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photo: Cliff Winfield



Trout fishing in Lefroy Brook

F Foresters at work

Fishing in the south-west is an attractive pastime for tourists, local residents and foresters too.

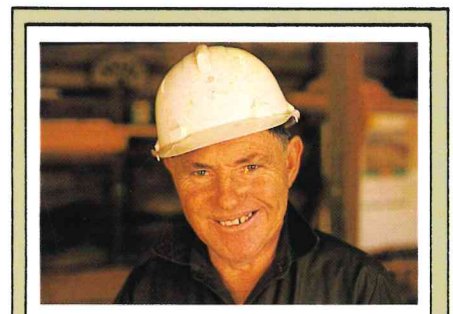
Redfin Perch, Cobbler, Black Bream, Carp and Mullet, along with both Brown and Rainbow Trout, are popular fish to tempt fishermen in the vast network of regional streams.

Trout are not native to Western Australia but they have been successfully introduced and provide good sport. But perhaps the tastiest fish is the Marron, a native crustacean that is sometimes called a fresh water crayfish or lobster.

The heart of Trout fishing in Western Australia is around Pemberton in the magnificent karri country of the lower south-west. For some the location is even more heady than the thrill of catching the fish.

The Gardener River, south-east of Pemberton, is well known for producing giant Marron.

Further information on life in the forest can be obtained from the Information Branches of the Forests Department at Como, Bunbury or Manjimup.



Vern Saw has been fishing the trout waters of the south-west for more than 30 years. It was not surprising that he chose to work in the region where he finds his recreation.

Vern works as a carpenter with the Forests Department at Pemberton, maintaining and building.

He admits to an interest in golf as well as fishing.



Guide for fishermen

Fishing in State forest waters is under the control of the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife.

To help you enjoy your fishing with peace of mind the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife's regulations are summarised here for your guidance.

An Inland Fisherman's Licence (obtainable from any Department of Fisheries and Wildlife office) is necessary for you to fish for Marron, Trout, freshwater Cobbler, or Redfin Perch. Children under the age of 13 do not require a licence.

Set lines, nets (except drop or scoop nets for Marron), traps and spear guns, may not be used.

Marron may be taken by drop nets (limit six per licence), pole snare, or hand scoop net. But they may not be fished for from a boat.

Trout, freshwater Cobbler, and Redfin Perch can only be taken by a hand held rod and line, or a single hand line. There are minimum legal sizes and some bag limits for the taking of these fish:

Trout	-30cm overall (bag limit 10 per day)
Marron	-76mm measured along the carapace from the tip of the frontal spike (bag limit 20 per day)
Cobbler	-23cm length of the back (dorsal) fin and tail

These are only guidelines. More detailed information may be obtained from offices of the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife.

Regulations are many and varied and a guide is issued on purchase of an inland fisherman's licence.