



Angler News - August 2006



Tasmania

Good start to the 2006/07 angling season

Fine weather heralded the opening to the season with anglers flocking to their favourite water in droves. Nearly 700 anglers were checked by Inland Fisheries Inspectors with a combined catch of almost 600 fish caught.

Of the waters most attended Pet Dam, Arthurs Lake, Bradys Lake, River Derwent, Brushy Lagoon, Craighourne Dam, Tooms Lake and Four Springs Lake all had over 40 anglers checked.

In terms of catch rate Four Springs, Little Pine Lagoon, Guide Dam, Woods Lake and Bruisers Lagoon stood out with an average take of 1.5 fish per angler. Arthurs Lake, Pet Dam and Lake Echo all had catch rates of 1 fish per angler or more.

The IFS stocking of some of the above waters appears to have paid dividends with many of the previously under performing waters such as Four Springs Lake now proving to be quite popular and rewarding for anglers.

High level of compliance on opening weekend

During the open weekend a team of fisheries officers including staff members from all sections of the IFS checked almost 700 anglers issuing only nine infringement notices.

Notices were issued for offences such as unattended set rod, unlicensed, using more than one rod and line and using fish or part of fish for bait.



Andrew Taylor (IFS) checks a few anglers on the Derwent, opening day of the season.

Using fish as bait was banned back in mid 1990s not long after carp were discovered in Lake Sorell and Crescent, this being the main reason for that regulation. It is unfortunate that some people still have to learn the hard way as the on the spot penalty is \$200.

It was extremely pleasing to hear the positive comments from anglers in relation to the IFS stocking waters close to major population centres. The Woods Lake road and new gravel boat ramp was also a hit as were comments from the Director and Minister for Inland Fisheries that the Inland Fisheries Service intend to upgrade and open the road into the North West corner of Lake Echo later this season.

New signage for angling sites

Whilst the new signs to Woods Lake are welcomed to assist anglers navigate to the newly upgraded access road they are significant for another reason. These signs are the first examples recommended in the Tasmanian Sportfishing Tourism Development and Marketing Plan. These signs are the first in a series of recommendations to provide direction and information for anglers.

The signs strategy has been developed in consultation and with the support of Department of Infrastructure Energy and Resources, Local Government (in this case the Central Highlands Council) Marine and Safety Tasmania, Hydro and Parks and Wildlife Service.

The plan is a coordinated approach starting with road signs that include facilities symbols such as boat ramps and other infrastructure and the inclusion of an isometric symbol depicting an angler.

These signs will be supported by interpretative and information signs at the lake or river destination such as safe boating and Inland Fisheries Service information signs. Anglers will see more of these signs appearing at popular waters in the future.



The new sign at the turnoff to Arthurs and Woods lakes

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

Waters stocked since July 2006

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Lake	Average Weight (g)	Species	Numbers
Four Springs Lake	25	brown trout (wild)	4000
Blackmans Lagoon	13	brown trout (wild)	4500
Craigbourne Dam	2500	Atlantic salmon (domestic)	380
Lake Trevallyn	2300	Atlantic salmon	370
Brushy Lagoon	2300	Atlantic salmon	370
Four Springs Lake	1200	brown trout (wild)	100
Pawleena Lagoon	1100	brown trout (wild)	110

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Care advised for boat launching at Lake Burbury

Hydro Tasmania has advised anglers that as a result of lower than average rainfall and a falling lake level, particular care should be taken when launching boats at Lake Burbury.

The lake is currently only four percent full and this advice has been made in the interests of public safety.

Hydro Tasmania Manager Energy and Market Analysis, Dr Michael Connarty, said it was unfortunate to have to provide this advice as the trout season was about to open but concern for public safety were paramount.

“Continuing low inflows into hydro catchments has meant that we have to take some lakes to lower levels to meet

“While overall storages have increased six percent to 30 percent since last year’s critically low level, this still leaves our northern headwaters storages quite low.

“We regret having to provide this advice but our first priority is the safety of lake users.”

Hydro Tasmania and Marine and Safety Tasmania have jointly funded work on the Thureau Hills boat ramp at Lake Burbury to extend the ramp for operation at low lake levels.

Hydro Tasmania will keep anglers informed about access to Lake Burbury through public notices in newspapers and on its website at www.hydro.com.au.

Trout Expo at Cressy

The Tasmanian Trout Expo is on 2 & 3 September 2006 at Cressy from 10am – 4pm each day. Win \$10,000 by catching the tagged trout at Brumbys Creek in the fishing competition, where every legal sized trout weighed in wins a prize! There is something for everyone with displays, cooking demonstrations and tastings, fun fashion parades, music, food and kids activities. Attend the launch of the new Tasmanian Sportsfisher Magazine. Free kids casting lessons with Peter Hayes. Expo entry is by gold coin donation. Fishing competition entry is \$10 adults, \$5 juniors.

More information:
 email tastroutexpo@tasmail.com
 or phone 6397 5001.

Vandalism at Brumbys

Anglers will be appalled when they see the damage recently done by vandals to picnic grounds at the bottom weir of Brumbys Creek. This is the type vandalism that causes areas to be locked up and anglers denied access, when in fact it was most likely not anglers that caused the damage.

The matter is at present being investigated by Tasmanian Police assisted by Hydro and the Inland Fisheries Service.

Visit the NEW Inland Fisheries Service Website to find out information about stocking, waters and fish around the State. Also buy a licence on-line.
www.ifs.tas.gov.au