



SIV NEWS

Sustainable Fishing – Healthy Seafood

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Tsunami relief and future collections

Following his recent visit to the tsunami devastated coast of southern Sri Lanka, SIV chairman Tim Mirabella has initiated collections of fishing gear from commercial fishers in Victoria. Donations are being assembled and prepared for shipment in a Melbourne warehouse through a partnership with Healthpoint, a company that also has logistics capacity and distribution networks in Sri Lanka.

Ross McGowan and Jim Newman recently collected gear from the western areas of the state for the Tsunami fishing gear appeal. Transport was generously funded by Mantzaris Seafoods of Geelong. Gear was collected from Portland, Port Fairy, Warrnambool, and Port Campbell, and consisted of nets, ropes, floats, floatlines, leadlines, longline gear and wetsuits. Donations have been made from East Gippsland and Melbourne including seine nets and wood-working tools. Generous cash donations have also been received from associations and individuals.

It is anticipated that another gear collection will occur in July for further shipments. The dates for these collections will be notified through port associations.



Staff update

Fiona Curley, the ASIC liaison officer for MPAs, has relocated back to Sydney after being temporarily hosted at the SIV office. Fionas role is responsible for coordinating industry input into SE region Marine Protected Area process. She can be contacted on 0419 678 139.

Dr. Pascale Baelde has been appointed in a part-time Policy Officer position at the SIV office following completion of her role in the VBIFA EMS project. Pascale will continue in this position after returning from a well-deserved break in July.

Shane Loveridge has replaced David White as SIVs accountant.

Joanne Tripylas is away on leave during June and July.

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SIV News, June, 2005

Seafood Industry Victoria inc.

VBIFA Environmental Management System Launch

The VBIFA EMS was successfully launched by the Minister for Agriculture, the Hon. Bob Cameron on April 6, at Sails on the Bay in Elwood. The launch brought together a wide range of stakeholders including government representatives, fishers from other industry sectors, and other marine stakeholders. VBIFA members anticipate that the EMS will contribute to maintaining ecologically sustainable bay and inlet fisheries while they continue to supply healthy, high quality fresh seafood to the community.

The EMS report can be obtained from the SIV office (\$25) or downloaded free from the website: www.siv.com.au



East Gippsland Field Days

SIV partnered with local industry members, VBIFA and SeaNet to present a display at the East Gippsland Field Days on the 29th and 30th of April in Bairnsdale. The field days, which provide an opportunity for businesses, industry groups and government agencies to promote their products and activities, had a committed fishing precinct for the first time this year. SIV encourages industry involvement in activities like this to promote the role of the seafood industry in the community and would like to thank those members who attended or contributed display items.

Other displays in the fishing precinct included the Eastern Zone Abalone Industry Association, Abalone Fishermens Co-operative Limited, Fishcare with the Nicholson River Fishing Club and Marine Safety Victoria.

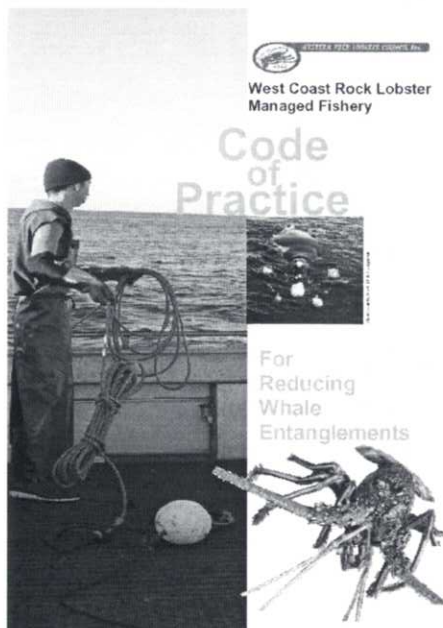


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Seafood Industry Victoria will continue building
seafood industry valued b

Rock Lobster Fishery Code of Practice for Reducing Whale Entanglements

The Western Australian Rock Lobster fishery is implementing a Code of Practice for reducing whale entanglements that is modelled on the Victorian approach. The code documents recommended fishing practices in WA waters in a format that can be included as an insert into their existing best practice manual. This code can be seen on the web at www.rocklobsterwa.com under Code of Practice for Reducing Whale Entanglements. The Western Australian SeaNet officer has expressed thanks to members of the Rock Lobster fishery, particularly RockComm members, for guidance from the Victorian approach to reducing entanglement risks. **Rock Lobster fishers are reminded to keep a copy of the code on board their vessels, as it is an important demonstration of their commitment to reducing the risk of whale entanglements.**



Disentanglement Training

Fisheries and Wildlife officers have participated in a refresher training exercise for disentanglement operations in Port Fairy. The training provides an opportunity to practice the skills, teamwork and communications required to successfully free whales from obstructions they have encountered. Disentanglement procedures include using a small inflatable to approach the whale accompanied by a larger 'mothership' vessel. The exercise was organised by Flora and Fauna Management Officer Mandy Watson, and included DPI Fisheries Officers and DSE Wildlife Officers from the South West region.

