Inland Fisheries Service

Annual Report

2024-2025

Inland Fisheries Service

Tasmanian Government

Inland Fisheries Service Director (2003 – 2024), John Diggle, Lake Kara.

Cover photo – Lake Selina.

The Hon Gavin Pearce MP
Minister for Primary Industries and Water

Dear Minister

In accordance with the requirements of Section 36 of the *State Service Act 2000* and Section 42 of the *Financial Management Act 2016*, I am pleased to submit the 2024-25 Annual Report of the Inland Fisheries Service for presentation to Parliament.

Yours sincerely

Ryan Wilkinson

Director of Inland Fisheries

25 September 2025

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Minister's Message

Welcome to the 2024–25 Annual Report for Tasmania's Inland Fisheries Service (IFS).

As Minister for Primary Industries and Water, it's a real privilege to present this report, which highlights the Government's ongoing commitment to Tasmania's inland fishery and the outstanding work of the IFS over the past year.

Tasmania's inland fishery is more than just a pastime—it's part of our way of life. It supports regional communities, brings families together, and showcases the best of what our state has to offer. The IFS continues to play a vital role in managing and protecting this precious resource, and this report outlines the breadth of their work from recreational and commercial fisheries management to native species conservation, pest fish control, infrastructure development, and community engagement.

In 2024–25, the IFS delivered on every Government policy commitment made during the 2024 election. That includes extending the junior licence fee waiver for another three years, re-launching the Tagged Trout Promotion, and providing support to Anglers Alliance Tasmania (AAT) to help grow junior angling programs and maintain the AAT webcam network.

The continuation of the junior licence fee waiver saw record numbers of young anglers take up a licence—almost double what we saw in 2020–21. That's a great result. It shows that when we back our young people, they step up. The IFS also introduced the Young Angler Licence Promotion, offering a 45 per cent discount on adult licences to help juniors transition into lifelong anglers. In 2024–25, 655 young adults took up that offer.

The Tagged Trout Promotion kicked off on 5 October 2024, with 16 fish released across nine locations. Four lucky anglers reeled in tagged trout and each took home $5,000. This initiative will continue for two more seasons and is all about encouraging participation and supporting our regional economies.

I also want to take a moment to acknowledge John Diggle, who retired as Director of Inland Fisheries in September 2024. John's contribution to the inland fishery has been immense, and I thank him for his service. I also congratulate Dr Ryan Wilkinson on his appointment as Director in February 2025—I know he'll bring great energy and expertise to the role.

Tasmania's inland fishery is a unique and valuable asset. It's something we should all be proud of. I thank the team at the IFS for their hard work and dedication, and I look forward to seeing what we can achieve together in the years ahead.

The Hon Gavin Pearce MP
Minister for Primary Industries and Water

About the Inland Fisheries Service (IFS)

Vision

To have sustainable, vibrant, and healthy inland fisheries that are the envy of the rest of Australia and the world.

Mission

To manage and develop Tasmania's inland fishery resources for the benefit of the Tasmanian community and stakeholders.

Our values

In working towards achieving our vision and mission we will value:

- each other, our differences and encouraging learning,
- working together professionally and with integrity,
- diversity and equality,
- quality, creativity, new ideas and trying new things,
- maintaining a safe and no harm work environment.

Our values in action

We will:

- treat others with respect and be inclusive,
- be efficient with our time and resources,
- act in the best interests of Tasmania and the IFS in how we conduct ourselves and undertake our business,
- act promptly and professionally in dealing with stakeholders and clients,
- care for the facilities, plant and equipment of the IFS.

Our strategic goals

The outcome after five years will be that:

- The fishery is managed sustainably.
- The Lake Sorell recreational fishery is restored.
- We maintain our reputation as a world-class recreational trout fishery and increase participation.
- We have advocated and acted on behalf of freshwater ecosystems.
- The IFS is respected and valued as a responsive, proactive, accessible and dynamic organisation.
- The IFS is financially sustainable.

Corporate Plan 2022-27

The IFS Corporate Plan 2022-27 guides our actions. It supports the IFS to be responsive to current challenges and opportunities within Tasmania's inland fisheries and proactive towards achieving our Vision and Mission.

The following graphic provides a summary of IFS staffing, locations, funding, key activities and locations.

Inland Fisheries Service

Primary Legislation - *Inland Fisheries Act 1995*

Other Legislation - *Marine and Safety Authority Act 1997, Litter Act 2000, Living Marine Resources Management Act 1995, Wildlife (General) Regulations 2010, Biosecurity Act 2019*

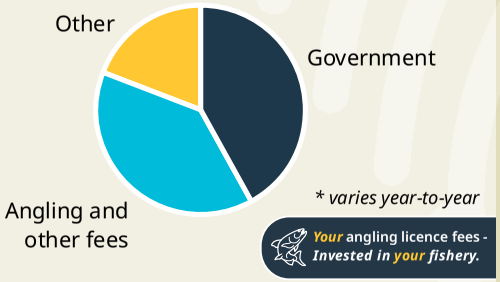
Vision

To have sustainable, vibrant and healthy inland fisheries that are the envy of the rest of Australia and the world.

Mission

To manage and develop Tasmania's inland fishery resources for the benefit of the Tasmanian community and stakeholders.

Funding



Staff profile

- 21 staff (20.4 FTE) as at June 2025

Locations

- New Norfolk
- Salmon Ponds Heritage Hatchery and Gardens
- Liawenee Field Station
- Launceston
- Ulverstone

What we do - management of:

Recreational Fisheries
(for example – trout and whitebait)

Commercial Fisheries
(for example – eels, freshwater fish farms, fish dealers, registered private fisheries)

Native Species
(for example – eels, lampreys, galaxiids, Australian grayling, estuary perch, giant freshwater crayfish)

Pest Species
(for example – redfin perch, tench, eastern gambusia, mainland yabby)

Assets and Infrastructure
(for example – Liawenee field station, Salmon Ponds, anglers access, vessels)

** Inland and upstream of the declared 'Seaward Limit'*

Key activities

- Fisheries Assessments and Reporting
- Native Fish Conservation and Management
- Pest Fish Response and Eradication
- Stocking
- Anglers Access
- Agreements and MoUs
- Licensing / Permitting
- Regulation / Policy
- Compliance / Auditing
- Environmental Advocacy
- Research and Development
- Stakeholder Engagement and Communication
- Community Education
- Customer Service
- Financial Management and Budgeting
- Record Keeping / Document Control
- Collaboration with Other Agencies

Key stakeholders

- Licenced Freshwater Angling Community
- Minister
- Inland Fisheries Advisory Council
- Representative Groups (for example – Anglers Alliance Tasmania, Trout Guides and Lodges Tasmania)
- Research Providers
- Water and Land Managers
- Landcare, NRM and Community Groups
- Other State Government Agencies and Local Government

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Inland Fisheries Service

Tasmanian Government

BL12464

Jurisdiction

Under the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995* (the Act), the Director of Inland Fisheries, (the Director), through the IFS, manages fisheries in all inland waters, which includes lakes, rivers, farm dams, registered private fisheries, ponds and aquaria. The seaward limit is the statutory boundary between State (marine) and inland waters, and the IFS controls the inland side of this limit.

Responsibilities

The IFS has primary responsibility for implementing the Act and its subordinate legislation. The Act creates the position of the Director and provides that the Director is a corporation whose responsibilities are:

- To manage, control, protect, develop, improve, maintain and regulate salmon fisheries, fisheries in inland waters and freshwater fish.
- To stock inland waters with fish.
- To create, improve and maintain access to inland waters.
- To provide facilities in respect of access to inland waters.
- To carry out research and investigation into matters relating to salmon fisheries and fisheries in inland waters.
- To collect, publish and disseminate information relating to freshwater fish and inland waters.

Management

The Director is an Agency for the purposes of the *Financial Management Act 2016.*

The IFS receives specific corporate support from the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania (NRE Tas).

The Secretary of NRE Tas is the Head of Agency for the purposes of the *State Service Act 2000.*

While the IFS has primary responsibility for its core business functions, NRE Tas provides human resource administration, finance system and information technology support.

At 30 June 2025, the IFS had 20.4 paid full-time equivalents.

Organisational structure

• Director of Inland Fisheries	Dr Ryan Wilkinson John Diggle (retired September 2024)
• Executive Officer (Directorate)	Vanessa Britten

Administration and Finance

• Manager (Finance and Business)	Tracy Zhou
• Executive Officer (Licensing and Finance)	Kellie Fahey
• Executive Officer (Commercial Licensing and Policy)	Gabbie Henderson
• Clerks	Tania Hooper Kristy Thompson Kerrie-Anne Collins

Fisheries Management

• Section Manager (Fisheries Management)	Robert Freeman (acting until March 2025)
• Manager (Compliance)	Steven Paterson
• Senior Fisheries Management Officers	Robert Freeman (Josef Wisniewski partial backfill until March 2025) Tim Farrell Jonah Yick
• Project Manager (Anglers Access)	Neil Morrow (retired June 2025) Paul Middleton (from November 2024)
• Team Leader (Fisheries Operations)	Brett Mawbey
• Senior Fisheries Officer	Paul Middleton (until November 2024)
• Senior Fisheries Compliance Officer	Brian Hall
• Senior Technical Officer	Christopher Bassano (resigned 16 August 2024) Josef Wisniewski (acting)
• Fisheries Field Officer	Brock Cuthbertson (acting)
• Technical Officer	Gareth Jones vacant
• Utility Officer	Craig Burgess Robert Cordwell

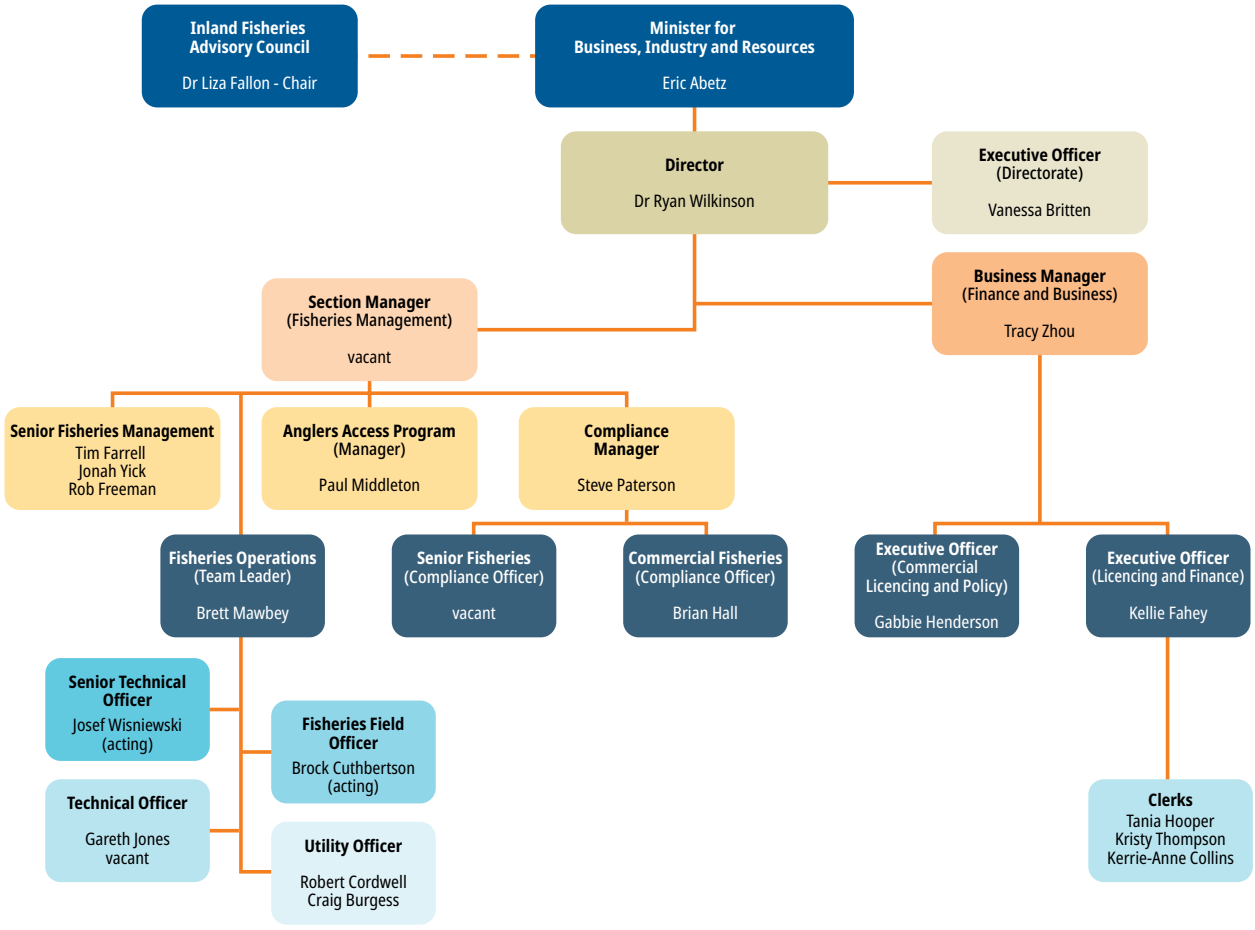

Figure 1. Organisational Outputs as of 30 June 2025

Policy Commitments

2021

- Providing $1 million for new and upgraded facilities and amenities for inland fishing, and improved access.
  - Building upon the policy commitments of 2018, the Government provided $1 million over four years for new and upgraded facilities and amenities for inland fishing, and improved access. This commitment concluded in 2024-25.
- Making licences free for junior inland anglers for the next four years.
  - To help more young people enjoy our amazing trout fishery and increase angling participation, the Government waived junior angling fees across four years. This will mean that children up to and including 17 years of age were able to fish in Tasmania's inland lakes and waterways for free.

2024

- Committing to waiving junior inland angling fees for a further three years ($75,00 commitment). 2024-25 was the first year of this three-year commitment.
- Re-introducing the Tagged Trout Promotion over three seasons, to encourage trout fishing and support regional economies ($150,000 commitment). Any unspent funds from the Tagged Trout Promotion will be used to support the Anglers Access Program. The new Tagged Trout Promotion commenced on 5 October 2024, with 4 of 16 tagged fish caught during the 2024-25 angling season, each valued at $5,000.
- Providing funding of $220,000 over three years to Anglers Alliance Tasmania (AAT) to support junior fishing education programs and management of web cams so anglers can check the weather conditions for free before heading to the lakes for a fishing trip. AAT are the peak group representing over 35 angling clubs and 26,000 freshwater licence holders.

