

Recreational Guidelines

2005



LAND & FACILITIES

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Hydro Tasmania
the renewable energy business

RECREATIONAL GUIDELINES

The following guidelines apply to all Hydro Tasmania property and are integrated into any land or lake surface management plan.

Our aim is to help recreational visitors care for the environment and ensure that it remains a special place for all to enjoy. Hydro Tasmania land in the World Heritage Area and Central Plateau Protected Area is subject to the special requirements for those areas. People should refer to Parks and Wildlife rules and regulations for those areas.

Fires

Fire management practices and regulations are to be observed at all times. If in doubt please contact Fire Service Tasmania, Forestry Tasmania or the local office of the Parks and Wildlife Service.

The following guidelines apply:

- Tasmanian Fire Service requirements must be observed at all times.
- Open ringed fires should be avoided, however, use of fire pots is permitted until 2010 (subject to the following conditions) when all areas will become fuel stove only unless sign posted as a firepot area.
- Where firepots are permitted they must not be left unattended and ensure that the fire embers are thoroughly extinguished and cold to touch before leaving the area.
- The users should bring their own fuel for firepots into the area.
- The firepots must be removed when leaving the area.
- Lighting of fires on foreshore areas where there is a build up of dry weed, peat or timber is strictly prohibited
- Felling of trees for firewood is not permitted

Open fires, firepots and fuel stoves cannot be used during days of total fire ban.

Camping

Time period

Camping must be no longer than 7 consecutive days in a location and 14 days within designated camping areas.

Designated camping areas/zones which either provide over night stop overs (for self- contained campers such as campervans) or camping grounds with limited facilities will replace free-range camping by 2015. This will:

- Minimise disturbance to the vegetation and braiding of tracks, thus reducing land degradation
- Contain fires to prevent them spreading, minimising exposure to wildfire
- Minimise effluent and grey water disposal that threatens water quality
- Improve the amenity of an area both visually and environmentally.

Waste disposal (toilets and sanitation)

- For areas without toilet facilities, it is recommended to take in a portable self-contained toilet
- Alternatively bush toilets must be more than 100 metres from the full supply level of any lake foreshore
- Human waste to be buried at least 150 mm underground
- Sanitary items of litter to be removed from the area
- Disposal of soapy water to be scattered a minimum 50 metres from foreshore

Rubbish disposal

All rubbish must be carried out of the area and disposed of appropriately (ie at waste treatment stations, etc.) Campsites should be left in a neat and tidy condition

Site containment

Camping should be contained within existing camp sites and not dispersed throughout the scrub

Respect the rights of others using the campsites

Caravans

Caravans are subject to similar conditions as campers and must keep to existing roads and tracks. Caravans must be parked in cleared areas away from lake foreshores without disturbing the surrounding vegetation. Maximum stay is for 7 consecutive days or 14 days within designated camping areas.

Pets

- Dogs must be kept under strict supervision at all times.
- It should be noted that Hydro Tasmania land within the South West National Park respects the World Heritage values, therefore dogs are not allowed in the park area nor within the village boundaries.
- Cats are prohibited on Hydro Tasmania property state-wide.
- Other pets must be kept under strict supervision at all times.

Recreational Motorised Vehicles (including quad bikes)

Guidelines for recreational vehicles appear in *Policy for the Use of Recreational Vehicles on State Owned Lands in Tasmania* and *Cruisin without Bruisin*'. Publications are available from Service Tasmania outlets, Forestry Tasmania and the Parks and Wildlife Service.

However, key considerations include:

- Vehicles must have current registration with a state motor registry.
- Vehicles to remain on designated routes (roads, tracks etc)
- 'Scrub bashing' and braiding of tracks to be avoided at all times
- Use existing entry and exit points when crossing streams and creeks where bridges and culverts are not provided
- Where possible, winch between vehicles rather than use trees. If trees have to be used, then use protective padding or webbing on the tree.
- Road closures to be advised to the Tasmanian Recreational Vehicle Association (TRVA) well in advance to ensure their membership is aware as well as public notices in the three State newspapers
- Potential environmental impacts of recreational vehicle driving to be monitored and appropriate action taken to prevent or reduce significant degradation.

Firearms

No firearms are to be brought onto Hydro Tasmania land or lakes without a Hydro Tasmania Permit.

Hunting

Hydro Tasmania's Firearm's policy applies. Unless otherwise permitted, hunting on Hydro Tasmania land is strictly prohibited.

Other land-based activities

Bike riding/cycling

Bike riding will be generally permitted on public roads, vehicle tracks and any track specified for bike riding. Access behind locked gates or off-track is prohibited unless a permit is issued by Hydro Tasmania.

Commercial bike riding tours or events will require a permit from Hydro Tasmania.

Bike riders are encouraged to follow the Minimal Impact Mountain Biking Guidelines adopted by Parks and Wildlife (unless it conflicts with any Hydro Tasmania specific guideline)

Hang Gliding

Hang gliding is discouraged on Hydro Tasmania property. No individual permits will be issued.

Any group or association wanting to access land for this purpose will require an Association Permit which will require the organisation to provide detailed plans for launching ramps and facilities, necessary statutory approvals and at least \$20M public liability insurance from an authorised APRA insurer.

Horse riding

Horse riding will only be allowed as a permitted activity within designated routes or areas. The permit will contain conditions regarding public liability insurance and environmental management. Potential impacts of horse riding will be monitored and appropriate action taken to prevent or reduce significant degradation and weed infestation.

Recreational Events

Special recreational events (eg Orienteering etc) will require a permit and organisers will require appropriate public liability insurance from an authorised APRA insurer. Any activity will require a management plan covering the scope of the proposed event, access, crowd control, environmental impact etc. Conditions will be placed on any licence or permit for the proposed event.

Rock climbing and abseiling

These activities will require a permit or licence with the organisers having appropriate public liability insurance. A safety plan covering emergencies, equipment, etc will need to be provided before a permit or licence is issued.

WATER-BASED RECREATION

MAST and Inland Fisheries Service regulations, and Hydro Tasmania Lake Management Plans apply at all times.

Hydro Tasmania will give consideration to allowing a range of water based recreational activities that does not create adverse impacts or conflicts with other management outcomes.

Permits will be required for special events (such as white water rafting) and any activity will require a management plan covering the scope of the proposed event, access, crowd control, environmental impact, public liability from an authorised APRA insurer, etc. Conditions will be placed on any licence or permit for the proposed event.

Commercial water based recreation will require appropriate licences or permits, as will club based activities (eg ski clubs). Reference should also be made to Inland Fisheries Management Plans and the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area Management Plan.

Commercial operators

For Commercial activities on land owned by more than one Government Department or Government Business Enterprise, then a Commercial Visitor Services Licence is required (available from PWS).