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NAGAMBIE TO HOST LARGEST FRESHWATER FISHING COMPETITION

The Goulburn River and Nagambie Lakes will be home to Australia's richest and largest freshwater fishing competition and outdoor lifestyle festival, *GoFish Nagambie*.

Minister for Tourism and Major Events John Eren visited Nagambie's Mitchelton Winery to make the exciting announcement today.

The \$500,000 fishing bonanza is set to take place from 25 to 28 April 2019 and again in 2020 and is expected to draw thousands of anglers and their families to the region.

GoFish Nagambie organisers expect the event will bring \$30 million into the local economy over the two years.

The Andrews Labor Government helped secure the festival through the \$20 million *Regional Events Fund*, which is helping communities like Nagambie attract major events that drive visitation.

Minister John Eren said major events are a great way to drive economic development and jobs growth in regional Victoria.

"GoFish Nagambie will keep local restaurants, cafes and motels busy, and that's great news for local jobs, businesses and tourism operators," Mr Eren said.

One of the unique features of the event is its "catch, measure, release" conditions and its environmentally friendly focus.

All fish caught are measured and lodged via a purpose built *GoFish Nagambie* mobile phone App and are then safely returned to their environment.

The competition is spread across three different categories; boats, kayaks and bank fishing.

GoFish Nagambie will also encompass an outdoor lifestyle festival including exhibitions, education and entertainment for fishing enthusiasts and their families and friends.

Strathbogie Shire Mayor Amanda McClaren said the event is great news for the region and encourages anglers to make their way to Nagambie for a fantastic competition and festival.

"One of the biggest drawcards for the Strathbogie Shire is its natural beauty and one of the best things about fishing is getting outdoors and enjoying nature," Cr McClaren said.

"GoFish Nagambie is a fantastic opportunity for Nagambie, our Shire and the region with people from all over Australia and the world coming to enjoy our lakes and river district in this beautiful part of Victoria."



The Goulburn River is freshly stocked meaning recreational fishing in Nagambie is among the best in the country.

The *GoFish Nagambie* competition area stretches over 30 kilometres of waterways, with fishing focused on Murray Cod, Golden Perch and European Carp.

Anglers can register interest online at gofishnagambie.com.au.

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Media contact: Clare Allen- 0418 336 078

Key Spokesperson: Mayor Amanda McClaren- 0409 700 958