

Angler News

Catch the Passion

June 2007

Dear Angler

Welcome to *Angler News*, the Inland Fisheries Service electronic monthly newsletter, which contains the latest news about Tasmania's inland fishery including fish stocking, fisheries management, regulation changes, angler activities, events and more.

This season the Service is offering \$6,000 worth of cash prizes for tagged fish in the FISH4CASH promotion (see the advertisement in this issue). Details of the promotion, including where the tagged fish have been released, will be published in *Angler News* and on the Service website at www.ifs.tas.gov.au.

You can subscribe to Angler News by visiting the Service website and following the links or alternatively, simply email infish@ifs.tas.gov.au with 'Subscribe to Angler News' in the subject box.

We wish you all the best for the 2007-08 angling season.

John Diggle

Director of Inland Fisheries Service

FISH4CASH

2007-08 Angling Season Promotion

The Inland Fisheries Service is offering licensed anglers \$6,000 in the 'Fish 4 Cash' promotion as an added incentive to go fishing during the 2007-08 season.

Over the first six months of the season, six tagged fish will be released into waters around the State.

Each fish is worth \$1,000 cash to the angler who returns the tag together with the whole fish and current licence details to the Service before the end of July 2008. The tag is distinguishable by colour and labelling from others used by the Service for routine fisheries work. Details of the timing and exact location of each fish release will be published in *Angler News* and on the Service website (www.ifs.tas.gov.au) along with the latest results of the competition.

Trout Weekend 2007 a Success

The IFS Trout Weekend is held at the Inland Fisheries Field Base at Liawenee, Great Lake around the third weekend of May each year.

The event regularly attracts between 3,000 and 5,000 visitors keen to see hundreds of wild brown trout on their annual spawning run up the Liawenee Canal. It gives members of the public an opportunity to view the work of the Service, including the collection of milt and eggs from these wild trout from Great Lake for breeding at the Service's hatchery. There is also a host of displays on Service activities as well as exhibits by Government, angling clubs and fishing businesses, and boating, safety and angling demonstrations.

This year, there were a couple of new attractions that proved extremely popular. A Junior Angling Pond for kids under 14 was stocked with 300 rainbow trout, which averaged 1 kg but included the 3 kg fish shown below. The Fishcare Volunteers who managed the Pond over the weekend made sure that every child caught a fish. The young anglers who caught one of the tagged fish from the Pond also won prizes.

Also added to the weekend were regular bus tours to the new 'bottom trap' at the mouth of the canal. This trap is used to catch all the fish used for egg collection and transfer to other waters. This proved to be so popular that more tours will be conducted to the trap next year.

The Service would like to thank all those involved in the weekend, exhibitors, volunteers, clubs and visitors alike.

Josh Garwood from Launceston was lucky enough to catch this 3 kilo trout from the 'Junior Angling Pond'



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Stocking since May edition

Water	Number	Species	Weight
Four Springs	900	brown trout	1130
Carters Lake	360	brown trout	1130
Bruisers Lagoon	99	brown trout	1130
Lake Botsford	25	brown trout	3000
Lake Botsford	271	brown trout	1130
Flowerdale River	500	brown trout	1130
Inglis River	293	brown trout	1130
Rocky Lagoon	100	brown trout	1130
Penstock Lagoon	490	brown trout	1130
Lake Duncan	50	brown trout	1130
Lake Lynch	50	brown trout	1130
Second Lagoon	50	brown trout	1130
Brushy Lagoon	340	Atlantic	1500
Lake Barrington	550	Atlantic	1500
Lake Paget	35	brown trout	1130
Lake Kara	294	brown trout	1130
Mersey River	500	brown trout	1130
Bradys Lake	1600	brown	1130
Beaconsfield	70	rainbow	30
Brumbys Creek	100	brown	1130



A brown trout from this year's spawning run

Winner of the Whitebait Return Competition

Brian Diprose of Spreyton recently won a \$200 voucher in the 2006 Whitebait Survey Form Return Competition.

This competition involved whitebait fishers who were interviewed by an Inland Fisheries Officer during the 2006 whitebait season. At the end of the interview whitebait fishers were handed a blue survey form to record their catch and effort data. All of those fishers who returned the completed form at the end of the season were entered into a random draw for the \$200 voucher.

The information obtained from the survey will assist the Service in managing and maintaining a sustainable recreational whitebait fishery. The Service would like to thank all those whitebait fishers who recorded and sent in their catch data. A similar survey will be conducted during the 2007 whitebait season, which starts in October.

Brown trout spawning run at Liaweenee, Great Lake

This year saw the Service anxiously awaiting completion of the Liaweenee Canal upgrade undertaken by Hydro Tasmania. The water level at Great Lake was so far down that for a time it was uncertain whether the fish would make it all the way to the newly constructed trapping facilities without sufficient flows in the canal.

Thankfully everything worked out (including the rain) in time for the IFS Trout Weekend held on 19-20 May, and the fish turned up in excellent numbers. It seems that whilst the lake level has been well down over the entire 2006-2007 angling season, this did not hamper the fish with most brown trout in the run showing good condition.

The average size was 1130 grams, which is 60 grams down on last year but the overall condition was better. These fish will be transferred to other waters around the State and will be a welcome catch this coming season – wherever caught!

The Service is likely to fulfil most of the adult brown trout transfers scheduled prior to the opening of the 2007-2008 angling season. Many have taken place already including 500 tagged fish into the Flowerdale River under the Recreational Fishing Community Grants Program project. As well as moving adult trout, the Service has already transferred 1 million fertilised eggs to the Salmon Ponds and the new Service's new hatchery at New Norfolk.

Tagged Trout
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