

FISHING REGULATIONS SUMMARY

Mountain National Parks
in Alberta and
British Columbia

April 1, 2011 - March 31, 2012



Également offert en français

* You must purchase a national park fishing permit when angling in Canada's national parks. Provincial fishing licenses are not valid.

NATURAL BAIT BAN
(All parks)

BANFF NATIONAL PARK (BNP)

OPEN SEASONS

April 1 to March 31

Bow River - from Bow Lake Outlet to east park boundary, including associated backwaters and oxbow. No ice fishing on the Bow River.

May 15 to August 15

Owen Creek

May 21 to September 5

Ghost Lakes, Johnson Lake and adjacent inflow stream and beaver ponds, Lake Minnewanka, Two Jack Lake, Vermilion Lakes (3) and adjacent inflow stream and beaver ponds.

July 1 to August 31

All tributaries of the Bow River

July 1 to October 31

Cascade River, its tributaries and associated lakes above Lake Minnewanka (see definitions).

July 7 to October 31

Gloria Lake, Leman Lake, Marvel Lake, Owl Lake, Terrapin Lake, Spray River, and associated tributaries above the Spray Reservoir.

July 1 to October 31

All other waters except closed waters

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

Possession limit of 1 trout on Johnson Lake and adjacent inflow streams and beaver ponds

Motor boats are allowed on Lake Minnewanka only.

CLOSED WATERS

- Castleguard River - that upper portion of the river located in the Zone I - Special Preservation Area
- Cave and Basin marsh system
- Fish Lakes - the two Fish Lakes nearest campsite Mo 18.
- Forty Mile Creek - vicinity of the water intake reservoir
- Lake Agnes
- Luellen Lake - outflow stream from fisheries' boundary markers, downstream to the confluence of the outflow stream and Johnston Creek
- Marvel Lake - downstream from line formed between fisheries' boundary markers to confluence of Marvel and Bryant Creeks
- All tributaries and associated lakes in the Clearwater and Siffleur River systems, excluding Isabella Lake

KOOTENAY NATIONAL PARK (KNP)

OPEN SEASONS

May 20 to September 4

Cobb Lake, Olive Lake

June 15 to October 31

Kootenay River, Vermilion River

July 1 to September 4

Dog Lake, Kaufmann Lake

July 1 to October 31

All other waters

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

Kootenay and Vermilion Rivers: rainbow and brook trout. Minimum size limit 30 cm

YOHO NATIONAL PARK (YNP)

OPEN SEASONS

Year Round

Kicking Horse River - downstream from the confluence of Kicking Horse River and Yoho River to park boundary

May 21 to September 5

McArthur Lake, Ottetail Lake, Wapta Lake

July 15 to October 31

North bay of Lake O'Hara and Cataract Brook for 1.6 km downstream from Lake O'Hara

July 1 to October 31

All other waters

JASPER NATIONAL PARK (JNP)

OPEN SEASONS

Rivers and Streams

Year Round

Sunwapta River

April 1 to September 5 and November 1 to March 31

Fiddle River, Maligne River (below Maligne Canyon), Miette River, Rocky River, Snake Indian River, Snaring River

July 30 to October 2

Fly fishing only: Maligne River from a point 420 m downstream from the Maligne Lake Outlet bridge to Medicine Lake including that part of Medicine Lake within a 180 m radius of a point in the middle of the Maligne River where it enters Medicine Lake

Athabasca River

(Note: the Athabasca River has three fisheries management zones.)

Zone 1: From Athabasca Falls upstream

Year Round

Zone 2: From 12 Mile Bridge (Km 22, Hwy 16 East) upstream to Athabasca Falls

April 1 to September 5 and November 1 to March 31

Zone 3: From 12 Mile Bridge (Km 22, Hwy 16 East) downstream to east park boundary, including all side channels, Pocahontas Ponds and other connected wetlands

June 1 to September 5 and November 1 to March 31

July 1 to September 5

All other rivers and streams except closed waters

Lakes

May 21 to September 5

Annette Lake, Beaver Lake, Dragon Lake, Long Lake, Lorraine Lake, Moab Lake, Mona Lake, No Name Lake (Hwy 93 south, Km 48), Pyramid Lake, Lakes Three, Four and Five in the Valley of the Five

