



Victoria Government Gazette

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Subordinate Legislation Act 1994

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT UNDER SECTION 11 OF THE SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION ACT 1994

Fisheries and Fisheries (Fees, Royalties and Levies) Amendment (Recreational Fishery Licence) Regulations 2016

In accordance with section 11 of the **Subordinate Legislation Act 1994**, I, Jaala Pulford, Minister for Agriculture, give notice of the preparation of a Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) in relation to the Fisheries and Fisheries (Fees, Royalties and Levies) Amendment (Recreational Fishery Licence) Regulations 2016 (proposed Regulations). Public comments and submissions are invited on the RIS and proposed Regulations. The public comment period on the RIS and proposed Regulations is open from 16 March 2016 to 19 April 2016.

The reason for the proposed Regulations is to raise more revenue to fund initiatives and programs to enhance recreational fishing opportunities in Victoria, and to improve compliance with licensing requirements.

In particular, the objectives of the proposed Regulations are to:

- increase levies for recreational fishery licences;
- introduce a discount for 1 year and 3 year recreational fishery licences that are applied for online;
- replace the existing 2 day recreational fishery licence with a 3 day licence; and
- introduce two offences and associated penalties for authorised persons that fail to return unissued recreational fishery licences to the Secretary, and that issue a recreational fishery licence with a date and time that is prior to the date and time the licence was issued.

The RIS considered alternative options to raise additional recreational fishery licence revenue. It concluded that increasing levies for recreational fishery licences is the most efficient means of doing this. The RIS supports the proposed amendments as they retain the current exemptions from the requirement to hold a licence, which broadly recognise ability to pay by exempt groups, and will be simple to implement and administer.

A copy of the RIS and proposed Regulations may be obtained from the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources from 16 March 2016 by calling the Customer Service Centre on 136 186, or downloading the documents from www.vic.gov.au/RFLchanges

If you wish to comment on the RIS and the proposed Regulations, please forward a submission, in writing, by no later than 5.00 pm on 19 April 2016 to:

Recreational Fishery Licence RIS
Fisheries Victoria
Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources
GPO Box 4509, Melbourne, Victoria 3001 or
email: RFL.RIS@ecodev.vic.gov.au

All submissions will be treated as public documents and may be published on the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources website.

JAALA PULFORD
Minister for Agriculture
agriculture.vic.gov.au

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