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Guy Barnett, Minister for Primary Industries and Water

Tasmania's world-class inland fishery reputation grows

The Hodgman majority Liberal 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.

The Inland Fisheries Service (IFS) Annual Report highlights how the trout fishery and popular waters at Woods Lake, Little Pine, Penstock and Bronte lagoons performed well throughout the season and more than 25,000 recreational anglers enjoyed wetting a line.

Tasmania's world class fishery attracted anglers from the USA, United Kingdom, New Zealand, Canada and Germany, with more than 5,000 licences issued to interstate or international visitors.

In addition to Tasmania's world-renowned wild brown trout fishery, each year IFS transfers thousands of wild adult fish to waters across the state, ensuring anglers don't go home empty handed.

Having removed more than 41,491 carp from Lake Sorell since 1995, IFS estimates that fewer than 20 carp now remain, with full eradication expected in the near future. This successful eradication program is testament to the dedication of the IFS team over many years.

The eyes of the world will be on Tasmania later this year with the World Fly Fishing Championship 2019 to be held here in November and December. Preparations for this event have been a key priority for the Government.

The Tasmanian Government is committed to developing Tasmania's inland fishery, delivering key projects including:

- \$300,000 to freeze inland trout fishing licences at 2017-18 prices for four years;
- \$215,000 over four years commencing in 2018-19 to Anglers Alliance Tasmania;
- \$30,000 in 2018-19 to work with Trout Guides and Lodges Tasmania and Anglers Alliance Tasmania to market and promote angling tourism;
- \$200,000 between 2019-20 and 2021-22 to expand the IFS Anglers Access Program across priority lakes and rivers in partnership with Anglers Alliance Tasmania and local angling clubs
- \$300,000 to upgrade amenities at High Visitation Trout Waters.

We are delivering on our long-term plan to manage our inland fishery and encourage more people to discover the joy of fishing in Tasmania's world class inland fishery, and our plan is working benefiting all regions of our state.

In contrast, the Labor-Green opposition has no plan, they stand for nothing and cannot be trusted.