The South Esk River is best described in three sections.

Angling Notes

Through natural recruitment.

The South Esk is managed as a wild fishery sustained

Recreational Fishery Management

Clarendon and Hadspen. The fishery is dominated by

ideal for fishing from a canoe or kayak between

Fingal to Conara and shore based angling and water

at Upper Esk, the long glides and broadwaters from

a variety of angling opportunities for all methods

The South Esk River is a renowned trout fishery with

rainbow trout are encountered with the odd larger fish

therefore it is advisable to check flows before leaving

catch back to the water.

Remember

• Fishing from a boat within 100 metres of an angler

fishing from the shore is prohibited unless the boat is

securely moored.

• Do not park on or obstruct boat ramps.

• A 5 knot speed limit applies within 60 metres of any

shoreline, marine facility, buoy or boat that is

underway, moored or engaged in fishing or rowing or

within 120 metres of a person swimming or wading,

Getting There

The South Esk River rises near Upper Esk in the north east

and joins the kanamaluka/River Tamar at Launceston, a distance

of some 200 km, making it the longest river in Tasmania.

Many areas of the river are accessible in particular from

Upper Esk to Maitinha, Fingal to Conara and between

Clarendon and Hadspen.

Background

The South Esk River is a renowned trout fishery with

a variety of angling opportunities for all methods

throughout its length. These include the fast headwaters at

Upper Esk, the long glides and broadwaters from

Fingal to Conara and shore based angling and water

ideal for fishing from a canoe or kayak between

Clarendon and Hadspen. The fishery is dominated by

brown trout although the occasional rainbow trout will

be encountered particularly in the upper reaches.

Recreational Fishery Management

The South Esk is managed as a wild fishery sustained

throughout natural recruitment.

Angling Notes

The South Esk River is best described in three sections.

1. Upper Esk to Evercreech Road.

The headwater section from Upper Esk to Evercreech Road is generally wadeable riffles and shallow pools

flowing through a mixture of native forest, private forest

plantation and pasture and is ideal for wade fly fishing,

lure and bait fishing. Easy access is available at Maitinha

Plains Rd. bridge and Griffin Park with more challenging

sections both up and downstream of these points. Heavy

rainfall in the upper catchment can affect the fishing

therefore it is advisable to check flows before leaving

home. Generally small, fit brown trout and the occasional

rainbow trout are encountered with the odd larger fish

a pleasant surprise.

Access Rules

Foot Access for anglers has been provided by the

goodwill of landowners and is a privilege not a right.

If access is not specifically identified then you must

ask for permission or you may be trespassing which

is a criminal offence. Please respect private property

and abide by the access rules and code of conduct to

ensure the continued use of these areas.

• Do not strip into paddocks or trample crops

• Avoid disturbing stock.

• Do not climb on fences

• Leave gates as you find them

• Report any unusual fish captures or algal sightings
do the Inland Fisheries Service.

• Report illegal activities to Bushwatch 1800 333 000

WARNING

• Do not park on or obstruct boat ramps.

• A 5 knot speed limit applies within 60 metres of any

shoreline, marine facility, buoy or boat that is

underway, moored or engaged in fishing or rowing or

within 120 metres of a person swimming or wading,

Warning

ANGLING REGULATIONS APPLY

Please Observe

• 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.

Most sections of the river may be navigated in canoes,

inflatables. Extreme caution should be exercised. Recommended for experienced paddlers only.

Please observe all MAST safety requirements.

Canoeing

Some sections of the river may be navigated in canoes,

inflatables. Extreme caution should be exercised. Recommended for experienced paddlers only.

Canoeing, drift boats and inflatables

Some sections of the river may be navigated in canoes,

drift boats and inflatables. Extreme caution should be

exercised. Recommended for experienced paddlers only. Observe all MAST safety requirements.

Paddling notes are available from:

www.paddletasmania.canoe.org.au

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