

INLAND FISHERIES COMMISSION

NEWSLETTER

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NEW ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

Mr I. French attended his first Inland Fisheries Commission meeting on 25th March, 1975

ERADICATION PROGRAMME ON EUROPEAN CARP

The eradication programme on European carp is completed for the summer of 1975. It appears that the programme was 100 per cent successful.

As retreatment of some ponds with the chemical Rotenone failed to reveal any fish present, it is proposed to retreat again in the coming summer when water temperatures are high again as the chemical is at maximum effectiveness the

LITTER WARDENS

The Department of the Environment has convened a course of instruction for persons interested in pollution control and the control of litter.

Fisheries Officer, Mr. B. Isaac, is attending the three-day course in Hobart.

Angling Associations and the Commission are concerned at the amount of litter deposited around highland waters despite the good work being done each year by various angling clubs in tidying up the margins of a number of lakes. All anglers are urged to join in the big clean up planned by the Angling Associations early in May this year.

PENSTOCK LAGOON

The Hydro-Electric Commission proposes to lower the level of Penstock Lagoon by $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet to permit adequate flood control in the circumstances when a severe flood of "once in a hundred year" frequency occurs in Great Lake and in the Penstock Lagoon catchment.

The control measures involve lowering the level of the lagoon by $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The Deputy Power Engineer of the Hydro-Electric Commission outlined the proposal to members of the Inland Fisheries Commission and it was noted that the proposal would have the advantage that there would be less fluctuation in the water level at Penstock Lagoon during the summer months and this would be to the advantage of the trout fishery.

LITTLE PINE LAGOON

The Inland Fisheries Commission has asked the Hydro-Electric Commission to consider the feasibility of keeping Little Pine Lagoon at a low level during the winter in an attempt to control the Canadian pond weed in that storage.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL WARSHIPS VICTORIA AND NORFOLK

The Commission has accepted the offer of Mr. A. Walker of the donation of photographs of two ships associated with the introduction of salmonids into Tasmania.

It is proposed to house the photographs in the Youl Memorial Hatchery Museum at the Salmon Ponds, Plenty, where they may be seen by the public.

COMMISSION'S POLICY ON EELS

The Kingborough Branch wrote supporting the Commission's policy on the management of the eel fishery in Tasmania.

The Commission was unsuccessful in seeking an allocation of funds from the Fishing Industry Research Committee for the study of eels in Tasmania

FUNDING OF THE COMMISSION

The Commission has received advice that the Government was unable to agree to the proposed grant to the Commission on the basis of a dollar from Government funds for each dollar raised by the sale of angling licences. However, the Government promised to consider any specific request for funds which the Commission might make for a particular project.

With some reluctance, the Commission proposes to draw up substantial increases in licence fees for the 1975-76 season.

The increases in fees are essential to cover increased operating costs. Anglers will recall that the licence fee in 1874 was £1 which, at that stage, was the adult wage for a male law clerk.

SEAWARD LIMITS OF RIVERS

The Inland Fisheries Commission and the Sea Fisheries Division, Department of Agriculture, have encountered some problems in defining exactly where the seaward limits of rivers are, unless the boundaries are specified by regulations.

This has posed some conflict between the two organisations and it is proposed to hold discussions in an attempt to solve the problem by specifying exact positions to mark the boundary of jurisdiction of the two authorities.

Anglers on the North-West Coast made many representations until the 1963 Act was brought in to remove netting of rivers which, they claimed, seriously damaged the trout fishery in those waters.

BOAT RAMPS

A boat ramp has been formed at Great Lake near where the new road commences at the beginning of Swan Bay.

TRAIL BIKES IN THE CENTRAL PLATEAU

The Hydro-Electric Commission has advised that trail bikes are not welcome on property owned by the Hydro-Electric Commission in the Central Plateau.

It is claimed that trail bikes have done, and are continuing to cause, damage to a fragile environment by loosening the soil and causing soil erosion and deposition of silt in storages and creeks and canals.

LAGOON OF ISLANDS FISHERY

Anglers have continued to obtain good fishing from the Lagoon of Islands.

Junior angler, Ian Higgs of Howrah, caught a 7 lb brown trout 25 inches long and 6 inches deep on a No. 2 Salter at Lagoon of Islands on 30th March, 1975.

(D. D. Lynch),
Commissioner