

## Let's get recycling... out and about

Drink cans, plastic bottles, empty takeaway coffee cups and newspapers are all accepted in public place recycling bins.

PPR stations can be found at major public amenities, natural tourist attractions and central business districts along the southwest coast including in the shires of Corangamite, South Grampians, Moyne and Glenelg and the city of Warrnambool. All PPR units have the same signage and accept the same items making it easy for both locals and visitors to the region to recycle right when they are out and about.

When out and about at the beach, park or other public place use a public place recycling station. Save valuable recyclables from going to landfill and protect our local environment.

You can always use the right bin and keep our place litter free.



Public Place Recycling Station, Portland

## Acknowledgements

- Dr Julie Mondon, Deakin University
- Jared Obst, Glenelg Hopkins CMA
- Warrnambool Wildlife Rescue Group
- The Fishcare South West Beach and Estuary Litter sub-committee.
- Annabel Tolios
- Robyn Xuereb
- Callum La Spina
- Mitchell McMaster
- Elijah Kettle
- Jacob Sargent
- Justin Harzmeyer

Over 30 Fishcare South West volunteers who assisted with data collection throughout the project.

## Funding:

This project has been funded by the Coastal Community Grants Program, with thanks to the Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority, Coastal Defence and the Australian Government.

For more information on Fishcare or the Fishcare Beach & Estuary Litter Project please contact:

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## Litter in our Estuaries & Waterways



Photo: Melanie Wells

## We Fish, We Care

Fishcare South West Inc. are a community based not-for-profit organisation based in Warrnambool. Through education of our school children and community we aim to improve the future of our fisheries.



# The Project

FCSW were successful in attracting a \$5000 Coastal Community Grant through the GCHMA to investigate litter dispersal in the Merri, Hopkins and local beaches. Aiming to raise public awareness and understanding of where the litter along local beaches and estuaries is coming from.

Litter surveys were conducted along the Merri & Hopkins rivers, above, within and below Warrnambool, as well as out on the local beaches to determine the amount of litter in the systems that could be attributed to the Warrnambool community and to learn more about the effects that this had on the systems.

The project will conclude with a Community Clean Up Day that will target areas of high priority that have been identified throughout this study.

For a copy of the full report titled "Fishcare South West Beach & Estuary Litter Dispersal" please visit the Fishcare Website [www.fishcare.org.au](http://www.fishcare.org.au).



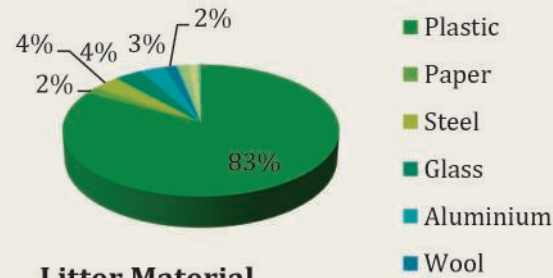
Photo: Robert Grenfell

Many waterfowl are impacted upon by marine litter due to their curiosity and scavenging habits. This Swamp Hen was rescued by the WWRG on the Merri.



*"FCSW will continue to promote safe, responsible and sustainable fishing practices to ensure that recreational anglers and the broader community do all they can to conserve these regionally significant ecosystems"*

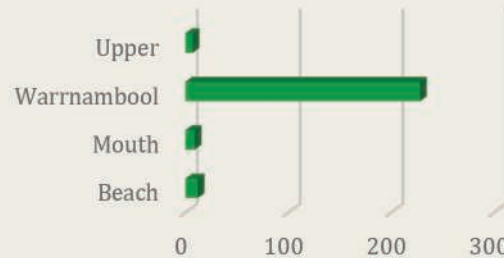
**Justin Harzmeyer**, Fishcare South West President



**Litter Material**

Over 80% of litter found in the Hopkins was plastic, clearly demonstrating that the community need further education on how to Reduce, Recycle & Reuse.

## No. of litter items at Hopkins River sites



The amount of items of litter was significantly higher in sites surveyed around Warrnambool.

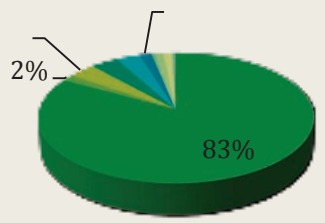


Photo: Melanie Wells

## From here:

- Keep an eye out for FCSW planned events aimed at cleaning up our iconic estuaries and beaches.
- Get involved with a local community group.
- Always dispose of plastics and other litter in a responsible fashion.
- Make conscious consumer choices based on packaging to reduce the amount of waste you create.

**You're the solution to Water Pollution.....**



**No. of litter items at Hopkins River sites**

