



Jeremy Rockliff, 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 17 of the *Audit Act 2008*, I am pleased to submit the 2014-15 Annual Report of the Inland Fisheries Service for presentation to Parliament.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "John Diggle".

John Diggle

Director of Inland Fisheries

1 October 2015

Table of contents

The Inland Fisheries Service	4
About the Inland Fisheries Service	4
Vision	4
Mission	4
Our outcomes	4
Our priority areas	4
Responsibilities	4
Core functions	4
Jurisdiction	5
Management responsibilities	5
Organisational structure	6
Annual Report – highlights 2014-15	7
Inland Fisheries Advisory Council (IFAC) report 2014-15	9
Regulation changes	10
Priority 1: Managing the performance of fisheries to meet the needs of anglers	11
Penstock Lagoon survey	11
Four Springs Lake survey	11
Tooms Lake survey	11
Statewide river electrofishing surveys	11
Central Highlands spawning runs	12
Angler surveys	13
Stocking policy	14
Hatchery production	15
Ova and fish sales	15
Stocking of inland waters for public fishing	15
Stocking of farm dams for private fishing	16
Fisheries compliance	16
Infrastructure and access improvements	18
Whitebait	19
Priority 2: Meeting the environmental challenges of inland waters and fisheries	20
Saddled galaxias and Arthurs paragalaxias	20
Shannon and Great Lake paragalaxias	20
Golden galaxias	20
Swan galaxias	20
Clarence galaxias	21
Scientific and technical advice	21
Biological consultancy	21
Eastern Gambusia Program	21
Redfin perch range expansion	21
Freshwater Fish Expert Group	22
Carp Management Program	22
Water quality lakes Sorell and Crescent	24
Elver and lamprey restocking	25
Priority 3: Management and development of commercial fisheries	26
Fish farms	26
Private fisheries	26
Fish dealers	26
Commercial freshwater fishing licences	27

The Inland Fisheries Service

About the Inland Fisheries Service

The Inland Fisheries Service (IFS) replaced the Inland Fisheries Commission in March 2000 and was established under the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995*.

The previous Commission had operated as an autonomous statutory body since the late 1950s. It replaced the original Salmon Commission, which was set up in the early 1860s with the aim of establishing a salmonid fishery in Tasmania. The Commission built the Salmon Ponds at Plenty to grow live salmon and trout eggs shipped from England for stocking Tasmanian inland waters.

This history has given rise to a flourishing inland recreational fishery focused primarily on wild brown trout. This legacy is now managed by the IFS and the original work of harvesting wild trout eggs, growing and stocking the public recreational fishery with fish is continued today and with the same level of commitment.

The Annual Report for 2014-15 adopts the changes effected during the year to reflect the revised priority areas of the IFS in line with its 2012-2017 Corporate Plan.

Vision

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

Mission

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

Our outcomes

- A recreational trout fishery recognised for its diversity and acknowledged as one of the world's best.
- To have sustainable fish populations and fisheries.
- A responsive proactive organisation that is dynamic, receptive, financially sound and managed for excellence.

Our priority areas

- **Priority 1: Managing the performance of fisheries to meet the needs of anglers.**
- **Priority 2: Meeting the environmental challenges of inland waters and fisheries.**
- **Priority 3: Management and development of commercial fisheries.**
- **Priority 4: Building and improving strategic partnerships.**
- **Priority 5: Maintaining a high standard of individual achievement and wellbeing.**
- **Priority 6: Improving the organisation and securing its financial future.**

Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the IFS have been considerably broadened since its inception as the Salmon Commission 150 years ago. They now include the regulation and promotion of commercial freshwater fisheries, the management of pest fish and the protection of native freshwater fauna. The IFS has an obligation to manage Tasmania's freshwater resources in a sustainable manner, so that the best use is made of the recreational fishery while ensuring that Tasmania's freshwater fauna and its habitat are protected for the benefit of future generations.

Core functions

The IFS has primary responsibility for implementing the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995* and its subordinate legislation. The Act creates the position of the Director of Inland Fisheries and provides that the director is a corporation, responsible for the following functions:

- 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.

Jurisdiction

Under the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995*, the IFS has jurisdiction over freshwater fish in all inland waters, which includes lakes, rivers, farm dams, registered private fisheries, ponds and aquaria. The statutory boundary between marine and freshwater is called a seaward limit and the Service controls the inland side of this limit.

Management responsibilities

The Director is the Head of Agency for the purposes of the *Audit Act 2008*. The IFS receives specific corporate support from the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE). The Secretary of DPIPWE 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, DPIPWE continues to provide the human-resource administration, finance system and information technology support for the IFS. At 30 June 2015, 23 people were employed by the IFS, equating to 20.9 full-time equivalents (FTEs).

Organisational structure

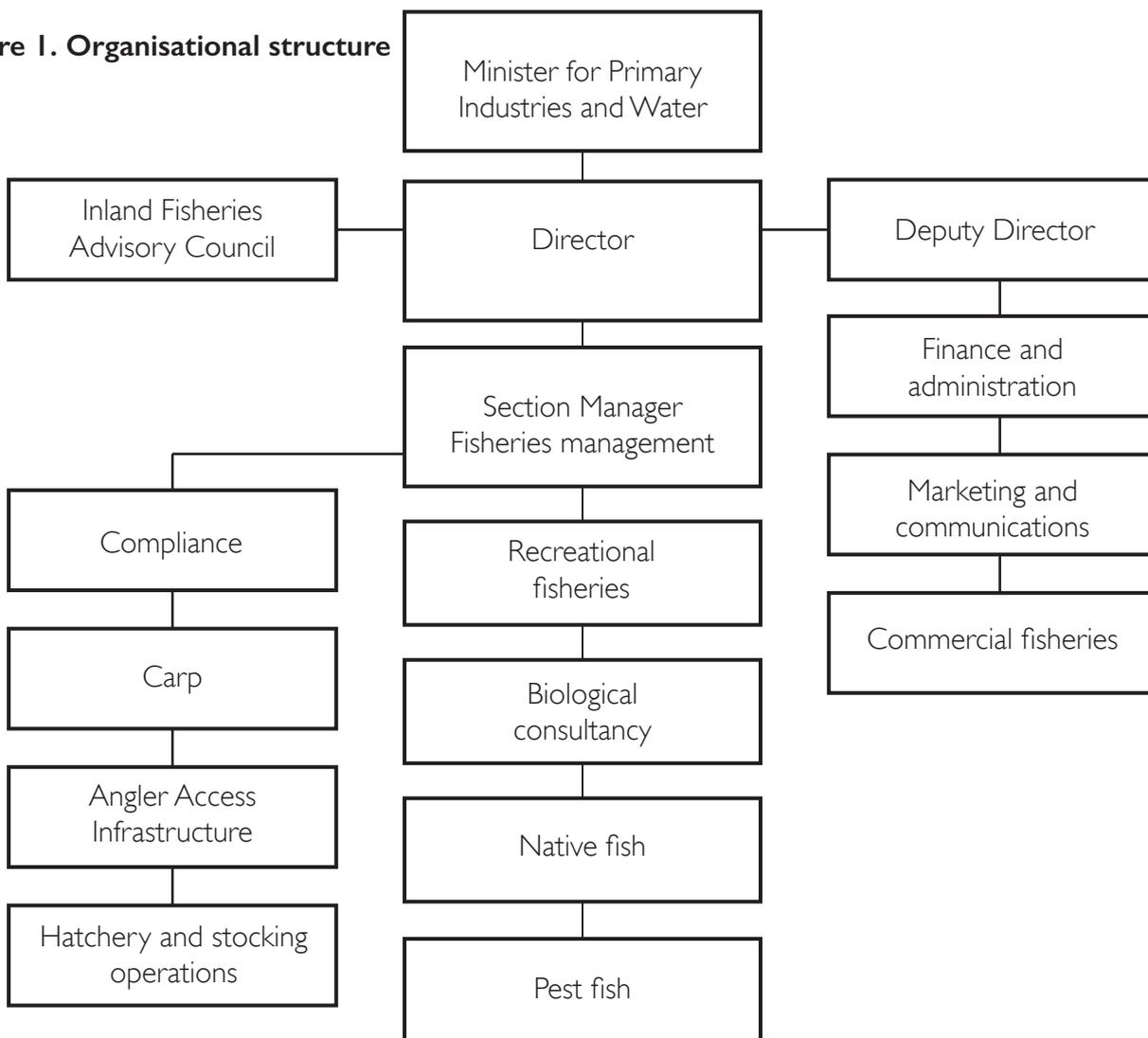
The IFS comprises a Directorate, being the Director of Inland Fisheries, John Diggle, and an Executive Assistant, whose position was vacant at year end. Administration and finance managed by the Deputy Director; Anthony Wright who is the business manager and accountant together with Kellie Fahey as Administrative Officer (Licensing and Finance), Donna Barber and Tania Hooper.

The Section Manager, Fisheries Management, Chris Wisniewski together with Stephen Hepworth, Manager (Compliance and Operations), Fisheries Officers, Mark Asplin and Paul Middleton, Brett Mawbey, Manager (Hatchery and Stocking), Gareth Jones, Senior Hatchery Officer; Jonah Yick, Fisheries Biologist Carp, Technical Officers Carp, Amos Mapleston, Chris Bowen and Brock Cuthbertson with Field Assistants Carp; Terence Byard and Robert Cordwell.

Neil Morrow, Project Manager (Anglers Access), Senior Fisheries Management Officer; Robert Freeman, Fisheries Management Biologist, Tim Farrell and Salmon Ponds Utility Officer; Tim Browning.

It is with deep regret that we record the loss of Paul Donkers, Senior Technical Officer Carp Management early in the year. Paul had a wealth of knowledge and experience in the carp management program and he is greatly missed.

Figure 1. Organisational structure



Annual Report – highlights 2014-15

Two government policy commitments were implemented by the Service this year:

The first was the establishment of a Fisheries Officer in the northwest of the state. Paul Middleton was appointed to a position based at the DPIPWE Stoney Rise Offices in Devonport in September 2014. The capacity to protect Tasmania's fisheries was further enhanced with the filling of a long-term Fisheries Officer vacancy at Liawenee.

The second was consideration of opportunities for increasing freshwater angling opportunities in the south of the state. The scope included the feasibility of a purpose built impoundment similar to Four Springs in the north or enhancement of an existing fishery. Macquarie Franklin, business, agricultural and environmental consultants, were engaged to undertake a review of potential dam options with a report prepared for consideration. From the report and consideration of other opportunities, three options were prioritised for further investigation: extension of the River Derwent Anglers Access project, supplementation of the water level in Lake Dulverton and a feasibility study for a new dedicated lake fishery, including potential dam sites, in the Huon/Geeveston area.

As part of the Fisheries Performance Assessment program surveys were undertaken to assess the number and structure of the trout population at Penstock Lagoon and Four Springs Lake. Two thousand brown trout were transferred from Arthurs Lake to Penstock Lagoon in May 2014. All of these fish had their adipose fin clipped so they could be easily identified when recaptured. This allowed an estimate of the size and stock composition of the brown trout population. The population was estimated at around 6,300 fish, with poor representation of hatchery stocked triploid fish. Adult brown trout were also fin clipped and released into Four Springs Lake and provided a population estimate of around 19,000 fish. Clipped brown trout from highland spawning runs were released into Tooms Lake in preparation for a population assessment in 2015-16.

The Service continued its strategy of increasing the use of wild adult brown trout transfers from Central Highlands spawning runs in preference to hatchery produced fish, which fisheries performance assessments have shown deliver inconsistent results. Through the year a new trap was constructed on Sandbanks Creek at Great Lake and it provided over 9,000 of the 26,190 adult transfers for the spawning season. Preliminary investigations have commenced into the construction of a spawning trout trap on the River Derwent upstream of Lake King William. If a suitable site can be found, construction will be undertaken in March 2016. Associated with this change in stocking policy, the Service embarked on an agreement with Huon Aquaculture to lease the recirculation facility at New Norfolk for an initial period of two years.

The IFS implemented a new farm dam stocking policy this year. As a result 23 dams on eight properties along the north west between Thirlstane in the east and West Ridgley to the west have been assessed and approved for stocking with brown trout for public fishing. Signs and stiles were installed and dams have been stocked with advanced fry. Information on the locations of these dams and landowner contact details is available on the IFS website. A further four dams have been approved for club activities for three separate angling clubs under the policy.

The Anglers Access program continued to enhance the value of fisheries through the development, upgrading and maintenance of infrastructure to further improve access arrangements to inland waters, and disseminate access information to anglers. Significant achievements during 2014-15 were the completion of the Anglers Access project for the River Derwent, with over 60 access points made available to anglers and a colour brochure to complement the program. The IFS in conjunction with Tasmanian Irrigation worked to explore options to ensure access for fishing at the newly constructed

South Riana Dam. IFS also worked with Forico Pty Ltd regarding access issues at Talbotts Lagoon. Anglers Alliance Tasmania, (AAT), secured funding for an Anglers Access project on the South Esk River that the Service will implement during 2015-16.

The Federal Government's funding contribution to the Carp Management Program, which matched state funding, ended on 30 June 2015. The funding enabled increased fishing effort to be applied to the carp population in Lake Sorell. The dramatic increase in fishing effort resulted in around half the catch of the previous year with a marked decrease in catch per unit effort pointing to a significant fall in the population size. The current carp population model was reassessed with assistance from scientists at the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies. Indications are that with the intense fishing effort, around 95% of the 2009 cohort has been removed. The Service actively pursued opportunities for securing federal government funding for 2015-16 and 2016-17 with a determination by the federal minister expected in 2015-16.

The University of Tasmania has secured an Australian Research Council funding grant of \$476,000 over four years to develop a potential genetic eradication method for the invasive pest fish *Gambusia holbrooki*. The University of Adelaide, Inland Fisheries Service, Northern Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Association (NRM North), NRM Tamar and Parks and Wildlife Tasmania are expected to have an involvement in the project. The project team will attempt to develop a *Gambusia*-specific Trojan Y chromosome that will make female fish produce mainly male eggs, which will eventually lead to population extinction. Tasmanian authorities have been dealing with a *Gambusia* incursion in wetlands along the Tamar Estuary for a number of years.

Monitoring of threatened freshwater fish populations continued during the year with mixed results from those species surveyed. A spawning population of the Arthurs paragalaxias was found for the first time in 20 years at Woods Lake, while at Lake Sorell recruitment of young-of-the-year golden galaxias was at an all-time high. The Tasmanian Land Conservancy put forward a proposal to re-introduce the threatened Clarence galaxias into Kenneth Lagoon at Skullbone Plains; the Service is supporting the Conservancy in determining the feasibility of the project.

The Inland Fisheries Service approved an application from Tassal for a variation to its Ranelagh fish farm licence to expand smolt production from 600 tonnes to 1500 tonnes. An application from Huon Aquaculture for a new 400 tonnes per annum recirculating fish farm at Judbury was also approved. The IFS, in collaboration with the EPA, undertook a review of the environmental performance of freshwater fish farms associated with the salmonid industry.

A review of the conditions of commercial eel fishing licences was undertaken in consultation with the industry. This will assist in meeting the sustainability guidelines in the federal export permit, ensuring accurate reporting and consistency across licences. The FRDC-funded Tasmanian Eel Industry Development and Management Plan was published in December.

The 2014-15 trout fishing season and the 150 years of trout celebrations culminated with the draw of the Ford Ranger competition at the Liawenee open weekend in May 2015. This major promotion, supported by Tasmanian Ford dealers, was won by New Norfolk teenager Bailey Cashion.

The IFS completed the year with an operating surplus of \$179,290 before gains or losses on non-financial assets or revaluation adjustments. The comprehensive result after these adjustments was \$374,581. This was a pleasing result and exceeded budget expectations.

Inland Fisheries Advisory Council (IFAC) report 2014-15

IFAC is now in the last year of its four-year term and comprises seven members selected for their skills and ability to represent freshwater fishers and related areas of interest for the IFS.

During the year Mr Shaun Finlayson was appointed to IFAC by the Minister for Primary Industries and Water to represent freshwater commercial fishers as a replacement for Mr Phillip Cooper who resigned in the previous year.

Member	Representation and role
Sue Baker	Chairperson
Dr Karen Richards	Representing conservation interests
Michael Stevens	Representing freshwater angling associations
Gary France	Representing tourism interests
Shaun Finlayson (from 29 October 2014)	Representing freshwater commercial interests
Dr Christine Mucha	Ministerial appointment
John Diggle	Director of Inland Fisheries

Table I. Membership of the Inland Fisheries Advisory Council as at 30 June 2015

It is anticipated that the membership of IFAC will be renewed in late 2015 with the new IFAC to commence early in 2016. IFAC undertook a review of the skills required by it to support the Director and the Minister in anticipation of the recruitment process. The importance of continuity as well as renewal will be a key consideration in selecting skills-based IFAC members. The introduction of varying terms of appointment will ensure continuity in the future.

