

Lake Pedder and Lake Gordon Anglers Access

REGION: SOUTH



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.

Recreational Use

Parks and Wildlife Service manages campgrounds at Teds Beach, Edgar Dam and Huon Inlet. No camping fees apply however National Parks Passes are required.

Edgar Campground facilities

Toilets, picnic tables, water and rubbish bins provided. Fire wood provided and fires permitted in designated fireplaces.

Huon Campground facilities

Toilets, picnic tables, water and rubbish bins provided. Fire wood provided and fires permitted in designated fireplaces.

Teds Beach facilities

Electric BBQS, camping, toilets, boatramp, picnic tables, water and rubbish bins provided. Fuel stove only area.

Note: The remainder of the Park is a fuel-stove area only.

CONTACT DETAILS

17 Back River Road,
New Norfolk, 7140
Ph: 1300 INFISH
www.ifs.tas.gov.au

BL10753



Inland Fisheries Service

Getting There

Both Lakes Gordon and Pedder are approximately 2 hours drive from Hobart. Take the A10 to New Norfolk, B62 to Westerway and B61 to Strathgordon via National Park.

Background

Lake Pedder

Lake Pedder was created in 1971 by flooding of the original Lake Pedder for Hydro development. Water from the lake is diverted through McPartlan Canal into Lake Gordon and the Gordon Power Station. The scheme has created the largest water storage in Australia. It is nearly eight times the size of Great Lake and three times the size of Lake Eucumbene, the largest lake in the Snowy Mountains Scheme.

Lake Pedder has a surface area of 242 square kilometres and a total volume of 3.3 cubic kilometres.

Fishing in the new lake was legendary with the average size of trout approaching 5 kg. Since the early 80's the average size trout has stabilised at around 1 kg. Lake Pedder remains an angler's paradise with large bags of good-sized brown trout regularly taken. The stunning wilderness scenery and remote location add to the charm and appeal of Lake Pedder. Anglers should always respect the variable weather and check the forecast before boating on the lake.

Lake Gordon

Lake Gordon was also created in 1971 for Hydro development. Lake Gordon has a surface area of 272 square kilometres and total volume of 11.9 cubic kilometres. In total the scheme represents 35 percent of the Tasmania's total energy storage capacity.

Recreational Fishery Management

The Inland Fisheries Service (IFS) manages Lake Pedder and Lake Gordon as Premium Wild Trout Fisheries. Natural recruitment sustains the fishery. Lake Pedder is open to angling all year round.

Lake Pedder is within the SouthWest National Park. **Park fees apply and National Park Passes are to be displayed on vehicles and boats. Park Passes are available from the visitor's centre at Mt. Field National Park and Service Tasmania shops.**

Angling Notes

Lake Pedder

Fishing can be rewarding throughout the year. Thick vegetation and steep banks can limit shore access therefore a boat can increase the scope for anglers. However, shore based fishing should not be ignored as the accessible shoreline can be productive particularly at all the boat launching sites. Lure fishing from the shore or a boat provides regular success with cobra style lures and spoons being the most popular. For the fly fisherman wet fly fishing with mud-eye patterns and fur flies can provide excellent sport at first and last light with fish rising to midges and spinners throughout the day.

Lake Gordon

Lake Gordon provides excellent trout fishing opportunities particularly for anglers with a boat. Shore based anglers should concentrate on nearby Lake Pedder. Both brown and rainbow trout are present in Lake Gordon although brown trout dominate. Drift spinning and trolling from a boat using cobra style lures is the most reliable method of angling. Fly fishing with large wet flies can also be successful. Wind lane fishing for rainbows can be very rewarding as well as wet fly fishing around the flooded timber from spring until autumn.

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.

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 Recreational Fishing Code.

Note: McPartlan Canal between Lakes Gordon and Pedder is closed to fishing at all times.

Lake Pedder Regulations:

Species	Minimum size	Bag limit
Brown trout	220 mm	20

Method	Season
Fly fishing Artificial lures	Open all year round.

Lake Gordon Regulations:

Species	Minimum size	Bag limit
Brown trout, Rainbow trout	220 mm	20*

* Combined daily bag limit of 20.

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

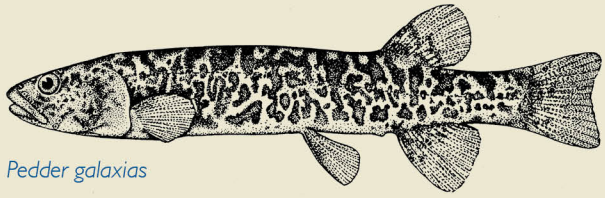
Native Fish Management

Lake Pedder has a restricted native fish population with two threatened fish species once present.

