

INLAND FISHERIES COMMISSION

NEWSLETTER

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CARP FOUND NEAR CHASM CREEK, STOWPORT

A European carp was found on 15 January in a dam on a property owned by Mr. J. Chamley of Stowport. The Commission has undertaken an investigation to see if other dams in the area are infected and an eradication programme would be put in course. This is the first sighting of European carp in Tasmania since the eradication programme was carried out at the end of 1974. The carp was found in one of a chain of seven dams along the upper reaches of Chasm Creek, between Upper Stowport road and Natone road, in North-Western Tasmania. Carp are a noxious fish in Tasmania and any person learning of the presence of carp should get in touch with the Commission immediately.

LANDS DEPARTMENT INFORMATION CENTRE LIAWENEE

Anglers wishing to get advice about the access to the lakes to the west of Lake Augusta should note the telephone number of the Lands Department Information Centre Liawenee (002) 59 6148.

LAKE LEA

Lake Lea is a little visited water in North-Western Tasmania south of Wilmot. It is shallow and has excellent fly fishing potential. It has adequate spawning facilities which maintain a healthy population of brown trout. Access to Lake Lea is by four-wheel drive vehicle only, in good weather. For those anglers wishing to undertake a trip to this area, the rewards of fishing in beautiful surroundings are great.

CONSERVING FUEL OUT FISHING

The following suggestions are offered to help anglers to conserve fuel while fishing.

- (1) Form a car pool with neighbours and friends. Four can drive on about the same amount of fuel as one.
- (2) Learn what public transportation is available to outdoor recreation areas.
- (3) Check with local independent school bus operators. Many are looking for weekend charters, especially during summer months.
- (4) Fish closer to home. Look for spots, especially new manmade lakes that previously have not been considered and which require less travel to reach.

- (5) Check into the possibilities of renting a boat and trailer on location rather than hauling one. Automobiles will get much better gas mileage.
- (6) Fish more days when on location, thereby taking fewer trips.
- (7) Think about specific fishing locations. Plot the lake or stream that would result in the least use of the motor.
- (8) Use the smallest practical boat - row boats, canoes.
- (9) Match the motor to the boat, and keep the motor tuned and in proper operating condition.
- (10) Make sure the motor is properly mounted, the propeller is in good shape and the boat bottom is free of algae.
- (11) Check instructions for proper oil mix for the motor, or check with the dealer about alternatives that might be available.
- (12) Pour fuel carefully; don't waste any or pollute waters.
- (13) Don't idle the motor unnecessarily and drift fish where possible.
- (14) Throttle back. A reduction in power results in a substantial saving on gasoline.
- (15) Have the boat properly balanced and keep weight to a minimum. Do not overload the boat beyond capacity, even to save gasoline.
- (16) Use electric motors as much as possible.

EXCELLENT FISHING IN CENTRAL PLATEAU IN JANUARY 1980

Anglers are reporting excellent catches of trout in Great Lake and lakes to the west. Two anglers have caught 58 trout since New Year's Day at Great Lake. Messrs. Shepherd and Alan Goodwin had excellent fishing at the south side of Reynolds Neck during the week and, in one day, caught ten fish, average weight 1.8 kg (4lb). Other anglers have caught fish up to 2.5 kg at McLanagans Island. Early in the week fisheries inspectors examined fish from Lake Ada which weighed from 1.95-2.5 kg. All were in excellent condition. At Canal Point, Great Lake, on 24th January, an angler caught seven rainbow trout, including one tagged fish. Mr. G. Simerni of Riverside, Launceston, caught five rainbow trout, all in excellent condition, at this spot.

LITTLE BLUE LAGOON

Mr. Lyndon Willoughby fished Little Blue Lagoon during the week commencing 21/1/80 and caught five rainbow trout. One weighed $10\frac{1}{2}$ lb (4.6 kg), one weighed just under 8 lb (3.6 kg), one weighed 7 lb (3.2 kg) and two weighed $2\frac{3}{4}$ lb (1.2 kg). They were caught on wattle grubs.

LIBERATIONS OF BROOK TROUT

On 16th January, 4,300 brook trout up to 4 inches (10 cm) in length and 7.75 g in weight were liberated in Edgar Pond. It will be recalled that on 4th October 200 yearling brook trout were stocked in this water. In October 2000 brook trout fry were placed in Murphet's dam near Conara. In October 950 yearling brook trout and 200,000 fry were placed in Clarence Lagoon.

APPLICATION FOR FISH FARM LICENCE

Mr. and Mrs. J. Theiss of Holwell have applied for a fish farm licence and a fish-out pond licence for a property at Holwell. The application has insufficient detail for processing, and further information has been sought on the proposal.

RESERVE PROPOSED FOR FRESHWATER CRAYFISH

The North-Western Fisheries Association has proposed that Saxon Creek from its mouth to the Frankford Highway be declared a freshwater crayfish reserve.

RAINBOW FRY SPAWNING CHANNEL AT LIAWENEE

The experimental zig zag spawning channel at Liawenee has given very promising results in the last year. The number of fish using the channel was controlled and the number of spawners observed and the hatch of emerging fry counted. Over 100,000 fry emerged and were passed down into Liawenee Canal from the experimental spawning channel up to the middle of January 1980.

ELVERS AT TREVALLYN POWER STATION

Owing to the need to undertake repairs inside Trevallyn Power Station at the stop-log area it was impossible for the Commission to carry out its portage operation to catch and transfer elvers from the power station to the rivers above Trevallyn Dam in the summer of 1979/80. The Commission developed and tested an elver pump driven by water power which operated satisfactorily in conditions at Trevallyn.