IFAC provides a forum for consultation and guidance, importantly a sounding board for the Director of Inland Fisheries and, more importantly, a legislated role to provide advice to the Minister for Primary Industries and Water. The Chairperson and the Director meet regularly with the Minister to discuss relevant issues. The Minister, the Hon. Jeremy Rockliff MP, also joined the IFAC meeting in June 2015 to discuss key issues facing the IFS and later joined IFAC members and IFS staff for lunch.

IFAC held six meetings during the year at the IFS's office in New Norfolk, taking the opportunity to meet with staff and listen to presentations on various subjects from both staff and invited guests.

During the year the Council worked with the Director of Inland Fisheries to ensure the effective continuation of the Carp Eradication Program, in particular prioritising federal government funding to continue this effort and retain experienced staff. The program is at a critical point in the eradication of carp from Lake Sorell and requires a concerted effort over the next three years to consolidate gains made over the past four years to return Lake Sorell to a premier fishing water in the same way that the IFS has achieved with Lake Crescent. The support of the Minister in presenting the IFS's case for funding to the Federal Government has been of significant assistance in this process.

IFAC instigated a review of the five-year IFS Strategic Plan in late 2014 to ensure the focus of the IFS for the remaining two-year period of the Plan to 30 June 2017 is relevant and appropriately reflects changes internally and externally in the business environment. The strategic objectives have subsequently been operationalised into the organisation's annual operational plan.

A key area of governance has been looking at opportunities to improve the use of the IFS New Norfolk buildings and land. This has led to construction of infrastructure to house O'Driscoll Coaches in support

of the relocation of their administration to New Norfolk and the lease of the hatchery facility to a commercial operator. The hatchery became redundant to IFS operations with the move to stocking the inland fisheries with wild fish rather than hatchery-bred fish. The rents from these initiatives will provide IFS with an increased income stream to support its activities.

Anglers' Alliance Tasmania is commended for arranging the transfer of the management of the Angling Hall of Fame to its custody. A number of notable anglers were inducted for their contribution to the freshwater fishery and their names were recorded in the Hall of Fame.

IFAC also takes a keen interest in the financial affairs of the IFS including trends in licence sales and the IFS's efforts to maintain angler interest in the fishery. The IFS finished the financial year with a better result than budgeted despite downward pressure on recreational licence sales. Licence sales are an important income source for IFS and help fund its activities including compliance, fish stocking and environmental work. Improvement to the boating facilities and access to fishing waters has continued over the year with funding from the MAST Boating Infrastructure Fund and IFS internally generated revenue.

Increasing participation in the fishery remained a key focus for the IFS and IFAC and improving the experience is an important component of this. A number of opportunities are being investigated in new fisheries, both geographical and species based, with the aim to present new experiences for existing anglers and attract more juniors and families. The IFS and IFAC will continue to evaluate the opportunity to develop angling opportunities in the south of the state consistent with the Government's policy commitment.

The IFS continues to operate in a challenging environment with resource constraints, both personnel and financial, but the dedication of a very experienced and committed team of IFS staff, together with the valuable input and advice of IFAC members, has enabled the organisation to continue to deliver well above its weight during the 2014-15 year.

Regulation changes

Just two changes were made to the rules and regulations governing the freshwater recreational fishery in the year. Provisions were made to allow anglers to fish all year round at Pioneer Lake (Pioneer Mine Hole). Additionally, amendments were made to allow for the issuing of an infringement notice for taking more than two salmonids equal to or greater than 500 mm in length. The new provisions will be applied in season 2015-16 and the relevant legislation should be referred to for detailed information.

Priority I: Managing the performance of fisheries to meet the needs of anglers

Penstock Lagoon survey

During July 2014, the Service conducted an in-lake survey at Penstock Lagoon to assess the brown and rainbow trout populations using a combination of box traps and large mesh fyke nets set over three nights. Additionally, limited sampling was undertaken using a Smith Root electrofishing boat. In total 223 trout were captured, 192 brown trout and 31 rainbow trout. Catch effort for each species and capture method was collected and collated. An estimate of the brown trout population size was also undertaken using the Petersen capture - mark - recapture method. This was accomplished by releasing 2,000 adult brown trout in June 2014 that had their adipose fin on their back clipped before being released, allowing for easy identification. Furthermore, of the 223 trout captured, 118 brown trout and 31 rainbow trout had blood samples extracted for analysis of ploidy status. The brown trout population was estimated at around 6,300, with poor representation of hatchery-stocked triploid fish a feature. It was apparent that the survival of hatchery-stocked fish was variable from year to year with some year classes missing altogether. A report on this survey, in conjunction with a previous survey conducted in 2013, was published on the Service's website.

Four Springs Lake survey

During March 2015, the Service conducted a survey to gain information on the brown trout population at Four Springs Lake and, in light of the Penstock Lagoon survey results, assess the effectiveness of previous triploid brown trout stocking events. Using box traps set over two nights, a total of 87 brown trout and seven rainbow trout were captured. Catch effort for each species was collected and collated. Furthermore, of the 94 trout captured, 50 brown trout and five rainbow trout had blood samples extracted for analysis of ploidy status. Twenty-nine per cent of the brown trout captured were triploid. Brown trout over 420 mm length consisted of five diploid fish to every one triploid fish, indicating a lower survival rate for triploid brown trout. Moreover, the increase in weight of triploid compared to diploid brown trout was similar. Adult brown trout marked and released in May 2013 weighed 700 grams; when recaptured in March 2015 these fish weighed an impressive 1.64 kg. The combined outcomes of this survey and the Penstock Lagoon survey have resulted in a review of IFS stocking policy that has seen a move away from hatchery production to trapping of wild adult fish as the primary source of stock for managed brown trout fisheries. This issue is covered in more detail under 'Stocking Policy'.

A full report on this survey, in conjunction with a previous survey conducted in 2013, will be published on the IFS website in 2015-16.

Tooms Lake survey

Tooms Lake was stocked with 3,850 brown trout marked with an adipose fin clip in preparation for a survey and population estimate in 2015-16. The fish trapped from Great Lake during early June were clipped with the assistance of volunteer anglers.

Statewide river electrofishing surveys

An electrofishing survey of a selection of Tasmania's rivers was conducted during February and March 2015. This survey followed on from the surveys in 2013 and 2014 conducted to assess the apparent depletion of river brown trout populations around the state. Findings of the 2015 survey showed improvements in the riverine brown trout populations throughout the state but these were not uniform across the sites surveyed. A Fisheries Performance Assessment technical report was completed for the three years of survey work post 30 June 2015 and is available from the IFS website.

Central Highlands spawning runs

Following major works at Arthurs Lake in early 2014 a sixth spawning trout trap was constructed on Sandbanks Creek, Great Lake in March 2015. An existing track was upgraded and extended down to the trap site enabling a 30 metre long anti-jump weir to be constructed. Precast wall panels were used in the fish trap and weir design for the first time to speed up the building process. The construction was completed in time for the 2015 spawning run.

The spawning run for rainbow trout at Liawenee, Great Lake was monitored, but due to the low numbers in the run only 195 fish were weighed and measured. In an effort to protect this population it was decided in 2013 that fish from this run would no longer be stripped for hatchery production.

The brown trout spawning run monitoring program included all six traps this year. Collectively, the Great Lake, Arthurs Lake and Lake Sorell spawning runs provided 23,655 adult brown trout, which were transferred to other waters between April and June 2015. After 30 June 2015 an additional 2,535 adult brown trout were subsequently trapped, giving a grand total of 26,190 brown trout transferred over the 2015 spawning season.

Spawning run	Number weighed & measured	Weight range (grams)	Average weight (grams)	Length range (mm)	Average length (mm)
Liawenee Canal - 13 April	200	370-1550	906	300-550	425
Liawenee Canal - 23 April	100	289-1949	847	273-533	398
Liawenee Canal - 12 May	190	198-1608	917	251-555	423
Liawenee Canal - 3 June	203	300-1450	907	297-530	425
Sandbanks Creek - 12 May	209	240-1750	765	267-500	398
Sandbanks Creek - 20 June	201	150-1370	803	210-490	400
Sandbanks Creek - 23 July	157	240-1187	810	265-520	402
Tumbledown Creek - 12 May	129	110-1560	496	222-557	356
Tumbledown Creek - 3 June	124	190-1680	557	221-551	365
Tumbledown Creek - 18 July	200	105-1260	506	206-505	350
Tumbledown Creek - 23 July	100	153-610	401	232-390	331
Scotch Bobs Creek - 12 May	201	70-180	426	199-465	334
Scotch Bobs Creek - 25 June	200	130-1600	550	220-565	362
Scotch Bobs Creek - 23 July	102	150-1050	609	250-480	371
Hydro Creek - 23 July	200	250-840	485	272-401	335

Table 2. Results of brown trout spawning run monitoring 2015

Trap	Number transferred
Liawenee Canal	11,080
Sandbanks Creek	9,235
Tumbledown Creek	4,015
Scotch Bobs Creek	1,095
Hydro Creek	235
Mountain Creek	530
Total	26,190

Table 3. Numbers of fish transferred from highland traps 2015

Angler surveys

The annual Angler Postal Survey (APS) is conducted to obtain quantitative data on the recreational fishery each year. The APS involves a written questionnaire that is mailed out at the end of the season to a representative sample of licence holders. The survey has been running in its current form since the 1985-86 season.

A total of 5,000 questionnaire forms were sent out for the APS in 2014-15 and the response rate was 17 per cent, 2 per cent less than the previous year. The results were collated and calculations made to produce estimates of the catch rate and total harvest for each species and angler effort, as well as the number of anglers fishing particular waters.

The results of the APS in terms of ranking of the most popular fisheries in 2014-15 are displayed in Table 4. It shows the estimated number of anglers who fished at each location, along with the estimated total catch rate for all species combined (brown trout, rainbow trout, brook trout and Atlantic salmon).

Ranking	Water	Catch rate (fish per angler per day)	Angler numbers
1	Great Lake	1.23	6,969
2	Arthurs Lake	1.24	6,684
3	Woods Lake	1.71	3,516
4	Bronte Lagoon	0.86	2,534
5	Bradys Lake	0.65	2,059
6	Penstock Lagoon	1.63	2,027
7	Little Pine Lagoon	1.62	1,995
8	Craigbourne Dam	0.65	1,742
9	Tooms Lake	1.58	1,615
10	Lake Leake	0.91	1,583
11	Four Springs Lake	1.06	1,362
12	Brushy Lagoon	0.55	1,298
13	Meadowbank Lake	0.78	1,140
14	Lake Augusta	1.78	1,108
15	Lake Binney	1.56	1,045
Ranking	Water	Catch rate (fish per angler per day)	Angler numbers
1	River Derwent	0.58	2,597
2	Mersey River	0.89	2,375
3	South Esk River	1.45	2,280
4	Brumbys Creek	0.4	1,837
5	Meander River	1.01	1,583
6	Tyenna River	3.89	1,520
7	Macquarie River	0.4	1,330
8	Huon River	0.38	1,298
9	North Esk River	0.73	887
10	River Leven	0.98	855

Table 4.
Ranking of
fisheries based
on results of the
2014-15 Angler
Postal Survey

The APS results for 2014-15 compared to the four previous seasons are shown in Appendix 3. The only change to the top five still-waters this year is that Little Pine Lagoon has slipped in popularity from 5 to 7 and Bradys Lake has moved into its place. Great Lake remained the state's most popular fishery but only just ahead of Arthurs Lake. While Woods Lake has held the top three ranking for the seventh year running, its catch rate had dropped by 0.5 fish per day. The top three most fished waters all had a drop in catch rate for this season. The River Derwent is again the most fished river in the state, overtaking the Mersey River which held top position during 2013-14; the River Leven has moved back into the top 10 most fished rivers, displacing St Patricks River.

The highest catch rates (fish per angler per day) for the year across all the waters (where the number of respondents was greater than 11 anglers) were reported at Tyenna River (3.89), Lake King William (3.61), Styx River (2.49), Laughing Jack Lagoon (2.19), Lake Mackenzie (2.11), Huntsman Lake (1.97), Lake Augusta (1.78), Lake Ada (1.76), Lake Burbury (1.72) and Woods Lake (1.71).

Stocking policy

During 2014-15 the IFS undertook a major review of its stocking policy. This involved an assessment of the costs and benefits of producing brown and rainbow trout fry and fingerlings, and the benefits of producing triploid brown trout for stocking into fisheries with little or no recruitment. This review was underpinned by the construction of two major fish traps and refurbishment of a third trap at Arthurs Lake during 2013-14. In the course of the review, fishery performance assessments were undertaken at Penstock Lagoon and Four Springs Lake to provide information on returns to the fishery from recent stocking events, involving both diploid and triploid brown trout. The results of these fishery assessments suggest the stocking of fry and fingerlings was unreliable in terms of providing sufficient numbers of fish for anglers. Both the Penstock Lagoon and the Four Springs Lake assessments showed an almost total failure of the brown trout fry and fingerling stocking events during 2010 and 2011, with variable numbers evident from the 2012 to 2014 stockings. By contrast, the stocking of adult brown trout into these waters resulted in immediate returns to anglers, in terms of both catch rate and fish condition.

The advantage of using wild adult brown trout over fry or fingerlings is the guarantee of consistent numbers of catchable fish; this was not the case with hatchery-reared brown trout. The number of fry or fingerlings required to ensure an acceptable return of takeable size fish has been calculated to be large and most likely beyond the capacity of the present hatchery system for medium to large fisheries. It should also be noted that sourcing sufficient numbers of adult brown trout for transfer has resource limitations, with only small to medium sized waters being suitable.

Assessment of triploid brown trout indicated very few fish stocked during the past four years survived to takeable size or larger. Moreover, triploid fish that grew to a larger size did so at rates similar to diploid fish, with both diploid and triploid fish growing to comparable maximum sizes. Based on these findings, there is insufficient benefit associated with triploid brown trout stocking in terms of cost, catch rate or indeed fish quality.

The IFS has also resolved to revert to enhanced natural recruitment to supplement rainbow trout stocks at Great Lake. This will be achieved by using dedicated spawning channels at Liawenee and allowing exclusive access for rainbow trout to Sandbanks Creek. All other waters that receive supplementary stocks of rainbow trout will generally receive triploid fish sourced from commercial operations.

The Salmon Ponds hatchery has undergone minor operational changes and will be used to produce sufficient numbers of brown trout fry to undertake the stockings of farm dams and other small fisheries as required.

Hatchery production

In the 2015 autumn/winter period the IFS collected 150,000 brown trout ova from wild fish trapped in Liawenee Canal, Great Lake, and a further 20,000 brook trout eyed ova from Snowy Range Fisheries. The ova were incubated in the New Norfolk hatchery under controlled conditions before transfer to the Salmon Ponds for hatching and on-growing.

Production figures for fish collected in 2014 and on grown to various sizes for stocking public fisheries are summarised in Table 5. The fish are grown to a specific size to suit the particular characteristics of each fishery.

Age class	Brown trout
Fry (1-5g)	385,500
Fingerling (6-50g)	11,000
Yearling (51-200g)	-
Adult (200g +)	-
Total	396,500

Table 5. Fish number, species and size class produced by the IFS in 2014-15

Ova and fish sales

During the year, IFS sold:

- 60,000 brown trout ova to the South Australian Fly Fishers,
- 2,000 juvenile rainbow trout from the Salmon Ponds to private fisheries within the state,
- 3,605 triploid rainbow trout to stock private farm dams,
- 4,150 brown trout to private fisheries within Tasmania for the 2015 season.

Stocking of inland waters for public fishing

Each year the IFS plans the stocking of public inland waters based on historical stocking levels, fishery performance assessments and fishery management goals. Plans are specifically determined to meet stocking requirements for individual waters in regard to species, number and size of fish stocked. The ability of the IFS to fulfil these requirements is dependent on the number of fish available in spawning runs, the number of fish successfully raised at its hatcheries and availability of domestic fish donated by various commercial hatcheries.

During 2014-15, the IFS distributed 249,367 rainbow trout, 415,135 brown trout, 10,000 brook trout and 7,408 Atlantic salmon into public waters. A summary of fish species and age details is displayed in Table 6. Some of these fish were donated by commercial hatcheries such as Springfield Fisheries, Petuna Aquaculture, Tassal, Huon Aquaculture and SALTAS. Wild brown trout stocks were harvested from natural sources at Hydro Creek (Arthurs Lake), Mountain Creek (Lake Sorell), Liawenee Canal (Great Lake) and Sandbanks Creek (Great Lake). A detailed listing of public waters stocked by the Service during 2014-15 is contained in Appendix 1.

Age class	Brown trout	Rainbow trout	Brook trout	Atlantic salmon
Fry (1-5g)	385,500	100,000	-	-
Fingerling (6-50g)	-	137,000	10,000	-
Yearling (51-200g)	-	8,200	-	-
Adult (200g +)	29,635	4,167	-	7,408
Total	415,135	249,367	10,000	7,408

Table 6. Fish number, species and size class stocked into the public fishery in 2014-15

Stocking of farm dams for private fishing

The IFS manages the stocking of farm dams for private fishing (with triploid rainbow trout only) through the issuing of a permit. Rainbow trout stocks are supplied by private hatcheries. During 2014-15, the IFS approved the stocking of 10,140 rainbow trout into 26 private farm dams located throughout the state.

