

Lake Tiberias Game Reserve

Lake Tiberias, the source of the Jordan River, is situated in the centre of the municipality near the locality of Stonor lying at an altitude of 435 m above sea level. It is a shallow pan lake/wetland with a depth of just a few metres when full and is susceptible to drying out completely during droughts.

Lake Tiberias is a unique feature in that the entirety of its almost 1000 hectare area is a listed vegetation community under the *Nature Conservation Act 2002* - Freshwater aquatic sedgeland and rushland (ASF)(Figure 1). This vegetation community is dominated by sedges and rushes, with salinity ranging from fresh to brackish. A dense to sparse sward of a sedge or rush species (usually one species dominates) provides the tallest stratum in a sedge/rush wetland (generally greater than 50cm in height). A variety of smaller sedges and herbs commonly form a sparse to dense layer between and below this.

Lake Tiberias is classified as a Game Reserve, which is described under the *Nature Conservation Act 2002* as:

- *Values* - an area of land containing natural values that are unique, important or have representative value particularly with respect to game species.
- *Purpose* - The conservation of the natural values of the area of land that are unique, important or have representative value, the conservation of the natural biological diversity or geological diversity of that area of land, or both, and the ecologically sustainable hunting of game species in that area of land.

At Lake Tiberias, only Black duck, Grey teal, Chestnut teal, Mountain duck and Wood duck may be taken. Other species may be encountered in Tasmania but may not be taken. These include Blue-winged shoveler, Hardhead (or White-eyed) duck, Musk duck, Freckled duck, Pink-eared duck, Blue-billed duck and Plumed tree duck.

Aside from being a destination for duck shooters, Lake Tiberias is also a seasonal eel fishery.

Figure 1: Lake Tiberias native vegetation communities map

