

Inland Fisheries Service

Annual Report

2019-20





Tasmania's newest inland recreational fishery, Camden Dam



The Hon Guy Barnett MP
Minister for Primary Industries and Water

Dear Minister

In accordance with the requirements of Section 36 of the *State Service Act 2000* and Section 42 of the *Financial Management Act 2016*, I am pleased to submit the 2019-20 Annual Report of the Inland Fisheries Service for presentation to Parliament.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Diggle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small flourish at the end.

John Diggle
Director of Inland Fisheries

5 October 2020

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Minister's Message

Welcome to the 2019-20 Annual Report for Tasmania's Inland Fisheries Service (IFS).

From the high of hosting the World Fly Fishing Championship to the challenges of dealing with a health pandemic, the 2019-20 year rewarded and stretched us all.

During this time, I have been thankful for the way in which the Tasmanian community—and anglers—have been flexible and understanding as we have together worked our way through these unprecedented times.

Through the challenges we have faced as a community, the Tasmanian Government remains committed to keeping Tasmanians safe and secure and rebuilding a stronger Tasmania. Your continued understanding as we move forward together is very much appreciated.

From an angling perspective, there were good early season levels and flows in most lakes and rivers. Popular fisheries at Woods Lake, Little Pine, Penstock and Bronte lagoons fished well right through the year. It was encouraging to see further improvement reported from the Arthurs Lake fishery and the opening of a new fishery in Tasmanian Irrigation's Camden Dam.

In February I was delighted to announce the re-opening of Lake Sorell for angling following more than 25 years of carp eradication work by the IFS.

This has been no easy feat with staff removing 41 496 carp from Lake Sorell since work began. With a population now estimated at less than five fish it is increasingly likely that carp will be eradicated from the Lake—a tremendous outcome and world leading effort, once achieved.

Along with many other anglers, I was excited to support the World Fly Fishing Championship 2019 held in Tasmania during the first week of December. The event attracted an estimated 1000 anglers, support crew and visitors from 23 countries, putting our world class wild brown trout fishery firmly on the world stage.

Despite some extremely challenging cold and windy conditions, competitors managed to capture impressive numbers of our wily wild brown trout. I congratulate all competitors and thank the local organising committee, volunteers, the IFS and Tourism Tasmania for their hard work and support of this event.

The Government has a range of initiatives in place to support participation and growth in Tasmania's trout fishery. These include:

- Cheaper to go trout fishing - The Government is providing \$300 000 to freeze inland trout fishing licences at 2017-18 prices for four years.
- Upgrading Amenities at High Visitation Trout Waters – IFS has worked with Anglers Alliance Tasmania to deliver the Government's initiative to upgrade amenities at high visitation trout waters. The Government provided \$300 000 that has enabled 10 toilets to be constructed at popular fisheries, including three WFFC locations.
- Anglers Access Program – The Government is providing \$200 000 expand the Anglers Access Program across priority lakes and rivers in the North West, North East, and Derwent Catchments in partnership with Anglers Alliance Tasmania and local angling clubs. The existing Meander River Anglers Access Project was extended in the past year.

As we follow the roadmap to recovery and head into the 2020-21 season there is much to look forward to and I urge you to plan to holiday at home, explore our great state and trout fish Tasmania.

As the Minister responsible for Inland Fisheries, I am delighted to present the activities of the Inland Fisheries Service for the 2019-20 financial year.



The Hon Guy Barnett MP
Minister for Primary Industries and Water



About the Inland Fisheries Service (IFS)

Vision

To have sustainable, vibrant, and healthy inland fisheries that are the envy of Australia and the world.

Mission

To manage and develop Tasmania's inland fishery resources for the benefit of all stakeholders and the Tasmanian community.

Our outcomes

- A recreational trout fishery recognised for its diversity and acknowledged as one of the worlds' best.
- Sustainable fish populations and fisheries.
- A responsive proactive organisation that is dynamic, receptive, financially sound and managed for excellence.

Our strategic goals

- Our reputation as a world-class recreational trout fishery is established and participation is increased.
- The fishery is managed sustainably.
- Tasmania is carp-free and Lake Sorell is open to recreational fishing.
- Environmental challenges are well understood and managed within our capacity.
- The IFS is respected and valued as a responsive, proactive, accessible and dynamic organisation.
- The IFS is financially sustainable.

Corporate Plan 2017-22

The IFS Corporate Plan 2017-22 guides our actions until 2022. It supports the IFS to be responsive to current challenges and opportunities within Tasmania's inland fisheries and proactive towards achieving our Vision and Mission.

Jurisdiction

Under the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995* (the Act), the Director of Inland Fisheries, (the Director), through the IFS, manages fisheries in all inland waters, which includes lakes, rivers, farm dams, registered private fisheries, ponds and aquaria. The seaward limit is the statutory boundary between State (marine) and inland water, and the IFS controls the inland side of this limit.

Responsibilities

The IFS has primary responsibility for implementing the Act and its subordinate legislation. The Act creates the position of the Director and provides that the Director is a corporation whose responsibilities are:

- To manage, control, protect, develop, improve, maintain and regulate salmon fisheries, fisheries in inland waters and freshwater fish.
- To stock inland waters with fish.
- To create, improve and maintain access to inland waters.
- To provide facilities in respect of access to inland waters.
- To carry out research and investigation into matters relating to salmon fisheries and fisheries in inland waters.
- To collect, publish and disseminate information relating to freshwater fish and inland waters.

Management

The Director is an Agency for the purposes of the *Financial Management Act 2016*.

The IFS receives specific corporate support from the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE).

The Secretary of DPIPWE is the Head of Agency for the purposes of the *State Service Act 2000*.

While the IFS has primary responsibility for its core business functions, DPIPWE provides human resource administration, finance system and information technology support.

At 30 June 2020, the IFS had 19.08 paid full-time equivalents.

Organisational structure

- Director of Inland Fisheries John Diggle

Administration and Finance

- Manager (Finance and Business) Anthony Wright
- Administrative Officer (Licensing and Finance) Kellie Fahey (until 23 March 2020)
Tracy Zhou (from 24 February 2020)
- Administrative Clerk Tania Hooper
Kristy Thompson
- Executive Assistant Jen Cramer

Fisheries Management

- Section Manager (Fisheries Management) Chris Wisniewski
- Manager (Compliance) Steven Paterson (from April 2019)
- Fisheries Management Biologist Tim Farrell
- Senior Fisheries Management Officer Robert Freeman
- Project Manager (Anglers Access) Neil Morrow
- Manager (Hatchery and Stocking) Brett Mawbey
- Program Leader (Carp Management) Jonah Yick
- Commercial Fisheries Officer Andrew Bartleet
- Fisheries Officer Paul Middleton
- Senior Technical Officer Christopher Bassano
- Utility Officer Gareth Jones
- Technical Officer (Carp Management) Brock Cuthbertson
Storm Eastley (until 15 May 2020)
- Fisheries Field Officer Josef Wisniewski (from 18 Nov 2019)
- Field Assistant (Carp Management) Terence Byard
Robert Cordwell

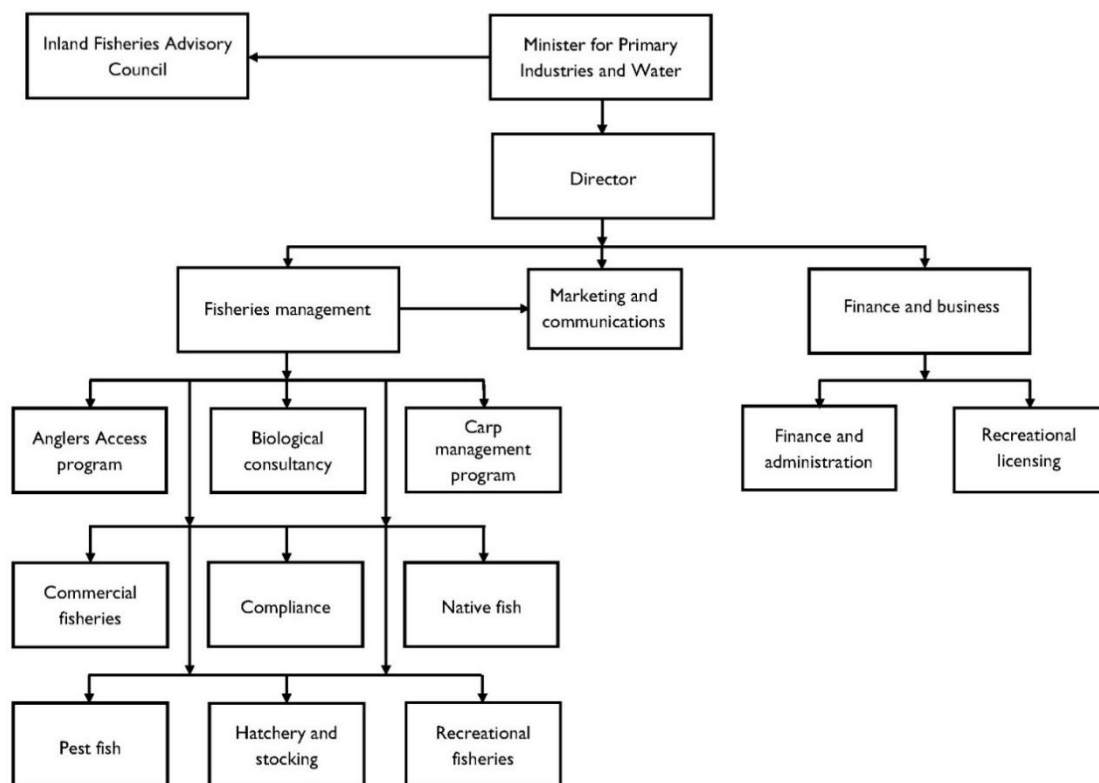


Figure 1. Organisational Outputs

Policy Commitments

To grow our world-class inland fisheries as part of this Government's broader strategy of taking recreational fishing and boating to the next level, and to support participation and growth in Tasmania's trout fishery, we have delivered the following policy commitments:

- Cheaper to go trout fishing – a freeze of trout fishing licences at 2017-18 prices until 2021-22. The Government is providing \$300 000 to the Inland Fisheries Service over four years to fully offset any lost revenue.
- Marketing angling tourism – to work with Trout Guides and Lodges Tasmania, Tourism Tasmania, and Anglers Alliance Tasmania to deliver this Government's plan to market angling tourism. The Government provided \$30 000 in 2018-19 to promote the Tasmanian Trout Expo and capitalise on the international profile the World Fly Fishing Championship 2019 is bringing to Tasmania's trout fisheries.
- Anglers Alliance Tasmania (AAT) support – provide \$215 000 over four years to AAT, the peak group representing 26 000 trout anglers, to support its work to improve the trout fishery and to support anglers.
- Upgrading Amenities at High Visitation Trout Waters – to work with AAT to deliver the Government's initiative to upgrade amenities at high visitation trout waters. The Government provided \$300 000 over two years to build and upgrade facilities at popular trout fisheries including WFFC 2019 venues. Construction of 10 toilets was completed for the opening of the 2019-20 brown trout season on 3 August 2019.

We are implementing the following policy commitments:

- Anglers Access Program – to work in partnership with AAT and local angling clubs to deliver this Government's commitment to expand the Anglers Access Program across priority lakes and rivers in the North West, North East, and Derwent Catchments. The Government is providing \$200 000 over three years from 2019-20.

Inland Fisheries Advisory Council (IFAC) Report 2019-20

Table 1 Membership of the Inland Fisheries Advisory Council on 30 June 2020.

Representation and role	Member
Chairperson	Michele Moseley
Ministerial appointment	Alex Schaap (until 15 December 2019)
Ministerial appointment	Dr Christine Mucha
Ministerial appointment	Frank Neasey (until 15 December 2019)
Freshwater angling associations	Gary France
Director of Inland Fisheries	John Diggle
Conservation of freshwater ecosystems	Dr Liza Fallon (re-appointed 16 Dec 2019)
Commercial freshwater fisheries	Shaun Finlayson
Representing the north-western area	Sheryl Thompson
Representing the northern area	Julianne Stephens (appointed 16 December 2019)
Representing the southern area	Ranald Moore (appointed 16 December 2019)
Representing tourism	Simone Hackett (re-appointed 16 December 2019)

IFAC provides advice to the Minister responsible for Inland Fisheries on matters related to Tasmania's inland fishery resources. It also provides a forum for consultation on policy matters and a sounding board for the Director of Inland Fisheries.

IFAC held four meetings during the year at the IFS offices in New Norfolk.

The Hon Guy Barnett MP, Minister for Primary Industries and Water joined IFAC for two meetings during the year. He thanked members of IFAC and staff of the IFS for their work and spoke to his personal interest in inland angling and his vision for the future of the fishery.

At the June 2020 meeting he engaged with IFAC about the proposed *Tasmanian Inland Recreational Fishing Strategy*, sharing some of his observations and encouraging consultation with stakeholders.

IFAC received presentations from Hydro Tasmania regarding the impact on the variation in water flows of Bass link and the Poatina re-regulation weir, from DPIPWE Water Assessment Branch regarding results of monitoring river health surveys on NW rivers and from IFS staff on the conservation management of Swan and saddled galaxias and the proposed *Tasmania Inland Recreational Fishing Strategy*.

The IFS Risk Register continued to provide the context for many of IFACs discussions.

However, in the second half of the year the impact of COVID-19 was the focus.

Advice was provided to the Minister on a number of issues including the reopening strategy for Lake Sorell, East coast water storages, freshwater systems research and in particular research into redfin perch population control, water quality and river health monitoring, opportunities for increasing local angler participation because of COVID-19 and the *Tasmanian Inland Recreational Fishing Strategy*.

The Council was briefed at each meeting on progress with the Government policy Commitments relevant to the fishery and trends in licence sales.

The IFAC is grateful for the support provided by the staff of the IFS without which it would be unable to perform its function.

Legislation

Season extension for some rivers

The fishing season for the following reaches of rivers was extended and closed on Sunday 31/5/20:

- Brumbys Creek downstream from Weir 1 to the Macquarie River;
- The Macquarie River downstream from the junction with Brumbys Creek to the South Esk River;
- The Meander River downstream from Strath Bridge (on the C735) to the South Esk River; and
- The lower section of the South Esk River, South Esk River downstream from the bridge on Storys Creek Road at Avoca to Beams Hollow upstream of Lake Trevallyn, delineated by a straight line between grid reference E506358 N5406426 and E506467 N5406414.

This was the first year of a three-year trial achieved through an amendment to the *Inland Fisheries (Seasons and Waters) Order 1996*.

World Fly Fishing Championship 2019 Order

In support of the World Fly Fishing Championship 2019:

- Little Pine Lagoon, Penstock Lagoon and Woods Lake, was closed to recreational fishing from midnight on Sunday 1 December to midnight on Friday 6 December 2019 inclusive.
- The Mersey River downstream of the Olivers Road bridge (on the C 138) to Hoggs Bridge (on the C 153) and the Meander River downstream from the Huntsman Lake dam to Barretts Bridge, Long Ridge Road (on the C 166) were closed to recreational fishing, from midnight on Sunday 24 November to midnight on Friday 6 December 2019 inclusive.

Inland Fisheries (Protected Fish) Order 2019

Estuary perch became a Protected Fish under section 131 of the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995*.

