

INLAND FISHERIES COMMISSION NEWSLETTER

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Review of Inland Fisheries Commission functions

The Minister for Inland Fisheries, Mr John Cleary, recently announced a review of the operations of the Inland Fisheries Commission.

Mr Cleary said the inquiry is being conducted to identify long term goals for fresh-water fishery and biological resources, and the best ways of achieving them through appropriate sustainable management.

"Interested parties will be invited to make submissions on any of the issues contained in the Terms of Reference.

The two independent consultants appointed to conduct the inquiry are Doctor Peter Davies and Mr Frank Hussey.

Dr Davies is a former senior scientific officer with the Inland Fisheries Commission for nine years and is currently an independent consultant on environmental and resource issues in inland waters working at State and national level.

Mr Hussey is a tourism planning consultant specialising in recreational sport fishery tourism and management with extensive experience in the area of trout and salmon fisheries.

The inquiry will be provided with executive support from the Department of Environment and Land Management," he said.

Mr Cleary said written submissions would be sought from as wide a spectrum of interested parties as possible.



Inland Fisheries Minister John Cleary

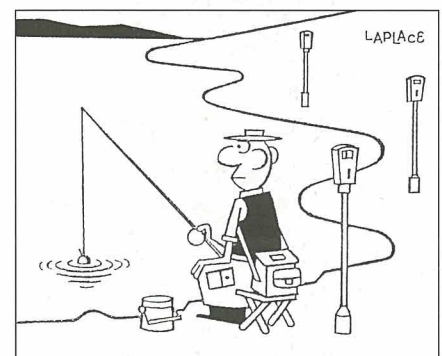
"We are seeking submissions from individuals or groups ranging from individual anglers to angling and tourist organisations, private enterprise, Government agencies and other community organisations with an interest in the management of inland water recreational and commercial fisheries and fishery related tourism interests," Mr Cleary said.

The review is in no way a vote of no-confidence in present performance and it was in fact initiated by the Inland Fisheries Commission for two major reasons:

- to prepare a strategic Directions Paper to direct the Commission into the next century;
- to obtain feedback for a review of the Fisheries Act which is to be revised in the near future.

Further details of the review, including the full Terms of Reference, are given on page eight of this Newsletter.

Could this be the way of the future?



continued on page 7...

IN BRIEF

Deloraine anglers help out

The Commission is always grateful for the assistance it is able to readily obtain from anglers when it is needed.

During May this year such assistance was provided by members of the Deloraine Angling Club. The club held a working bee at Great Lake to clear a log jam in Sandbanks Creek.

The log jam was obstructing the creek

Part of the obstruction that was removed by the anglers (photo Phil Potter)



and would have prevented spawning fish from moving upstream.

This assistance is appreciated by the Commission and all anglers.

(photo Viv Spencer)



For all ages

The trio pictured above were well prepared for angling at Great Lake last year with warm clothes and a comfortable seat.

They were under the supervision of their grandmother and mother and had made the trip from Devonport to try their luck.

Pictured are Nakita Cox, Tanae Tuson and Melissa Cox.

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ARTICLE

Quality Trout Management –

WAYNE FULTON AND ANDREW SANGER

Museum of Trout Fishing

It is difficult to believe that more than six months have passed since the opening of the Museum of Trout Fishing in November 1994.

They have been busy months with some of the highlights including:

- Many appreciative visitors ranging from dedicated anglers to those who have never wet a line. Comments in the visitor book have included –

"Imaginative and interesting displays... brings back memories... fantastic exhibition to one who doesn't enjoy fishing... the museum is a new bonus, well done..."

The number of visitors to the Salmon Ponds has doubled in comparison with the previous year which is also very pleasing.

- Exciting additions to the range of items available in the museum shop (where else for example, can you buy trout and reel salt and pepper shakers, or insulated trout-shaped tote bags?). Attendance at



a gift and trade fair in Sydney during February unearthed all sorts of wonderful, and a few weird, trout and angling ideas. So, you need never again be stuck for a birthday gift idea.

- Interesting and very generous donations to the museum collection (see below).
- Good publicity – the Salmon Ponds fea-



Part of the museum display at Salmon Ponds

tured on Rex Hunt's Fishing Show in June 1995. Rex himself was unable to visit the ponds, and so none of our fish (or staff) were lucky enough to receive one of his kisses!

- An examination of the tourism opportunities offered by the museum through entry into the 1995 Tourism Awards. Unfortunately we were unsuccessful in our category, "Tourism Development Projects" but much was learned and there is always next year.
- Involvement with other promotional events including Agfest and the upcoming Melbourne Fishing Show in October.
- Exciting plans for the coming months including a new display on competition

casting featuring the challenges and the specialist tackle required. Work will also continue behind the scenes on cataloguing the collection.

As mentioned, there have been some very welcome and generous donations to the museum following the opening. These have included:

- A Pflueger reel, donated by the Bridgewater Anglers Association, which has an intriguing history. This particular reel belonged to the late Spencer Logue and it was recovered from a crashed WWII Vuelte-Vengance bomber near Port Moresby. Fishing reels were used to store the very long piano wire trailing aerals used on these planes during the war. The aerals were wound out after take off and wound in before landing. Following its 'rescue', Spencer used the reel for fly fishing in the Snowy Mountains region for many years.
- A selection of 12 flies designed and tied by Max Christensen, a very well known and respected fly designer. These flies were donated by Tom Edwards from Victoria.
- A pair of neoprene full leg waders, donated by Mr Rudi Van Dort of Anchor Wetsuits. These complement our sequence of canvas, half leg rubber and full length plastic waders.
- A wonderful selection of competition casting memorabilia including trophies, certificates, casting reels and a rod plus other items, were donated by Mr Terry Charlton, a former champion caster. These items will form the basis of one of our new displays.

The items above represent only a small proportion of both recent and past donations, for which we are extremely grateful. All of these items, no matter how large or small, contribute to the 'angling picture', past and present, and are much appreciated. Without them there would be no museum.

Good luck for the new trout season and don't forget to call into the Salmon Ponds and museum on your way to or from the highlands – a warm welcome awaits you!

Jack Ritchie medal presentation

In 1994 the Victorian Fly Fishers Association (VFFA) decided to strike a medal to be known as the VFFA Jack Ritchie Medal. The medal was to be awarded for outstanding contributions by an individual to catchment and riverine conservation for the preservation of wild trout in a natural environment.

The inaugural medal was awarded posthumously to Sir James Youl for his outstanding and untiring efforts to introduce the first trout to this country. History now records that his efforts were finally successful in 1864 with the hatching of trout and salmon at Salmon Ponds.

VFFA president, David Featherstone, presented this inaugural medal to Mr John Cleary, Minister for Inland Fisheries, on 24 March 1995 at Salmon Ponds. Mr Cleary accepted the medal on behalf of the Museum of Trout Fishing where it will be displayed.



Mrs Beatrice Harding with the VFFA Jack Ritchie Medal certificate (photo courtesy Peter Butler)

A certificate was also presented to Mrs Beatrice Harding who is the closest living relative of Sir James Youl.

Guests at the presentation included the Minister for Inland Fisheries, John Cleary; Commissioner of Inland Fisheries, Wayne Fulton; President of VFFA, David Featherstone and several other members; Beatrice Harding; Michael Youl; Michael Ritchie; members of local angling associations; and media representatives.

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Inland Fisheries Commission
127 Davey Street
Hobart Tasmania 7000

OTHER THAN TROUT

A regular article on animals of interest to the angler

The Tasmanian Mountain Shrimp

by Stuart Chilcott, Scientific Officer, Inland Fisheries Commission

There are many alpine streams, tarns and lakes which hold a quaint surprise for bushwalkers, naturalists and anglers alike. If you look closely you may spot what many have described as a living fossil, *Anaspides tasmaniae* – the Tasmanian mountain shrimp.

The mountain shrimp is rather famous among biologists and naturalists because it has changed little in comparison to its fossilised ancestors which lived many millions of years ago. In fact, many natural history museums overseas have specimens on display because of this ancestry.