LAGOON OF ISLANDS - WILLOWS

Field staff removed nine groups of willow trees (22 sticks in all) which had been planted in Lagoon of Islands.

LIBERATION OF RAINBOW TROUT IN GREAT LAKE

Sixteen thousand rainbow trout 15 cm (6 inches) in length were liberated at Tods Corner, Great Lake, in January. Since the liberation of rainbow trout into Great Lake in the current season, the input of fish from hatcheries and artificial channels has been the greatest for many years.

FISHING COMPETITION LAKE PEDDER AND LAKE GORDON

The Maydena Angling Branch conducted a very successful angling competition at Lake Pedder and Lake Gordon, despite the inclement weather, due to hail and strong winds. Bernard Neil of Maydena caught 11 trout, trolling in the nights Saturday 26th - Sunday 27th. Michael Neil caught 5 brown trout in two days. William and Tony Last of Quoiba caught four trout between 6 and 10 a.m. on 27th January. The winner of the competition was Mr. J. Finlayson with a brown trout of 7.68 kg (cleaned weight). Other good fish weighed 6.75 kg (cleaned weight).

Between 500 and 1000 people attended the lake and participated in the fishing competition. The arrangements at the weigh-in, between 5 pm. - 7 pm on the Saturday and Sunday evenings, and between 10 am. - 4 pm. on the Monday at the picnic grounds at Maydena, were carried out in an excellent manner by the Maydena Angling Branch. The branch is to be complimented on the way it ran the competition.

Persons are to be proceeded against for illegally using a net at Lake Pedder over the weekend 26-28 January.

MORTALITY OF BROOK TROUT AT SALMON PONDS

Six adult brook trout died at Salmon Ponds over the Christmas holidays. A post-mortem examination showed that they were all fed excessive amounts of "Twisties". The kiosk at the Salmon Ponds sold 30 kg of "Twisties" between Christmas and New Year. Visitors are requested to be temperate in the amount of food they offer to fish at the Salmon Ponds, as the fish are fed on a balanced diet, and do not need supplementary feeding.

EEL FISHING

The Commission has had a meeting with eel fishermen concerning regulations to manage the fishery for migrating eels. It is hoped that the regulations may be introduced in the near future. The regulations are designed to encourage eel fishermen to invest, with confidence, in the future of this fishery.

RESULTS OF COURT PROCEEDINGS AGAINST OFFENDERS

At Scottsdale Court on 8th January 1980 before Mr. W. Zeeman, S.M., Douglas John Shea of Francis St., Bridport, pleaded guilty by endorsement to charges of -

1. Taking whitebait when not licensed - Fined \$50.00.
2. Using an untagged scoop net - Fined \$20 with costs of \$8.10.

The offences occurred at the Great Forester River on 24th October, 1979.

At the New Norfolk Court of Petty Sessions on 22nd January 1980 before Mr. C.G. Brettingham-Moore, Alan Mervyn Cross of Bonalla St., Ravenswood, pleaded guilty by endorsement to -

1. Fishing without a licence - fined \$50.00 with costs of \$8.00
2. Falsely representing to be licensed - fined \$50.00.
3. Stating a false name and place of abode - Conviction recorded.

The offences occurred at Lake Pedder on 24th November 1979.

John David Cross of Orman St., Ravenswood, pleaded guilty by endorsement to having in his possession natural bait in an artificial lure area. He was fined \$20 with costs of \$8.00. The offence occurred on 24th November 1979 at Lake Pedder.

Glenda Kay Hall of Sorell Creek, New Norfolk, pleaded guilty by endorsement to fishing without a licence at Lake Pedder on 8th December 1979. She was fined \$50 with costs of \$8.00.

Robert Clarabert Braslin of Resolution Street, Warrane, appeared and pleaded guilty to charges of -

1. Fishing without a licence - fined \$50 with costs of \$3.00
2. Falsely representing to be licensed - fined \$50.
3. Stating a false name and place of abode - Conviction recorded.

The offences occurred at Lake Gordon on 24th November 1979.

At Bothwell Court of Petty Sessions on 25th January 1980 before Mr. C.G. Brettingham?Moore, Frederick Ronald Douce of Ardina Place, East Devonport, pleaded guilty by endorsement to using natural bait at Lake Sorell on 3rd November 1979. He was fined \$20 with costs of \$3.10.

2 Richard Danny Urbanczyk of Triton Rd., East Devonport, was also charged with using natural bait at Lake Sorell on 3rd November. The charge was heard ex parte. He was fined \$20 with costs of \$3.10.

Terrence Alfred Harris, and David Charles West, both of Savage River, were charged with having a grab-all net in their possession at Lake Echo on 23rd September 1979. Both pleaded guilty by endorsement. Each was fined \$20 with costs of \$3.10.

Geoffrey Clarke of Amy St., West Ulverstone, pleaded guilty by endorsement to a charge of fishing in a closed water (or No.2 Canal, Penstock) during a closed season (22/9/79). He was fined \$30 with costs of \$3.10.

At Ulverstone Court of Petty Sessions on 30th January before Mr. B. Sproule, at an ex parte hearing, Raymond Walter Foken of Ulverstone was charged with fishing without a licence in the Gawler River at Ulverstone Water Supply. He was fined \$50 with costs of \$3.10.

(D.D. Lynch),
COMMISSIONER

31st January 1980