Re-make of the Recreational and General Regulations

As required under the Subordinate Legislation Act 1992, the current Inland Fisheries (Recreational Fishing) Regulations 2009 and the Inland Fisheries (General) Regulations 2009 were repealed on 9 December 2019.

The existing regulations were re-made into a single set of regulations, the *Inland Fisheries Regulations 2019*, which covers fees, recreational fishing, and commercial fisheries.

The *Inland Fisheries Regulations 2019* makes the following changes:

- an improved definition of fish farm classifications;
- the introduction of measures to protect commercial equipment from interference;
- the definition of a standard fyke net and a standard eel trap;
- the move of common conditions of a Commercial Freshwater Fishing Licence (CFFL) into the regulations;
- updating the levies applied to freshwater hatcheries to reflect a more contemporary and equitable approach;
- changes to the management of estuary perch, now a protected fish, by removing previous regulations relating to its possession and inserting a provision to make it an offence to possess a protected fish;
- add the newly created 'Camden Dam' to the list of Inland Waters regulated by a sustainable set of catch/size limits (5 fish maximum with no more than 2 over 500mm) agreed to by Tasmanian Irrigation; and
- The ability to deal with all offences under the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995* and subordinate legislation by way of Infringement Notice.

The regulations were subject to a public consultation process (Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS)) pursuant to section 5 and Schedule 2 of the *Subordinate Legislation Act 1992* for a period of 21 days from Wednesday 25 September 2019.

The scope of the RIS was restricted to the commercial fishery as major changes to the *Inland Fisheries (Recreational Fishing) Regulations 2009* were made in 2018 through the development of the *Tasmanian Inland Recreational Fishery Management Plan 2018-28* and associated public consultation process.

A RIS notice was published in the Gazette, three daily newspapers (Advocate, Examiner and Mercury), the State Government public notice website, the IFS website and emailed to commercial licence and registration holders.

Only one submission was received, from the Tasmanian Salmon Growers Association Ltd (TSGA) with direct feedback provided.

As stated in the RIS a summary of submissions and response was provided to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

Fisheries compliance

Two full-time and 8 part-time Officers authorised under the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995* delivered fisheries compliance for the year. This included enforcement activities, investigations and prosecutions, as well as education/awareness and public relations activities.

Fisheries Officers enforce a wide range of regulations under the Act and conduct angler creel surveys to help with fisheries assessments. The Compliance Operational Plan guides activities.

We work closely with other State agencies such as Tasmania Police, Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service and Marine and Safety Tasmania to patrol remote areas and to detect, and respond to, illegal activity.

The COVID-19 restrictions throughout the State during the months of March to June 2020 greatly reduced angler activity throughout Tasmania. Restrictions to waters access was lifted on 5 June 2020, which followed the normal closure of the brown and rainbow trout seasons. As a result, angler checks and offences detected were reduced from previous years.

Statistics from 1/7/19 to 30/6/20

- 2 417 angling licences inspected.
- 157 whitebait licences inspected.
- Five whitebait nets seized.
- 9.8 kilograms of whitebait seized.
- Two search warrants of residential premises.
- 364 vessels inspected under Marine and Safety legislation.
- Three defendants convicted of 35 offences in the Magistrates Court.
- One further defendant listed for appearance in the Magistrate's Courts on 34 charges.
- Infringement and Conditional Cautions issued for 61 offences.
- \$30 759 in court fines.
- \$7 896 in infringement notice fines.
- 18 notices of disqualification current, preventing offenders from holding a recreational whitebait licence.

Strategic goal: The fishery is managed sustainably

Fishery performance assessments

Consistent with the *Tasmanian Inland Recreational Fishery Management Plan 2018-28*, three fishery performance assessments (FPAs) were completed during 2019-20; Bradys Chain of Lakes, Blackmans Lagoon and Curries River Reservoir. A summary of these FPA results are shown below. Detailed individual reports are published on the IFS website.

Bradys Chain of Lakes

During May to June 2019, 3 409 adult brown trout were collected from the River Derwent fish trap at Lake King William and individually tagged and released into Bradys Lake. In addition, 2 750 adult brown trout were adipose fin clipped and released into Lake Binney with a further 750 adipose fin clipped and released into Tungatinah Lagoon. These trout formed the basis of a Capture Mark Recapture (CMR) population estimate, in addition to providing other important information about the fishery.

From 22 - 25 July 2019, the Service conducted an in-lake fisheries performance assessment survey of the Bradys Chain of lakes.

In total, 240 box traps were set over three nights with 314 brown trout (that included both marked and resident fish) and 3 rainbow trout captured.

Of the 3 409 tagged brown trout released into Bradys Lake and the fin clipped brown trout released into Lake Binney (2 750) and Tungatinah Lagoon (750); a combined total of 88 tagged and fin clipped fish were recaptured across all three waters. It was possible to use tagged and fin clipped fish combined, to obtain an overall population estimate for the entire system of 25 149 brown trout.

An annual transfer of 7 000 adult brown trout is recommended for the Bradys Chain of Lakes.

Blackmans Lagoon

During May 2019, 500 adult brown trout, with adipose fin clips, were released into Blackmans Lagoon. All were sourced from the spawning traps at yingina / Great Lake and averaged 951 g weight and 435 mm length. These fish formed the basis of a capture-mark-recapture population estimate in addition to providing other important information about the Blackmans Lagoon fishery.

From 16 - 18 July 2019, we conducted an in-lake fisheries performance assessment survey of Blackmans Lagoon. In total, 40 box traps were set each night over two nights (total of 80 box trap sets). This resulted in the capture of 291 brown trout equating to 3.64 fish per trap. Of the 291 brown trout captured, 262 were resident fish (i.e. not fin clipped). The CPUE for these fish was high at 3.28 brown trout per trap. All resident brown trout were weighed and measured for fork length.

There was no evidence of any natural recruitment over the past three years, with no resident fish caught less than 400 mm in length.

Of the 291 brown trout captured, 29 (~10%) were adipose fin clipped. This provides an overall estimate of the brown trout population, of 5 017 fish.

Rainbow trout (41 individuals) represented 12.4 per cent of the total catch, no estimate of their population was possible from the data collected.

A transfer of 1 000 adult brown trout every second year is recommended for Blackmans Lagoon.

Curries River Reservoir

On 8 May 2019, 1 175 adult brown trout were adipose fin clipped released into Curries River Reservoir. All were sourced from the spawning run traps at yingina / Great Lake and averaged 721 g and 420 mm length. These fish formed the basis of a capture-mark-recapture population estimate in addition to providing other important information about the Curries River Reservoir fishery.

From 26 - 28 August 2019, we conducted an in-lake fisheries performance assessment survey of Curries River Reservoir. Eighty box traps were set each night over two nights (total of 160 box trap sets). This resulted in the capture of 102 brown trout of which only 17 were resident fish (i.e. not fin clipped).

There was no evidence of any natural recruitment over the past three years, with no resident fish being less than 370 mm.

Of the 102 brown trout captured, 88 (86 per cent) were adipose fin clipped. This provided an estimate of the brown trout population at 1 410 fish. Given that 1 075 fish were transferred into this water during early May 2019, the existing number of brown trout prior to this time was negligible.

It was recommended that 3 000 adult brown trout should be transferred in 2020 to improve the performance of this fishery.

Fishery performance assessments 2020-21

During April – June 2020 2 000 adipose fin clipped adult brown trout were transferred into Four Springs Lake in readiness for a survey in late July 2020.

Trout hatchery, stocking, and adult transfers

Consistent with the *Tasmanian Inland Recreational Fishery Management Plan 2018-28* the Inland Fisheries Service supplemented fish stocks in waters across the State using fish sourced from highland spawning traps, commercial hatcheries, and the Salmon Ponds hatchery.

2019 brown trout spawning run

Trapping of the 2019 brown trout spawning run commenced on 1 April 2019 and finished on 19 July 2019. A total of 24 103 adult brown trout were transferred to waters across the State, a further 4 717 were released upstream of the traps to spawn.

Due to a large 'freeze event' followed by extreme flooding the traps at Arthurs Lake were blown out for nine days during which time an unknown number of fish were able to bypass the traps.

Table 2. The 2019 adult brown trout transfers that occurred from 1 April to 19 July inclusive (the spawning run).

Trap	Number transferred	Number released above trap
Liawenee Canal – yingina / Great Lake	11 747	0
Sandbanks Creek – yingina / Great Lake	1 718	0
Tumbledown Creek- Arthurs Lake	5	3 093
Scotch Bobs Creek - Arthurs Lake		798
Hydro Creek - Arthurs Lake		826
Mountain Creek – Lake Sorell	Not operational	0
River Derwent - Lake King William	10 663	0
Total	24 103	4 717

2020 brown trout spawning run

The 2020 adult brown trout transfers commenced with the start of the spawning run on 3 April and were ongoing at 30 June. For this period 10 463 adult brown trout were transferred to waters across the State, a further 8 503 were released upstream of the traps to spawn.

The River Derwent - Lake King William fish trap was not operated due to unseasonably high lake levels flooding the trap. The Mountain Creek – Lake Sorell fish trap remained out of action due to unrepaired damage from major flooding in 2016.

Table 3 shows the number of adult brown trout transfers occurring from Central Highland traps between 3 April and 30 June 2020. The final figures for the 2020 spawning run will be reported in the Inland Fisheries Service Annual Report 2020–21.

Table 3. The 2020 adult brown trout transfers that occurred from 31 March to 30 June inclusive (the spawning run)

Trap	Number transferred	Number released above trap
Liawenee Canal – yingina / Great Lake	9 435	0
Sandbanks Creek – yingina / Great Lake	1 028	0
Tumbledown Creek- Arthurs Lake	0	5 625
Scotch Bobs Creek - Arthurs Lake	0	1 335
Hydro Creek - Arthurs Lake	0	1 543
Mountain Creek – Lake Sorell	Not operational	0
River Derwent - Lake King William	Not operational	0
Total	10 463	8 503

As in previous years, we measured samples of fish from each trap for length and weight. Table 4 shows the results of the measured samples of adult brown trout from Central Highland traps

Table 4. Results of brown trout spawning run monitoring 2020

Spawning run	Number measured	Weight range (g)	Average weight (g)	Length range (mm)	Average length (mm)
Liawenee Canal – yingina / Great Lake on 31 March	200	160-1 400	804	262-504	415
Sandbanks Creek - yingina / Great Lake on 16 April	200	130-1 340	635	269-496	392
Tumbledown Creek – Arthurs Lake on 28 April	200	70-1 420	551	202-565	368
Scotch Bobs Creek – Arthurs Lake on 28 April	200	140-1 480	562	240-541	367
Hydro Creek – Arthurs Lake on 28 April	200	130-1 040	442	225-469	342

Salmon Ponds hatchery production

In winter 2019, we stripped 240 000 ova from wild brown trout trapped in Liawenee Canal – yingina / Great Lake. Half were incubated under controlled conditions at the New Norfolk hatchery and half at the Salmon Ponds. Once eyed, the ova incubated at the New Norfolk hatchery were transferred into troughs at the Salmon Ponds for hatching and rearing. From these ova, 103 500 brown trout fry averaging 1.0 gram were stocked into club dams, public waters and a Registered Private Fisheries during October and November 2019.

In April 2020, we stripped 220 000 ova from wild brown trout trapped in Liawenee Canal – yingina / Great Lake. These were incubated at the Salmon Ponds.

We stripped a further 60 000 ova from wild brown trout trapped in Liawenee Canal - yingina / Great Lake for sale to the South Australian Fly Fishers Association, see Table 6: Ova and fish sales between 1 July 2019 and 30 June 2020.

Stocking of inland waters for public fishing

Each year, we stock the public fishery from the Salmon Ponds hatchery, fish supplied or donated by commercial fish farms and wild fish trapped from the Central Highlands spawning runs.

In 2019-20, we stocked 95 378 brown trout, 13 470 rainbow trout, no brook trout, and no Atlantic salmon.

Table 5. Fish numbers, species and size class stocked into the public fishery between 1 July and 30 June 2020

Age/size class	Brown trout	Rainbow trout	Brook trout	Atlantic salmon
Fry (1-5 g)	85 392	1 000	0	0
Fingerlings (6-50 g)	0	0	0	0
Yearling (51-300 g)	0	8 720		0
Adult (>301g)	9986	3 750	0	0
Total	95 378	13 470	0	0

We thank Huon Aquaculture Company Pty. Ltd. for the provision of fish during the year.

Stocking Table 12 (page 28-29), shows a detailed listing of public waters stocked during 2019-20.

Stocking of private farm dams

We manage the stocking of farm dams on private property with triploid rainbow trout by permit. The Inland Fisheries Service and one private hatchery supply the rainbow trout.

We approved the stocking of 8 870 rainbow trout into 32 private farm dams.

Ova and fish sales

Table 6. Ova and fish sales between 1 July 2019 and 30 June 2020

Qty	Age/size class	Species	Recipient	Value \$
45 000	Eyed ova	Brown	South Australian Fly Fishers Assoc. (SAFFA)	2 475
10 000	Fry (1-5g)	Brown	Registered private fisheries	1 000
500	Adult (>301g)	Brown	Registered private fisheries	5 000
3 000	Fingerlings (6-50g)	Triploid Rainbow	Registered private fisheries	2 100
600	Fry (1-5g)	Triploid Rainbow	Private farm dams	250
1 500	Fingerlings (6-50g)	Triploid Rainbow	Private farm dams	1 300
300	Yearlings (51-300g)	Triploid Rainbow	Private farm dams	600

Commercial fisheries

Private fisheries

Registered private fisheries provide recreational fishing opportunities without being subject to angling licence provisions and angling regulations. At 30 June 2020, there were 11 registered private fisheries, one less than 2018-19.

Fish dealers

A person dealing in applicable freshwater fish must be a registered fish dealer under the Act. At 30 June 2020, there were 34 registered fish dealers.

Fish farms

A fish farm means any area on land or in inland waters used to farm, culture, hatch, rear, ranch, enhance or breed freshwater fish for commercial or research purposes. This year we;

- granted two new fish farm licenses for aquarium fish;
- renewed eight salmonid hatchery fish farm licenses; and
- processed the surrender of one salmonid hatchery fish farm licence.

Table 7. Summary of Fish Farm Licenses issued at 30 June 2020 under the Act and their status.

Species farmed	Number of fish farm licenses	Number of fish farms operational
Eels/Salmonids	1	1
Salmonids	16	16
Freshwater Aquarium	9	9
Freshwater Aquarium/Salmonids	1	1

Commercial freshwater fishing licenses

All 12 existing commercial freshwater fishing licenses (eels) were renewed. Seven licenses were actively fished, one less than in the previous year.

The industry has declared a held catch of 23 501 kg of wild eels, down 28 per cent against the previous year's 32 595 kg. Although the restrictions imposed by COVID-19 constrained fishing activity at the end of the season, this decline in catch is attributed to reduced fishing effort through the season.

Exemption permits and angling exemptions

During 2019-20, we issued 37 permits exempting the holder from the requirement of an angling licence in support of educational and community awareness programs.

We issued 57 permits exempting the holder from various sections of the Act in support of education, scientific research, fisheries development, fishing technology development and fish stock depletion or enhancement.

