

## NATIVE FISH AUSTRALIA (Vic) Inc.

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Jaala Pulford Minister for Fishing & Boating Level 20, 1 Spring Street Melbourne 3000

## **Current Ban on Recreational Fishing in Victoria**

Dear Jaala.

I am writing to support the stay at home direction under stage 3 restrictions and therefore the current ban on recreational fishing in Victoria. We believe that the current ban is in the interest of all Victorians and sacrifices need to be made to protect all Victorians and prevent the widespread proliferation of COVID-19. The ban continues to frustrate the majority of Native Fish Australia (Vic) members who fish regularly, but understand the overarching need for the stay at home direction.

It now appears as if the stage 3 restrictions have lead to a decline in the proliferation of COVID-19 with the "transmission curve" well and truly flattened, and the number of community transmissions falling dramatically.

NFA (Vic) urge you to remove the ban on recreational fishing as soon as practicable and allow recreational angling to recommence. It is likely that some restrictions will still be necessary including current social distancing rules and a maximum limit of two persons in boating activities as well as the uptake of the COVID-19 tracking app by anyone wishing to participate in recreational angling. This will allow many Victorians whose major form of recreation is angling to resume, and will facilitate improvements to both the mental and physical health of those anglers.

Regards

Tim Curmi President

Native Fish Australia (Vic)

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