May 21 to October 2

Maligne Lake, Talbot Lake, Edna Lake

July 1 to October 31

Fly fishing only: Medicine Lake

July 1 to October 31

All other lakes except closed waters

CLOSED WATERS

- Maligne Lake Outlet/Maligne River (the portion including the part of Maligne Lake within a 100 m radius of a point in the middle of the Maligne River where it leaves Maligne Lake, to a point 420 m downstream from the Maligne Lake Outlet bridge)
- Jacques Lake and Jacques Lake Outlet stream between Jacques Lake and the Rocky River
- Mile 9 (Km 15) Lake, Hwy 16 (East)
- All streams emptying into Amethyst Lake
- That part of Amethyst Lake situated within a 180 m radius from a point in the middle of the outlet stream from the southeast end of Amethyst Lake
- That part of the Astoria River situated between Amethyst Lake and a point 400 m downstream from Amethyst Lake
- Osprey Lake

- The outlet stream from Moab Lake to its junction with the Whirlpool River including that part of Moab Lake situated within a 180 m radius of a point in the middle of the outlet stream where it leaves Moab Lake
- The outlet stream from Beaver Lake to its junction with the Maligne Lake Road

MOUNT REVELSTOKE AND GLACIER NATIONAL PARKS (MRGNP)

OPEN SEASONS

July 1 to October 31

All lakes

CLOSED WATERS

All rivers and streams

WATERTON LAKES NATIONAL PARK (WLNP)

OPEN SEASONS

May 21 to September 5

Akamina Lake, Cameron Lake and Creek, Crandell Lake, Waterton Lakes (Upper and Middle)

July 1 to October 31

All other waters except closed waters

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

NEW! Boat launch permits are required for Waterton Lakes.

Barbless Hooks only may be used. See "Definitions".

Motor boats allowed on Middle and Upper Waterton Lakes only

CLOSED WATERS

- Sofa Creek, Dungarvan Creek, Maskinonge Lake & Inlet.
- Blakiston/Bauerman Creeks and their tributaries
- North Fork Belly River and its tributaries

FISHING PERMITS

Anyone under the age of 16 may fish in the national parks without a permit if accompanied by a permit holder 16 years of age or older. However, their catch is then included within the permit holder's daily limit.



NOTE: This brochure is NOT a complete listing of *National Parks Fishing Regulations* and has no legal status. For a complete listing go to: www.pc.gc.ca/docs/bib-lib/docs1a.aspx

DEFINITIONS

Natural bait ban: you can only use lures made of feathers, fibre, rubber, wood, metal or plastic. No edible material, scented lures or chemical attractants are permitted.

Barbless Hook: this includes a hook the barbs of which are pressed against the shaft of the hook so that the barbs are not functional.

Fly fishing only: means only artificial flies may be used.

Artificial fly: this is a single or double hook on a common shank, dressed with silk, tinsel, wood, fur, feathers or other materials (**no lead**), or any combination thereof without a spinning device, whether attached to the hook or line.

Tributary: any water course which flows into another body of water. This includes a tributary to a tributary. Lakes are excluded unless otherwise specified.

Trout: for the purposes of this summary, the word *trout* includes char species.

Canada National Parks Act General Fishing Regulations

When angling, it is unlawful to:

- Fish without a national park fishing permit.
- Fish with or possess within 100 metres of park waters the following:
 - natural bait and chemical attractants;
 - any lead tackle (sinkers, jigs, lures and flies) under 50 grams;
 - lures with more than 2 gang hooks;
 - a line capable of catching more than one fish at one time.
- Fish with more than one line at a time.
- Fish closed waters.
- Leave a fishing line unattended.
- Fish from 2 hours after sunset to one hour before sunrise.
- Allow your catch to spoil or to be wasted.
- Sell, trade or barter any fish caught.
- Place live fish or fish eggs in any park water or transfer them between bodies of water inside (or outside) the park.
- Place any food for fish in park waters.

How to Identify Your Catch

* Credit: Karl Geist

Black spots, light background

Cutthroat Trout - BNP, JNP, KNP, YNP, WLNP, MRGNP



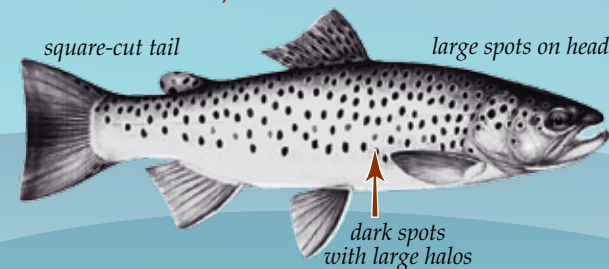
spots more numerous towards tail

red slash under lower jaw

note: red band may be present. Use spotting pattern for proper identification.

