

PERMITTED USE OF RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT

	Marine Waters** Maximum	Inland Waters**
Lines per person	4	2
Hooks per line	2, or one bait jig	2, or one bait jig
Bait traps – labelled*	2	2
Hoop nets – labelled*	2*** (Closed Season applies)	10 (5 in some waters – see pages 65-66)
Hand held spear	specific waters only	0
Baited line with no hook	10	10
Dip/landing net	1	1
Bait net (hauling net)	Specific waters only	Specific waters only
Yabby pots/opera/folding frame [#]	0	0

[#] Yabby pots/opera house nets must only be used in private inland waters such as farm dams.

* The use of hoop nets and bait traps is permitted ONLY if each piece of equipment is tagged and labelled. The tag must remain on or above the water surface when the device is in use.

** For definition of 'inland' and 'marine' waters, refer to the *Fisheries Act 1995* or contact the DPI Customer Service Centre on 136 186.

*** This is also the possession limit for hoop nets in marine waters.



RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT NOT PERMITTED

Set lines
Mesh nets, cast nets and all other nets [#]
Snares

[#] Except those listed in top table.

You must not use or possess these in, on or next to Victorian waters, including private waters.

You may not tow, drag or haul any net behind a motor boat under propulsion in any Victorian waters.



MARINE NATIONAL PARKS AND SANCTUARIES

Fishing equipment must not be used in Marine National Parks and Marine Sanctuaries. Fishing equipment may be carried in Marine National Parks and Marine Sanctuaries.

EQUIPMENT MARINE WATERS

Lines and Hooks

'Lines' engaged in fishing, whether attached to rods or hand reels, must be attended.

'Hooks' – a gang of four hooks (i.e. linked together by the eye), a treble hook, a keeper hook or a single hook are each classed as one hook. Lures and squid jigs are also classed as one hook.

Opera house nets are illegal in public waters

In Victoria, opera house nets must not be used in public waters such as creeks, streams, rivers, lakes and reservoirs.

Opera house nets in public waters threaten aquatic animals including platypus and turtles.

Offenders face fines of up to \$11,300 or 6 months jail, or both.

Opera house nets may only be used in private waters such as farm dams.

You can report suspicious or illegal fishing activity, including the use of opera house nets in public waters, to Fisheries Victoria's 24 hour offence reporting line 13 FISH (☎13 3474) seven days a week.



Farm dams



Creeks, streams and rivers



Lakes and reservoirs

A maximum of four lines per person are permitted in marine waters with no more than two hooks or baits attached to each line.

Bait Pumps

A hand-operated suction pump with a barrel diameter not exceeding 8.5cm, may be used to extract Bass yabbies, sandworms and other invertebrate species. A sieve can be used in conjunction with the pump.



Recreational Hoop Nets (Marine)

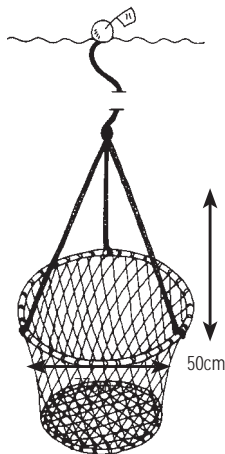
Rock lobster, crabs and other species may be taken with recreational hoop nets provided no hoop exceeds 77cm in diameter and the net drop is no deeper than 50cm.

Catch limits, size limits and closed seasons apply to rock lobster. A catch limit applies to crabs.

Closed season for hoop nets

From 1 September to 15 November (inclusive) each year you may not use a recreational hoop net in any marine water other than Port Phillip Bay, Western Port, the Gippsland Lakes or any inlet of the sea.

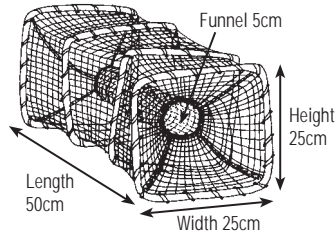
A maximum of two labelled, (see page 63), recreational hoop nets may be used or possessed within 400m of any marine water.



