




Angling Regulations (continued)

Four Springs Lake Regulations:

- Angling is permitted from 1 hour before sunrise to 3 hours after sunset.

Species	Minimum size	Bag limit
Brown trout, Rainbow trout	300 mm	5*

\* Combined daily bag limit of 5 fish can only include 2 fish exceeding 500 mm in length.

Method	Season
 Fly fishing	From the first Saturday in August to the Sunday nearest the 30th April.
 Artificial lures	
 Bait fishing	

Protect our Waters

Recreational anglers have a responsibility to look after fisheries resources for the benefit of the environment and future generations.

- Do not bring live or dead fish, fish products, animals or aquatic plants into Tasmania.
- Do not bring any used fishing gear or any other freshwater recreational equipment that may be damp, wet or contain water into Tasmania. **Check, clean and dry** your fishing equipment before entering Tasmania.
- Do not transfer any freshwater fish, frogs, tadpoles, invertebrates or plants between inland waters.
- Check your boat, trailer, waders and fishing gear for weed and other pests that should not be transferred before moving between waters.
- Do not use willow (which is a plant pest) as a rod support as it has the ability to propagate from a strike.

Getting There

All three waters are in close proximity to the major centres of Launceston and Deloraine. **Huntsman Lake** is 20km south of Deloraine via the A5 and C167 through the Meander township.

**Brushy Lagoon** lies 20km north of Westbury via the B72 and C714.

**Four Springs Lake** is 20km north of Hagley via the C735.

Background

Huntsman Lake was created in 2007 by the damming of the Meander River for irrigation and power generation. Brushy Lagoon is a small shallow and sheltered lagoon within conservation area and production forest. Four Springs Lake is a trophy fishery providing excellent early and late season angling.

Recreational Fishery Management

**Huntsman Lake** is managed by the Inland Fisheries Service (IFS) as a wild trout fishery. Natural recruitment sustains the population.

**Brushy Lagoon** is regularly stocked with brown trout, rainbow trout and Atlantic salmon to maintain the quality of the angling.

**Four Springs Lake** is managed as a trophy fishery and is regularly stocked with both brown and rainbow trout.

Angling Notes

**Huntsman Lake** is an exciting fishery for Tasmanian anglers. The IFS manages the lake as a wild trout fishery. It has a large population of fish in the 300 - 400 mm size range. The lake is attractive to both boat and shore based anglers particularly early and late in the season when the sheltered location and lower elevation provide an alternative to the highland lakes. Good shores for wading are at Paynes Landing and McNeill Bay. The forested southern shores provide good beetle falls during summer.

**Brushy Lagoon** is a family fishery with easy access and lower altitude making it a comfortable location for all methods year round. The chance to catch fish is enhanced through regular stocking to maintain populations. The dam wall is a popular location with shore based anglers. This water is ideal for small boats.

At **Four Springs Lake** wading anglers should be wary of sudden changes in depth in parts of the lake. All methods of angling can be productive including fly fishing, spinning and set rod bait fishing. All shores are accessible for wading and fishing from a boat is popular in open water. Early in the season bait fishing is popular in deeper water on the western shore and off the dam wall whilst trolling and drift spinning also account for good catches. Fly fishing with woolly worms and nymph patterns throughout the lake can be productive. During the spring and summer weed growth restricts fishing from the shore and trolling. Fly-fishing can be productive particularly from a boat. Recommended dry fly patterns include duns, red spinner, caenids and caddis. Wet flies such as mudeyes and nymphs are also favoured.

Code of Conduct

- Be aware of and comply with fishing regulations.
- Respect the rights of other anglers and users.
- Protect the environment.
- Carefully return undersized, protected or unwanted catch back to the water.
- Fish species and other organisms must not be relocated or transferred into other water bodies.



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17 Back River Road,  
New Norfolk, 7140  
Ph: 1300 INFISH  
www.ifs.tas.gov.au

EDITION 5

Huntsman Lake,  
Brushy Lagoon and  
Four Springs Lake



Anglers  
Access

REGION: NORTH WEST



Damien Hickey

Inland Fisheries Service



Angling Regulations

To fish in any open public inland water in Tasmania you must hold a current Inland Angling Licence unless you are under 14 years of age. A summary of the regulations are contained within the Tasmanian Inland Recreational Fishing Code.

Huntsman Lake Regulations:

- Angling is permitted from 1 hour before sunrise to 3 hours after sunset.

Species	Minimum size	Bag limit
Brown trout	220 mm	20

Method	Season
 Fly fishing  Artificial lures  Bait fishing	Open to angling all year round.

Brushy Lagoon Regulations:

- Angling is permitted from 1 hour before sunrise to 3 hours after sunset.
- Brushy Rivulet flowing into Brushy Lagoon is closed to angling at all times.

Species	Minimum size	Bag limit
Brown trout, Rainbow trout, Atlantic salmon	300 mm	5*

\* Combined daily bag limit of 5 fish can only include 2 fish exceeding 500 mm in length.

Method	Season
 Fly fishing  Artificial lures  Bait fishing	Open to angling all year round.

(Angling regulations continued over page)

Pest Fish Management

Redfin perch (*Perca fluviatilis*) are present in the Meander River below Huntsman Lake and in Brushy Lagoon. If this species is caught, anglers are asked to humanely kill the captured fish and dispose of appropriately. Please report any captures of Redfin perch in Huntsman Lake or Four Springs Lake to the IFS. Anglers can help reduce the spread of pests in Tasmanian waterways by not transferring fish between waters. Offences may incur significant penalties.

Recreational Use

Huntsman Lake is managed by Tasmanian Irrigation and is reserved for day use only. Toilets are located near the Dam Wall boat ramp and at 'The Dairy' day use area where there are picnic tables and a BBQ.

Please note the gates are locked at sunset each day – gates open automatically for exit up to one hour after closing.

Access Rules

- Keep to formed tracks.
- Do not litter.
- Respect private land – if in doubt ask permission.
- Shooting is prohibited.
- Fires in formal fireplaces or firepots only.
- Do not fell trees.

Responsible Boating

Huntsman Lake is a relatively sheltered water ideal for small boats. Use the designated launching area only.

- A maximum speed limit of 5 knots applies to the whole lake.
- Lake levels can vary, beware of underwater hazards.
- If the lake level is low, beware the steep drop off at the end of the boatramp.
- Areas prohibited for navigation- within 200 m radius of the dam wall.

There are two boat launching areas at **Brushy Lagoon**, one on the eastern shore and at the dam wall.

Four Springs Lake is a shallow and sheltered water ideal for small boats. Use the designated launching area only.

- A maximum speed limit of 5 knots applies to the whole lake.

Remember

- Check your wash- if its white it's all right - if it's brown slow down.
- Fishing from a boat within 100 metres of an angler fishing from the shore is prohibited unless the boat is securely moored.
- Do not park on or obstruct boat ramps.

- Report any unusual fish captures or algal sightings immediately to the Inland Fisheries Service
- Report illegal activities to; Bushwatch 1800 333 000



Brown trout



Rainbow trout



Atlantic Salmon

Brown and Rainbow trout illustrations Trevor Hawkins  
Atlantic salmon illustration Peter Gouldthorpe