Inland Fisheries Advisory Council (IFAC) report 2024-25

Table 1. Membership of the Inland Fisheries Advisory Council on 30 June 2025

Representation and role	Member
Chairperson	Dr Liza Fallon
Ministerial appointment	Julie Butler
Freshwater angling associations	Howard Jones
Director of Inland Fisheries	Dr Ryan Wilkinson John Diggle (retired September 2024)
Conservation of freshwater ecosystems	Andrew Taylor
Commercial freshwater fisheries	Adam Chapman
Representing the north-western area	Sheryl Thompson
Representing the northern area	Julianne Stephens
Representing the southern area	Andrew Reed
Representing tourism	Fiona Dewar

IFAC provides advice to the Minister responsible for Inland Fisheries on matters related to Tasmania's inland fishery resources. IFAC also provides a forum for consultation on policy matters and a sounding board for the Director of Inland Fisheries.

IFAC held four meetings during 2024-25 at the IFS office in New Norfolk.

The Council was briefed at each meeting on progress with the Government Policy Commitments relevant to the fishery, trends in licence sales and any other matters of strategic relevance to the management of the fishery.

The IFS Risk Register continued to provide the context for many of IFAC's discussions.

The IFAC is grateful for the support provided by the staff of IFS without which it would be unable to perform its function.

Meeting – 11 September 2024

Presentation

- IFS Acting Section Manager – "Lake Leake Assessment Overview".

Advice provided to the Minister regarding:

- NOTE the IFAC wishes to recognize the recent retirement of John Diggle as Director of Inland Fisheries.

Meeting – 11 December 2024

Presentation

- Senior Fisheries Management IFS – "King Island redfin perch population", recent work in collaboration with IMAS.

Advice provided to the Minister regarding:

- NOTE that IFAC wishes to thank the Minister for attending the 11 December 2024 meeting and is requesting the Minister review and amend (if required) the relevant excerpt from the draft meeting minutes.
- NOTE that IFAC wishes to reiterate the importance of water management in ensuring the long-term sustainability of inland fish and inland fisheries.
- NOTE that IFAC sees merit in developing an approved understanding of the inland fishery value proposition.
- NOTE the IFAC wishes to commend Anglers Alliance Tasmania (AAT) and the efforts of its members in attempting to understand environmental and angler impacts on our shallow inland waters.

Meeting – 6 March 2025

Presentation

- Manager (Compliance) IFS – Inland Fisheries Compliance presentation.

Advice provided to the Minister regarding:

- NOTE that the IFAC reiterates the importance of developing an improved understanding of the inland fishery value proposition.
- NOTE the progress the IFS is making in developing and progressing key research and development priorities.
- NOTE that the IFS is currently preparing for Trout Weekend 2025.

Meeting – 29 May 2025

Presentation

- Senior Fisheries Management - River electrofishing surveys 2025.

Advice from the May 2025 IFAC meeting was not progressed to the Minister due to the dissolution of parliament on 11 June 2025 and enactment of the caretaker conventions.

Legislation

Updates to inland fisheries legislation during 2024-25:

- Addressed an administrative licencing matter to provide for a person (18 years or older) who purchases a 48-hour licence, to purchase a second fishing rod and line endorsement.
- Removed Frombergs Dam (Ulverstone) as a defined Junior Angler Development Fishery, as this water is currently being reclaimed by developers and is no longer available to the public.
- Change to the fish size limit for Pawleena Reservoir, as access to this water is now restricted (i.e. access now only via permission of the landowner). The water is no longer stocked with trout, however, will continue to be regulated by the IFS.
    - Previously, the daily bag limit was five fish over 300 mm length, of which only two can be over 500 mm length.
    - Amendment - changed the regulation to a daily bag limit of twelve fish with a minimum size limit of 300 mm length.
- Change to the daily fish bag and size limit for Talbots Lagoon to allow for a broader size range of fish to be taken by anglers.
    - Previously, the daily bag limit was five fish over 300 mm length, of which only two can be over 500 mm length.
    - Amendment - changed the regulation to a daily bag limit of five fish with a minimum size limit of 300 mm length.
- Change the daily fish bag and size limit for Lake Sorell to limit the take of large fish, while this important fishery continues to recover following the Carp Eradication Program.
    - Previously, the daily bag limit was twelve fish, with a minimum size limit of 300 mm length.
    - Amendment - changed the regulation to a daily bag limit of five fish with a minimum size limit of 300 mm length, of which only two can be over 500 mm length.
- Change the daily fish bag and size limit for Lake Crescent to limit the take of large fish and protect this important 'trophy' trout water.
    - Previously, the minimum size limit was 400 mm length, with a daily bag limit of two fish, of which only one can be over 500 mm length.
    - Amendment - changed the regulation to a minimum size limit of 500 mm length, with a daily bag limit of one fish.
- Change the daily fish bag limit for Black Bream within defined Inland Waters to match the daily bag limit as regulated within State Waters (marine waters) under the *Living Marine Resources Management Act 1995*.
    - Amendment - reduced the daily bag limit from ten bream to five bream. The size limit within Inland Waters will remain unchanged at 250 mm.
- Relevant changes to Aboriginal and dual place names undertaken as required.

Fisheries compliance

Table 2. Compliance inspections conducted during the 2024-25 financial year

Inspection type	Total in 2024-25
Angling creel	2,787
Whitebait fishing	109
Boating safety	401

Three full-time Compliance Officers and seven additional staff who undertake compliance as a secondary function of their respective roles, all authorised under the Act, delivered fisheries compliance for the year. This included enforcement activities, investigations, and prosecutions, as well as education/awareness and public relations activities.

Fisheries Officers enforce a wide range of regulations under the Act and conduct angler creel surveys to help with fisheries assessments. The Compliance Operational Plan guides activities.

The IFS works closely with other State agencies such as Tasmania Police, Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) and Marine and Safety Tasmania (MAST) to patrol remote areas and to detect, and respond to, illegal activity.

Further details of activities are published in the Compliance Annual Report 2024-25 located at https://www.ifs.tas.gov.au/publications/.

Strategic goal:
The fishery is managed sustainably

Fishery performance assessments

In line with the *Tasmanian Inland Recreational Fishery Management Plan 2018–28*, and in response to angler feedback, the following fishery performance assessments (FPA) were completed during 2024-25. Full reports are available at https://www.ifs.tas.gov.au/publications/reports (Note: the planned survey for Rostrevor Reservoir was cancelled).

Big Waterhouse Lake

A survey in October 2024 recorded 47 brown trout and one rainbow trout from 60 box traps set over two nights at 10 sites. Brown trout averaged 1,250 g and 506 mm, with an overall "poor" average condition factor (0.95 k). Survey catch rates were low, averaging 0.8 fish per trap. A mark–recapture assessment, based on seven returns from 300 marked fish released in June 2024, suggested a population of around 1,800 trout. However, this estimate is uncertain due to the small sample size.

Little Pine Lagoon

In October 2024, an in-lake FPA survey using the electrofishing boat collected 42 brown trout, at a catch rate of 20 fish per hour, 36 per cent lower than a comparable 2000 survey, presumably due to recent cormorant predation. Average fish weight and length were 367 g and 276 mm, respectively, with 65 per cent of fish in "good" to "excellent" condition. Recruitment appeared to be moderate, with reasonable numbers of brown trout in the 120–150 mm and 170–270 mm size ranges. However, numbers of fish in the 400 – 500 mm range were significantly reduced and no fish over 500 mm were recorded.

Arthurs Lake

In December 2024, an in-lake FPA survey collected 170 brown trout using the electrofishing boat, with a catch rate of 30 fish per hour, which was 55 per cent lower than the previous years survey, presumably due to recent cormorant predation. The average weight and length of all trout captured was 286 g and 290 mm, respectively, with an average condition factor of 1.11 (k-factor), which is classified as "fair." Recruitment of young-of-the-year fish was low, with most individuals ranging between 250 and 360 mm in length.

Woods Lake

In March 2024, an in-lake FPA was undertaken to assess the trout fishery. Over two nights, 80 box traps captured 132 brown trout. The average weight of all fish collected was 583 g, with a mean length of 371 mm, substantially lower than the 2021 survey averages of 731 g and 405 mm. The average condition factor was 1.06 (k-factor), which is classified as "fair," representing an improvement on the 2018 survey, which had an average condition factor of 0.97 ("poor"). There were only a low number of fish over 470 mm.

River Surveys

Following several consecutive La Niña years, cormorant breeding increased, leading to significant influxes of the great cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) across Tasmania in the latter part of the 2023-24 and into the 2024-25 angling season. To assess potential impacts on riverine brown trout populations, statewide electrofishing surveys were conducted in January and February 2025. Results showed reduced trout abundance in the Leven and Mersey river catchments, with declines also observed in the Great Forester and Brid River catchments. Populations in the St Patricks River showed only a moderate decline. In the South, catchments including the Russell and Tyenna rivers recorded reductions, though these were less significant than the reductions observed in the north-west and north-east of the state.

Other Reports

Reports were finalised and published for 2023-24 FPA surveys at Lake Crescent, Lake Sorell, and Tooms Lake.

Future Assessments

The following assessments are scheduled for 2025-26: South Riana Lake, Brushy Lagoon, Curries River Reservoir, Arthurs Lake, Little Pine Lagoon, and a repeat of the statewide river surveys.

Trout hatchery, stocking and adult transfers

Consistent with the *Tasmanian Inland Recreational Fishery Management Plan 2018-28* the IFS has supplemented fish stocks in waters across the State using fish sourced from Central Highlands spawning traps, commercial hatcheries and the Salmon Ponds hatchery.

Wild brown trout spawning run 2024

Trapping of the 2024 brown trout spawning run commenced on 3 April 2024 and finished on 8 August 2024 (see Table 3), however was negatively impacted by the dry conditions. A total of 9,729 brown trout were trapped with 8,454 transferred to waters across the state with the remainder released upstream of the traps to spawn.

Table 3. Wild brown trout caught in Central Highlands fish traps in 2024

Trap	Number transferred	Number released above trap
Liawenee Canal – Yingina / Great Lake	2,056	0
Sandbanks Creek – Yingina / Great Lake	1,815	0
Tumbledown Creek – Arthurs Lake	2,370	373
Scotch Bobs Creek – Arthurs Lake	823	251
Hydro Creek – Arthurs Lake	1,336	639
River Derwent – Lake King William	54	12
Total	**8,454**	**1,275**

Wild rainbow trout spawning run 2024

The IFS use fish traps at Liawenee Canal - Yingina / Great Lake to monitor and enhance the wild rainbow trout fishery (Table 4). The initiative to establish a population of wild rainbow trout in Lake Sorell continued in 2024 with 226 wild adult fish trapped from the Liawenee Canal and transferred into the lake.

Table 4. Total captures of wild rainbow trout, Liawenee 2017-2024

Trap	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Liawenee Canal – Yingina / Great Lake	685	4,417	5,402	2,310	923	988	1,093	349

Further details of activities are published in the Central Highlands Fish Trap Report 2024 - Wild Brown Trout and Wild Rainbow Trout Management Report 2024 located at https://www.ifs.tas.gov.au/publications/fish-trap-reports.

Stocking of inland waters for public fishing

Each year the IFS stock selected waters in the public fishery. In 2024, the IFS stocked 29,034 wild brown trout, 15,876 rainbow trout, 33,885 brook trout, and 1,384 Atlantic salmon (Table 5).

Table 5. Stocking of inland waters for public fishing by age/size class for 2024

Age/size class	Brown trout	Rainbow trout	Brook trout	Atlantic salmon
Fry (1-5 g)	21,000	100	0	0
Fingerlings (6-50 g)	0	0	33,000	0
Yearling (51-300 g)	54	0	520	0
Adult (>301g)	7,980	15,776	365	1,384
Total	**29,034**	**15,876**	**33,885**	**1,384**

For the full report go to the IFS website https://www.ifs.tas.gov.au/publications/stocking-reports.

Ova and fish sales

During 2024-25 the IFS sold trout ova and various sized trout to registered private fisheries and private farm dams (Table 6).

Table 6. Ova and fish sales between 1 July 2024 and 30 June 2025

Qty	Age/size class	Species	Recipient	Value $
375	Adult (>301 g)	Triploid Rainbow	Registered private fisheries	2,445
700	Fingerlings (6-50 g)	Triploid Rainbow	Registered private fisheries	2,100
150	Adult (>301 g)	Triploid Rainbow	Private farm dams	910
5,700	Fingerlings (6-50 g)	Triploid Rainbow	Private farm dams	10,100
900	Yearling (51-300 g)	Triploid Rainbow	Private farm dams	3,075
450	Fry (1-6 g)	Triploid Rainbow	Private farm dams	789
600	Yearling (51-300 g)	Triploid Rainbow	Fish Farm	1,500
300	Yearling (51-300 g)	Triploid Rainbow	Angling Club Activities	800
600	Adult (>301g)	Brown Trout	Registered private fisheries	3,178
70,000	Eyed Ova	Brown Trout	South Australian Fly Fishers Association (SAFFA)	3,945

Commercial fisheries

Private fisheries

Registered private fisheries provide recreational fishing opportunities without being subject to angling licence provisions and angling regulations. On 30 June 2025, there were 12 registered private fisheries, which is unchanged from 2023-24.

Fish dealers

A person dealing in applicable freshwater fish must be a registered fish dealer under the Act. On 30 June 2025, there were 64 registered fish dealers, six more than in 2023-24.

Fish farms

A fish farm means any area on land or in inland waters used to farm, culture, hatch, rear, ranch, enhance or breed freshwater fish for commercial or research purposes (Table 7). This year the IFS:

- issued six (6) aquarium fish farm licences
- renewed eight (8) salmonid hatchery fish farm licences.

Table 7. Types of freshwater fish farms in operation at 30 June 2025

Species farmed	Number of fish farm licences
Eels/Salmonids	1
Salmonids	19
Freshwater Aquarium	34
Freshwater Aquarium/Salmonids	1

There are 21 licenced freshwater fish farms currently producing salmonids in Tasmania.

Commercial freshwater fishing licences

All 12 existing commercial freshwater fishing licences (CFFL) (eels) were renewed. Nine licences were actively fished.

The industry declared a held catch of 23,850.5 kg of wild eels, up 19.4 per cent compared to 19,637.5 kg for 2023-24.

Exemption permits and angling exemptions

Sixteen permits were issued exempting the holder from the requirement of an angling licence in support of educational and community programs.

Forty-six permits were issued exempting the holder from various sections of the Act in support of education, fish transport or scientific research.

CFFL (eel) holders who elect to receive an industry support allocation of free elver for restocking, typically receive a maximum of 50 kg per licence per year. An exemption permit was issued to each CFFL holder to allow the possession, transport, and release of juvenile eels into approved waters within their licenced catchment.