Fisheries compliance

Fisheries compliance services are delivered by 11 Fisheries Officers authorised under the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995*. These services include enforcement activities, investigations and prosecutions, as well as educational and public relations activities.

During the year in response to a government policy commitment and a funding commitment of \$40,000 per annum for four years, a new Fisheries Officer position was established at Devonport. Compliance capacity was further strengthened during the year with the filling of the vacant Liawenee Fisheries Officer position.

Compliance objectives are:

- To maximise compliance with Tasmanian inland fisheries legislation by the public.
- To contribute to achieving the objectives of inland fisheries management plans.
- To promote freshwater fishing to the public and educate anglers regarding responsible fishing.

During the year Inland Fisheries Officers continued to work very effectively with Tasmania Police and the Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) to patrol remote areas and apprehend offenders regarding illegal fishing activities. Of particular note was the successful apprehension of offenders for illegal whitebait fishing, including a number of repeat offenders, and for the prosecution of offenders dealing with giant freshwater crayfish.

Joint Inland Fisheries and Tasmania Police whitebait enforcement operations were carried out on properties in the north west, which resulted in charges being laid for inland fisheries offences. Two search warrants were executed in relation to the unlawful possession of whitebait at Smithton as well as the searching of eight motor vehicles. Joint operations with Tasmania Police resulted in the seizure of cannabis plant material and smoking devices. A total of 31 kg of illegally caught whitebait, nine whitebait nets and one ATV vehicle were seized.

All joint operations were the result of intelligence lead enforcement between the agencies. This level of cooperation clearly benefits all of the enforcement agencies involved and its success is demonstrated with the conviction of two defendants for six offences regarding giant freshwater crayfish with fines of \$2,070. A further three defendants are to appear in the Burnie Magistrates Court for whitebait related offences totalling 55 charges which have been adjourned for plea in the 2015-16 year. Another defendant is also due to appear for decision in relation to a further 11 whitebait related charges and offences against officers.

Under the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995* a person upon conviction may be disqualified from holding a recreational licence for a period of up to five years. Ten notices of disqualification are current, disqualifying offenders from holding a recreational whitebait licence for a total of 48 years with a total of 21 years disqualification yet to complete. Officers inspected 3,502 angling licences and 191 whitebait licences.

The Service's compliance strategies are set out in the Compliance Operational Plan. This planning has helped Fisheries Officers to target compliance activities across the State. Officers enforce a wide range of regulations under the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995* as well as conduct angler creel surveys to assist with fisheries assessment. Offences prosecuted in the Magistrates Court are detailed in Table 7, below. During the year, three defendants were successfully prosecuted in the Magistrates Court for eight offences, with fines and special penalties amounting to \$2,870.

Prosecution offences (Magistrates Court)	Number
Take protected fish (giant freshwater crayfish)	3
Possess freshwater crayfish (giant freshwater crayfish)	3
Taking acclimatised or indigenous fish without an angling licence	2
Total	8

Table 7. List of offences prosecuted in the Magistrates Court 2014-15

The number of specific infringement notices issued by offences is detailed in Table 8, below. A total of 67 infringement notices were issued (comprising 78 offences), amounting to fines of \$16,800. Of particular note was the issue of nine infringement notices on the north and north west for 15 whitebait related offences totalling \$4,620. Fifty-five infringement notices endorsed as conditional cautions were issued (comprising 60 offences) as detailed in Table 9. The total fines from all sources totalled \$19,670.

Infringement notice offences	Number
Taking acclimatised or indigenous fish without an angling licence	18
Possessing assembled rod, reel and line without an angling licence	11
Taking fish with unattended set rod as prescribed	7
Possessing whitebait without a whitebait licence	5
Taking whitebait without a whitebait licence	4
Not complying with ministerial order about taking fish-whitebait closed water	3
Possessing or using other than permitted net	3
Fail to comply with ministerial order relating to the taking of fish-closed water	2
Using bottle, jar, can or similar object to indicate movement in the rod	2
Fishing with more than rod and line at a time	1
Having possession of a rod and line of another person when using own	1
Taking more salmon than the number specified in regulation 18(3) in one day	1
Fail to wear PFD on vessel under 6 metres while underway	16
Failure to register motor boat	3
Failure to carry minimum safety equipment	1
Total	78

Table 8. List of infringement notice offences issued in 2014-15

Infringement notice offences endorsed as conditional cautions	Number
Possessing assembled rod, reel and line without an angling licence	14
Taking acclimatised or indigenous fish without an angling licence	11
Not complying with ministerial order about taking fish-closed water	6
Taking fish with unattended set rod	4
Taking more salmon than the number specified in regulation 18(3) in one day	4
Taking fish from a boat that is within 100 metres of an angler fishing from the bank	3
Using whitebait net without attached tag bearing whitebait licence number	2
Possessing or using other than permitted net	1
Possession of assembled rod, reel and line when taking fish prohibited	1
Use natural bait in specified waters	1
Fail to wear PFD on a vessel under 6 metres while underway	7
Fail to carry minimum safety equipment	3
Exceed 5 knot speed limit in restricted area	1
Fail to display capacity sticker on motor boat	1
Fail to hold MAST licence or Certificate of Competency	1
Total	60

Table 9. List of infringement notice offences endorsed as conditional cautions issued in 2014-15

Infrastructure and access improvements

The IFS's Anglers Access program continued to enhance the value of fisheries through the development, upgrade and maintenance of infrastructure to further improve access arrangements to inland waters, and disseminate access information to anglers. Key stakeholders include landowners, primary producers, government organisations, corporations and non-government organisations.

Through the Anglers Access program the IFS actively assists primary producers to manage access for recreation and reduce potential impacts on infrastructure and management costs borne by their operations. Riparian management, signage, fencing, gates, parking, stock grids and fence stiles are installed and maintained by the IFS to facilitate access and minimise disruption to farming and forestry operations. The River Derwent Anglers Access project was completed in 2015 with the Deputy Premier, Jeremy Rockliff, announcing this milestone on the 4th May. This project identified over 60 access points on the river. A full colour brochure is available in both printed and electronic versions.

New galvanized steel screens were installed on the spillway at Lake Kara to minimise downstream migration of adult fish transferred into the lake. The dam wall was potholed and graded with barriers installed to prohibit vehicle access. A steel footbridge was installed on the spillway of Lamberts Dam at Railton to provide foot access to the northern and western shores.

Anglers Alliance Tasmania successfully applied for a Tasmanian Community Fund grant to implement an Anglers Access project on the South Esk River. The AAT in association with the Service will commence the project during the 2015-16 financial year.

The Service has been working closely with Tasmanian Irrigation to develop and implement a plan for recreational angling at the newly constructed South Riana Dam, a 4,000-ML impoundment developed

as part of the Dial Blythe Irrigation Scheme. The Service is planning to stock the dam with brown trout fry in December 2015. The Service is also working with Forico Pty Ltd to investigate access options for Talbots Lagoon near Guildford.

During 2014, the farm dam stocking policy was reviewed and updated; as a consequence, 23 private dams between Thirlstane and West Ridgley were stocked with brown trout for public fishing. Access signs and other infrastructure were also installed to identify and provide access to these dams. These projects, in conjunction with stocking enhancement at Lake Kara and the Pet Dam, have the potential to significantly boost angling opportunities in the north west region. Moreover, the IFS has stocked a number of dams specifically for angling club activities, including provisions for junior angling.

Anglers Access brochure production and distribution has been maintained by the IFS. Brochures continue to be distributed through major tackle stores, licence agents and the Tasmanian Visitor Information Network both within Tasmania and interstate, as well as via the IFS and AAT websites. New fact sheets have been published for lakes Kara and Crescent. Signage has also been installed in response to the development of the Pumphouse Point resort at Lake St Clair. The Service has provided advice and support for the installation of signs to direct foot access for resort clients and anglers to Lake St Clair and St Clair Lagoon.

Boating infrastructure improvements and developments during 2014-15 included the construction of a new concrete boat ramp at Lake Leake. This project was completed by Marine and Safety Tasmania and funded through the Recreational Boating Fund. The IFS worked closely with Hydro Tasmania to improve the gravel launching area at Lake Rowallan approximately one km south of the dam wall. The new gravel launching area is designed to operate at a broader range of lake levels and will be monitored over the 2015-16 season to determine if further enhancements are required.

During the year a 10-tonne load limit was placed on a bridge on Brushy Lagoon Road. This impacted on the capacity of the Service to stock this popular water with adult fish transfers, as the transporter used weighed in excess of 20 tonnes. To solve this problem an IFS contractor purchased a new transporter with a gross weight of five tonnes that can transport smaller quantities of adult fish to Brushy Lagoon. The Service has highlighted the bridge limitations to the road owner, PWS, to encourage replacement of the bridge. Road maintenance projects undertaken by the Service during 2014-15 included the grading and potholing of Woods Lake Road and Gunns Marsh Road from Cowpaddock Bay to Tumbledown Creek.

Whitebait

The 2014 whitebait season opened on 1 October 2014 and closed on 11 November 2014. A total of 1,020 whitebait licences were sold for the six-week season. This represents a 36 per cent increase in sales over the preceding 2013 season. Across the state, fishing during the six-week period was generally good with significant catches of Lovettia (true whitebait) and galaxiids captured in southern rivers, especially the Derwent River.

A limited number of rivers were open for the 2014 season including the Duck, Inglis, Mersey, Montagu, Henty, Huon, Great Forester, Pieman, Derwent, Forth, Tamar and Rubicon. Opening of rivers for the 2015 whitebait season will be in accordance with Schedule 1 of the Seasons and Waters Order 1996.

Priority 2: Meeting the environmental challenges of inland waters and fisheries

As part of its broader statutory environmental duties, the IFS is responsible for the conservation and management of all native freshwater fish within inland waters. This encompasses a wide range of management activities and includes the management and conservation of all freshwater native and threatened freshwater native fish, the eradication and management of introduced freshwater pest fish, provision of specialised scientific advice and services and advocacy for key environmental outcomes to support the freshwater fishery.

Saddled galaxias and Arthurs paragalaxias

Surveys conducted for the saddled galaxias at Arthurs and Woods lakes indicated populations were healthy, with significant numbers of adults and juveniles present. The population of Arthurs paragalaxias at Arthurs Lake also appears healthy, with large numbers of both adults and juveniles surveyed.

At Woods Lake, scientists from ENTURA undertaking life history assessment on the saddled galaxias captured 11 Arthurs paragalaxias, predominantly during early October. These fish were captured in fine mesh fyke nets set on the rocky shoreline north and south of the shack on the western side of the lake. Three broods of paragalaxiid eggs were also found in the same area during early November. This is the most significant capture of the Arthurs paragalaxias from Woods Lake for approximately 20 years.

Shannon and Great Lake paragalaxias

During 2014-15 the IFS undertook just one monitoring survey for Shannon and Great Lake paragalaxiids, at Penstock Lagoon only. Conditions for the setting of fyke nets were sub-optimal and resulted in the capture of just 11 spotted galaxias and six Shannon paragalaxias.

Golden galaxias

The annual golden galaxias survey was conducted during March 2015 as per environmental monitoring requirements as set out in the lakes Sorell and Crescent Water Management Plan 2005. The total catch of golden galaxias in Lake Crescent was 3,623, while in Lake Sorell 1,874 were captured. Average catch per unit of effort in both lakes had increased significantly during the 2014 to 2015 period. This is most likely in response to higher lake levels since 2011 providing favourable spawning habitat and increased survival of both juvenile and adult galaxiids. Of particular interest was the very strong recruitment of these fish in Lake Sorell. The young-of-the-year cohort within Lake Sorell represented 53 per cent of the total number of galaxiids captured and measured, while in Lake Crescent, this cohort represented 23 per cent. In addition, there are significant numbers of galaxiids surviving into their second and third year, with a substantial number of fish within Lake Crescent growing well beyond 100 mm in length. Based on these results, the golden galaxias populations within lakes Crescent and Sorell appear to be robust, with strong recruitment evident in both 2014 and 2015 surveys, and high survival of fish into older cohorts (>60 mm) within both lakes.

Swan galaxias

The conservation status of the Swan galaxias remained tenuous with several populations consisting of very few individuals. The upper reaches of the Cygnet River were surveyed, with no Swan galaxias found, a single climbing galaxias was, however, collected at this site, making this the fifth consecutive year the species has been present. Despite several years of monitoring, no Swan galaxias have been found at Coghlan's Creek since January 2007. It's now likely this population has become locally extinct. At Green Tier Creek two adult Swan galaxias were found and one climbing galaxias. Several adult Swan galaxias were also found at the routine monitoring site at Rocka Rivulet. Snakey Creek was dry, consequently it was not surveyed. No Swan galaxias were found at Tater Garden Creek, this follows very low numbers found during the previous year's monitoring. The translocated population at Lost Falls Creek was found

to contain a relatively high abundance of both adult and juvenile fish, the upstream sections of the creek were not checked owing to very low flows. Despite very low flows, Swan galaxias were present at both the upper and lower Blue Tier Creek monitoring sites, albeit in low numbers.

Clarence galaxias

Three areas on the Skullbone Plains and Gowan Brae properties were monitored. The lagoon north east of Clarence Lagoon ('Cider Gum Tarn') contained significant numbers of Clarence galaxias, while at Skullbone Plains Creek no galaxiids were found at either the lower or upper limits of the species distribution. The water level at Tibbs Plains Marsh was very low and consequently limited sampling to electrofishing only. No Clarence galaxias were found.

The Tasmanian Land Conservancy has put forward a proposal to examine the feasibility of re-introducing the Clarence galaxias into Kenneth Lagoon and the upper sections of Kenneth Creek. The Service is supporting this proposal by offering professional advice and assistance with on-ground works. When completed, this project will provide significant conservation outcomes for the species.

Scientific and technical advice

The IFS provided input and advice on aquatic environmental issues relating to water-management projects conducted by Tasmanian Irrigation and Hydro Tasmania. Input was made to the State's farm dam development assessment process, with a number of Farm Dam Assessment Reports reviewed. Specialist support to the Threatened Species Section of DPIPW and training on threatened freshwater fish to Forest Practices Officers from various state and private institutions was also provided through the year.

Biological consultancy

The Biological Consultancy covers the external environmental consultancy services offered by the IFS. This is primarily the provision of advice and information in areas of biological and ecological management of freshwater aquatic ecosystems in Tasmania. Two projects were undertaken through the year, an assessment of eel migration within the Pieman River was undertaken for Hydro Tasmania and a survey for the presence of pest fish within the Floods Creek catchment was undertaken for Tasmanian Irrigation.

Eastern Gambusia program

The University of Tasmania and University of Adelaide, in collaboration with the IFS and NRM North, with funding from the Australian Research Council, continued to undertake studies into the genetic control of Gambusia. The project team met in July 2015 to identify and review key research priorities. The project is in its first year of inception and has made good progress including successful sex reversal of Gambusia, which is a prerequisite for future reproductive control and possible eradication using the Trojan Y gene technique. Consulting scientist, Dr Jawahar Patil, is the lead researcher of the project.

Redfin perch range expansion

The Service conducted two electrofishing surveys in the Mersey River during 2014-15 to determine the presence of redfin perch following several reports from the public. No redfin perch were found; however, the commercial eel fisher working this area captured redfin perch in a small farm dam at Parramatta Creek. This creek flows into the Mersey River at Native Rock Bend, adjacent to where most reports from the public have been recorded. A survey to determine the distribution of the species and assess management options is planned for spring 2015.

During 2014-15, the Service received one report of redfin perch being captured by an angler from the Plenty River adjacent to the Salmon Ponds. A survey is planned for spring 2015 to determine distribution and assess management options. Protocols for managing trout stocks at the Salmon Ponds are being implemented to reduce the risk of any possible translocation.

Freshwater Fish Expert Group

The IFS continued to represent Tasmania on the national Freshwater Fish Expert Group that includes representatives from each state and territory as well as the Commonwealth. The group met in Sydney on 6 August 2014 and in Melbourne on 14 May 2015. The major issues considered were the Freshwater Pest Fish Strategy and the National Noxious Fish List. The group commenced evaluation of the fourth tranche of noxious species since 2007.

Carp Management Program

The 2014-15 season provided big challenges for the Carp Management Program. A total of 1,254 carp were caught from Lake Sorell, down from 2,409 in 2013-14 (Table 10). Total carp catches and catch per unit effort from set gill nets also trended down. The reduced population of carp in the lake combined with a tendency for carp to remain offshore made locating and targeting fish increasingly difficult. Net based fishing effort was 20 times greater in the 2013-14 season compared to the previous season, reaching 32,962 100-metre net hours. In the 2014-15 season, net fishing effort was 2.5 times greater than 2013-14 reaching 82,675 100-metre net hours.