Taxonomy

The two species of mountain shrimp, *Anaspides tasmaniae* and *A. spinulae*, are only found in Tasmania. The more common of the two, *A. tasmaniae*, is more widely distributed than *A. spinulae* and is found in the central, southern and western alpine regions of the State. In contrast, *A. spinulae* is known only from Lake St Clair, and possibly from Clarence Lagoon. The high degree of morphological variation between populations around Tasmania has made taxonomists question and re-examine the identity of *Anaspides*.

There are a further three species closely related to the mountain shrimps; the Great Lake shrimp, *Paranaspides lacustris*, which is found in Great Lake, Arthurs Lake and Woods Lake; and *Allanaspides hickmani* and *Allanaspides helenomus*, which are found in buttongrass sedgeland in the Lake Pedder region.

Habitats and Habits

Mountain shrimp live in a great variety of habitats from tiny runnels flowing through moorlands to large lakes. They prefer cool waters and will not survive in habitats in which water temperatures reach 15-20°C. Populations of blind mountain shrimp can also be found in many caves where water temperatures are naturally cool. Mountain shrimp are known to survive in habitats which can be frequently covered with a thick layer of ice. This preference for cool and well oxygenated water restricts mountain shrimp to alpine regions of the State and excludes them from warmer lowland areas.

The mountain shrimp can attain lengths of 35mm although such large specimens are not often encountered. Their colour varies from almost dark brown/black to a light yellowish brown.

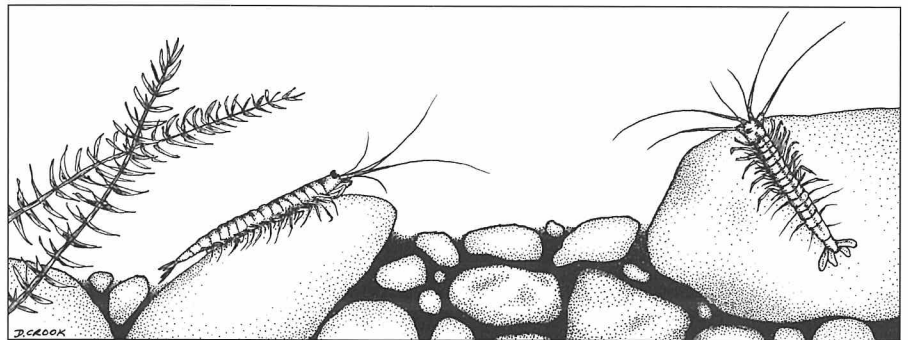
Mountain shrimp usually crawl slowly over

rocks and woody debris frequently stopping to feed and rest. However, they are also proficient swimmers and, if disturbed, can be rapidly propelled backwards by swift flicks of the abdomen and tail fan. This response enables them to avoid some predators. They also have a curious almost playful habit of swimming upside down when just underneath the water surface in open water.

Because mountain shrimp spend much of

Diet

Mountain shrimp are primarily scavengers and will feed on submerged algae, mosses, liverworts and decaying plant material as well as insect larvae and worms. Interestingly, Williams (1965) cites an observation made by an early naturalist who perhaps observed some mountain shrimp with an unusual dietary preference. The naturalist had seen a large number of *Anaspides*



The mountain shrimp, *Anaspides tasmaniae* (illustration David Crook)

their time in open water swimming or resting on submerged rocks and logs, they are easy prey for fish such as trout and native galaxias. There is little doubt that the native fish in particular have a significant impact on the abundance of the mountain shrimp in Tasmania.

Life History

The eggs are about 1mm in diameter and are laid singly in cracks and crevices of woody debris and rocks. Egg laying occurs primarily in spring although it can extend to other seasons. Eggs take between eight and 14 months to hatch depending on the season in which they were laid - egg development takes longer if the eggs are laid in the cooler seasons than in the warmer seasons.

Hatching occurs primarily during June and July although the hatching period extends through to October. At hatching the juveniles are almost 3mm in length and look identical to the adult form. Thereafter they are thought to grow about 1mm per month.

The animals are able to breed at about 15 months old ie 18mm in length. Mountain shrimp are thought to live for about three years but some large specimens may live up to five and a half years. Normally they breed about twice, although larger specimens may breed three or four times.

around a portion of a submerged kangaroo carcass which upon re-examination in the morning was fleshless. The naturalist claimed that presumably the mountain shrimp had devoured the kangaroo flesh during the night!

Conservation

There is no doubt that mountain shrimps are a significant and readily identifiable feature of Tasmania's freshwater fauna and, as such, deserve to be protected. At present *A. tasmaniae* is widespread and abundant across its range. However, there are some lakes that contain significant populations of this species, primarily because they do not have any native or introduced fishes. Indiscriminate and/or illegal stocking of trout into such waters could threaten these shrimp populations. This is one reason why the trout free waters of the western central plateau for example, should be preserved as refuges for the mountain shrimp and other native animals.

Further Reading

Williams, W. D. (1965) Ecological notes on Tasmanian Syncarida (Crustacea: Malacostraca), with a description of a new species of *Anaspides*. *Int. Revue ges Hydrobiol.*, 50 (1), pp 95-126.

Another tagged fish caught

A further tagged fish released for one of the fishing competitions has been recaptured, unfortunately after the period for the major prize expired.

This time a tagged trout released in Bronte Lagoon for the Eddie Wigston Memorial Fishing Competition in March 1994 was caught in the whitewater leading to Bradys Lake.

The fish was caught by Mr Bill Coton of Burnie in January 1995. He was spinning with a white and yellow cobra wobbler.

Incidentally, Mr Coton has been an angler for 50 years and has fished the Bronte system consistently. Last season he had seven trips for 76 trout with the largest three being 5lb, 7.5lb and 8.5lb.

For catching the fish Mr Coton was given a rod and reel courtesy of Wigstons of New Norfolk. This was presented by Bruce Heathcote, Secretary of the Burnie Branch, North Western Fisheries Association.



Bill Coton (left) receiving his rod and reel from Bruce Heathcote (photo Charles Thompson)

In Brief

Pictorial

Access to Talbots Lagoon

Following the establishment of the Talbots Lagoon Consultative Committee to discuss issues relating to this water, considerable progress has been made in establishing a safe access route for anglers.

The review of access arose due to the company's concerns for its possible legal liabilities for various good reasons whilst anglers wished to continue to enjoy access to this excellent trout water.

A solution has been achieved and this was detailed at a site visit on Friday 1 September. A new road and car parks are to be constructed for angling access and tracks around the lake are also being cut by the Australian Trust for Conservation

Fishing the margins of Talbots Lagoon is quite challenging



Further modifications to Penstock Canal

With only a small amount of water now flowing down Penstock Canal during spawning time, it has been necessary to further modify the canal to optimise spawning conditions.

Previously the water level in the canal was too deep which resulted in siltation rather than creating good, clean gravel areas for spawning.

It is hoped that these improved facilities will increase recruitment to Penstock. If the water clarity problems can also be solved, this lagoon can again be a drawcard.



No 1 canal at Penstock Lagoon (photo Phil Potter)

Volunteers. The company is to be congratulated for its cooperation in this matter.

For its part, the IFC will provide management expertise, monitor spawning habitat and the fish populations, and police the area as part of its routine coverage of north western waters.

Permits to enter North Forest Products private land will be required and all anglers are urged to respect this privilege.

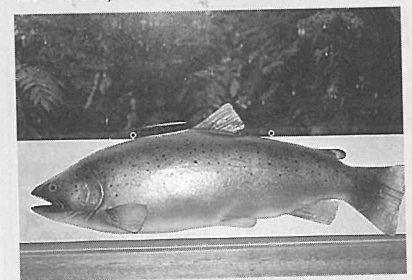
Huge Rainbow Trout from Lagoon of Islands

One of the best fish to come out of Lagoon of Islands for a long time was taken in late March this year.

It was a rainbow of around 8kg taken on a large bushy black matuka.

The present record rainbow is still the 17lb 10oz fish taken by Mr V Batchelor on 25 December 1932 in the Ouse River at Waddamana. Perhaps this record could fall to a Lagoon of Islands monster this season?