Review of the Permissible Imports List – Freshwater Aquarium Fish

Registered Fish Dealers are permitted to import live freshwater fish into Tasmania for use in the aquarium fish trade. The Permissible Imports List – Freshwater Aquarium Fish is a list of fish that may be imported by Registered Fish Dealers. The IFS only lists fish that present a low risk of establishment in the Tasmanian environment. Biosecurity Tasmania ensures that only fish on this list come through the state's monitored entry points. This list is reviewed annually before June each year.

In February 2025 the IFS updated the Permissible Imports List – Freshwater Aquarium Fish to add more species that are available to industry and amend names according to the latest scientific advice. These were considered through a risk assessment framework. Registered Fish Dealers and Biosecurity Tasmania were consulted as part of the review process. The current amended list contains 395 genus and species of fish that are permitted for import into Tasmania.

For the full list go to the IFS website
https://www.ifs.tas.gov.au/media/publications/Inland_Fisheries_Service_-_March_2025__Permissible_imports_list_freshwater_aq.pdf

Native fish conservation and management

An annual report of native fish management activities for 2024-25 was produced and published on the IFS website located at https://www.ifs.tas.gov.au/publications/reports. The report details the activities and results and where applicable, presents trends for the last ten years. Below is an overview of the 2024-25 activities.

Pedder galaxias monitoring

During April 2025, the Pedder galaxias population was surveyed at the Strathgordon water supply dam. Sixteen fine mesh fyke nets were set overnight, resulting in the capture of 89 Pedder galaxias, at 5.6 fish per net. This result is below the long-term range and is a continuation of an observed decline in abundance from 2023 to 2025. Three years of limited recruitment during 2022, 2023 and 2024 is the likely contributor to the reduced abundance of Pedder galaxias in 2025.

Woods and Arthurs lakes monitoring

During September 2024, in accordance with monitoring protocols for the Saddled galaxias and Arthurs paragalaxias, 24 fine-mesh fyke nets were set overnight within each lake. At Arthurs Lake, 17 Saddled galaxias were captured, consisting essentially of a single young of the year length cohort (40 - 60 mm) and just one adult fish. A total of 47 Arthurs paragalaxias were also captured, representing a catch effort of two fish per net. Young-of-the-year fish represented 72 per cent of the catch.

At Woods Lake, a total of 33 Saddled galaxias were captured during the September 2024 survey. This result was lower than expected, with no young-of-the-year fish captured. Consequently, a second survey was undertaken during February 2025. The result from this additional survey was unexpected, with a record high capture of 1,508 Saddled galaxias for a catch of 62.8 fish per net. A review of comparable surveys (i.e. effort and dates) at Woods Lake indicates the result was not related to the timing of the survey and therefore represents a real and significant increase in abundance. A single Arthurs paragalaxias was captured during the September 2024 survey and none during February 2025. This species remains present within Woods Lake but at very low abundance.

Penstock and Shannon lagoons monitoring

Monitoring of Penstock and Shannon lagoons for the Shannon and Great Lake paragalaxias was delayed until the second half of 2025.

Swan galaxias monitoring

NRM South, in partnership with CSIRO and IFS, continued with the delivery of the Commonwealth Government's funded 'Saving Native Species' project. During April and May 2025, a translocation of the Swan galaxias was undertaken at Newitts Creek, with fish sourced from both Blue Tier Creek and Rocka Rivulet. During March 2025, monitoring of the translocated populations of Swan galaxias at

Evercreech Rivulet and Delvin Creek (established March 2023), was completed. Four Swan galaxias, between 90 - 100 mm were captured at Evercreech Rivulet and six at Delvin Creek, all between 85 - 100 mm. Further monitoring of all newly established translocated populations is planned for 2025-26.

Populations within the upper St Pauls River and the eastern branch of Tinamirakuna / Macquarie River were monitored during March and May 2025.

A tributary of Woodside Rivulet, Cressy, was surveyed as part of a forest harvesting assessment, with no Swan galaxias found.

Clarence galaxias monitoring

During April 2025, Lake Knight (Wentworth Hills Lagoon) was surveyed by backpack electrofishing, with 13 Clarence galaxias captured, ranging in length from 90 - 135 mm.

During April 2024, the Clarence galaxias population at Clarence Lagoon was surveyed. This action was not reported for the 2023-24 period and is therefore included here. A total of 107 Clarence galaxias were captured from 12 fyke nets, signifying a relatively high abundance of fish. In addition, limited areas of Tibbs Plains Marsh were surveyed by electrofishing (April 2024), with no Clarence galaxias captured.

Golden galaxias monitoring

Annual Golden galaxias monitoring was conducted during April 2025. The catch of Golden galaxias from Lake Sorell declined to its lowest level since 2014, with 793 galaxiids recorded. This was less than the comparative catch effort recorded for Lake Crescent where 1,911 were captured. The result for Lake Crescent signified a marked improvement in catch effort over the 2023 and 2024 results.

Dwarf galaxias monitoring NW Tasmania

No actions were undertaken for the Dwarf galaxias during the 2024-25 period.

The Great Perch Search – estuary perch work with Victorian Fisheries Authority

In early September 2024, Jonah Yick from the IFS joined the Victorian Fisheries Authority for its annual "Great Perch Search." The program engages skilled volunteer recreational anglers to catch brood stock estuary perch using rod and line. Once captured, the fish are promptly air-transported to a marine hatchery in Narooma, ensuring they arrive in peak breeding condition. These fish support the development of captive breeding techniques for estuary perch, with offspring later stocked into Victorian waters. The fishing location for broodstock collection changes each year, with the 2024 survey conducted on the Glenelg River. The team caught around 100 estuary perch, from which the best 60 were selected for spawning at the hatchery. The resulting fingerlings were stocked back into Victorian waters in December 2024. Knowledge gained from this trip will also contribute to the development of an estuary perch recovery program in Tasmania.

eDNA surveys in the Arthur River

In late April, the IFS and CSIRO researcher Andrew Bissett collaborated to undertake environmental DNA (eDNA) water sampling in the Arthur River. eDNA was collected from several litres of water and will enable assessment of biodiversity within the river and surrounds, however the main species of interest were estuary perch. A total of 21 water samples were collected, across a distance of approximately 17.5 km from the mouth to above the confluence with the Frankland River.

The results of this survey will provide further insight into the distribution and habitat use of estuary perch within the river system. The results will also complement eDNA data collected by NRE Tas and CSIRO from several northern Tasmanian rivers, particularly the Ansons River and Ansons Bay, the last locations where estuary perch were confirmed. In addition, the eDNA information gathered from the Arthur River will provide a valuable baseline for assessing other rivers that may potentially support estuary perch populations.

Lamprey Disease Investigation: Baseline Survey - Tasmania

During 2024–25, as part of the New Zealand based *Emerging Aquatic Diseases* research program, the IFS and Cawthron Institute (NZ) undertook collaborative work to investigate diseases of the pouched lamprey (*Geotria australis*). Lamprey collected during 2023 from the Meadowbank Dam trap were examined for parasites by Dr Jerusha Bennett (University of Otago) and Dr Kate Hutson (Cawthron Institute). Numerous parasites were identified on Tasmanian lamprey, including leeches, cestodes, nematodes and trematodes, many of which represent new host records not previously reported. A further 30 lamprey were also collected from the Meadowbank Dam fish trap for microbiology and parasitology assessment, processed by Dr Hutson and Professor Andy Barnes (University of Queensland). Ongoing monitoring of Tasmanian lamprey will help determine whether they may be vulnerable to reddening syndrome under changing environmental conditions.

For further information contact Dr. Kate Hutson - kate.hutson@cawthron.org.nz

Elver and lamprey

A total of 274 kg of lamprey caught in the Meadowbank Dam trap were released into Meadowbank Lake. A total of 623 kg of elver (juvenile eel) were caught in the Meadowbank Dam trap and 528 kg from the Trevallyn Tailrace. A total of 170 kg of elvers were stocked into public waters (Table 8), with 400 kg allocated to Commercial Freshwater Fishing Licence (CFFL) holders (Table 9) and the excess elver were released back into the Trevallyn Tailrace.

Table 8. Public waters stocked with elver by the Inland Fisheries Service in 2024-25

Water	Kg stocked	Elver per kg	Number of elver stocked	T - Trevallyn M - Meadowbank
Meadowbank Lake	240	290	69,600	M
Lake Burbury	58	653	37,874	T
Lake Rowallan	25	562	14,050	T
South Esk River	130	512	66,560	T
Lake Pieman	75	562	42,150	T

CFFL (eel) holders who elect to receive an industry support allocation of free elver for restocking, typically receive a maximum of 50 kg per licence per year.

An exemption permit was issued to each CFFL holder to allow the possession, transport, and release of juvenile eels into approved waters within their licenced catchment.

The following CFFL holders received the following allocation of free elver as part of the industry support program.

Table 9. Elver allocation for CFFL holders

Licence number	Elver kg received
1	50
6	50
9	50
21	50
22	50
24	50
26	50

Pest fish management

Redfin perch – Four Springs Lake

In late April 2025, the IFS received a report from an angler who caught a large redfin perch (*Perca fluviatilis*) in Four Springs Lake. This was concerning, as the lake is considered to be free of redfin perch, although they are known to occur downstream. The fish was frozen and handed to the IFS for investigation. Otoliths were removed and analysed by IMAS researcher Dr Pete Coulson, who determined the fish was approximately nine years old.

In response, the IFS conducted a two-day survey during early May 2025 using boat electrofishing, box traps, and fine mesh fyke nets. A total of 4.5 hours of electrofishing was completed around the lake's perimeter, along with the overnight deployment of 30 box traps and 12 fyke nets. Survey effort targeted habitats suitable for both juvenile and adult redfin perch. No redfin perch were captured and the intensive effort suggests the species is not established in Four Springs Lake and that the captured fish was likely an isolated individual.

Redfin perch - Bronte Lagoon

In December 2024, the IFS received a report of possible redfin perch in Bronte Lagoon. While the lagoon is considered free of redfin perch, they are known to occur in the neighbouring Bradys chain of lakes. In January 2025, an extensive boat electrofishing survey was conducted, with no redfin perch detected. A follow-up netting survey in April, involving the overnight set of 30 box traps and 12 fine mesh fyke nets, also returned no captures. No further reports of redfin perch have been received since the initial sighting. Although their presence in Bronte Lagoon has not been confirmed, the IFS urges anglers to remain vigilant and report any suspected sightings or captures.

Redfin perch – Jordan River baseline biological research

IMAS researchers are working with the IFS to better understand the life cycle of redfin perch in the Jordan River. This study uses samples collected by IFS staff from August 2023 to July 2024 and will provide information on the spawning time and duration. In addition, the age and length composition and growth trends for the Jordan River population could be used in managing new incursions of this species. A scientific peer reviewed manuscript is currently being prepared for publication, which will highlight the findings from this study in comparison with other redfin populations around Tasmania.

Tench - Hearne Lagoon and Ripple Creek

In January 2024, a degraded fish carcass was found on the banks of Hearne Lagoon (a private fishery) and reported to the IFS. The fish was confirmed as tench (*Tinca tinca*), a species not previously recorded from the upper Shannon River catchment. The source population was later detected in April 2024 in a farm dam on Ripple Creek, about seven kilometers upstream of Hearne Lagoon. In May 2024, the dam was partially drained and treated with the selective fish toxicant rotenone. In early June, all nine farm dams along Ripple Creek between the source population and Hearne Lagoon were assessed. Due to high rainfall at the time, only the two dams located immediately downstream of the source were able to be treated with rotenone.

In January 2025, the source dam and the two treated downstream dams were re-surveyed to confirm eradication success. Five box traps and four fine mesh fyke nets were set overnight, along with backpack electrofishing. No tench were detected, confirming eradication at those sites. However, complete eradication of tench from the upper Shannon catchment is considered unlikely, and future efforts will focus on population management.

Strategic goal:
The Lake Sorell recreational fishery is restored

After an intensive 28-year physical removal program, European carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) have been functionally eradicated from Lake Sorell and consequently Tasmania. The IFS will monitor Lake Sorell to confirm this status, with educational campaigns to be delivered to raise awareness of the threats invasive species pose to Tasmania.

A juvenile carp survey was conducted at Lake Sorell from 3 – 7 March 2025, with eels, brown trout, golden galaxias and shrimp captured. No carp were captured or observed.

Further details of activities are published in the Carp Management Program (CMP) Annual Report 2022-23 located at https://www.ifs.tas.gov.au/publications/

To support the recreational fishery, two hundred and twenty-six (150 males and 76 females) wild rainbow trout were stocked into Lake Sorell during 2024, from the Liawenee canal trap.

Annual monitoring of the golden galaxias population was undertaken (refer Native Fish Conservation and Management).

In March 2025 the IFS conducted monitoring at Lake Sorell to measure the success of recent trout recruitment events.

The results from this work were positive with good numbers of brown trout fry found in and around the spawning creeks. Fry were also found spread out across rocky and weedy habitat around the entire lake.

There were also a number of trout ranging from 90 mm to 140 mm found, which indicates good recruitment and survival from the 2023 spawning season.

Strategic goal:
We maintain our reputation as a world-class recreational trout fishery and increase participation

Angler survey

The annual Angler Postal Survey (APS) obtains a range of data about the recreational fishery that is used to assist fishery management. The survey in its current form has been operating since 1986. The APS is a paper questionnaire mailed out at the end of the angling season.

Due to the decreasing usage of postal mail, this methodology has not been producing sufficient responses to be statistically rigorous, so this year the IFS launched an email survey and ran it concurrently with the APS in paper/postal form.

The result from sending 4,500 email questionnaires to randomly selected licence holders was 724 respondents. There were 4,500 paper questionnaires sent by post to recipients randomly selected from the licence database. The recipients from the emailed survey were excluded from the licence database prior to this selection. There were 417 respondents to the postal send out, this is the lowest number in the surveys 39 year history and reflects the continued decline in respondents over the last 10 years.

A report comparing the two types of survey will be produced and from 2025-26 only the email survey will be conducted.

The results, including estimates of the catch rate, angling effort and number of anglers fishing are shown in Tables 10 and 11. *Catch rate = all fish species combined, expressed as fish per angler per day. Ranking is based on angler numbers.

