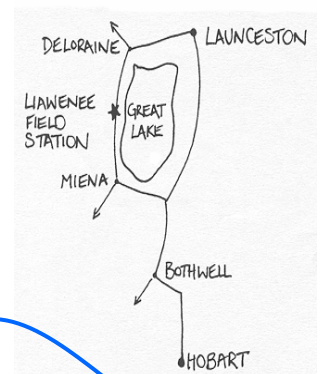




LIAWENEE OPEN WEEKEND

GET THE FAMILY OUT AND GET CAUGHT AT LIAWENEE

- ★ See wild trout being stripped of eggs
- ★ View a large range of displays about trout management, native fish, commercial fishing, carp and more
- ★ See live freshwater fish in aquariums
- ★ Try your hand at fly casting and fly tying
- ★ Meet our very own Laurie Lobster
- ★ Kids can fish the educational "trout laqoort"
- ★ Competitions, Prizes and Giveaways
- ★ Trade exhibitions and sales
- ★ Hot food and drinks



Take this unique opportunity to see thousands of brown trout on their annual spawning migration.



Stripping trout for their eggs is a big part of Open Weekend

IFS LIAWENEE FIELD STATION

**22 & 23 MAY 2004
(10am – 3pm)**

Licence costs and season dates 2004/2005

The new full season licence runs from 1 August 2004 to 31 July 2005, and the costs will be:

Full season - Adult	\$55.85
Full season - Senior	\$44.45
Full season - Pensioner	\$30.75
Full season – Juvenile	\$11.40
One day	\$17.10
Three days	\$28.50
14 days	\$44.45
Additional rod	\$11.40
Additional rod (concession)	\$5.70
Replacement licence	\$2.25

Most brown trout waters open - 7 August 2004

Most brown trout waters close - 1 May 2005

Most rainbow trout waters open - 2 October 2004

Most rainbow trout waters close - 29 May 2005

Inland Fisheries Open Weekend at Liawenee - 22 and 23 May 2004

Whitebait recreational fishing season – 1 to 31 October 2004

Inland Fisheries Service Free Fishing Day - Sunday 14 November 2004

The Inland Fisheries Service encourages the distribution of Angler News and the information contained within it. When distributing this material the IFS asks that the source be acknowledged as being Angler News.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE
PO BOX 288 MOONAH 7009 PHONE 6233 4140

Angler News – March 2004



Tasmania

Lake Crescent set to re-open in the 2004/2005 season

When carp were found to be populating Lake Crescent in February 1995 many people realised the threat that the species posed to the States' environment and the trout fishery was enormous. Inland Fisheries reacted very quickly to this threat, immediately closing Lake Crescent to all public access. Lake Sorell was closed for the remainder of the 1994/1995 angling season but was reopened following a positive risk assessment.

While Crescent remained closed to public access it received much attention from the IFS in dealing with the problem of carp containment and removal.

Nine years later and after \$4.1 million in State funding the risk posed by public access to Lake Crescent is now considered to be very low. Over 7500 carp have been removed from the lake effectively obliterating the breeding potential of the lakes' carp population.

Before its closure Lake Crescent had a long history as a trophy trout water. Many fish exceeding the magic 10 pound mark with a few substantially bigger caught each season. While most of the big Crescent fish were typically caught on bait many anglers also had success targeting these fish with fly and lure techniques.

By the late 1990's the size of the trout population had greatly diminished. In 1999 the IFS recommenced stocking the lake with the view to opening once carp numbers were at acceptable levels.

Date Stocked	Size	Species	Number
20/4/1999	Yearling	Rainbow	3500
4/11/ 1999	Advanced fry	Brown	45000
4/11/ 1999	Advanced fry	Rainbow	18000
6/12/2001	Advanced fry	Brown	10000
8/1/2002	Fingerling	Rainbow	10000
24/4/2002	Fingerling	Rainbow	10000
20/6/2002	Adult	Brown	3050
20/6/ 2002	Fingerling	Brown	10000
4 /6/2003	Adult	Brown	1000
18/2/ 2004	Fingerling	Rainbow	5000

The table above shows the stockings of trout into Lake Crescent since 1999.