The Lagoon of Islands monster (photo courtesy Joe Thureau)



IN BRIEF

WHA review

The management plan for the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area is due for revision in 1997. Parks and Wildlife Service are preparing to review this plan and have distributed an "Issues Stocktake Kit".

Whilst submissions for this part of the process closed on 14 July, it is important that anglers start thinking about their points of concern (if any) regarding the present management plan.

The WHA plan contains essentially angling related issues such as access, camping etc. The direct angling issues are still under the control of the IFC and may be commented upon in the separate IFC Review (see this newsletter).

1999 World Fly Fishing Championship

Australia has been selected as the venue for the 1999 World Fly Fishing Champion-

ship. This will be an excellent follow-up to the successful staging of the event in Tasmania in 1988.

However, despite the fact that it was the IFC that applied to restage this event with a written request in 1993, the event organisers, Fly Fish Australia, have decided to take applications to stage the event from other Australian states.

Salmonid imports

The Commission prepared a submission to Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) opposing the importation of uncooked salmonid meat from Canada and USA.

This submission emphasised the threats posed to our recreational fisheries and also to the native fish fauna, many species of which are closely related to salmon and trout.

The Commission considers that the threats are very real and that they have been unjustifiably dismissed by AQIS.

Copies of this submission are available upon request from the IFC.

Whitebait season

There will again be a short season for the

taking of whitebait by recreational fishers in 1995.

The season will run from sunrise on Saturday 23 September and close at sunset on Sunday 22 October.

The same rivers as last year will be open and the same rules will apply in relation to equipment. The 1kg/day and 10kg/season rules will also apply.

The Inland Fisheries Commission intends to continue with the whitebait season and clearly acknowledges that the most prolific rivers are not open nor is the timing at the peak of the runs. This is a deliberate strategy to continue to assist the recovery of the whitebait whilst giving those genuine whitebait lovers the opportunity to get a feed. Our trout fisheries are not in danger from this level of exploitation.

New inspector to be appointed

Interviews were recently held for a North West inspector to replace Brian Vanderfeen. The successful applicant will be based at Ulverstone where arrangements have been made to establish an IFC base. This will most likely be in part of the Works Tasmania/DELM complex in Short Street, Ulverstone.

IFC review *continued from page 1...*

Terms of Reference

The Review is to be undertaken in two stages. Stage 1 will deal with Strategic directions for inland fisheries and Stage 2 will deal with any administrative or legislative reforms necessary to give effect to the agreed Strategic Directions arising from Stage 1.

Stage 1 – The Strategic Directions Consultancy

1. Assess and report on the existing management of Tasmanian inland fisheries and future directions for sustainable management of:
 - (i) recreational fisheries of inland waters;
 - (ii) inland waters fisheries as a tourism asset;
 - (iii) commercial fisheries of inland waters (including the aquaculture and aquarium industries);
 - (iv) biota of inland waters;having regard to the need to protect or enhance freshwater ecosystems.
2. In assessing and reporting on recreational fishing, the consultants shall consider the broad framework for:
 - (i) quality management of the trout fishery;
 - (ii) management of other recreational fisheries such as bream, blackfish, whitebait and freshwater crayfish;
 - (iii) bait fishing, spinning, trolling, fly fishing;
 - (iv) management of individual fisheries and water bodies;
 - (v) provision of public access to the fisheries;
 - (vi) provision of facilities for anglers;
 - (vii) licensing issues, boat registration, fees for use of facilities.
3. In assessing and reporting on tourism, the consultants shall consider:
 - (i) strategies to further develop the State's freshwater fisheries as a tourism asset;

- (ii) possible specific tourism proposals which will benefit overall management of the recreational fishery;
 - (iii) any particular management strategy which would enhance the value of the fishery as a tourism asset;
 - (iv) any strategies to integrate locally-based recreational angling and tourist-based angling.
4. In assessing and reporting on commercial freshwater fisheries, the consultants shall consider:
 - (i) the sustainable management of commercial wild freshwater fisheries including maximising commercial production;
 - (ii) the management of freshwater aquaculture;
 - (iii) the management of the aquarium industry;
 - (iv) the management of private fisheries.
 5. In assessing and reporting on the need to protect or enhance freshwater ecosystems, the consultants shall consider:
 - (i) water management for waterways and water quality;
 - (ii) management and conservation of aquatic biota;
 - (iii) the identification and management of endangered species;
 - (iv) quarantine, education and noxious fish programs.
 6. In undertaking the consultancy, the consultants shall follow the following process:
 - (i) seek written submissions on the issues raised by the Terms of Reference;
 - (ii) prepare and publish a discussion paper on the issues;
 - (iii) seek public comment on the discussion paper;
 - (iv) prepare a final report with recommendations on future strategic directions for inland fisheries.
 7. In undertaking the consultancy, the consultants should consult as widely as possible to ensure that all persons and

organisations which have an interest in the outcome have an opportunity to place their views before the consultants.

8. The consultants shall report to the Minister responsible for Inland Fisheries, by no later than 31 May 1996.

Stage 2 – Legislative and Administrative Reform

The Stage 2 Terms of Reference will be determined following the report on the Stage 1 consultancy. Subject to the findings of that report, it is expected that Stage 2 will involve:

- (i) an examination of the role, structure, financing and administration of the Inland Fisheries Commission and its capacity to achieve any Government approved strategic directions;
- (ii) an examination of the optimum means of coordinating the role etc of IFC with the responsibilities and capacity of other agencies to achieve the approved strategic directions; and
- (iii) any necessary legislative reform required.

Submissions

Submissions are invited from interested persons and organisations. All submissions must be in writing and should address the Terms of Reference. The closing date for submissions is Tuesday 31 October 1995 and they should be addressed to:

The Consultants
Inland Fisheries Review
C/- Secretariate
Dept. of Environment & Land Management
GPO Box 44A
HOBART TAS 7001

Following receipt of submissions, a discussion paper will be prepared by the consultants. This will be released for public comment in December and a further deadline for comment established.

A final report is to be presented to the Minister by 31 May 1996.

All interested persons are urged to put forward their opinions to make the process as comprehensive as possible.

European Carp

Since the Special Edition of this newsletter in February this year there have been developments in a number of directions designed to tackle the carp problem. This article updates progress.

Funding

Following the discovery of carp, the resources of the IFC were stretched considerably to maintain the closure of the lakes and undertake survey and planning works.

– assessment of the feasibility of using Rotenone.

This funding allocation is most welcome and demonstrates a clear commitment by the Government to the future of angling in this State.

Administration and coordination

Soon after the discovery of carp in Tasmania, a Task Force was established by the Minister for Inland Fisheries. This consisted

of representatives. This group was brought together primarily for the purpose of establishing an initial strategy and disseminating information to those directly involved.

To direct operations, a Working Group was subsequently established with core representation consisting of DELM (Policy section), IFC, PWS and RWSC. This group will oversee works and programs and monitor the budget in general.

The IFC is responsible for the day to day survey work whilst RWSC will coordinate structural works.

Investigations

For the early survey work, boat mounted electric fishing equipment was hired from fisheries agencies in Victoria and New South Wales.

The Inland Fisheries Commission ordered its own unit from the USA which arrived in mid-May at a total cost of around \$68 000. This boat has since been used extensively on Lake Crescent. Considerable time has also been spent on Lake Meadowbank and storage dams on the Clyde River above Bothwell. The boat has also been launched on some of the larger pools on the Clyde River which has also been extensively surveyed using back-pack electric fishing equipment.

From all surveys a total of 245 carp have been taken as follows:

- Lake Sorell 4
- Lake Crescent 240
- Clyde River 1

The one fish from the Clyde River was found about 150m downstream from the Lake Crescent gate. This was found when the flow was completely shut off during desilting of the outlet canal.

In late June three carp were also found in a pond at a Hobart residence following a public report. These fish had been in the pond for at least 15 years and the owner said they had never reproduced. IFC staff later found that they were all male fish. This occurrence was not considered related to the Lake Crescent problem.



