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This bulletin is produced by the Australian National Sportfishing Association by Stan Konstantaras on behalf of the Angel Ring Project Team.



National Safety Update

Victorian Angel Ring Pilot Project

26th April 2007

Victorian Angel Ring Pilot Project gets off the ground and onto the rocks.

After almost 16 months of planning that included consultation with Parks Victoria, Life Saving Victoria, Victoria Police, ANSA National, ANSA NSW, ANSA VIC and funding sourced from ESSO and the Victorian Fishing Licence Trust the project was finally off the ground.

Eight (8) Angel Ring Life Buoys were installed at popular fishing spots at Wilson's Promontory and the Bass Coast near Phillip Is. The spots selected have had fatalities associated with rock fishing in the past.

One of the biggest obstacles faced by the planning team was access to the spots, with long walks and goat tracks down the cliffs to get to these locations. With the assistance of Parks Victoria Rangers who led the way during the entire process, the only complaints were sore legs.

ANSA Vic and Life Saving Victoria will now embark on an education campaign aimed at non-English speaking anglers who fish these rock platforms.

The pilot project at these locations is expected to run for 2 years, but already ANSA Vic is assessing other locations in Victoria that would benefit from an angel ring.

Brian Hayes, President of ANSA Vic stated "that these rings are the last line of defence in case an angler is washed off the rocks whilst fishing. What we are focusing on is education to stop these anglers getting into a situation where there is a risk of this happening."



Two of the eight rings installed last weekend

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