Table 10. Ranking of lake fisheries by participation results of the 2024-25 Angler Survey

Ranking	Email survey			Paper postal survey		
	Lake	Catch rate*	Angler numbers	Lake	Catch rate*	Angler numbers
1	Yingina / Great Lake	1.40	4,783	Yingina / Great Lake	1.48	6,133
2	Arthurs Lake	0.67	4,750	Arthurs Lake	0.67	4,373
3	Penstock Lagoon	1.08	3,662	Penstock Lagoon	0.80	3,123
4	Little Pine Lagoon	0.46	2,639	Bronte Lagoon	1.12	3,123
5	Bronte Lagoon	0.81	2,408	Little Pine Lagoon	0.53	2,215
6	Woods Lake	1.77	1,880	Woods Lake	2.31	1,987
7	Bradys Lake	0.85	1,715	Bradys Lake	0.47	1,874
8	Four Springs Lake	0.82	1,682	Four Springs Lake	1.29	1,817
9	Lake Augusta	2.28	1,287	Huntsman Lake	1.35	1,419
10	Craigbourne Lake	0.83	1,122	Lake Echo	1.99	1,306
11	Dee Lagoon	0.77	1,023	Lake Sorell	0.47	1,079
12	Lake Ada	1.90	1,023	Dee Lagoon	0.88	1,079
13	Lake Crescent	0.61	957	Lake Leake	1.06	1,079
14	Lake Sorell	0.49	957	Lake Burbury	1.76	965
15	Talbots Lagoon	2.95	957	Talbots Lagoon	2.25	851

Table 11. Ranking of river fisheries by participation results of the 2024-25 Angler Survey

Ranking	Email survey			Paper postal survey		
	Lake	Catch	Angler numbers	Lake	Catch rate	Angler numbers
1	River Derwent	0.38	1,386	Mersey River	0.33	2,328
2	Tyenna River	1.75	1,221	River Derwent	0.90	1,817
3	Mersey River	0.60	1,188	South Esk River	0.58	1,533
4	South Esk River	0.97	1,122	Meander River	1.40	1,363
5	Brumbys Creek	0.66	924	Tyenna River	1.24	1,363
6	Meander River	1.70	858	Huon River	0.37	965
7	River Leven	0.29	528	Brumbies Creek	0.30	795
8	Tinamirakuna / Macquarie River	0.68	525	North Esk River	0.87	795
9	St Patricks River	0.93	462	St Patricks River	0.65	795
10	Huon River	0.15	396	River Leven	0.71	738

Results for Angler Survey 2021-22 to 2024-25 (lakes)

*Catch rate = all fish species combined, expressed as fish per angler per day

Table 12. Results for Angler Survey 2020-21 to 2024-25 (lakes)

Ranking	Email survey			Postal paper survey			Postal paper survey			Postal paper survey			Postal paper survey		
	Season 2024-25	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2024-25	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2023-24	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2022-23	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2021-22	Catch rate*	Total anglers
1	Yingina / Great Lake	1.40	4,783	Yingina / Great Lake	1.48	6,133	Yingina / Great Lake	1.64	7,468	Yingina / Great Lake	1.48	6,069	Yingina / Great Lake	1.67	7,223
2	Arthurs Lake	0.67	4,750	Arthurs Lake	0.67	4,373	Arthurs Lake	1.37	4,899	Arthurs Lake	1.27	4,812	Arthurs Lake	1.13	5,436
3	Penstock Lagoon	1.08	3,662	Penstock Lagoon	0.80	3,123	Penstock Lagoon	1.08	3,662	Little Pine Lagoon	1.17	2,861	Woods Lake	2.58	3,649
4	Little Pine Lagoon	0.46	2,639	Bronte Lagoon	1.12	3,123	Bronte Lagoon	1.78	3,377	Woods Lake	2.54	2,818	Penstock Lagoon	1.52	3,003
5	Bronte Lagoon	0.81	2,408	Little Pine Lagoon	0.53	2,215	Little Pine Lagoon	2.00	3,139	Penstock Lagoon	1.10	2,514	Four Springs Lake	1.68	2,813
6	Woods Lake	1.77	1,880	Woods Lake	2.31	1,987	Woods Lake	2.78	2,426	Bronte Lagoon	1.49	2,341	Little Pine Lagoon	1.60	2,813
7	Bradys Lake	0.85	1,715	Bradys Lake	0.47	1,874	Four Springs Lake	1.93	1,950	Four Springs Lake	1.39	2,254	Bronte Lagoon	1.49	2,509
8	Four Springs Lake	0.82	1,682	Four Springs Lake	1.29	1,817	Bradys Lake	0.89	1,855	Bradys Lake	1.08	2,124	Craigbourne Lake	0.51	2,167
9	Lake Augusta	2.28	1,287	Huntsman Lake	1.35	1,419	Lake Crescent	0.76	1,712	Lake Crescent	1.45	1,517	Bradys Lake	0.90	1,863
10	Craigbourne Lake	0.83	1,122	Lake Echo	1.99	1,306	Tooms Lake	0.84	1,379	Huntsman Lake	1.04	1,300	Lake Echo	1.14	1,254
11	Dee Lagoon	0.77	1,023	Lake Sorell	0.47	1,079	Craigbourne Lake	1.06	1,379	Craigbourne Lake	0.81	1,257	Lake Leake	1.3	1,216
12	Lake Ada	1.90	1,023	Dee Lagoon	0.88	1,079	Lake Echo	2.23	1,284	Dee Lagoon	0.93	1,170	Huntsman Lake	1.21	1,102
13	Lake Crescent	0.61	957	Lake Leake	1.06	1,079	Lake Leake	0.89	1,141	Lake Leake	1.95	1,083	Lake Pedder	1.75	1,064
14	Lake Sorell	0.49	957	Lake Burbury	1.76	965	Huntsman Lake	1.25	1,046	Brushy Lagoon	1.11	1,040	Brushy Lagoon	0.76	950
15	Talbots Lagoon	2.95	957	Talbots Lagoon	2.25	851	Dee Lagoon	1.06	951	Lake Echo	1.68	867	Dee Lagoon	0.83	722

Results for Angler Survey 2021-22 to 2024-25 (rivers)

*Catch rate = all fish species combined, expressed as fish per angler per day

Table 13. Results for Angler Postal 2020-21 to 2024-25 (rivers)

Ranking	Email survey			Postal paper survey			Postal paper survey			Postal paper survey			Postal paper survey		
	Season 2024-25	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2024-25	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2023-24	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2022-23	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2021-22	Catch rate*	Total anglers
1	River Derwent	0.38	1,386	Mersey River	0.33	2,328	River Derwent	0.62	2,854	Meander River	0.70	2,709	River Derwent	0.52	2,889
2	Tyenna River	1.75	1,221	River Derwent	0.90	1,817	Mersey River	0.83	2,140	South Esk River	1.38	2,159	Mersey River	2.39	2,471
3	Mersey River	0.6	1,188	South Esk River	0.58	1,533	Meander River	1.13	1,664	Mersey River	0.94	2,159	South Esk River	1.05	2,395
4	South Esk River	0.97	1,122	Meander River	1.40	1,363	Tyenna River	2.39	1,617	River Derwent	0.71	1,947	Meander River	1.20	1,977
5	Brumbys Creek	0.66	924	Tyenna River	1.24	1,363	South Esk River	1.33	1,569	Brumbys Creek	0.33	1,354	Tyenna River	1.94	1,672
6	Meander River	1.7	858	Huon River	0.37	965	Brumbys Creek	0.68	1,094	Tyenna River	3.01	1,143	Brumbys Creek	0.72	1,368
7	River Leven	0.29	528	Brumbies Creek	0.30	795	Huon River	0.25	903	St Patricks River	1.89	1,100	St Patricks River	2.61	1,254
8	Tinamirakuna / Macquarie River	0.68	525	North Esk River	0.87	795	St Patricks River	1.04	856	Huon River	0.58	804	North Esk River	0.51	1,064
9	St Patricks River	0.93	462	St Patricks River	0.65	795	Tinamirakuna / Macquarie River	0.83	713	North Esk River	1.44	719	River Leven	0.69	988
10	Huon River	0.15	396	River Leven	0.71	738	North Esk River	0.87	523	Tinamirakuna / Macquarie River	0.51	635	Tinamirakuna / Macquarie River	1.80	950

Creel Data Summary 2024-25

During routine compliance patrols, 2,787 freshwater anglers across the state were interviewed about their daily fishing activities. Interviews included both anglers preparing to fish and those who had already been fishing for several hours. The collated data was used to summarise anglers' catches. The following table presents this information for the fifteen waters with the highest creel interviews. To ensure accuracy, only records from anglers who fished for three or more hours were included. Fishing effort was standardised to represent a full day of fishing, defined as six hours. Records for undersized trout were not included but on average, undersized brown trout represented six per cent and rainbow trout eleven per cent, with naturally recruiting waters such as Yingina / Great Lake, Lake Burbury, Woods Lake and Lake Mackintosh with the highest number of undersized brown trout and Craigbourne Lake for rainbow trout.

Table 14. Summary of creel data from angler interviews during routine compliance activities

Location	Fishing Effort Data			Brown Trout			Rainbow Trout		
	Total Records	Total Records >= 3 hours	Fishing effort as days	Number brown trout captured	Catch per day - brown trout	% sized brown trout released	Number rainbow trout captured	Catch per day - rainbow trout	% sized rainbow trout released
Yingina / Great Lake	295	135	169	113	0.7	35	42	0.2	19
Four Springs Lake	243	92	120	179	1.5	51	126	1	63
Craigbourne Lake	139	35	39	8	0.2	13	38	1	0
Lake Burbury	137	90	116	97	0.8	13	49	0.4	4
Penstock Lagoon	123	57	58	96	1.6	70	5	0.1	40
Woods Lake	107	39	41	75	1.8	29	0	0	NA
Bronte Lagoon	101	36	30	10	0.3	10	2	0.1	0
Arthurs Lake	95	48	48	40	0.8	13	0	0	NA
South Riana Lake	95	13	18	33	1.8	45	0	0	NA
River Derwent	91	24	27	17	0.6	6	0	0	NA
Lake Mackintosh	86	55	95	118	1.2	44	12	0.1	8
Lake Sorell	84	33	36	49	1.4	20	1	0	0
Brumbys Creek	77	13	17	3	0.2	33	4	0.2	25
Lake Crescent	64	23	24	12	0.5	33	1	0	100
Tungatinah Lagoon	65	18	28	3	0.1	33	9	0.3	11
Average	**120**	**47hrs**	**58 days**	**57**	**0.9**	**30%**	**19**	**0.2**	**25%**

Anglers Access Program

The Anglers Access program transitioned this year with the retirement of Neil Morrow, who pioneered the program with the Brumby's Creek project in 2007. Since then the program has expanded to cover 350 km of river frontage with over 1,400 pieces of Anglers Access infrastructure statewide. The success of the Anglers Access program to date is testament to the hard work and dedication of Neil over an 18-year period.

September 2024 saw unprecedented statewide storms that caused significant damage to Anglers Access infrastructure in the north and northwest of the state. Numerous fallen trees needed to be cleared from the newly commissioned Four Springs walking track, and at Talbots Lagoon. Significant flood damage occurring at Anglers Access sites on the Leven, Meander and Mersey catchments also required repair.

In conjunction with TasWater, upgrades were completed around Curries River Reservoir to roads, parking areas, access tracks and launching areas on both sides of the causeway, and a new walking track was established on the eastern shore of the Guide Dam.

Anglers Access brochures and fact sheets have been continuously updated to ensure contemporary and accurate information for anglers, and a new fact sheet has been produced for Lake Mikany.

In collaboration with SFM Lenah Estate and the Derwent Catchment Project, over 1,500 trees were replanted on the bank of the Tyenna River to assist with streamside shading and bank stabilisation after previous willow removal works.

Improvements and maintenance to key fishery access roads, walking tracks, public toilets has been completed statewide along with control of declared weeds inhibiting access.

The remaining $51,588 funds from the 2021 $1 million Policy Commitment from the State Government, have been rolled into the 2025-26 financial year to facilitate upcoming projects.

Neil Morrow – Project Manager (Anglers Access) 2008 - 2025

Marketing, communication, and promotions

Throughout 2024-25, staff from the IFS attended and / or presented at 53 angling clubs and association meetings.

In addition, the IFS provided support, in the form of attendance and supply of fish to five junior angling events held at the state's three recognised junior angling dams during 2024-25.

Website and Instagram

The IFS website remained the primary channel for providing information to our stakeholder base, with educational and promotional material posted as well as 127 news stories.

The IFS Instagram site was mainly used for promotional trout fishing posts, with some general fishery management matters included. During the 2024-25 period, account followers increased by 10.3 per cent to 3,027.

Angler Diary App

The Angler Diary App is a feature of the Infish mobile app, providing anglers an easy way to record their fishing effort and catch. It allows anglers to provide information to help manage the fishery. There were 2,746 entries from 331 anglers at 139 locations, representing a 13.2 per cent increase in the number of records compared to the previous period.

National Gone Fishing Day

On Sunday 13 October 2024, national Gone Fishing Day was an angling licence free day across the state. Fishing opportunities for junior angling were coordinated through local angling clubs and supported by Anglers Alliance Tasmania and the IFS.

Fish were tagged for the Hydro Tasmania / Cressy Trout Expo at Brumbys Creek. Many families and first-time anglers were in attendance. Over 1,000 people attended and plenty of fish caught. Nine lucky anglers managed to catch a $50 tagged fish.

Trout Weekend 2025

Unfortunately, Trout Weekend 2025 was cancelled. Unseasonably low inflows into Lake Augusta in the lead up to Trout Weekend, meant brown trout could not be captured in the Liawenee Canal fish trap. The decision to cancel was based on holding available water until later in the season and prioritising the supply of brown trout for stocking assisted fisheries, over holding Trout Weekend 2025. This decision paid off, with most assisted fisheries stocked over the closed season.

