

Media Release

Ms Mary-Anne Thomas MP
Minister for Regional Development
Minister for Agriculture



Saturday, 27 March 2021

REEL DEAL: GOFISH NAGAMBIE MAKING A SPLASH IN 2021

The Goulburn Valley is hosting a flood of angling enthusiasts this weekend as Australia's biggest freshwater fishing festival, *GoFish Nagambie*, returns in a big way.

Minister for Regional Development Mary-Anne Thomas said *GoFish Nagambie* was a marquee event on a packed Victorian calendar of angling events, and had established the region as a world-renowned destination for freshwater fishing.

The event is backed by the Andrews Labor Government through the *Regional Events Fund*, which supports communities like Nagambie in attracting and delivering events that drive visitation, boost local economies and bolster jobs.

While last year's competition was cancelled due to the global pandemic, the 2021 festival is expected to attract thousands of rod-and-line fanatics and other visitors across four days, climaxing on Sunday.

GoFish Nagambie has male, female and youth categories and provides fishers the opportunity to participate in one of the richest freshwater fishing tournaments in Australia thanks to a \$150,000 prize pool.

The Festival Hub features a boating, camping and fishing expo, live music, evening fireworks and live entertainment, as well as a Food Truck Carnival showcasing the region's epicurean offerings.

The inaugural *GoFish Nagambie* event in 2019 generated a \$5.6 million benefit for the region and welcomed more than 7,000 visitors.

The *Victorian Budget 2020/21* included \$20 million to extend the *Regional Events Fund*, which has backed more than 250 events across the state over the past four years.

For more information on *GoFish Nagambie*, visit gofishnagambie.com.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Regional Development Mary-Anne Thomas

"It's fantastic to see visitors coming back to the Goulburn Valley – it's a beautiful part of the world and a magnet for fishers."

"We support GoFish Nagambie because it attracts thousands of people to the Valley and underpins local businesses and jobs."

"We're serious about supporting regional Victoria and that's why we provided \$20 million for the Regional Events Fund in the November Budget."

Quote attributable to Minister for Fishing and Boating Melissa Horne

"This event is another great opportunity for Victorians to get outdoors and enjoy quality time together, while providing a boost to the local economy."

Media contact: Nadia Dimattina 0438 701 306 | nadia.dimattina@minstaff.vic.gov.au