The Pedder galaxias (*Galaxias pedderensis*) became endangered as a result of introduced species and habitat changes. Listed as endangered under Tasmania's *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995* and Extinct in the Wild under the *Federal Biodiversity and Conservation Protection Act 1999* as it survives only in the translocated population outside its natural range. Today, thanks to intervention, it is now considered partly secure in its new home, Lake Oberon.

The second species endemic to the Lake Pedder area is the State and Commonwealth protected swamp galaxias (*Galaxias parvus*). This species is still present in some of the swampy areas draining into the lake. It is a landlocked species able to complete its life cycle within the lake and its tributaries.

The swamp galaxias (*Galaxias parvus*) may still be present in some of the swampy areas draining into Lake Gordon. Both lakes have populations of climbing galaxias (*Galaxias brevipinnis*).



Pedder galaxias

Pest Fish Management

Redfin perch (*Perca fluviatilis*) are present in Lake Gordon. If this species is caught, anglers are asked to humanely kill the captured fish and dispose of appropriately. Redfin perch are not present in Lake Pedder and it is important that they are not introduced from Lake Gordon. It is an offence to use fish or fish products for bait or to transfer fish between waters.

Access Rules

- Keep to formed tracks.
- Do not litter.
- Respect private land – if in doubt ask permission.
- Shooting is prohibited.
- Fires in formal fireplaces or firepots only.
- Do not fell trees.

Responsible Boating

There are boat launching areas on **Lake Pedder** at Serpentine Dam, Strathgordon, Teds Beach, McPartlan Pass, Edgar Dam and Scotts Peak Dam.

There are several areas prohibited for navigation on Lake Pedder:

- Between the signs and Serpentine Dam
- Between the signs and Scotts Peak Dam
- Between the signs and Edgar Dam
- The waters of McPartlan Canal

There are boat launching areas near Gordon Dam and at Boat Ramp Road in Ragged Basin on **Lake Gordon**.

There are several areas prohibited for navigation:

- In the waters of Lake Gordon within 50 metres of the intake
- In the waters of Lake Gordon within 50 metres of the Gordon Dam
- In the waters of McPartlan Canal

Both lakes are exposed to extreme changes in weather and can become very rough. Hazardous conditions can occur at any time of the year with little warning. Submerged timber is a significant hazard to navigation on Lake Gordon.

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.

Remember

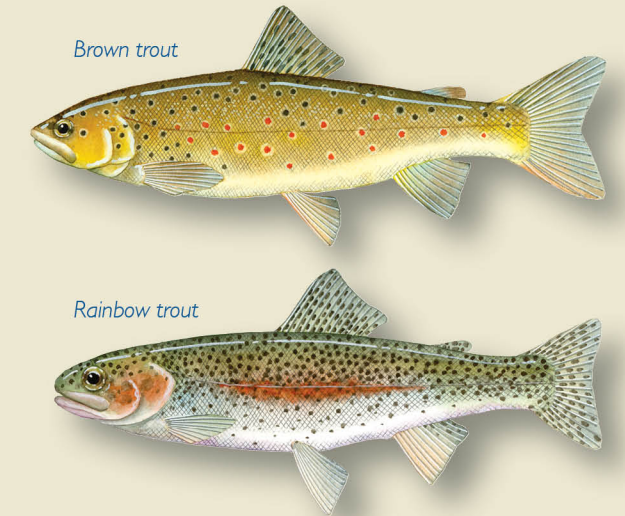
- Check your wash- if its white it's all right - if it's brown slow down.
- Fishing from a boat within 100 metres of an angler fishing from the shore is prohibited unless the boat is securely moored.
- Do not park on or obstruct boat ramps.

Lake Levels

Information on current lake levels for Lake Pedder and Lake Gordon including Metres from full and trend (Rising, falling, steady) is available from:

[www.ifs.tas.gov.au/Going Fishing/Things to check/Lake Levels](http://www.ifs.tas.gov.au/GoingFishing/Things%20to%20check/LakeLevels).

- Report any unusual fish captures or algal sightings immediately to the Inland Fisheries Service
- Report illegal activities to; Bushwatch 1800 333 000



Brown and Rainbow trout illustrations Kristii Melaine
Pedder galaxias illustration W. Fulton