As many as 13 gill nets, between 100 m and 750 m, were being set and retrieved each day during the peak capture period from October to February. These nets provided 78.53 per cent of the total catch in 2014-15. Fixed gill nets were also trialled to block carp from entering areas of the lake favourable for spawning. These blocking nets were in place from late October until mid-February and contributed 13.3 per cent of the total catch. There were no aggregations of carp through the spring and summer of 2014-15 as there had previously during 2013-14. The most carp caught in a single net set this season was 13 and the average number of carp caught per net set was less than one (0.8) following 903 net sets. Removing as many carp prior to conditions becoming favourable for spawning remained a priority. Intense gill net fishing is planned for 2015-18 at a rate equal to or greater than this season and if this can be achieved then eradication is considered possible by 2017-18.

The estimate of the remaining carp population in Lake Sorell was reviewed this year in the light of decreasing carp catches despite increased fishing effort and a decreasing return of tagged fish from the Lake Sorell 2012 mark-recapture population estimate. A review of the population estimate methodology was undertaken by the carp team in collaboration with Dr Paul Burch, a Postdoctoral Research Fellow from the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies. Previously unidentified issues, particularly regarding mortality rates, were found and a revised estimate made. Essentially there is now more confidence that around 95 per cent of the 2009 cohort has been removed, with the estimated number of carp remaining in Lake Sorell in the range of 2,078 to 3,603 fish.

Four large carp and four small carp were caught this year, which were not part of the 2009 cohort. Daily age estimates for the small carp indicated they were most likely from a spawning event in February or March 2014. The four large carp were also aged by otolith analysis and were estimated to be between 11 and 13 years old. Given the very low numbers involved it is expected that the younger and older cohorts will be vulnerable to capture with the array of gear and methods currently being used to target to the 2009 cohort. The focus in 2015-16 will remain on removing the 2009 cohort as quickly as possible to reduce the chances of a further recruitment event occurring. Carp captures for the year, along with a program running total, are detailed in Table 10 below. Discrepancies in the total capture from Lake Sorell in comparison to previous reports were due to a database error that is now corrected.

Table 10. Carp captures from Lake Sorell and Lake Crescent for the 2014-15 financial year.
*Fish not from the 2009 cohort.

Lake	Total 2014-15	Adult / Sub-adult / Juvenile	Total 1995 to present
Sorell	1,254	4* / 1,246 / 4*	40,135
Crescent	0	0	7,797

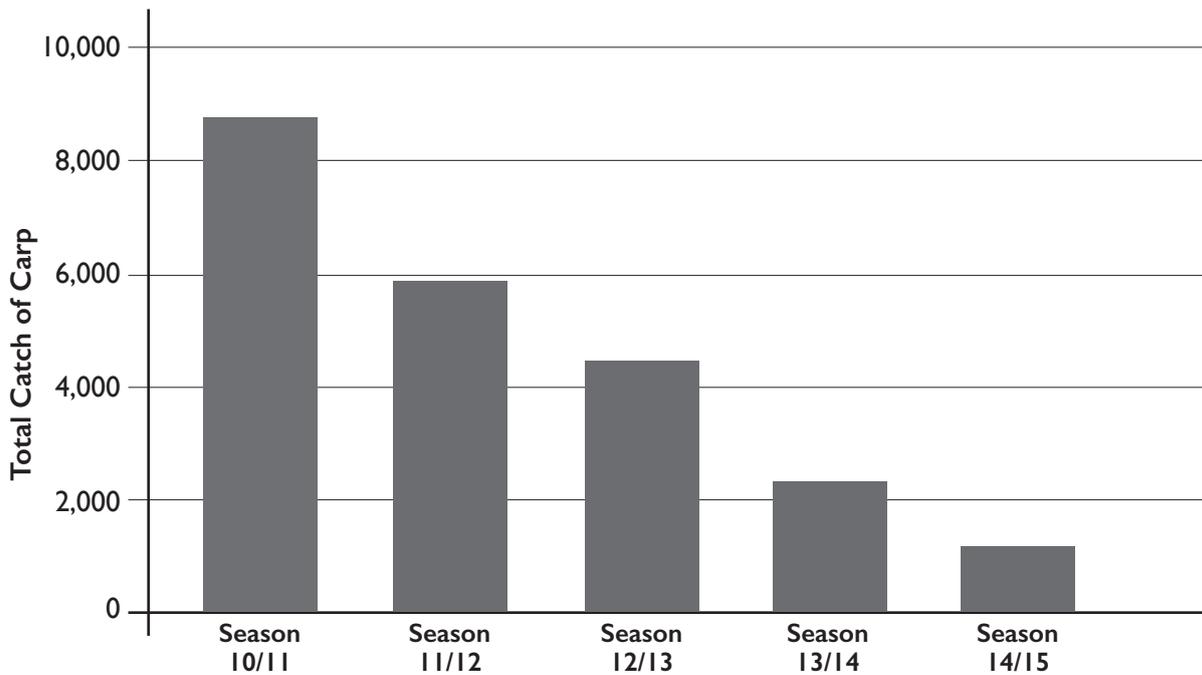


Figure 2. Total carp catch from Lake Sorell by season following the 2009 spawning

While the majority of fish presently in Lake Sorell are immature or only just maturing, there was a small proportion of male carp caught through the year that were sexually mature (Figure 3). Although there were no female fish caught that were running ripe, the proportion of fish classified as 'developed but not running ripe' increased from 1.5 per cent to 15.5 per cent respectively. The proportion of mature fish will continue to increase each year, and in response to spawning cues, these fish are expected to become more catchable as they push into the shallow margins in spring.

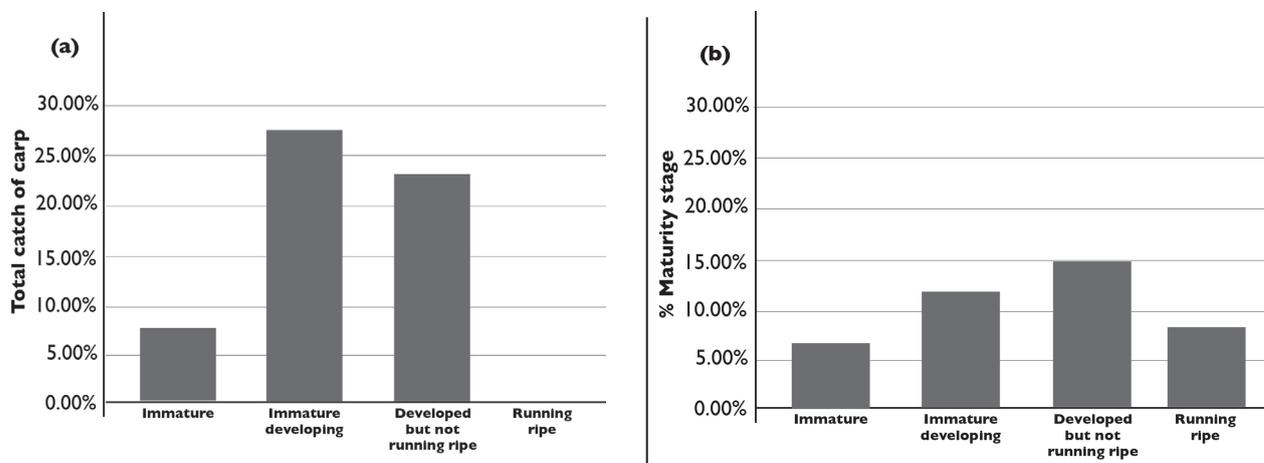


Figure 3. Percentage of (a) females and (b) males by sex stage, 2014-15 capture season

The CMP held its annual two-day workshop on the 4th and 5th May to review the past year's work and undertake planning for the coming year. Alex Schaap, formerly the director of the Environment Protection Authority, was present to provide an independent review of the workshop and assisted in the development of the 2015-16 operational plan. The first day involved presentations from staff on key aspects of the program to the stakeholder group. This group consisted of representatives from the Inland Fisheries Advisory Council, the Tasmanian Land Conservancy and the River Clyde Trust. The Deputy Premier, Jeremy Rockliff, also attended the workshop. He was supportive of the progress being made and his words of encouragement were appreciated by the team and stakeholder group.

The second day allowed staff to review relevant data to investigate opportunities to assist in the eradication of carp from Lake Sorell.

The key findings of the workshop were:

- Carp have been contained to Lake Sorell, with Lake Crescent and the Clyde River remaining carp free.
- Intensive fishing pressure during 2014-15 resulted in a dramatic decrease in catch per unit effort compared to the previous year.
- Four small carp captured during the summer were determined to have come from a spawning in 2013-14. Analysis of catch per unit effort data indicates that this cohort is very small and it is anticipated that it can be fished out along with the 2009 cohort.
- Intensive and targeted gill netting was identified as the primary method to eradicate carp by 2017-18.

The Service has established a partnership with commercial eel fishers permitting them to fish for eels in lakes Crescent and Sorell, while any by-catch of carp is kept and recorded. Eel fishers provide a valuable carp monitoring service with their large numbers of fyke nets set in marsh areas, which are checked daily. The eel fishermen commenced fishing in Lake Crescent on the 25th of November 2014 till the 19th of January 2015, with 104 fyke nets installed around the lake. In total 3,765 eels were caught, with no carp detected. Fishing in Lake Sorell commenced on the 9th of November 2014 till the 19th of January 2015, with 126 fyke nets installed. In total 11,007 eels were caught as well as six carp, including one current tracker fish.

Despite continued monitoring and the commercial fishing effort in the lake, no carp were captured in Lake Crescent during the 2014-15 period. The last mature female carp was captured in 2007 affirming that carp have now been eradicated from this lake.

The Federal Government's funding support of the Carp Management Program under the Caring for Our Country program ended 30 June 2015. The funding was crucial in enabling the increased fishing effort that has been successfully applied to the carp population fish down over the past two years. In the absence of future funding under this program, the Service is actively pursuing alternative Federal Government funding opportunities and that will hopefully continue to match the ongoing State Government commitment.

Water quality lakes Sorell and Crescent

Turbidity levels in Lake Sorell have steadily decreased since 2008, and for the last two years the average total turbidity has been 48.8 NTU. The increasing improvement of water quality is likely to be a result of high waters levels, which are able to push sediment into the far reaches of the wetlands, drawing fine particles away from the main body of water. This is in addition to increasing inflows and outflows, where large volumes of turbid water are flushed out of the system.

Currently, water quality at Lake Crescent is the best it has been since 2005 and continues to show signs of improvement. Since the extremely low water levels in 2008, the average total turbidity of Lake Crescent has improved considerably.

Scientists from the University of Canberra collaborated with the Service in developing a framework for estimating the sensitivity of environmental DNA detection to inform sampling regimes. Dr Elise Furlan, the project leader/Postdoctoral Fellow in Molecular Ecology was accompanied by her supervisors Professor Richard Duncan and Dr. Dianne Gleeson, on a visit to Lake Sorell. Water samples were taken daily at various sites around Lake Sorell. These were then filtered to trap DNA on filter paper.

Her work will highlight how many water samples must be taken before a conclusion is made that carp are present/absent in a waterway, particularly when carp are at low densities in a comparatively large water body. Lake Sorell is considered an ideal location due to its large size and isolated situation.

Elver and lamprey restocking

The IFS harvests and restocks migrating elvers and lampreys from two Hydro Tasmania (HT) catchments:

1. Meadowbank Dam in the River Derwent
2. Trevallyn Tailrace in the Tamar River

This is performed under the “Elver and Lamprey Restocking Agreement between Hydro Tasmania and the IFS 2014-15”. The agreement, now in its seventh year, requires the IFS to provide Hydro Tasmania with a summary of performance against the restocking plan.

The quantity of lamprey caught in the Meadowbank Dam trap during 2014-15 and released into Lake Meadowbank was 669 kg. A total of 18.95 kg of elver were trapped during 2014-15 from the Meadowbank Dam trap with a further 1,048 kg of elvers harvested at the Trevallyn Tailrace. A number of public waters were stocked with elvers from the two sites and are shown in Table 11.

Water stocked	Quantity (kg)	Average weight (g)	Number	Origin
Lake Burbury	50	0.9	55,556	Trevallyn Tailrace
Lake Meadowbank	18.95	9.0	2,105	Meadowbank Trap

Table 11. Summary of elver stocking in public waters 2014-15

Commercial fishers who requested elvers for restocking each received a minimum of 50 kg at no cost. An additional allocation of 834 kg of elvers was provided to Tasmanian Eel Exporters at a reduced commercial rate of \$150 per kilogram. The rate was determined taking into account future cash flows from eel royalty payments.

Priority 3: Management and development of commercial fisheries

Fish farms

The IFS licenses and regulates all freshwater fish farms in inland waters. Applications are assessed in collaboration with other state authorities to ensure compliance with environmental planning and water-management requirements. Two new farms were approved in the year: the Forest Home Salmon Hatchery at Judbury which is licensed to produce up to 400 tonnes of Atlantic salmon smolt per annum and an ornamental fish farm at Kingston.

Two fish farm licence applications were received or under consideration during the year, one for a Commercial Scale 2 (flow through water) at Westmorland on the Meander River by 41 Degrees South the other for Atkinson Aquaculture for the annual production of 10 tonnes of rainbow trout. A review of the environmental performance of salmonid freshwater fish farms undertaken by the EPA in conjunction with the IFS through the year prolonged the assessment of the applications. Preliminary findings of the review highlighted the need to effectively regulate flow through aquaculture systems, increasing the need for detailed modelling of waste management systems. The review is expected to be completed in 2015-16.

The licences of 18 salmonid fish farms and nine ornamental aquarium operations were registered at year end.

Private fisheries

Private fisheries provide recreational fishing opportunities without being subject to angling licence provisions and angling regulations. At year end there were 20 private fisheries registered with the IFS.

Fish dealers

Training of Quarantine Tasmania officers by Inland Fisheries staff occurred during August 2014 and will be repeated during October 2015. This is a component of the training of Quarantine Tasmania officers that is undertaken on an annual basis to enable them to assist with the compliance of various State Government Acts in relation to importation.

The IFS has continued working with Animal Health and Welfare branch of DPIPWE's Biosecurity division throughout 2014-15 on regulation of live fish imports. Currently the IFS regulates the imports of freshwater live fish through registering fish dealers and issuing exemption permits for specific purposes. The issue of non-regulated imports of marine aquarium fish was raised by DPIPWE's Water and Marine Resources division in December 2013. *The Inland Fisheries Act 1995* has been identified as the only instrument that allows for regulation of live fish imports and thus will be used for regulation of marine aquarium fish. The detail of the new arrangements for importation of live fish to include marine aquarium species is still being formulated and will be implemented during 2015-16.

The IFS regulates all commercial importers and sellers of freshwater fish and supplies a species list for registered fish dealers as a guide to those species that are permitted for importation and trade. Species may be imported only if:

- they are approved under the national listing by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Management through their Ornamental Fish Strategy
- they do not pose a risk of establishment in Tasmanian waters nor a risk in terms of disease.

This Permissible Imports List was further adjusted during the year to suit the needs of fish dealers, while ensuring there is no risk to the environment and industry.

During the year, 38 fish dealers were registered. This was an increase of four from the previous year.



Commercial freshwater fishing licences

All 12 existing commercial eel fishing licences were renewed during the year; however, of these only nine licences were actively fished, with the remaining three lodging nil catches in their returns.

The industry caught and held a total of 56,277 kg of wild eels, all of which were short finned eels on the returns lodged. Returns for licence number 7 had not been lodged at year end and based on usual annual catches it is expected that the overall harvest would be similar to the 64,607 kg caught in the previous year.

The IFS commenced a review of licence conditions during the year in consultation with licence holders. Agreement was reached in respect of fishers advising the IFS when and where they would be fishing and other reporting requirements. Superfluous licence conditions were deleted and licences standardised where feasible. Licence number 22, held by Tasmanian Eel Exporters, was amended to delete Lagoon of Islands as a fishery and to add Lake Echo in lieu.



Priority 4: Building and improving strategic partnerships

The IFS continued to work according to its Corporate Plan, a key component of which is to maintain and improve relationships with all stakeholders and industry participants.

Memorandums of Understanding have been developed with key stakeholders Hydro Tasmania, Tourism Tasmania, Tasmanian Irrigation and Anglers Alliance Tasmania. The IFS is a non-voting member of the Trout Guides and Lodges Association and attends Anglers Alliance Tasmania meetings. An MOU with Forico Pty Ltd was negotiated during the year and is expected to be executed in the following year.

The IFS follows a marketing plan that articulates the directions it will take in promoting the state's recreational freshwater fishery. This year the focus was on supporting junior angling and the Ford Ranger promotion.