Bait Traps

Plastic or mesh bait traps must not have a funnel entrance diameter exceeding 5cm; the height of the trap must be no more than 25cm. The trap must also be within the confines of 25cm wide and 50cm long.

A maximum of two bait traps are permitted per person provided they are labelled (see page 63).



Recreational Bait Nets (Hauling Nets)

A recreational bait net must not exceed 6m in length. Hauling ropes attached to each end also must not exceed 6m. Recreational bait nets do not include cast nets, which are prohibited.

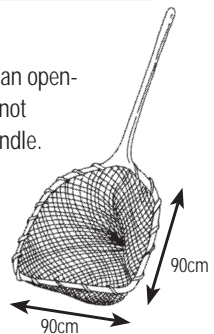
You may use a recreational bait net to take bait in marine waters except in the following waters:

- Port Phillip Bay and Western Port;
- the North Arm and Cunningham Arm of Gippsland Lakes;
- the Toorloo Arm and Nowa Nowa Arm of Lake Tyers;
- within 30m of any pier or jetty;
- within 400m in any direction of the mouth of any creek or river.

Dip Nets

A recreational dip net consists of an open-faced net with a width and depth not exceeding 90cm, attached to a handle.

A dip net may be used to take a variety of fish or invertebrate species, with or without a light.



EQUIPMENT INLAND WATERS

Lines and Hooks

You may use up to 2 lines or baits at any one time whether attached to rods or not, with a maximum of 2 hooks on each line or bait. You may not leave a line or rod and line unattended in any Victorian water.

'Hooks' – A gang of four hooks (i.e. linked together by the eye), a treble hook, a keeper hook or a single hook are each classed as one hook. Lures and jigs are also classed as one hook.

You may use up to 10 baited lines (no hooks) for yabbies and spiny freshwater crayfish.

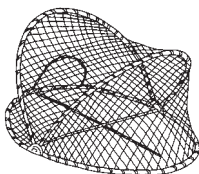
Set Lines

Set lines and their snoods and other parts of set lines may not be used or possessed by recreational fishers.

Yabby Pots

The definition of a yabby pot includes opera house nets and folding frame nets.

The use or possession of yabby pots is **prohibited** in, on or next to all Victorian public waters.



Bait Traps

You can use no more than 2 labelled (see page 63) bait traps to take fish or invertebrate species (see page 65). The maximum dimensions of bait traps are the same as those specified for marine waters.

Spear Guns

The possession of a spear gun in, on, or next to any inland water is prohibited.

Recreational Hoop Nets (Inland)

You may use recreational hoop nets that are labelled (see page 63) to take spiny freshwater crayfish and yabbies.

A maximum of 10 hoop nets may be used in inland waters except in the following waters where only 5 hoop nets are permitted:

Carrol's Creek, Glenelg River system (excluding Rocklands Reservoir), Goulburn River system (excluding Lake Eildon), Kiewa River system, Latrobe River system, Mitta Mitta River system (excluding Lake Dartmouth), Ovens River system, Ryans Creek, Tarra River system, Waranga Basin, and Wodonga Creek including any tributary stream flowing into those waters and any impoundment on those waters. Maximum dimensions of hoop nets are the same as those specified for marine waters.

Recreational Bait Nets (Hauling Nets)

You may use a recreational bait net to take bait from the following inland waters only:

- Curdies River between the 'Narrows' and the bridge on the Great Ocean Road at Peterborough.
- Fitzroy River downstream from the boat ramp.
- Glenelg River downstream from the southern boundary of the lower Glenelg National Park.
- Hopkins River downstream from Rowans Lane to within 200m of the mouth of the river.
- Merri River downstream from the Princes Highway, except within 400m in any direction from the footbridge at Pickering Point.
- Snowy River downstream from the Government Wharf at Marlo.
- Surrey River downstream from the Princes Highway.
- Wimmera River downstream from the bridge on the Stawell-Marnoo Road to Lake Hindmarsh.
- any lake, swamp, marsh or lagoon.

Maximum dimensions of a recreational bait net are the same as those specified for marine waters.

Dip Net

As for marine waters, you may use a dip net to take a variety of fish and invertebrate species. For details see page 65.