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TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT MEDIA RELEASE

Guy Barnett, Minister for Primary Industries and Water  
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## Lake Sorell ready to reopen

In welcome news for Tasmania's more than 20,000 inland anglers, Lake Sorell is being re-opened to the public from Saturday 6 February 2021.

This follows the temporary closure of the Lake to allow additional fishing effort to further drive down the remaining carp population.

After more than 26 years of carp eradication work, Tasmania's Inland Fisheries Service has removed 41,499 carp from Lake Sorell since work began and are maintaining 1mm screens across the lake that prevent carp and eggs from escaping the lake.

This season, only three carp were caught during the peak fishing period from October 2020 until the end of January 2021. The IFS estimates that there are few, if any, carp remaining in Lake Sorell.

It is increasingly likely that carp will be eradicated from the Lake which will be a tremendous outcome and world leading effort, once achieved.

This re-opening of Lake Sorell is part of the successful progression of the Carp Management Program, the program will continue with some further periods of closure until full eradication is achieved.

The trout population has been reduced by the intense carp fishing effort, however stock levels are expected to rebuild naturally over the coming years, similar to Lake Crescent where anglers are now catching trophy trout.

I thank Inland Fisheries Service staff for their dedication and hard work over the past 26 years. I also thank the Tasmanian community for their understanding and support of the Carp Management Program, including lake closures, during this time.

Our Government is committed to effectively managing Tasmania's inland fisheries, promoting participation

in trout fishing, increasing access for anglers, and supporting regional businesses and communities.