



INLAND FISHERIES COMMISSION

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XIII NUMBER 1

FEBRUARY 1984

GOING FISHING IN NEW ZEALAND OR CANADA OR EUROPE?

The Animal Quarantine Service, Commonwealth Department of Health, has urgent advice for anglers concerning the import of smoked salmonids, i.e. trout or salmon, into Australia.

The message, briefly, is that anglers cannot import smoked salmonids into Australia. Neither can anyone else unless they comply with very stringent permit requirements which set out the tests and inspections in the exporting country. So- don't court disappointment and danger to the Australian trout fishery by trying to bring back smoked trout or salmon.

The reason for the concern is about various well known diseases including IPN, IHN, VHS, furunculosis, whirling disease and any emerging diseases. New Zealand has whirling disease. Most countries that have salmonids have some of these diseases. Australia hasn't - so far.

Permits are considered for exporters whose product can be shown to meet certain criteria based on oven temperatures over varying periods, believed on good evidence to be adequate for the destruction of any of the organisms referred to above. The criteria range from 30 degrees C. for twelve hours to 70 degrees C. for 0.25 hours, and exporters must meet inspection requirements at all points and times.

There is no provision for granting permits to anglers who wish to import trout whether smoked or fresh into Australia.

LARGE BROWN TROUT CAUGHT IN ARTHURS LAKE

Mr R. Ranson of 21 Water Street, Ulverstone, caught one of the largest brown trout taken from Arthurs Lake for many years at the

Pump House Bay on 30 January 1984. He used a fly to catch a male fish which weighed 3.9 kg cleaned and was 690 mm in length. Subsequently, the age of the fish was estimated to be nine years.

BOAT RAMP REPAIRS

All anglers will be grateful to the voluntary members of the Northern Tasmanian Fisheries Association who assisted in a working bee to repair the environs of the boat ramp at Arthurs Lake towards the end of last year so that facilities would be in good condition for the holiday period.

CENTRAL PLATEAU IMPROVEMENTS

An excavator, made available under funding arrangements from the Commonwealth Government to carry out works in the Central Plateau, operated in January and February to clear the upper Lake River just above Woods Lake. Later, it is proposed to use this machinery to upgrade the Lake Augusta Road. In addition, the excavator will be used to help gather spawning gravel for the new zig zag spawning channel to the north of Liawenee Canal and to clear out spawning creeks around Great Lake.

TROUT FISHING BOOK

A new book on trout fishing in Tasmania is a rare event. It is pleasing to note that Dr Robert Sloane, a Commission biologist working in the Central Plateau, has published a book entitled "Truth About Trout".

The book is written in a pleasing style and it contains many excellent photographs of trout taken from various places in Tasmania and New Zealand. The philosophy on fly fishing is a novel approach to the subject.

The Commission is pleased to have provided an environment whereby a talented person such as Dr Sloane could gain the opportunity and experience to write such a book. The book is commended to all interested in trout angling in Tasmania and New Zealand.

SALMON PONDS

Economic factors may bring about a change in the status of the Salmon Ponds. Since established in 1860, the Salmon Ponds has given enjoyment to many visitors. For some it is their only contact with trout.

The poem which appears in this newsletter, is published with the permission of the author, Dr Margaret Scott of the University of Tasmania, gives an account of the impression gained by a visitor to these lovely grounds.

At the Salmon Ponds

A quiet grey day of long calling echoes
drifting from far faint hills to catch and fade
among the rampant hawthorns at the gate.
This formal garden with its lakes and lawns
gleams against the dim autumnal marsh
like an album portrait framed in weeping haze.
We linger on a rustic bridge to gaze
through smoked-glass gold of elm and beech to where
the full-fed salmon cruise the lily-beds.
A moss-grown fawn might pipe beyond those trees,
but the avenue conducts us to the trap.

They are stripping the salmon.
The lawn's littered with gear —
buckets, nets, jackets, knife.
A man in waders stands thigh-deep
in a swarming boiling broth
of fins, eyes, tails and gaping gills,
netting up wild five-pounders for his mate
crouched over plastic pails,
forcing out eggs and milt.
Under a hedge the fish unfit to breed
lie slung in a sour knot of mooning flesh.

As daylight fades the walks carved out
for officers and ladies who talked of trout streams,
London and new books, fall into chill shadow.
Flakes of darkness nourish the blind earth.
The waters breathe mist, and now from the lost hills
that long wordless calling casts its ineffable web
over root and scale.

