



26 July 2020

Jay McMashney  
AGL

**Re: Desilting Royston and Rubicon Dams**

Dear Jay,

Thank you for notifying us of the impending desilting of the Royston and Rubicon dams.

We, the Australian Trout Foundation, Native Fish Australia (Vic) and the Council of Victorian Fly Fishers Clubs, have great concerns regarding this desilting and request the current program be suspended ASAP and other methods of desilting adopted.

We believe the current desilting program has a detrimental effect on the biota within both rivers, with the silt/suspended solids smothering macroinvertebrates and filling up interstitial space and reducing habitat for all living in the rivers. This in turn effects the fish populations with reduced food availability and limited spawning areas.

There are currently many efforts by recreational anglers to improve the health of the Rubicon River including a number of habitat restoration projects along the river. These projects are in partnership with the Victorian Fisheries Authority, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, and are making a positive difference to the health of the river and the once great recreational fishery. This includes designating the Rubicon River as a priority wild Trout stream.

Please consider our request and respond without delay. We await your response prior to publishing our concerns to Victorian recreational anglers, relevant government departments and their responsible ministers.

Yours Sincerely,

Tim Curmi  
President,  
Native Fish Australia (Vic)

Doug Braham  
President,  
Council of Victorian Fly  
Fishing Clubs

Terry George  
President,  
Australian Trout Foundation

CC  
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