

INLAND FISHERIES COMMISSION

NEWSLETTER

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Lake Pedder

Anglers continue to catch large size brown trout in Lake Pedder. The most recent and heaviest fish was a brown trout, weight 11.34 kg (25 lb) caught by Mr. Albert Ritter on 5th January 1977.

The Commission noted the excellent work done by the Strathgordon Licensed Anglers Club.

Management Plan for the Central Plateau

The Lands Department has published a management plan for the Central Plateau. The plan has been drawn up after consultation with a number of instrumentalities and users of the Central Plateau. It is essentially a plan aimed at safeguarding the Central Plateau from damage due to unwise use.

Anglers and hunters have enjoyed pursuing their recreation in the Central Plateau and the plan makes provision for its continued use by these interests.

The Commission has received a suggestion that a minor amendment to the plan be that the track to Lake Julian via Stumps Lake from Lake Augusta be upgraded to permit vehicles to use it. If the amendment is adopted then the vehicles would not be permitted to make diversions off the track.

Little Pine Lagoon

Through the co-operation of the Hydro-Electric Commission a high water level has been maintained in Little Pine Lagoon over the Christmas period and it is pleasing to note that much of the weed so troublesome in previous years has been moved by wave action. Although many fish have been sighted in Little Pine Lagoon, they have tested the skill and patience of anglers seeking to catch them. However, those fish which have been caught at Little Pine Lagoon have been in good condition.

Great Lake benthic study

The scientific study of the aquatic organisms on the floor of Great Lake has revealed a number of species of worms which have not previously been recorded. The worms are being identified by a specialist in Canada and it is hoped to have the identifications completed later this year.

Little Waterhouse Lake

Following the inspection of Little Waterhouse Lake last December by the Commission and members of the Scottsdale Branch, it is proposed to liberate 4-500 rainbow trout fingerlings in Little Waterhouse Lake and to close it for 12 months. This proposal is being submitted to the Scottsdale Branch for its consideration.

Highland field station

Plans for the Highland field station are in course and it is now proposed to build the field station at Liawenee.

Importation of natural bait

The sale of natural bait is big business in some Australian States and, on occasions, visiting anglers have brought natural bait from other States into Tasmania. This poses some problems in that undesirable species may be introduced in this way. The Commission proposes to discuss the matter with officers of the Department of Agriculture.

Calverts Lagoon

Following consideration by the Southern Tasmanian Licensed Anglers Association of the study programme proposed on the parasites in the fauna of Calverts Lagoon, the Association has agreed to forego fishing in the Lagoon until the 1st January 1979 and it has advised the Director of Lands of this decision.

The Association took the view that disturbing the birds could lessen the chance of success in the study programme in the next 2 years.

The Commission proposes to continue its study of the water conditions in Calverts Lagoon.

Proposed inspection

The next meeting of the Commission is to take the form of a field inspection of Lake Pedder and Lake Gordon and it is scheduled for the last week in March 1977.

(D. D. Lynch),
Commissioner

14th January 1977