

THE EVENING RISE

July 2014

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MPFF Mission Statement

To promote, foster and encourage the art of fly fishing in all its aspects.

To promote, foster and encourage the art of fly tying.

To promote, foster and encourage the sport of fly casting.

To increase the pleasure derived by members from their sport by social intercourse, interchange of ideas and by collective or mutually assistive action generally.

To promote and assist in the stocking with trout and other sporting fish, of local and other waters.

To foster and promote the conservation of the environment on which the sport of fly fishing is practised and to assist scientific and practical research in all matters pertaining to the sport.

To do all such other things that are incidental to or conducive to the attainment of these purposes and for the exercise of the power of the club.



PRESIDENTS LINE

Greetings fellow fly flickers.

Easy to see why we hibernate at this time of the year—might have to find a second pair of thermals for the winter chase of the salmon when Terry sends out the word that they have settled in one area of the peninsula. Then we can our winter saltwater skills.

Not too many sleeps to the Annual Dinner. Looking forward to cathing up with you all, sharing good food, great company and a wee dram or two.



Hope to catch up with you on the water somewhere, some time soon.

Regards,

Russ Johnson



CLUB CONTACT DETAILS

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Website: www.mpff.org.au

P.O. Box 848, Frankston, VIC. 3199

CLUB REMINDERS

FLY TYING

Sunday 3rd August, 1.30—3 pm (TBC)

COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday 14th August @ Wranglers Club. 6.30 pm

CASTING DAY

Sunday 13th July, 10.30 am
Devilbend Reservoir

CLUB TRIP

2nd/3rd August
Saltwater Fly (*Venue TBC*)

CLUB MEETING

Thursday 24th July @ Wranglers. 7.30pm

AT THE MEETING

Annual General Meeting

Election of Office Bearers 2014/15

FOR YOUR DIARIES

ANNUAL DINNER—19TH JULY

SHOT OF THE MONTH

Gippsland Fishing

FROM THE PAPERS

Seven anglers on Rubicon River face heavy fines

Fisheries Officers have apprehended seven recreational anglers along the Rubicon River in North East Victoria in the past week for exceeding the bag limit for brook trout and other offences.

Northern Regional Fisheries Officer Mike Hosking said Fisheries Officers were maintaining an active presence at the Rubicon River in the wake of misinformation allegedly being circulated in social media that there was no bag and size limits for brook trout in the river. As a result of the surveillance and inspections carried out by Fisheries Officers at the river over the past week, seven fishers have been fined or will be charged on summons with a range of offences.

The offences were detected along a 5-6km stretch of the river between Camp Jungai and Tumbling Waters at the Thornton Road Bridge. The offences included exceeding bag and possession limits for unlisted species (brook trout) and salmonids, the use of trout or salmon ova as bait, failure to immediately release unwanted fish and exceeding the number of salmonids of more than 35cm in length.

Fisheries Officers have seized a total of 94 fish taken

from the Rubicon River in the past week and will continue to closely monitor activity along the river to ensure all fishers observe the rules.



LAST MEETING (JUNE)

Our guest speaker was Phil Kininmonth proprietor, designer and painter from the Mountain Stream Company



Phil displayed a selection of his stock and gave a talk about his experiences fly fishing in Scotland whilst on a holiday—a totally unique experience which emphasised to all present how lucky we are to have the access we have to fishing in a variety of sites around the state.

Phil is pleased to offer members a substantial “club member” discount on items ordered from his website—www.mountainstream.com.au check it out!!

DEVILBEND WEEDING DAY

Advance early warning. Its on again!!!~

Devilbend Natural Features Reserve Community Weeding Day

Another great chance for the club to make an impact with other Devil Bend supporters and Parks personnel by demonstrating our commitment to the reserve and its development.

So let's all "badge-up" in our MPFF shirts and turn -up on the day and thus *make a statement!*



When: Saturday 30th August 2014

Time: 9:30am – 12:30pm

What to bring: Leather gloves, loppers or pruning handsaw and sunglasses or clear protective glasses.

BBQ SAUSAGE SIZZLE after the weeding

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE

You are reminded that your Annual Membership renewal is due!!!

Membership Fees are levied per financial year and are due and payable on 1st July and payment must be made no later than the 30th September 2014.

Membership Fees from 1st July 2014 – 30th June 2015 remain unchanged and are:

Single: \$70.00 (including insurance)

Family: \$85.00 (including insurance)

Your subscription may be paid in the following ways:

- Direct to the Treasurer at a club meeting (with a completed renewal form)

OR

- Via Internet transfer to our account Mornington Peninsula Fly Fishers Inc :

BSB: 083 922

a/c #: 457578291

Please include your full name as the reference.

OR

- Post a cheque, and completed renewal form, to: **The Treasurer, MPFF Inc, PO Box 848, Frankston. 3199**

ANNUAL DINNER RAFFLE SPONSORS

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PEOPLE WE NEED TO SUPPORT

Australian Trout Foundation



The Australian Trout Foundation Inc.

...dedicated to protecting and improving Australia's Trout Fishery.

