



**NATIVE FISH AUSTRALIA (Vic) Inc.**

[www.nativefish.asn.au](http://www.nativefish.asn.au)

PO Box 162 Doncaster 3108

17 September 2020

Melissa Horne  
Minister for Fishing and Boating  
Level 22, 1 Spring Street  
Melbourne 3000

Dear Melissa,

**Re: New Native Fish Hatchery at Arcadia**

Native Fish Australia (Vic) was formed in the early 1980s as a wholly volunteer representative organisation, with the main aims to promote and protect native fish species for future recreational angling. Since inception we have advocated for native fish by organising numerous public live fish displays, regular talks to community and angling groups and participation at countless meetings and workshops on the future of native fish. This has included running an endangered native fish hatchery, and advocacy for better management and regulations for native fish.

We watch with great interest the ongoing development of the new hatchery and congratulate you and the Victorian Fisheries Authority in the great vision for the future hatchery that will “fish proof” further development of great native fisheries across Victoria. It’s great to see the plans for the new hatchery starting to develop into reality.

We hope that the facility can reach its full potential beyond the basic fish farm and include other important features including the information centre for the general public. We believe the planned information centre will be very important for the whole hatchery site, as it will engage the wider community in learning all about native fish especially the iconic Murray cod. We hope that this centre will be included early on in construction on the site. We are also very pleased to hear of plans for a public BBQ area and an area designated for families to fish for native fish within the site of the hatchery.

As expressed on a number of occasions, we offer support for the entire hatchery and look forward to working with you and the VFA on bringing this needed native fish hatchery to reality.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Curmi". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "T".

Tim Curmi  
President  
Native Fish Australia (Vic) Inc  
0417 419 765