Minister John Cleary and IFC Senior Scientific Officer Andrew Sanger on the new electrofishing boat (photo courtesy Claire Braund – The Examiner)

A Cabinet Submission was prepared by the Carp Working Group to address the funding for an ongoing program. On 1 June the Minister for Inland Fisheries announced that the Government had approved a budget of \$1 027 000 to the IFC over the next two years for works and staff to tackle the problem. This budget involves a number of elements including:

- A four person team, and associated costs, to work in the field on control/eradication consisting of -
 - a scientific officer to plan and coordinate the program;
 - two technical officers to carry out the majority of the field work;
 - an inspector to ensure compliance and undertake local public relations.
- A capital works budget for various purposes including -
 - outlet structure design and construction;
 - screen installation;
 - purchase of an electrofishing boat;
 - purchase of appropriate accommodation in the area.
- Allocation of funds to address specific problems via consultancies, for example -
 - public awareness and education;
 - enhancement of quarantine procedures;
 - angling strategy development to address negative impacts of carp on tourism and local business;

of representatives of the Department of Environment and Land Management (Inland Fisheries Commission, Parks and Wildlife Service), Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries (Rivers and Water Supply Commission), Bothwell Council, Clyde Water Trust and anglers via the Freshwater Anglers Council of Tasmania and indepen-

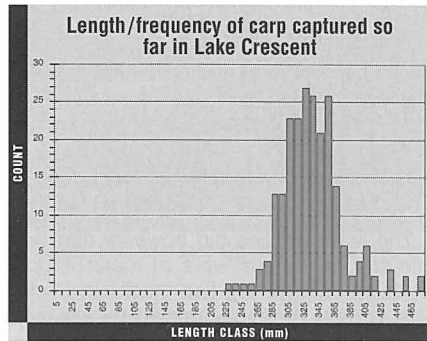
Normal (top) and Mirror (bottom) varieties of carp from Lake Crescent (photo John Diggle)



The Commission will follow up all such similar reports in the course of the carp program. However, it continues to get a number of reports that are almost certainly misidentifications.

The carp that have been found range in size from about 230mm to 480mm in length with the largest fish weighing just under 2.5kg. About 100 of the fish were assessed as immature whilst, of the remainder, males outnumbered females by 2.5 to 1.

It is not possible to reliably determine the age of the fish although it is likely that there are three age classes in the population. It does not appear as though there is a juvenile year class in the population, suggesting that spawning in 1994 may have been unsuccessful or limited.



Containment and water management

The control/eradication of carp will not be a short term task and it is therefore necessary to ensure that water supplies can be maintained for downstream users. It is also important to ensure that carp can not move downstream, either through the normal outlet or as a result of flooding.

Measures taken so far to contain carp include:

- screening of Lake Crescent outlet with an egg-proof screen;
- screening of the spillway with coarse mesh to contain carp during flood;
- lowering of the level of Lake Crescent to avoid flooding this winter;
- installation of coarse screens on Kermodes Cut and the Lake Sorell outlet to prevent adult carp moving upstream.

Further work has been done to assist with water level management:

- the Lake Crescent outlet canal has been de-silted to facilitate better water level management;
- an accurate contour survey of Lake Crescent has been undertaken;
- a new outlet structure for Lake Sorell is being designed to enable better water level management;
- a water management plan for the lakes will be developed in association with all users.

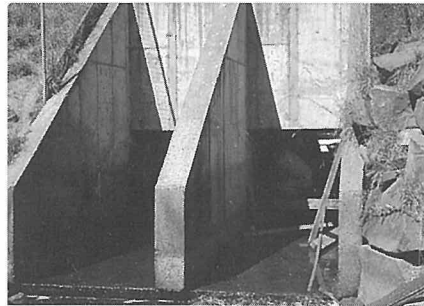
A group of carp from Lake Crescent (photo John Diggle)



Access

Following the discovery of carp, both lakes Crescent and Sorell were closed to the general public for all purposes including angling and duck shooting. To enable the Commission to assess the situation without having to worry about public interference in any way, both lakes remained closed for the balance of the 1994-95 angling season.

Staff have assessed the risks associated with re-opening the lakes to fishing for the 1995-96 season. Mainland experience has shown that humans pose the biggest threat of carp transfer by capturing fish using bait and deliberately releasing them elsewhere. If Lake Crescent was open to fishing, this threat would increase. With such a small population of carp known from Lake Sorell,



there was not considered to be any significant risk of transfer of carp from this lake if it were re-opened. However, with the larger numbers in Lake Crescent and the likely activity associated with control operations, this lake was best kept closed.

Lake Sorell has therefore been re-opened for the 1995-96 season but Lake Crescent will remain closed. The Commission will monitor the situation in both lakes and reserves the option to alter these arrangements for either lake at short notice.

Public relations and education

Funding has been allocated specifically for these purposes in the budget and there are a number of areas that need to be addressed.

Locally, the carp team will undertake an education and awareness program with anglers both directly and through other media. This may also involve education of the wider public to the dangers associated with exotic fauna releases.

Interstate visitors will also be targeted through angling clubs, fishing media, consumer shows, tourism offices and points of entry to the State.

Left: The outlet of Lake Crescent; closed for installation of screens

Below: Lake Crescent in flood; a screen has been installed on this spillway



Carp discovery

Looking back to early this year it is worth reflecting on the event which set the present course of action in place.

"On the morning of 28 January 1994 my wife Maureen and I were fly fishing from a drifting boat on Lake Crescent when we noticed a magnificent sea eagle sitting on the rocky edge of the lake. As we drifted closer the eagle flew off. I was curious as to what the eagle had been eating and, upon investigation, I found an unusual fish with part of its head eaten. I wrapped the fish in a wet towel and returned to camp. We then located a Commission inspector at Dago Point, gave him the fish, and the rest is history."

These are the words of Graeme Porter who made the initial discovery. Inland Fisheries Commission Senior Inspector, Viv Spencer, recently spoke to Graeme who is a keen angler and regularly fishes lakes and streams throughout the State. It should

be added that in November 1994 Graeme couldn't believe his luck when he caught a 20lb 2oz brown trout from Lake Crescent, this fish now takes pride of place on the wall of his Campbell Town home.

Viv asked Graeme his feelings about the carp problem and how it would affect his trout fishing. He replied,

"My main concern is if drastic measures such as poisoning are taken, it may affect the eco-system of the whole lake and it may never recover. I never fished Lake Crescent very much but I realise the attractions of such magnificent trophy fish and it's the sort of place you can take your family and camp in beautiful surroundings. As far as I am concerned, this season I'll seek other fishing venues."

In conclusion Graeme said, "I hope the Commission can successfully solve the problem."

Don't we all Graeme!

The Commission is extremely grateful to Graeme for so promptly reporting his find.

Quality trout management

by Wayne Fulton and Andrew Sanger, Inland Fisheries Commission

There has been an increasing amount of comment in various media recently about how our fisheries should be managed.

Some of the suggestions that have been advanced include:

- no closed season in certain waters;
- bag limits reduced in some areas;
- the introduction of catch and release in some areas;
- restrictions on bait fishing;
- more individual fishery management.

For those who are advocating such management changes, the following article may be of interest. As advertised elsewhere in this newsletter, a review of the strategic directions for the Inland Fisheries Commission is currently underway. That forum offers the opportunity for all interested parties to have their say on issues such as are raised in the following article.

Tasmania's lakes and streams provide an ideal habitat for trout, particularly brown trout. However, in saying that the habitat is ideal, it doesn't imply that every fish caught in every water will be 2lb or 4lb or that a bag limit will be taken on each and every outing. It simply means that trout are well adapted to the freshwater environment in this State.

The other thing that is not explained by our ideal habitat is why our trout fisheries are, according to many anglers, not as good as they were 20 years ago – or 20 years before that and so on. In many cases the reason is simply because the lake or river we are talking about is not the same as it was 20 or more years ago. In other cases it is memory that has changed, not the fishing quality.