Consider becoming a member—only \$20 per year

The Australian Trout Foundation Inc. is the only independent, non-profit organisation in the country that is specifically dedicated to protecting and improving Australia's trout fishery, ensuring that all Australians can enjoy trout fishing now and for future generations to come.

Check out their website: <http://www.atfonline.com.au/home/page/home>

TROUT STOCKING UPDATE

81,000 trout and salmon stocked into 14 inland water in Victoria

Over the last fortnight, Fisheries Victoria has stocked more than 81,000 trout and salmon into 14 inland waters to improve recreational fishing opportunities.

The stockings were funded by the State Government's \$16 million Recreational Fishing Initiative and fishing licence fees.

- Lake Hume (8,275 brown trout)
- Cairn Curran Reservoir (8,370 browns)
- Tullaroop Reservoir (7,500 rainbow trout)
- Lake Bullen Merri (11,825 Chinook salmon)
- Lake Purrumbete (11,800 Chinooks)

- Devilbend Reservoir (5,000 rainbows)

- Pykes Creek Reservoir (5,000 browns)
- Hopkins River (4,000 browns)
- Lake Narracan (3,000 rainbows & 3,000 browns)
- Upper Coliban Reservoir (2,000 browns & 5,000 rainbows)
- Lake Hamilton (2,000 browns & 3,000 rainbows)
- Holland Creek (1,100 browns)
- Ryans Creek (550 browns)
- Mooroopna Recreation Reserve Lake (50 advanced rainbows)

Trout and salmon stockings will continue through winter while water temperatures are low and better suited to the release of cold-water species.

For more about fish stocking, including stocking summaries from last year, visit

<http://www.depi.vic.gov.au/fishing-and-hunting/recreational-fishing/fish-stocking>

Trout Stocking to improve freshwater fishing

Trout stocking has commenced and over the last fortnight 41,850 were released to improve freshwater fishing opportunities.

Cooler water temperatures better suit the release of trout, which have been bred and raised at our Snobs Creek fish hatchery.

Trout were stocked into:

- Mount Beauty Pondage (500 rainbow trout)
- Eildon Pondage (200 rainbows and 200 brown trout)
- Hepburn Lagoon (5,000 browns)
- Newlyn Reservoir (4,000 browns)
- Blue Rock Lake (5,000 browns)
- Lake Narracan (4,000 browns)
- Lauriston Reservoir (6,750 browns)
- Upper Coliban Reservoir (8,000 browns)
- Lake Wendouree (8,000 browns)
- Hyland Lake (200 advanced rainbows)

The rainbow trout stocked into the Eildon Pondage were ex-brood fish, which averaged 2.1kg each, while the ex-brood browns weighed 1.8kg.

Fish stocking is funded by fishing licence fees and the State Government's \$16 million Recreational Fishing Initiative.



Call Jim on 0410 423 430 or email your enquiries to: info@flyfinz.com

www.flyfinz.com

website is under construction, however, please call for further information and pricing.

Your committee recently wrote a letter in support of the following application for a research grant:

A response plan to investigate the decline in wild trout recreational fisheries in Victoria

Background

Over the last year or so, trout fishers have reported poor trout fishing in rivers and streams, particularly in North East Victoria during summer periods. Similar reports of poor fishing in wild trout streams have also been reported and discussed in locations outside of Victoria including New South Wales, Tasmania and New Zealand. In response to Victorian concerns, Fisheries Victoria commissioned some exploratory trout population surveys of the King, Howqua, Jamieson and Upper Goulburn Rivers in February 2014.

The population surveys revealed relatively low numbers of trout at the lower reaches of all streams compared with upstream sites, where relatively high numbers were recorded. Relatively high water temperatures were also recorded in all sites sampled, particularly in the lower reaches of each stream. (<http://www.depi.vic.gov.au/fishing-and-hunting/recreational-fishing/wild-trout-population-survey>)

Based on research and feedback from trout fishers, a number of factors have been suggested as contributing towards a decline in river trout fishing in the lower reaches of popular trout streams, including; unusually hot summer water temperatures, changes in fishing pressure and habitat (riparian) condition, cormorant and carp predation.

To investigate these issues, Fisheries Victoria has consulted widely with trout fishers, researchers and other fisheries management jurisdictions. This has consolidated key issues and led to the preparation of Trout Response Plan (the plan). The plan will form the basis of a detailed commissioning scale grant application to the Victorian Recreational Fishing Licence (RFL) Trust.

This paper provides an overview of the plan while providing recreational fishing representative groups with an opportunity to provide a letter of support (by 5pm on Sunday 6 July), which would be attached to the grant application.

Key issues

Based on consultation with trout fishers, researchers, interstate and international Fisheries experts, the following key issues were considered central to the development of the Plan:

1. Are summer water temperatures adversely impacting river trout fisheries?
2. Is there a decline in wild trout breeding?
3. Is fishing pressure adversely impacting trout populations?
4. Has a reduction in Lake Eildon trout stocking impacted adjacent river trout fisheries?
5. Have changes in riparian habitat affected water temperature or the trout fishery?
6. Will trout stocking help the wild brown trout river fisheries recover?
7. Are current Fisheries regulations adequate to protect or sustain river trout fisheries?
8. Is carp or cormorant competition / predator pressure impacting the trout fishery?
9. How can we reliably measure changes in the performance of the recreational fishery?
10. How do we ensure research results are well understood by fishers?

