

Media Release

Steve Dimopoulos MP

Minister for Environment

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events

Minister for Outdoor Recreation



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NEW SNOBS CREEK FISH CONSERVATION HATCHERY COMPLETE

The finishing touches are underway for the Allan Labor Government's new \$2.7 million conservation facility at Snobs Creek with the hatchery set to open its doors to visitors from across the region and Victoria this weekend.

Minister for Outdoor Recreation Steve Dimopoulos today toured the new facilities to learn firsthand how populations of threatened fish species will be recovered – helping to secure the future of Victoria's fish for generations to come.

The conservation hatchery is part of the Government's work to combat the decline of Victoria's native plants and animals through the landmark 20-year Biodiversity plan, backed by a record investment of \$582 million since 2014 to safeguard the state's one-of-a-kind natural environment.

The VFA will operate the hatchery alongside its existing production facilities at Snobs Creek, with funding provided by the Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action (DEECA), Victorian Environmental Water Holder and the Albanese Labor Government.

The Labor Government is also investing \$5 million to build a Macquarie perch captive breeding centre with world-class technology to regulate light levels, water temperatures and pH levels to create the ideal environment for each species to thrive.

The new breeding centre is expected to breed almost 500,000 Macquarie perch and trout cod each year once complete.

Locals and visitors will have the chance to tour the new conservation facility this Sunday, 5 May at the free Snobs Creek hatchery open day, with Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) staff on hand to showcase how research, habitat improvement, water for the environment and translocations are making a positive difference for fish populations.

The Snobs Creek Fish Hatchery open day is on Sunday, 5 May between 9.30am and 3.30pm.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Outdoor Recreation Steve Dimopoulos

"The completion of the conservation hatchery is another exciting step to ensure a bright future for threatened species in Victorian waters for generations to come."

Quotes attributable to the Federal Minister for the Environment and Water Tanya Plibersek

"Supporting projects like the Snobs Creek fish hatchery is just one way we're working to better protect our precious animals, so they can be enjoyed by our kids and grandkids."

Quotes attributable to Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes

"This open day is a great opportunity for the community to learn more about the native species on our doorstep and hear firsthand the important work this facility is doing to boost our native fish populations."

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