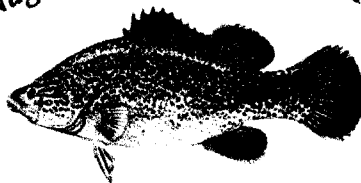


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Project Manager- V.R.H.S.  
Catchment and Water Division  
D.N.R.E.

24-4-02

Dear Project Manager.

Ref: Victorian River Health Strategy .

Thank you for sending a Copy of the Strategy Draft. I found it very interesting and I only hope it will result in positive actions, realizing it will take Years to rectify all the Environmental problems in our Rivers and Lakes .

I have fished the Nagambie Lakes and Goulburn River near Nagambie for about 40, Years prior to late 1970. There was an abundance of a variety of Fish species in our area . including Murray Cod ,Golden Perch, Cat Fish, Black Fish, Redfin, Tench and Crayfish .Nagambie was one of the best Fisheries in Victoria. However it became obvious during the mid. 1970t. that the Native Fish population was in decline causing concern to a group of Local Anglers. It was decided to form an Angling Club with the aim of raising Funds Towards a Native Fish restocking program, the Club was formed on June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1977. With the help and support of Mr.Charles Barnham of the then Fisheries and Wildlife Department an investigation in to Water Temperature was conducted, it was found that River temperature were not suitable but Backwaters proved to be suitable for Native Fingerlings,the Habitat and Plant life at the time was in excellent condition, with a healthy growth of Native Aquatic Plants, as a result with the generous support from our local Community \$30-000 was raised for a Restocking Program in 1979.Fisheries of Victoria followed this up with an extensive restocking of Fingerlings.

The Project was completed in February 1979.it was disappointing to learn later that is was all in vain, when G.M.W. lowered the Water level by over 2.metres during May 1980.the lowering of the Water level each Winter since 1986.has destroyed Native Aquatic Plants such as Ribbon Weed and others in the Lake System and Backwaters ,it has destroyed the Fish Habitat, and as a result the Fish Population is at its lowest level ever with no Native Fish what so ever and very few Redfin.

The Goulburn River from Hughes Creek Junction to the Weir pool including all theBack Waters and Lake Nagambie are becoming an Ecological Disaster with the constant lowering of the Water Level during Winter .

In the Future I Would like to see a different approach towards Water Management ,and the use of Poisons in the River such as Roundup should be stopped .

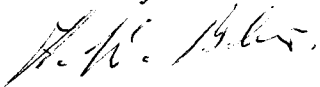
The Nagambie Angling Club since Formation has always been concerned about the Environment of our Rivers and Lakes.

We have lodged an Application to the Recreational Fishing Grants Program 2001/02 for Research to be carried out in the River, Lake and Backwaters .

The Members of the Nagambie Angling Club and the Goulburn Valley Association of Angling Clubs involving 13, Clubs are all prepared and willing to be involved in any Project that may improve the Health of our Rivers.

Let us put the Environment before the Dollar.

Yours truly,



F. W. Bloetz

President N.A.C.

Vice President G.V.A.A.C.

F.R. Fish Delegate