Events

The IFS again hosted a significantly improved Trout Weekend at Liawenee on 16 and 17 May 2015 with the invaluable support of angling clubs, Fishcare volunteers, local fishing businesses and community interest groups. Planning for the event commenced early in the year with simple improvements such as site maps, with the weekend's itinerary distributed to attendees on arrival. The two junior angling ponds, which are managed by Fishcare volunteers, provided children with the opportunity to have a go at trout fishing and a good number of trout were caught. The IFS also continued with ova stripping displays with an area developed that minimised the impact of wind and improved the spectator experience. A number of food preparation areas displayed trout cooking and preparation, which was well received by the crowd. Based on the gate count it is estimated in excess of 4,000 people attended the event over the two days. The weather held for the event and was regarded as the best weather for 50 years.

Other events supported by the IFS this year included the Lake Burbury Fishing Competition, Central Highland Bushfest, Bothwell High School Fly Fishing Courses, Trout Classic - River Derwent, New Norfolk Angling Club Competition - River Derwent TGALT 150th Anniversary of Trout Photo Competition, Veterans Day (Veterans Health Week) at Craighourne Dam, North East Rivers Run Festival, Angling Hall of Fame Induction, Launceston Big Picture School, Longford Angling Club Primary School Fishing Day, Fly Fishers Club of Tasmania 60th Anniversary Dinner and the Cressy Trout Expo.

Through the year IFS staff attended functions and meetings of the North West Fisheries Association AGM, Trout Guides and Lodges AGM and Dinner, New Norfolk Anglers Club AGM, Ulverstone Anglers Club, Penguin Angling Club, Glenorchy Anglers Club, Van Diemens Fly Fishers' Club, STLAA AGM and Dinner, Westbury Anglers Club AGM, Longford Anglers Club dinner and presentation evening, North West Fly Fishers, and Bridgewater Anglers Club AGM.

The IFS participated in Business Clean-up Day on 24 February 2015. Teams worked along the River Derwent. A significant amount of rubbish was removed from sites between Green Island and Gretna.

Work experience

The Carp Management Program engaged students from the Australian Maritime College, Shah Jalal University of Science and Technology, Charles Sturt University, Rosny and Hobart college's as casual employees during the peak carp activity period over late spring and summer to maximise fishing effort.

The IFS regularly supports schools and colleges with their work experience programs. The IFS provided the opportunity for students to undertake on-the-job training and aims to foster a positive attitude towards work and assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future education and career choices. Over the past 12 months students from the University of Tasmania, Australian Maritime College, Kingston High School and St Virgil's College undertook work experience with the Carp Management Program. Students from Charles Sturt University, University of Tasmania, New South

Wales University, Australian Maritime College, Oatlands High School, St Virgil's College, Rose Bay High, Kingston High, Claremont College and a student with special needs undertook a total of 22 weeks work experience in the areas of hatchery operations, fisheries management and operations at the Salmon Ponds.

Publications

The IFS produced and distributed its annual publication containing the new season's regulations, the Tasmanian Inland Fishing Code 2015-16, which is provided free with an angling licence. The style of the publication followed the previous year's 'essential pocket guide', which while focusing on regulations also details contact information and conduct recommendations. The publication is sponsored by Hydro Tasmania, Marine and Safety Tasmania and Nekon Pty Ltd, who are the lessees of the tourist operations at the Salmon Ponds

The IFS focused on the electronic publication of news via its website at www.ifs.tas.gov.au, particularly stocking reports, angler alerts and management news. This was coupled with periodic email alerts to fishing news media and key stakeholders. The IFS also contributed editorial regularly throughout the year to fishing magazines, provided periodic news items in the regional press and contributed advertising and editorial for the trout fishing features that run at the start of the season in all regional papers. An IFS management report was presented at each AAT meeting held through the year, issue-specific reports on Shannon Lagoon and farm dam stocking for public fishing were also distributed.

- Inland Fisheries Service (2014). Carp Management Program Annual Report 2013-14
- Inland Fisheries Service (2014). Inland Fisheries Service Annual Report 2013-14
- Patil, J. G., G. J. Purser and A. M. Nicholson (2015). Sterile 'Judas' carp—Surgical sterilisation does not impair growth, endocrine and behavioural responses of male carp. *General and Comparative Endocrinology*. doi:10.1016/j.ygcen.2015.03.005.
- Purser, J., Cooper, P., Diggle, J., Ibbott, T. 2014, Tasmanian Eel Industry Development and Management Plan, University of Tasmania, Tasmania. December 2014. FRDC 2012/208.
- River Derwent Anglers Access Edition One
- Lake Crescent Fact Sheet
- Lake Kara Fact Sheet

To reflect significant changes in stocking policy and regulation, the IFS will review and republish the Tasmanian Inland Recreational Fishery Management Plan 2008-2018 in 2015-16.

Priority 5: Maintaining a high standard of individual achievement and wellbeing

While DPIPWE provides human resource administration, the IFS is responsible for the maintenance and wellbeing of its staff. The IFS complies with all DPIPWE policies in respect of human resource management.

Performance management reviews were completed for all staff during the year.

Mandatory training covering bullying and harassment and mental illness in the workplace were completed for all staff during the year. In addition the IFS supported most requests for work related training. Kellie Fahey attended Filemaker Pro database training in Melbourne and other staff attended a range of courses offered by the Tasmanian Training Consortium.

Senior staff attended the DPIPWE Senior Managers Forums and attended components of DPIPWE's leadership program as required.

Refresher first aid courses were completed in the year and Donna Barber continues as the First Aid Officer for the New Norfolk site.

The IFS encourages staff breaks during the day from constant sitting and promotes lunch-time walking. There is a fully equipped gymnasium on site together with a number of instructional DVDs that address a range of exercise methods and fitness issues.

The IFS again supported influenza vaccinations for any staff member who wished to avail themselves of the offer. Vaccinations were undertaken at the local pharmacist or the staff member's preferred GP.

Workplace inspections are carried out on a regular basis and matters identified are listed for prompt remediation.

The IFS is cognisant of the need to ensure all staff hold the necessary skills and qualifications to undertake their work safely and competently. The IFS is committed to continuing staff training and development and providing a safe working environment.

General staff meetings were held monthly through the year. All staff are encouraged to attend, with WHS issues addressed at each meeting along with key activities and program updates.

Priority 6: Improving the organisation and securing its financial future

Finance and administration

The IFS continued its review of business processes and adoption of contemporary financial management practices. The aim has been to ensure that the business of the IFS is undertaken in accordance with commercial principles, so that services are cost-effective and efficient. All major expenditure is evaluated on the basis of cost versus benefit. The IFS also complies with the Treasurer's Instructions and government financial guidelines where they are applicable.

The year concluded with a net operating balance of \$169,581 and a comprehensive result of \$374,581. The operating result exceeded budget expectations and the comprehensive result was achieved as a consequence of the revaluation of investment properties whose value increased by \$205,000. The commitment to revalue investment properties was given to the Tasmanian Audit Office in the previous year and was one of their recommendations arising from that audit.

The uptake of five-season licences continued with a further \$133,544 in revenue received during the year compared to \$352,546 in 2013-14, the first year of issuing five-season licences. The IFS at 30 June 2015 was holding a total of \$318,487 in five-season licence revenue that is applicable to the future year's income.

Interest rates on term deposits have fallen to their lowest rate since active management cash flow commenced. Despite cash holdings increasing, there was a reduction in interest income of \$20,000 compared to the previous year. The IFS investment properties were not impacted by the cash rate, highlighting the benefits of a diversified investment portfolio.

The IFS uses corporate credit cards for purchases of operational expenses where appropriate and subject to departmental policies and guidelines. At 30 June 2015 a total of 18 cards were issued to staff with a combined card facility of \$74,000.

Effective communications and maintaining current technology has been a focus of the IFS. At 30 June 2015 the IFS maintained 18 telephone land lines, 17 mobile phones, three data packs, two iPads, one test phone for Filemaker Pro and two air cards.

Asset management

The IFS recorded a loss of \$9,709 on eight vehicles that it disposed of during the year. The recording of a full service history is integral to optimising returns on disposal. The IFS monitors fuel usage and other operating costs in addition to vehicle purchase price and return on disposal to ensure that it minimises costs associated with owning its fleet. A total of 12 vehicles were in the fleet, consisting of one Toyota Prado 4x4, two Toyota Landcruiser 4x4 Flat Trays, one Holden Colorado 4x4 Dual Cab Ute and eight Ford Ranger 4x4 Dual Cab Utes. The vehicle fleet had a combined purchase cost of \$482,237 and a closing book value of \$398,215 after depreciation.

The IFS has a fleet of six vessels ranging from small punt-style boats to aluminium catamaran-style work boats. All motors with the exception of small auxiliary or small primary motors are leased from Yamaha Motor Finance. This ensures that motors are upgraded on the expiration of leases and that the IFS has the safest and most up-to-date equipment. The IFS's boat fleet had an original cost of \$176,120 and a closing book value of \$49,794 after depreciation.

The IFS continued to manage its obligations regarding the maintenance of the grounds and display fish at the Salmon Ponds, together with the management and maintenance of the museum and its collections. The grounds and restaurant area were leased to Nekon Pty Ltd in 2003 to operate as a tourist facility on a 10-year lease with a further three 10-year options. The second option to extend the lease for a further 10 years was exercised by the lessee in October 2013.

Maintenance painting works were continued at the Salmon Ponds in the year. The museum and Stannard's cottage, which houses the Tasmanian Angling Hall of Fame, were both repainted. A new veranda was installed at the museum as the old one had severe rot, the roof of Stannard's cottage was also replaced. A total of \$50,000 was spent during the year on property maintenance at the Salmon Ponds. There has been considerable erosion of the banks of the Plenty River near the house originally used as the caretaker's accommodation. A remediation plan will be undertaken in the coming year.

Ongoing maintenance continued at Liawenee Field Station during the year, culminating in new carpet being installed in all three accommodation properties. A total of \$51,000 was spent during the year on property maintenance at Liawenee. The subdivision of the Liawenee Field Station into six lots was approved by the Central Highlands Council. Two vacant blocks and the disused laboratory building have been listed for sale. These areas do not contribute to the IFS's operations and when sold will provide funds to be directly utilised in supporting the state's inland fishery.

During the year part of the office accommodation at 17 Back River Road, New Norfolk was leased to O'Driscoll Coaches Pty Ltd, who now have two full-time staff based there. The IFS also commenced negotiations with O'Driscoll Coaches Pty Ltd to construct and lease back a depot to be developed on vacant land at the rear of 17 Back River Road, New Norfolk. General heads of agreement were determined at year end but were yet to be executed. Plans and engineering were completed; however, while planning approval had been issued building and plumbing permits were yet to be obtained.

The New Norfolk hatchery was decommissioned in December 2014 following a change in stocking policy and was subsequently leased to Huon Aquaculture in January 2015. The lease is a two-year lease with further options.

The Hill Street lease continued to run its term; however, negotiations commenced at year end to assign the lease to a new lessee and to redevelop the site after the previous business moved to a new location in the vicinity. The assignment, subject to a number of terms and conditions, should be settled in 2015-16.

The IFS as part of its new approach to stocking adult fish completed the Sandbanks fish trap at Sandbanks Creek, Great Lake. The trap was completed at a cost of \$153,114 and is part of an overall investment in fish traps of \$332,449 that has been completed over the last two years.

Grants, contributions and contractors

The grant from the State Government to the IFS in the form of an administered payment via the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment was \$1,125,000. The grant was increased by \$36,000 from the prior year after adjustments for cessation of payroll tax and additional revenue of \$40,000 to support the government policy commitment of establishing a north west Fisheries Officer. Administered payments are not indexed for wages or prices movements. The challenge for the IFS continues to be to grow and to attract additional revenue to fund cost and wages movements.

The IFS also received funding amounting to \$471,500 from Caring for our Country Grants funded by the Australian Government for the Carp Management Program. This funding was matched by an amount of \$400,000 included in the administered payment. The Caring for our Country Grants concluded at 30 June and alternative funding options are being investigated.

The IFS continued to contribute financially to various organisations and projects during the year. A financial contribution of \$22,000 was provided to Anglers Alliance Tasmania as the peak inland recreational fishing body to assist with its administrative costs.

As in previous years, the IFS engaged a number of local contractors to provide a range of services, including cleaning, building maintenance, electrical and plumbing services. In addition, other contractors were engaged to provide security, field, fire, grounds and air-conditioning maintenance. All trades services are sourced from Tasmanian contractors.

Angling licensing marketing, sales and promotions

The IFS managed the recreational fishing licensing process through a direct mail-out and email of renewals to full-season licence holders and the sale of new licences through private agents, Service Tasmania and online.

The IFS mailed out 17,107 renewal forms and sent 4,571 emails to 2013-14 full-season licence holders and 11,122 were renewed during the year. When compared to the previous year, the table indicates a decline in renewals; however, there were 1,202 current licences carried forward from 2013-14 that represented five-season licences. This was the third year of issuing renewals by email and the number of emails was comparable to the year before. Almost 60 per cent of emails were opened on the day of issue, of those 25 per cent progressed to either the website, merchandising site or App store at the time. Six hundred and two emails were opened in the first hour after issue. A further 14,382 new licences were processed, giving a total of 25,504 angling licences sold for the year. In addition, 1,020 whitebait licences were sold.

The IFS continued the 150th anniversary celebrations throughout the year with the launch of a Ford Ranger giveaway promotion, whereby all full-season and five-season licence holders were eligible to be entered into the draw. The winner of the Ford Ranger was announced at Liawenee Open Weekend on 16 May 2015. Bailey Cashion, a 19 year old from New Norfolk, was announced the winner. It was his first year of holding an adult licence after previously holding junior licences. The vehicle was partly sponsored by the Tasmanian Ford dealer network.

Licence distribution and payment

The take-up rate of anglers renewing their licence was 64.2 per cent, a 7.7 per cent increase on the previous year, indicating that the Ford Ranger promotion had some impact on an angler's decision to renew.

A breakdown of angler preference for the various payment methods for renewals over the past five years is displayed in Table 12. This shows that the trend towards electronic payment of renewals continued this year.

Payment method	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Service Tasmania	5,129	4,811	4,880	4,508	4,202
Electronic (total)	5,970	6,490	7,012	7,129	5,861
Private agents	1,811	1,681	1,193	900	971
IFS	40	32	46	57	88
Total	12,950	13,014	13,131	12,594	11,122

Table 12. Comparison of angler preference for renewal payment over the past five years
Please note that these figures do not include 1,202 five-season licences issued in 2013-14.

The total number of new licences, including short-term licences sold this year, was 14,382. A breakdown in the preference for various methods of purchasing new licences over the past five years is displayed in Table 13. The majority of new licences (40.7 per cent) were distributed through private agents, as with previous years although this is a decline of over 3 per cent compared to the previous year, followed by the internet (34.7 per cent) and Service Tasmania at (24.2 per cent). There was a further rise in the number of licences sold online this year by 2.1 per cent compared to the previous year.

Payment method	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Service Tasmania	3,614	4,072	3,676	3,346	3,480
Private agents	9,654	9,114	8,010	6,390	5,848
Internet	1,730	3,459	3,824	4,731	4,991
IFS	34	100	20	44	63
Total	15,032	16,745	15,530	14,511	14,382

Table 13. Comparison of angler preference for new licence payment methods over the past five years

Licence structure and fees

Licence fees increased in accordance with the Government Fee Unit (to reflect CPI), which was rounded down to the nearest 50 cents. The cost of a junior licence was kept the same for the eighth consecutive year. A comparison of the price for the various licence types over the past five years is shown in Table 14, below:

Licence type	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Adult licence	\$66.50	\$68.50	\$70.50	\$71.50	\$72.50
Junior licence	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00
Pensioner licence	\$36.50	\$37.50	\$38.50	\$39.00	\$39.50
Senior licence	\$53.00	\$54.50	\$56.50	\$56.50	\$57.50
28 day licence	\$53.00	\$54.50	\$56.00	\$56.50	\$57.50
7 day licence	\$34.00	\$35.00	\$36.00	\$36.50	\$37.00
24 hour/*48 hour licence	\$20.00	\$21.00*	\$21.50*	\$21.50*	\$22.00
1 extra rod – adult	\$13.50	\$14.00	\$14.40	\$14.50	\$14.80
1 extra rod – other	\$6.50	\$6.50	\$7.20	\$7.30	\$7.40
Adult licence 5 season	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$339.00	\$344.00
Senior licence 5 season	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$268.00	\$272.00
Pensioner licence 5 season	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$185.00	\$187.00

Table 14. Tasmanian angling licence structure and fees for the past five years

Trend in angling licence sales

The total number of licences sold and current 5 season licences this year was 26,706, representing a decrease of 1.48 per cent compared with 27,105 licences sold in 2013-14. Licence sales in 2011-12 of 29,759 represented the largest number for any year in the previous 10 years. The current licence number reflects a decline of 10.26 per cent over the last three years. Surveys conducted at the Salmon Ponds and at Trout Weekend indicated that the ageing demographics of licence holders is having an impact and that younger licence holders enter and exit the activity dependent on time availability. Lack of time was the single main reason given for not renewing a licence. The total revenue from angling licence sales was \$1,552,751 and adjusted to exclude the impact of five-season licences was \$1,516,466 representing a decrease of 1.10 per cent compared with the total in 2013-14 of \$1,533,273. A breakdown of licences sold per category this year compared with previous years is shown in Table 15.