Native fish conservation and management

Woods and Arthurs lakes monitoring

Late October 2019, six fine mesh fyke nets were set at each of the four survey sites within Woods and Arthur lakes. At Woods Lake, this resulted in the capture of just four saddled galaxias, one adult and three juveniles (42-48mm) and one Arthurs paragalaxias (47mm). This continues the trend of low catches of the saddled galaxias and the slow recovery of the Arthurs paragalaxias at Woods Lake.

At Arthurs Lake, just eight saddled galaxias were captured, with two length cohorts present (see figure 2b). A total of 162 Arthurs paragalaxias were also captured, which is about twice the long-term average catch. Like the April 2019 result, a strong young of the year cohort of the Arthurs paragalaxias were present (30 – 44 mm see figure 2a). The number of saddled galaxias however, remained low during this period.

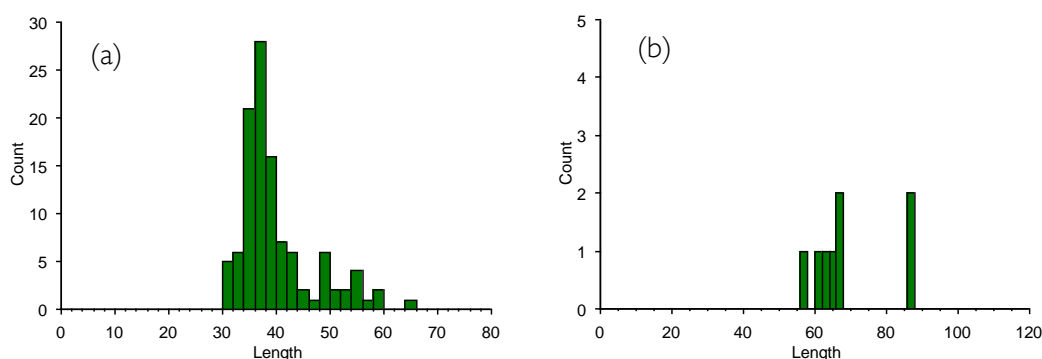


Figure 2. Length frequency plots for; (a) Arthurs paragalaxias and (b) saddled galaxias, Arthurs Lake, October 2019.

Penstock & Shannon lagoons monitoring

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the monitoring for threatened galaxiids at Penstock and Shannon lagoons was rescheduled to 2020-21.

Swan galaxias monitoring

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, monitoring of the eastern populations of the Swan galaxias was rescheduled to 2020-21.

During January 2020, a large bushfire burnt through the area adjacent to the Tullochgorum Creek and St Pauls River populations. While neither site was directly impacted, headwater inflows were likely to carry ash during moderate rain events. These sites will be monitored during 2020-21.

Of the four western populations, the Floods Creek and Dairy Creek populations were monitored. At Floods Creek, for a fifth consecutive year of fyke netting and electrofishing, no swan galaxias were found. This site will now be considered for possible conservation translocations. An electrofishing survey of the Dairy Creek population resulted in the capture of eleven Swan galaxias. The lower site was impacted by poor water quality and future stock management and riparian works are being considered.

Clarence galaxias monitoring

Monitoring of Clarence galaxias populations were conducted during February 2020.

Several sites along Skullbone Plains Creek were checked but were found to be dry. However, the very headwater site adjacent to the Lake Ina Road terminus that contains a series of peat soaks, held one Clarence galaxias and one climbing galaxias. The headwaters of Brown Marsh Creek was electrofished with several brown trout found. The headwaters of Dyes Marsh Rivulet, (the small lagoon NE of Clarence Lagoon) was checked, with six adult and six juvenile Clarence galaxias captured and a further 10 juveniles observed.

Electrofishing of the north east shoreline of Johnsons Lagoon produced 53 Clarence galaxias, with a range of size classes present (see figure 3). No trout were found.

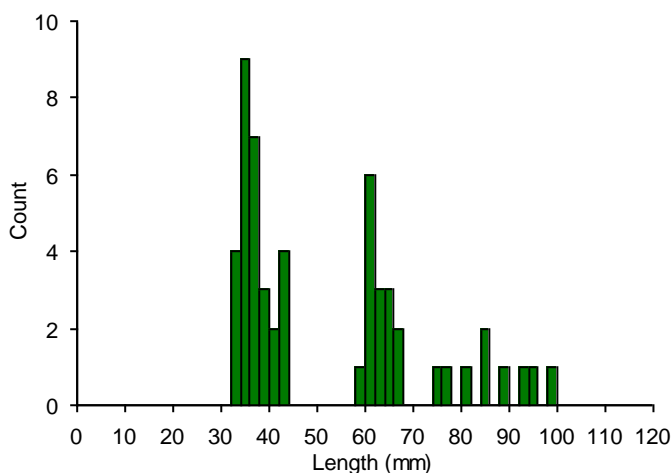


Figure 3: Length frequency Clarence galaxias, Johnsons Lagoon February 2020.

Golden galaxias monitoring

The annual golden galaxias survey was conducted during March 2020. At lakes Sorell and Crescent, twelve fine-mesh fyke nets were set overnight across three locations within each lake. The total catch of golden galaxias in Lake Crescent was 433 fish while at Lake Sorell, 1 396 were captured. The fork lengths of 160 golden galaxias from Lake Crescent and 132 from Lake Sorell were recorded.

The long-term trend in CPUE (Figure 4) for Lake Crescent shows a decline in catch compared to 2019. While the 2019 CPUE figure was high, the result for 2020 is low by comparison to the previous 9 years. The CPUE result for Lake Sorell was similar, falling from a high figure of 490 fish per net, down to 116. This result is however within the bounds of previous surveys and like the 2015 – 2018 period.

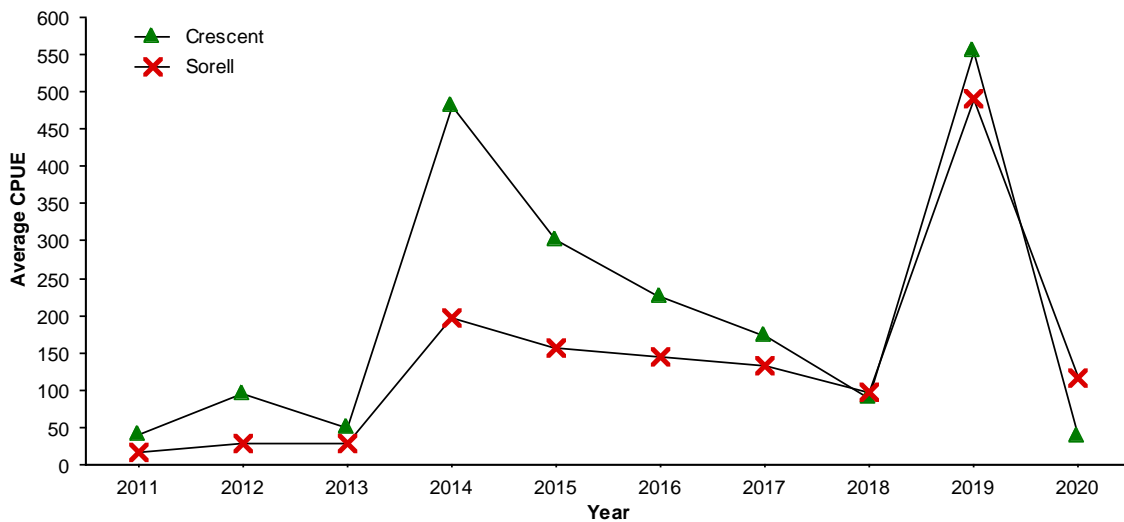


Figure 4. Average (mean) CPUE of golden galaxias for lakes Crescent and Sorell, 2011-20.

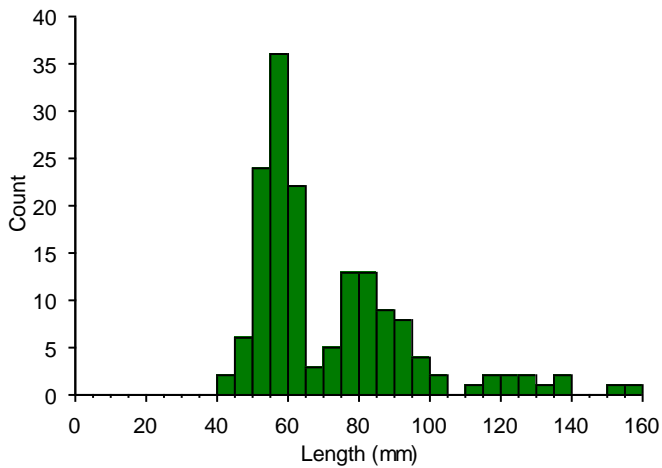


Figure 5: Length frequency of golden galaxias sampled from Lake Crescent 2020 (n=160).

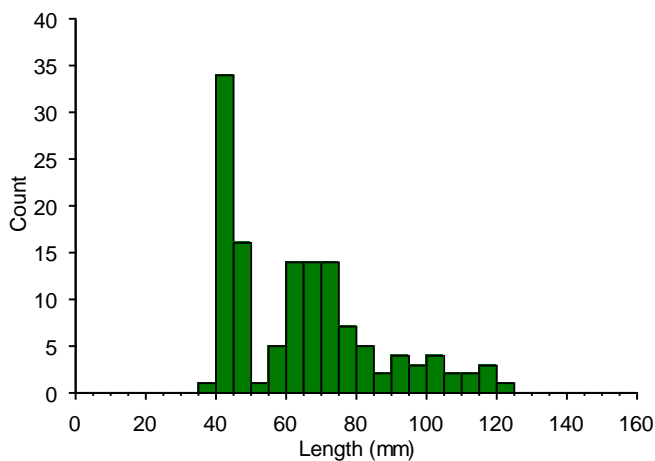


Figure 6: Length frequency of golden galaxias sampled from Lake Sorell 2020 (n=132).

Despite a decline in CPUE for the golden galaxias at Lake Crescent, annual recruitment remained significant with high numbers of juvenile fish in the 40 - 70 mm length range (Figure 5). There were also good numbers of fish in the 70 – 100 mm length range, with a significant number of fish growing beyond 100 mm.

There was recruitment of golden galaxias in Lake Sorell with good numbers of young-of-the-year fish in the 35 – 55 mm length range (Figure 6). There were also good numbers of fish in the 55 – 90 mm range. Like Lake Crescent, there were a significant number of fish greater than 100 mm.

Based on these results, the golden galaxias populations within lakes Crescent and Sorell remains healthy, with strong recruitment evident. The low CPUE for Lake Crescent requires monitoring in the coming year.

Elver and lamprey

In 2019-20, we caught 2 049 kg of lamprey in the Meadowbank Dam trap and released them into Lake Meadowbank. We trapped 336 kg of elver from the Meadowbank Dam trap and 824 kg from the Trevallyn Tailrace. We stocked several public waters as shown in Table 8.

Table 8. Public waters stocked with elver by the Inland Fisheries Service in 2019-20

Water	Kg stocked	Eels per kg	Number of eels stocked	T - Trevallyn M - Meadowbank
Lake Burbury	60	787	47 220	T
Lake Meadowbank	150	437	65 550	M
Lake Rowallan	50	787	39 350	T
Lake Pieman	100	787	78 700	T
South Esk River	100	787	78 700	T

Commercial freshwater fishing (eel) licence (CFFL) holders who elected to receive an industry support allocation of free elver for restocking received a maximum of 50 kg per licence per year. An exemption permit was issued to each CFFL holder to allow the possession, transport, and release of juvenile eels into approved waters within their licence catchment.

The following CFFL holders received the following allocation of free elver as a part of the industry support program 1 - 50 kg, 6 – 50 kg, 9 – 12 kg, 11 – 13 kg, 22 - 50 kg, 24 – 50 kg and 26 - 20kg.

At the time of printing the waters stocked by the CFFL holders had not been compiled.

In addition, we sold 364 kg of elver to a company in Victoria.

Pest fish management

Eastern gambusia

During February 2020, we carried out the annual survey to examine the current distribution of Eastern gambusia in the kanamaluka / River Tamar estuary. Following confirmation of gambusia within Queechy Lake during 2018, surveys were extended into the Relbia and Corra Linn areas during 2019. This year, we further extended surveys to examine additional key locations in the East Prospect, Kings Meadows and Youngtown areas, as well as revisiting a number of know gambusia sites to check for their continuing presence and to assess abundance.

There were no signs of any gambusia upstream of the Queechy Lake area, confirming the species remains restricted to Queechy Lake and downstream habitats within the lower North Esk River and the upper kanamaluka / River Tamar estuary.

Redfin Perch - Native Lass Dam eradication

In early January, the IFS was notified of the presence of redfin perch (*perca fluviatilis*) in Native Lass Dam in the Ringarooma catchment. Distribution surveys confirmed that redfin perch were restricted to Native Lass Dam.

Due to the size and depth of the dam, it was decided to pump water out and treat with rotenone in late March. The treatment appears to have been successful and a follow up survey is planned in 2020-21.

Strategic goal: Tasmania is carp-free and Lake Sorell is open to recreational fishing

Table 9. Carp captures from lakes Sorell and Crescent for the 2019-20 season

	Total caught in 2019-20	Adult / Juvenile	Total caught 1995 to present
Lake Sorell	5	5 / 0	41 496
Lake Crescent	0	0	7 797

The 2019-20 carp season resulted in only 5 carp caught, which brings the total number of carp removed from Lake Sorell to 41 496 since their discovery in 1995 (Table 9). This was a significantly lower capture compared to the 39 carp caught the season before, despite having a similar amount of gill net effort used (Figure 7). Maintaining the fishing pressure over the last few seasons, the total carp catch and catch per unit effort (CPUE) has continued to decline (Figure 7).

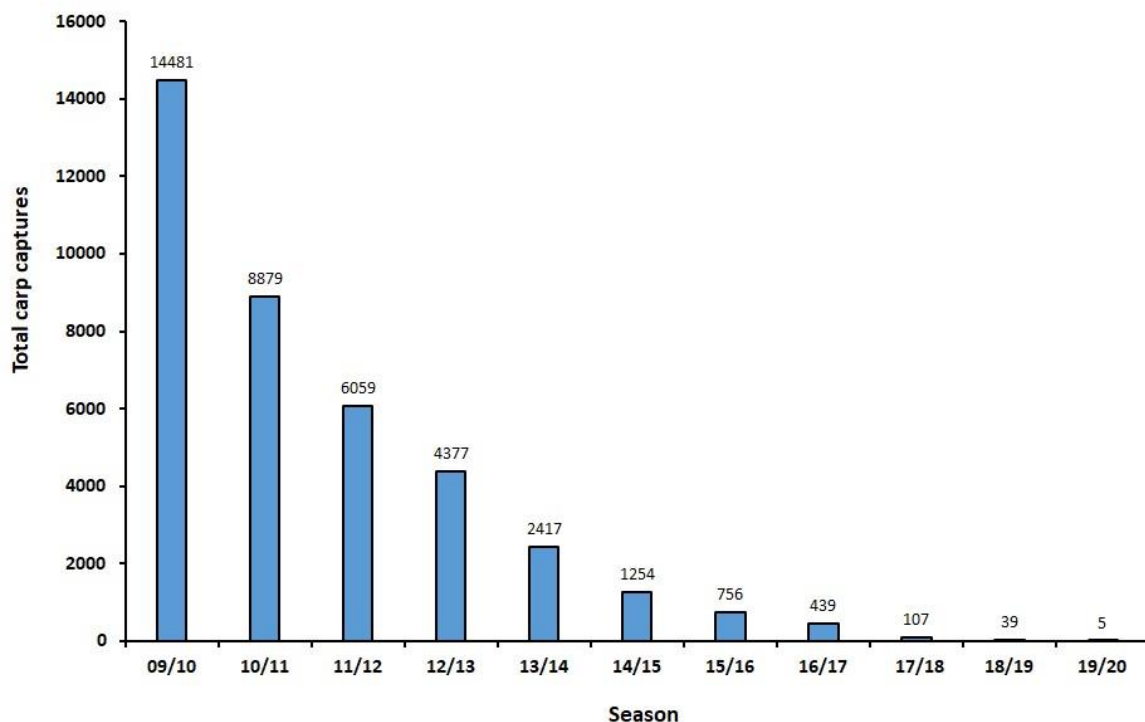


Figure 7. Total carp captures from 2009 to 2020

Juvenile carp surveys in Lake Sorell indicated that there had been no carp recruitment in 2019-20. Given this result, we temporarily reopened Lake Sorell to the public from Saturday 8 February 2020. This allowed trout fishing for the remainder of the 2019-20 brown trout season, which closed 3 May 2020.

