



Lake Sorell Anglers Access

REGION: CENTRAL



Brown trout



Rainbow trout

Background

Lake Sorell is a large (53 square kilometres), shallow lake at an elevation of 800 m above sea level. Closed to fishing in 1995 due to the discovery of European carp, the lake was reopened in 2020. The lake is surrounded by grassy woodlands with extensive marshes around the northern and western shores. The water in Lake Sorell is naturally turbid but can be clear in the marshes during spring.

Recreational Fishery Management

Due to the activities of the Carp Management Program (CMP), the population of trout is low at the time of reopening the lake to fishing. The trout population is anticipated to recover naturally over a number of seasons. Lake Sorell trout are generally in the 1 – 2kg size range and are in excellent condition, however larger trout over 2kg are also present. The population is predominantly brown trout with a small number of rainbow trout.

Carp and Pest Fish Management

A huge effort has been undertaken to eradicate European carp from Lake Sorell. In 2023 carp were declared functionally eradicated from Lake Sorell. This means that the few, if any, carp remaining in the lake are unable to breed.

Carp are a controlled fish – please report any sighting or capture as soon as possible to the Inland Fisheries Service on 0438 338 530.

Angling Notes

Artificial lure and fly-fishing are permitted methods at Lake Sorell. Bait fishing is prohibited. As the lake is shallow lure casting and trolling around the rocky shores and reefs is recommended. Fly-fishing with wet flies during the spring and early summer will also be effective.

Native Fish Management

The Golden galaxias (*Galaxias auratus*) is endemic to Lakes Sorell and Crescent. This species is listed as rare under the *Tasmanian Threatened Species Protection Act 1995*.



Recreational Use



Three boat ramps, camping and public toilets are provided on Crown Land at Dago Point.

Lake Sorell Angling Regulations

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

Species	Minimum size	Bag limit
Brown trout, Rainbow trout	300 mm	12 *

*Combined daily bag limit of 12 fish for both species combined.

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

Waters always closed to fishing: Mountain Creek, Dogs Head Creek, Silver Plains Creek flowing into Lake Sorell and for a radius of 50 m below where that water flows into Lake Sorell. The section of the canal connecting lakes Sorell and Crescent between the Lake Sorell outlet gates and Interlaken Road (C527).

Protect Our Waters

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

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

Code of Conduct

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

Please Observe



NO UNAUTHORISED SHOOTING



NO LITTERING



DOGS UNDER EFFECTIVE CONTROL

Warning



ANGLING REGULATIONS APPLY



FALLING TREES AND LIMBS



SNAKES

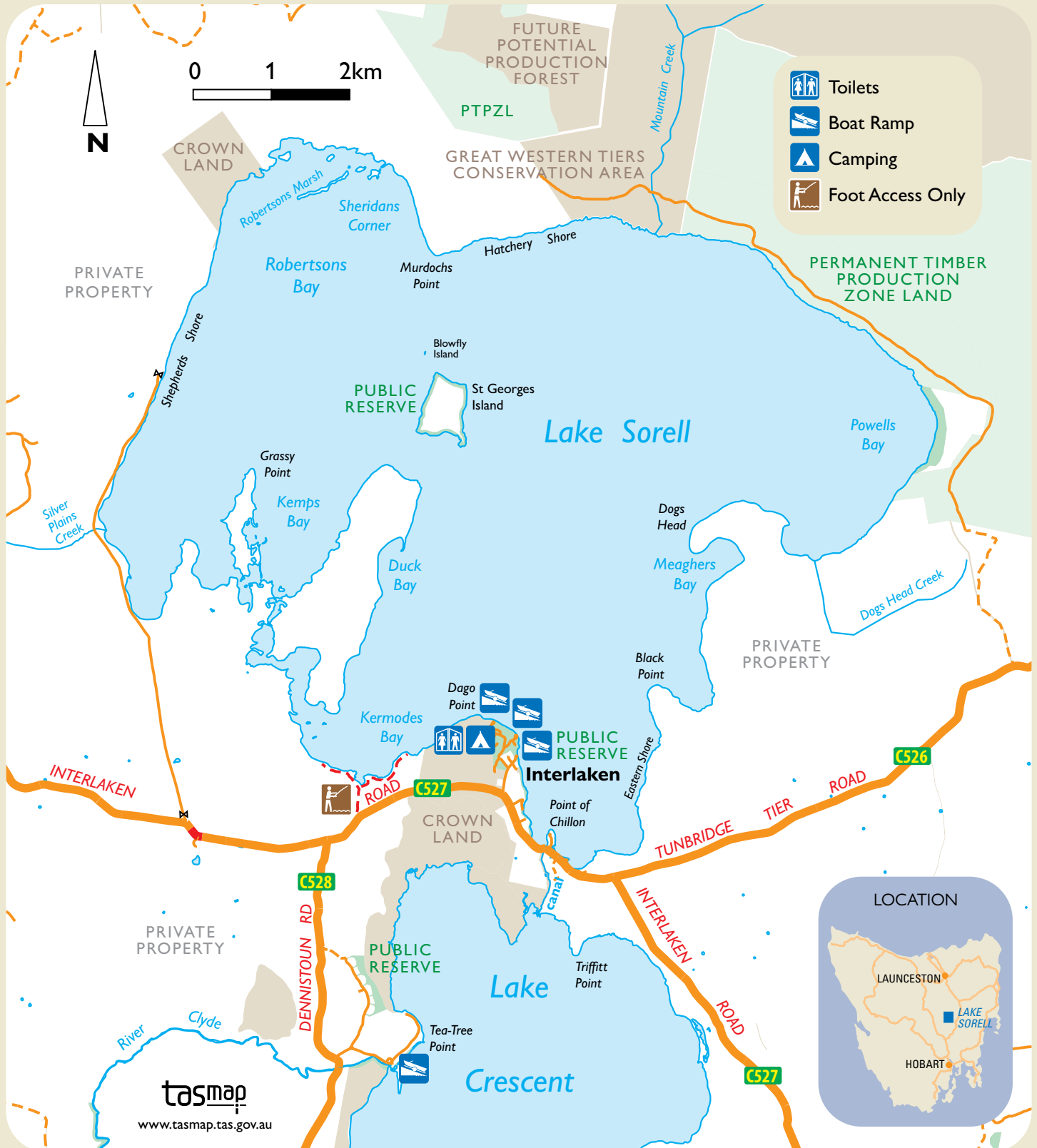
Responsible Boating

Lake Sorell is exposed to extreme changes in weather and can become very rough. Due to its shallow nature, there are many submerged hazards and reefs. Boat operators should take extreme care.

Please practice minimal impact boating by accelerating gently in shallow water to avoid the underwater wash from the propeller jet stirring up silt and mud. This sediment clouds the water, disturbs sensitive weed beds, smothers aquatic plants and degrades fish habitat.

Report any unusual fish captures or algal sightings immediately to the Inland Fisheries Service

Report illegal activities to Bushwatch 1800 333 000



To A5

To Bothwell

To Oatlands

To Tunbridge