

# Fact sheet

## SNAPSHOT OF BASS RIVER

### HISTORY

- The Boon Wurrung people were custodians of the area including the Bass River for more than 40,000 years before European settlement.
- The Boon Wurrung people are part of a much larger federation known as the Kulin nation.
- The river was an important food resource providing yabbies, fish, bats, owls and other mammals.
- The Bass River is named after George Bass who discovered Western Port along with Matthew Flinders in 1798.
- The Bass township was settled in 1835 by Samuel Anderson
- G.H. Haydon's Five Years' Experience, published in 1846, describes the early years of white colonisation in the area.

### PLANTS AND ANIMALS

- Species including:
  - Six plants
  - Eight fish
  - 19 birds
  - Four frogs
  - Ten reptiles
  - Seven mammals

### GEOGRAPHY

- The Bass River is a relatively short waterway, about 30km, that rises in the Strzelecki Ranges in the South Gippsland Shire and flows through the flat Bass Valley and into the Western Port.

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