This is a huge milestone for the Carp Management Program. Eradication and monitoring efforts will continue over the next few years, and it is hoped that the small remaining numbers of carp will be removed during this period.

Strategic goal: Our reputation as a world-class recreational trout fishery is established and participation is increased

Policy Commitment – Upgrading Amenities at High Visitation Trout Waters

The IFS has worked with AAT to design and construct 10 public toilets at key freshwater fishing locations as part of the Government's commitment to develop better facilities for anglers. The toilets were ready for the 2019-20 trout season opening on Saturday 3 August. The toilets are at:

- Bradys Lake, main boat ramp;
- Bronte Lagoon, boat ramp;
- Four Springs Lake, southern end of the car park;
- Lake Augusta, boat ramp;
- Lake Sorell, Dago Point campground;
- Little Pine Lagoon, main boat ramp;
- Penstock Lagoon, boat ramp and the Ladies Walk area;
- Tungatinah Lagoon, boat ramp and
- Woods Lake, boat ramp.

Angler survey

The annual Angler Postal Survey (APS) obtains a range of data about the recreational fishery that is used to assist fishery management. The APS is a written questionnaire mailed out at the end of the angling season. The results, including estimates of the catch rate, total harvest, angling effort, and number of anglers fishing are shown in Tables 16 and 17.

*Catch rate = all fish species combined, expressed as fish per angler per day

Table 10. Ranking of lake fisheries by participation results of the 2019-20 Angler Postal Survey

Ranking	Lake	Catch rate* (fish per angler per day)	Angler numbers
1	yingina / Great Lake	1.23	4 241
2	Arthurs Lake	0.94	3 270
3	Woods Lake	2.98	2 493
4	Penstock Lagoon	1.62	2 428
5	Four Springs Lake	0.98	1 651
6	Little Pine Lagoon	1.49	1 424
7	Bronte Lagoon	1.21	1 327
8	Bradys Lake	0.50	1 165
9	Lake Leake	0.59	971
10	Lake Echo	0.96	777
11	Brushy Lagoon	0.09	744
12	Huntsman Lake	1.09	712
13	Dee Lagoon	0.18	712
14	Meadowbank Lake	0.50	615
15	Lake King William	3.12	582

Table 11. Ranking of river fisheries by participation results of the 2019-20 Angler Postal Survey

Ranking	River	Catch rate* (fish per angler per day)	Angler numbers
1	Mersey River	1.36	1 942
2	River Derwent	0.55	1 748
3	South Esk River	0.63	1 586
4	Meander River	1.74	1 359
5	Brumbys Creek	0.30	1 295
6	Tyenna River	2.01	1 133
7	River Leven	0.88	971
8	St Patricks River	2.23	841
9	Macquarie River	0.50	647
10	River Forth	0.75	582

Anglers Access Program

An important innovation completed in 2019-20 is the use of a data collection app and the List Map database to record and manage all anglers access infrastructure throughout the state. The completion of this project, recording the location, details, and photographs of 1 400 items of infrastructure, will assist effective management in the future.

The project to extend the Meander River Anglers Access Project upstream of Jackeys Creek to Meander Dam was completed in support of the World Fly Fishing Championship 2019 (WFFC2019). The project is within the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area requiring a Parks and Wildlife Reserve Activity Assessment. Approval for the Project, providing access to 3.5 km of river through the construction of 5km of walking tracks, was received in May 2019. The project was completed in October 2019. The Meander River Anglers Access brochure has been updated accordingly. The new tracks and access are now available to all anglers as a legacy of the WFFC2019.

The transfer of land at Four Springs Lake between the IFS and Forico started in 2017-18 is progressed with a survey completed in early 2020. The aim is to complete the transfer by the end of the 2020-21 financial year.

As part of the State Governments policy commitment to improve Anglers Access the IFS has undertaken several projects including a recreation plan for Camden Dam, developed through the MoU with Tasmanian Irrigation. Construction of the 9 000 megalitre capacity dam was completed in June 2019 and filled by June 2020. Facilities include a safety buoy line to provide for kayak and canoe anglers, car parking, signage, and foot access to the dam. It is anticipated that natural recruitment of both brown and rainbow trout in Camden Rivulet upstream of the dam will sustain the fishery.

Improvements to Anglers Access at East Diddleum Road on the St. Patricks River and at Porters Bridge Road on the Meander River were completed. Parking, stiles, and signs have been constructed and installed at both locations.

At South Riana Dam the IFS and Tasmanian Irrigation are establishing an easement with permission of the private landowner to provide perpetual public access to the dam. When complete the IFS will further improve facilities for anglers.

Improvements to boating infrastructure completed this year in collaboration with MAST and Hydro Tasmania include the reconstruction of the Darwin Dam boat ramp and a new walkway at the Thureau Hills boat ramp at Lake Burbury. MAST have installed a low-level flex mat ramp at Craighourne Dam.

Road and civil maintenance projects undertaken by IFS during 2019-20 include upgrades to Woods Lake Road and Gunns Marsh Road in conjunction with Hydro Tasmania and maintenance to Four Springs Road.

Marketing, communication, and promotions

In 2019-20 the communication message was "Fish where the champions fish" in line with Tasmania hosting the 39th World Fly Fishing Championship (WFFC2019).

We entered the social media space through our Instagram page @troutfishtasmania on 20 October, achieving over 1000 followers by 30 June 2020.

We supported Tourism Tasmania's visiting journalist program by hosting Jess McGlothlin from the USA and provided representation and technical support to the Tourism Tasmania Fly Fishing Reference Group as part of the Unordinary Adventures campaign.

We released several videos promoting fisheries management activities and the competition waters for the WFFC2019. These included:

- Penstock Lagoon
- Mersey River
- Meander River
- Howard Croston, champion angler, UK
- Devin Olsen, champion angler, USA
- Winter fishing opportunities – Lake Burbury in Winter

Talk trout Tasmania

The annual Talk trout Tasmania forum was held at the Great Lake Community Centre on Friday 22 November. This provided an opportunity for anglers to meet IFS staff. The key topics were:

- The fall and rise of Lake Sorell.
- How many fish in that there lake - Bradys Chain.
- Compliance – What's the catch?
- Access for all.

World Fly Fishing Championship 2019

Australia hosted the 39th World Fly Fishing Championship in 2019 with Tasmania as the competition venue and Launceston as the host city. The event was held between 30 November and 7 December 2019.

The five venues were Woods Lake, Penstock and Little Pine lagoons and the Mersey and Meander rivers.

- The Government was an Event Partner providing support through:
- The Inland Fisheries Service with staff resources, infrastructure, regulation, fishery preparation and website development.
- Tourism Tasmania with promotion of the event.
- The Department of State Growth with Events Tasmania funding of \$100 000.

IFS mapped and marked out the beats for the competition on the two river venues. It also developed access to water on the remote upper Meander River, below Huntsman Lake. IFS coordinated the ceremonial events before and after the competition.

There were temporary regulation changes implemented for the competition waters that kept disruption for local anglers to a minimum.

We operated safety/compliance boats on each lake venue and had an officer at the two river venues. We worked from an operations center in the Hotel Grand Chancellor from where we coordinated both the opening and closing ceremonies and dinner.

Gone Fishing Day

The IFS worked with Anglers Alliance Tasmania (AAT) and Sea Fisheries (DPIPWE) to promote activities for the national Gone Fishing Day on Sunday 20 October 2019. The IFS exempted participants from the requirement to hold an angling licence. AAT and local angling clubs held junior fishing activities at Ulverstone, Penguin, Latrobe, Longford and Bushy Park.

Strategic goal: Environmental challenges are well understood and managed within our capacity

COVID-19

The coronavirus pandemic emerged as the single greatest risk to inland fisheries and the operations and sustainability of the Inland Fisheries Service.

From mid-January the commercial eel fishery experienced reduced exports primarily to Asia as economies shut down. This was followed by a downturn in the domestic market as restaurants closed. The total harvest from the commercial freshwater eel fishery will be the lowest for many years. Freshwater Fish Farms associated with the salmon industry have also experienced a downturn due to the virus.

In response to the health emergency all National Parks and Reserves managed by the Parks and Wildlife Service were temporarily closed. Similarly, there was restricted public access to land and water managed by Hydro Tasmania, Sustainable Timber Tasmania, and Tasmanian Irrigation. Many private farms with access agreements closed or restricted access. This dramatically affected access for recreational fishing and combined with mainland bushfires resulted in a 10% downturn in annual participation.

Government Policy around economic stimulus included IFS leases to non-government businesses. Consequently, rents were waived in part or in full for the affected leases.

The IFS made four successful applications to the Public Building Maintenance Fund, a Government economic stimulus initiative, for the New Norfolk offices (\$125 000) and the Salmon Ponds Heritage Gardens Ground Rehabilitation (\$120 000), the Salmon Ponds Heritage Gardens Painting Buildings (\$100 000) and Liawenee Field Station Upgrade (\$250 000). Work at New Norfolk and the Salmon Ponds started in May 2020.

All non-essential field work ceased with most IFS staff working from home. Fish transfers and stocking of waters continued in preparation for the 2020-21 season in support of regional economies.

COVID-19 Safe site-specific plans were developed and implemented at all IFS locations.

Corra Linn was reopened to the public on 21 May.

The Salmon Ponds remained closed to the public with reopening planned for 4 July 2020.

Tyenna River willow removal

During the 2019-20 financial year the IFS collaborated with the Derwent Catchment Project to continue the Restoration Plan for the Tyenna River. The Derwent Catchment Project received funding from the Fisheries Habitat Improvement Fund in 2019 to develop a 10-year recovery plan for the river.

Four Springs Lake cumbungi control

The IFS and Anglers Alliance Tasmania have completed the cumbungi control program at Four Springs Lake. The program included both manual and chemical control methods. IFS will monitor cumbungi at Four Springs Lake annually to detect re-infestation.

Strategic goal: The Inland Fisheries Service is respected and valued as a responsive, proactive, accessible and dynamic organisation

Building and reviewing strategic partnerships

We completed the second year of a four-year Grant Deed with AAT to deliver the Government's policy commitment.

We maintained Memorandums of Understanding with our key stakeholders:

- Births Deaths and Marriages, Department of Justice
- Client Update, Services, ServiceTasmania
- Forico Pty Limited
- Hydro Tasmania
- Tasmanian Irrigation
- Van Dairy Group

The Inland Fisheries Service remains a member of 26Ten.

Scientific and technical advice

During 2019-20, we provided a range of advice on environmental issues to DPIPWE, Forest Practices Authority, Hydro Tasmania, Sustainable Timber Tasmania and Tasmanian Irrigation across a range of projects.

IFS involvement into State and National policy and working groups

Lakes Sorell and Crescent Water Management Plan 2005 review

The IFS is a member of the Consultative Group participating in the statutory review of the lakes *Sorell and Crescent Water Management Plan 2005*.

Mersey River Water Management Plan 2005 review

The IFS has been invited as a member of the upcoming statutory review of the *Mersey River Water Management Plan 2005*.

Rural Water Use Strategy

The Rural Water Use Strategy, due for completion in early 2021, will guide the State's future water management arrangements to ensure integrated, fair, and efficient regulation of our water resources.

The IFS was consulted during the development of the Rural Water Use Strategy.

Implementation of the Water Use during Extreme Dry Condition Policy

The IFS was consulted in the implementation of the Water Use during Extreme Dry Condition Policy during the year.

Draft Lower Gordon River Recreation Zone Plan

The IFS was consulted during the development of the Draft Lower Gordon River Recreation Zone Plan.

Right to Information enquiries

We received no right to information enquiries during 2019-20.

Staff support and development

The IFS is responsible for staff performance, wellbeing, safety and completed performance management reviews for all staff during the year. Refresher first-aid courses were completed, and voluntary flu vaccinations provided.

The IFS ran a monthly meeting for all staff as a forum for communication and operational efficiencies, increasing this to weekly with the transition to working from home during COVID-19 restrictions.

Events

Trout Weekend 2020

Trout Weekend 2020 was cancelled due to COVID-19.

Tasmania Trout Fishing Photo Competition

The Hon Guy Barnett MP, Minister for Primary Industries and Water, announced the winner of the Inland Fisheries Service's Tasmania Trout Fishing Photo Competition for 2019-20 on 25 June 2020.

First prize, being a cheque for \$500 was awarded to David Mossop for his photo, *AJ Smith battling a Brown Trout at Lake Botsford*.

Second prize, a pair of Anchor WetSuits Fly 'n' Dry waders went to Rhys Hamilton for the photo *Western Lakes Recovery*.

Third and fourth prizes were a selection of Huey's Lures. 3rd prize awarded to Kelly Slater and Ian Hubble. Kelly Slater for the photo *Mersey River, Dogs Head Reserve* and Ian Hubble for the photo *Mersey River, Warrawee Reserve, Latrobe*.