Events supported

July 2024

- Ulverstone Anglers Club, Guest Speaker (Ulverstone)
- Van Diemen Fly Fishers Club, Guest Speaker (Launceston)
- North West Fly Fishers, Talbots Lagoon
- Quamby Fly Fishers open day at Meander
- New Norfolk Licensed Anglers Association, Guest Speaker (New Norfolk)
- Bridgewater Anglers Association Annual General Meeting, Speaker (Claremont)

August 2024

- The Great Perch Search, IFS Representative (Glenelg River, Victoria)
- Williams Outdoors Shop promotional event – Guest Speaker (New Norfolk)
- Cornelius Competition Memorial Fishing, Speaker (Bronte Lagoon)
- Tasmanian Fly Fishers Club, Guest Speaker (Launceston)
- Taylors Dam Junior Fishing Day – IFS Representative
- Anglers Alliance Tasmania, Guest Speaker (Miena)

September 2024

- Bothwell District High School River Clyde Field Trip, Guest Speaker (Bothwell)
- Trout Guides and Lodges Tasmania AGM – Guest Speaker (Miena)
- North West Fly Fishers Club Meeting – Guest Speaker (Burnie)
- VFA Commercial Eel Fisher Workshop - Presented (Queenscliffe)
- Talk Wild Trout Conference 2024 – IFS Representative (Mansfield)
- Kingborough Angling Club – Guest Speaker (Kingston)
- Inland Fisheries Advisory Council, Presentation (New Norfolk)

October 2024

- National Gone Fishing Day (Brumbys Creek, Taylors Dam, Bushy Park)
- Bridgewater Anglers Association, Guest Speaker (Claremont)
- Yingina / Great Lake Tie In – IFS Representative (Miena)
- North West Fly Fishers Expo - IFS Representative (Ridgley)

November 2024

- Cawthron Institute Update on kanakana/lamprey disease investigation in New Zealand and Tasmania, Virtual Guest Speaker (Nelson, New Zealand)
- Australian Society for Fish Biology Conference, Presenter (Newcastle, NSW)
- Australian Society for Fish Biology AGM (Newcastle, NSW)
- Australian Society for Fish Biology Alien Fishes Committee meeting, Co-chair (Newcastle, NSW)
- NRE Tas. Recreational Fishing Forums, Guest Speaker (Sandy Bay)
- Quamby Fly Fishers Club – Guest Speaker (Meander)
- Highlands Bushfest – IFS Representatives (Bothwell)
- Break O' Day Angling Club – Guest Speaker (St Helens)
- Devonport Fly Fishing Club – Guest Speaker (Devonport)

December 2024

- Inland Fisheries Advisory Council, Presentation (New Norfolk)
- Ulverstone Anglers Ladies Day and Kids Day – IFS Representative (Penguin)
- NRE Tas. Recreational Fishing Forum – IFS Representative (Launceston)
- Penstock Lagoon Water Bug Survey – IFS Representative (Penstock Lagoon)

January 2025

- Bronte Fly Fishing School – Guest Speaker
- Anglers Alliance Tasmania – Shallow Waters Project Workshop (Penstock Lagoon)

February 2025

- Penguin Angling Club – Guest Speaker (Penguin)
- Westbury Club - Guest Speaker (Westbury)

March 2025

- Anglers Alliance Tasmania, Guest Speaker (Miena)
- Australasians Police and Emergency Services Games – Medal Presentation (Miena)
- Inland Fisheries Advisory Council, Presentation (New Norfolk)

May 2025

- Agfest 2025 (Carrick)
- Clarendon House Fly Fishing Museum Opening – IFS Representative (Clarendon)
- Inland Fisheries Advisory Council, Presentation (New Norfolk)

June 2025

- Cawthron Institute Emerging Aquatic Diseases Programme Science Update and the kanakana (lamprey) reddening syndrome workshop, Presentation (Nelson, New Zealand)
- Joint NRE Fisheries Tas and IFS student fishing clinic, IFS Representative (New Norfolk)
- Southern Tasmanian Licensed Anglers Association AGM, Guest Speaker (Claremont)
- Launceston Angling Club Stick Competition – IFS Representative (Tullah)
- Longford Angling Club AGM – Guest Speaker – (Longford)
- Anglers Alliance Tasmania – Guest Speaker (Miena)
- Quamby Fly Fishers – Guest Speaker (Meander)

Strategic goal:
We have advocated and acted on behalf of freshwater ecosystems

Tyenna River Recovery Plan

The IFS collaborated with the Derwent Catchment Project (DCP) to implement the Tyenna River Recovery Plan. The IFS provides annual funding of $11,000 cash and in-kind support. The 10-year recovery plan for the river has progressed with willow removal in the upper catchment which is almost complete and progressing downstream of Maydena. Upstream of Maydena, timber debris has been removed from the river and replanting the riparian zone with native vegetation has commenced. Willow Warriors volunteers, anglers and community groups including kayakers provide an important labour source for working bees. In support of this important work the IFS entered into a MoU with SFM Forest Management to create 40 m riparian buffer zones on plantations that pre-date the Forest Practices Code.

Clean Up Australia Business Clean Up Day

IFS staff participated in Clean Up Australia Business Clean Up Day. The River Derwent and Brushy Lagoon were the focus for clean up this year.

Lakes Sorell and Crescent Water Management Plan 2005 review

The IFS is a member of the Consultative Group participating in the statutory review of the lakes *Sorell and Crescent Water Management Plan 2005*. In consultation with NRE Tasmania, the IFS continues to maintain responsibility for managing water releases between Lake Sorell and Lake Crescent in support of desired environmental outcomes outlined in the Management Plan.

National Freshwater Vertebrate and Invertebrate Working Group

The IFS represented Tasmania on the working group participating in several meetings through the year.

Rural Water Use Strategy

The IFS continued to provide feedback on the draft Rural Water Use Strategy.

Rural Water Roundtable

The IFS was represented on the committee.

IFS Sustainability Group

The IFS has developed a sustainability group consisting of four staff members. The group meets monthly to discuss ways in which the IFS can help to improve the environmental sustainability of our operations.

Strategic goal:
The Inland Fisheries Service is respected and valued as a responsive, proactive, accessible and dynamic organisation

Building and reviewing strategic partnerships

The existing funding Deed between the IFS and Anglers Alliance Tasmania was replaced with a three year funding agreement in September 2024 as part of the Government's 2024 policy commitment. Funding is being provided to AAT to:

- Provide support to, and where possible enter supply agreements for fish supply with commercial hatcheries for junior fishing education programs.
- Ongoing management of a network of existing webcams so that anglers can check the weather conditions for free.
- Installation and ongoing maintenance of additional webcams at other high visitation fishing waters.
- Meeting approved operational costs related to the administration of Anglers Alliance Tasmania.
- Contributions to high priority research projects.
- Facilitating communication between the IFS and anglers fishing Tasmanian inland waters.
- Providing the IFS an opportunity to attend quarterly AAT committee meetings.
- Providing feedback on IFS initiatives.
- Seeking funding opportunities with the IFS and other bodies to develop and improve the inland recreational fishery, access to the fishery and improvement to community amenities at high visitation fishing waters.
- Working with the IFS on marketing and promoting the fishery and other initiatives aimed at increasing participation in recreational fishing.
- Coordinating and managing the administration and operation of the Tasmanian Angling Hall of Fame.

Throughout 2024-25 the IFS maintained MoU with our key stakeholders:

- Births Deaths and Marriages, Department of Justice
- Client Update, Services, Service Tasmania
- Forico Pty Limited
- Hydro Tasmania
- SFM Forest Management
- Tasmanian Irrigation
- Van Dairy Group

The IFS remains a member of 26Ten.

Scientific and technical advice

The IFS provided a range of advice on environmental and technical issues to a range of stakeholders and professional partnerships. These included NRE Tas, Forest Practices Authority, Hydro Tasmania, Sustainable Timber Tasmania and Tasmanian Irrigation across a range of projects.

IFS involvement with State and National policy and working groups

Tasmanian Australian Society for Fish Biology (ASFB) State Committee

Represented on the committee.

ASFB Alien Fishes Committee

Tasmanian State Representative.

ASFB Threatened Fishes Committee

Tasmanian State Representative.

ASFB Mentoring Program for Junior Fisheries Managers

Senior Fisheries Manager Representative

National Strategy for non-indigenous freshwater fish and invertebrates meeting

Represented Tasmania.

Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania Child and Youth Safety

Represented on the committee.

Right to Information enquiries

The IFS received one right to information enquiry.

Staff support and development

The IFS is responsible for staff performance, wellbeing, safety and completed performance management reviews. A range of training resources were made available to staff during the year including:

- Resilience and Wellbeing
- Mental Health First Aid Training
- Psychosocial Education
- Neurodiversity
- Managing High Conflict Personalities
- Managing Difficult Situations
- Burnout, Self-care, Quiet Rebellion and Sensuality
- Accidental Counsellor
- Email Ninja Course
- Keeping Children Safe and Child Safety Training
- Working with Challenging Customers and Situations
- SafeT Report Training
- Cyber Security Training
- Client Occupational Safety and Situational Awareness Training
- PDP Online Course for Leaders, Managers and Supervisors and Development Planning PDP e-learning
- Respectful Workplace Training
- Operate 4WD Vehicles on Unsealed Roads and Recover 4WD Vehicles
- Excel Training
- ANZCCART ComPass Animal Welfare Basic Training Course
- Authorised Officers Course Tiers 2 and 3
- MAST Authorised Officers Course
- Lead Auditor Course
- Reportable Conduct Training
- Emergency Warden and Chief Warden Training

Refresher first-aid courses were completed, and voluntary flu and COVID-19 vaccinations supported.

There were monthly meetings for staff and managers as forums for communication and operational efficiencies.

Publications

- Arthurs Lake Fisheries Performance Assessment Surveys 2022 and 2023
- Arthurs Lake Electrofishing Survey December 2023
- Native Fish Conservation Annual Report 2023-24
- Inland Fisheries Service Compliance Annual Report 2023-24
- Inland Fisheries Service Annual Report 2023-24
- Tooms Lake Fisheries Performance Technical Report November 2023
- Lake Sorell Fisheries Performance Assessment April 2024
- Lake Crescent Fishery Performance Assessment March 2024
- Four Springs Lake Fishery Performance Assessment July 2023
- Anglers Access Program – Information for Landowners
- Inland Fisheries Advisory Council Terms of Reference
- Mountain River Redfin Perch Report 2023
- Inland Fisheries Service – Permissible Imports List – Freshwater Aquarium Fish
- Arthur River Estuary Perch Population Assessment December 2023
- Little Pine Lagoon Fisheries Performance Assessment Overview October 2024
- Tasmanian Inland Fishing Code 2025-26
- **Anglers Access Fact Sheets:** Lake Crescent Fact Sheet 2024, St Clair Lagoon Fact Sheet 2024, Pet Reservoir Fact Sheet 2024, Pine Tier Lagoon Fact Sheet 2024, Blackmans Lagoon Fact Sheet 2024, Lake Fergus Anglers Access Program Fact Sheet 2024, Talbots Lagoon Anglers Access Program Fact Sheet – Edition 7 2024, Arthurs River Fact Sheet 2024, Clarence Lagoon Fact Sheet 2024, Lake Sorell Fact Sheet 2024, South Riana Fact Sheet 2024, Mossy Marsh Pond Fact Sheet 2024, Pump Pond Anglers Access Fact Sheet 2024, Lake Kara Anglers Access Fact Sheet 2024, Lake Mikany Anglers Access Program Brochure Fact Sheet – Edition 1 2024, Curries River Reservoir Fact Sheet 2024, Camden Lack Fact Sheet – Edition 4 2024
- **Anglers Access Program Brochures:** Bronte Lagoon Anglers Access Program Brochure – Edition 6, South Esk River Anglers Access Program Brochure – Edition 5 2025, Bradys Lake, Lake Binney and Tungatinah Lagoon Anglers Access Program Brochure – Edition 9 2025, Yingina / Great Lake Anglers Access Program Brochure – Edition 7 2025, Penstock Lagoona Anglers Access Program Brochure – Edition 8 2025, River Derwent Anglers Access Program Brochure – Edition 5 2025, Talbots Lagoon Anglers Access Program Fact Sheet – Edition 8 2025, Lake Sorell Anglers Access Program Fact Sheet 2025, Lake Crescent Anglers Access Program Fact Sheet 2025

Staff publications/interviews

- Yick, J.L.; Van Wyk, B.; Haddy, J. The Tasmanian Estuary Perch Population - A Threatened Species? Fishes 2025, 10, 31.
- ABC Drive Hobart – cormorant interview (February 2025)
- ABC Central Coast – The Big Fish: Carp Eradication, it can work (March 2025)

Strategic goal:
The Inland Fisheries Service is financially sustainable

Finance and administration

The IFS uses corporate credit cards for operational purchases subject to departmental policies and guidelines.

At 30 June 2025, 13 cards were issued to staff with a combined credit limit of $110,000.

This year concluded with a net surplus from operations of $732,014 compared to a predicted budget surplus of $12,000. This improved result was mainly due to savings in staff and operational costs due to a deliberate decision by the Director to not backfill staff vacancies while workforce planning activities were completed, an associated decrease in operating expenses, receipt of unbudgeted external grant income and improved interest rates on term deposits.

A total of 394 five season licences were issued this year. The total number of five season licences issued was 2,748. The IFS recognises the total proceeds of these licences in the year of receipt. A total of $153,483 was received in 2024-25 for five-season licences of this amount $122,786 is applicable to future years. The IFS is holding a total of $351,139 of revenue applicable to future years.

Cash holdings decreased during the year by $1,550,614 mainly due to the timing of the maturity of the term deposits. Interest income increased by $47,433 compared to the previous year due to increased interest rates. Income from investment properties and other leases increased from $636,604 in 2023-24 to $649,588 in 2024-25. The increase was based on the application of CPI in 2024-25.

At 30 June 2025, the IFS has nine telephone land lines, 14 mobile phones, 15 data packs, one iPad and one air card. The IFS also funds the data pack associated with the Liawenee Trap remote camera and the temperature sensor at the Salmon Ponds.

Asset management

IFS disposed of a property at Lake Crescent, one vehicle and three vessels in 2024-25. Eight vehicles were in the fleet consisting of two Toyota Landcruiser Flat trays, one Toyota Hilux, two Isuzu D-Max Crew and three Ford Ranger Dual Cabs. The vehicle fleet has a book value of $263,682 and an original cost of $389,896. There is a fleet of three vessels ranging from 4.2 m to 5.8 m which includes the electofishing vessel. The boat fleet had a combined purchase cost of $110,320 and a closing book value of $49,910 after depreciation.

Risk management

A risk management strategy is incorporated into the IFS Corporate Plan 2022-27 and operational and business plans that guide the annual activity program.

In addition, the Inland Fisheries Advisory Council review key risks and mitigation strategies at each meeting.

Grants, contributions, and contractors

The grant from the State Government to the IFS in the form of an Administered Payment via NRE Tas was $1,635,000. This amount consisted of the annual contribution of $1,235,000 and an additional $400,000 to meet Policy Commitments. The $400,000 was comprised of $250,000 for anglers access projects, $25,000 for the junior licence fee waiver, $50,000 for Tagged Trout Promotion, and $75,000 for Angling Alliance Tasmania funding.

As in previous years several local contractors were engaged to provide services including cleaning, building maintenance, electrical and plumbing. Contractors also provided security, field, fire, grounds, and air-conditioning maintenance. Tasmanian contractors were used for all trade services.

Angling licences

Angling licence distribution and payment

Angling licences are sold through private agents, Service Tasmania and online.