DEPI PROPOSAL FOR GRANT APPLICATION (cont)

The Response Plan – an overview

These issues have led to the development of a plan that will involve; applied research, trout population health assessments, trout fisher participation/engagement, science extension and a trout fishing feedback program. In summary, the key projects of the plan include:

Project 1 (Issue 1) - A trout movement study in the Delatite River over 1-2 years to understand how trout respond to summer water temperature i.e. changes in survival or movement (up or downstream). This will involve acoustic tags and up to 30 listening stations located through the length of the river.

Project 2 (Issue 2 & 8) – Twelve priority wild trout rivers (short list includes Jamieson River, Howqua River, Kiewa River, Ovens River, Nariel Creek, Upper Mitta Mitta River, Upper Yarra River, Dargo River, Aire River, Toorong River, King River and Upper Goulburn River) using electro-fishing methods to determine the trout population health status including indications of abundance, recruitment, size and age classes. This will be presented as a 'score card' on the relative performance of each trout fishery. All carp electro-fished will be removed from survey rivers.

Project 3 (Issues 3 & 7) – An assessment of the fishing pressure involving marked trout in the Howqua River and angler/visitor surveys over the broader north east trout fishery (in collaboration with local shires). This will also inform the case for reviewing trout regulations, if needed.

Project 4 (Issues 4, 6, 9 & 10) - Development of a cost-effective method to differentiate hatchery from wild trout to better understand how stocked trout contribute to the wild fishery.

Project 5 (Issues 5 & 10) - At selected river(s), an assessment of how riparian habitat has changed and what impacts this might have on water temperature and the trout fishery.

Project 6 (issues 6 & 10) – Investigate the effectiveness of stocking to assist recovery of trout populations. A three year stocking trial conducted in the Howqua and Upper Goulburn Rivers including a detailed assessment of what changes this makes to the trout population and fishery.

Project 7 (Issues 9 & 10) – Development of a pilot angling club trout catch & effort program including online data recording.

Project 8 (Issues 9 & 10) - Annual trout seminar series to present results from this study to trout fishers featuring leading trout expertise from interstate and overseas.

The plan will be managed by Fisheries Victoria with research provided by the Arthur Rylah Institute and Fisheries Victoria.

Funding will also be provided through the Recreational Fishing Initiative and additional co-investment and in-kind support will be sought from Catchment Management Authorities, Universities and CSIRO.

The total cost of the project is currently being finalised, but the amount sought from the Victorian Recreational Fishing Licence Trust is likely to total around \$575,000 (over 3 years), with an additional \$325,000 provided through other fund sources.

A key measure of the value of an RFL grant application is demonstration of the relevance of the project proposal to the recreational fishing sector and your committee submitted the following in response:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Mornington Peninsula Fly Fishers Inc. in support of the proposal to submit a Victorian Recreational Fishing Licence (RFL) Trust grant application to develop and undertake research into the decline in wild trout recreational fisheries in Victoria.

The response plan projects outlined in the circulated draft are all targeted at areas of concern to the members of our club and indeed to all recreational fishers in the state. The sites at which the various projects are to be carried out are all places where our members regularly fish and where they also report the ongoing decline in fish stock.

Our Club acknowledges the outstanding consultation process undertaken in developing the planned projects. We commend the good work done to date and give our emphatic support to the plan that RFL funds should be allocated for the proposed work.

Given the current state of fishing in the last 18months or so it is imperative a regular monitoring process is commenced.

GOULBURN FISHING FESTIVAL 2014



Fisheries Victoria and the Eildon community will again host the Goulburn Fishing Festival on 5 and 6 September, coinciding with the opening of the riverine trout season.

There will be fishing workshops, trade displays, local food tastings, accommodation prizes along with professional cooking demonstrations.

For the kids, free entertainment all weekend including a jumping castle, face painting and lots of fishy activities.

The festival also aims to highlight the terrific trout fishing on offer in Eildon's rivers, pondage and giant lake.

Alternatively, learn more about Lake Eildon's increasingly popular native fishery, which is based on stocked golden perch and Murray cod.

CASTING DAY—DEVILBEND

Fifteen members and two visitors got together for some casting practice at Devilbend Natural Features Reserve on Sunday July 13th.

The day commenced around 10.30 am with a hot cuppa and concluded around midday with a BBQ sausage sizzle lunch.

All present took the opportunity to try out other rods and to hone their skills by casting to targets as well as improving distance technique. There is certainly a wealth of knowledge and experience available from within the membership of the club and this was freely exchanged amongst the group.



We especially welcomed our visitors who expressed genuine interest in joining the club following their time with us—proving that these days provide ideal promotion for recruiting members.

SHOT OF THE MONTH



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