Events supported by the IFS

Other events supported by the IFS this year included the stocking of junior angling dams for:

- Bushy Park Estate Dam
- Frombergs Dam
- Hiscutt Park Pond
- Longford Junior Angling Pond
- Taylors Dam

We also supported

- Tasmanian Trout Expo

We attended events during the year, including

July 2019

- New Norfolk Anglers Association, Dinner and Trophy Night
- Bridgewater Anglers Club AGM
- Van Diemen's Fly Fishers Club

September 2019

- Anglers Alliance Tasmania General Meeting
- Trout Guides and Lodges Tasmania AGM
- Hydro Tasmania Cressy Trout Expo
- South Australian Fly Fishers Association

October 2019

- Gone Fishing Day – Anglers Alliance Tasmania Junior Angling Day:
- Victorian Fly-Fishing Association
- Derby River Festival Kids Fishing Day
- North West Fly Fishers Fly Fishing Expo – Hiscutt Park

November 2019

- Anglers Alliance Tasmania
- Talk Trout Tasmania

December 2019

- 39th Fips Mouche World Fly Fishing Championship

January 2020

- Bronte Fly Fishing School

February 2020

- Penguin Angling Club
- North West Fly Fishers Club

May 2020

- Tasmanian Fly Tyers general meeting

Publications

- Blackmans Lagoon Anglers Access Program fact sheet, May 2020
- Bradys Lake, Lake Binney & Tungatinah Lagoon Anglers Access Program brochure, September 2019
- Bradys Chain of Lakes Fishery Performance Assessment Technical Report July 2019
- Camden Dam Anglers Access Program fact sheet, June 2019
- Carp Management Program Annual Report 2018-19
- Carp Management Program report for July to December 2019
- Curries River Reservoir Fishery Performance Assessment Technical Report August 2019
- Huntsman Lake, Brushy Lagoon & Four Springs Lake Anglers Access Program brochure, September 2019
- IFS Angler Postal Survey Results 2018-19
- IFS Quarterly Report to Anglers for June to August 2019
- IFS Quarterly Report to Anglers for November 2019 to January 2020
- IFS Regulatory Impact Statement & Draft *Inland Fisheries Regulations 2019*
- Inland Fisheries Service Annual Report 2018-19
- Lake Crescent Anglers Access Program fact sheet, March 2020
- Shannon Lagoon Fishery Performance Assessment Technical Report May 2019
- South Esk River Anglers Access Program brochure, March 2020
- South Riana Dam Anglers Access Program fact sheet, September 2019
- Talbots Lagoon Fishery Performance Assessment Technical Report April 2019
- Western Lakes Wilderness Fishery Anglers Access Program brochure, September 2019
- (2020) Big trouble for little fish: identifying Australian freshwater fishes in imminent risk of extinction. *Pacific Conservation Biology*. Lintermans Mark, Geyle Hayley M., Beatty Stephen, Brown Culum, Ebner Brendan C., Freeman Rob, Hammer Michael P., Humphreys William F., Kennard Mark J., Kern Pippa, Martin Keith, Morgan David L., Raadik Tarmo A., Unmack Peter J., Wager Rob, Woinarski John C. Z., Gamett Stephen T.
- (2019) eDNA surveys to detect species at very low densities: A case study of European carp eradication in Tasmania, Australia. *Journal of Applied Ecology*. Furlan Elise M., Gleeson Dianne, Wisniewski Chris, Yick Jonah, Duncan Richard P

Adult transfers and Stocking data

Stocking table key:

Size:

- Fry = 0.1-5 g,
- Fingerlings = 6 – 100 g,
- Yearling = 101 – 300 g,
- Adult = >300 g

Origins:

- yingina / Great Lake fish traps = Liawenee Canal, Sandbanks Creek
- Lake King William fish trap = River Derwent
- Salmon Pond – IFS hatchery (Plenty)
- Fish Farm #4 = Huon Aquaculture Group (Springfield)
- Fish Farm #52 = Mountain Stream Fishery (Targa)
- Fish Farm #65 = Huon Aquaculture Group (Milly Brook)

Stocking of public waters during 2019-20

Table 12. Stocking of public waters during 2019-20

Water	Date	Brown trout	Rainbow trout	Size	Origin
Big Waterhouse Lake	May-26		1 200	Yearling	Fish farm #4
Big Waterhouse Lake	Jun-26	222		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Big Waterhouse Lake	Jun-26	20		Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Blackmans Lagoon	Jun-8		600	Yearling	Fish Farm #65
Bradys Lake	May-15	100		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Bradys Lake	May-15	124		Adult	Sandbanks Canal
Bradys Lake	May-19	240		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Bradys Lake	May-22	480		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Bradys Lake	May-27	100		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Briseis Hole (Derby Mine Hole)	May-25		600	Yearling	Fish Farm #4
Bruisers Lagoon	May-1	50		Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Brushy Lagoon	July-5	107		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Brushy Lagoon	July-10	187		Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Brushy Lagoon	July-10	300		Adult	River Derwent
Brushy Lagoon	July-10	134		Adult	River Derwent
Brushy Lagoon	Nov-25		1 800	Adult	Fish Farm #4
Brushy Lagoon	Jun-5	120		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Brushy Lagoon	Jun-30		400	Yearling	Fish Farm #65
Camerons Lagoon	May-7	59		Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Carters Lakes	Apr-3	200		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Craigbourne Dam	Jul-9	7		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Craigbourne Dam	July-9	986		Adult	River Derwent
Craigbourne Dam	Nov-29		1300	Adult	Fish Farm #4
Craigbourne Dam	May-2	120		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Craigbourne Dam	May-8	240		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Craigbourne Dam	May-29	120		Adult	Liawenee Canal

Water	Date	Brown trout	Rainbow trout	Size	Origin
Craigbourne Dam	Jun-5	120		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Craigbourne Dam	Jun-10		1 000	Yearling	Fish Farm #65
Curries River Reservoir	May-26		1 120	Yearling	Fish farm #4
Curries River Reservoir	Jun-11	240		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Curries River Reservoir	Jun-12	240		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Curries River Reservoir	Jun-18	240		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Curries River Reservoir	Jun-19	60		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Curries River Reservoir	Jun-19	180		Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Dee Lagoon	Jun-9		1 500	Adult	Fish Farm #65
Four Springs Lake	Apr-24	220		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Four Springs Lake	Apr-30	720		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Four Springs Lake	May-2	1 340		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Four Springs Lake	May-8	360		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Four Springs Lake	May-12	200		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Four Springs Lake	May-19	220		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Four Springs Lake	May-22	480		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Four Springs Lake	May-29	78		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Four Springs Lake	May-29	170		Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Four Springs Lake	Jun-5	2		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Four Springs Lake	Jun-5	118		Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Four Springs Lake	Jun-11	120		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Four Springs Lake	Jun-30		200	Yearling	Fish Farm #65
Lake Botsford	Apr-15	100		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Lake Duncan	May-1	30		Adult	Sandbanks Canal
Lake Leake	May-14	1 200		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Lake Leake	Jun-10		2 000	Yearling	Fish Farm #65
Lake Lynch	May-1	30		Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Lake Paget	Apr-17	50		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Lake Waverley	Oct-25		150	Adult	Fish Farm #4
Penstock Lagoon	Apr-6	200		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Penstock Lagoon	Apr-8	82		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Penstock Lagoon	Apr-16	318		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Penstock Lagoon	Apr-17	200		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Penstock Lagoon	Apr-21	217		Adult	Sandbanks Creek
Penstock Lagoon	Apr-22	243		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Penstock Lagoon	Apr-22	240		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Penstock Lagoon	Jun-9		1 000	Yearling	Fish Farm #65
Pioneer Lake	May-25		600	Yearling	Fish farm #4
Risdon Brook Reservoir	May-21		300	Adult	Fish farm #4
Rocky Lagoon	Apr-17	100		Adult	Liawenee Canal
Second Lagoon	Apr-17	100		Adult	Liawenee Canal
South Riana Dam	Jul-11	392		Adult	River Derwent
South Riana Dam	Oct-30	50 000		Fry	Salmon Ponds
South Riana Dam	Oct-30	20 392		Fry	Salmon Ponds

Stocking of private dams for junior angling development in 2019-20

Table 13. Stocking of private dams for junior angling development in 2019-20

Name	Area	Date	Brown trout	Rainbow trout	Size	Origin
Taylor's Dam	Latrobe	Jul-4		71	Adult	Fish Farm #52
Taylor's Dam	Latrobe	Jul-19	100		Adult	Liawenee Canal

Stocking of private dams for angling club activities in 2019-20

Table 14. Stocking of private dams for angling club activities in 2019-20

Name	Area	Date	Brown trout	Rainbow trout	Size	Origin
Mitchelsons Dam	Westbury	Oct-19	5 000	1 000	Fry	Salmon Ponds
Legges Dam	Break O'Day	Nov-19	2 000	1 000	Fry	Salmon Ponds
North Motton Rearing Unit club dam	North Motton	Jan-20	250	250	Fry	Salmon Ponds
One Farm Dam at 99 Church Road, North Motton	North Motton	Jan-20	250	250	Fry	Salmon Ponds
One Farm Dam at 262 Lobster Creek Road Ulverstone	Ulverstone	Jan-20	250	250	Fry	Salmon Ponds

Stocking of private dams for public fishing in 2019-20

Table 15. Stocking of private dams for public fishing in 2019-20

Dam name/landholder	Address	Date	Brown trout	Rainbow trout	Size
Lamberts Dam	Native Plains Rd, Railton	Nov-19	5 000	1 000	Fry
Rostrevor Reservoir	Tasman Hwy (A3), Triabunna	Oct-19	10 000		Fry

Results for Angler Postal Survey 2015-16 to 2019-20 (Lakes)

*Catch rate = all fish species combined, expressed as fish per angler per day

Table 16. Results for Angler Postal Survey 2015-16 to 2019-20 (Lakes)

Ranking	Season 2019-20	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2018-19	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2017-18	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2016-17	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2015-16	Catch rate*	Total anglers
1	yingina / Great Lake	1.23	4 241	yingina / Great Lake	1.39	6 123	yingina / Great Lake	1.34	7 112	yingina / Great Lake	1.57	6 736	yingina / Great Lake	1.01	6 211
2	Arthurs Lake	0.94	3 270	Woods Lake	2.74	4 898	Woods Lake	2.77	5 485	Arthurs Lake	0.75	4 428	Arthurs Lake	0.95	5 639
3	Woods Lake	2.98	2 493	Arthurs Lake	0.65	4 815	Arthurs Lake	0.84	5 039	Woods Lake	1.92	3 617	Woods Lake	1.79	3 868
4	Penstock Lagoon	1.62	2 428	Penstock Lagoon	1.71	3 256	Penstock Lagoon	2.35	3 149	Penstock Lagoon	1.82	3 586	Penstock Lagoon	1.70	3 323
5	Four Springs Lake	0.98	1 651	Little Pine Lagoon	1.06	2 449	Bronte Lagoon	1.39	2 860	Bronte Lagoon	1.48	2 806	Bronte Lagoon	0.99	2 942
6	Little Pine Lagoon	1.49	1 424	Four Springs Lake	1.57	2 254	Little Pine Lagoon	1.52	2 414	Little Pine Lagoon	0.62	2 446	Four Springs Lake	1.41	2 670
7	Bronte Lagoon	1.21	1 327	Bronte Lagoon	0.73	2 198	Four Springs Lake	1.29	2 283	Tooms Lake	1.38	2 370	Little Pine Lagoon	0.95	2 452
8	Bradys Lake	0.50	1 165	Bradys Lake	1.07	1 642	Bradys Lake	0.96	1 653	Four Springs Lake	1.53	2 152	Bradys Lake	0.52	1 879
9	Lake Leake	0.59	971	Craigbourne Dam	0.32	1 252	Craigbourne Dam	0.89	1 496	Bradys Lake	0.51	1 465	Craigbourne Dam	1.11	1 716

Ranking	Season 2019-20	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2018-19	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2017-18	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2016-17	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2015-16	Catch rate*	Total anglers
10	Lake Echo	0.96	777	Lake Echo	2.37	1 224	Tooms Lake	1.63	1 469	Craigbourne Dam	0.33	1 465	Tooms Lake	1.47	1 580
11	Brushy Lagoon	0.09	744	Tooms Lake	1.01	1 196	Lake Echo	2.73	1 364	Lake Leake	0.99	1 153	Brushy Lagoon	1.09	1 307
12	Huntsman Lake	1.09	712	Lake Burbury	1.67	1 085	Lake Leake	1.11	1 259	Lake King William	3.66	1 122	Lake Burbury	2.02	1 089
13	Dee Lagoon	0.18	712	Lake Leake	1.23	1 057	Lake Burbury	2.32	1 181	Lake Echo	2.98	1 029	Huntsman Lake	2.60	1 062
14	Meadowbank Lake	0.50	615	Lake Binney	0.66	974	Brushy Lagoon	1.00	1 128	Lake Augusta	1.93	935	Lake Binney	0.76	1 008
15	Lake King William	3.12	582	Lake Augusta	2.06	779	Meadowbank Lake	1.51	1 076	Brushy Lagoon	1.16	904	Meadowbank Lake	0.47	899

Results for Angler Postal Survey 2015-16 to 2019-20 (Rivers)

*Catch rate = all fish species combined, expressed as fish per angler per day

Table 17. Results for Angler Postal Survey 2015-16 to 2019-20 (Rivers)

Ranking	Season 2019-20	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2018-19	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2017-18	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2016-17	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2015-16	Catch rate*	Total anglers
1	Mersey River	1.36	1 942	Mersey River	0.97	2 755	River Derwent	0.5	2 467	River Derwent	0.84	2 401	River Derwent	0.48	2 536
2	River Derwent	0.55	1 748	South Esk River	0.89	2 254	South Esk River	1.23	2 257	Mersey River	1.20	2 339	Mersey River	0.87	2 291
3	South Esk River	0.63	1 586	Meander River	2.11	1 892	Mersey River	2.38	2 257	South Esk River	1.34	2 089	Brumbys Creek	0.75	2 072
4	Meander River	1.74	1 359	River Derwent	1.02	1 864	Meander River	1.49	1 915	Meander River	0.88	1 652	South Esk River	1.02	1 963
5	Brumbys Creek	0.30	1 295	Tyenna River	1.8	1 642	Tyenna River	2.09	1 679	Tyenna River	2.58	1 341	Meander River	1.32	1 581
6	Tyenna River	2.01	1 133	Brumbys Creek	0.76	1 335	River Leven	0.77	1 338	Huon River	0.59	1 122	Tyenna River	1.48	1 418
7	River Leven	0.88	971	River Leven	1.49	946	Brumbys Creek	0.72	1 207	River Leven	1.01	966	Huon River	0.32	1 254
8	St Patricks River	2.23	841	Macquarie River	0.6	946	Macquarie River	0.96	1 023	Brumbys Creek	0.82	904	River Leven	0.57	1 090
9	Macquarie River	0.50	647	Huon River	0.49	834	North Esk River	1.75	1 023	North Esk River	1.40	810	Macquarie River	1.07	981
10	River Forth	0.75	582	North Esk River	1.15	751	Huon River	0.48	971	St Patricks River	2.38	717	St Patricks River	1.16	681

Strategic goals: The Inland Fisheries Service is financially sustainable

Finance and administration

The year concluded with a net operating deficit and comprehensive deficit result of (\$10 464). The operating result was better than expected and arose predominantly because of the tight control of expenditure and a reduction in field operations because of COVID-19.

The result included a small deficit on the sale of motor vehicles. A revaluation of assets was not undertaken during the year due to restrictions imposed by the pandemic and because revaluations had been undertaken in the prior year.

A total of 476 five season licences were issued this year. The total number of five season licences is 2 065. The IFS recognises the total proceeds of five season licences in the year of receipt. Of the \$149 595 received this financial year, an amount of \$119 676 is applicable to future years. The IFS is holding a total of \$331 147 of revenue for five season licences applicable to future years.

Cash holdings decreased during the year by \$61 853. Interest income reduced by \$39 978 compared to the previous year due to declining interest rates. Income from investment properties and other leases fell from \$520 201 in 2018-19 to \$439 681 in 2019-20. The decline was mostly due to the Government's decision to mitigate the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and waive lease payments for Non-Government entities.

