



# *VRFish State Election Priorities*



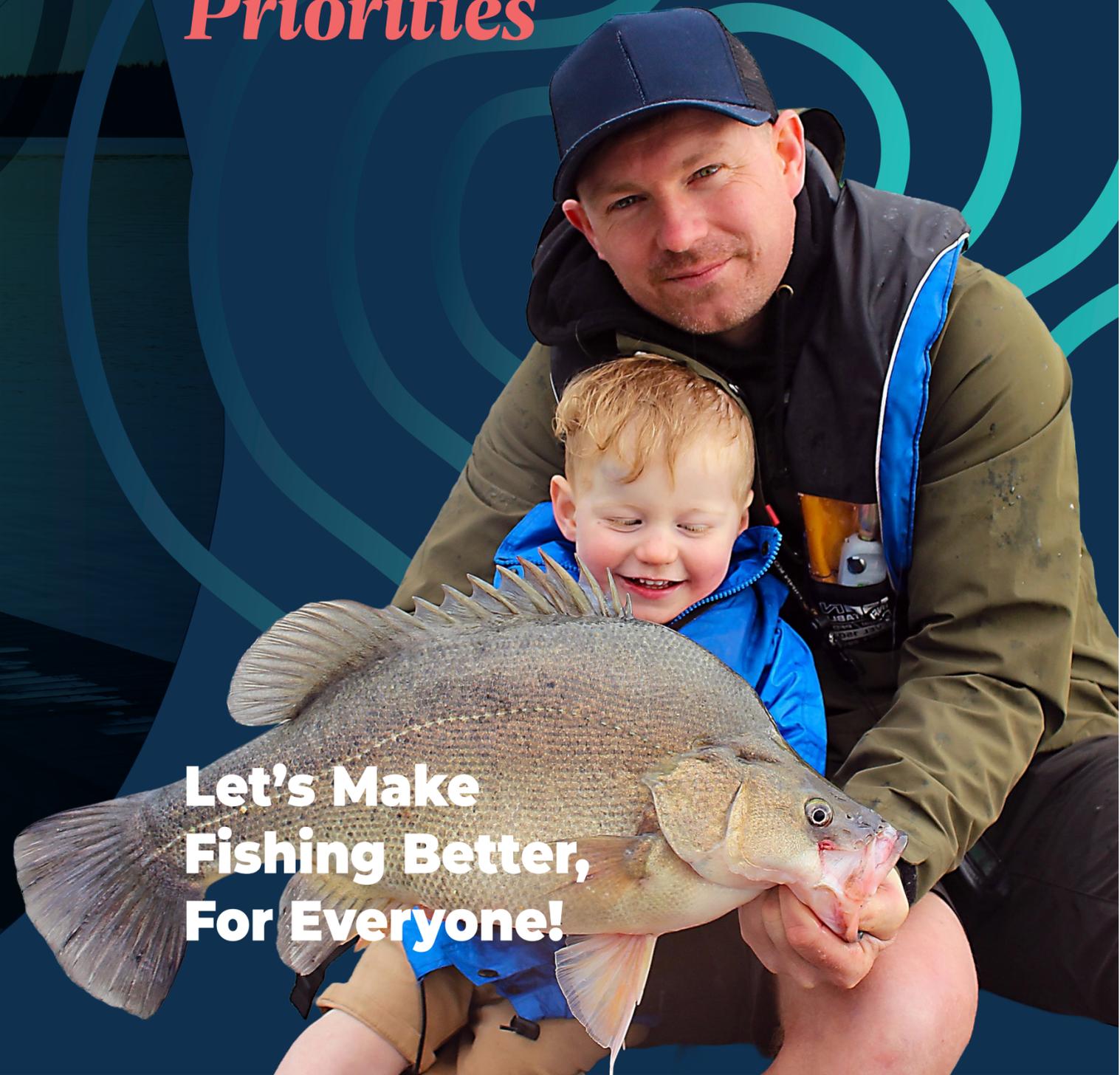
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**Let's Make  
Fishing Better,  
For Everyone!**

# VRFish State Election Priorities



VRFish is the peak body representing the voice of recreational fishing in Victoria.

When decisions are made that affect our fisheries we advocate for recreational fishing interests.

Whether it's fish habitat, water security and quality, fishing access and infrastructure or best practice, we aim to work in partnership to make sure Victoria's fishing experiences continue to improve, be sustainable and more enjoyable for all Victorians.



*Ahead of the 2026 Victorian State Election, VRFish have developed a list of priorities to make fishing better in Victoria.*



## BETTER FISH

1. \$10m to establish Victoria's first Estuarine Fish Hatchery, growing Estuary Perch, Australian Bass, Mulloway and Flathead.
2. \$10m to modernise trout production facilities at Snobs Creek Hatchery.



## BETTER ACCESS

3. Mandate recreational fishing access to all urban waters throughout Victoria, including Edwards Park Lake and Newport Lakes.
4. Develop new inland fisheries close to Melbourne by opening Yan Yean Reservoir, Merrimu Reservoir and Djerriwarrh Reservoir to recreational fishing.
5. Roads to rivers: Provide additional funding to improve crown land access to public water, by activating 'unused road reserves'.
6. Continue to deliver priorities from the Victorian Recreational Boating Strategy.



## BETTER ENVIRONMENT

7. \$2.5m fish habitat fund, for the delivery of marine and inland habitat restoration projects.
8. Carp Diem: support carp control measures.
9. Water Security: protect the recreational fishery on the Wimmera-Mallee pipeline by allocating recreational water for recreational fishing.
10. Native Fish Recovery: broaden the 10 in 10 endangered fish species recovery program, with additional funding for research and monitoring.



## BETTER REGULATIONS

11. Kingfish Capital: Make kingfish a recreational only species in Victoria
12. Review recreational abalone regulations, with a view to provide more equitable access in 'Victorian Central Waters'.



## BETTER FUTURE

13. Secure the future of VRFish as the peak body, by extending the funding agreement to 5-year terms.
14. Provide VRFish \$100,000 to deliver two emerging leader courses in 2027 and 2029.
15. Support fishing clubs through a \$2,000 'Stronger Fishing Club Grants' program.
16. Empower the next generation of fishers through continuing to deliver the 'little angler kits'.