



IMAGINE  
THE YARRA

# DRAFT YARRA STRATEGIC PLAN

## PUBLIC CONSULTATION

### SUBMISSION COVER SHEET

<b>Submission Number:</b>	214821
<b>Name (Individual/Organisation):</b>	Metropolitan Angling Association Inc.
<b>Attachments:</b>	Attachment 1 – Survey submission



## **New Form submission on Help us shape the final 10-year strategic plan for the Yarra River**

Hi [YarraStrategicPlan@melbournewater.com.au](mailto:YarraStrategicPlan@melbournewater.com.au)

There has been a submission on [Help us shape the final 10-year strategic plan for the Yarra River](#) through Engage Victoria

A copy of the submission is provided as below:

### **Part 1: Working toward the Community Vision**

**1a. Do the four, 10-Year Performance Objectives adequately reflect the 50 Year Community Vision?**

No

**1b. Please outline your reasoning for this opinion (optional)**

I am the President of the Metropolitan Angling Association, a member of the Richmond Angling Club and a member of the Greensborough Angling Club. I have reviewed the Yarra Strategic Plan and am disappointed that recreational fishing is not mentioned anywhere in the plan. Victoria has more than 800,000 recreational fishers with a great majority residing within the Yarra catchment. Recreational fishing is a very valuable contributor to the state economy and is also a very healthy activity for people of all ages. Opportunities for recreational fishing in the Yarra could be dramatically improved if this plan included fishing as one of the priority outcomes over the next ten years. Improving recreational fishing opportunities (via fishing

platforms, fishing/bike trails, improved bank access) would be an outstanding way to revitalise the Yarra's environment and improve opportunities for the community to connect with the river. Recreational fishers understand the importance of improved habitat protection and environmental sustainability to fish populations and have been working with the community to improve these areas over many years. It is very unfortunate that fishing has been forgotten in the development of the plan. The proposed Yarra Valley Trail, connecting Lilydale to Yarra Glen would be a great opportunity to open up access to areas of the Yarra Valley that have not been accessible for over 40 years. Plans to improve on-water access by constructing all abilities kayak/canoe access points at key locations and improve signage and information for on-water journeys should be coupled with opportunities for recreational fishing at various points along the Yarra. There really is no reason to forget about recreational fishing infrastructure (ie. fishing platforms, habitat improvements, BBQ facilities etc) when designing kayak access locations. Both activities involve members of the community and improve peoples lives and wellbeing. Opportunities for future projects and alignment: - Develop Warburton as a destination for nature-based tourism and active recreation AND recreational fishing. - Enhance opportunities to experience the Yarra River at Warburton by upgrading the Yarra River Walk circuit trail and connections between the different public spaces along the Yarra River, as well as providing visitor facilities as required AND enhancing recreational fishing. The Yarra Strategic Plan should: - Include a recreational fishing representative on the sub-committee of the Yarra Collaboration Committee to support planning, design and management of the river parklands as one living entity. - Improve community access to the river by connecting recreational trail networks AND provide opportunities for recreational fishing. - Improve on-water access by constructing all abilities kayak/canoe and recreational fishing access points at key locations. - Develop a 10 year recreational fishing strategy for the Yarra River and catchment areas. I hope my suggestions are looked on favourably and I am prepared to volunteer my time and resources to assist with the planning process to include recreational fishing as a valuable community activity within the Yarra River catchment. Kind Regards Russell Conway (0419320843)

**2a. Are the actions identified to deliver the 10-Year Performance Objectives achievable, realistic and measurable?**

Yes

**2b. Please outline your reasoning for this opinion (optional)**

The first step in any valuable project is the development of a clear and focussed plan. It is good to see that there is a process to engage with people and the community. It is disappointing that recreational fishing clubs have not been included in the engagement process.

**3a. Which specific actions do you think will be easiest or most challenging to deliver?**

Easiest - getting people to agree that we need to do something with this very valuable resource which has been locked away for too long. Challenging - the sequence of delivery for the different activities.

**3b. Why do you think this?**

Prioritising the many conflicting activities will be challenging as people will want their activity to be high in the priority queue.

**4. What do you/ your organisation think is the greatest opportunity the Yarra Strategic Plan presents? Please rank the following statements in order of importance from 1 -4**

Improving water quality of the Yarra River and protecting land, floodplains and billabongs - 2

Acknowledging, protecting and commemorating the rich heritage of the Birrarung - 4

Improving the river's parklands to support community wellbeing - 1

Protecting the significance of the Yarra River's landscapes and views - 3

**5. Do you feel the draft Yarra Strategic Plan has put appropriate actions in place to ensure delivery on the aspirations of Traditional Owners?**

Yes

**6a. Are there key priority areas of land you think should be added to the parkland network along the Yarra River?**

Yes

**6b. If you answered Yes, where are these key priority areas of land and why do you think they should be added?**

River access in and around the Richmond area. There are some tremendous recreational fishing areas in close proximity to the CBD.

## **Part 2: Land Use framework**

**7. The Land Use framework aims to put the Yarra River at the heart of future planning and development decisions. What is your / your organisation's view about the Land Use framework?**

Need to include an option to support recreational fishing activities.

**8a. Do you believe the Land Use directions will support the 50 Year Community Vision?**

Unsure

**8b. Why do you think this?**

**9a. Do you agree with the Land Use directions for the Yarra River?**

Somewhat

**9b. Please outline your reasoning for this opinion (optional)**

**10a. Do you believe that the 13 significant places identified for the river corridor reflect the most regionally significant locations?**

Unsure

**10b. Why do you think this?**

**11. Do you agree with the opportunities identified for the significant places that you connect with?**

Somewhat

**12. Do you have any further ideas about how the Plan may provide for the cultural/spiritual/environmental care and protection of the Yarra River over the next ten years, whilst also working toward achieving the 50 Year Community Vision?**

**13. Finally, what are your overarching thoughts and feelings about the Yarra Strategic Plan?**

I support the plan but would like recreational fishing to be included as a high priority activity and outcome for the future.

## **Contact Details**

**First Name**

██████

**Last Name**

██████

**Organisation (if applicable)**

Metropolitan Angling Association Inc

**Address**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb**

[REDACTED]

**Postcode**

[REDACTED]

**Email Address**

**Telephone**

[REDACTED]

**Upload your submission here**

No file specified

**Collection Notice**

*The Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murron) Act (the Act) requires:*

- *all submissions to be made available for inspection by the public (s24(1)(b))*
- *the lead agency must make a copy of all public submissions on a draft Yarra Strategic Plan, made to the lead agency, available for public inspection - s24(2)*

All submissions will therefore be made available to the public in accordance with the Act.

Melbourne Water, as lead agency, and or DELWP will publish a copy of your submission, in its entirety, on the Imagine the Yarra website or other Victorian Government website/s as required.

In providing your feedback by written submission you agree that the lead agency may provide a copy of your submission, to affected Local Councils, Government Agencies, Panel (if required) and other submitters.

Your submission may also remain on external servers, even after the period of consultation closes and DELWP has removed the relevant pages from the Engage Victoria website.

**Text will be redacted in submissions to remove personally identifying details, and to comply with the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic)*.**

Should you need to correct the information you provided or gain access to your submission, please contact us via email at: [YarraStrategicPlan@melbournewater.com.au](mailto:YarraStrategicPlan@melbournewater.com.au)

**I agree to the Collection Notice**

Yes

To view all of the form's submissions, visit:

<https://engage.vic.gov.au/index.php/dashboard/reports/forms/viewDetail/2535>

Regards,

The Engage Victoria Team

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