The IFS uses corporate credit cards for operational purchases subject to departmental policies and guidelines. At 30 June 2020, 16 cards were issued to staff with a combined credit limit of \$110 000.

The IFS has focused on effective communications and maintaining current technology. At 30 June 2020, the IFS maintained 12 telephone landlines, 13 mobile phones, 14 data packs, five iPads, one tablet and two air cards. The IFS also funds a data pack for the Liawenee fish trap remote camera.

Asset management

The IFS recorded a deficit of \$2 278 on three vehicles disposed of during the year. Eleven vehicles were in the fleet consisting of one Mitsubishi Pajero 4x4, two Toyota Landcruiser 4x4 Flat Trays, five Ford Ranger 4x4 Dual Cab utes and two Nissan Navara 4x4 Dual Cab utes. The vehicle fleet had a combined purchase cost of \$406 538 and a closing book value of \$295 983 after depreciation.

The IFS has a fleet of seven vessels, ranging from small punt-style boats to aluminum catamaran-style workboats. The IFS's boat fleet had a combined purchase cost of \$271 689 and a closing book value of \$83 924 after depreciation.

The IFS continued to maintain the grounds and display fish at the Salmon Ponds, and to manage and maintain the museum and its collections. The grounds and restaurant area is leased to Nekon Pty Ltd until 2023.

Risk Management

The IFS risk management strategy is incorporated into the Corporate Plan 2017-22 and operational and business plans that guide IFS's annual activity program.

In addition, the Inland Fisheries Advisory Council review key risks and mitigation strategies at each meeting.

Grants, contributions, and contractors

The grant from the State Government to the IFS in the form of an Administered Payment via DPIPWE was \$1 375 000. This amount consisted of the annual contribution of \$1 123 000 with an additional \$260 000 to meet Policy Commitments after an efficiency dividend of \$8 000. The \$260 000 was allocated as follows; \$80 000 for anglers access projects, \$30 000 to offset the freezing of fishing licence fees; \$50 000 for AAT and \$100 000 for the funding of amenities adjacent to popular recreational fisheries.

The IFS was unable to attract external funding in the year to assist with the Carp Management Program. However, it is committed to the program and sees the reopening of Lake Sorell as the greatest prospect for improving the number of participants in the States freshwater fishery. From the Administered Payment \$400 000 was allocated for the Carp Management Program. For the year \$513 611 was expended on the Carp Management Program, with the shortfall of \$113 611 met from IFS reserves.

The IFS continued to provide funding of \$22 000 to AAT in addition to the funds provided through the Government's Policy Commitment.

As in previous years, the IFS engaged several local contractors to provide services including cleaning, building maintenance, electrical and plumbing. We also engaged contractors to provide security, field, fire, grounds, and air-conditioning maintenance. We use Tasmanian contractors for all trade services.

Angling licences

Angling licence distribution and payment

The IFS sells angling licences through private agents, Service Tasmania and online.

Renewals of angling licences are sent through direct mail and email to full-season licence holders. The IFS mailed 8 152 and emailed 4 215 renewal forms, 11 004 anglers renewed, a decrease on the previous year.

Table 18. Anglers' payment preferences for renewals over the past five years.

Payment	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
Service Tasmania	2 983	3 393	3 296	3 360	3 867
Online	6 755	6 507	6 503	5 766	5 936
Licence agents	930	1 058	622	681	653
IFS	336	353	38	79	61
Total	11 004	11 311	10 459	9 886	10 517

Table 19 Comparison of angler preference for new licence payment methods over the past five years.

Payment	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
Service Tasmania	2 151	2 635	2 890	3 018	3 020
Private agents	2 381	2 984	4 083	5 384	5 320
Internet	5 478	6 312	6 824	6 330	5 020
IFS	361	364	14	65	52
WFFC*	139	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	10 510	12 295	13 811	14 397	13 394

*Note: 139 new licences sold were to competing participants of the 39th Fips Mouche World Fly Fishing Championship.

Angling licence structure and fees

A Policy Commitment of the Government including the freezing of angling licence fees for four years at 2017-18 prices. The cost of a junior licence was kept the same for the twelfth consecutive year.

Table 20 Tasmanian angling licence structure and fees for the past five years.

Angling licence type	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-14
Adult licence	\$75.50	\$75.50	\$75.50	\$74.50	\$73.50
Junior licence	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00
Pensioner licence	\$41.50	\$41.50	\$41.50	\$41.00	\$40.50
Senior licence	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$59.50	\$58.50
28 day licence	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$59.50	\$58.50
7 day licence	\$38.50	\$38.50	\$38.50	\$38.00	\$37.50
48 hour licence	\$23.00	\$23.00	\$23.00	\$22.90	\$22.50
extra rod – adult	\$15.50	\$15.50	\$15.50	\$15.30	\$15.00
extra rod – other	\$7.70	\$7.70	\$7.70	\$7.60	\$7.50
Adult licence 5 season	\$360.00	\$360.00	\$360.00	\$355.00	\$351.00
Senior licence 5 season	\$290.00	\$290.00	\$290.00	\$281.00	\$277.00
Pensioner licence 5 season	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$194.00	\$191.00

Trend in angling licences

The number of angling licences held, including five-season licences, was 23 103. This was a decrease of 7 per cent compared with 2018-19. The revenue from angling licence sales was \$1 414 318.

Table 21 Number of angling licences held per licence category over the past five years.

Angling licence type	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
Adult licence	10 306	10 791	11 612	11 389	11 364
Junior licence	898	960	1 091	1 045	1 046
Pensioner licence	5 675	5 974	6 535	6 388	6 413
Senior licence	1 779	1 676	1 683	1 584	1 510
28 day licence	836	1 012	842	964	986
7 day licence	1 610	1 846	2 060	2 102	2 060
48 hour licence	1 999	2 543	2 584	2 723	2 399
Total	23 103	24 802	26 407	26 195	25 778

Angler origin

Table 22. Number of licences issued to Tasmanian, interstate, and overseas anglers in 2019-20

Licence type	Tasmanian	Interstate	International	Total
Adult licence	8 630	517	145	9 292
Junior licence	795	101	2	898
Pensioner licence	4 543	382	0	4 925
Senior licence	1 101	376	1	1 478
Adult licence 5 season	883	131	0	1 014
Pensioner licence 5 season	715	35	0	750
Senior licence 5 season	229	72	0	301
28 day licence	69	697	70	836
7 day licence	232	1 267	111	1 610
48 hour licence	1 135	735	129	1 999
Total	18 332	4 313	458	23 103

Table 23 Number of angling licences issued per country over the past five years

Country	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
Canada	20	21	11	16	18
France	18	15	6	11	2
Germany	12	19	17	14	17
Hong Kong	11	3	16	14	1
Ireland	10	1	1	1	0
Japan	22	9	6	12	10
Netherlands	12	5	3	3	3
New Zealand	24	26	9	27	25
Singapore	16	10	14	19	16
South Africa	9	4	3	2	3
Switzerland	6	5	8	4	7
United Kingdom	52	49	43	48	47
USA	143	115	120	106	73
Other	103	28	51	21	35
Total	458	310	308	298	257

The distribution of Australian anglers showed a decrease in mainland angler and Tasmanian angler participation (Table 24). It is considered that a main contributor to the decline in numbers was the COVID-19 pandemic.

Table 24 Number of licences held by Tasmanian, interstate and overseas anglers in the past five years

Angler origin	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
Tasmania	18 332	19 522	20 850	20 658	20 166
Victoria	1 885	2 138	2 294	2 303	2 447
New South Wales	1 064	1 293	1 312	1 263	1 222
Queensland	679	758	883	836	812
South Australia	233	256	260	259	322
Western Australia	248	297	282	332	354
Australian Capital Territory	153	167	156	170	127
Northern Territory	51	61	62	76	71
International	458	310	308	298	257
Total	23 103	24 802	26 407	26 195	25 778

Whitebait licence

The 2019 whitebait season opened on 1 October and closed on 11 November 2019. We sold 701 whitebait licences for the six-week season compared to 761 in the previous year. The cost of a whitebait licence stayed \$32.00 compared to the previous year. Total revenue from whitebait licences was \$22 432 compared to \$23 972 in 2018-19. This represents a decrease of 6.4 per cent in participation compared to the previous year.

Financial Statement and Auditors Report



INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the year ended 30 June 2020

	Notes	2020 Budget \$	2020 Actual \$	2019 Actual \$
Revenue from continuing operations				
Angling and Other Licence Fees	3	1,654,000	1,532,798	1,747,741
Grants - Administered Payment	4	1,383,000	1,375,000	1,433,000
External Grants and Reimbursements		-	148,489	89,248
Interest Revenue		43,000	36,977	76,955
Other Revenue	2.1(a),5	627,000	579,944	612,414
Total revenue from continuing operations		3,707,000	3,673,208	3,959,358
Net gain (loss) on Sale of Non-Financial Assets	8	-	(2,278)	19,717
Net gain (loss) on revaluation of Investment Property	10(c)	-	-	(373,493)
Total income from continuing operations		3,707,000	3,670,930	3,605,582
Expenses from continuing operations				
Employee Benefits	6	2,274,000	2,205,631	2,057,484
Operating Costs	7	1,355,000	1,252,405	1,516,981
Depreciation Expenses	9(b)	290,000	223,358	208,979
Total expenses from continuing operations		3,919,000	3,681,394	3,783,444
Net result from continuing operations		(212,000)	(10,464)	(177,862)
Other Comprehensive Income				
Items that will not be reclassified to net result in subsequent periods				
Net gain on revaluation of Land and Buildings	9(b)	150,000	-	401,637
Total other comprehensive income		150,000	-	401,637
Comprehensive Result		(62,000)	(10,464)	401,637

This Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the accounts. Budget information refers to original estimates and has not been subject to audit. Explanations of material variances between budget and actual outcomes are provided in Note 2 of the accompanying notes.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30 June 2020

	Notes	2020 Budget \$	2020 Actual \$	2019 Actual \$
Financial assets				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	16(b)	1,675,000	1,143,693	1,303,730
Investments	16(c)	-	572,523	474,339
Trade and Other Receivables	2.2(a),17	28,000	59,633	113,228
Total financial assets		1,703,000	1,775,849	1,891,297
Non-financial assets				
Property, Plant and Equipment	9	3,792,000	3,745,640	4,239,815
Infrastructure	2.2(b),9	300,000	1,086,024	606,706
Investment Property	2.2 (c),10	3,495,000	3,005,119	3,000,000
Total non-financial assets		7,587,000	7,836,783	7,846,521
Total Assets		9,290,000	9,612,632	9,737,818
Liabilities				
Trade and Other Payables	2.2(d),18	203,000	24,268	209,224
Employee Benefits	15	664,000	691,583	621,349
Total Liabilities		867,000	715,851	830,573
Net Assets		8,423,000	8,896,781	8,907,245
Equity				
Reserves	12	2,502,000	2,754,033	2,754,033
Accumulated Funds	13	2,721,000	2,942,894	2,953,358
Contributed Capital	14	3,200,000	3,199,854	3,199,854
Total Equity		8,423,000	8,896,781	8,907,245

This Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the accounts.

Budget information refers to original estimates and has not been subject to audit.

Explanations of material variances between budget and actual outcomes are provided in Note 2 of the accompanying notes.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the year ended 30 June 2020

		2020	2020	2019
		Budget	Actual	Actual
	Notes	\$	\$	\$
Cash Flows From Operating Activities				
Receipts from Customers		2,281,000	2,263,440	2,449,403
GST Received		172,000	196,717	49,900
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		(3,667,000)	(3,638,711)	(3,418,553)
GST Paid		(101,000)	(102,131)	(162,079)
Receipts from Government		1,383,000	1,375,000	1,433,000
Interest Received		43,000	59,729	64,301
<i>Net cash provided by operating activities</i>	16 (a)	<u>111,000</u>	<u>154,044</u>	<u>415,972</u>
Cash Flows From Investing Activities				
Payments for Plant, Equipment and Vessels		(100,000)	(116,116)	(311,225)
Payments for Buildings and Infrastructure	2.3(a)	-	(224,827)	(308,438)
Proceeds from disposal of property		-	-	280,909
Proceeds from disposal of plant and equipment	2.3(b), 8	-	125,046	100,445
<i>Net cash provided by (used) in investing activities</i>		<u>(100,000)</u>	<u>(215,897)</u>	<u>(238,309)</u>
Cash Flows From Financing Activities				
Net movement in term deposits		-	(98,184)	1,017,322
<i>Net cash provided by (used) in investing activities</i>			<u>(98,184)</u>	<u>1,017,322</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held		11,000	(160,037)	1,194,985
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		1,664,000	1,303,730	108,745
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the Reporting Period	16 (b)	<u><u>1,675,000</u></u>	<u><u>1,143,693</u></u>	<u><u>1,303,730</u></u>

This Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the accounts. Budget information refers to original estimates and has not been subject to audit.

Explanations of material variances between budget and actual outcomes are provided in Note 2 of the accompanying notes.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

for the year ended 30 June 2020

		Contributed Equity	Reserves	Accumulated Funds	Total Equity
	Notes	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance as at 1 July 2019		3,199,854	2,754,033	2,953,358	8,907,245
Net result	13	-	-	(10,464)	(10,464)
Balance as at 30 June 2020		3,199,854	2,754,033	2,942,894	8,896,781

		Contributed Equity	Reserves	Accumulated Funds	Total Equity
	Notes	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance as at 1 July 2018		3,199,854	2,352,397	3,131,219	8,683,470
Net result	13	-	-	(177,861)	(177,861)
Other comprehensive income		-	401,636	-	401,636
Balance as at 30 June 2019		3,199,854	2,754,033	2,953,358	8,907,245

The Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the accounts.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

The Inland Fisheries Service (IFS) is established under the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995* with the Inland Fisheries Service being used as a business name. The Director of Inland Fisheries, a body corporate under the Act, has the power to execute contracts of all types, to acquire and sell property and to invest.

Note 1 Summary of Accounting Policies

The following summary explains the significant accounting policies that have been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements.

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are a general purpose financial report and have been prepared in accordance with:

Australian Accounting Standards issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and Interpretations; and applicable Treasurers Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2016* and the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995*.

Australian Accounting Standards include Australian Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Compliance with IFRS may not result in compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as IFRS includes requirements and options available to not-for-profit organisations that are inconsistent with IFRS. The IFS is considered to be not-for-profit and has adopted some accounting policies under AASB's that do not comply with IFRS.

The Financial Statements have been prepared as a going concern on an accrual basis and, except where stated, are in accordance with the historical cost convention. The accounting policies are generally consistent with the previous year.

The Financial Statements are presented in Australian dollars which is the functional currency of the IFS.