Renewals of angling licences are sent through direct mail and email to full-season licence holders. There were 5,614 renewal notices posted and 12,860 emailed, resulting in 11,144 anglers renewing.

Angling licence structure and fees

The Tasmanian Government is continuing to make junior angling licence fees free. Juniors from 14, up to and including 17 years of age can fish Tasmania's inland lakes and waterways with junior angling licences fee free.

This year the IFS introduced a Young Angler licence promotion to encourage the continuation of junior anglers through to adults, by subsidizing the full cost of an adult licence. Young adults aged from 18, up to and including 21 years of age were able to take advantage of this promotion.

Table 15. Tasmanian angling licence structure and fees for the past five years

Angling licence type	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
Adult licence	$91.50	$87.00	$79.50	$75.50	$75.50
Junior licence	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$12.00
Pensioner licence	$50.00	$48.00	$44.00	$41.50	$41.50
Senior Licence	$72.50	$69.00	$63.50	$60.00	$60.00
Young Adult Licence	$50.00	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
28 day licence	$72.50	$69.00	$63.50	$60.00	$60.00
7 day licence	$46.50	$44.50	$40.50	$38.50	$38.50
48 hour licence	$28.00	$26.50	$25.00	$23.00	$23.00
extra rod - adult	$18.50	$17.50	$17.00	$15.50	$15.50
extra rod - other	$9.00	$8.50	$8.00	$7.70	$7.70
Adult licence 5 season	$457.50	$436.00	$399.00	$360.00	$360.00
Senior licence 5 season	$362.50	$347.00	317.50	$290.00	$290.00
Pension licence 5 season	$250.00	$240.00	220.00	$200.00	$200.00

Trend in angling licences held

The number of angling licences held, including five-season licences was 24,166. This was a decrease of 7.7 per cent compared with 2023-24. Junior licence numbers increased again in 2024-25 by 3.6 per cent which is again mostly attributed to the government commitment to waive junior fees. The revenue from angling licence sales was $1,581,588 compared to $1,753,642 received for the 2023-24 season.

This season IFS introduced a Young Adult licence to target anglers aged between 18 – 21 years by discounting the adult licence by 45 per cent. For the 2024-25 season, 655 young adult licences were purchased.

Table 16. Number of angling licences held per licence category over the past five years

Angling licence type	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
Adult licence	9,049	10,507	11,069	11,502	11,557
Junior licence	2,022	1,950	1,725	1,510	1,016
Pensioner licence	5,496	5,760	5,902	6,125	6,180
Young Adult Licence	655	-	-	-	-
Senior licence	2,241	2,341	2,174	2,029	1,896
28 day licence	702	1,021	959	832	612
7 day licence	1,368	1,528	1,669	1,414	1,294
48 hour licence	2,633	2,994	2,667	2,252	2,279
Total	**24,166**	**26,101**	**26,165**	**25,664**	**24,834**

Angler origin

Table 17. Number of licences issued to Tasmanian, interstate, and overseas anglers in 2024-25

Angling licence type	Tasmanian	Interstate	International	Total
Adult licence	7,430	499	14	7,943
Junior licence	1,825	191	4	2,020
Pensioner licence	4,217	348	-	4,565
Senior Licence	1,334	468	-	1,802
Young Adult Licence	599	53	3	655
Adult licence 5 season	1,000	102	1	1,103
Pension licence 5 season	903	28	-	931
Senior licence 5 season	373	71	-	444
28 day licence	52	600	50	702
7 day licence	232	1,065	71	1,368
48 hour licence	1,612	911	110	2,633
Total	**19,577**	**4,336**	**253**	**24,166**

Table 18. Number of angling licences issued per country over the past five years

Country	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
Canada	20	17	11	3	0
France	11	11	6	1	3
Germany	14	19	23	2	3
Hong Kong	1	2	1	0	0
Ireland	3	2	3	0	0
Japan	13	7	3	0	1
Netherlands	2	2	2	2	0
New Zealand	22	14	21	1	0
Singapore	13	3	10	8	0
South Africa	2	1	2	0	0
Switzerland	6	8	6	0	0
United Kingdom	36	35	28	7	1
USA	82	109	76	10	3
Other	28	41	23	2	1
Total	**253**	**271**	**215**	**36**	**12**

Table 19. Number of licences held by Tasmanian, interstate and overseas anglers in the past five years

Angler origin	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
Tasmania	19,577	20,911	20,879	21,632	21,372
Victoria	1,561	1,844	1,998	1,688	1,652
New South Wales	1,119	1,269	1,393	1,035	748
Queensland	839	972	873	714	552
South Australia	295	304	293	242	164
Western Australia	360	351	330	168	151
Australian Capital Territory	102	122	117	94	148
Northern Territory	60	57	67	55	35
International	253	271	215	36	12
Total	**24,166**	**26,101**	**26,165**	**25,664**	**24,834**

Whitebait licence

The 2024 whitebait season opened on 1 October and closed on 11 November 2024. There were 618 whitebait licences sold for the six-week period compared to 761 in the previous year. The cost of a whitebait licence was $37.00. Total revenue from whitebait licences was $22,866.00 compared to $27,015.50 in 2023-24.

Financial Section

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 Budget $	2025 Actual $	2024 Actual $
Revenue from continuing opeartions				
Angling and Other Licence Fees	3	1,777,000	1,768,436	1,833,468
Grants - Administered Payment	4	1,635,000	1,635,000	1,616,000
External Grants and Reimbursements	2.1(a),4	272,000	544,970	270,805
Sales of goods and services	5	665,835	649,588	636,604
Interest Revenue	2.1(b)	100,000	221,225	173,792
Other Revenue	2.1(c),5	132,165	57,683	48,262
Total revenue from continuing operations		**4,582,000**	**4,876,902**	**4,578,931**
Net gain/(loss) on Sale of Non-Financial Assets	8	175,000	62,892	41,975
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation of Investment Property	2.1(d),10(b)	-	-	734,153
Total income from continuing operations		**4,757,000**	**4,939,794**	**5,355,059**
Expenses from continuing operations				
Employee Benefits	2.1 (e),6	2,925,000	2,579,007	2,614,575
Operating Costs	2.1(f),7	1,594,000	1,429,558	1,755,351
Depreciation Expenses	2.1(g),9(b)	226,000	199,215	172,147
Total expenses from continuing operations		**4,745,000**	**4,207,780**	**4,542,073**
Net result from continuing operations		**12,000**	**732,014**	**812,985**
Other comprehensive income				
Items that will not be reclassified to net result in susequent periods				
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation of Land		-	-	745,000
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation of Buildings		-	-	873,109
Total other comprehensive income		**-**	**-**	**1,618,109**
Comprehensive Result		**12,000**	**732,014**	**2,431,094**

This Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the accounts. Budget information refers to original estimates and has not been subject to audit. Explanations of material variances between budget and actual outcomes are provided in Note 2 of the accompanying notes.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

as at 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 Budget $	2025 Actual $	2024 Actual $
Financial assets				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2.2(a),15(b)	1,565,000	879,933	2,430,547
Investments	2.2(a),15(c)	1,322,000	2,936,236	326,764
Trade and Other Receivables	2.2(b),17	79,000	148,651	165,433
Total financial assets		**2,966,000**	**3,964,820**	**2,922,744**
Non-financial assets				
Property, Plant and Equipment	2.2(c),9	4,423,000	5,921,498	6,342,995
Infrastructure	9	824,000	939,889	969,117
Investment Property	2.2(d),10	4,010,000	4,775,000	4,775,000
Work in Progress	2.2(e)	-	137,674	-
Total non-financial assets		**9,257,000**	**11,774,061**	**12,087,112**
Total Assets		**12,223,000**	**15,738,881**	**15,009,856**
Liabilities				
Trade and Other Payables	2.2(f),19	100,000	156,357	190,088
Employee Benefits	14	906,000	749,163	718,420
Total Liabilities		**1,006,000**	**905,520**	**908,508**
Net Assets		**11,217,000**	**14,833,361**	**14,101,348**
Equity				
Reserves	2.2(g),11	4,280,000	5,897,895	5,897,895
Accumulated Funds	12	3,737,000	5,735,612	5,003,599
Contributed Capital	13	3,200,000	3,199,854	3,199,854
Total Equity		**11,217,000**	**14,833,361**	**14,101,348**

This Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the accounts. Budget information refers to original estimates and has not been subject to audit. Explanations of material variances between budget and actual outcomes are provided in Note 2 of the accompanying notes.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 Budget $	2025 Actual $	2024 Actual $
Cash Flows From Operating Activities				
Receipts from Customers		2,575,000	2,574,792	2,563,871
GST Received		147,000	154,135	188,269
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		(4,519,000)	(4,160,923)	(4,645,208)
GST Paid	2.3(a)	(80,000)	(108,618)	(91,031)
Receipts from Government	2.3(b)	1,907,000	2,205,222	1,886,805
Interest Received	2.3(c)	100,000	217,521	128,255
Net cash provided by (used) in operating activities	15(a)	**130,000**	**882,130**	**30,961**
Cash Flows From Investing Activities				
Payments for Plant, Equipment and Vessels	2.3(d)	(45,000)	(289,033)	(106,491)
Payments for Investment property		-	-	(30,847)
Proceeds from disposal of plant and equipment	2.3(e)	380,000	465,761	110,484
Payments for investments	2.3(f)	-	(5,899,014)	(1,727,184)
Proceeds from investments	2.3(f)	108,000	3,289,542	2,830,367
Net cash provided by (used) in investing activities		**443,000**	**(2,432,744)**	**1,076,329**
Net increase (decrease) in cash held		573,000	(1,550,614)	1,107,290
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		992,000	2,430,547	1,323,257
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the Reporting Period	15(b)	**1,565,000**	**879,933**	**2,430,547**

This Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the accounts. Budget information refers to original estimates and has not been subject to audit. Explanations of material variances between budget and actual outcomes are provided in Note 2 of the accompanying notes.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	Contributed Equity $	Reserves $	Accumulated Funds $	Total Equity $
Balance as at 1 July 2024		**3,199,854**	**5,897,895**	**5,003,599**	**14,101,348**
Net result	12	-	-	732,013	732,013
Other comprehensive income		-	-	-	-
Balance as at 30 June 2025		**3,199,854**	**5,897,895**	**5,735,612**	**14,833,361**

	Notes	Contributed Equity $	Reserves $	Accumulated Funds $	Total Equity $
Balance as at 1 July 2023		**3,199,854**	**4,279,786**	**4,190,614**	**11,670,254**
Net result	12	-	-	812,985	812,985
Other comprehensive income		-	1,618,109	-	1,618,109
Balance as at 30 June 2024		**3,199,854**	**5,897,895**	**5,003,599**	**14,101,348**

The Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the accounts.

Note 2.1 Statement of Comprehensive Income

Statement of Comprehensive Income variances are considered material where the variance exceeds the greater of 10 per cent of budget estimate.

	Note	Budget $'000	Actual $'000	Variance $'000	Variance %
External Grants and Reimbursements	2.1(a)	272	545	273	100%
Interest Revenue	2.1(b)	100	221	121	121%
Other Revenue	2.1(c)	132	58	(74)	(56%)
Net gain/(loss) on Sale of Non-Financial Assets	2.1(d)	175	63	(112)	(64%)
Employee Benefits	2.1(e)	2,925	2,579	(346)	(12%)
Operating Costs	2.1(f)	1,594	1,430	(164)	(10%)
Depreciation Expenses	2.1(g)	226	199	(27)	(12%)

2.1(a) Variance resulting from an un-budgeted grant contribution from the Australian Government Saving Native Species Program Fund for Swan galaxias conservation (in collaboration with NRM South), grant from University of Tasmania for gambusia research and other various funds.

2.1(b) Variance resulting from a higher than budgeted interest rates of term deposits investments.

2.1(c) Variance resulting from a reclassification of investment property rental and lease income from Other Revenue to Sales of Goods and Services.

2.1(d) Variance resulting from a loss following the disposal of a property at Lake Crescent, orginally purchased for the carp eradication program. The property was revalued in the previous financial year and had increased its fair value prior to the sale.

2.1(e) Variance resulting from a deliberate reduction in staffing throughout 2024-2025 to allow workforce planning activities to be completed.

2.1(f) Variance reflecting a change in operating level due to staffing and deferment of planned anglers access work.

2.1(g) Variance reflecting disposals of various assets including vessels and the property at Lake Crescent.

Note 2.2 Statement of Financial Position

Budget estimates for the 2024-25 Statement of Financial Position were compiled prior to the completion of the actual outcomes for 2023-24. As a result, the actual variance from the original budget will be impacted by the difference between the estimated and actual opening balances for 2023-24. The following variance analysis therefore includes major movements between 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2025 actual balances.

	Note	Budget $'000	2025 Actual $'000	2024 Actual $,000	Budget Variance $'000	Actual Variance $'000
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2.2(a)	1,565	880	2,431	(685)	(1,551)
Investments	2.2(a)	1,322	2,936	327	1,614	2,609
Trade and Other Receivables	2.2(b)	79	149	165	70	(16)
Property, Plant and Equipment	2.2(c)	4,423	5,921	6,343	1,498	(422)
Investment Property	2.2(d)	4,010	4,775	4,775	765	-
Work in Progress	2.2(e)	-	138	-	138	138
Trade and other Payables	2.2(f)	100	156	190	56	(34)
Reserves	2.2(g)	4,280	5,898	5,898	1,618	-

2.2(a) Variance of the Cash and Investments reflects the movement between these two items based on the timing of the investment and the maturity date.

2.2(b) Variance resulting from the timing of the invoicing and receipts of payments from customers.

2.2(c) Variance resulting from the disposals of the the Lake Crescent property, surplus vessels, an increase in work in progress relating to new vessels and a security system upgrade at the New Norfolk property.

2.2(d) Variance resulting due to property revaluation in 2023-24 which was not budgeted.

2.2(e) Variance resulting from the activities of constructing new work vessels and security system upgrade.

2.2(f) Variance resulted from the timing of the invoicing and making payments to suppliers.

2.2(g) Variance between budget and actual reflects revaluations of property, plant and equipment which were not budgeted.

Note 2.3 Statement of Cash Flows

Statement of Cash Flows variances are considered material where the variance is greater than 10 per cent of budget estimate.

	Note	Budget $'000	Actual $'000	Variance $'000	Variance %
GST Paid	2.3(a)	(80)	(109)	(29)	(36%)
Receipts from Government	2.3(b)	1,907	2,205	298	16%
Interest Received	2.3(c)	100	218	118	118%
Payments for Plant, Equipment and Vessels	2.3(d)	(45)	(289)	(244)	(542%)
Proceeds from disposal of plant and equipment	2.3(e)	380	466	86	23%
Payments for investments	2.3(f)	-	(5,899)	(5,899)	(100%)
Proceeds from investments	2.3(f)	108	3,290	3,182	2,946%

2.3(a) Variance resulting from a higher business activity level.