The fact is that the trout populations of our lakes and streams are a product of the particular physical, chemical and biological environment of each habitat. This habitat is infinitely variable for a number of different natural reasons including, but not limited to:

- the physical structure of the water body;
- its catchment geology and water chemistry;
- certain food chain limitations;
- available spawning habitat;
- seasonal variables.

Many other factors, such as plant growth and water turbidity, are determined by these characteristics and they may in turn have their own influence on fish growth.

The point is that two natural lakes, identical in every way except for one minor variable, could have two entirely different fish populations.

If you subsequently introduce the influence of man via such mechanisms as:

- habitat alteration;
- pollution;
- fishing pressure (including poaching);
- stocking rates/species differences;

then the potential for variation in fish population structure increases even more.

In practice what happens is that each lake or stream will find its own equilibrium around a certain size range. This will go up and down a little from year to year primarily due to climatic factors and their influence through water levels and recruitment, but basically the fish size remains relatively constant.

Food chain factors have an influence on determining the equilibrium point, with the mechanism being primarily through the size of food items available. If there is no readily available 'large' food items, such as forage fish, for trout to feed on once they achieve a reasonable size they will not as a rule grow to trophy size unless total trout population numbers are low.

Of course, there may be a classic period in the early stages of a new storage where large fish are regularly present. The size of these fish decreases as population increases and the productivity of the new storage decreases and the equilibrium point is approached. Lake Pedder in the 70's is the classic example of this.

In Tasmania, long term analysis of fish populations in lakes such as Great Lake, Arthurs Lake and Lake Sorell shows minimal changes in the average size of spawning fish over a period of years that can be attributed to angling pressure or management practices. Of these perhaps Lake Sorell is the most variable with this variation being satisfactorily explained by poor recruitment conditions in two or more successive years. Consequently the IFC has sought to improve spawning habitat and minimise recruitment failure at Lake Sorell, but some variability will always remain in what is an easterly weather pattern influenced, and hence a drought prone catchment compared to the other Central Plateau storages.

In Great Lake, a study of long term data from 1870 to 1985 by Peter Davies and Rob Sloane concluded that:

(angling) "Management practices since first stocking have had little or no effect on the fishery of Great Lake, and the dynamics of the fish populations have been dictated principally by management

of the lake as a hydro-electric store (sic) and variations in lake level caused by long term fluctuations in annual rainfall".

The other interesting finding of long term research on trout populations in Tasmania comes from studies of the North Esk River and tributaries, firstly by Nicholls in the 1950's followed up by IFC staff more than 30 years later. The latter studies showed that the fish populations in these rivers had not decreased, even though two factors that many anglers would claim as being the major determinants of fish stocks had changed:

- the rivers were heavily stocked just prior to Nicholls' studies but virtually no stocking took place between then and the recent studies;
- there has been a significant increase in fishing pressure since Nicholls' studies.

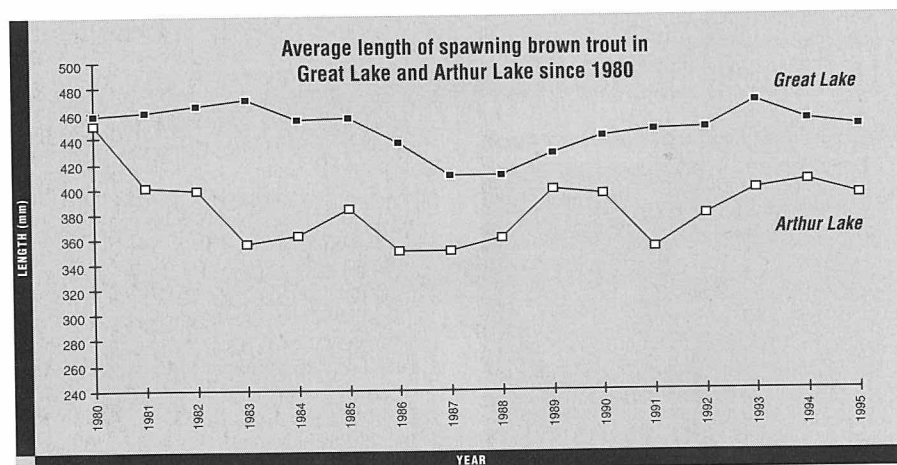
The latter studies did however find that climatic conditions were of major importance in determining fish stocks in rivers. This is most probably caused by low river levels at critical periods during egg development in the streams resulting in large scale year to year variation in recruitment.

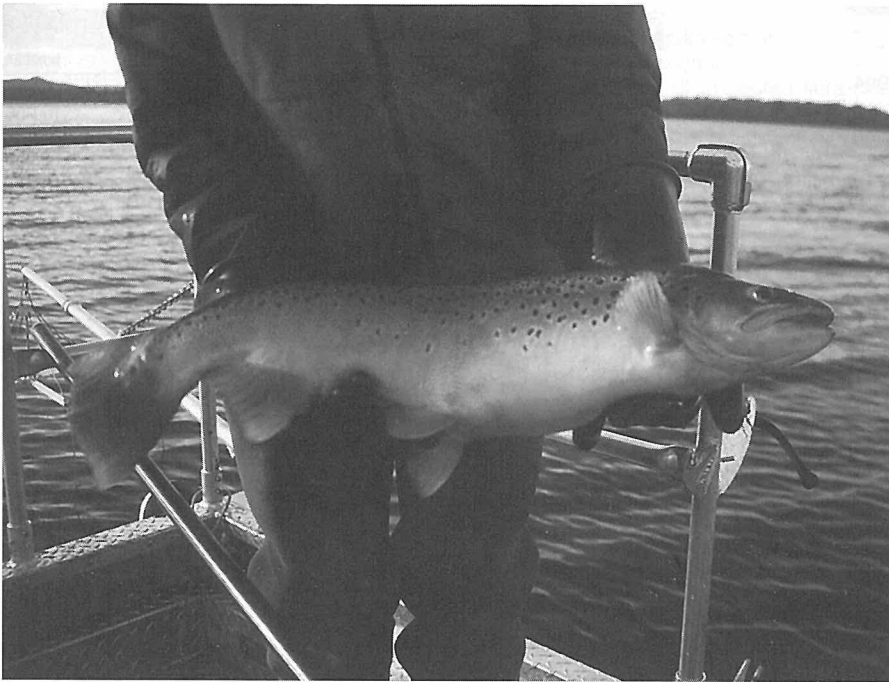
On the whole our lake fisheries are in good condition and, whilst our river fisheries are certainly not as good as they have been for a variety of reasons, it is expected that many will come out of a trough in due course as climatic conditions move through a wetter spring cycle. What also needs to happen is for the stream environment to receive greater recognition. Flow allocations from water managers must be made for environmental and fishery needs and the impact of land use, farm dam and weir construction, and industrial activity must also be recognised and minimised.

In considering our lake fisheries, what can be done to improve them further? Can we turn a lake of 2lb fish into a lake of 5lb fish? Is there such a thing as quality trout management?

The answer is yes there is, but, the management needs to be selectively applied and comes at a price. The price that needs to be paid is essentially two fold.

- There will need to be some sacrifice on the part of anglers in that they may have





A 'quality' trout from Lake Crescent (photo Richard Morrison)

to settle for fewer fish and accept more complex management practices that they could find hard to abide.

- There will be an increased management cost in that a defined objective will not be achieved unless a lot more is known about the population dynamics of the fishery in question. Any management plan will not have an instantaneous effect, it will need to be implemented in the long-term and its effects will need to be monitored.

It appears that there is a widespread perception that angling mortality can influence the population structure of brown trout and that changing the population structure in our major lakes is just a matter of changing some angling rules such as length of season, number of rods, bag limits, size limits, etc. In actual fact these are essentially only cosmetic rules that have little influence on the population structure of brown trout in large Tasmanian lakes. Having an individual set of rules for each lake is not necessarily effective individual lake management.

It is perhaps worth noting that Tasmania already has more individual regulations than other Australian States and, with such a short distance between our waters, more individual rules could be just a confusion for no real gain.

