



INLAND FISHERIES COMMISSION

TASMANIA

NEWSLETTER

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1. Brown trout fry

Angling branches are reminded that brown trout fry should be available in September from the Commission as stock for small dams. Applications for stock should reach the Commission by the end of August, preferably directed through an angling association. The brown trout fry are available free-of-charge provided reasonable access to licensed anglers is granted.

2. 1970-71 angling season

Overall, the 1970-71 angling season was a successful one and undoubtedly a highlight of the season was the excellent fishing in the Macquarie River where skilled anglers caught good conditioned brown trout in the good rises of red spinner.

3. Management of Lake Leake

The Commission proposes to review the management of Lake Leake and is seeking the views of the two angling associations, on a suggestion by the Northern Tasmanian Fisheries Association that the management of Lake Leake revert to that of a brown trout water. However, if this proposal is adopted it may be necessary from time to time to remove old and unthrifty brown trout from the water. This need has been recognised for many years.

Should conditions be suitable to do so, the Commission proposes to count the number of brown trout fry entering Lake Leake from the 1971 Winter spawning and to monitor the spawning run of rainbow trout adults. If conditions are favourable an attempt will be made to monitor the recruitment of rainbow trout fry to the Lake Leake fishery from Snow River.

In the coming Summer the Commission will not be carrying out a fortnightly census on anglers' catches in Lake Leake, however, it proposes to monitor the fishery by providing census books to anglers who are willing to co-operate by keeping a record of their catches.

4. Big Waterhouse Lake

The access road built to Big Waterhouse Lake will be used for the first time in the 1971-72 angling season and anglers are asked to exercise care so that the unstable sand dunes will not be damaged by their cars. The Inland Fisheries Commission provided a truck and a man to assist in improving the area between the end of the road and the Lake, so that boats may be launched more readily.

5. Reprint No. 3 - Liberation of fish

For the convenience of anglers the Commission has published Reprint No. 3 which contains details of all fish liberations in the period 1st June, 1970, to 30th June, 1971. Copies of this publication have been made available to the three Angling Associations for the interest of their members.

6. Boundaries of Angling Association Districts

The boundaries of angling association districts are set out in proclamations dated 22nd December, 1959. The purpose of having angling association districts is mainly concerned with the appointment of Associate Commissioners to represent those districts. Actually, there is nothing in the Fisheries Act or Inland Fisheries Regulations which states which district an angling branch should be located in, however, there may be some difficulty in that an Associate Commissioner may not be actually representing anglers in a branch if that branch happens to be located in another angling association district.

Since association branch boundaries were drawn up in 1959 the Murchison Highway has been built and this has provided closer access to Queenstown anglers and it is now more practicable for Queenstown anglers to be associated with the North-West Fisheries Association district rather than with the Northern Tasmanian Fisheries Association district.

The Commission is now giving consideration to changing the three angling association district boundaries.

The present boundaries are:-

North-Western Fisheries Association - high water mark at Badger Head then by a line to the Great Lake, the boundary between Deloraine and Bothwell Municipalities and then by a line to Granville Harbour.

Southern Tasmanian Licensed Anglers' Association - all the land south of a line of latitude through Antill Ponds to East and West Coasts.

Northern Tasmanian Fisheries Association boundary - all the land not included in the other Association districts.

It is recommended that the North-Western boundary be defined as follows:-

Commencing at a point on the high water mark from Bass Strait on Badger Head thence by a line to Deloraine and Bothwell Municipalities boundary on Great Lake and then by a continuation of this line to the parallel of latitude running from the East to the West Coast of Tasmania through Antill Ponds to the West Coast of Tasmania and thence by that high water mark and the high water mark on Bass Strait aforesaid to the point of commencement.

7. River Derwent Pollution Committee

The River Derwent Pollution Committee has set up a series of thirteen sampling stations on the Derwent River between Lawitta and Cartwright's Point to Trywork Point. It is proposed to sample water just below the surface for dissolved oxygen, suspended solids, pH, Zinc, Copper, Cadmium, Manganese, Mercury, Lead and Arsenic. It is hoped later to sample the mud. The sampling dates have to be carefully selected so that fluctuations due to tidal influence will be avoided as far as possible.

The Derwent River is the largest in the State and one of the most important, not only for recreation but also for industry, water supply and irrigation.

8. Adult brown trout transfer programme

The transfer of adult wild brown trout from Great Lake and Arthurs Lake finished at the end of June and 6,665 fish were removed. The fish ranged in size from $\frac{3}{4}$ lb to $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb.

The cost of transfer this year (57.3 cents per fish) was lower than the previous year mainly due to lower costs which resulted from the shorter period of the spawning run. Once again the brown trout in Hydro Creek did not ascend to the trapping area as well as was expected and some modifications are under consideration for the next Summer works programme.

9. Prestige signs

Prestige signs have been erected at Little Pine Lagoon (two signs), Howes Lagoon Bay and Carters Lagoon. The signs should assist visitors in identifying these waters.

10. Licence selling agents

From time to time the Commission is approached by persons seeking licence selling agencies. The Commission is well satisfied with its present agents and it feels that the public are adequately served by the agents, which include a number of angling branches. More agents would not contribute to the further sales of angling licences but would involve considerable administrative expense. Therefore, the Commission is reluctant to issue any further agencies to sell angling licences. The licence books were distributed to agents well before the opening of the season.

11. Lake Kara

The vesting of one hundred and fifty acres of land at Lake Kara with the Inland Fisheries Commission is nearly completed on most favourable terms to the Commission. The Commission is to pay an annual rental of ten cents, payable in April, if demanded, each year.

12. Insurance of project workers

The Commission has arranged for Workers' Compensation to cover anglers engaged on official projects sponsored by the Inland Fisheries Commission, Associations or Branches.

13. Co-operation

From time to time the Commission receives letters from Angling Association Branches thanking it for services provided or activities performed. The following letter is one of a number of instances:-

"Mr. D. D. Lynch

29th May, 1971

Dear Sir,

The Executive and members of the Railton Branch of the North-West Fisheries Association wish to thank the Inland Fisheries Commission for electrofishing the Redwater Creek and saving eight hundred fish.

We were very lucky in being able to place them in farm dams at very short notice.

We also wish to thank Mr. Diprose for his action when he noticed the quantity of fish in the creek, by contacting Head Office so promptly.

Yours sincerely,

Signed B. F. Dobson
PRESIDENT

D. D. Lynch,
Commissioner

3rd August, 1971