

INLAND FISHERIES COMMISSION.

STATEMENT FOR RELEASE TO ANGLING ASSOCIATIONS

The 80th Meeting of the Inland Fisheries Commission was held at Breona on the 17th January, 1970, and was attended by the Chairman, Mr. D.D. Lynch, and Associate Commissioners, Messrs. Diprose, Johnstone and Smith, and the Secretary, Mr. H.V. Jones.

Fish for Farm Dams.

Owners of private dams reported that rainbow trout, grown in farm dams, have a muddy flavour, whereas, the brown trout are not affected to the same extent.

The Commission reviewed its policy of selling brown trout fry for use in farm dams and, decided that, in future, it would make brown trout fry available free of charge to owners wishing to stock their dams, provided that reasonable access to its dams were given to licensed anglers. However, the right of access to the dams remains a matter of negotiation between anglers and the property owners. The procedure for obtaining fry is that the Commission will arrange for bulk supplies of brown trout fry to be made at a selected point in the North, North West and the South and persons with suitable ponds will be expected to collect the trout from these points. Supplies are expected to be available in September.

Repairs to Tods Corner Road.

Improvements to Tods Corner Road have been delayed through bad weather making it impossible to collect materials for the construction of the road. However, it is expected that it will be possible to start the work in the near future and the cost will be shared by Bothwell Council, Inland Fisheries Commission and the Hydro-Electric Commission.

Inspection of Fishing Areas.

Members of the Commission inspected Carter's Lagoon, Howes Lagoon and decided, as a priority, to liberate adult brown trout from Great Lake in these Lagoons early in 1970 winter transfer programme. Inspections of the area of Great Lake, known as Little Lake, showed that a number of small rainbow trout were present in this water.

Members of the Commission took the opportunity to inspect anglers' catches of fish in various places. At Great Lake it was noted that the smaller brown trout near Little Lake were in excellent condition but some of the larger fish 20 inches in length were in poor condition. The stomach contents of browntrout from Little Lake area contained galaxias, beetles and other invertebrates.

At Penstock Lagoon the Commission was pleased to note the excellent condition of rainbow trout now aged two years four months. Anglers who have caught the marked rainbow trout have expressed satisfaction with the sport provided by these well conditioned fish. The Commission would be grateful to hear from anglers catching marked rainbow trout from Penstock.

Little Pine Lagoon.

The excellent condition of brown trout taken from Little Pine Lagoon was noted and the fact that many of them were feeding on small galaxias was noted.

D B. Lynch.  
Commissioner.

3rd February, 1970.