

# Huntsman Lake, Brushy Lagoon and Four Springs Lake



## Anglers Access

REGION: NORTH WEST



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Inland Fisheries Service

## Angling Regulations (continued)

### Four Springs Lake Regulations:

- Angling is permitted from 1 hour before sunrise to 3 hours after sunset.

Species	Minimum size	Bag limit
Brown trout, Rainbow trout	300 mm	5*

\* Combined daily bag limit of 5 fish can only include 2 fish exceeding 500 mm in length.

Method	Season
Fly fishing	From the first Saturday in August to the Sunday nearest the 30th April.
Artificial lures	
Bait fishing	

## Protect our Waters

Recreational anglers have a responsibility to look after fisheries resources for the benefit of the environment and future generations.

- Do not bring live or dead fish, fish products, animals or aquatic plants into Tasmania.
- Do not bring any used fishing gear or any other freshwater recreational equipment that may be damp, wet or contain water into Tasmania. **Check, clean and dry** your fishing equipment before entering Tasmania.
- Do not transfer any freshwater fish, frogs, tadpoles, invertebrates or plants between inland waters.
- Check your boat, trailer, waders and fishing gear for weed and other pests that should not be transferred before moving between waters.
- Do not use willow (which is a plant pest) as a rod support as it has the ability to propagate from a strike.

## Getting There

All three waters are in close proximity to the major centres of Launceston and Deloraine. **Huntsman Lake** is 20km south of Deloraine via the A5 and C167 through the Meander township.

**Brushy Lagoon** lies 20km north of Westbury via the B72 and C714.

**Four Springs Lake** is 20km north of Hagley via the C735.

## Background

Huntsman Lake was created in 2007 by the damming of the Meander River for irrigation and power generation. Brushy Lagoon is a small shallow and sheltered lagoon within Conservation Area and Crown Land. Four Springs Lake was created in the 1990s specifically for recreation and is managed as a trophy fishery providing excellent early and late season angling.

## Recreational Fishery Management

**Huntsman Lake** is managed by the Inland Fisheries Service (IFS) as a wild trout fishery. Natural recruitment sustains the population.

**Brushy Lagoon** is regularly stocked with brown trout, rainbow trout and Atlantic salmon to maintain the quality of the angling.

**Four Springs Lake** is managed as a trophy fishery and is regularly stocked with both brown and rainbow trout.

## Angling Notes

**Huntsman Lake** is an exciting fishery for Tasmanian anglers. The IFS manages the lake as a wild trout fishery with a large population of fish in the 300 – 400 mm size range. The lake is attractive to both boat and shore-based anglers particularly autumn, winter, and spring when the sheltered location and lower elevation provide an alternative to the exposed highland lakes. Good shores for wading are at Paynes Landing and McNeill Bay. The

## CONTACT DETAILS

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forested southern shores provide good beetle falls during summer. Trolling with lead lines and drift spinning can be productive as can fly and bait fishing.

**Brushy Lagoon** is a great family fishery with easy access and lower altitude making it a comfortable location for all methods year round. The chance to catch fish is enhanced through regular stocking to maintain populations. The dam wall is a popular location with shore-based anglers. This water is ideal for small boats and kayaks.

At **Four Springs Lake** all methods of angling can be productive including fly fishing, spinning, and set rod bait fishing. The entire perimeter of the lake is accessible via a walking track. Fishing from boats and kayaks is popular in open water. Wading anglers should be wary of sudden changes in depth in parts of the lake. Early in the season bait fishing is productive in deeper water on the western shore and from the dam wall whilst trolling and drift spinning also account for good catches. Fly fishing with woolly worms and matuka patterns throughout the lake can be productive. During the late spring and summer weed growth can restrict fishing from the shore and trolling. Fly-fishing can be productive particularly from a boat. Recommended fly patterns include duns, red spinners, caenids, and caddis. Wet flies such as mudeyes and nymphs are also favoured. A level access angling platform is located at the southern end of the car park. The walking track provides access to a jetty and picnic shelter on the western shore.

## 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.

## Angling Regulations

To fish in any open public inland water in Tasmania you must hold a current Inland Angling Licence unless you are under 14 years of age. A summary of the regulations are contained within the *Tasmanian Inland Recreational Fishing Code*.

### Huntsman Lake Regulations:

- Angling is permitted from 1 hour before sunrise to 3 hours after sunset.

Species	Minimum size	Bag limit
Brown trout, Rainbow trout	220 mm	20*

\* Total daily bag limit of 20 fish is for both species combined.

Method	Season
Fly fishing Artificial lures Bait fishing	Open to angling all year round.

### Brushy Lagoon Regulations:

- Angling is permitted from 1 hour before sunrise to 3 hours after sunset.
- Brushy Rivulet flowing into Brushy Lagoon is closed to angling at all times.

Species	Minimum size	Bag limit
Brown trout, Rainbow trout, Atlantic salmon	300 mm	5*

\* Combined daily bag limit of 5 fish can only include 2 fish exceeding 500 mm in length.

Method	Season
Fly fishing Artificial lures Bait fishing	Open to angling all year round.

(Angling regulations continued over page)

## Pest Fish Management

Redfin perch (*Perca fluviatilis*) are present in the Meander River below Huntsman Lake and in Brushy Lagoon. If this species is caught, anglers are asked to humanely kill the captured fish and dispose of appropriately. Please report any captures of Redfin perch in Huntsman Lake or Four Springs Lake to the IFS. Anglers can help reduce the spread of pests in Tasmanian waterways by not transferring fish between waters. Offences may incur significant penalties.