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Fisheries Co-Management Council's R&D Workshop

The Fisheries Co-Management Council (FCC) R&D workshop was held on the 19th April and was attended by industry members and other R&D stakeholders. The workshop included breakout sessions, where focus groups discussed the R&D priorities of Coastal, Bay & Inlet, Recreational and Aquaculture sectors. From these discussions a set of priority outcomes were developed by the FCC's Research Committee. These have been advertised as topics for R&D project pre-proposal submissions to the VicFRAB (FCC) - due on the 14th June. These topics complement and refine the R&D needs outlined in *Victoria's Fisheries and Aquaculture Research and Development Strategy 2005-2010*. More details and the call for submissions can be found on the FCC website www.fcc.vic.gov.au. Follow the links to the 'Research' page.

Fisheries Co-Management Council's guidelines for Codes of Practice

The Fisheries Co-Management Council (FCC) has recently approved a set of guidelines for the development and implementation of Codes of Practice in the fishing industry. These guidelines recommend a process for a fishery association or business to develop and implement their Code of Practice.

Satisfying the guidelines will provide a substantial foundation for industry groups to implement and maintain their Codes of Practice. The guidelines include descriptions of process steps such as Initiation, Research, Planning, Development, Complaints, Piloting, Review, Publishing, Promotion and roll-out, and Education.

The guidelines ensure that appropriate supporting documentation is produced, processes described and responsibilities allocated to make the Code a living document.

The guidelines will be available from FCC soon.

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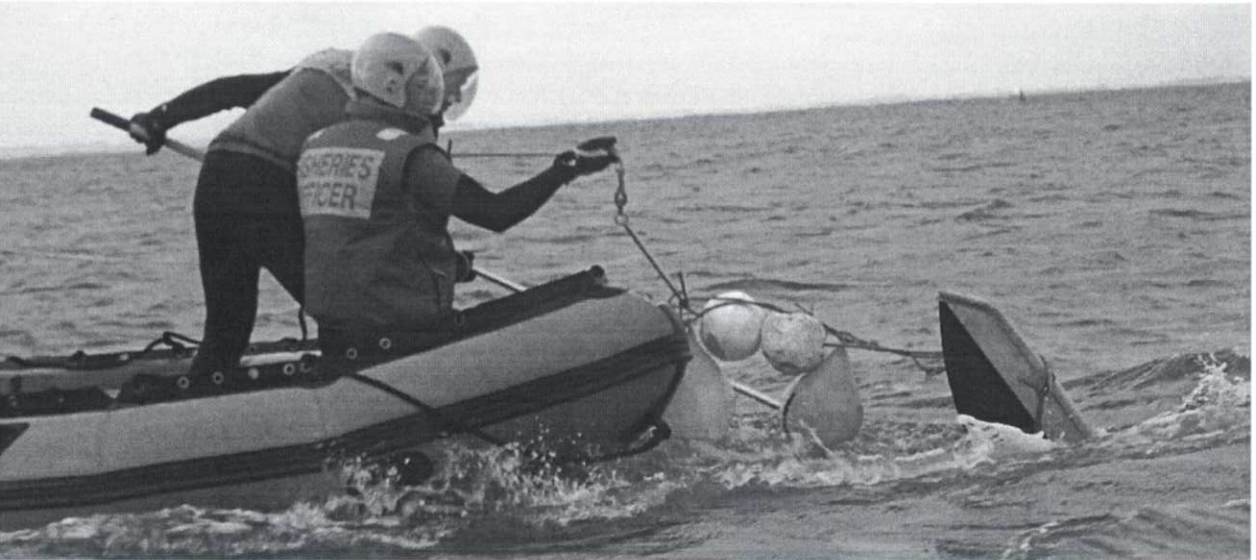
a united, ecologically sustainable and thriving the Victorian community

Entanglement Training

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ram uses the 'kegging' technique, which involves attaching floats to the whale to increase drag, eventually. Once tired, the whale can more safely be approached and the entangled items removed.

and that further training workshops will be held in the summer months which will include the opportunity for industry involvement. Commercial fishers interested in the disentanglement program can attend this program to improve their understanding of the theory behind disentanglement operations, and possibly be trained in future support roles for entanglement responses that may occur in their region. Contact SeaNet officer [Name] at the SIV office for further information about upcoming workshops and the disentanglement



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