The major reason why these mechanisms will not influence trout populations in the larger Tasmania lakes is simply one of angler numbers. There is basically insufficient angler pressure in Tasmania to stop brown trout dying of natural causes, including old age. In other words, natural mortality vastly outweighs fishing mortality and management measures aimed at angling methods will have little effect. Catch and release, for example, is becoming trendy, but in our larger lakes it will most probably have no influence on fish numbers or quality and could in fact be detrimental.

In addition, many anglers complain that the season opens too early in some lakes or that the taking of fish near the mouth of spawning creeks in the latter part of the season should be illegal. In reality the

individual can choose whether they wish to take fish in these situations – they don't have to. From a management perspective they are not going to significantly alter spawning success in any case. There are more than enough fish to spawn – it is survival of the young fish that is important.

In the major lakes, what would be needed to achieve a major alteration in population structure is a significant manipulation of fish numbers in some way. This can be achieved in a number of ways, such as:

- a major increase in fishing pressure;
- the harvesting of adult fish in some way;
- introducing recruitment controls.

The increase in fishing pressure would be good for IFC revenue but could have undesirable side effects, both social and environmental, due to crowding. It also may not be achievable in the short term. Tasmanian anglers have become accustomed to relatively uncrowded fishing conditions and don't take too well to even modest amounts of crowding. Our angling infrastructure is also geared towards relatively uncrowded conditions. That is, there are few boat ramps, camping areas, etc which can accommodate large numbers of anglers.

The second mechanism is usually unpopular and is not being advocated here. However, of the methods in this group, commercial harvesting would be the most efficient. Removal of spawners was tried in Lake Leake with disastrous public relations consequences, whilst the Great Lake adult fish transfers, despite involving thousands of fish over an extended period, were apparently not extensive enough to affect the populations.

Recruitment controls are effective in maintaining quality fish as evidenced by the fish in Lake Crescent and Lagoon of Islands. However, here again control can be difficult unless natural conditions are favourable. Great Lake and Arthurs Lake for example are difficult to control because any one of a number of inflowing streams has sufficient spawning habitat to support the lake. Likewise, attempting to control recruitment to the brown trout populations in Lake King

William, Lake Pedder and Lake Burbury, to name a few, would be very difficult.

Whilst the prospects for materially altering brown trout population structure don't look promising for our large lakes, as the necessary methods are either unacceptable or impractical, there is certainly some scope in many of our smaller systems such as the Western Lakes. Many of these have naturally low recruitment levels that allow the fish population to be closely controlled. However, we are now talking about small enough systems such that fishing mortality can become an important factor. Consequently, these are areas where catch and release may beneficially influence fishing quality.

Similarly, in some of the readily accessible storages, such as Brushy Lagoon and Craighourne Dam, with appropriate nuisance fish (eg redfin perch), population management and stocking of high quality large stock, high quality catch and kill, or catch and release fisheries could be established. Management of other species, such as rainbow trout, brook trout, atlantic salmon and hybrids may also benefit from quality trout management objectives.

What should now be apparent is that managing fisheries to achieve certain goals in relation to fish quality is quite complex. It is not simply a matter of tinkering with some cosmetic rules. It will require:

- a detailed knowledge of the fish population in each water including;
 - numbers and age structure
 - annual recruitment
 - annual mortality
- a knowledge of the productive capacity of that water;
- an accurate assessment of annual fishing pressure;
- above all, a significant commitment of resources.

Where Tasmanian anglers would probably not like this type of management is that it would require greater regulation and regimentation than they are accustomed to. Because we would also be dealing mainly with smaller waters, the physical impact on these ecosystems imposes another set of complications.

The potential for conflict between anglers is also increased. We are already experiencing some conflict between shore, boat and float tube anglers on Little Pine Lagoon. There are both social and environmental issues involved in this situation.

So, whilst quality trout management as an objective is a good concept which is achievable in certain Tasmanian waters, there are some necessary sacrifices to be made in terms of numbers of fish and increased rules for anglers. The Inland Fisheries Commission has the expertise, knowledge and willingness to achieve such objectives, but this process will require additional resources to be successful. If this commitment is made, there are significant benefits to be realised across the board to the individual angler as well as to the State's economic well being.

With the opportunity now available to anglers to have their say on strategic directions for the future of trout management in this State via the IFC review, it is perhaps the right time for all to carefully consider what they really want and how that can be achieved.

Trout Stocking 1994

Following is a list of fish released throughout 1994.

A full list of IFC releases, as well as those from Ulverstone and Penguin rearing units are available upon request from the Commission. Information has not been supplied by the relevant clubs for releases from Devonport and Latrobe rearing units.

BROWN TROUT OVA

South Australian Fly Fishers Association140 000

BROWN TROUT

DATE	WATER STOCKED	ORIGIN	AGE	NUMBER
26.09.94	Compleat Angler Pond	Salmon Ponds	Fry	1 500
04.10.94	Lake Leake	Salmon Ponds	Fry	30 000
04.10.94	Tooms Lake	Salmon Ponds	Fry	30 000
	Devonport Rearing Unit	Salmon Ponds	Fry	35 000
	Latrobe Rearing Unit	Salmon Ponds	Fry	30 000
	Ulverstone Rearing Unit	Salmon Ponds	Fry	80 000
	Farm Dams	Salmon Ponds	Fry	44 000
				250 500
18.10.94	Meadowbank Dam	Salmon Ponds	Adv Fry	25 000
18.11.94	Cluny Dam	Salmon Ponds	Adv Fry	10 000
08.12.94	Blackmans Lagoon	Salmon Ponds	Adv Fry	4 000
08.12.94	Curries River Dam	Salmon Ponds	Adv Fry	10 000
20.12.94	Lake Crescent	Salmon Ponds	Adv Fry	10 000
				59 000
26.03.94	Lake Crescent	Salmon Ponds	Fingerlings	4 000
				4 000
06.05.94	Bruisers Lagoon	Liawenee	Adults	30
06.05.94	Camerons Lagoon	Liawenee	Adults	30
06.05.94	Lake Duncan	Liawenee	Adults	20
06.05.95	Lake Lynch	Liawenee	Adults	20
11.05.94	Carters Lake	Liawenee	Adults	200
11.05.94	Rocky Lagoon	Liawenee	Adults	50
11.05.94	Lake Botsford	Liawenee	Adults	300
25.05.94	Mersey River	Liawenee	Adults	200
31.05.94	Lake Kara	Liawenee	Adults	40
				890

BROWN/SALMON HYBRIDS

DATE	WATER STOCKED	ORIGIN	AGE	NUMBER
26.03.94	Lake Crescent	S Ponds/Russell Falls	Fingerlings	6 000
17.11.94	Lake Crescent	S Ponds/Russell Falls	Yearlings	1 000
				7 000

RAINBOW TROUT

DATE	WATER STOCKED	ORIGIN	AGE	NUMBER
15.03.94	Lake Meadowbank	Salmon Ponds	Adv Fry	2 000
06.12.94	Penstock Lagoon	Salmon Ponds	Adv Fry	10 000
				12 200
06.12.94	Blackmans Lagoon	Salmon Ponds	Fingerlings	2 000
06.12.94	Little Lake	Salmon Ponds	Fingerlings	2 000
10.12.94	Lake Crescent	Salmon Ponds	Fingerlings	3 000
10.12.94	Lagoon of Islands	Salmon Ponds	Fingerlings	4 000
12.12.94	Farm Dam, Beaconsfield	Salmon Ponds	Fingerlings	200
12.12.94	Beaconsfield	Salmon Ponds	Fingerlings	800
12.12.94	Brushy Lagoon	Salmon Ponds	Fingerlings	10 000
14.12.94	Dee Lagoon	Salmon Ponds	Fingerlings	4 000
22.12.94	Guide Dam	Salmon Ponds	Fingerlings	1 000
22.12.94	Magnet Dam	Salmon Ponds	Fingerlings	500
22.12.94	Waratah Dam	Salmon Ponds	Fingerlings	500
				28 500
30.07.94	Curries River Dam	Sevrup Fisheries	Yearlings	1 500
09.08.94	Curries River Dam	Sevrup Fisheries	Yearlings	8 500
10.08.94	Lake Rowallan	Sevrup Fisheries	Yearlings	10 000
12.08.94	Rossarden Water Supply	Sevrup Fisheries	Yearlings	1 000
16.08.94	Lake Leake	Sevrup Fisheries	Yearlings	3 000
16.08.94	Tooms Lake	Sevrup Fisheries	Yearlings	3 000
				27 000