Licence type	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Adult licence	13,739	14,161	13,331	12,143	11,786
Junior licence	1,295	1,369	1,317	1,191	1,020
Pensioner licence	6,276	6,519	6,630	6,510	6,617
Senior licence	1,233	1,363	1,401	1,469	1,472
28 day licence	907	1,044	947	958	985
7 day licence	2,339	2,416	2,356	2,243	2,284
48 hour licence	2,650	2,887	2,679	2,591	2,542
Total	28,439	29,759	28,661	27,105	26,706

Table 15. Number of angling licences issued per licence category over the past five years

Angler origin

Sales to interstate anglers this year were up on the previous year by 383, an increase of 7 per cent. International licence sales also trended up with an additional 54 licences compared to the previous year, an increase of 25 per cent. Licences to Tasmanian anglers decreased by 563 representing a 3.0 per cent decline for the year. The breakdown of angler origin by licence type is shown in Table 16, below:

Licence type	Tasmanian	Interstate	International	Total
Adult licence	10,380	588	17	10,985
Junior licence	922	96	2	1,020
Pensioner licence	5,417	536	2	5,995
Senior licence	964	304	0	1,268
<i>Adult licence 5 season</i>	697	104	0	801
<i>Pensioner licence 5 season</i>	629	33	0	662
<i>Senior licence 5 season</i>	152	52	0	204
28 day licence	65	874	46	985
7 day licence	297	1,879	110	2,286
48 hour licence	1,392	1,052	96	2,540
Total	20,915	5,518	273	26,706

Table 16. Number of licences issued to Tasmanian, interstate and overseas anglers in 2014-15

A breakdown of the origin of international anglers this year compared with the previous four years is shown in Table 17. It shows that the top five countries for the most visiting anglers last year were:

- USA
- United Kingdom
- New Zealand
- Canada
- South Africa

Country	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Canada	16	25	16	10	15
France	8	11	5	16	12
Germany	20	23	17	13	13
Hong Kong	2	8	9	6	5
Ireland	3	14	0	2	1
Japan	14	16	13	17	8
Netherlands	5	3	1	2	4
New Zealand	12	28	26	10	25
Singapore	9	14	11	8	2
South Africa	5	16	4	2	15
Switzerland	5	10	12	4	3
United Kingdom	55	72	17	30	47
USA	56	57	52	62	73
Other	55	46	34	37	50
Total	265	343	217	219	273

Table 17. Number of angling licences issued per country over the past five years

The distribution of Australian anglers showed a rebound in mainland angler participation but a continuing trend down in participation by Tasmanian anglers (Table 18). The performance of the Arthurs Lake fishery and riverine fisheries in addition to economic factors are thought to be the main influences. It is expected that the weaker Australian dollar will again be a factor in the coming season with a greater percentage of mainland anglers expected to travel domestically.

Angler origin	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Tasmania	22,444	23,596	22,791	21,478	20,915
Victoria	2,775	2,783	2,633	2,556	2,562
New South Wales	1,313	1,253	1,316	1,185	1,269
Queensland	781	850	808	803	793
South Australia	331	318	289	283	319
Western Australia	335	382	402	370	366
Australian Capital Territory	157	177	142	160	138
Northern Territory	38	57	63	51	71
International	265	343	217	219	273
Total	28,439	29,759	28,661	27,105	26,706

Table 18. Number of licences issued in Tasmania, interstate and overseas in the past five years

Whitebait licence

The 2014 whitebait season opened on 1 October 2014 and closed on 11 November 2014. A total of 1,020 whitebait licences were sold for the six-week season compared to 746 in the previous year. The cost of a whitebait licence was \$29.60 compared to \$29.20 in the previous year. Total revenue from whitebait licences was \$30,192 compared to \$21,783 in 2013-14. This represents an increase of 37 per cent in participation compared to the previous year. This was thought to be as a direct result of improved fishing conditions in the River Derwent.

Appendices

Appendix I. Stocking of public waters in 2014-15

Water	Date	Brown	Rainbow	Brook	Salmon	Size	Origin
Big Lagoon (Bruny Island)	Oct-14	5,000				Fry	IFS New Norfolk
Big Waterhouse Lake	Dec-14		5,000			Fingerling	Huon Aquaculture
Blackmans Lagoon	Dec-14		5,000			Fingerling	Huon Aquaculture
Bradys Lake	Oct-14	60,000				Fry	IFS New Norfolk
Bradys Lake	Nov-14	15,000				Fry	IFS New Norfolk
Bradys Lake	Nov-14	15,000				Fry	IFS New Norfolk
Bradys Lake	Nov-14	50,000				Fry	IFS New Norfolk
Bradys Lake	Nov-14	100,000				Fry	IFS New Norfolk
Bradys Lake	Dec-14	22,000				Fry	IFS New Norfolk
Bradys Lake	Apr-15	2,000				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Bradys Lake	Apr-15	1,000				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Bradys Lake	Apr-15	250				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Bradys Lake	Apr-15	650				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Bradys Lake	May-14	1,500				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Break O Day River	Jul-14	30				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Break O Day River	Jul-14	130				Adult	Tumbledown Creek
Bruisers Lagoon	May-15	70				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Brushy Lagoon	Jul-14	1,070				Adult	Tumbledown Creek
Brushy Lagoon	Jul-14	10				Adult	Scotch Bobs Creek
Brushy Lagoon	Jul-14	430				Adult	Hydro Creek
Brushy Lagoon	Sep-14		600			Adult	Huon Aquaculture
Brushy Lagoon	Dec-14		1,300			Fingerling	Huon Aquaculture
Brushy Lagoon	Mar-14				250	Adult	Saltas Wayatinah
Brushy Lagoon	Apr-15				250	Adult	Saltas Wayatinah
Brushy Lagoon	Jun-15				400	Adult	Petuna Aquaculture
Camerons Lagoon	May-15	70				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Carters Lake	May-15	200				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Craigbourne Dam	Jul-14				310	Adult	Huon Aquaculture
Craigbourne Dam	Jul-14		300			Adult	Huon Aquaculture
Craigbourne Dam	Aug-14				500	Adult	Saltas Wayatinah
Craigbourne Dam	Oct-14		220			Adult	Huon Aquaculture
Craigbourne Dam	Nov-14				200	Adult	Saltas Wayatinah

Appendix I (continued). Stocking of public waters in 2014-15

Water	Date	Brown	Rainbow	Brook	Salmon	Size	Origin
Craigbourne Dam	Nov-14				295	Adult	Saltas Wayatinah
Craigbourne Dam	Nov-14				412	Adult	Saltas Wayatinah
Craigbourne Dam	Dec-14		10,000			Fingerling	Saltas Wayatinah
Craigbourne Dam	Feb-15				900	Adult	Tassal Russell Falls
Craigbourne Dam	Mar-15				300	Adult	Saltas Wayatinah
Craigbourne Dam	May-15	1,350				Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Craigbourne Dam	Jun-15	400				Adult	Scotch Bobs Creek
Craigbourne Dam	Jun-15	400				Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Curries River Reservoir	Jul-14	400				Adult	Tumbledown Creek
Curries River Reservoir	Dec-14		5,000			Fingerling	Huon Aquaculture
Dee Lagoon	Nov-14		50,000			Fingerling	Petuna Aquaculture
Four Springs Lake	Oct-14	50,000				Fry	IFS New Norfolk
Four Springs Lake	Dec-14		25,000			Fry	Huon Aquaculture
Four Springs Lake	Dec-14		25,000			Fry	Huon Aquaculture
Four Springs Lake	May-15	1,250				Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Four Springs Lake	May-15	1,500				Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Four Springs Lake	Jun-15	880				Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Four Springs Lake	Jun-15	600				Adult	Tumbledown Creek
Lake Barrington	Jul-14				225	Adult	Huon Aquaculture
Lake Barrington	Jul-14		410			Adult	Huon Aquaculture
Lake Botsford	Apr-15	100				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Lake Crescent	May-15	400				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Lake Crescent	May-15	200				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Lake Crescent	Jun-15	100				Adult	Tumbledown Creek
Lake Crescent	Jun-15	200				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Lake Crescent	Jun-15	430				Adult	Mountain Creek
Lake Crescent	Jun-15	100				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Lake Dulverton	Jun-15	55				Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Lake Dulverton	Jun-15	85				Adult	Hydro Creek
Lake Dulverton	Jun-15	235				Adult	Tumbledown Creek
Lake Dulverton	Jun-15	140				Adult	Scotch Bobs Creek
Lake Duncan	May-15	70				Adult	Sandbanks Creek

Appendix I (continued). Stocking of public waters in 2014-15

Water	Date	Brown	Rainbow	Brook	Salmon	Size	Origin
Lake Kara	Jul-14	550				Adult	Tumbledown Creek
Lake Kara	Aug-14		305			Adult	Huon Aquaculture
Lake Kara	Aug-14				70	Adult	Huon Aquaculture
Lake Kara	Nov-14				300	Adult	Saltas Wayatinah
Lake Leake	Nov-14		19,000			Fingerling	Huon Aquaculture
Lake Leake	Dec-14		1,300			Fingerling	Huon Aquaculture
Lake Leake	Dec-14		4,300			Fingerling	Huon Aquaculture
Lake Lynch	May-14	70				Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Lake Paget	May-15	50				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Lake Plimsoll	Oct-14			8,000		Fingerling	Snowy Range Fisheries
Lake Selina	Oct-14			2,000		Fingerling	Snowy Range Fisheries
Lake Waverley	Dec-14		100			Adult	Huon Aquaculture
Lake Waverley	Dec-14		94			Adult	UTas - Newnham
Lake Waverley	Dec-14		200			Adult	UTas - Newnham
Lake Waverley	Dec-14		200			Adult	UTas - Newnham
Lamberts Dam	Dec-14	5,000				Fry	IFS New Norfolk
Little Waterhouse Lake	Dec-14		5,000			Fingerling	Huon Aquaculture
Meadowbank Lake	Jul-14	1,500				Adult	Tumbledown Creek
Meadowbank Lake	Mar-15				2,000	Adult	Tassal Russell Falls
Meadowbank Lake	Mar-14				270	Adult	Saltas Wayatinah
Pawleena Reservoir	Jul-14	200				Adult	Mountain Creek
Penstock Lagoon	Aug-14	250				Adult	Hydro Creek
Penstock Lagoon	Aug-14	70				Adult	Scotch Bobs Creek
Penstock Lagoon	Oct-14	20,000				Fry	IFS New Norfolk
Penstock Lagoon	Oct-14	30,000				Fry	IFS New Norfolk
Penstock Lagoon	Dec-14		50,000			Fry	Huon Aquaculture
Penstock Lagoon	May-15	250				Adult	Tumbledown Creek
Penstock Lagoon	May-15	200				Adult	Scotch Bobs Creek
Penstock Lagoon	May-15	1,000				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Penstock Lagoon	May-15	400				Adult	Tumbledown Creek
Penstock Lagoon	May-15	50				Adult	Scotch Bobs Creek
Penstock Lagoon	May-15	800				Adult	Liawenee Canal

Appendix I (continued). Stocking of public waters in 2014-15

Water	Date	Brown	Rainbow	Brook	Salmon	Size	Origin
Penstock Lagoon	May-15	200				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Penstock Lagoon	Jun-15	250				Adult	Tumbledown Creek
Penstock Lagoon	Jun-15	30				Adult	Scotch Bobs Creek
Penstock Lagoon	Jun-15	600				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Penstock Lagoon	Jun-15	220				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Pet Dam	Jun-15	700				Adult	Tumbledown Creek
Pet Dam	Jun-15	300				Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Pioneer Lake	Oct-14				74	Adult	Huon Aquaculture
Pioneer Lake	Oct-14		76			Adult	Huon Aquaculture
River Derwent	Aug-14				20	Adult	Saltas Wayatinah
River Leven	Jul-14	400				Adult	Scotch Bobs Creek
Rocky Lagoon	Apr-15	100				Adult	Liawenee Canal
Rossarden Dam	Dec-14		1,300			Fingerling	Huon Aquaculture
Rossarden Dam	Dec-14		800			Adult	Huon Aquaculture
Rostrevor Lagoon	Sep-14	5,000				Fry	IFS New Norfolk
Tooms Lake	Jul-14	600				Adult	Mountain Creek
Tooms Lake	Nov-14		38,000			Fingerling	Huon Aquaculture
Tooms Lake	Jul-15	1,600				Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Tooms Lake	Jul-15	1,600				Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Tooms Lake	Jul-15	650				Adult	Liawenee Canal

Key Size: Fry = 0.1-5 grams, fingerlings = 6 – 100 grams, yearling = 101 – 300 grams, adult = >300 grams

Appendix 2. Stocking of private dams for junior angling development in 2014-15

Name	Area	Date	Brown trout	Rainbow trout	Atlantic salmon	Size	Origin
Bushy Park Junior Anglers	Bushy Park	Nov 14			80	Adult	Salmon Ponds
Taylor's Dam, Devonport Anglers	Latrobe	Nov 14			100	Adult	SALTAS
Taylor's Dam, Devonport Anglers	Latrobe	Dec 14			100	Adult	SALTAS
Fromberg Dam	Ulverstone	Dec 14			100	Adult	SALTAS
Hiscutt Park	Penguin	Dec 14			100	Adult	SALTAS
Mitchelsons Dam	Westbury	Oct 14	1,000			Fry	IFS New Norfolk
Bushy Park Junior Anglers	Bushy Park	Sep 14		200		Adult	Salmon Ponds
Bushy Park Junior Anglers	Bushy Park	Oct 14		100		Adult	Salmon Ponds
Junior pond at Springfield	Springfield	Oct 14		54		Adult	Huon Aquaculture
Bushy Park Junior Anglers	Bushy Park	Oct 14		50		Adult	Salmon Ponds
Tarraleah Kids Pond	Tarraleah	Oct 14		70		Adult	Salmon Ponds
Taylor's Dam, Devonport Anglers	Latrobe	Oct 14		300		Adult	Huon Aquaculture
Taylor's Dam, Devonport Anglers	Latrobe	Dec 14		30		Adult	Petuna Aquaculture
Fromberg Dam	Ulverstone	Dec 14		30		Adult	Petuna Aquaculture
Hiscutt Park	Penguin	Dec 14		30		Adult	Petuna Aquaculture

Size: Fry = 0.1-5 grams, adult = >300 grams

Appendix 3. Stocking of private dams for public fishing in 2014-15

Property owner name and address	Contact details	Dam location coordinates	Stocking: number, species, date stocked	Notes
John and Dianne Elphinstone 74 Woodbury Lane Thirlstone 7307	John 0407 269 255	5 Dams 462500E, 5437608N 462955E, 5437905N 462924E, 5437717N 463331E, 5437426N 463499E, 5437385N	December 2014 50 Brown trout fry 500 Brown trout fry 500 Brown trout fry 750 Brown trout fry 200 Brown trout fry	Access by prior permission with John's mobile number. Sign at front entry off Woodbury Lane
Scott Elphinstone 140 Woods Creek Road Sassafras 7307	Scott 0418 334 719	2 Dams 462065E, 5432498N 461945E, 5432075N	December 2014 1,000 Brown trout fry 1,000 Brown trout fry	Access by prior permission with Scott's mobile number. Sign at stiles at Greens Creek Road
Darren Wigg 908 Pine Road Rianna 7316	Darren 0408 335 001	4 Dams 415260E, 5441891N 415326E, 5442010N 415881E, 5441461N 415973E, 5441820N	December 2014 250 Brown trout fry 250 Brown trout fry 250 Brown trout fry 250 Brown trout fry	Access by prior permission. Darren's mobile number. Access sign at Kergers Road and Pine Road entries
Max and Nathan Skirvings 91 Skievings Road Sassafras	Max 0408 642 667 Nathan 0418 518 942	3 Dams with access off Greens Creek Road 462102E, 5428584N 462130E, 5428871N 462161E, 5429109N	December 2014 500 Brown trout fry 500 Brown trout fry 500 Brown trout fry	Stile over fence with access sign next to gate. Prior permission not required