(b) Changes in Accounting Policies

(i) Impact of new and revised Accounting Standards

In the current year, the IFS has adopted all of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board that are relevant to its operations and effective for the current annual reporting period. These include:

- AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* – This Standard establishes principles that require an entity to apply to report useful information to users of financial statements about the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from a contract with a customer.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

- AASB 15 supersedes AASB 111 *Construction Contracts*, AASB 118 *Revenue and related interpretations* and it applies, with limited exceptions, to all revenue arising from contracts with customers. AASB 15 establishes a five-step model to account for revenue arising from contracts with customers and requires that revenue be recognised at an amount that reflects the consideration to which an entity expects to be entitled in exchange for transferring goods or services to a customer. The Standard requires the IFS to exercise judgement, taking into consideration all of the relevant facts and circumstances when applying each step of the model to contracts with their customers. The Standard also specifies the accounting for the incremental costs of obtaining a contract and the costs directly related to fulfilling a contract. In addition, the Standard requires relevant disclosures. The IFS has applied the recognition exemption permitted by AASB 15 that allows the revenue from short term and low value licenses to be recognised at the point in time the licence is issued. As a result the adoption of AASB 15 has no impact on the IFS financial statements.
- AASB 16 Leases – Based on information provided by management, this standard is not expected to have a significant impact in relation to existing leases or leases where the IFS is the lessor. However, any new leases where the value of the underlying asset is above a low value threshold of \$10,000 as set in accordance Treasurer’s Instruction FC-19 *Leases* will need to be accounted for in accordance with this standard. As a result, the IFS will be required to recognise a right of use asset and a lease liability for all contracts that convey the use of a specified asset with amortisation of the right of use asset and finance cost relating to unwinding of the lease liability recognised in the income statement. Revenue from operating leases will continue to be recognised as income on a straight-line basis.
- AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* – This Standard establishes principles for not-for-profit entities that apply to transactions where the consideration to acquire an asset is significantly less than fair value principally to enable a not-for-profit entity to further its objectives, and the receipt of volunteer services. This Standard applies to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019. The impact is enhanced disclosure in relation to income of not-for-profit entities. The IFS does not expect the Standard to have any financial impact or change to the IFS’s financial statement.

The following applicable Standards have been issued by the AASB and are yet to be applied:

- AASB 1059 *Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors* – The objective of this Standard is to prescribe the accounting for a service concession arrangement by a grantor that is a public sector entity. This Standard applies on or after 1 January 2020. The impact of this Standard is enhanced disclosure in relation to service concession arrangements for grantors that are public sector entities. The IFS has not yet determined the potential effect of the revised Standard on the IFS’s Financial Statements.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

(ii) Changes in Accounting Policy

Other than the new and revised accounting standards discussed above there have been no changes to accounting policies from the previous financial year.

(c) Revenues

Revenue is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when an increase in future economic benefits related to an increase in an asset or a decrease of a liability has arisen that can be reliably measured. Revenue is recognised at fair value of the consideration received net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST) payable to the Australian Taxation Office. A liability is recognised in respect of revenue that is reciprocal in nature to the extent that the requisite service has not been provided at balance date and conditions include a requirement to refund unused contributions. Revenue is then recognised as the various performance obligations under an agreement are fulfilled.

Angling and other licence fees that are short term or low value are recognised on receipt as cash sales as this corresponds with the issue of the relevant licence. Revenue is recognised when the IFS obtains control of the contribution or the right to receive the contribution, it is probable that the economic benefits comprising the contribution will flow to the IFS and the amount of the contribution can be measured reliably. Rental income is invoiced monthly in advance and recorded as revenue when invoiced.

Control over granted assets is normally obtained upon their receipt (or acquittal) or upon earlier notification that a grant has been secured and are valued at their fair value at the date of transfer.

Where grants or contributions recognised as revenues during the financial year were obtained on condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period and those conditions were undischarged at balance date, the unused grant or contribution is disclosed as a contract liability.

Interest on funds invested is recognised as it accrues using the effective interest rate method.

Other revenue is primarily the recovery of costs incurred and is recognised when an increase in future economic benefits relating to an asset or a decrease of a liability has arisen that can be reliably measured.

(d) Expenses

Expenses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when a decrease in future economic benefits related to a decrease in asset or an increase of a liability has arisen that can be measured reliably.

Employee benefits includes entitlements to wages and salaries, annual leave, long service leave, superannuation and any other post-employment benefits.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

Operating costs include all other expenses other than personnel expense and depreciation that are incurred in undertaking the activities of the IFS.

All applicable items of property, plant and equipment having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their useful lives in a manner which reflects the consumption of their service potential. Land, being an asset with unlimited useful life, is not depreciated.

(e) Other economic flows included in net result

Other economic flows measure the change in volume or value of assets or liabilities that do not result from transactions.

Gains or losses from the sale of Non-financial assets are recognised when control of the assets has passed to the buyer.

(f) Impairment – Financial assets (Trade and other receivables)

Trade and other receivables that do not contain a significant financing component are measured at amortised cost, which represents their transaction value. An assessment for impairment is conducted on an expected credit loss basis at each reporting date. When determining whether the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition, and when estimating the expected credit loss, IFS considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on IFS's historical experience, an informed credit assessment and forward-looking information.

(g) Impairment – Non-financial assets

All non-financial assets are assessed to determine whether any impairment exists. Impairment exists when the recoverable amount of an asset is less than its carrying amount. Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

The IFS's assets are not used for the purpose of generating cash flows; therefore value in use is based on depreciated replacement cost where the asset would be replaced if deprived of it. All impairment losses are recognised in Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Impairment losses recognised in prior periods are assessed at each reporting date for any indications that the loss has decreased or no longer exists. An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

(h) Assets

Assets are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position when it is probable that the future economic benefits will flow to the IFS and the asset has a cost or value that can be reliably measured.

(i) Cash

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call, and other highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

(j) Non-Financial Assets

Acquisition, Recognition and Valuation

Non-financial assets are initially recorded at their cost of acquisition and re-valued in accordance with the following accounting policy.

The asset capitalisation threshold adopted by the IFS is \$10,000. Assets valued at less than \$10,000 are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the year of purchase (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which represent a value greater than \$10,000). Assets are grouped on the basis of having similar nature or function in the operations of the IFS.

Assets Valued at Fair Value – Land and Buildings

Freehold and vested land and buildings are initially brought to account at cost. Subsequent to initial recognition land is recorded at fair value and buildings are recorded at fair value less accumulated depreciation. These assets are revalued with sufficient regularity to ensure they reflect fair value at balance date.

Motor Vehicles, Vessels, Plant, Equipment and Infrastructure

Motor vehicles, vessels and plant and equipment are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation.

Disposal of Assets

Any gain or loss on the disposal of assets is determined as the difference between the carrying value of the asset, at the time of disposal, and the proceeds from the disposal. It is included in the financial results in the year of disposal.

Depreciation

Items of property, infrastructure and plant and equipment (excluding freehold land) are depreciated over their economically useful lives. The straight-line method is used, except for vessels, which have been depreciated on the diminishing value basis. Assets are depreciated from their date of acquisition and where they have been revalued, depreciation is charged on the adjusted amount. Depreciation rates are reviewed annually. If necessary, they are adjusted to reflect the most recent assessments of the useful lives of the respective assets with regard to such factors as asset usage, the rates of the technical and commercial obsolescence and the most recent assessment of net amounts expected to be recovered on their disposal.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

Major depreciation periods are:

Buildings	40 Years
Infrastructure	40 years
Plant and Equipment	10 Years to 25 Years
Vehicles	8 Years
Vessels	10 Years

(k) Investment properties

Investment property is property held either to earn rental income or for capital appreciation or both. Investment properties are derecognised when either they have been disposed of or when the investment property is permanently withdrawn from use and no future economic benefit is expected from its disposal. Investment property is not depreciated. Investment property is recorded at fair value, with any changes in the fair value being recorded as income or expenses in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. Investment property is revalued with sufficient regularity to ensure it reflects fair value at balance date. This year re-valuations were not undertaken due to a stagnant property market and rent relief that distorted property returns as a consequence of COVID-19.

(l) Comparative Figures

Comparative figures, where necessary, have been reclassified to comply with the presentation adopted in the financial report.

(m) Trade and Other Payables

Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the IFS. Trade accounts are normally settled within 30 days. Accruals are included in the trade and other payables balance and are stated net of GST.

(n) Employee Entitlements Excluding Superannuation

Employee benefits include, where applicable, entitlements to wages and salaries, annual leave, sick leave, long service leave, superannuation and any other post-employment benefits including on costs.

Liabilities for wages and salaries and annual leave are recognised when an employee becomes entitled to receive a benefit. Those liabilities expected to be realised within 12 months are measured as the amount expected to be paid. Employee benefits are measured as the present value of the benefit at 30 June, where the impact of discounting is material, and at the amount expected to be paid if discounting is not material. The IFS assumes that all staff annual leave balances less than 20 days will be settled within 12 months, and therefore valued at nominal value, and balances in excess of 20 days will be settled in greater than 12 months and therefore calculated at present value.

A liability for long service leave is recognised, and is measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. The Board makes a number of assumptions regarding the probability that staff

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

who have accrued long service leave, but are ineligible to take it will remain with the IFS long enough to take it. For those staff eligible to take their long service leave, the IFS assumes that they will utilise it on average, evenly over the following ten years. All long service leave that will be settled within 12 months is calculated at nominal value and all long service leave that will be settled in greater than 12 months is calculated at present value.

(o) Employer superannuation contributions

Contributions to defined benefit and other complying superannuation schemes are charged as an expense as the contribution becomes payable. The IFS does not recognise a liability for the accruing defined superannuation benefits. This liability is held centrally and is recognised within the Finance-General Division of the Department of Treasury and Finance. During the year the amount of contributions paid to defined benefit schemes was \$71,170.10, (2018-19 \$108,744.70), and the amount paid to accumulation schemes was \$160,869.70, (2018-19 \$109,245.00).

(p) Economic Dependence

The IFS's is dependent upon the ongoing receipt of grant funding via the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment. This administered payment amounted to \$1,375,000 and represented 38% of total revenue. These funds are used to undertake community service obligations in respect of the control of pest fish, the conservation and monitoring of native freshwater fish populations and environment together with a range of election commitments announced by the Government in the previous year. The variance with the budgeted amount of \$1,383,000 represents the efficiency dividend applied.

(q) Rounding

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar, unless otherwise stated.

Where the result of expressing amounts to the nearest dollar would result in an amount of zero, the financial statement will contain a note expressing the amount to the nearest whole dollar.

(r) Taxation

The IFS is exempt from all forms of taxation except Fringe Benefits Tax and the Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax, except where the GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of GST. The net amount recoverable from or payable to the Australian Taxation Office is recognised as an asset or liability within the Statement of Financial Position.

In the Statement of Cash Flows, the GST component of cash flows arising from operating, investing or financing activities which is recovered from, or paid to, the Australian Taxation

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

Office is, in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, classified as operating cash flows.

(s) Leases

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income on a straight line basis over the lease term.

(t) Judgements and Assumptions

In the application of Australian Accounting Standards, the IFS is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Significant judgement made by IFS that has a significant effect on the financial statements relate to:

Employee entitlements, the assumptions for which are provided by the Department of Treasury and Finance which are. A wage inflation rate of 3.3% per annum and discount rates for year 1 of 0.270%, year 2 of 0.265%, year 3 of 0.255%, year 4 of 0.310%, year 5 of 0.395%, year 6 of 0.495%, year 7 of 0.590% , year 8 of 0.725%, year 9 of 0.810% and year 10 of 0.885%.

Property, plant and equipment in notes 1(k) and 9.

Investment properties in notes 1(l) and 10.

IFS has made no assumptions concerning the future that may cause a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2020, continued.

Note 2.1 Statement of Comprehensive Income

Statement of Comprehensive Income variances are considered material where the variance exceeds the greater of 10 per cent of budget estimate and \$75,000.

	Note	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000	Variance %
Other Revenue	2.1(a)	627	728	101	17

- (a) Hydro Tasmania were invoiced in advance for 2020-21 elver lamprey restocking at their request. Unbudgetted additional sales of elver and ova were achieved.

Note 2.2 Statement of Financial Position

Budget estimates for the 2019-20 Statement of Financial Position were compiled prior to the completion of the actual outcomes for 2018-19. As a result, the actual variance from the original budget will be impacted by the difference between the estimated and actual opening balances for 2019-20. The following variance analysis therefore includes major movements between the 30 June 2019 and 30 June 2020 actual balances.

	Note	Budget \$'000	2020 Actual \$'000	2019 Actual \$'000	Budget Variance \$'000	Actual Variance \$'000
Trade and other receivables	2.2(a)	28	60	113	32	(53)
Infrastructure	2.2(b)	300	1,086	607	786	479
Investment property	2.2(c)	3,495	3,005	3,000	490	5
Trade and other Payables	2.2(d)	203	24	209	179	(185)

- 2.2(a) A concerted effort was made to reduce debtors at year end and an amount of \$28,000 owed by one debtor remained outstanding at year end.
- 2.2(b) A budget forecast error combined with the capitalisation of completed capital projects.
- 2.2(c) Properties were revalued by the Valuer-General and new valuations applied. These were effected after the budget had been formulated
- 2.2(d) In accordance with Treasury policy invoices were paid ahead of terms.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2020, continued.

Note 2.3 Statement of Cash Flows

Statement of Cash Flows variances are considered material where the variance exceed the greater of 10 per cent of budget estimate and \$75,000.

		Budget	Actual	Variance	Variance
	Note	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Payments for buildings and Infrastructure	2.3(a)	-	225	225	100
Proceeds from disposal of plant and equipment	2.3(b)	-	125	125	100

2.3(a) Budget estimate error in deriving budget amount, expenditure consisted of the completion of the toilet blocks and the construction of an artificial spawning channel at Liawenee.

2.3(b) Budget estimate error in not including a budget amount.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020, continued.

	2020	2019
Note 3 Angling and Other Licence Revenue	\$	\$
Angling Licences	1,415,500	1,635,275
Other Licences	94,202	81,143
Permits and Registrations	23,096	31,323
	<u>1,532,798</u>	<u>1,747,741</u>
<p>In 2013-2014 the IFS introduced a five-season licence. The IFS recognises the total proceeds of these licences in the year of receipt. A total of \$149,595 was received in the year for five-season licences of this amount \$119,676 is applicable to future years. The IFS is holding a total of \$331,146.80 of revenue applicable to future years.</p>		
Note 4 Grants		
Government Contribution - operating	1,375,000	1,433,000
	<u>1,375,000</u>	<u>1,433,000</u>
Note 5 Other Revenue		
Rents from operational properties	183,764	237,571
Investment property rental	255,917	282,630
General Sales & Miscellaneous Revenue	135,220	80,138
Fines	5,043	12,075
	<u>579,944</u>	<u>612,414</u>
Note 6 Employee Benefits		
Salaries	1,686,827	1,575,568
Superannuation	235,503	221,403
Leave	254,287	231,731
Other	29,014	28,782
	<u>2,205,631</u>	<u>2,057,484</u>

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020, continued.

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Note 7 Operating Costs		
Advertising Promotions	39,714	30,288
Audit Fees	9,710	17,310
Conferences & Training	10,223	12,146
Contract Services	170,163	138,112
Contractors/Consultants	8,880	63,773
Equipment Maintenance/Hire	32,453	43,095
General Insurance	57,824	56,545
Grants & Contributions	111,975	92,912
Motor Vehicle Expenses	76,662	77,223
Office Related Expenses	142,422	166,275
Operating Expenses	182,048	310,078
Printing / Publications	35,143	79,371
Protective Clothing	12,476	12,679
Rates and Property Costs	237,811	261,088
Travel Expenses	104,395	125,145
Vessel Costs	20,506	30,941
	<u>1,252,405</u>	<u>1,516,981</u>
Audit fees paid or payable to the Tasmanian Audit Office for the audit of the financial statements were	18,010	17,310
Note 8 Gains / (Losses) on Disposal of Assets		
Proceeds From the Disposal of Plant & Equipment	125,046	381,354
Written Down Value of Disposed Assets	(127,324)	(361,637)
Total Gain/(Loss) on Disposal	<u>(2,278)</u>	<u>19,717</u>

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020, continued.

