



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **Victorian Anglers are Ready!**

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019

**In light of the tragic events on the Darling River, the “Victorian Inland Fishing Alliance” (VIFA) partners, Native Fish Australia Vic. (NFA) and the Australian Trout Foundation (ATF), wish to assure Victorian Stakeholders that they are ready in Victoria to assist managers with an army of our volunteers, if similar events ever occur in Victorian streams.**

**In a joint statement, NFA President Tim Curmi, and ATF President Terry George, have expressed their sadness in seeing the devastation in NSW and have great sympathy for anglers and conservationists.**

**The Darling system is a premier breeding ground for Golden Perch, many of which migrate into waters along the Murray Darling Basin. Accordingly, both NSW and Victoria fishers will suffer the aftermath of the recent kill.**

**Tim & Terry also stressed that we should take the utmost care to ensure that a similar devastating event must not be allowed to occur in Victorian waters.**

**“VIFA members currently work closely with Victoria’s catchment managers and volunteer thousands of hours annually on a range of projects to improve the health of Victorian streams. In addition to ensuring sufficient river flows by restoring habitat along our great rivers, we are working to make sure that our fisheries are resilient against such terrible events” said Terry.**

**“However, we also stand ready, united and side by side with our Fisheries, Water and Catchment Managers should Victoria’s streams come under threat during dry conditions” said Tim.**

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