

# FISH AND OTHER FAUNA

The Balcombe Creek catchment extends from the headwaters in Baxter and Mooroduc through to the estuary in Mt Martha. Up to 16 fish species inhabit the Balcombe Creek system. Of particular value are the three types of threatened native Galaxids and the fascinating Short Finned Eel. People have fished for Bream here for many years, with old accounts referring to the "Bream hole". Native vegetation growing on the creek edge helps provide food and shade for fish, as well as controlling erosion.

The native Swamp Rat may be seen on the creek banks making tracks and tunnels through the vegetation. Before breeding in late spring and summer, a colony of these rats can make mounds of loose soil in their search for seeds, roots, bulbs, herbs and insects.

A licence is required for all types of recreational fishing in Victoria.