Fish like this 5 kg brown, taken at Crescent in October 2002 during a netting survey, will be available to angler once again.

Trout stocks

- Anecdotal reports from the IFS carp management team, indicates that there are good numbers of catchable trout present in the lake.
- An additional 1 000 adult brown trout will be stocked from the Liawenee Canal spawning run in Great Lake into Lake Crescent during May 2004.
- The Great Lake transferred brown trout from 2002 have shown very good growth rates with some fish up to the 10 pound mark already.

New regulations

The numbers of carp are now low enough for the lake to be safely reopened. However due to the continuing work by the IFS to remove the remaining carp and continually keep the risk of carp spread in check there will be certain new rules under which the lake will reopen. They are as follows:

- Season to commence on 7/8/2004 and close on the 1/5/2005.
- Lake Crescent will be restricted to artificial lures only.
- Lake Crescent will only be open to fishing in daylight hours.
- A bag limit of five trout per angler per day.
- It is vitally important that any carp caught by anglers are presented to Inland Fisheries Officers at Lake Crescent

The IFS shares the excitement with anglers at the prospect of fishing Lake Crescent once again, eagerly awaiting the opening of the 2004/2005 angling season.

**INLAND FISHERIES
SERVICE
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end**

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Licensing Review Project Update No. 1

The scope of this Review Project, which was commenced recently by the Service covers the Angling Licence, its cost and structure, market trends, customer demand, business and administration systems, through to licence distribution and sales.

So far, the Project Team has focused on the most recent changes to the licensing system, particularly the renewal process and the licence expiry dates. Of particular importance has been the development of strategies to deal with the conversion of the annual 'rolling' licence, which was previously valid for 12 months from the date of purchase, to a fixed term licence that runs from 1 August to 31 July each year.

- A *Complimentary Licence*, which expires on 31 July 2004, has been sent to anglers whose annual licence expires in April, May, June and July 2004.
- The Service will honour the '12 month from date of purchase' expiry date of all existing rolling annual licences.
- Renewals to all annual licence holders will be sent in two bulk mail-outs. The first, towards the end of June, will be sent to annual licence holders whose licence expires on 31 July or in the month of August 2004. Also included will be anglers who did not renew their annual licence in March and February 2004. The second mail out will be in late July, to cover the remainder of annual licence holders whose rolling licence expires in September 2004 to January 2005.

At present, the Project Team has been looking at ways to improve the renewal process, including the possibility of paying for renewals through tackle stores. As this is the third year of a three-year trial of renewals, a full assessment of the benefits and costs will be undertaken this year.

Change to the annual full season licence expiry date

The rolling annual licence was introduced as a trial in July 2002 to coincide with waters being open for 12 months. The decision to revert to a fixed term annual licence was made by the previous Minister for Primary Industries, Water and Environment, Bryan Green in August 2003 after discussion with the Service, advice from the Inland Fisheries Advisory Council and consultation with the fishing tackle industry and anglers.

Stakeholders in the fishing tackle industry first raised the concern regarding the loss of significance of the start of the new season, which was evident through greatly reduced licence and fishing equipment sales in a period of traditionally high business activity. This triggered the debate about the overall impact of the annual licence, which focused initially on the value of the 'promotional bubble' represented by this period of excitement and anticipation in the lead up to the new season.

In consideration of the change, the Service recognised that the annual rolling licence had resulted in reduced efficiencies in several areas of finance and administration. One of these was the greater need for a licence renewal process, which resulted in a continuous demand on the Service's administration area. Combined together, the annual licence and renewals process, resulted in lost savings in the bulk production and postage of renewal forms. Another factor was that most of the money from licence sales was no longer generated at the start of the season, and was not available for early use or investment by the Service.

Lost efficiencies were experienced in the design, printing, production and distribution of licence material (including licence forms and books, and associated regulatory information). Previously this was aligned with regulatory changes for the new season, and an estimated number of licence books and Angling Codes were produced prior to the fishing season, containing specific changes to licence fees and regulations. Finally, there was a reduction in the Service's ability to monitor trends in licence sales, to detect the impact of any new changes to the licence or fishing values and to respond in an effective and timely manner in the future.