

Media Release

Steve Dimopoulos MP

Minister for Environment

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events

Minister for Outdoor Recreation



Friday, 6 October 2023

REEL IN A GRANT TO IMPROVE FISHING IN YOUR PATCH

The latest round of the *Recreational Fishing Grants Program* has officially opened, making it easier for Victorian fisheries to catch a grant.

Minister for Outdoor Recreation Steve Dimopoulos today announced the opening of the annual program, which invests recreational fishing licence fees into vital projects and complements the Allan Labor Government's \$96 million investment into fishing, boating, piers and aquaculture.

Project proposals between \$5,000 and \$100,000 qualify for the 'Large Grants' part of the Program, which is available across four categories:

- Fisheries sustainability and habitat improvement
- Fishing access and facilities
- Fisheries related education, information and training
- Recreational fisheries research

Previously funded projects included fishing platforms at Ferntree Gully Quarry, Reeve Landing in Lakes Entrance, Ouyen Lake and Kangaroo Lake in Victoria's northwest, and Pritchards Landing on the Glenelg River.

The Program is open to fishing clubs, community groups, incorporated bodies, and government and statutory bodies. Intermediate grants tailored for fishing clubs are available for projects up to \$50,000, while smaller grants are on offer for projects of up to \$5,000.

Grants are open until 29 February 2024. For more information or to apply online, visit vfa.vic.gov.au/fishinggrants.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Outdoor Recreation Steve Dimopoulos

"We're keen to help local groups deliver local projects that make recreational fishing even better in Victoria."

"We know fishing and getting into nature plays a huge part in Victorians' busy modern lives, which is why we're investing significantly on top of funds raised through the sale of fishing licences."

"Recreational fishing in Victoria is in terrific shape thanks to record fish stocking, hatchery upgrades, a net-free Phillip Bay and Gippsland Lakes, free boat launching and parking, and ramp upgrades across the state."