

Media Release

Steve Dimopoulos MP

Minister for Environment

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events

Minister for Outdoor Recreation



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STRENGTHENING OUTDOOR RECREATION FOR THE FUTURE

The Allan Labor Government is securing jobs and delivering a one-stop-shop for outdoor recreation activities across the state, with a new agency to strengthen support to get more Victorians and visitors enjoying our state's great outdoors.

Minister for Outdoor Recreation Steve Dimopoulos today announced the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) and the Game Management Authority (GMA) will come together to form Outdoor Recreation Victoria (ORV).

Every staff member from the VFA and GMA will join ORV when it is established – ensuring all jobs will be retained.

ORV will initially focus on getting more Victorians out fishing, game hunting, boating, four-wheel driving and off grid camping, before expanding to support other activities.

It will work across government to create a single point of information for bush users through a digital hub.

Incorporating feedback from Victorians, ORV will also establish a Land Access Panel to help more people use public land and waterways, and enjoy Victoria's incredible offerings. This panel will comprise of both stakeholders and government.

The Labor Government will consult with stakeholders and introduce legislation into Parliament to establish ORV from 1 July 2026.

More than one million Victorians take part in fishing, hunting and boating. ORV will take outdoor recreation much further, getting more Victorians to take up 4WDing and camping which together support tens of thousands of jobs and generate hundreds of millions in economic spending across the state – and the Labor Government is proud to back them.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Outdoor Recreation Steve Dimopoulos

"The excellent work of the VFA and GMA will be expanded to support even more outdoor enthusiasts through Outdoor Recreation Victoria – creating better experiences for Victorians, visitors, and businesses."

"We know how important outdoor recreation is to Victorians, that's why we support you and will continue to support you."

"Outdoor Recreation Victoria will unlock opportunities for more Victorians to access the great outdoors – while ensuring all jobs are retained."