2.3(b) Variance resulting from an un-budgeted grant contribution from the Australian Government Saving Native Species Program Fund for Swan galaxias conservation (in collaboration with NRM South), grant from University of Tasmania for gambusia research and other various funds.

2.3(c) Variance resulting from higher interest rates on term deposits investments.

2.3(d) Variance reflecing an increased work in progress expenditure, primarily related to the new vessels and security system upgrade.

2.3(e) Variance reflecting higher than budgeted proceeds related to the disposal of vessels, a vehicle and operating property at Lake Crescent.

2.3(f) Variance reflecting the movement of the term deposits and cash based on the timing of the investment and date of maturity.

		2025	2024
Note 3	**Angling and Other Licence Revenue**	**$**	**$**
	Angling Licences	1,581,588	1,753,642
	Other Licences	160,967	56,834
	Permits and Registrations	25,881	22,992
		1,768,436	**1,833,468**

In 2013-2014 the IFS introduced a five-season licence. The IFS recognises the total proceeds of these licences in the year of receipt. A total of $153,483 was received in 2024-25 for five-season licences of this amount $122,786 is applicable to future years. The IFS is holding a total of $351,139 of revenue applicable to future years.

Note 4	**Grants**		
	Government Contribution - operating	1,635,000	1,616,000
	External Grants and Reimbursements	544,970	270,805
		2,179,970	**1,886,805**

Note 5	**Sales of goods and services**		
	Rents from operational properties	272,532	271,907
	Investment property rental	377,056	364,697
		649,588	**636,604**
	Other Revenue		
	General Sales & Miscellaneous Revenue	49,812	36,595
	Fines	7,871	11,667
		57,683	**48,262**

Note 6	**Employee Benefits**		
	Salaries	1,940,001	1,927,785
	Superannuation	328,041	325,410
	Leave	261,673	327,444
	Other	49,291	33,936
		2,579,007	**2,614,575**

		2025	2024
		$	$
Note 7	**Operating Costs**		
	Advertising Promotions	48,757	27,076
	Audit Fees	25,000	22,700
	Conferences & Training	13,435	5,290
	Contract Services	100,604	635,554
	Contractors/Consultants	9,545	15,940
	Equipment Maintenance/Hire	9,824	4,997
	General Insurance	112,069	116,331
	Grants and Contributions	122,755	32,268
	Motor Vehicle Expenses	95,485	88,678
	Office Related Expenses	250,436	246,659
	Operating Expenses	221,226	184,523
	Printing / Publications	37,441	44,928
	Protective Clothing	5,434	7,084
	Rates and Property Costs	275,483	232,211
	Travel Expenses	82,151	74,874
	Vessel Costs	19,913	16,238
		1,429,558	**1,755,351**

Note 8	**Gains / (Losses) on Disposal of Assets**		
	Proceeds From the Disposal of Plant and Equipment	465,761	110,484
	Written Down Value of Disposed Assets	(402,869)	(68,509)
	Total Gain/(Loss) on Disposal	**62,892**	**41,975**

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025, continued

Note 9 (a) Property, Plant, Equipment and Infrastructure	2025 $	2024 $
Land at Fair Value *	1,865,000	1,950,000
	1,865,000	**1,950,000**
Buildings at Fair Value*	3,647,956	3,890,001
Less Accumulated Depreciation	87,874	-
	3,560,081	**3,890,001**
Motor Vehicles at Cost	389,896	381,679
Less Accumulated Depreciation	126,213	95,404
	263,682	**286,275**
Equipment at Cost	1,289,291	1,262,645
Less Accumulated Depreciation	1,106,198	1,081,859
	183,093	**180,786**
Vessels at Cost	183,320	271,689
Less Accumulated Depreciation	133,680	235,755
	49,640	**35,934**
Total property plant and Equipment	**5,921,497**	**6,342,995**
Infrastructure	1,169,043	1,169,043
Less Accumulated Depreciation	229,154	199,926
	939,889	**969,117**
Work in Progress at Cost		
Vessels at cost	105,832	-
Infrastructure at cost	31,842	-
Total	**137,674**	**-**
Total property, plant, equipment and infrastructure	**6,999,060**	**7,312,112**

* Valuations were derived from the analysis of market sales for different classes of properties and locality as at 30 June 2024.

Note 9 (b) Reconciliation of movements (including fair value levels)

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of each class of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the previous financial year are set out below. Carrying value means the net amount after deducting accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

2025	Land Level 2 (vacant land in active markets)	Buildings Level 2 (general office buildings)	Infrastructure	Motor Vehicles	Plant and Equipment	Vessels	Work In Progress	Total
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000
Balance 1 July	1,950	3,890	969	286	181	36	-	7,312
Additions	-	38	-	55	26	33	138	290
Disposals	(85)	(274)	-	(28)	-	(16)	-	(403)
Depreciation Expense	-	(94)	(29)	(49)	(24)	(3)	-	(199)
Revaluation increments (decrements)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carrying Amount 30 June	**1,865**	**3,560**	**940**	**264**	**183**	**50**	**138**	**7,000**

2024	Land Level 2 (vacant land in active markets)	Buildings Level 2 (general office buildings)	Infrastructure	Motor Vehicles	Plant and Equipment	Vessels	Work In Progress	Total
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000
Balance 1 July	1,205	3,005	999	371	204	44	-	5,828
Additions	-	68	-	38	-	-	-	106
Disposals	-	-	-	(65)	(2)	-	-	(67)
Depreciation Expense	-	(56)	(30)	(58)	(21)	(8)	-	(173)
Revaluation increments (decrements)	745	873	-	-	-	-	-	1,618
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carrying Amount 30 June	**1,950**	**3,890**	**969**	**286**	**181**	**36**	**0**	**7,312**

Note 10 (a) Investment Property

	2025	2024
	$	$
Carrying amount		
At valuation Previously	4,775,000	4,010,000
Revaluation Net	-	734,153
Additions, at cost	-	30,847
Total	**4,775,000**	**4,775,000**

Fair Value Measurement of Investment Properties

Investment properties consist of a property in West Hobart that operates as a kitchen and restaurant, and a property in Moonah that operates as a retail outlet and a bus depot which operates from the rear of a property in New Norfolk.

Values are based on valuations undertaken by Elders Valuation as at 30 June 2024.

(b) Amounts recognised in profit and loss for investment property

	2025	2024
Rental income	377,056	364,697
Direct operating expenses from property that generated rental income	(3,374)	-
Net gains(losses) from fair value adjustments	-	734,153
Total	**373,682**	**1,098,850**

(c) Leasing arrangements

The investment properties are leased to tenants under long term operating leases with rentals payable monthly. Minimum lease payments are non-cancellable operating leases of investment properties not recognised in the financial statements receivable as follows.

	2025	2024
	$	$
One Year or less	79,543	9,096
From one to five years	722,097	1,008,793
More than five years	-	-
Total	**801,640**	**1,017,889**

(d) Contractual obligations

At year end there were no contractual obligations of leasing any asset from external parties.

		2025	2024
		$	$
Note 11	**Reserves**		
	Asset Revaluation Reserve-Land	2,282,394	2,282,394
	Asset Revaluation Reserve-Buildings	3,615,501	3,615,501
		5,897,895	**5,897,895**
	Movements during the year:		
	Balance at the beginning of period	5,897,895	4,279,786
	Net change in valuations		
	Land	-	745,000
	Buildings	-	873,109
	Balance at the end of period	**5,897,895**	**5,897,895**
Note 12	**Accumulated Funds**		
	Opening Balance	5,003,599	4,190,614
	Net Surplus for the year	732,013	812,985
	Closing Balance	**5,735,612**	**5,003,599**

Note 13 **Contributed Capital**

Contributed capital represents the initial net amount of Assets and Liabilities when the IFS commenced reporting on an accrual basis from the commencement of the 2000-01 financial year:

	2025	2024
	$	$
Balance as at 1 July	3,199,854	3,199,854
Balance as at 30 June	**3,199,854**	**3,199,854**

Note 14	**(a) Employee Benefits**		
	Annual Leave	240,947	243,378
	Long Service Leave	426,028	507,662
	Accrued Salaries	82,188	(32,620)
	Total	**749,163**	**718,420**
	Settled within 12 months	361,952	264,441
	Settled in more than 12 months	387,211	453,979
		749,163	**718,420**

(b) Related party transactions

There are no material related party transactions with Key Management Personnel (KMP) including Cabinet Ministers, or their Close Family Members (CFM) or entities that are controlled or jointly controlled by KMP or CFM in 2025 $0 (2024 $0).

(c) Remuneration of key management personnel

	Short term benefits		Long term benefits		
2025	**Salary[1]**	**Other[2]**	**Superannuation[3]**	**Other[4]**	**Total**
	$'000	**$'000**	**$'000**		**$'000**
John Diggle - Retired at 11/09/2024	60	(28)	11	(7)	36
Ryan Wilkinson - appointed as Acting Director of Inland Fisheries from 01/07/2024 and the Director from 13/02/2025	186	12	22	6	226
Total	**246**	**(16)**	**33**	**(1)**	**262**

	Short-term benefits		Long-term benefits		
2024	**Salary[1]**	**Other[2]**	**Superannuation[3]**	**Other[4]**	**Total**
	$'000	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**
John Diggle - Director of Inland Fisheries re-appointment 14 October 2017	209	12	23	61	305
Ryan Wilkinson - Acting Director of Inland Fisheries appointed 13 March 2024	67	1	8	(2)	73
Total	**276**	**13**	**31**	**59**	**378**

1. All forms of consideration paid and payable for services rendered and compensated absences during the period.

2. Other short-term benefits include movements in annual leave as well as the cost of providing and maintaining vehicles including lease charges, fuel, car parking and the associated fringe benefits tax paid.

3. Based on *the Public Sector Superannuation Reform Act 2016.*

4. Other long-term benefits represent movements in annual leave, long service leave entitlements. Negative amounts represent more leave being taken, in a given year, than accrued.

		2025	2024
		$	$
Note 15	**(a) Reconciliation of Net Cash Used in Operating Activities to Surplus / (Deficit)**		
	Net Surplus (Deficit)	732,013	694,931
	Net (gain) loss on sale of non-financial assets	(62,892)	(41,975)
	Depreciation	199,215	172,147
	Revaluation adjustment for investment properties	-	(734,153)
	Change in Assets/Liabilities		
	Decrease (increase) in other assets	-	-
	Increase (decrease) in employee benefits	30,743	(54,477)
	Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	(33,731)	65,453
	(Increase) decrease in receivables	16,782	(70,965)
	Net cash gained (used) in operating activities	**882,130**	**30,961**

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash on hand and at the bank.

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to items in the statement of financial position as follows:

	2025	2024
	$	$
(b) Cash at Bank		
Working accounts	629,625	333,157
Short term deposits	250,308	2,097,390
	879,933	**2,430,547**
(c) Investments		
Term deposits	2,936,235	326,764
	2,936,235	**326,764**
(d) Corporate Credit Card		
Facility Available	110,000	110,000
Less Used/Committed	(5,178)	(4,734)
Balance unused	**104,822**	**105,266**

		2025	2024
		$	$
Note 16	**Trade and Other Receivables**		
	Sundry Debtors	139,731	155,496
	Net GST Receivable	8,920	9,937
		148,651	**165,433**
Note 17	**Trade and Other Payables Current**		
	Trade Creditors	104,799	190,088
	Accrued Expenses	51,558	-
		156,357	**190,088**

Note 18 Events subsequent to Balance date

The Director of Inland Fisheries is not aware of any matter or circumstance since the end of the financial year that has significant effect, or may significantly affect, the operations of the IFS, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the IFS in subsequent financial years.

Note 19 Financial Instruments

19.1 Risk Exposures

(a) Risk Management Policies

The IFS has exposure to the following risks from its use of financial instruments:

a. credit risk;

b. liquidity risk; and

c. market risk.

The Director has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Inland Fisheries Service's risk management framework. Risk management policies are established to identify and analyse risks faced by the Service, to set appropriate limits and controls, and to monitor risks and adherence to limits.

Risk Exposure	Measurement method
Credit Risk	Ageing analysis,earnings at risk
Liquidity risk	Sensitivity analysis
Market risk	Interest rate sensitivity analysis

(b) Credit risk exposures

Credit risk is the financial loss to the IFS if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. Receivables are valued at amortised cost. Cash on hand is valued at face value. The carrying amount of financial assets recorded in the Financial Statements, net of any allowances for losses, represents the IFS's maximum exposure to credit risk for the FS without taking into account of any collateral or other security: The following tables analyse financial assets that are past due but not impaired.

Analysis of financial assets that are past due at 30 June 2025 but not impaired

	Not past due	Not past due 60 days	Not past Due 90 days	Total
	$	$	$	$
Trade & Other Receivables	148,651	0	0	148,651

Analysis of financial assets that are past due at 30 June 2024 but not impaired

	Not past due	Not past due 60 days	Not past due 90 days	Total
	$	$	$	$
Trade & Other Receivables	165,433	0	0	165,433

(c) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the IFS will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The IFS's approach to managing liquidity for the IFS is to ensure that it will always have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when they fall due.

The following tables detail undiscounted cash flows payable by the IFS by contractual maturity for its financial liabilities. It should be noted that as these are undiscounted, totals may not reconcile to the carrying amounts presented in the Statement of Financial Position.

2025 **Maturity analysis for financial liabilities**

Financial Liabilities	1 Year $	2 Years $	3 Years $	4 Years $	5 Years $	More than 5 Years $	Undiscounted Total $
Trade & Other Payables	156,357	-	-	-	-	-	156,357
Total	**156,357**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**156,357**

2024 **Maturity analysis for financial liabilities**

Financial Liabilities	1 Year $	2 Years $	3 Years $	4 Years $	5 Years $	More than 5 Years $	Undiscounted Total $
Trade & Other Payables	190,088	-	-	-	-	-	190,088
Total	**190,088**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**190,088**

(d) Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The primary market risk that the IFS is exposed to is interest rate risk.

