



# ANGLER NEWS

July 2009

## Good winter rains great news for the start of the 2009/10 season

In response to the recent increase in water levels the IFS has had the opportunity to reinvigorate a number of fisheries that have suffered as a result of the drought over the past two seasons. Lake Leake, Tooms Lake, Craighourne Dam and Pawleena Reservoir have all benefited from the recent rains as water levels at these storages have risen considerably. This is particularly good news for Southern anglers who have missed out on nearby fisheries such as Craighourne Dam and Pawleena Reservoir, the former being a regular haunt for Hobart based anglers as it is the closest "all year round" fishery to the city.



*Brett Mawbey stocking an Atlantic salmon into Craighourne Dam 30 July*

Craighourne Dam was at 60% of capacity at the start of the second week of July and 520 adult brown trout from Arthurs Lake were transferred there by the end of that week. An additional 900 brown trout fingerlings (average 35 grams) were also stocked into Craighourne during July. These stockings will hopefully help this fishery which has lost

much of its population of trout during the harsh dry spell that left the lake at less than 1% of its water holding capacity. Craighourne is known for its Atlantic salmon fishery and there is good news on that front too with 300 salmon stocked there during the third week of July, these fish averaged 2.5 kg. A further 820 salmon at 1.5 kg were released on Thursday 30 July. Water levels need to rise for the boat ramp to be serviceable for larger boats, currently only small dinghies and kayaks can be launched.

Brushy Lagoon also received 200 Atlantic salmon at 3.5 kg average during the third week of July. Lake Barrington got its first stocking of Atlantic salmon in quite some time with 600 fish at 1.5 kg and another 100 at 3.5 kg average on Wednesday 29 July. Lake Barrington now has a good population of rainbow trout that are close to and greater than takeable size, these have been showing up more and more in anglers catches.

Tooms Lake which was a very reliable and popular fishery until 2006, when the drought significantly reduced the water levels and resulted in blue-green algal blooms, has risen dramatically to within one metre of full from a low of 19% in March 2009.. The IFS aims to supplement this fishery with takeable sized rainbows when they become available from commercial hatcheries. Stocking of juvenile brown, if needed, and rainbow trout will occur in Autumn 2010 from the IFS New Norfolk Hatchery. With these favourable conditions there is every chance the fishery will return to the productive and popular water that it once was.

Lake Leake is another fishery on the road to recovery and has come within a metre of full supply as of the second week of July. The existing stocks of brook, brown and rainbow trout at Lake Leake will provide good fishing for the coming season and the fish will improve in condition because of the newly flooded ground on which they can now forage. The IFS plans to stock wild rainbow fingerlings there during Autumn 2010.

Water levels have reached a peak at Huntsman and Four Springs lakes, and fish stocks are also brimming at these fisheries. Both of the these fisheries are great early season waters with Four Springs proving very popular on opening weekend for the last three or four seasons. The waters in the Bronte-Bradys system have offered consistent fishing over recent seasons and again, spilling water and filled backwaters will only add to the angling possibilities and pleasure for early season anglers. Atlantic salmon were released into Bradys Lake during June.

This season anglers are blessed with a plethora of opportunities at the start of the season, more so than in the last few years. So get out there and take advantage of the great conditions for fishing and don't forget to take a mate fishing using the complimentary 48 hr novice licence offered with full season licence renewals.



*The level at Huntsman Lake, like many of the State's fisheries, is at a great level for the start of the season*

## Free entry to Salmon Ponds for full season licence holders for 2009/10

### Access roads to key fisheries upgraded

In preparation for the season opening the IFS have organised a delivery of gravel to upgrade the road surface in Fisheries Lane, Brumbys Creek. Staff from DPIW Research Unit at Cressy assisted to spread the gravel, providing a tractor and backhoe.

Work was also undertaken recently by Forestry Tasmania on the road into Four Springs Lake, involving the filling of potholes which had formed over recent months. Forestry Tasmania and the IFS have also upgraded the access roads to the new ramp at Large Bay, Lake Echo. These works should make the drive to access these fisheries more pleasant when the season opens on Saturday, and will help reduce the rate of deterioration of the road conditions with regular use over the coming months.

### Bronte - Bradys clean up event

A group of 15 hardy volunteers including local shackowners gathered at Bronte Park last week to conduct an annual cleanup of the local campsites around the Bronte-Bradys area. The cleanup, which is an annual event, was organised by Ken Orr with support from Wayne Turale, Rural Alive and Well, Senior Constable Steve Timmins and Inland Fisheries Officer, Adam Scurrah.

The fact that the group found less rubbish than in previous years at some of the waters may have had more to do with a previous impromptu clean up by the Service last month, than improving attitudes to littering the bush. But we can only hope! This year, the cleanup was extended into Catagunya Lagoon and the Butler's Gorge and Navarre areas of Lake King William. Lake Echo also received a concentrated effort and a huge amount of rubbish was collected including a vacuum cleaner, gas bottle and bicycle.

In addition to the irresponsible littering of what are some of the State's best fishing destinations, is the senseless damage to property in the area. The group reported that several of the recently erected IFS information signs had been shot at and one had some form of substance applied and then set fire to. Responsible firearm owners condemn this kind of behavior, not to mention anglers who benefit from the instructional signage. With funding shortages, the IFS would prefer to spend more money on improving facilities and stocking fish rather than repairing or replacing damaged signs. Please report these illegal activities to your local Police or call Bushwatch on 1800 333 000.

There is talk of extending this annual clean up to Great Lake and Arthurs Lake areas. If you value Tasmania's unique environment, take pride in our priceless inland fishery and would like to make a practical contribution to keeping our fisheries free of unsightly and dangerous rubbish, then give Wayne Turale a call on 0428 145 319.

## Stocking since May 2009

Water	Number	Species	Weight (grams)
Bradys Lake	3 000	brown trout	1 100
Bradys Lake	600	Atlantic salmon	2 500
Bronte Lagoon	10 000	rainbow trout	18
Brumbys Creek	350	brown trout	900
Brushy Lagoon	1 250	brook trout	94
Brushy Lagoon	340	rainbow trout	210
Brushy Lagoon	600	brown trout	1 100
Brushy Lagoon	200	Atlantic salmon	3 500
Craigbourne Dam	900	brown trout	35
Craigbourne Dam	520	brown trout	700
Craigbourne Dam	1 120	Atlantic salmon	2 000
Curries River Dam	600	brown trout	1 100
Dee Lagoon	5 000	#rainbow trout	19
Dee Lagoon	5 000	rainbow trout	17
Four Spring Lake	8 845	#rainbow trout	27
Four Springs Lake	800	brown trout	1 100
Huntsman Lake	300	brown trout	1 100
Lake Barrington	700	Atlantic salmon	2 000
Lake Echo	23 000	#rainbow trout	25
Lake Echo	25 000	rainbow trout	20
Lake Kara	300	brown trout	1 100
Lake Mikany	1 800	#rainbow trout	20
Lake Repulse	2 500	#rainbow trout	18
Lake Rowallan	7 000	rainbow trout	18
Lake Rowallan	13 000	#rainbow trout	18
Meadowbank Lake	10 000	#rainbow trout	25
Meadowbank Lake	600	Atlantic salmon	2 500
Mersey River	600	brown trout	1 100
Pawleena Dam	220	brown trout	700
Penstock Lagoon	100	brown trout	1 100
Pet Dam	2 500	#rainbow trout	21

# = triploid trout Waters that receive triploid trout are in accordance with the **Tasmanian Inland Fishery Recreational Management Plan 2008—2018**

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