



# ANGLER NEWS

February 2009

## The increasing popularity and pressure on some smaller fisheries

With the present drought effecting many water storages around the State there has been a loss, during the past two seasons, of some previously popular fisheries. Whilst these losses have an immediate effect on where anglers can fish, there are flow on effects to other fisheries with more stable water levels.

Each year the IFS ranks the state's fisheries in order of popularity from analysis of the Angler Postal Survey (APS) that has been operating for over 20 years. The results of last season's APS show a jump in popularity at smaller waters like Penstock and Little Pine lagoons. With a drop in angling pressure at Arthurs Lake during the current season, as places like the Cowpaddock and areas of the Sand Lake remain dry, the popularity of smaller waters is set to rise.

The IFS and Hydro Tasmania may need to consider ways to minimise the impact of increased angling pressure on these waters. With increased pressure on these waters issues such as water clarity, waste disposal and parking can all be issues.

## Sign vandalism costs IFS time and money

Over the past year the IFS and AAT have invested many hours and dollars into improving information and interpretation for anglers through the installation of signs at popular waters and publishing Anglers Access Brochures. These projects could not have been completed without the financial support of the Australian Government. However the removal or damage to signs is of particular concern as the IFS are responsible for maintaining them. Signs have recently been removed from Camerons Lagoon and Lake Echo (Large Bay).

The cost of replacing a single sign including the time to reinstall it is approximately \$500. This is money that the IFS would rather spend on improving facilities for anglers, restocking popular waters and other fisheries management that benefits ALL anglers.

Anglers are reminded that it is an offence to remove, damage or deface any sign and that the penalty includes a fine up to \$1 200 or 12 months imprisonment. We urge all anglers to report sign damage to the IFS.

## Caution on Arthurs Lake Dam boat ramp and boating hazards

Boat users on Arthurs Lake should note that the current water level is at the end of the Arthurs Dam boat ramp. There is a significant drop off after the ramp, only four wheel drive vehicles should use this ramp until further notification. The ramp at Pumphouse Bay is the recommended launching area for boaters.

Due to the low water levels anglers are reminded to exercise caution at all times when navigating the lake as there are submerged hazards that are just approaching the surface.

## Corporate Clean-Up Australia Day 24 February 2009

Tuesday 24 February the Inland Fisheries Service is participating in a corporate clean-up day at a few of the State's inland fisheries. Three teams of IFS staff will be cleaning up the River Derwent and the upper Derwent Valley lakes, the Bradys chain of lakes and Woods Lake.

Clean-up Australia Day is Sunday 1 March 2009 for the general public. On this day angling clubs usually adopt a water to focus their clean-up on. Contact your local club to find out details.

## Lake Catagunya water level draw down

From 23 February until 9 March Lake Catagunya will be drawn down approximately two metres below the minimum supply level to allow for repairs to the Wayatinah Tailrace. IFS, Hydro Tasmania and MAST (Marine and Safety Tasmania) are trying to use this opportunity to rebuild the boatramp. Boats will not be able to be launched during this period.



*An example of the type of signs that have been vandalised or stolen.*

*These signs can be freestanding with just IFS information or placed on existing Hydro Tasmania signs.*

## Request for information on the Azure kingfisher

Mark Wapstra is currently compiling information on the azure kingfisher (see picture below) in Tasmania to produce a profile of the species for the Threatened Species Section (Department of Primary Industries & Water).

There is virtually no published information on the species in Tasmania beyond anecdotal sightings in newsletters and annual publications. Formal database information is also scant and imprecise. Mark is keen to hear from anyone who has information on the azure kingfisher.

For any sightings the following should be forwarded to Mark:

Location information (ideally a precise grid reference or latitude/longitude but even a river name or road crossing is very useful).

Dates seen (again, ideally as precise as possible but even a year gives a good picture of historical shifts in distribution).

Abundance/behaviour (i.e. how many, and what were they doing, especially if they were breeding).

Mark is also seeking contact with others who might have information.

Please contact Mark Wapstra on (03) 62 283 220 (after hours and business hours) or 0407 008 685 (mobile) or [mark@ecotas.com.au](mailto:mark@ecotas.com.au).



**Full Season Licence holders get Free Entry to the Salmon Ponds on presentation of their licence throughout the 2008-09 season (valid 1 August 2008 to 31 July 2009).**

**This is being sponsored by the Salmon Ponds, Heritage Hatchery and Gardens.**

## Stocking since December 2009

Water	Number	Species	Weight
Lake Duncan	15	rainbow trout	400
Lake Lynch	15	rainbow trout	400
Lake Plimsoll	18 000	brook trout	9
Lake Rosebery	10 000	rainbow trout*	13
Lake Macintosh	6 000	rainbow trout*	13
Clarence Lagoon	5 000	brook trout	9
Brushy Lagoon	35 000	rainbow trout*	25
Curries River	10 000	brown trout	5
Brushy Lagoon	100	rainbow trout*	530
Brushy Lagoon	35	rainbow trout*	1400
Brushy Lagoon	68	rainbow trout*	800

\* = triploid trout

Waters that receive these fish were set out in the **Tasmanian Inland Fishery Recreational Management Plan 2008—2018**

## Fisheries offences for 2008/09 to date

Offence	Court hearings	Infringement notices
Take whitebait from closed waters	1	
Take whitebait without a licence	1	1
Fishing without an angling licence	5	6
Fishing with more than one rod	1	4
Illegal strike indicator	1	5
Unattended set rod	2	18
Possess an assembled rod unlicensed	5	1
Possess and use a net	2	

The table above shows the types of offences committed and whether they have infringement notices that need to be paid to avoid court proceedings, or whether they are offences heard in court.

The total fines paid by court hearings alone by the 10 offenders who make up the 18 offences amounts to \$3 550 and \$448 in court costs. Many of these court hearings could have been avoided if the initial infringement notice had been paid thus saving time and money.

**Tagged Trout  
Trout Stocking  
Website**

**and Angler News**

Tim Farrell

6261 8035

[tim.farrell@ifs.tas.gov.au](mailto:tim.farrell@ifs.tas.gov.au)

**Communications  
and Marketing**

6261 8050

[infish@ifs.tas.gov.au](mailto:infish@ifs.tas.gov.au)

**Carp Management**

Chris Wisniewski

6261 8062

[chriswi@ifs.tas.gov.au](mailto:chriswi@ifs.tas.gov.au)

**Native Fish**

6261 8050

[infish@ifs.tas.gov.au](mailto:infish@ifs.tas.gov.au)

**Compliance  
Activities**

Viv Spencer

Senior Inspector

0408 145 768

[vivs@ifs.tas.gov.au](mailto:vivs@ifs.tas.gov.au)

**Angling Licence  
Enquiries  
and Information**

6261 8050

[infish@ifs.tas.gov.au](mailto:infish@ifs.tas.gov.au)

[www.ifs.tas.gov.au](http://www.ifs.tas.gov.au)