At the reporting date, the interest rate profile of the IFS's interest bearing financial instruments was:

2025	$	Weighted average interest rate
Variable rate instruments		
Cash at bank	879,933	0.10%
Fixed rate instruments		
Term Deposits	2,936,235	4.77%
TOTAL	**3,816,168**	

2024	$	Weighted average interest rate
Variable rate instruments		
Cash at bank	2,430,547	0.10%
Fixed rate instruments		
Term Deposits	326,764	4.95%
TOTAL	**2,757,311**	

Sensitivity analysis of Services exposure to possible changes in interest rates

Changes in variable rates of 100 basis points at reporting date would have the following effect on the IFS's profit or loss and equity:

	Income Statement		Equity	
	100 basis points	100 basis points	100 basis points	100 basis points
30 June 2025	**increase**	**decrease**	**increase**	**decrease**
	$'000	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**
Financial assets	38	(38)	38	(38)
Net sensitivity	**38**	**(38)**	**38**	**(38)**

	Income Statement		Equity	
30 June 2024	**100 basis points increase**	**100 basis points decrease**	**100 basis points increase**	**100 basis points decrease**
	$'000	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**
Financial assets	28	(28)	28	(28)
Net sensitivity	**28**	**(28)**	**28**	**(28)**

This analysis assumes all other variables remain constant. The analysis was performed on the same basis for 2024.

19.2 Categories of financial assets and liabilities

	2025	**2024**
	$'000	**$'000**
Financial assets		
Cash, investements and Receivables at amortised cost.	3,965	2,923
Total	**3,965**	**2,923**
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	156	190
Total	**156**	**190**

Net fair values of financial assets and liabilities

	2025	**2025**	**2024**	**2024**
	Total carrying amount	**Net fair value**	**Total carrying amount**	**Net fair value**
	$'000	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**
Financial Assets				
Cash at bank and investments	3,816	3,800	2,758	2,758
Receivables	149	149	165	165
Total financial assets	**3,965**	**3,948**	**2,923**	**2,923**
Financial liabilities (recognised)				
Trade Creditors	156	156	190	190
Total financial liabilities (recognised)	**156**	**156**	**190**	**190**

Financial assets

The net fair values of cash and non-interest bearing monetary financial assets approximate their carrying amounts.

Financial liabilities

The net fair values for trade creditors are approximated by their carrying amounts.

Note 20 Commitments and Contingencies

There were no commitments, contingent assets or liabilities at year end.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

The Inland Fisheries Service (IFS) is established under the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995* with the Inland Fisheries Service being used as a business name. The Director of Inland Fisheries, a body corporate under the Act, has the power to execute contracts of all types, to acquire and sell property and to invest.

Note 1 Summary of Accounting Policies

The following summary explains the significant accounting policies that have been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements.

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are a general purpose financial report and have been prepared in accordance with:

Australian Accounting Standards issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and Interpretations; and applicable Treasurers Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2016* and the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995.*

Australian Accounting Standards include Australian Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Compliance with IFRS may not result in compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as IFRS includes requirements and options available to not-for-profit organisations that are inconsistent with IFRS. The IFS is considered to be not-for-profit and has adopted some accounting policies under AASB's that do not comply with IFRS.

The Financial Statements have been prepared as a going concern on an accrual basis and, except where stated, are in accordance with the historical cost convention. The accounting policies are generally consistent with the previous year.

The Financial Statements are presented in Australian dollars which is the functional currency of the IFS.

(b) Changes in Accounting Policies

(i) Impact of new and revised Accounting Standards

In the current year, the IFS has adopted all of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board that are relevant to its operations and effective for the current annual reporting period.

(ii) Impact of new and revised Accounting Standards yet to be applied

The IFS has reviewed the pending Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board and conclude they will not have a material impact on the Service's operations.

(iii) Changes in Accounting Policy

There have been no changes to accounting policies from the previous financial year.

(a) Revenue

Revenue is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when an increase in future economic benefits related to an increase in an asset or a decrease of a liability has arisen that can be reliably measured. Revenue is recognised at fair value of the consideration received net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST) payable to the Australian Taxation Office.

A liability is recognised in respect of revenue that is reciprocal in nature to the extent that the requisite service has not been provided at balance date and conditions include a requirement to refund unused contributions. Revenue is then recognised as the various performance obligations under an agreement are fulfilled.

Angling and other licence fees that are short term or low value are recognised on receipt as cash sales as this corresponds with the issue of the relevant licence.

Revenue is recognised when the IFS obtains control of the contribution or the right to receive the contribution, it is probable that the economic benefits comprising the contribution will flow to the IFS and the amount of the contribution can be measured reliably.
Rental income is invoiced monthly in advance and recorded as revenue when invoiced.

Control over granted assets is normally obtained upon their receipt (or acquittal) or upon earlier notification that a grant has been secured and are valued at their fair value at the date of transfer.

Where grants or contributions recognised as revenues during the financial year were obtained on condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period and those conditions were undischarged at balance date, the unused grant or contribution is disclosed as a contract liability.

Interest on funds invested is recognised as it accrues using the effective interest rate method.

Other revenue is primarily the recovery of costs incurred and is recognised when an increase in future economic benefits relating to an asset or a decrease of a liability has arisen that can be reliably measured.

(b) Expenses

Expenses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when a decrease in future economic benefits related to a decrease in asset or an increase of a liability has arisen that can be measured reliably.

Employee benefits include entitlements to wages and salaries, annual leave, long service leave, superannuation and any other post-employment benefits.

Operating costs include all other expenses other than personnel expense and depreciation that are incurred in undertaking the activities of the IFS.

All applicable items of property, plant and equipment having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their useful lives in a manner which reflects the consumption of their service potential. Land, being an asset with unlimited useful life, is not depreciated.

(c) Other economic flows included in net result

Other economic flows measure the change in volume or value of assets or liabilities that do not result from transactions.

Gains or losses from the sale of non-financial assets are recognised when control of the assets has passed to the buyer.

(d) Impairment – Financial assets (Trade and other receivables)

Trade and other receivables that do not contain a significant financing component are measured at amortised cost, which represents their transaction value. An assessment for impairment is conducted on an expected credit loss basis at each reporting date. When determining whether the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition, and when estimating the expected credit loss, the IFS considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on the IFS's historical experience, an informed credit assessment and forward-looking information.

(e) Impairment – Non-financial assets

All non-financial assets are assessed to determine whether any impairment exists. Impairment exists when the recoverable amount of an asset is less than it's carrying amount. Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

The IFS's assets are not used for the purpose of generating cash flows; therefore value in use is based on depreciated replacement cost where the asset would be replaced if deprived of it. All impairment losses are recognised in Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Impairment losses recognised in prior periods are assessed at each reporting date for any indications that the loss has decreased or no longer exists. An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised.

(f) Assets

Assets are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position when it is probable that the future economic benefits will flow to the IFS and the asset has a cost or value that can be reliably measured.

(g) Cash

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call, and other highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

(h) Non-Financial Assets

Acquisition, Recognition and Valuation

Non-financial assets are initially recorded at their cost of acquisition and re-valued in accordance with the following accounting policy. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the cost of the asset. The costs of self-constructed assets include the cost of materials and direct labour, any other costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to a working condition for its use.

The asset capitalisation threshold adopted by the IFS is $10,000. Assets valued at less than $10,000 are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the year of purchase (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which represent a value greater than $10,000). Assets are grouped on the basis of having similar nature or function in the operations of the IFS.

Assets Valued at Fair Value – Land and Buildings

Freehold and vested land and buildings are initially brought to account at cost. Subsequent to initial recognition land is recorded at fair value and buildings are recorded at fair value less accumulated depreciation.

Fair value is based on the highest and best use of the asset. Unless there is an explicit Government policy to the contrary, the highest and best use of an asset is the current purpose for which the asset is being used. These assets are revalued with sufficient regularity to ensure they reflect fair value at balance date.

Inland Fisheries land and buildings are revalued at least once every five years using a mix of valuations and/or updated based indices adjustments. The revaluation is undertaken by the Office of the Valuer-General. Investment properties, land and buildings were revalued as at, 30 June 2024. The next revaluation will occur during the year ending 30 June 2026.

Motor Vehicles, Vessels, Plant, Equipment and Infrastructure

Motor vehicles, vessels and plant and equipment are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation.

Disposal of Assets

Any gain or loss on the disposal of assets is determined as the difference between the carrying value of the asset, at the time of disposal, and the proceeds from the disposal. It is included in the financial results in the year of disposal.

Depreciation

Items of property, infrastructure and plant and equipment (excluding freehold land) are depreciated over their economically useful lives. The straight-line method is used, except for vessels, which have been depreciated on the diminishing value basis. Assets are depreciated from their date of acquisition and where they have been revalued, depreciation is charged on the adjusted amount. Depreciation rates are reviewed annually. If necessary, they are adjusted to reflect the most recent assessments of the useful lives of the respective assets with regard to such factors as asset usage, the rates of the technical and commercial obsolescence and the most recent assessment of net amounts expected to be recovered on their disposal.

Major depreciation periods are:

Buildings	40 Years
Infrastructure	40 Years
Plant and Equipment	10 Years to 25 Years
Vehicles	8 Years
Vessels	10 Years

(i) Investment properties

Investment property is property held either to earn rental income or for capital appreciation or both. Investment properties are derecognised when either they have been disposed of or when the investment property is permanently withdrawn from use and no future economic benefit is expected from its disposal. Investment property is not depreciated. Investment property is recorded at fair value, with any changes in the fair value being recorded as income or expenses in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

(j) Comparative Figures

Comparative figures, where necessary, have been reclassified to comply with the presentation adopted in the financial report.

(k) Trade and Other Payables

Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the IFS. Trade accounts are normally settled within 14 days. Accruals are included in the trade and other payables balance and are stated net of GST.

(l) Employee Entitlements Excluding Superannuation

Employee benefits include, where applicable, entitlements to wages and salaries, annual leave, sick leave, long service leave, superannuation and any other post-employment benefits including on costs.

Liabilities for wages and salaries and annual leave are recognised when an employee becomes entitled to receive a benefit. Those liabilities expected to be realised within 12 months are measured as the amount expected to be paid. Employee benefits are measured as the present value of the benefit at 30 June, where the impact of discounting is material, and at the amount expected to be paid if discounting is not material. The IFS assumes that all staff annual leave balances less than 20 days will be settled within 12 months, and therefore valued at nominal value, and balances in excess of 20 days will be settled in greater than 12 months and therefore calculated at present value.

A liability for long service leave is recognised and is measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. The IFS makes a number of assumptions regarding the probability that staff who have accrued long service leave but are ineligible to take it will remain with the IFS long enough to take it. For those staff eligible to take their long service leave, the IFS assumes that they will utilise it on average, evenly over the following ten years. All long service leave that will be settled within 12 months is calculated at nominal value and all long service leave that will be settled in greater than 12 months is calculated at present value.

(m) Employer superannuation contributions

Contributions to defined benefit and other complying superannuation schemes are charged as an expense as the contribution becomes payable. The IFS does not recognise a liability for the accruing defined superannuation benefits. This liability is held centrally and is recognised within the Finance-General Division of the Department of Treasury and Finance. During the year the amounts of contributions paid to defined benefit schemes was $46,560 (2023-24 - $86,364), and the amount paid to accumulation schemes was $222,177 (2023-24 - $176,071).

(n) Economic Dependence

The IFS is dependent upon the ongoing receipt of grant funding via the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania. This administered payment amounted to $1,635,000 and represented 34 per cent of total revenue. These funds are used to undertake community service obligations in respect of the control of pest fish, the conservation and monitoring of native freshwater fish populations and environment together with a range of commitments announced by the Government in previous years.

(o) Rounding

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar, unless otherwise stated.

Where the result of expressing amounts to the nearest dollar would result in an amount of zero, the financial statement will contain a note expressing the amount to the nearest whole dollar.

(p) Taxation

The IFS is exempt from all forms of taxation except Fringe Benefits Tax and the Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax, except where the GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of GST. The net amount recoverable from or payable to the Australian Taxation Office is recognised as an asset or liability within the Statement of Financial Position.

In the Statement of Cash Flows, the GST component of cash flows arising from operating, investing or financing activities which is recovered from, or paid to, the Australian Taxation

Office is, in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, classified as operating cash flows.

(q) Leases

Low value short term operating lease payments are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

(r) Judgements and Assumptions

In the application of Australian Accounting Standards, the IFS is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Significant judgement made by IFS that has a significant effect on the financial statements relate to:

Employee entitlements, the assumptions for which are provided by the Department of Treasury and Finance which are. A wage inflation rate of 3.5% per annum and discount rates for year 1 of 3.412%, year 2 of 3.275%, year 3 of 3.325%, year 4 of 3.411%, year 5 of 3.544%, year 6 of 3.732%, year 7 of 3.897%, year 8 of 4.006%, year 9 of 4.148% and year 10 of 4.256%.

Property, plant and equipment in notes 1(j) and 9.

Investment properties in notes 1(k) and 10.

IFS has made no assumptions concerning the future that may cause a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

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Thursday, 18 September 2025

Statement of Certification

The accompanying Financial Statements of the Inland Fisheries Service are in agreement with the relevant accounts and records and have been prepared in compliance with the Treasurer's Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2016* to present fairly the financial transactions for the year ended 30 June 2025 and the financial position as at the end of the year.

At the date of signing, I am not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars included in the Financial Statements misleading or inaccurate.

Ryan Wilkinson
Director of Inland Fisheries

Xiaojing Zhou
Manager Finance and Business

Dated 18th day of September 2025

Audit Tasmania

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Parliament

Inland Fisheries Service

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of the Inland Fisheries Service (the Service), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, statements of comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the statement of certification signed by the Director and Manager - Finance and Business.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements:

(a) present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Service as at 30 June 2025 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended

(b) is in accordance with the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995,* Treasurer's Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2016* and Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted the audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of Service in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

The *Audit Act 2008* further promotes the independence of the Auditor-General. The Auditor-General is the auditor of all Tasmanian public sector entities and can only be removed by Parliament. The Auditor-General may conduct an audit in any way considered appropriate and is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which audit powers are to be exercised. The Auditor-General has for the purposes of conducting an audit, access to all documents and property and can report to Parliament matters which in the Auditor-General's opinion are significant.

My audit is not designed to provide assurance on the accuracy and appropriateness of the budget information included in the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibilities of the Director for the Financial Statements

The Director is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the financial reporting requirements of the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995* and the *Financial Management Act 2016* and for such internal control as determined necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Director is responsible for assessing the Service's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Service is to be dissolved by an Act of Parliament, or the Director intends to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

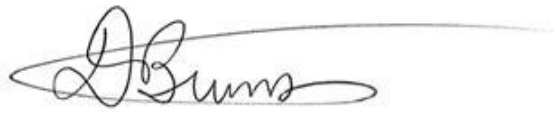
As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Service's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by Director.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Director's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Service's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the

related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusion is based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Service to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the director regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



Derek Burns
Assistant Auditor-General
Delegate of the Auditor-General

23 September 2025
Hobart

Notes

Swan galaxias – photo Bruce Deagle.

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