BNP, KNP, YNP: zero possession

Brown Trout - BNP, WLNP



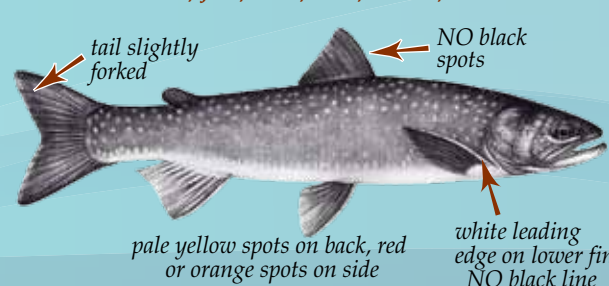
square-cut tail

large spots on head

dark spots with large halos

No black spots on body

Bull Trout - BNP, JNP, KNP, YNP, WLNP, MRGNP



tail slightly forked

NO black spots

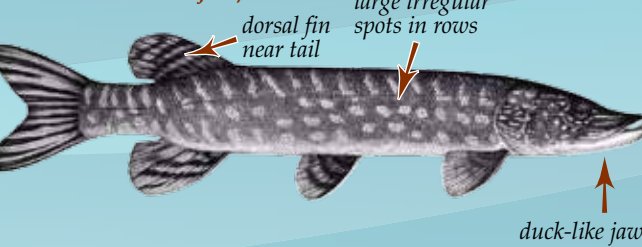
pale yellow spots on back, red or orange spots on side

white leading edge on lower fins, NO black line

ALL PARKS: zero possession

Other

Northern Pike - JNP, WLNP

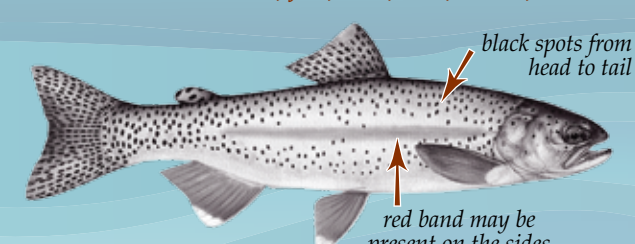


large irregular spots in rows

dorsal fin near tail

duck-like jaw

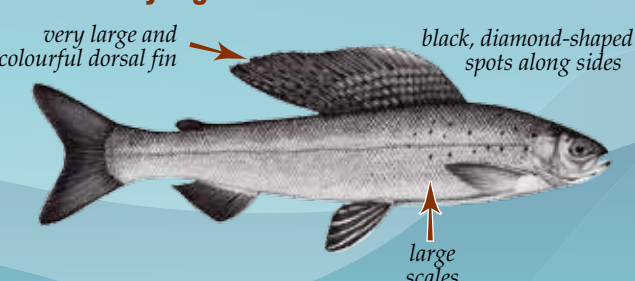
Rainbow Trout - BNP, JNP, KNP, YNP, WLNP, MRGNP



black spots from head to tail

red band may be present on the sides

Arctic Grayling - WLNP



very large and colourful dorsal fin

black, diamond-shaped spots along sides

large scales

Kokanee Salmon - KNP



NO distinct black spots on side

Females and males: red bodies during fall spawn, with green or black heads. Silvery bodies for remainder of the year.

KNP: zero possession

BNP = Banff; JNP = Jasper; KNP = Kootenay; YNP = Yoho; WLNP = Waterton Lakes; MRGNP = Mount Revelstoke/Glacier National Parks

! Anglers are responsible for distinguishing one fish species from another. If you are unsure, release it.

CATCH AND POSSESSION LIMITS

There are zero possession limits for many native species. You must correctly identify your catch. If you are not sure, release it.

Species	Limit
Bull trout	0
Kokanee salmon	0
Cutthroat trout (Kootenay, Banff, Yoho) (Waterton - Belly Rivers and tributaries, Upper, Middle and Lower Waterton Lakes, Goat Lake)	0
Lake and mountain whitefish caught in Lac Beauvert, Jasper	0
Trout (Johnson Lake, Banff only)	1
All species not mentioned below	0
Arctic grayling, rainbow trout, brown trout, brook trout, lake trout, northern pike, mountain whitefish, lake whitefish	2
Cutthroat trout (all other park waters)	2

Maximum daily catch and possession limit 2
(If a fish has been filleted, two fillets will be considered one fish.)

