



Brown trout

# Lake Fergus

## Part of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area

# Anglers Access

REGION: CENTRAL

## Getting There

Access to Lake Fergus is a 2.5 – 3 hour (9.5 km) walk commencing at the Little Pine Dam car park.

Little Pine Lagoon is approximately 10km west of Miena on the B11 (Marlborough Road).

## Introduction

Lake Fergus lies entirely within the Central Plateau Conservation Area (CPCA), part of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (TWWHA). The Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) are responsible for managing the land area of the CPCA and TWWHA. Lake Fergus presents anglers with an opportunity for a rewarding remote angling experience within a two to three hour walk. This is the only formal public access to Lake Fergus.

## Walking route to Lake Fergus

The walking route to Lake Fergus commences at the Little Pine Dam, crosses the Little Pine River below the dam and follows the western shore of Little Pine Lagoon. At the northern end of Little Pine Lagoon verge left and follow the fence line to the old vehicular bridge. After passing through the gate just north of the bridge the route runs parallel to the old vehicular track along the south western side of the Little Pine River. This latter part of the route is marked with stakes as it follows a narrow (20 m wide) road reserve that passes through private property.

The route enters the CPCA at the eastern end of Lake Fergus. Access around the south eastern, southern and south western shores is permitted through a 30m wide reserve around the perimeter of the lake.

## Native Fish Management

The climbing galaxias (*Galaxias brevipinnis*), the spotted galaxias (*Galaxias truttaceus*), and the Western paragalaxias (*Paragalaxias julianus*) have populations in the Little Pine River system and may be present in Lake Fergus. The Western paragalaxias is listed on the State's threatened species list and may not be disturbed or harmed in any way.

## Angling Notes



Lure and fly fishing can both be productive. The shallow, clear water favours light tackle and shallow running lures or soft plastics. Early in the season (September – November) when water levels are moderately high, fish can be seen busy 'tailing' within centimetres of the waters edge. Anglers should survey the shallow margins for signs of fish before wading into the lake, particularly at first light and late afternoon. All of the lake's shoreline will produce fish.

During summer (December – March) prolific mayfly hatches occur across the entire lake and trout rise freely to take the emerging duns. Emerger fly patterns and various dry flies account for many fish. Polaroiding from the shore or wading is an effective method. The entire shoreline can be easily accessed on foot.

## Lake Fergus Angling Regulations

To fish in inland waters 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 Fishing Code.

Species	Minimum size	Daily Bag limit
Brown trout	220 mm*	5

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

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

## Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) regulations



The CPCA is a fuel stove only area. An area where open fires are not permitted.

