



TFPVic thus far...

Where have we been and what have we done?

- Media exposure:

- Most printed media including: The Herald-Sun, The Age, The Australian, most Leader Newspapers and many other independents.
- Advertising in Provincial Magazines (South East Fishing etc) and have had editorial in most Fishing Magazines.
- Protest rallies against channel deepening over the West Gate Bridge, Newport, Rye, St.Kilda (2).



- Visiting angling clubs:

- Clayton, Keysborough, Greenvale, Altona, Snapper Point, Sands Angling, Brighton Central, Waverley, Bellarine, Victorian Game Fishing Club, Beaumaris Motor Yacht Squadron, Indented Heads, Geelong and many more.

- Opposition to the Channel Deepening Project:

- Representation at the Channel Deepening Panel Hearings, made a substantial submission to the PoMC independent panel hearing
- Arranged the entire Blue Wedges stand at the Fishing Show and 4WD Outdoors Expo (October 2005), and arranged all of the current display materials, signage, funding and staffing of the show.
- Big presence at the Tea Tree competition and have sold and handed out approximately seven thousand "Don't Bigger the Bay Bracks" stickers in conjunction with the Blue Wedges
- We have produced a PowerPoint presentation, and a huge amount of electronic information and constructed a mobile audio visual display to give the full story on Channel Deepening and this is available on request.
- Individual meetings with many and varied politicians including local, state and federal members, Simon Crean etc. We took the stage along side many other state politicians at a recent Mornington public meeting, and our acceptance was unanimous!
- Co-drafted a formal letter of objection to the proposed PFD regulations, and presented our cause to VRFish Meetings etc. *(More good news to come on that soon!)*
- Organised the regional meeting on the future of Lake Modewarre in Geelong.
- Held meetings with like minded and close associations to develop a closer working relationship with people such as board members of Futurefish.
- We have represented our cause to many trade companies and organisations such as J.V.Marine.
- Regular contributions to radio programs such as 3SER, Pulse and SEN Fishing Shows and had interviews on many other radio stations such as 3RPP, 3AW and the ABC.
- Regular contributors to many Fishing web sites and endeavoured to keep people informed through these mediums.

Not bad considering the fact that even though we have just over 250 members, there are only a handful of volunteer workers! We are always available for personal visits to Angling Clubs or similar public forums to keep you all informed.

Even though our contact with you may have been limited at times, you can see the amount of work and progress made by such a few in such a short time, however we simply cannot be everywhere and doing everything with our limited manpower. Remember that the active members of TFP(Vic) are all volunteers and we NEED HELP. We are happy to accept constructive criticism. If you are not happy with some of our policies, let us know through the correct channels.

Help TFPVic make "I FISH AND I VOTE" a real alternative at the next elections.

Tight Lines

John Willis
Chairman



TFPvic info night at Snapper Point Angling Club



Frequently Asked Questions:

Q. Why do you need paid up members?

A. We need paid up members to reach our target to form a State Branch that is then able to contest State Elections. Whilst this is our primary aim even if we never reach State Branch status we are still a very powerful pressure group.

Q. How many members do you have?

A. We currently have approximately 250 members which is most disappointing considering the work done and the actions instigated.

Q. What are your policies?

A. Our policies are clearly defined and easily accessed. Contact us directly and a copy of our Policy Statement can be emailed/posted to you. We have accepted the Freshwater policy formulated by VRFish and we currently have people studying this policy with suggestions for improvements.

Q. Who will TFP(Vic) give it's preferences to?

A. TFP(Vic) do not have any agreed preference structure at this stage! Even if we did, (which we don't) it would not be openly publicised as we would lose any bargaining power with our votes at an election. That is how all the minor parties work and that is how they gain so much power!

Q. Why do we need another representing body?

A. TFP members picked up the political cause due to the obvious inaction of our respective peak bodies. (*VRFish in Victoria*) We simply have been subjected to weak, ineffective and uninformed representation in the past, and the Governments of the day loved to keep it that way as they certainly do not want the sleeping giant to organise for the common good.

Q. Why should I vote for a, seemingly, single issue party?

A. Firstly, if you consider the huge array of issues that affect us all as anglers we are in reality far from single issue. These issues include civil rights, access, water quality, funding etc.

Our overriding policy is to vote with the elected government of the day on items that we may not have direct policy formulated. This is the only possible, fair policy that can be adopted. Hence we give support to the duly elected representatives on items that we do not have direct policy, whilst maintaining the influence that is only possible as a political group. Remember, all other groups that represent us as anglers are merely advisors, not decision makers at a Government level.

Q. Why have TFP(Vic) been so active in the Channel Deepening debate and not other fishing related matters?

A. We are very effective as a pressure group and have considerable influence in many areas, most obviously the Port Phillip Bay Channel Deepening Project. It was decided in very early public meetings that this project was the greatest threat to the majority of Victorian anglers and

their environment. Other representative groups have not yet seen the potential for disaster with this project or simply do not have the organisational structure to provide a reasonable objection. It is also a vehicle to provide the greatest media exposure for TFP(Vic).

It could not be done alone and hence a close alliance was drawn with the Blue Wedges. Again, this alliance is merely a vehicle of a common goal and I must add that the alliance of all Bay users has created a promising alliance for the future. There have been no promises, and no other agreements other than *the* objection to Channel Deepening.

Q. Are any members of TFP(Vic) being paid or making a financial gain?

A. Not one member has made one cent from TFP and in fact it has cost many of us dearly not only in a financial sense, but also in travelling, printing and more importantly time at home with our families, friends and a huge reduction in our fishing time.

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