

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



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MAKING BOATING MORE ACCESSIBLE IN SOUTH GIPPSLAND

The Andrews Labor Government is making boating more accessible in South Gippsland, with designs now being finalised for a new pontoon at Port Welshpool.

Minister for Fishing and Boating Melissa Horne said the new pontoon will provide better access to boaters of all abilities, making it the first of its kind in the region.

It comes as part of a \$47.2 million investment by the Labor Government, as well as a \$33 million Better Boating Fund, which will also see the pontoon built with access davit, gangway and the installation of boat ramp signage. Construction-ready plans are expected to be finalised in coming weeks.

Better Boating Victoria (BBV) is working with South Gippsland Shire Council to deliver the project including obtaining all necessary approvals.

Making boating more accessible for all was identified as a priority for investment through the Victorian Recreational Boating Strategy. The strategy was developed through extensive consultation with boaters from across the state and guided by a Ministerial Roundtable of industry leaders.

An accessible pontoon was also installed last year at Pier Road in Mordialloc to increase access to a day on the water in Port Phillip. Similar facilities are in the works at Hastings and Lakes Entrance, with provisions for future accessible pontoons included in designs for upgrades at Werribee South and Apollo Bay.

More information about the current network of accessible boating facilities can be found online at: www.betterboating.vic.gov.au

Quote attributable to Minister for Fishing and Boating Melissa Horne

"It's great to see designs now being finalised for the new accessible pontoon at Port Welshpool, which will benefit all boaters in the region once complete."

Quote attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Jane Garrett

"This will deliver easier and better access for boaters right across the South Gippsland region."