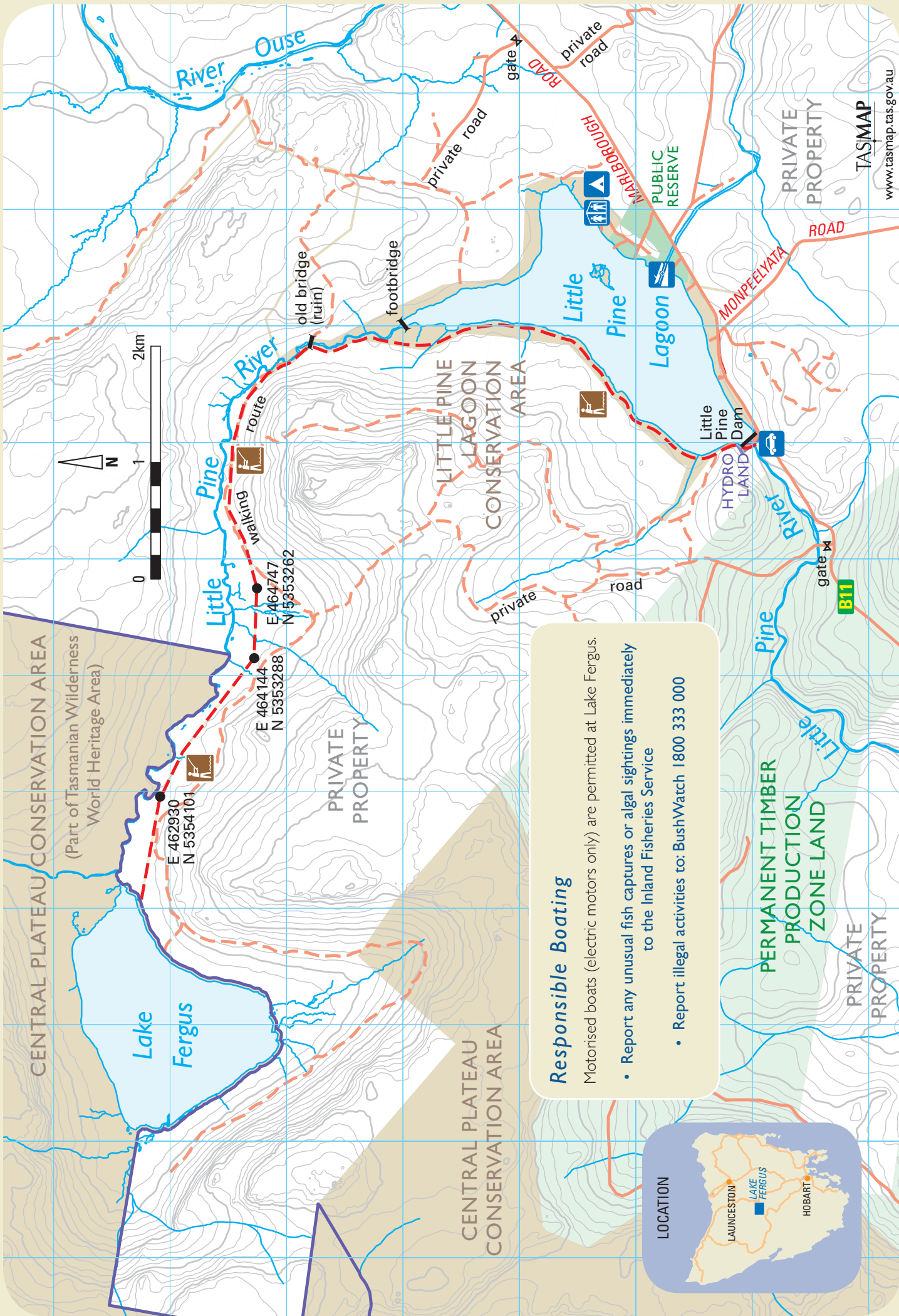
"fuel stove" means a device for cooking that does not –  
(1) Affect, or interact with, in any way, soil or vegetation; or  
(2) Use or burn coal, wood, plant material or any other solid fuel;  
All Fires are strictly prohibited.



Live bait collection is not allowed anywhere within the TWWHA.

## Leave No Trace Guidelines

- Follow Leave No Trace guidelines.
- Stay on tracks where ever possible. If off track, -use fan out technique.
- Recommended maximum party size of six.
- Carry out what you carry in.
- Camping is not permitted on the lunettes (sand dunes) at the eastern end of the lake.
- Minimise trampling of vegetation. Do not step on cushion plants.
- If fishing in an area where a toilet exists please use it! If there is no toilet, walk 100m away from any water, dig a 15 cm hole and bury your waste and the toilet paper as well.
- To minimise the spread of diseases and pests start your walk with clean gear, including boots, tent pegs, gaiters and tent floor, and wash your gear at the end of the trip.
- This alpine environment is subject to extreme weather conditions. Carry appropriate equipment.
- Observe and obey any signs providing direction regarding activities within the CPCA.
- Plan your route and ensure a responsible person knows trip details.
- By following these simple guidelines you will assist in ensuring the long-term viability of Tasmania's freshwater fisheries, and our unique natural heritage. Remember when fishing in Tasmania, fish for the future. The next generation of anglers will thank you.



### Responsible Boating

Motorised boats (electric motors only) are permitted at Lake Fergus.

- Report any unusual fish captures or algal sightings immediately to the Inland Fisheries Service
- Report illegal activities to: BushWatch 1800 333 000