ATLANTIC SALMON

Further discussions have taken place between potential fish farmers, investors and officials from the Tasmanian Fisheries Development Authority and the Inland Fisheries Commission regarding the project to grow Atlantic salmon in sea cages in Tasmania. Sites have been examined with a view to setting up a hatchery in fresh water to maintain breeding stocks of Atlantic salmon and to carry out selective breeding experiments.

It is envisaged that the first supplies of Atlantic salmon ova from New South Wales will be put down in a quarantine facility built at Taroona this autumn. The quarantine facility is in the course of construction under the supervision of officers from the Inland Fisheries Commission and Tasmanian Fisheries Development Authority. A number of tests will be carried out on the eggs and young fish.

At this stage it is envisaged that Atlantic salmon stocks would be available to fish farmers in 1990.

A list of recent applications to farm Atlantic salmon are listed below:

Sevrup Fisheries Pty. Ltd.	Bridport
Sevrup Fisheries Pty. Ltd.	Myrtle Grove
Sevrup Fisheries Pty. Ltd.	Brumby Creek, Cressy
Tasmarine Fish Farms	Dunalley; Eagle Hawk Bay
R.O. and R.J. Doedens	Sykes Cove, Bruny Island
I.M. Alstergren	Satellite Island, D'Entrecasteaux Channel
I.M. Alstergren	Apollo Bay, Bruny Island
C. and A. Matysek	Howden Powder Jetty; Quarantine Bay; off Hope Island
Arundel Stud Farm Pty. Ltd.	Port Esperance

BROWNS RIVER, KINGSTON

An experimental stocking of 5 000 brown trout fry were placed in Browns River, Kingston. The Commission wishes to thank the Kingborough Branch for their participation in this project.

SPLIT ROCK STONE HUT PROPERTY IN CENTRAL PLATEAU

The Inland Fisheries Commission supported a number of Government instrumentalities in suggesting to the Government that it purchase the area for management by the Lands Department. Unfortunately, lack of loan funds available made it impossible to purchase the land at this stage.

ELECTROFISHING PROJECT

In mid-summer research staff carried out electrofishing in a number of streams throughout the State. Further streams are to be tested and a report compiled.

RIPPLE CREEK DIVERSION

Work has commenced on construction of the Ripple Creek diversion at Lagoon of Islands and should good weather continue, it is hoped to have the majority of work finished this financial year.

CENTRAL PLATEAU MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Commission convened a meeting of representatives from the Lands Department, Hydro-Electric Commission and Bothwell Council to discuss management plans for Arthurs Lake, Lagoon of Islands, Penstock Lagoon and Woods Lake.

Agreement, in principle, to the control of land and the setting up and development of camping areas was considered. It is hoped to have some work done on the construction of a camping ground at Arthurs Lake to the north of the road to the pump station where there is about one square km of land available. The management of the camping site would be undertaken by the Lands Department.

At Woods Lake the access to the southern part of the lake is being considered by the Lands Department.

Access to the Cowpaddock area of Arthurs Lake is to be restricted to the summer months and a barrier is to be erected to control traffic on the Cowpaddock road at other times. The meeting noted the high cost of development of an all weather road to Cowpaddock.

At Lagoon of Islands it was noted there were serious erosion problems existing on the eastern side and, for this reason, access by vehicle to that area is to be prohibited. A camping area will be developed on the western side of Lagoon of Islands between the dam and Mary Creek.

NEW ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONERS

The appointment of three new Associate Commissioners is effective for three years from 16 February 1984. The Associate Commissioners are:

Mr Colin Bryant	Burnie
Mr Norman Scott	Launceston
Mr Joseph Millen	Hobart (Government Nominee)

All interested in trout fishing and the management of inland fisheries will surely join in wishing the new Associate Commissioners an enjoyable and fruitful period in the tasks ahead.

VALEDICTORY

The Chairman of the Commission, Mr D.D. Lynch, retires on 19 April 1984 and would like to thank anglers for their co-operation in the twenty years he has been on the Commission in Tasmania. He is particularly grateful to those anglers who have accepted office in the various branches of the Associations and who gave so generously of their time in matters relating to inland fisheries.

TELECOM AUSTRALIA BOATING WEATHER SERVICE

The new number for the boating weather service is 11541 as listed in the recently issued 1983 Telephone Directory.

