



INLAND FISHERIES COMMISSION

NEWSLETTER

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CLOSED SEASON FOR ANGLING

Branches and associations forwarded varied suggestions concerning a closed season for various fisheries and waters.

In general terms, there was satisfaction with the present opening and closing dates for the fishing season. The Commission proposes to consider these proposals further before making a decision on any changes.

The Commission is grateful to those anglers who took so much trouble in documenting their deliberations.

LAKE CRESCENT

Owing to the more than usual draw down of Lake Crescent in the summer of 1982-83, the Commission has decided to liberate 100 000 brown trout fry in the lake in the spring of 1983.

Lake Crescent was formally one of the lakes which provided trophy sized brown trout and it still enjoys immense popularity with anglers, particularly those using natural bait. Some of the largest fish taken in Tasmania in recent years have come from Lake Crescent.

LAKE PEDDER

The Commission is concerned at the apparent decrease in numbers of galaxiids in Lake Pedder and proposes to investigate the matter during the breeding season of several species of galaxiids in the coming summer. Anglers have reported lack of success in trolling and more trout are being taken by other means.

SALMON PONDS UPGRADING

The Commission has embarked on a plan to landscape parts of the Salmon Ponds and remove and replace trees which, due to age, are unsafe and pose a threat to visitors.

TULLAH BASE

The Tullah base was opened on 4 October 1983 by the Minister for Inland Fisheries, the Hon. Neil Robson, in the presence of members of the Commission, representatives from angling branches and associations. The opening of the base confirms the Commission's faith in the future of trout fishing on the west coast. Over the next few years, storages from the Henty/Anthony Scheme will increase the recreational opportunities. It is likely that many anglers would visit the west coast this year specifically for the purpose of trout fishing and the numbers would grow as new storages and existing lakes are developed when roads are made.

LICENCE SALES BOOM ON WEST COAST

On the west coast police officers reported a sudden increase in licence sales in September. It may be correlated with the arrival of a permanently based inland fisheries bailiff at Tullah.

LAKE BARRINGTON

Members of the Inland Fisheries Commission inspected Lake Barrington recently. The Commissioner joined members of several branches of the North Western Fisheries Association for another inspection recently. Currently, Lake Barrington is being extensively developed for aquatic sports, particularly rowing, power boating and water skiing. An earlier resolution from the North Western Fisheries Association agreed that this water be used exclusively by other recreational interests.

The lake is deep with steep sides and is not particularly suitable as a trout fishery. The Commission suggested to anglers that some improvements might be made to several creeks which would be better spawning grounds if obstacles were removed. Anglers reported that many blackfish were in the southern end of Lake Barrington.

NEW QUARANTINE SYSTEM FOR LIVE EXOTIC FISH ENTERING AUSTRALIA

For some time the Commission has been concerned about the procedures for importing live fish into Australia. These areas of concern relate to the entry of fish diseases and undesirable species of fish as well as other matters.

The Department of Health (Canberra) anticipates that the conditions for export of exotic fish to Australia will be implemented by proclamation to be effective 1 October 1983 and that the regulations for the performance of quarantine will come into effect on 1 January 1984.

Currently Australia is importing exotic fish from 42 exporters in seven countries, as follows: Singapore 24; Japan 4; West Germany 1; Philippines 1; Thailand 1; Hong Kong 6; USA 5.

Australia and not the exporting authority retains the right to withdraw approval of an export premises. It was felt that this was necessary in order to achieve a rapid response to any serious export anomalies.

All fish, including marine species, will require a permit. This has been made necessary by the problems of legal differentiation between marine and freshwater fish (eg. Scats, barramundi).

There are currently 127 premises in Australia into which fish are imported and two others which have notified their intention to import.

The distribution is as follows: Queensland 17; South Australia 9; New South Wales 63; Northern Territory 2 (intended); Western Australia 16; Victoria 20; Australian Capital Territory 2.

Of the 63 New South Wales importers 31 have indicated that they will definitely not seek registration of a quarantine premises. These were largely "importers" serviced by agents, and represent a 50% decrease for that state. The decrease for other states is likely to be less marked, probably around 30%, leaving an estimated 60 importers who will initially seek approval.

