Pest Fish Management

It is an offence to use fish or fish products for bait or to transfer fish between waters.

Recreational Use

There is one boat launching area at Woods Lake. Informal lakeshore camping is permitted on Forestry Tasmania and Crown Land between the boat ramp and the dam wall and on the north eastern shore. No facilities are provided. Campers should bring a chemical or portable toilet or be sure to walk at least 100 metres from the water, dig a 15-centimetre hole and bury waste including the toilet paper.

Access Rules

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

Responsible Boating

Woods Lake is generally more sheltered than the exposed highland lakes however during extreme changes in weather can become very rough. During periods of low water Woods Lake may be extremely shallow with extensive weed and submerged navigation hazards. 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.

Getting There

Woods Lake can be reached by turning off the B51 to Arthurs Lake Dam, follow the road past the dam for approximately 15 km. This is a gravel road that is steep in sections. It is recommended that 4WD vehicles be used for towing boats.

Background

Woods Lake was created by damming the Lake River to provide riparian flows downstream in summer and autumn. Low lake levels in the warmer months result in large areas of the lake becoming very shallow and weedy. The water is generally milky and can become turbid after persistent strong winds.

Recreational Fishery Management

Woods Lake is managed by the Inland Fisheries Service (IFS) as a Premium Wild Trout Fishery. The brown trout population is maintained through natural recruitment.

Angling Notes

Woods is a good all round angling water providing consistent fly fishing, bait fishing trolling and lure casting from both the shore and a boat. Early and late season provide the best sport with low water levels and emergent weed growth limiting angling opportunities during the summer months.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Minimum size</th>
<th>Bag limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brown trout</td>
<td>100 mm</td>
<td>5*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Bag limit of 5 fish can only include 2 fish over 500mm in length.

Method Season

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

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.

Native Fish Management

Two species of indigenous fish are endemic to Woods Lake and nearby Arthurs Lake, the saddled galaxias (Galaxias tanycephalus) and Arthurs paragalaxias (Paragalaxias mesotes). Both species are threatened and listed as endangered under the Tasmanian Threatened Species Protection Act 1995, and are therefore wholly protected. These species commonly grow up to 120 mm and 70 mm in length respectively.

Access

There is one boat launching area at Woods Lake. Informal lakeshore camping is permitted on Forestry Tasmania and Crown Land between the boat ramp and the dam wall and on the north eastern shore. No facilities are provided. Campers should bring a chemical or portable toilet or be sure to walk at least 100 metres from the water, dig a 15-centimetre hole and bury waste including the toilet paper.

Inland Fisheries Service
**Remember**

- Check your wash - if it's 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 Woods Lake including Metres from full and trend (Rising, falling, steady) is available from: [www.tasmap.tas.gov.au](http://www.tasmap.tas.gov.au).

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

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**Hybrid Trout Illustration Kristii Melaine**

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**To Arthurs Lake**

[Tasmap website](http://www.tasmap.tas.gov.au)