

Questions taken on notice and further information agreed to be supplied at the hearings.

Portfolio:	Fishing & Boating
Witness:	Hon Melissa Horne MP
Committee Member:	Mr Danny O'Brien MP
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Question:

Minister, last year your predecessor advised that a new study into the economic and social value of recreational fishing would be undertaken and that there would be three publicly available reports in October 2019. I cannot find one on the website now, and there is a reference to the most recent one being undertaken in 2009. Can you tell me where that is up to?

Answer:

Thank you for your question about the economic and social value of recreational fishing in Victoria. There have been three social and economic assessments of recreational fishing in Victoria. Firstly, in 2009, then in 2015 and more recently, work was undertaken in 2019. All three reports were commissioned to gauge the economic effect as well as participation of Victorians in fishing.

The Andrews Labor Government fully understands the importance of recreational fishing to Victoria. We have improved recreational fishing in Victoria through the \$81 million Target One Million plan, which has led to the removal of commercial netting from the Gippsland Lakes, created a net free Corio Bay already and will phase out remaining net licences in Port Phillip Bay by April 2022. We have increased fish stocking to a record 8 million last year and are on track to reach our 10 million fish stocking target by 2022.



Hon Melissa Horne MP
Minister for Fishing and Boating
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