Appendix 4. Results for Angler Postal Survey 2010-11 to 2014-15

Ranking	Season 2014-2015	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2013-2014	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2012-2013	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2011-2012	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2010-2011	Catch rate*	Total anglers
Lakes															
1	Great	1.23	6,969	Great	1.37	7,780	Great	1.22	8,553	Arthurs	1.99	7,945	Arthurs	2.02	8,476
2	Arthurs	1.24	6,684	Arthur	1.54	7,267	Arthur	1.71	7,551	Great	1.35	7,758	Great	1.74	7,023
3	Woods	1.71	3,516	Woods	2.26	3,505	Woods	2.22	3,853	Woods	2.97	3,206	Woods	3.58	3,908
4	Bronte	0.86	2,534	Bronte	1.23	2,507	Bronte	1.63	2,663	Little Pine	1.24	2,773	Bronte	1.44	2,666
5	Bradys	0.65	2,059	Little Pine	1.65	2,137	Craigbourne	0.80	2,318	Craigbourne	0.73	2,286	Little Pine	1.36	2,587
6	Penstock	1.63	2,027	Four Springs	0.85	2,108	Little Pine	1.43	2,161	Penstock	1.40	2,286	Four Springs	1.09	2,297
7	Little Pine	1.62	1,995	Bradys	0.48	1,880	Four Springs	0.97	2,099	Four Springs	1.08	2,173	Craigbourne	1.02	2,138
8	Craigbourne	0.65	1,742	Penstock	1.15	1,795	Penstock	1.39	2,067	Barrington	0.53	2,098	Bradys	0.61	1,954
9	Tooms	1.58	1,615	Augusta	1.72	1,652	Brushy	0.96	1,848	Bronte	1.09	2,023	Penstock	1.2	1,927
10	Leake	0.91	1,583	Leake	1.50	1,624	Bradys	0.89	1,817	Bradys	0.79	1,611	Huntsman	1.72	1,610
11	Four Springs	1.06	1,362	Echo	1.34	1,378	Echo	1.34	1,378	Echo	1.92	1,611	Barrington	0.7	1,557
12	Brushy	0.55	1,298	Craigbourne	1.15	1,396	Tooms	1.28	1,190	Brushy	0.93	1,536	Brushy	0.73	1,557
13	Meadowbank	0.78	1,140	Brushy	0.76	1,368	Augusta	2.84	1,159	Huntsman	2.09	1,349	Tooms	1.65	1,557
14	Augusta	1.78	1,108	Burbury	1.51	1,310	Barrington	0.49	1,159	Burbury	2.93	1,236	Echo	2.11	1,399
15	Binney	0.56	1,045	Tooms	1.39	1,310	King William	3.61	1,159	Tooms	1.91	1,199	Burbury	1.84	1,241
Rivers															
1	Derwent	0.58	2,597	Mersey	1.33	2,365	Derwent	0.73	2,631	Derwent	0.73	2,661	Derwent	0.61	2,402
2	Mersey	0.89	2,375	Derwent	0.66	2,337	Mersey	1.16	2,412	South Esk	1.00	2,586	South Esk	2.03	2,376
3	South Esk	1.45	2,280	Brumbys	0.69	2,051	Brumbys	0.54	2,067	Brumbys	1.03	1,911	Brumbys	1.05	2,270
4	Brumbys	0.4	1,837	Meander	0.75	2,023	South Esk	0.73	1,879	Mersey	1.99	1,911	Mersey	1.12	1,901
5	Meander	1.01	1,583	South Esk	1.12	1,539	Tyenna	1.65	1,817	Meander	1.64	1,799	Macquarie	1.01	1,531
6	Tyenna	3.89	1,520	Macquarie	1.15	1,453	Meander	1.41	1,566	Macquarie	1.05	1,649	Meander	1.6	1,478
7	Macquarie	0.4	1,330	Tyenna	1.95	1,111	Macquarie	0.40	1,441	Leven	0.78	1,236	Tyenna	2.68	1,320
8	Huon	0.38	1,298	Huon	0.67	1,025	Leven	1.07	1,065	Tyenna	2.37	1,236	Huon	0.49	977
9	North Esk	0.73	887	North Esk	1.25	826	Huon	0.61	971	Huon	0.58	1,161	Leven	1.57	977
10	Leven	0.98	855	St Patricks	2.90	826	North Esk	0.68	751	St Patricks	1.29	936	North Esk	2.78	871

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

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME for the year ended 30 June 2015

	Notes	2015 Budget \$	2015 Actual \$	2014 Actual \$
Revenue and other income from transactions				
Angling and Other Licence Fees	3	1,637,000	1,698,441	1,932,329
Grants	2.1(a), 4	1,125,000	1,596,500	1,437,500
External Grants and Reimbursements	2.1(b)	-	94,111	117,799
Interest Revenue		120,000	100,057	121,818
Other Revenue	2.1(c), 5	990,000	586,845	579,741
Total revenue and other income from transactions		3,872,000	4,075,954	4,189,187
Expenses from transactions				
Personnel Expenses	2.1(d), 6	2,200,000	1,986,011	1,889,168
Operating Costs	2.1(e), 7	1,337,000	1,650,903	1,642,681
Depreciation Expenses	9	260,000	259,750	251,142
Total expenses from transactions		3,797,000	3,896,664	3,782,991
Net result from transactions (net operating balance)		75,000	179,290	406,196
Other economic flows included in net result				
Net gain (loss) on Sale of Non-Financial Assets	8	-	(9,709)	1,925
Net Result		75,000	169,581	408,121
Fair Value Adjustments				
Adjustments to the value of Investment Property	2.1(f)	16,000	205,000	-
Comprehensive Result		91,000	374,581	408,121

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 2015

	Notes	2015 Budget \$	2015 Actual \$	2014 Actual \$
Financial assets				
Cash at Bank	16(b)	2,469,000	2,424,872	2,206,729
Trade and Other Receivables	17	116,000	118,866	144,491
Total financial assets		2,585,000	2,543,738	2,351,220
Non-financial assets				
Property, Plant and Equipment	2.2(g), 9	3,992,000	4,205,088	4,190,243
Investment Property	2.2(h), 10	2,230,000	2,435,000	2,230,000
Total non-financial assets		6,222,000	6,640,088	6,420,243
Total Assets		8,807,000	9,183,826	8,771,463
Current Liabilities				
Trade and Other Payables	2.2(i), 18	75,000	124,802	122,031
Provisions	15(a)	275,000	286,133	275,120
Total Current Liabilities		350,000	410,935	397,151
Non-Current Liabilities				
Provisions	2.2(j), 15(a)	288,000	319,163	295,165
Total Non-Current Liabilities		288,000	319,163	295,165
Total Liabilities		638,000	730,098	692,316
Net Assets		8,169,000	8,453,728	8,079,147
Equity				
Reserves	12	2,283,000	2,263,006	2,058,006
Accumulated Funds	2.2(k), 13	2,686,000	2,990,868	2,821,287
Contributed Capital	14	3,200,000	3,199,854	3,199,854
Total Equity		8,169,000	8,453,728	8,079,147

This Statement of Financial Position 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 2015

	Notes	2015 Budget	2015 Actual \$	2014 Actual \$
Cash Flows From Operating Activities				
Receipts from Customers	2(l)	2,627,000	2,379,397	2,569,602
GST Received		99,000	80,293	65,056
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		(3,537,000)	(3,437,910)	(3,343,239)
GST Paid	2(m)	(130,000)	(186,766)	(186,349)
Receipts from Government		1,125,000	1,125,000	1,089,000
Receipts from External Projects		-	471,500	348,500
Interest Received		120,000	99,219	119,183
<i>Net cash provided by operating activities</i>	16 (a)	<u>304,000</u>	<u>530,733</u>	<u>661,753</u>
Cash Flows From Investing Activities				
Payments for Plant, Equipment and Vessels	2(n)	(160,000)	(242,794)	(247,218)
Payments for Buildings	2(o)	-	(238,331)	(179,335)
Proceeds from disposal of plant and equipment	2(p), 8	80,000	168,536	60,039
<i>Net cash provided by (used) in investing activities</i>		<u>(80,000)</u>	<u>(312,589)</u>	<u>(366,514)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held		224,000	218,143	295,239
Cash at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>2,245,000</u>	<u>2,206,729</u>	<u>1,911,490</u>
Cash at the End of the Reporting Period	16 (b)	<u>2,469,000</u>	<u>2,424,872</u>	<u>2,206,729</u>

This Statement of Cash Flows 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 2015

		Contributed Equity	Reserves	Accumulated Funds	Total Equity
Notes	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance as at 1 July 2014		3,199,854	2,058,006	2,821,287	8,079,147
Total comprehensive result	13		205,000	169,581	374,581
Balance as at 30 June 2015		<u>3,199,854</u>	<u>2,263,006</u>	<u>2,990,868</u>	<u>8,453,728</u>
		Contributed Equity	Reserves	Accumulated Funds	Total Equity
Notes	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance as at 1 July 2013		3,199,854	2,058,006	2,413,166	7,671,026
Total comprehensive result	13			408,121	408,121
Balance as at 30 June 2014		<u>3,199,854</u>	<u>2,058,006</u>	<u>2,821,287</u>	<u>8,079,147</u>

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

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

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 is a body corporate under the Act and 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 these 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 and Interpretations; and voluntary adoption of the majority of Treasurers Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Financial Management and Audit Act 1990*. The resulting partial compliance has no financial impact.

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.

(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 Accounting Standards Board that are relevant to its operations and effective for the current annual reporting period. These include:

□ AASB 1055 Budgetary Reporting – The objective of this Standard is to specify budgetary disclosure requirements for the whole of government, General Government Sector (GGS) and not-for-profit entities within the GGS of each government. Disclosures made in accordance with this Standard provide users with information relevant to assessing performance of an entity, including accountability for resources entrusted to it. The IFS disclosed budget information and explanations of major variances between actual and budget amounts in accordance with the new requirement. There is no financial impact.

2013-9 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Conceptual Framework, Materiality and Financial Instruments* [Operative dates; Part C *Conceptual Framework* – 20 December 2013; Part B *Materiality* - 1 January 2014; Part C *Financial Instruments* – 1 January 2015] – The objective of this Standard is to make amendments to the Standards and interpretations listed in the Appendix:

- (a) As a consequence of the issue of Accounting Framework AASB CF 2013-1 *Amendments to the Australian Conceptual Framework*, and editorial corrections, as set out in Part A of this Standard;
- (b) To delete references to AASB 1031 *Materiality* in other Australian Accounting Standards, and to make editorial corrections, as set out in Part B of this Standard; and
- (c) As a consequence of the issuance of IFRS 9 *Financial Instruments – Hedge Accounting* and amendments to IFRS9, IFRS7 and IAS 39 by the IASB in November 2013, as set out in Part C of this Standard. There is no financial impact.

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

The following applicable Standards have been issued by the AASB and are yet to be applied:

□ AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* – The objective of this Standard is to establish the principles that an entity shall apply to report useful information to users of financial statements about the nature, amount, timing, an uncertainty of *revenue* and cash flows arising from a *contract* with a *customer*. This Standard applies to annual reporting periods on or after 1

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

January 2017. Where an entity applies the Standard to an earlier annual reporting period, it shall disclose that fact. The IFS is still to determine the impact.

□ AASB 15-6 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Extending Related Party Disclosures to Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities* – The objective of this Standard is to extend the scope of AASB 124 *Related Party Disclosures* to include not-for-profit public sector entities. There will be no material impact.

□ AASB 15-7 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Fair Value Disclosures of Not-for Profit Public Sector Entities [AASB 13]* – The objective of this Standard is to make amendments to AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* to relieve not-for-profit public sector entities from certain disclosures applying to assets within the scope of AASB 116 *Property, Plant and Equipment* whose future economic benefits are not primarily dependent on the assets ability to generate future net cash inflows. There will be no material impact.

□ 2010-7, 2014-7 and 2014-8 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9* – The objectives of these Standards is to make amendments to various standards as a consequence of the issuance of AASB 9 *Financial Instruments* in December 2010. The IFS has determined there will not be any financial impact.

□ 2014-4 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Clarification of Acceptable Methods of Depreciation and Amortisation [AASB 116 & AASB 138]* – The objective of this Standard is to make amendments to:

- (a) AASB 116 *Property, Plant and Equipment*; and
- (b) AASB 138 *Intangible Assets*;

as a consequence of the issuance of International Financial Reporting Standard *Clarification of Acceptable Methods of Depreciation and Amortisation* (Amendments to IAS 16 and IAS 38) by the International Accounting Standards Board in May 2014. It is not expected to have a financial impact.

□ 2014-8 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2014)– Application of AASB 9 (December 2009) and AASB 9 (December 2010) [AASB 9 (2009&2010)]* – The objective of this Standard is to make amendments to:

- (a) AASB 9 *Financial Instruments* (December 2009); and
- (b) AASB 9 *Financial Instruments* (December 2010);

as a consequence of the issuance amendments to AASB 9 *Financial Instruments* in December 2014. The IFS has determined there is no financial impact.

□ 2015-2 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure Initiative: Amendments to AASB 101 [AASB 7, AASB 134 & AASB 1049]* The objective of this Standard is to make amendments to various standards (as noted) as a consequence of the issuance of International Financial Reporting Standard *Disclosure Initiative* (Amendments to IAS 1) by the International Accounting Standards Board in December 2014, and to make editorial correction. There is no financial impact.

□ 2015--3 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Withdrawal of AASB 1031 Materiality* – The objective of this Standard is to effect the withdrawal of AASB 1031 *Materiality* and to delete references to AASB 1031 in the Australian Accounting Standards, as set out in paragraph 13 of this Standard.

(iii) Changes in Accounting Policy

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

(c) Revenues

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.

Angling and other licence fees are recognised on receipt as cash sales.

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

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

reliably. 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.

Rental income is invoiced monthly in advance and recorded as revenue when invoiced.

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 in note 17. The note also discloses the amount of unused grant or contribution from prior years that was expended on IFS operations during the current year.

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.

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.

(d) 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.

Personnel Expenses includes entitlements to wages and salaries, annual leave, long service leave, superannuation and any other post-employment benefits.

Operating costs are recognised when a decrease in future economic benefits related to a decrease in an asset or a liability has arisen that can be reliably measured. 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.

(e) 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.

Gain/(loss) on sale of non-financial assets.

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

Impairment – Financial assets

Financial assets are assessed at each reporting date to determine whether there is any objective evidence that there are any financial assets that are impaired. A financial asset is considered to be impaired if objective evidence indicates that one or more events have had a negative effect on the estimated future cash flows of that asset.

An impairment loss, in respect of a financial asset measured at amortised cost, is calculated as the difference between its carrying amount, and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the original effective interest rate.

All impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

An impairment loss is reversed if the reversal can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised. For financial assets measured at amortised cost and available-for-sale financial assets that are debt securities, the reversal is recognised in profit or loss. For available-for-sale financial assets that are equity securities, the reversal is recognised directly in equity.

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 its 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.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

All impairment losses are recognised in Statement of Comprehensive Income.

In respect of other assets, 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.

Other gains/(losses) from other economic flows

Other gains/(losses) from other economic flows includes gains or losses from reclassifications of amounts from reserves and/or accumulated surplus to net result, and from the revaluation of the present values of the long service leave liability due to changes in the bond interest rate.

(iv) 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.

(f) 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.

(g) Non-Current Assets

Acquisition, Recognition and Valuation

Non-current assets are initially recorded at their cost of acquisition and re-valued in accordance with the following accounting policy.

The asset capitalisation threshold adopted by the IFS is \$10,000, and have a useful life in excess of two years. 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. They are then valued every six years in accordance with the municipal valuation cycle developed by the Valuer-General. Valuations become effective as at 1 July in the year prior to the valuation being issued. Valuations are indexed in years between the valuation cycles based on indices published by the Valuer-General to ensure they reflect fair value at balance date. This year the indices for the municipalities in which the IFS owns properties were declared at 1 therefore valuations were not adjusted in the year. The valuations were performed on the basis of 'current market value in existing use' and uses the market comparable approach that reflects transaction prices for similar properties. The significant level 2 input is price per square metre.

Motor Vehicles, Vessels, Plant and Equipment

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

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.

Impairment of assets

At each reporting date, the IFS assesses whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. Where an indicator of impairment exists, the IFS makes a formal estimate of recoverable amount. Where the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount the asset is considered impaired and is written down to its recoverable amount.

Depreciation

Items of property, 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.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

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
Plant and Equipment	10 Years to 25 Years
Vehicles	8 Years
Vessels	10 Years

(h) Investment properties

Investment properties were measured initially at cost. These properties were revalued by the Valuer General as at 30 June 2015 on a fair value basis.

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.

(i) Comparative Figures

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

(j) Trade and Other Receivables

Receivables are carried at amortised cost, less any impairment losses.

(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 30 days. Payables are disclosed 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.

(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 amount of contributions paid to defined benefit schemes was \$90,247 (2013-2014, \$86,267), and the amount paid to accumulation schemes was \$110,293.38 (2013-2014, \$118,605).

The IFS has complied with the *Public Sector Superannuation Reform Act 1999*.

(n) Economic Dependence

The IFS's is dependent upon the ongoing receipt of grant funding via the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment. This administered payment amounted to \$1,125,000 and represented 28% 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.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

(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.

(p) Leases

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income on a straight line basis over the lease term.

(q) 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, which are disclosed in notes 1(f) and 14.
- property, plant and equipment in notes 1(g) and 8.
- investment properties in notes 1(h) and 9.

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.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2015, continued.

Note 2

Note 2.1 Statement of Comprehensive Income

Statement of Comprehensive Income variances are considered material where the variance exceed the greater of 10 per cent of budget estimate and \$75,000.

