

## Small Event Recreational Fishing Grants Program 2008-2009

### Objective of the program

To provide funding for small recreational Fishing Events which promote recreational fishing and enhance the awareness, skills and knowledge of recreational fishing.

The Victorian Government recognizes that recreational fishing is a major social and economic contributor to Victorian communities, and, as such, the Government supports actions or programs which aim to boost participation in recreational fishing and related activities.

### What is the new small event recreational fishing grants program?

Victorian angling clubs and community groups now have a new opportunity to apply for grants of up to \$2,200 (GST inclusive) to conduct small recreational fishing events; (refer below to **What will the new program fund?**)

Funded from the Recreational Fishing Licence Trust Account revenue (*'Your fishing licence fees at work'*), the new grants program is part of the broader *Education, Information & Training* category of the Victorian Government's Recreational Fishing Grants Program 2008/9.

The new small events fishing grants program will fund up to 50 events. Applications can be submitted at any time up to 27 February 2009, which is line with the closure of the 2008/09 round of the Recreational Fishing Grants Program.

It will be administered by the Victorian Recreational Fishing peak body (VRFish) and delivered in collaboration with Fishcare Victoria. Grant applicants (and/or a sponsor) will be required to make a minimum financial and/or in-kind contribution of \$500 towards an event.

### What will the new program fund?

The new grants program will provide funding to:

- Conduct an event to promote responsible recreational fishing practices, improve angling skills and knowledge amongst participants, and/or increase participation in recreational fishing. As a guide, events could include, a workshop or training session on aspects of recreational fishing such as knot- or fly-tying, rig-setting, bait collection and application, fish catch and release techniques, 'Come and try' fishing days, Fish-a-thons, and/or displays at shows and expos.

**Applicants should contact VRFish on 03 9686 7077 to discuss their proposed event or activity, and to obtain a grant application form.**

- Through the program, successful applicants can receive up to \$1,760 (GST inclusive) to cover event *input* costs including:
  - Production of event promotional aids - printing, photocopying, advertising, displays, signs;
  - Venue, plant, equipment, necessary transportation and/or security hire;
  - Obtaining necessary event permit/s;
  - Sustenance for participants - to a maximum of \$200.00 (GST exclusive); and
  - Consumables for demonstration purposes - to a maximum of \$75.00 (GST exclusive)

**The program will involve the participation of Fishcare Victoria** - an organisation that delivers services to the recreational fishing sector through the promotion and teaching of fishing practices. Fishcare will attend an event to:

- Promote responsible recreational fishing practices through the display and distribution of educational resources;
- Add value to the event with appropriate recreational fishing-related demonstrations and activities.

Fishcare is available to advise a grant applicant about how to best organise and conduct a great event. To contact Fishcare, email [fishcare.portphillip@dpi.vic.gov.au](mailto:fishcare.portphillip@dpi.vic.gov.au) or phone (03) 5152 0456 during normal business hours.

VRFish and Fishcare are being funded for the provision of their services to the program from grant funding available for each event.

### The program will not fund:

- Events where no financial contribution, in-kind or otherwise, from the applicant or sponsor is provided;
- Events which have already started or have been completed, existing debts and/or budget deficits;
- Purchases of prizes, give-aways, or alcohol;
- General operating or travel costs not directly associated with an event; and/or
- Event components assessed as having little value or no benefit to recreational fishing.

Any queries about what the program will or will not fund should be discussed with the VRFish Grants Officer, Ben Scullin who can be contacted on (03) 9686 7077 or email: [ben@vrfish.com.au](mailto:ben@vrfish.com.au)

### Who can apply and how to apply?

Community not-for-profit organisations, angling clubs and Fishcare groups in Victoria can apply if they:

- Involve community members at the local level;
- Are an incorporated body, co-operative or association; and
- Have an Australian Business Number (ABN) or have written advice from the Australian Taxation Office that the Withholding Tax does not apply to the grant payment.

Unincorporated organisations may apply through a sponsoring organisation, which is an incorporated body, cooperative, or association that have an ABN. VRFish and incorporated Fishcare groups are available to sponsor applications. VRFish is also available to assist groups to develop a proposal for an event, including an event plan, budget, promotion plan and evaluation.

The Department of Primary Industries will assess grant applications and allocate grant funding.

### To be successful, a grant application must satisfy the following criteria:

- Your proposed event must promote responsible recreational fishing practices, improve angling skills and angling knowledge amongst participants, and/or increase participation in recreational fishing; and
- Your organisation and/or a sponsor must make a minimum contribution of \$500 to the event, comprising cash and/or in-kind or volunteer time (valued at \$25 per hour).

You must provide information in your application to demonstrate that you meet these criteria.

### What are the funding conditions?

- Applications are received by the Department of Primary Industries at least 60 days prior to an event to allow time for processing.
- The completion and return of an event Funding Agreement and suitable invoice to the Department of Primary Industries to enable the grant to be allocated.
- The event must be delivered in collaboration with Fishcare, and must be completed within the agreed time-frame.
- The applicant must demonstrate a contribution of at least \$500 towards the event (refer above).
- To verify the cost of event *inputs funded by the grant*, the grant recipient must **retain all invoices**, and complete and provide a Grant Acquittal form and a Completed Event Report to the Department of Primary Industries within 10 days of event completion.

### More Information

For more information, please call the VRFish Grants Officer, Ben Scullin on (03) 9686 7077 or email: [ben@vrfish.com.au](mailto:ben@vrfish.com.au).

© The State of Victoria, Department of Primary Industries, 2008

**Disclaimer:** This publication may be of assistance to you, but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for an error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.



For more information about DPI visit the website at [www.dpi.vic.gov.au](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au) or call the Customer Service Centre on 136 186