It is unlawful to:

- continue fishing on any day after having caught and retained the maximum daily catch and possession limit.
- possess more than 2 game fish at one time.

Whirling Disease: Are we next?

A microscopic parasite is devastating trout and salmon populations in Montana, Utah and Colorado. Infectious spores can exist in mud for up to 30 years. If you fish U.S. waters, you are a special risk. More information can be found at: www.parksCanada.gc.ca/banff

CHECK YOUR TACKLE BOX!

Some fishing tackle and baits are not allowed near or within national park waters. (Read the *National Parks Act, General Fishing Regulations* section in this brochure.)

9 tips HELP RELEASED FISH SURVIVE

Give a released fish the best chance for survival by following these suggestions:

- Minimize the time you play a fish. A fish played too long may not survive even if released. Remember to always bring fish up from depth slowly. Fish brought up too quickly will rupture their air bladders and die.
- Be gentle, keeping the fish in the water at all times when handling and releasing.
- Handle the fish with bare, wet hands. Keep fingers away from the gills and do not squeeze; this may cause internal injury, gill or scale damage.
- Remove the hook gently with needle-nosed pliers. If the hook is deep, cut the leader rather than pulling the hook out. The hook will decompose in time. Most fish survive with hooks in them.
- Continue to hold the fish in the water, gently moving it back and forth. This moves water past the gills and will help revive it. For flowing waters, face the fish upstream. When the fish begins to struggle, let it go.
- If the fish is bleeding excessively, it will likely not survive if released. Kill it and include as part of your catch if permitted.
- The use of barbless hooks is recommended to make release easier. Hooks can be made barbless by flattening the barb with needle-nosed pliers.
- Single hooks are recommended to release fish more easily.
- Continuing to angle for trout in waters exceeding 18°C reduces the ability of these fish to survive the 'catch and release' process.

For further information contact:

Banff National Park: 403-762-1550
email: Banff.VRC@pc.gc.ca
www.parksCanada.gc.ca/banff

Yoho, Kootenay National Parks: 250-343-6108
email: llyk.aquatics@pc.gc.ca

Jasper National Park: 780-852-6176
email: jnp.info@pc.gc.ca

Waterton Lakes National Park: 403-859-2224
email: waterton.info@pc.gc.ca

Mount Revelstoke/Glacier National Parks:
250-837-7500 email: revglacier.reception@pc.gc.ca

WILDLIFE WATCH

Report suspicious activities.

1-888-WARDENS (1-888-927-3367)

Fish Consumption Advisory (Mercury) Mountain Parks

Parks Canada has been advised that elevated mercury concentrations have been found in fish in some Mountain National Park waters. Therefore, Parks Canada, in consultation with Health Canada, has established consumption guidelines for women of reproductive age and children (see Table 1).

Mercury is a toxin that can affect human health. It can come from natural sources (e.g. soils and sediments) or sources outside the Mountain Parks (e.g. transported through the atmosphere). It can be passed up the food chain and become concentrated in top predators (e.g. Lake trout, Northern pike).

Mercury data does not exist for all fish species in all park waters and fish mercury concentrations may change over time. To be precautionary, anglers may wish to apply the following guidelines to all sport fish caught in park waters (see Table 2).

Table 1: Consumption guidelines

Lake	Species	Women of reproductive age # of 113g (4oz.) servings**	Children (under 15 yrs) # of 70g (2.5oz.) servings**
Moab - JNP	Cisco*	7/month	5/month
Patricia - JNP	Lake Trout	4/month	3/month
Sassenach - JNP	Lake Trout	4/month	3/month
Bow - BNP	Lake Trout	4/month	3/month
Hector - BNP	Lake Trout	4/month	3/month
Outram - BNP	Lake Trout	4/month	3/month
Waterton Lakes	Lake Trout Lake Whitefish	4/month	3/month

Table 2: Precautionary consumption advice for game fish in waters not mentioned above

Species	Women of reproductive age # of 113g (4oz.) servings**	Children (under 15 yrs) # of 70g (2.5oz.) servings**
Game fish - general	4/month	3/month

* Please note that consumption advice has been given for a species which is not legal to possess. Anglers should check the Catch & Possession Limits of these *Fishing Regulations* to ensure that all fish which are kept are legal to possess. Cisco closely resemble mountain whitefish; there are no Mountain whitefish in Moab Lake.

** A 100g serving is approximately the size of a deck of standard playing cards.