	Note	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000	Variance %
Grants	(a)	1,125	1,596	471	30
Exernal Grants and Reimbursements	(b)	-	94	94	100
Other Revenue	(c)	990	681	309	32
Personnel Expenses	(d)	2,200	1,986	214	10
Operating Costs	(e)	1,337	1,651	314	19
Adjustments to the value of Investment	(f)	16	205	189	90

Property

- (a) Carp funding not included in budget
- (b) No recorded as separate item in budget Included in "Other Revenue"
- (c) Sales of elver & other products not achieved as budgetted.
- (d) Budget for staff on full year basis
- (e) Carp program expenditure
- (f) Valuations exceed budget projections

Note 2.2 Statement of Financial Position

Budget estimates for the 2014-15 Statement of Financial Position were compiled prior to the completion of the actual outcomes fro 2014-15. As a result, the actual variance from the original budget will be impacted by the difference between the estimated and actual opening balances for 2014-15. The following variance analysis therefore included major movements between the 30 June 2014 and 30 June 2015 actual balances.

	Note	Budget \$'000	2015 Actual \$'000	2014 Actual \$,000	Budget Variance \$'000	Actual Variance \$'000
Property Plant and Equipment	(g)	3,992	4,205	4,190	213	15
Investment Property	(h)	2,230	2,435	2,230	205	205
Trade and Other Payables	(i)	75	125	122	50	3
Provisions	(j)	288	319	295	31	24
Accumulated Funds	(k)	2,686	2,991	2,821	305	170

- (g) Turnover of vehicles higher than expected, Sandbanks Fish trap not included in budget.
- (h) Valuations higher than predicted
- (i) Plan to reduce year end payables not achieved
- (j) Provision increased at rate greater than predicted
- (k) Comprehensive result greater than predicted

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2015, continued.

Note 2.3 Statement of Cash Flows

Statement of Cash Flows variances are considered material where the variance exceed the greater of 10 per cent of budget estimate and \$75,000.

	Note	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000	Variance %
Receipts from Customers	(l)	2,627	2,379	248	10
GST Paid	(m)	130	187	57	31
Payments for Plant & Equipment	(n)	160	243	83	35
Payments for Buildings	(o)	-	238	238	100
Proceeds from the disposal of P&E	(p)	80	169	89	53

- (l) Budgetted sales targets not achieved
- (m) Increased due to asset payments
- (n) Vehicle turnover greater that budget
- (o) Sandbanks fish trap not included in original budget
- (p) Vehicle turnover greater than budget

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2015, continued.

	2015	2014
Note 3	Angling and Other Licence Revenue	
	\$	\$
	Angling Licences 1,568,317	1,815,310
	Other Licences 109,694	96,855
	Permits and Registrations 20,430	20,164
	1,698,441	1,932,329
<p>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 \$133,544 was received in the year for five season licences of this amount \$106,835 is applicable to future years. The IFS is holding a total of \$318,487 of revenue applicable to future years.</p>		
Note 4	Grants	
	Government Contribution 1,125,000	1,089,000
	Other Grants 471,500	348,500
	1,596,500	1,437,500
Note 5	Other Revenue	
	Rents 193,229	161,539
	Investment property rental 196,445	196,868
	General Sales & Miscellaneous Revenue 189,388	211,113
	Fines 7,783	10,221
	586,845	579,741
Note 6	Personnel Expenses	
	Salaries 1,495,514	1,451,721
	Superannuation 203,279	204,872
	Leave 226,383	180,463
	Other 60,835	52,112
	1,986,011	1,889,168
Note 7	Operating Costs	
	Advertising Promotions 50,114	68,519
	Audit Fees 20,202	18,690
	Conferences & Training 9,900	10,898
	Contractors/Consultants 61,398	69,535
	Equipment Maintenance/Hire 50,468	51,013
	General Insurance 37,770	35,582
	Motor Vehicle Expenses 82,842	83,717
	Office Related Expenses 128,600	161,789
	Operating Expenses 287,902	285,141
	Contract Services 248,115	184,080
	Rates and Property Costs 377,189	352,187
	Grants & Contributions 94,800	38,815
	Printing / Publications 57,700	115,160
	Protective Clothing 11,243	16,001
	Vessel Costs 33,281	34,015
	Travel Expenses 99,379	117,539
	1,650,903	1,642,681
Note 8	Gains / (Losses) on Disposal of Assets	
	Proceeds From the Disposal of Plant & Equipment 168,535	60,039
	Written Down Value of Disposed Assets (178,244)	(58,114)
	Total Gain/(Loss) on Disposal (9,709)	1,925

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2015, continued.

Note 9 (a) Property, Plant and Equipment	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Land at Fair Value *	593,000	593,000
	<u>593,000</u>	<u>593,000</u>
Buildings at Fair Value*	3,373,147	3,220,033
Less Accumulated Depreciation	674,234	583,618
	<u>2,698,913</u>	<u>2,636,415</u>
Motor Vehicles at Cost	482,237	527,141
Less Accumulated Depreciation	87,411	92,504
	<u>394,826</u>	<u>434,637</u>
Equipment at Cost	1,170,017	1,170,017
Less Accumulated Depreciation	802,134	705,581
	<u>367,883</u>	<u>464,436</u>
Vessels at Cost	176,121	176,121
Less Accumulated Depreciation	126,327	114,366
	<u>49,794</u>	<u>61,755</u>
Work in Progress at cost	100,672	-
	<u>100,672</u>	<u>-</u>
Total property, plant and equipment	<u><u>4,205,088</u></u>	<u><u>4,190,243</u></u>

*Statutory valuations by the Valuer General are derived from the analysis of market sales for different classes of properties and locality. The indices issued for 2014/2015 for the municipalities in which the IFS owns property were .95 and 1 therefore valuations did not change materially from the prior year.

(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.

2015	Land Level 2 (vacant land in active markets)	Buildings Level 2 (general office buildings)	Motor Vehicles	Plant and Equipment	Vessels	Work In Progress	Total
	\$,000	\$,000	\$,000	\$,000	\$,000	\$,000	\$,000
Balance 1 July	593	2,636	435	464	62	-	4,190
Additions	-	153	228	-	-	101	482
Disposals	-	-	(209)	-	-	-	(209)
Depreciation Expense	-	(90)	(60)	(96)	(12)	-	(258)
Transfers between classes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carrying Amount 30 June	<u>593</u>	<u>2,699</u>	<u>394</u>	<u>368</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>4,205</u>

2014	Land	Buildings	Motor Vehicles	Plant and Equipment	Vessels	Work In Progress	Total
	\$,000	\$,000	\$,000	\$,000	\$,000	\$,000	\$,000
Balance 1 July	593	2,543	345	513	44	35	4,073
Additions	-	179	197	48	36	-	460
Disposals	-	-	(54)	-	(4)	-	(58)
Depreciation Expense	-	(86)	(53)	(97)	(14)	-	(250)
Transfers between classes	-	-	-	-	-	(35)	-
Carrying Amount 30 June	<u>593</u>	<u>2,636</u>	<u>435</u>	<u>464</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,190</u>

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2015, continued.

	2015 \$'000	2014 \$'000
Note 10 Investment Property		
(a) Carrying amount		
At valuation, cost in 2014	2,435	2,230
Less : Provision for impairment	-	-
	2,435	2,230
Work in progress at cost	-	-
Total	2,435	2,230

Investment properties consist of a food outlet at Western Junction, a property in West Hobart that operated as a supermarket and a property in Moonah that operates as a retail outlet.

Investment properties were revalued as at 30 June 2015 by the Valuer- General on a fair value basis. Fair value is an assessment of market value under normal market value principles using the Income Approach (capitalisation of assessed rental income). In 2014 investment properties were carried at cost.

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

	2015 Level 2 \$'000	2015 Total \$000	2014 Total \$'000
Carrying amount at 1 July	2,230	2,230	2,230
New purchases	-		-
Capitalised expenditure	-		-
Disposals and assets classified as held for sale	-		-
Net additions through restructuring	-		-
Net gains(losses) from fair value adjustments	205	205	-
Net transfers free of charge	-		-
Carrying amount at 30 June	2,435	2,435	2,230

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

	2015 \$'000	2014 \$'000
Rental income	196	197
Net gain (loss) from fair value adjustment	205	-
Direct operating expenses from property that generated rental income	(3)	(2)
Direct operating expenses from property that did not generate rental income	-	-
Total	398	195

(d) 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.

	2015 \$	2014 \$
One Year or less	165,045	126,348
From one to five years	734,112	477,050
More than five years	119,263	214,673
Total	1,018,420	818,071

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2015, continued.

(e) Contractual obligations

At year end there were no executed contractual obligations to purchase, construct or develop investment property or for repairs, maintenance or enhancements. However the IFS intends to enter into a contract with O'Driscoll Coaches Pty Ltd to construct and lease a bus depot on vacant land owned by the IFS at the rear of 17 Back River Road New Norfolk in 2015-16.

Note 11	Auditor's Remuneration	2015	2014
	The total of fees paid or due and payable for the financial year:	\$	\$
	Fees for Audit	19,710	18,610
		19,710	18,610
Note 12	Reserves		
	Asset Revaluation Reserve-Land	880,395	780,395
	Asset Revaluation Reserve-Buildings	1,382,611	1,277,611
		2,263,006	2,058,006
	Movements during the year:		
	Balance at the beginning of period	2,058,006	2,058,006
	Add Revaluation Increment	205,000	-
	Balance at the end of period	2,263,006	2,058,006
Note 13	Accumulated Funds		
	Opening Balance	2,821,287	2,413,166
	Net Surplus for the year.	169,581	408,121
	Closing Balance	2,990,868	2,821,287

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2015, continued.

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Note 14 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:		
Balance as at 1 July	3,199,854	3,199,854
Balance as at 30 June	<u>3,199,854</u>	<u>3,199,854</u>
 Note 15 (a) Employee Entitlements		
Current		
Annual Leave	183,935	176,732
Long Service Leave - Unconditional	38,961	39,741
Accrued Salaries	63,237	58,647
	<u>286,133</u>	<u>275,120</u>
Non- Current		
Long Service Leave - Conditional	319,163	295,165
	<u>319,163</u>	<u>295,165</u>
 Total	<u>605,296</u>	<u>570,285</u>
 Settled within 12 months	286,133	275,120
Settled in more than 12 months	319,163	295,165
	<u>605,296</u>	<u>570,285</u>

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2015 continued.

		2015	2014
		\$	\$
Note 16 (a)	Reconciliation of Net Cash Used in Operating Activities to Surplus / (Deficit)		
	Net Surplus	169,581	408,121
	Non-cash adjustments		
	Net (gain) loss on sale of non-financial assets	9,709	(1,925)
	Net (gain) loss in write off of non-financial assets	28,286	-
	Depreciation	259,750	251,142
	Change in Assets/Liabilities		
	Increase (decrease) in employee entitlements	35,011	18,091
	Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	2,771	47,149
	(Increase) decrease in receivables	25,625	(60,825)
	Net cash gained (used) in operating activities	530,733	661,753
	<p>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:</p>		
	(b) Cash at Bank	2,424,872	2,206,729
	(c) Corporate Credit Card		
	Facility Available	74,000	70,000
	Less Used/Committed	(10,383)	(5,504)
	Balance unused	63,617	64,496
Note 17	Trade and Other Receivables		
	Sundry Debtors	118,866	117,083
	Net GST Receivable	-	27,408
		118,866	144,491
Note 18	Trade and Other Payables		
	Current		
	Trade Creditors	124,802	122,031
		124,802	122,031

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2015, continued.

Note 19 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 20 Financial Instruments

20.1 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 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 2015 but not impaired				
	Past due 30 days	Past due 60 days	Past Due 90 days	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Trade & Other Receivables	108,724	14,394	3,359	118,866
Analysis of financial assets that are past due at 30 June 2014 but not impaired				
	Past due 30 days	Past due 60 days	Past due 90 days	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Trade & Other Receivables	117,852	26,274	365	144,491

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2015, continued.

(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 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.

2015

Maturity analysis for financial liabilities								
	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years	4 Years	5 Years	More than 5 Years	Undiscounted total	Carrying amount
Financial Liabilities	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Trade & Other Payables	124,082	-	-	-	-	-	124,082	124,082
Total	124,082	0	0	0	0	0	124,082	124,082

2014

Maturity analysis for financial liabilities								
	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years	4 Years	5 Years	More than 5 Years	Undiscounted total	Carrying amount
Financial Liabilities	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Trade & Other Payables	122,031	-	-	-	-	-	122,031	122,031
Total	122,031	0	0	0	0	0	122,031	122,031

(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:

	2015 \$,000	2014 \$,000
Variable rate instruments		
Financial assets	2,425	2,207
Financial liabilities	-	-
Total	2,425	2,207

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:

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2015, continued.

Sensitivity analysis of Services exposure to possible changes in interest rates

	Income Statement		Equity	
	100 basis points increase	100 basis points decrease	100 basis points increase	100 basis points decrease
30 June 2015	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash	24,249	(24,249)	24,249	(24,249)
Net sensitivity	24,249	(24,249)	24,249	(24,249)
30 June 2014	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash	22,070	(22,070)	22,070	(22,070)
Net sensitivity	22,070	(22,070)	22,070	(22,070)

This analysis assumes all other variables remain constant. The analysis was performed on the same basis for 2012.

Categories of financial assets and liabilities

	2015 \$'000	2014 \$'000
Financial assets		
Cash and Receivables on intital recognition.	2,544	2,351
Total	2,544	2,351
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	(125)	(122)
Total	(125)	(122)

Net fair values of financial assets and liabilities	2015 Total Carrying Amount \$'000	2015 Net Fair Value \$'000	2014 Total Carrying Amount \$'000	2014 Net Fair Value \$'000
	Financial Assets			
Cash at bank	2,425	2,425	2,207	2,207
Receivables	118	118	144	144
Total financial assets	2,544	2,544	2,351	2,351
Financial liabilities (recognised)				
Trade Creditors	124	124	122	122
Other financial liabilities	-	-	-	-
Total financial liabilities (recognised)	124	124	122	122

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2015, continued.

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 21 Commitments and Contingencies

Schedule of Commitments

2015	2014
\$	\$

By Type

Lease commitments

Operating leases (ii)	52,040	37,386
<i>Total Lease Commitments</i>	52,040	37,386

(i) There were no capital commitments at year end.

(ii) The operating leases are in relation to a photocopier and five Yamaha outboard motors.

By Maturity

2015	2014
\$	\$

Operating lease commitments

One Year or less	23,466	15,262
From one to five years	28,574	22,124
More than five years	-	-
<i>Total operating lease commitments</i>	52,040	37,386



Inland Fisheries Service

17 Backriver Road, New Norfolk, TAS 7140
PO Box 575, New Norfolk, TAS 7140 Australia
Ph 1300 463 474 Fax (03) 6261 8051
Email infish@ifs.tas.gov.au Web www.ifs.tas.gov.au



3 August 2015

Certification of Financial Statements

The accompanying Financial Statement of the Inland Fisheries Service are in agreement with the relevant accounts and records and have been prepared in compliance with the Treasurers Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Financial Management and Audit Act 1990* to present fairly the financial transactions for the year ended 30 June 2015 and the financial position as at the end of the year.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the director:

John Diggle
Director of Inland Fisheries

Tony Wright
Deputy Director



Independent Auditor's Report

To Members of the Tasmanian Parliament

Inland Fisheries Service

Financial Report for the Year Ended 30 June 2015

Report on the Financial Report

I have audited the accompanying financial report of the Inland Fisheries Service (the Service), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2015 and the statements of comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the statement of compliance by the Service's Director.

Auditor's Opinion

In my opinion the Service's financial report:

- (a) presents fairly, in all material respects, its financial position as at 30 June 2015, and its financial performance, cash flows and changes in equity for the year then ended
- (b) is in accordance with the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995* and Australian Accounting Standards.

The Responsibility of the Director for the Financial Report

The Director is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Section 17 of the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995*. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based upon my audit. My audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement.

...1 of 2

To provide independent assurance to the Parliament and Community on the performance and accountability of the Tasmanian Public sector.
Professionalism | Respect | Camaraderie | Continuous Improvement | Customer Focus

Strive | Lead | Excel | To Make a Difference



An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including the assessment of risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, I considered internal control relevant to the Director's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate to the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Service's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Director, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

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

Independence

In conducting this audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of Australian Auditing Standards and other relevant ethical requirements. The *Audit Act 2008* further promotes independence by:

- providing that only Parliament, and not the executive government, can remove an Auditor-General
- mandating the Auditor-General as auditor of State Entities but precluding the provision of non-audit services, thus ensuring the Auditor-General and the Tasmanian Audit Office are not compromised in their role by the possibility of losing clients or income.

Tasmanian Audit Office



Jara K Dean
Assistant Auditor-General Financial Audit
Delegate of the Auditor-General

Hobart
26 August 2015

...2 of 2

To provide independent assurance to the Parliament and Community on the performance and accountability of the Tasmanian Public sector.
Professionalism | Respect | Camaraderie | Continuous Improvement | Customer Focus

Strive | Lead | Excel | To Make a Difference



