



# ANGLER NEWS

March 2008

## Clean Up Australia Day 2008

The Inland Fisheries Service was involved in two CUA day events in 2008.

On Tuesday 26 February staff from Inland Fisheries Service (IFS), Hydro Tasmania, Parks and Wildlife Service, Fishcare and a number of volunteers participated in the CUA Corporate Day.

Areas targeted for the clean up effort were the popular fishing locations in the Central Highlands including Pine Tier Lagoon, Bronte Lagoon, Bradys Lake, Lake Binney, Tungatinah Lagoon, Lake Echo, Great Lake, Arthurs Lake and Woods Lake.

Staff and volunteers concentrated their efforts on boat ramps and recognised camping areas. Generally the levels of cleanliness at popular campsites were higher than anticipated however there were still isolated examples of poor waste management with 44 gallon drums being used as rubbish bins and firepots, broken glass in fireplaces and various household waste being left behind.

Inappropriate disposal of toilet waste is an ongoing issue but encouragingly many campers are now using portable toilets.

Approximately 2 tonnes of waste was removed from these lakes and included televisions, engine blocks, trailer parts and furniture. Predictably beverage containers were the predominant item in each clean up area.

All in all it was a great effort by those involved. The IFS would particularly like to recognise the cooperation of Michael Bidwell (Hydro), Quenton Higgs (Fishcare volunteers) and Mick Cousins (PWS) as well as the individual staff and volunteers that contributed to the day.



*Volunteers at the Brushy Lagoon cleanup enjoying a BBQ*

On the second clean up day, Saturday 1 March IFS staff joined representatives from Forestry Tasmania, Longford, Devonport and Westbury Anglers and members of the Northern Explorers, Ulverstone and Devonport 4WD clubs at a clean up day at Brushy Lagoon. The event was organised in response to continued littering and vandalism in the area. The response was fantastic with 50 volunteers participating in a clean up of tracks, camping areas and the lakeshore.

IFS and Longford anglers provided a BBQ to round out the day. The overwhelming response has given a great deal of encouragement to Forestry Tasmania to retain the area for recreation purposes and to improve facilities and infrastructure at Brushy Lagoon.

## Huntsman Lake - a new fishery for the 2008/09 season

Huntsman Lake (the Meander Dam) is filling and will be ready to fish next season. A boat ramp is already in place and a recreational plan has been developed.

Whilst there are resident trout in the lake with some nice sized specimens being seen by the dam construction workers, the lake will be stocked by the IFS. During the brown trout spawning period, 1000 adults will be transferred from the highlands to bolster the breeding population of the new lake.

Huntsman Lake will be regulated as artificial lures and flies only and will be open to fishing inline with the normal brown trout season. The bag limit will be 12 fish per angler per day and the minimum size will be 220 mm. Access to the lake will be from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset.



*Greg Davis with a 3.0 kg Atlantic salmon caught on the cleanup day*

# FISH4CASH

2007-08 Angling Season Promotion

Over the first six months of the season, six tagged fish were released into waters around the State. Each fish is worth \$1000 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.

Three of the FISH4CASH fish remain uncaught. These fish are at Great Lake, Lake Barrington and Lake Burbury. The \$1000 prize for capture of these fish will be granted if any of these fish are caught by the end of the 2007/08 season.

## New survey indicates elevated Mercury levels in Derwent estuary bream and trout

The Director of Public Health, Dr Roscoe Taylor, has advised people to avoid eating bream caught in the Derwent estuary and to limit consumption of other Derwent fin fish species. Dr Taylor said his advice was a precautionary measure based on the preliminary results from a pilot survey of fish caught in the estuary which found mercury levels in bream and sea-run brown trout are in excess of recommended food safety standards.

Bream and sea run trout were targeted in the pilot survey because, as the condition of the Derwent has improved, these recreational fisheries are becoming increasingly popular.

## Vehicular track to Julians and Pillans lakes closed until further notice

The IFS advises that the vehicular track to the Julians and Pillans lakes is closed until further notice due to high lake levels. This means that anglers planning to use this road over the Easter period will not be able to.

## Lake Trevallyn closed to recreational use

Lake Trevallyn has been closed for recreational use. A blue-green algae bloom has meant that this water is potentially unsafe for human contact. The main road access to the lake has been gated off.

## Stocking information

No trout stocking has occurred since the last edition of Angler News. The next few months will be a busy time for the IFS with adult transfers and stocking out of fingerlings.

## Caution to boating anglers

For anglers wishing to use boats on Great Lake, Arthurs Lake and Lake Echo the current low water levels may present some issues. The Jonah Bay ramp at Arthurs Lake is now closed and the ramp at Pumphouse Bay should be used with caution. All ramps are closed at Great Lake with the exception of the low water level ramp of the Boundary Bay. The new Large Bay boat ramp at Lake Echo will be completed over winter and ready to use for next season, this ramp should not be used till completion.

A navigation hazard has come into play at Lake Echo with the historically low water levels at present. This hazard is 300 m offshore between the middle Echo boat ramp and Dog Island. As with all our water storages caution should be taken when boating during this period of extremely low water levels.

## Prosecution of illegal fish farm operator

For some years now compliance staff have been receiving information about small illegal trout hatcheries but have had limited success with finding and prosecuting offenders.

On Friday the 29 February 2008 Boris Pervuhin, of Meander appeared before Magistrate P. Wilson at the Launceston Court of Petty Sessions charged with operating a fish farm without a fish farm licence, releasing fish without written consent of the Director and rearing propagated salmon without written consent of the Director. Mr Pervuhin pleaded guilty and was fined \$10,000 plus costs of \$30 and given two years to pay.

This was a joint operation between Inland Fisheries Officers and Police and should send a clear message to future would be offenders.

Inland Fisheries Service

# Trout Weekend

Liawenee, Great Lake  
Sat 17 & Sun 18 May 2008  
10am-3pm daily

**ADMISSION IS FREE**

Come and see hundreds of brown trout on their annual spawning migration  
in the Central Highlands of Tasmania

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