ATLANTIC SALMON

DATE	WATER STOCKED	ORIGIN	AGE	NUMBER
14.12.94	Curries River Dam	Sevrup Fisheries	Yearlings	4 500
15.12.94	Brushy Lagoon	Sevrup Fisheries	Yearlings	3 500
				8 000

REARING UNITS

Ulverstone	
Leven River	Brown Trout Advanced Fry23 000
Wilmot River	Brown Trout Advanced Fry15 000
Gawler River	Brown Trout Advanced Fry5 000
Farm Dams	Brown Trout Advanced Fry32 750
	75 750
Leven River	Rainbow Trout Advanced Fry500
Farm Dams	Rainbow Trout Advanced Fry13 640
	14 140
Penguin	
Farm Dams	Brown Trout Advanced Fry4 000
Farm Dams	Rainbow Trout Advanced Fry400

Brian Vanderfeen has retired!

Well it's happened, the old "Silver Fox" as Brian Vanderfeen is affectionately known, retired in mid-February 1995. He will be a man of leisure, fishing, hunting tigers and swimming in his hot springs.

Brian will be a great loss to the Inland Fisheries Commission for a number of reasons. He commenced with the Commission on 1 June 1969 and has entertained fishermen and staff ever since with his quick wit and unusual inventions - the spring wheel, the tiger trap, come-fish cage and the mud screw, to name a few. Brian is a very handy man and can turn his skills to most fields.

I believe he may also have been a bit of a ladies man in his younger days. I can remember on a number of occasions inspectors saying,

"I checked a nice young lady angler from Ulverstone today",
and when the name was mentioned a smile would appear,
"I don't know her but I knew her mother".

A local Blythe River angler told me he was doing a bit of whitebait poaching one day when he saw Brian coming. He ducked up the bank and hid his bait net behind blackberries and when Brian arrived he was sitting on the bank with his fishing rod. Brian

had a talk then walked up the bank and collected his net. As Brian walked past the angler said,

"What have you got there Brian?"

"A butterfly net mate" said Brian, "I read in the paper last week where a young kid had lost one. I'll return it to him and maybe I'll get a reward".

A mainland angler over on a bachelor's fishing holiday called at the Liawenee hostel. There were about half a dozen anglers and a couple of inspectors present. The mainland took the floor, talking about all the bad luck he'd had - run out of LP gas (no pubs then), had to go back to Launceston, then got bogged beside Little Pine Lagoon and lost several fish. He then said,

"And you know what happened next?"

and Brian said as quick as a flash,

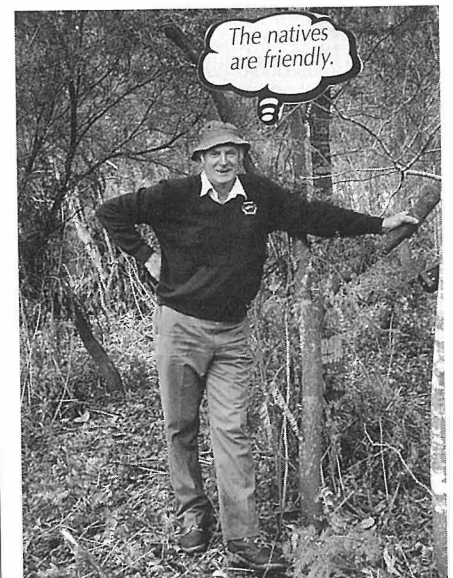
"Your wife turned up".

On a serious note, Brian has always been one of those officers you could send on a job and know the task would be completed. If anything broke down he would fix it with string, wire or whatever, but he would fix it and complete the job. Most anglers wouldn't realise that Brian was also a very good footballer and runner in his early days.

As stated previously, we are sorry to see you go old mate, hope you find that tiger one day. Something is missing at Liawenee as you walk past the first room at the field station you no longer hear the familiar sound,

"milk and one sugar please".

IFC Staff



Bush Watch

by Michael C Dyson, Acting Inspector,
Tasmania Police

"Bush Watch" is a community based crime prevention program which aims to prevent and detect offences in the Tasmanian bush. It encourages bush users to report unusual or suspicious activity to Police, to create an awareness of security, criminal offences, cost to the community and safety precautions for bush users. Information given is collated by Tasmania police and when necessary it will be passed on to be dealt with by other law enforcement bodies such as Inland Fisheries Commission or Parks and Wildlife Department.

The reporting of suspicious people and activities is a key objective, however, it is not the only one. The program encourages:

- security of vehicles and equipment;
- encourages the marking of property for identification purposes;
- creates an awareness of flora and fauna offences;
- encourages accurate reporting of drug crop locations; and
- aims to reduce the damage caused to public and private property.

Some common offences which bush users should be aware of include:

- illegal lighting of fires;
- criminal damage and vandalism to

- property and equipment;
- cultivation of marijuana crops;
- theft of personal property;
- illegal harvesting of protected flora (tree ferns, man ferns, etc);
- illegal trapping and shooting wildlife; and
- illegally taking fish.

It is important for people to remember to note relevant details when reporting incidents. These should include 'where', 'when', and 'what' has occurred, also details of vehicles involved, including:

- colour;
- type;
- registration number; and
- any distinguishing features.

Also, details of people involved:

- sex;
- age; and
- physical description.

It is important to report the matter as soon as possible and not to interfere with offenders or drug crops and fish/wildlife netting or trapping. It would assist police and other law enforcement bodies if you provide your name, address and contact telephone number in order to enable further detailed information to be gathered at a later date, however, it is not essential.

The Crime Stoppers 1800 005 555 number can be used when reporting incidents. You can remain anonymous and may be entitled to a reward.



Trout 2000

This project has been in the news quite a bit recently. It is the brainchild of the Freshwater Anglers Council of Tasmania (FACT) and arose from the drain Lake Pedder debate.

The concept is to coordinate five separate local trout fishing competitions now held throughout the State, into an annual event. Each of the competitions would retain their present identity but entrants could accumulate points from each competition towards an annual prize. In the year 2000 there would be a cash prize of \$20 000 for the annual event winner.

The Inland Fisheries Commission will support each of the five events with the release of a tagged fish worth \$5 000.

The events for the first round of Trout 2000 are as follows:

March 1996	Eddie Wigston Memorial Competition – Bronte area
October 1996	Lake Burbury Competition
November 1996	Tasmanian Trout Fishing Championships Open waters (tagged fish in Great Lake)
December 1996	Northern Tasmanian Fisheries Association – Arthurs Lake
January 1997	Lake Pedder Competition

The latter event will include a free fishing day on Australia Day and will be the final event of each series.

The IFC supports the concept and invites all anglers to participate. Many prizes will be available for the expert or the novice. Further details will appear in the press closer to the first competition in March 1996.

Brown trout spawning runs

Details of combined male and female fish checked in the 1995 brown trout spawning runs are given below:

GREAT LAKE – LIAWENEE CANAL 22 MAY 1995

Range of weight (g).....	400-1900
Average weight (g).....	936
Range of length (mm).....	324-574
Average length (mm).....	449

ARTHURS LAKE – HYDRO CREEK

Range of weight (g).....	175-1300
Average weight (g).....	703
Range of length (mm).....	251-512
Average length (mm).....	400

LAKE SORELL – MOUNTAIN CREEK 24 MAY 1995

Range of weight (g).....	250-1850
Average weight (g).....	785
Range of length (mm).....	280-566
Average length (mm).....	415

LAKE CRESCENT – CANAL

Range of weight (g).....	700-5500
Average weight (g).....	2586
Range of length (mm).....	377-755
Average length (mm).....	564

BOOK REVIEW

Australian Fishing Reels

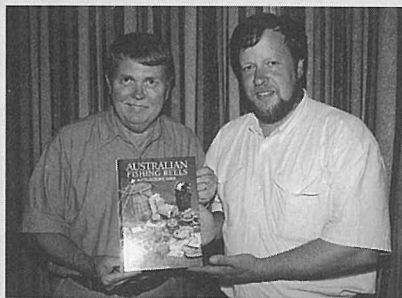
A collectors guide

by Bob Dunn – Retail price \$80

Whenever I go into an antique or second hand shop looking for old fishing tackle I find that I am not the only one that is looking for such items. In fact, there are quite a few people now collecting various items of angling paraphernalia, particularly books, but increasingly also fishing reels and other tackle.

