



Southport Lagoon

CONSERVATION AREA

Access

Access is via a 5.9km long, high clearance, 4WD drive route rated moderate to hard.

The track commences 1km south of Ida Bay off the Lune River Road. People using this route must be experienced four wheel vehicle drivers. Off-road 4WD trailers are permitted but standard 2WD trailers and boat trailers are not permitted.



All vehicles must keep to the formed track.

PLEASE NOTE: dogs are not permitted in the conservation area.

Please be considerate of others as the Lagoon Track is used by other recreational users such as walkers and cyclists.

Track etiquette

If fitted, please use UHF channel 10 to talk with other track users on your way in or out of the lagoon. This is to enable you to choose an appropriate place to pull over to allow another vehicle to pass.

You are requested not to drive in company or in convoys but rather spaced apart by several minutes to avoid track congestion and going 'off track' to allow others to pass.

Passing bays are marked with guide posts. These bays are designed for use by one vehicle at a time.

Track closures

Please be aware that track closures may occur at any time during the year. This may be due to vehicles going off the designated track or wet conditions which will lead to unacceptable environmental damage occurring or where safety is an issue. Phone Parks and Wildlife Services, Huonville Office 03 61217031. Urgent track closures may occur on total fire ban days.

It is recommended that you contact the Parks and Wildlife Service before visiting the lagoon during these periods.

Day use facilities

Basic facilities are available for use by day visitors including a picnic table, fireplace and toilets.

Phytophthora

Phytophthora is a fungus, which travels in soil attacking the root systems of plants and it can kill susceptible plant species. The transfer of soil on vehicles, footwear and tent pegs will spread the fungus.

To reduce the spread of phytophthora always start your trip with a clean vehicle and equipment. Remove all dirt from the vehicle, including underneath the vehicle and mudguards. If possible undertake trips in dry conditions.

Lagoon Camping Ground Information

Ten individual campsites are provided near the NW edge of Southport Lagoon. The maximum capacity of the entire campground is 40 people. Each campsite is numbered and camping must only take place at these numbered sites.

Campsite bookings are not required. The maximum stay permitted is one week.

Bring your own water.

Rubbish bins are not provided, please take all your rubbish when you leave.

Composting toilets are provided. To ensure they work correctly it is important not to place any foreign objects, portable chemical toilet contents or rubbish into the toilet system.

Fires

Fires may only be lit in the designated fireplaces provided, however the use of fuel stoves is recommended to reduce environmental impacts..

Firewood is not supplied. Vegetation including dead branches from within the conservation area, must not be used as firewood.

Chainsaws are not permitted in the conservation area.

Fires must not be left unattended and must be fully extinguished before you leave.

On total fire ban days no fires are allowed. Only gas/fuel stoves are permitted to be used.

What to bring

- Fuel stove
- Firewood
- Drinking water
- Rubbish bags

Boating Information

Southport Lagoon is an ideal destination for kayakers and canoeists.

A designated dinghy launch point is located at the campground. There is no boat ramp. Boats will need to be carried to the water.

The maximum allowable length of dinghies is 14ft and the maximum engine size is 15 HP. Larger boats and boat trailers are not permitted.

Vehicles can be parked in the day use area and dinghies must be carried to the water on foot.

Posts that mark the lagoon's deep water channels which should be followed to avoid damage to shallow seagrass beds.

Personal motorised water craft such as jet skis are not permitted.

A 5 knot speed limit applies to the entire lagoon.

Fishing Information

The most common species of fish are flathead and flounder.

Hook, line and spears are permitted in the lagoon.

Bait traps, all nets and specialist lines are prohibited within Southport Lagoon. This includes set lines, longlines and droplines.

Warning

The lagoon is classified as 'smooth waters' but recreational fishermen should take extreme care around the lagoon mouth and bar-way due to strong currents, breaking waves and the sand bar which changes.

Strong currents can occur in the channels at any time, particularly at ebb tides.

Beware that the lagoon has extensive shallows of 1 metre or less in depth.

Have your say...

We welcome your comments so please take the time to fill out a comment card and either leave it in the box located in the information booth or mail to the address below.

Funding

The Federal Government through NRM South have contributed a significant amount of money to enhance the protection of coastal values in the Southport Lagoon Conservation Area..

Further information

Parks and Wildlife Service
Huonville Field Centre (Mon-Fri 10am-4pm)
22 Main Street, Huonville 7109
Ph: (03) 6121 7031
www.parks.tas.gov.au

'Crusin Without Bruisin' – Track Guide and Code of Practice for Recreational Vehicle Users

To join an affiliated 4WD Club:
Contact 4WD Tasmania
PO Box 662 Glenorchy, 7010
Ph: (03) 6424 7565
www.4wdtasmania.org

FURTHER INFORMATION

Internet: www.parks.tas.gov.au December 2014 © State of Tasmania