## Recreational Use

**Huntsman Lake** is managed by Tasmanian Irrigation and is reserved for day use only. Toilets are located near the Dam Wall boat ramp and at 'The Dairy' day use area where there are picnic tables and a BBQ.

**Please note the gates are locked at sunset each day – gates open automatically for exit up to one hour after closing.**

**Four Springs Reserve** is managed by the Parks and Wildlife Service and IFS for day use only. Camping and fires are not permitted. An 8 km walking track circumnavigates the lake. Toilets, a kayak launch, and accessible angling platform are located at the southern end of the car park.

**Brushy Lagoon** is managed by the Parks and Wildlife Service. Camping is permitted and fires must be contained in formal fireplaces or fire pots. A toilet is not provided.

## Access Rules

- Keep to formed roads and tracks- vehicles are not permitted on the lakeshores.
- Do not litter- please take your rubbish with you.
- Shooting is prohibited.
- Fires are not permitted at Four Springs or Huntsman lakes. Fires in formal fireplaces or fire pots only at Brushy Lagoon.
- Do not fell trees.

## Responsible Boating

**Huntsman Lake** is a relatively sheltered water ideal for small boats. Use the designated launching area only.

- A 5-knot speed limit applies to the whole lake.
- Lake levels can vary, beware of underwater hazards.
- If the lake level is low, beware the steep drop off at the end of the boatramp.
- Areas prohibited for navigation - within 200 m radius of the dam wall.
- The boat ramp is closed when the lake level is greater than -10 m below full supply level. Lake levels are available at [www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au/dam-levels](http://www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au/dam-levels)

At **Brushy Lagoon** there are two boat launching areas, one on the eastern shore and another at the dam wall.

**Four Springs Lake** is a shallow and sheltered water ideal for small boats, use the designated boat ramp only. A kayak launch area is provided at the southern end of the car park.

- A 5-knot speed limit applies to the whole lake.

## Remember

- Check your wash- if its 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 boat ramps.

Report any unusual fish captures or algal sightings immediately to the Inland Fisheries Service

Report illegal activities to Bushwatch 1800 333 000



Brown trout



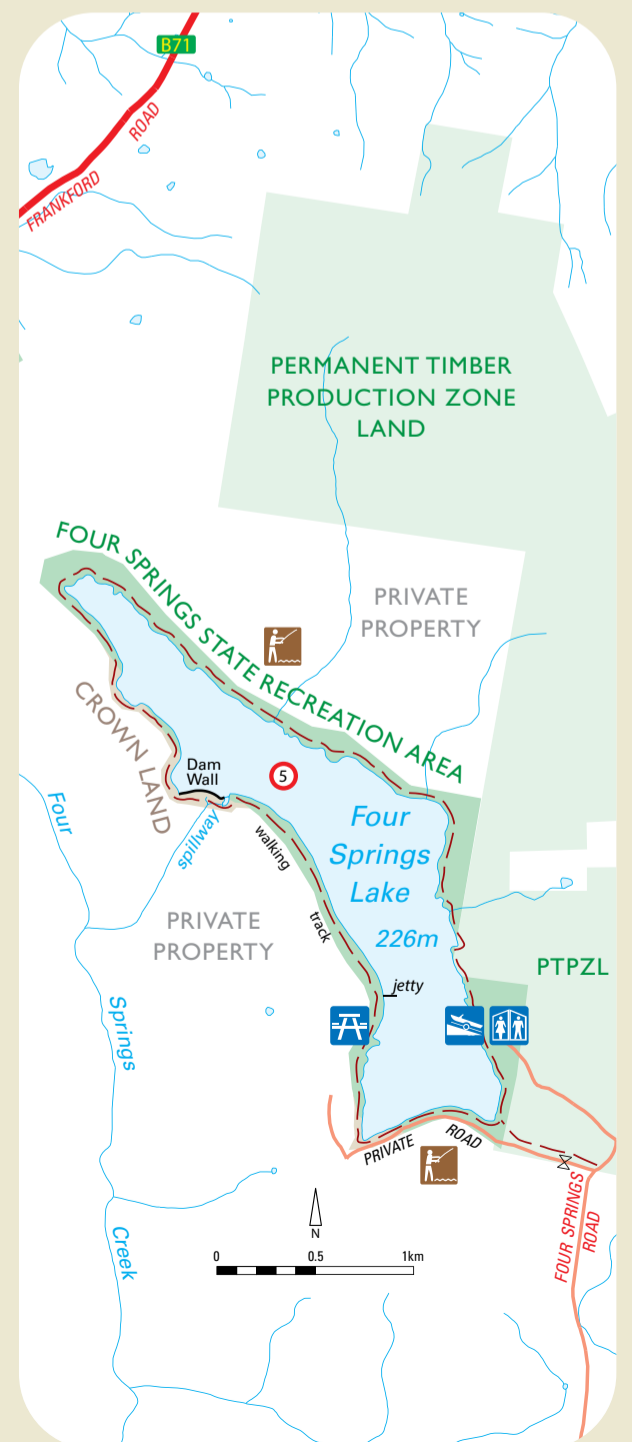
Rainbow trout



Atlantic Salmon



Brown and Rainbow trout illustrations Trevor Hawkins  
Atlantic salmon illustration Peter Gouldthorpe



To Hagley via C735