



Blackmans Lagoon Anglers Access

REGION: NORTH



Brown trout



Rainbow trout

Getting There

Blackmans Lagoon is 25 km east of Bridport via the B82 Waterhouse Road and Blackmans Lagoon Road.

Background

Blackmans Lagoon is within the Waterhouse Conservation Area and is surrounded with areas of coastal heath and marram grass dunes. The Waterhouse Conservation Area encompasses a diverse range of vegetation communities including one of the largest areas of heathland on the north-east coast. These communities support a rich fauna and have been greatly reduced in extent since European settlement. Nine threatened species of bird and at least three, possibly four, of Tasmania's six species of threatened mammals are found in the reserve. A rare freshwater fish - the dwarf galaxias - and the vulnerable green and golden frog are also found in and around the lagoon. Blackmans Lagoon and its feeder creeks constitute probably the single most important site in the State for the green and golden frog. The use of frogs as bait is prohibited.

Recreational Fishery Management

The Inland Fisheries Service manages the fishery. Populations of well-conditioned fish are maintained by stocking small numbers of hand selected wild brown and yearling rainbow trout.

Angling Notes

Blackmans Lagoon typically fishes well from August until December, particularly at first light and last light. Fly-fishing is the most effective method of angling from the shore. From as early as the first week of the season fish are willing to eat a large buoyant dry fly such as a size #10 English hopper pattern during the late afternoon and early evening. Bait fishing and drift spinning with shallow running lures from a boat are equally effective.

Code of Conduct

- Be aware of and comply with fishing regulations.
- Respect the rights of other anglers and users.
- Protect the environment.
- Carefully return undersized, protected or unwanted catch back to the water.
- Fish species and other organisms must not be relocated or transferred into other water bodies.

Pest Fish Management

Anglers can help reduce the spread of pests in Tasmanian waterways. It is an offence to use fish or fish products for bait or to transfer fish between waters. Significant penalties apply.

Blackmans Lagoon Angling Regulations

To fish in any open public inland water in Tasmania you must hold a current Inland Angling Licence unless you are under 14 years of age. A summary of the regulations are contained within the Tasmanian Inland Fishing Code.

Species	Minimum size	Bag limit
Brown trout, Rainbow trout	300 mm	5 *

* Combined daily bag limit of 5 fish can only include 2 fish over 500 mm in length.

Method	Season
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fly fishing Artificial lures Bait fishing 	From the first Saturday in August to the Sunday nearest the 30th April.

Please note:

- The use of frogs as bait is prohibited.
- Bait fishing is limited to mudeyes brought in or collected on site and wattle grubs collected outside the reserve.

Protect Our Waters

Recreational anglers have a responsibility to look after fisheries resources for the benefit of the environment and future generations.

- Do not bring live or dead fish, fish products, animals or aquatic plants into Tasmania.
- Do not bring any used fishing gear or any other freshwater recreational equipment that may be damp, wet or contain water into Tasmania. **Check, clean and dry** your fishing equipment before entering Tasmania.
- Do not transfer any freshwater fish, frogs, tadpoles, invertebrates or plants between inland waters.
- Check your boat, trailer, waders and fishing gear for weed and other pests that should not be transferred before moving between waters.
- Do not use willow (which is a plant pest) as a rod support as it has the ability to propagate from a strike.

Native Fish Management

Blackmans Lagoon supports several native fish species including the State and Commonwealth protected dwarf galaxias (*Galaxiella pusilla*). This small scaleless species only grows to a maximum of 40 mm and can survive in moist substrates even if the water body it lives in dries up. The jollytail (*Galaxias maculatus*), pygmy perch (*Nannoperca australis*) and short and long finned eel are the other native fish species that may be encountered in the lagoon.

Please Observe

Foot access only extends around the perimeter of the lagoon. Please comply with the regulations within the Waterhouse Conservation Area to ensure the continued use of these areas.

- Do not litter - take your rubbish home.
- Keep to formed tracks.
- Respect Conservation Area land.
- Camping only in the designated area.
- No camping or vehicles around the lagoon perimeter.
- Walk at least 100m away from the water, dig a 15cm hole and bury your toilet waste and the paper.

Responsible boating

Blackmans Lagoon is a sheltered water ideal for small boats. A launching area is provided on the southern shore.

Please practice minimal impact boating by accelerating gently in shallow water to avoid the underwater wash from the propeller jet stirring up silt and mud. This sediment clouds the water, disturbs sensitive weed beds, smothers aquatic plants and degrades fish habitat.

Report any unusual fish captures or algal sightings immediately to the Inland Fisheries Service

Report illegal activities to Bushwatch 1800 333 000