Note 9 (a) Property, Plant, Equipment and Infrastructure	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Land at Fair Value *	780,000	780,000
	780,000	780,000
Buildings at Fair Value*	3,047,642	3,047,640
Less Accumulated Depreciation	711,680	617,640
	2,335,962	2,430,000
Motor Vehicles at Cost	406,538	484,136
Less Accumulated Depreciation	110,555	134,766
	295,983	349,370
Equipment at Cost	1,345,700	1,345,700
Less Accumulated Depreciation	1,095,929	1,056,727
	249,771	288,973
Vessels at Cost	271,689	271,689
Less Accumulated Depreciation	187,765	165,798
	83,924	105,891
Work in Progress at cost	-	285,581
	-	285,581
Total property plant and Equipment	3,745,640	4,239,815
Infrastructure	1,169,044	663,754
Less Accumulated Depreciation	83,020	57,048
	1,086,024	606,706
Total property, plant, equipment and infrastructure	4,831,664	4,846,521

*Statutory valuations by the Valuer General are derived from the analysis of market sales for different classes of properties and locality.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020, continued.

Reconciliation of movements (including fair value levels)

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of each class of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the previous financial year are set out below. Carrying value means the net amount after deducting accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

(b)

	Land Level 2 (vacant land in active markets)	Buildings Level 2 (general office buildings)	Infra- structure	Motor Vehicles	Plant and Equipment	Vessels	Work In Progress	Total
2020	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Balance 1 July	780	2,430	607	349	289	106	286	4,847
Additions	-	-	219	116	-	-	-	335
Disposals	-	-	-	(127)	-	-	-	(127)
Depreciation Expense	-	(94)	(26)	(42)	(39)	(22)	-	(223)
Revaluation increments(decrements)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	286	-	-	-	(286)	-
Carrying Amount 30 June	780	2,336	1,086	296	250	84	-	4,832

	Land Level 2 (vacant land in active markets)	Buildings Level 2 (general office buildings)	Infra- structure	Motor Vehicles	Plant and Equipment	Vessels	Work In Progress	Total
2019	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Balance 1 July	743	2,197	600	336	261	56	19	4,212
Additions	-	-	23	175	48	68	286	600
Disposals	(50)	-	-	(108)	-	-	-	(158)
Depreciation Expense	-	(82)	(16)	(54)	(39)	(18)	-	(209)
Revaluation increments(decrements)	87	315	-	-	-	-	-	402
Transfers	-	-	-	-	19	-	(19)	-
Carrying Amount 30 June	780	2,430	607	349	289	106	286	4,847

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020, continued.

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Note 10 Investment Property		
(a) Carrying amount		
At valuation	3,000,000	3,000,000
Additions, at cost	5,119	-
Total	<u>3,005,119</u>	<u>3,000,000</u>

Fair Value Measurement of Investment Properties

Investment properties consist of a property in West Hobart that operates as a kitchen and restaurant, and a property in Moonah that operates as a retail outlet and a bus depot at the rear of 17 Back River Rd.

Properties were not revalued in 2019-20 due to a stagnant property market and that rent relief was provided as a consequence of the impact of COVID-19. It was considered that the effect on returns could distort values.

(b) Reconciliation of movements (including fair value levels)

	2020 Level 2	2019 Level 2
	\$'000	\$'000
Carrying amount at 1 July	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,577</u>
Additions work n progress	5	
Disposals and assets classified as held for sale	-	(203)
Net gains(losses) from fair value adjustments	-	(374)
Carrying amount at 30 June	<u>3,005</u>	<u>3,000</u>

(c) Amounts recognised in profit and loss for investment property

	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000
Rental income	256	283
Gain (Loss) on disposal	-	37
Net gain (loss) from fair value adjustment	-	(374)
Direct operating expenses from property that generated rental income	(0.5)	(15)
Total	<u>255.5</u>	<u>(69)</u>

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020, continued.

(d) Leasing arrangements

The investment properties are leased to tenants under long term operating leases with rentals payable monthly. Minimum lease payments are non-cancellable operating leases of investment properties not recognised in the financial statements receivable as follows.

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
One Year or less	301,939	299,384
From one to five years	655,557	882,709
More than five years	45,542	44,561
Total	<u>1,003,038</u>	<u>1,226,654</u>

(e) Contractual obligations

At year end a contractual obligation to upgrade the fuel storage at the O'Driscoll Coaches Pty Ltd bus depot existed. The estimated cost of works is \$200,000 with the lease to be adjusted to provide additional rent of \$16,000 per annum based on the estimated cost.

Note 11	Auditor's Remuneration	2020	2019
	The total of fees paid for the financial year:	\$	\$
	Fees for Audit	9,710	17,310
		<u>9,710</u>	<u>17,310</u>
Note 12	Reserves		
	Asset Revaluation Reserve-Land	1,057,394	1,057,394
	Asset Revaluation Reserve-Buildings	1,696,639	1,696,639
		<u>2,754,033</u>	<u>2,754,033</u>
	Movements during the year:		
	Balance at the beginning of period	2,754,033	2,352,397
	Net change in valuations	-	401,636
	Balance at the end of period	<u>2,754,033</u>	<u>2,754,033</u>
Note 13	Accumulated Funds		
	Opening Balance	2,953,358	3,131,219
	Net Surplus for the year.	(10,464)	(177,861)
	Closing Balance	<u>2,942,894</u>	<u>2,953,358</u>

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020, continued.

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Note 14 Contributed Capital		
Contributed capital represents the initial net amount of Assets and Liabilities when the IFS commenced reporting on an accrual basis from the commencement of the 2000-01 financial year:		
Balance as at 1 July	3,199,854	3,199,854
Balance as at 30 June	<u>3,199,854</u>	<u>3,199,854</u>
Note 15 (a) Employee Benefits		
Annual Leave	187,562	189,650
Long Service Leave	474,227	415,720
Accrued Salaries	29,794	15,979
Total	<u>691,583</u>	<u>621,349</u>
Settled within 12 months	257,937	281,700
Settled in more than 12 months	433,646	339,648
	<u>691,583</u>	<u>621,348</u>

(b) Related party transactions

There are no material related party transactions with Key Management Personnel (KMP) including Cabinet Ministers, or their Close Family Members (CFM) or entities that are controlled or jointly controlled by KMP or CFM in 2020 \$0 (2019 \$0).

(c) Remuneration of key management personnel

	Short term benefits		Long term benefits		Total
	Salary	FBT	Superannuation	Movements in leave	
2020 Key Management Personnel	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
John Diggle, Director of Inland Fisheries Reappointment 14 October 2017	176	8	22	(2)	206
2019					
John Diggle, Director of Inland Fisheries appointed 14 October 2012	173	10	22	(1)	205

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020 continued.

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Note 16 (a) Reconciliation of Net Cash Used in Operating Activities to Surplus / (Deficit)		
Net Surplus (Deficit)	(10,464)	(177,862)
Net (gain) loss on sale of non-financial assets	2,278	373,515
Depreciation	223,358	208,979
Change in Assets/Liabilities		
Increase (decrease) in employee benefits	70,234	(2,033)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	(184,956)	51,422
(Increase) decrease in receivables	53,594	(38,049)
Net cash gained (used) in operating activities	<u>154,044</u>	<u>415,972</u>
For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash on hand and at the bank.		
Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to items in the statement of financial position as follows:		
(b) Cash at Bank		
Working accounts	308,663	25,440
Short term deposits	835,030	1,278,290
	<u>1,143,693</u>	<u>1,303,730</u>
(c) Investments		
Term deposits	572,523	474,339
	<u>572,523</u>	<u>474,339</u>
(d) Corporate Credit Card		
Facility Available	108,733	103,642
Less Used/Committed	(1,267)	(6,357)
Balance unused	<u>107,466</u>	<u>97,285</u>
Note 17 Trade and Other Receivables		
Sundry Debtors	59,633	111,999
Net GST Receivable	-	1,230
	<u>59,633</u>	<u>113,229</u>
Note 18 Trade and Other Payables Current		
Trade Creditors	22,286	209,224
Net GST Payable	1,982	-
	<u>24,268</u>	<u>209,224</u>

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020, continued.

Note 19 Events subsequent to Balance date

The Director of Inland Fisheries is not aware of any matter or circumstance since the end of the financial year that has significant effect, or may significantly affect, the operations of the IFS, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the IFS in subsequent financial years.

Note 20 Financial Instruments

20.1 Risk Exposures

(a) Risk Management Policies

The IFS has exposure to the following risks from its use of financial instruments:

- a. credit risk;
- b. liquidity risk; and
- c. market risk.

The Director has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Inland Fisheries Service's risk management framework. Risk management policies are established to identify and analyse risks faced by the Service, to set appropriate limits and controls, and to monitor risks and adherence to limits.

Risk Exposure	Measurement method
Credit Risk	Ageing analysis, earnings at risk
Liquidity risk	Sensitivity analysis
Market risk	Interest rate sensitivity analysis

(b) Credit risk exposures

Credit risk is the financial loss to the IFS if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. Receivables are valued at amortised cost. Cash on hand is valued at face value. The carrying amount of financial assets recorded in the Financial Statements, net of any allowances for losses, represents the IFS's maximum exposure to credit risk without taking into account of any collateral or other security: The following tables analyse financial assets that are past due but not impaired.

Analysis of financial assets that are past due at 30 June 2020 but not impaired

	Not past due	Not past due 60 days	Not past due 90 days	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Trade & Other Receivables	54,091	1,000	4,542	59,633

Analysis of financial assets that are past due at 30 June 2019 but not impaired

	Not past due	Not past due 60 days	Not past due 90 days	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Trade & Other Receivables	111,540	-	1,688	113,228

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020, continued.

(c) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the IFS will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The IFS's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure that it will always have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when they fall due.

The following tables detail undiscounted cash flows payable by the IFS by contractual maturity for its financial liabilities. It should be noted that as these are undiscounted, totals may not reconcile to the carrying amounts presented in the Statement of Financial Position.

2020	Maturity analysis for financial liabilities						More than 5 Years	Undiscounted Total
	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years	4 Years	5 Years			
Financial Liabilities	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Trade & Other Payables	24						24	
Total	24	-	-	-	-	-	24	

2019	Maturity analysis for financial liabilities						More than 5 Years	Undiscounted Total
	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years	4 Years	5 Years			
Financial Liabilities	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Trade & Other Payables	209,224	-	-	-	-	-	209,224	
Total	209,224	-	-	-	-	-	209,224	

(d) Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The primary market risk that the IFS is exposed to is interest rate risk.

At the reporting date, the interest rate profile of the IFS's interest bearing financial instruments was:

2020	\$	Weighted average interest rate
Variable rate instruments		
Cash at bank	308,663	0.50%
Fixed rate instruments		
Term Deposits	1,407,553	1.71%
TOTAL	1,716,216	

2019	\$	Weighted average interest rate
Variable rate instruments		
Cash at bank	25,440	0.90%
Fixed rate instruments		
Term Deposits	1,752,629	2.72%
TOTAL	1,778,069	

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020, continued.

Changes in variable rates of 100 basis points at reporting date would have the following effect on the IFS's profit or loss and equity:

Sensitivity analysis of Services exposure to possible changes in interest rates

	Income Statement		Equity	
	100 basis points	100 basis points	100 basis points	100 basis points
	increase	decrease	increase	decrease
30 June 2020	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assets	17	(17)	17	(17)
Net sensitivity	17	(17)	17	(17)
30 June 2019	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assets	18	(18)	18	(18)
Net sensitivity	18	(18)	18	(18)

This analysis assumes all other variables remain constant. The analysis was performed on the same basis for 2019.

Categories of financial assets and liabilities

	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assets		
Cash and Receivables at amortised cost.	1,776	1,891
Total	1,776	1,891
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	(24)	(209)
Total	(24)	(209)

Net fair values of financial assets and liabilities	2020	2020	2019	2019
	Total carrying amount	Net fair value	Total carrying amount	Net fair value
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial Assets				
Cash at bank	1,716	1,716	1,778	1,778
Receivables	60	60	113	113
Total financial assets	1,776	1,776	1,891	1,891
Financial liabilities (recognised)				
Trade Creditors	24	24	209	209
Total financial liabilities (recognised)	24	24	209	209

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020, continued.

Financial assets

The net fair values of cash and non-interest bearing monetary financial assets approximate their carrying amounts.

Financial liabilities

The net fair values for trade creditors are approximated by their carrying amounts.

Note 21 Commitments and Contingencies

Schedule of Commitments	2020	2019
	\$	\$

By Type

Lease commitments

Low value leases	11,561	19,997
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There were no capital commitments at year end.

There were no contingent assets or liabilities at year end.

(i) The operating leases are in relation to three Yamaha outboard motors.

By Maturity	2020	2019
	\$	\$

Operating lease commitments

One year or less	5,609	8,551
From one to five years	5,952	11,446
More than five years	-	-

Total operating lease commitments	11,561	19,997
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29 July 2020

Certification of Financial Statements

The accompanying Financial Statement of the Inland Fisheries Service are in agreement with the relevant accounts and records and have been prepared in compliance with:

- Treasurers Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2016* and the
- *Inland Fisheries Act 1995*

To present fairly the financial transactions for the year ended 30 June 2020 and the financial position as at the end of the year.

At the date of signing, I am not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Director of Inland Fisheries:



John Diggle
Director of Inland Fisheries



Tony Wright
Manager Finance & Business



Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Parliament

Inland Fisheries Service

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of the Inland Fisheries Service (the Service), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020 and statements of comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the statement of certification by the Director.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements:

- (a) presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Service as at 30 June 2020 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended
- (b) are in accordance with the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995*, Treasurers Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2016* and Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted the audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Service in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

The *Audit Act 2008* further promotes the independence of the Auditor-General. The Auditor-General is the auditor of all Tasmanian public sector entities and can only be removed by Parliament. The Auditor-General may conduct an audit in any way considered appropriate and is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which audit powers are to be exercised. The Auditor-General has for the purposes of conducting an audit, access to all documents and property and can report to Parliament matters which in the Auditor-General's opinion are significant.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

My audit is not designed to provide assurance on the accuracy and appropriateness of the budget information included in the Service's financial statements.

Responsibilities of the Director for the Financial Statements

The Director is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, and the financial reporting requirements of the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995* and the *Financial Management Act 2016*. This responsibility includes such internal control as determined necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Director is responsible for assessing the Service's ability to continue as a going concern, unless the Service is to be dissolved by an Act of Parliament, or the Director intends to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Service's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Director.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Director's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Service's ability to

...2 of 3

continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusion is based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Service to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Director regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



Leigh Franklin
Assistant Auditor-General, Financial Audit Services
Delegate of the Auditor-General

Tasmanian Audit Office

18 September 2020
Hobart



Undertaking a fishery performance assessment at Curries River Reservoir

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