A number of alternative methods of water treatment have been approved, and the temperature requirements for pasteurization have been raised from 65°C to 85°C.

Importers have been given seven months in which to submit plans for their proposed quarantine premises for approval and for construction.

It was felt that any shorter period would be inadequate, and many are claiming that a longer period is necessary. At this stage it is still hoped to have this last part of the system finalised in January 1984.

WATER ABSTRACTION

The Rivers and Water Supply Commission recently granted a commissional water right to D.A. & J. French to extract water from the Meander River between 1 December and 30 April. The right is to take 125 cubic metres of water per day from the river and it is hoped that the extraction will not cause the flow to cease nor do permanent damage to the Meander River.

The Rivers and Water Supply Commission has indicated that its bailiff will monitor the water abstraction in the summer.

PROSECUTIONS

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

COURT DATE	OFFENDER AND ADDRESS	NATURE OF OFFENCE	FINE	COSTS	PENALTY
5.7.83	Terrence Wayne WADLEY 46 Bonella Street Launceston	Take fish by means other than rod and line. Wilfully disturb spawning fish. Take fish from closed waters. Refuse to allow search. Obstruct an officer. Unlawful assault	dismissed dismissed dismissed conviction recorded 75-00 75-00	67-10 67-10	150-00
10.6.83	Patrick Edward GARLAND 38a Hogg Street Wynyard	Take whitebait. Use scoop net with no identification tag. Possession of whitebait. Obstruct an officer. Threaten an officer.	50-00 dismissed 25-00 50-00	47-10 probation of offenders	
5.1.83	Patrick Edward GARLAND 38a Hogg Street Wynyard	Possession of scoop net. Take whitebait.	50-00 100-00	15-10 28-00	
5.8.83	Terry George FLANNERY 17 Franklin Street Devonport	Fishing with licence. Take fish by means other than rod and line.	50-00 20-00	23-10	5-00
22.7.83	Jamieson HILL 27 View Road Burnie	Fishing without licence.	60-00	15-10	
1.8.83	Russell Henry NORTH Taloona Road Hampshire	Wilfully disturb spawning fish. Take fish by means other than rod and line. Take fish from closed waters.	adjourned sine die 70-00 60-00	15-10	15-00
10.8.83	Kerry James STEWARD P.O. Box 616 Don	Wilfully disturb spawning fish. Take fish from closed waters. Take fish by means other than rod and line.	25-00 20-00 20-00	15-10	
10.8.83	Brett Andrew STEWARD Waverley Road Don	Wilfully disturb spawning fish. Take fish from closed waters. Take fish by means other than rod and line.	25-00 20-00 20-00	15-10	
26.8.83	Christopher PEPPER 34 School Road Geeveston	Wilfully disturb spawning fish. Take fish by means other than rod and line. Take fish from closed waters.	50-00 50-00 adjourned sine die	15-10	170-00

<u>COURT DATE</u>	<u>OFFENDER AND ADDRESS</u>	<u>NATURE OF OFFENCE</u>	<u>FINE</u>	<u>COSTS</u>	<u>PENALTY</u>
6.8.82	Terrence THORPE Huonville	Take fish by means other than rod and line. Possession of fish between adjourned sine die 30.4.82 and August 1983.	25-00	15-10	20-00
9.9.83	Aubrey Oliver BUTLER 17 William Street Devonport	Fishing without licence. dismissed Take fish by means other than rod and line.			
27.9.83	Peter LUPO 66 Pitt Avenue West Launceston	Wilfully disturb spawning fish. Take fish from closed waters. Take fish by means other than rod and line.		conviction recorded 40-00 15-10	
27.9.83	Peter John SIMPSON 27 Lawrence Street Launceston	Wilfully disturb spawning fish. Take fish from closed waters. Take fish by means other than rod and line.		conviction recorded 40-00 15-10 40-00	
27.9.83	keith Edward KNOTT 14 Hamilton Street West Launceston	Wilfully disturb spawning fish. Take fish from closed waters. Take fish by means other than rod and line.		20-00 15-10 60-00 60-00	

D.D. Lynch,
COMMISSIONER