Up-to-date boating weather information will continue to be provided for the following areas:

North Coast	Cape Grim to Eddystone Point including King Island and Flinders Island
East Coast	Eddystone Point to Tasman Island
South Coast	Tasman Island to Port Davey
West Coast	Port Davey to Cape Grim
Derwent Estuary	Weekends and public holidays
Inland Waters	

Updated forecasts are issued daily at 5.45 am, 7.30 am, 1.30 pm, 5.30 pm and 10.15 pm.

COSMIC RAY EQUIPMENT AT LIAWENEE

The extensions and alterations to the cosmic ray extensive air shower detector array at Liawenee Field Station have been completed by the University of Tasmania and the equipment is in full operation. For the foreseeable future only routine maintenance visits will be necessary every few weeks.

The results obtained from the original arrangement have already provided valuable information which the University of Tasmania are currently comparing with northern hemisphere results obtained in Japan. The new equipment is expected to extend the scope of these comparisons, and ultimately, knowledge of the directional effects shown by the high energy primary cosmic rays.

The University of Tasmania expressed sincere thanks to the Inland Fisheries Commission for its co-operation in this research project.

PROSECUTIONS

Listed are recent court cases. Further cases are pending for prosecution.

COURT DATE	OFFENDER AND ADDRESS	NATURE OF OFFENCE	FINE	COSTS	PENALTY
22.11.83	Leslie Paul COX Main Road Lawitta	Fishing without licence. Falsely representing to be licenced. Possession assembled rod. False name and address.	50-00 50-00 20-00 30-00	15-10	
22.11.83	Gregory Thomas GAULT Liffey	Take fish by means other than rod and line. Take fish from closed waters. Possession of unclean fish.	20-00 20-00 20-00	15-10	
22.11.83	Peter John ADAMS 59 Louisa Street Bracknell	Take fish by means other than rod and line. Take fish from closed waters. Possession of unclean fish.	20-00 20-00 20-00	15-10	
6.12.83	Carlie Robert WILSON 111 Hargrave Crescent Launceston	Fishing without licence. Unattended set rod. Falsely representing to be licenced.	50-00 20-00 20-00	15-10	
23.11.83	Gregory PENNICOTTE 69 Stanley Street Oatlands	Fishing without licence. Possession assembled rod.	50-00 15-00	15-10	
22.11.83	Brett Charles WOOLLEY 10 View Street Singleton	Fishing without licence. Possession assembled rod.	100-00 20-00	15-10	
2.12.83	Alfred Edward LAYCOCK 11-2 Nerida Place Moonah	Fishing without licence.	50-00	15-10	
12.12.83	Kevin Eric WILSON 14 Chester Avenue Rosebery	Using more than one rod.	35-00	15-10	
12.12.83	Andrew John ORTNER Zeehan	Fishing without licence.	60-00	15-10	
19.12.83	Michael Charles GRIFFITHS 40 Susans Parade Lenah Valley	Fishing without licence. Possession assembled rod.	20-00 20-00	15-10	
19.12.83	John William WEEKES 63 Colgrave Road Burnie	Using two rods.	30-00	15-10	

COURT DATE	OFFENDER AND ADDRESS	NATURE OF OFFENCE	FINE	COSTS	PENALTY
19.12.83	Anthony Keith WEEKES 1 Johnston Street Upper Burnie	Using two rods.	30-00	15-10	
13.12.83	Mark Anthony WILLIAMS 27 Britten Street New Norfolk	Wilfully disturbing spawning fish. Take fish by means other than rod and line. Take fish from closed waters. Take fish by means of a firearm.	recorded 60-00 50-00 recorded	18-10	142-00
13.12.83	Peter John CHURCHILL Jericho	Wilfully disturbing spawning fish. Take fish by means other than rod and line. Take fish from closed waters. Take fish by means of a firearm.	recorded 70-00 90-00 recorded	18-10	142-00
6.1.84	John Peter MAZUREK 16 Tilyard Street Montrose	Fishing without licence.	50-00	15-10	
6.1.84	Ronald Leslie MAZUREK 13 O'Brien Street Glenorchy	Fishing without licence.	50-00	15-10	
27.12.83	Ross BENGTELL 15 Laura Street Latrobe	Take whitebait without permit. Possession of net.	100-00 40-00	15-10	
20.12.83	Raymond Bryce AIRS Wells Road Patterson Lakes	Fishing without licence.	50-00	15-10	
20.1.84	Geoffrey WEST 56 Sorell Street George Town	Using more than one rod.	50-00	15-10	



D.D. Lynch,
COMMISSIONER