake Victoria and Lake Wellington and provides sheltered access for boaters in all weather conditions.

The project is being funded through a \$404,000 Victorian Government grant from the *Boating Safety and Facilities Program*, with Wellington Shire Council funding the remainder of the project delivering the upgrades.

The project is now entering the planning phase and is expected to be completed by November 2021.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Fishing and Boating Melissa Horne

"This is a really exciting upgrade for both locals and tourists who love getting out on the water to explore and enjoy the Gippsland Lakes."

"We'll work together with the council and with the local community throughout the design process, to make sure these upgrades improve safety, sustainability and accessibility for all."

Quotes attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Jane Garrett

"These works will provide an economic boost for the region and will ensure boaters and fishers will have better access and more modern facilities for generations to come."

"We've listened to the concerns of the local community and taken action to upgrade this very popular ramp."