My particular interest is in Australian made fly reels of which there are probably around 30 brands and many models. Whilst this interest developed through my association with the Museum of Trout Fishing, angling historian, Bob Dunn, has made it possible to pursue this interest with some certainty by compiling his superb book on *Australian Fishing Reels*.

The book is a detailed work describing reels under about 125 brand names and many more models. These range from only one or two examples of dubious Australian origin to the many versions of the major manufacturers such as Alvey.



Author Bob Dunn with IFC Commissioner W. Fulton at the launch of the book (photo courtesy Ern Trembath)

It is a very well edited and finished book with historical as well as descriptive information. It is written in the same authoritative but easily readable style as Bob's previous book, *Angling in Australia: Its history and writings*. It is highly recommended to both the equipment collector as well as the Australian angling bibliophile.

Both Bob Dunn's books are available from the Museum of Trout Fishing.

Australian Fishing Reels \$80 plus postage
Angling in Australia \$70 plus postage

A special leather bound limited edition of both books is also available if you are interested. *Reviewed by Wayne Fulton*

PROSECUTIONS

Infringement notices

During the 12 months from 1 July 1994 to 30 June 1995 the following 'on the spot fines' were issued.

Offence	Number
Fish without a licence.....	18
Fish with more than one rod and line.....	25
Use strike indicator.....	13
Fish with unattended set rod.....	14
Possess assembled rod.....	6
Possess or use a net.....	11
Use more than two lures or baits.....	4
Fish in closed waters.....	3
Take more than 1 kg whitebait a day.....	1
Use unmarked whitebait net.....	1
Take whitebait without permit or licence.....	7
Total	103

Court proceedings

Offences that were proceeded with by summons from 1 July 1994 to 30 June 1995 are listed below.

Fishing competition

run at the Land Information Bureau in conjunction with a promotion for opening of the 1995-96 trout fishing season

The winner of the competition, drawn at Inland Fisheries Commission head office on Friday 18 August 1995 by the Commissioner, Wayne Fulton, was:

Mr Adrian Bond
62 Middle Street, Ascot Vale VIC 3032

Congratulations on winning a free full season fishing licence and 20 assorted lures donated by Wigstons.

A special thanks to the Fishing Connection for also supporting the display.



Offender	Location	Offences Summary	Total fine + costs (\$)
Marcus Geoffrey MUNDAY, Penguin	Great Lake	Other than rod & line	132, spec pen: 50
Marcus Stephen NIGHTINGALE, Wilmot	FORTH RIVER	Take whitebait	232
David McGeorge BANNER, Latrobe	MERSEY RIVER	Use net/Take whitebait	77 hrs Community Service
David George MCDERMOTT, Latrobe	MERSEY RIVER	Use net/Take whitebait	1 032
Nigel Patrick KEMP, West Moonah	DERWENT RIVER	Unlicensed	200
Dale Paul HAYTON, West Moonah	DERWENT RIVER	Unlicensed	200
Anthony Wayne HARDIE, Devonport	BRANDUMS CREEK, GREAT LAKE	Disturb spawning fish	532
Brett George WEEKS, Latrobe	BRANDUMS CREEK, GREAT LAKE	Disturb spawning fish	282
Jeremy David ST JOHN, Wynyard	INGLIS RIVER	Possess net	232
David Allen CLARK, Ravenswood	NORTH ESK RIVER	Unlicensed/Possess assembled rod	332
Lance Kenneth DEVINE, Melton Mowbray	LAKE CRESCENT	Unlicensed/Unattended set rod	232
Bernard George GROVES, Bicheno	SNOWY RIVER, LAKE LEAKE	Other than rod & line/Disturb spawning fish/Take fish from closed waters	382 spec pen: 780
John Henry NAILER, Bicheno	SNOWY RIVER, LAKE LEAKE	Other than rod & line/Disturb spawning fish/Take fish from closed waters	382 spec pen: 780
Craig Phillip CAMPBELL, Bicheno	SNOWY RIVER, LAKE LEAKE Take fish from closed waters	Other than rod & line/Disturb spawning fish/ spec pen:	382 780
Gavin Raymond HAMILTON, East Devonport	FORTH RIVER	Take whitebait without permit/False name and address/ Possess whitebait	432
Gavin Raymond HAMILTON, North Motton	FORTH RIVER	Possess net/Possess whitebait/Take whitebait/Refuse to give name and address	2 382
Paul Victor HAMILTON, East Devonport	FORTH RIVER	Take whitebait/Possess whitebait/Use net/Obstruct an officer	1 232
Craig Royce ASHDOWN, Launceston	MOUNTAIN CREEK, LAKE SORELL	Disturb spawning fish/Take fish from closed waters/ Other than rod and line	1 032 spec pen: 240
Kevin Maxwell CARNES, Prospect	MOUNTAIN CREEK, LAKE SORELL	Disturb spawning fish/Take fish from closed waters/ Other than rod and line	1 032 spec pen: 240
John Raymond KERR, Perth	MOUNTAIN CREEK, LAKE SORELL	Disturb spawning fish/Take fish from closed waters/ Other than rod and line	1 032
Shane Paul LESLIE, Ravenswood	NORTH ESK RIVER	Unlicensed/Possess assembled rod	332
Denis Reynold BLYTH, Wynyard	CRAYFISH CREEK	Take whitebait/Possess whitebait	535
David Maxwell BLYTH, Rosebery	CRAYFISH CREEK	Take whitebait/Possess whitebait	535
Paul Victor HAMILTON, East Devonport	FORTH RIVER	Take whitebait/Possess whitebait/Possess net	432
Paul Victor HAMILTON, East Devonport	MERSEY RIVER	Take whitebait/Possess whitebait/Possess net	1 035
Paul Victor HAMILTON, East Devonport	MERSEY RIVER	Take whitebait/Possess whitebait/Possess net	1 035
Mark Raymond WALL, Devonport	MERSEY RIVER	Take whitebait/Possess whitebait/Possess net	435
David McGeorge Boyd BANNER, Latrobe	MERSEY RIVER	Take whitebait/Possess whitebait/Possess net	1 235
Craig Michael WEST, Clarendon Vale	LAKE CRESCENT	Unlicensed	235
Mark Raymond WALL, Sassafras	MERSEY RIVER	Possess net/Take whitebait	285
Mark Raymond WALL, Sassafras	MERSEY RIVER	Take whitebait/Use net	635
Jason Kelvin WIGGINS, Devonport	MERSEY RIVER	Take whitebait	235
Simon John WOOD, East Devonport	MERSEY RIVER	Unlicensed	235
Peter William DONNELLY, Devonport	MERSEY RIVER	Take whitebait/Possess whitebait/Possess net	435
Shayne CANN, Somerset	CAM RIVER	Take whitebait	235
Paul Victor HAMILTON, Devonport	MERSEY RIVER	Take whitebait/Possess whitebait	1 035
Paul Victor HAMILTON, Devonport	MERSEY RIVER	Possess whitebait/Obstruct an officer	885
Paul Victor HAMILTON, Devonport	MERSEY RIVER	Take whitebait/Possess net/Obstruct officer/Threaten officer/ Abusive language	2 085
Paul Victor HAMILTON, Devonport	MERSEY RIVER	Take whitebait/Possess net	1 635
Paul Victor HAMILTON, Devonport	FORTH RIVER	Take whitebait/Possess net	1 635
Derrin John HUME, Queenstown	LAKE BURBURY	Unlicensed	235