

## Responsible Boating

Penstock Lagoon is very shallow with an average depth of approximately one metre. When you accelerate in shallow water the underwater wash from the propeller jet stirs up silt and mud clouding the water. When the sediments settle again they can smother aquatic plants and degrade habitat. Disturbance and muddying of the water also spooks feeding fish. To avoid environmental damage to weed beds and increasing turbidity in the lagoon, a 5 knot speed limit applies to the whole lagoon. One boatramp is located on the western shore.



## Remember

- Check your wash - if it's white it's all right - if it's brown slow down.
- Fishing from a boat within 100 metres of an angler fishing from the shore is prohibited unless the boat is securely moored.
- Do not park on or obstruct the boat ramp.

## Code of Conduct

- Be aware of and comply with fishing regulations.
- Respect the rights of other anglers and users.
- Protect the environment.
- Carefully return undersized, protected or unwanted catch back to the water.
- Fish species and other organisms must not be relocated or transferred into other water bodies.

## Background

Penstock Lagoon was originally constructed in 1916, as water storage and intake for the now decommissioned Waddamana power station. Throughout its history, Penstock has been a fly fishing water of high repute. The lagoon is no longer used for electricity generation but its water quality and quantity is managed by Hydro Tasmania and the Inland Fisheries Service to ensure the future of the fishery.

Penstock Lagoon offers a variety of habitats, from weedy marshes to forested rocky shores. Angling is restricted to **fly-fishing only**. It has much to offer anglers whether it is fished from the shore or a boat. Water levels are highest in spring but overall do not vary greatly. Much of the lagoon is shallow with some submerged timber and rocks. Boat operators should be wary of these hazards and **always observe the 5-knot speed limit**. Owing to its small size and popularity, anglers are advised to respect the needs of other users.



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# Penstock Lagoon Anglers Access



Neil Crose

## CONTACT DETAILS

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Inland  
Fisheries  
Service



## Camping

Two designated camping areas and one boat ramp exist on the western shore. Campers are encouraged to bring portable toilets or be sure to walk at least 100 metres from the water, dig a 15 centimetre hole and bury waste with the toilet paper. The maximum period for camping or caravans is 14 days.

## Access Rules

An access easement 10 metres above the full supply level extends around the eastern shore of the lagoon for foot access only. Above the easement is private property.

- Keep to formed tracks.
- Do not litter – take your rubbish home.
- Stay within easement margins.
- Do not stray into paddocks with stock.
- Respect private land – if in doubt ask permission.
- Shooting is prohibited.
- Camping only in designated areas.
- Firepots only.
- Do not cut standing trees.

## Fishery Management

Penstock Lagoon is managed as a Premium Wild Trout Fishery. There are no reliable spawning facilities and only limited natural recruitment. Regular stocking by the Inland Fisheries Service of both brown and rainbow trout maintains populations.




William Horan

## Angling Notes

Early in the season when water levels are high, sight fishing to brown trout in the shallow weedy margins on the western shore provides good fishing. During spring, blind casting around the rocky shores can also be successful as trout are often found chasing small native fish (galaxias) that spawn on the rocks. As the weather warms up, from November onwards, prolific hatches of mayfly and caddis occur and offer good dry fly fishing. Fishing with wet flies while drifting around the lagoon in a boat is productive throughout the season.

## Angling Regulations

- To fish in an inland water you must hold a current Inland Angling Licence.
- Angling season: From the first Saturday in August to the Sunday nearest the 30th April.
-  Penstock Lagoon is a designated fly fishing only water.
- Minimum size limit: Brown trout 420 mm.
- Minimum size limit: Rainbow trout 420 mm.
- Total daily bag limit: 3 fish for all species combined.
- Fishing is prohibited: In the canals above two white posts on opposite banks of the canals.

