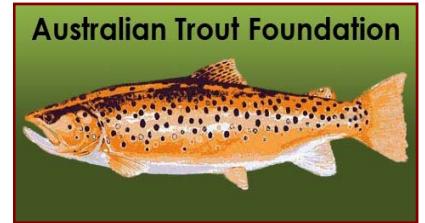


Australian Trout Foundation Inc.

Incorporation Reg. Number A0025849N
ABN: 72 701 575 190

Registered Office:
Lilydale Lake Community Rooms
Swansea Rd. Lilydale, Victoria. 3140



Every Bit Helps.

Dear Member,

As a consequence of the very hard work by our elected volunteer-based committee and our members, the Australian Trout Foundation (ATF) is in a terrific place which has resulted in the significant growth of our profile within the fishing fraternity. The ATF is now the premier group representing Australia's trout anglers and our opinions are sought on the State-wide Recreational Fishing Round Table Forum, The Trout Reference Group, The Freshwater Fisheries Management Plan and consultations with Fisheries Victoria.

The ATF continues to be involved in a number of activities, including:

- Yearly planning and decisions on Freshwater Stockings with Fisheries Victoria;
- Jordan-Scotty incubators in partnership with Fisheries Victoria and CMA's;
- Arthur Rylah Institute in addressing climate change and endangered species;
- Habitat restoration projects in conjunction with CMA's and fishing clubs.
- A valuable alliance with Native Fish Australia titled VIFA [Victorian Inland Fishing Alliance] which ensures our trout and native species have a future.

We receive excellent value for our very reasonable annual fee, allowing us members of the ATF to have a significant voice in our quest for a sustainable fishery and the opportunity for everyone to catch a wild trout in our magnificent rivers and lakes. Based on your new or continued support, the ATF is able to lobby government departments and push for decisions that protect, enable access and support a sustainable Trout and freshwater fishery for every member and freshwater fishing enthusiast today and for future generations.

In consideration of the achievements of the ATF we can all take a bow, but the purpose of this letter is to appeal to you as a member in stepping up to assist the ATF in supporting our activities, efforts and influence across Australia. This will only occur through expansion of our workforce, Our current committee works extremely hard, however this is ten individuals and unfortunately burnout is an ever-present problem and talented people take leave to regain their mojo far earlier than they should. A solution to this problem is obvious and I beg your indulgence and consideration in this request.

We have members today who participate and oversee our day-to-day operations, undertake incubator placements in waterways, freshwater stocking, riparian revegetation, marketing, communications, membership recruitment and future planning. I suggest a team approach vs. an individual will always make every area stronger; and each worker's tenure will be extended for a longer period via sub committees focused on the operational areas above.

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This will enable the workload to be shared and at the end of our year we as members will have the energy to continue our valuable work for another year without the yearly hiatus of personnel changes.

I am making an appeal to all members to consider contributing further and taking on a minor role in one of our sub committees. We shall surely continue to grow and with a cohesive, ongoing team our future is assured. Every organisation goes through peaks and troughs but our Foundation (the ATF) with a great team, considered planning, and a vision can ride the bumps.

In conclusion, what this is really about is making a decision about the future of our Trout and freshwater fishery and whether you choose to take a more involved role in its development and sustainability for future generations. We hope you will join our team and the consequence will be achieving a much better fishery. We value your continued membership and would value greatly your increased participation and to hear or contact myself soon.

Yours Faithfully,

Ray Buckland
Vice President
Australian Trout Foundation
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..... protecting, building and promoting Australia's trout fishery.