

How to Identify Your Catch

* Credit: Karl Geist

Black spots, light background

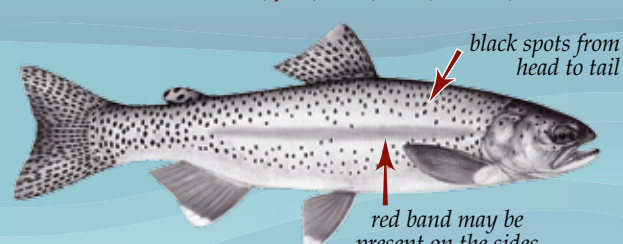
Cutthroat Trout - BNP, JNP, KNP, YNP, WLNP, MRGNP



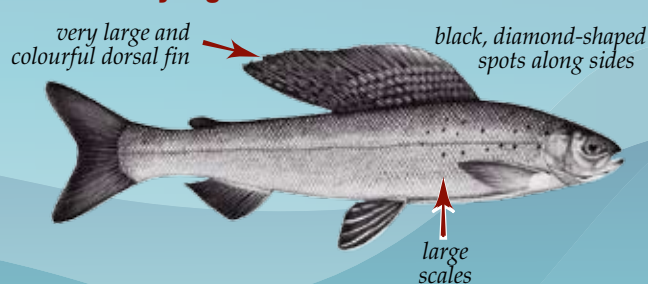
note: red band may be present. Use spotting pattern for proper identification.

BNP, KNP, YNP **NEW!**: zero possession

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



Arctic Grayling - WLNP



Kokanee Salmon - KNP



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

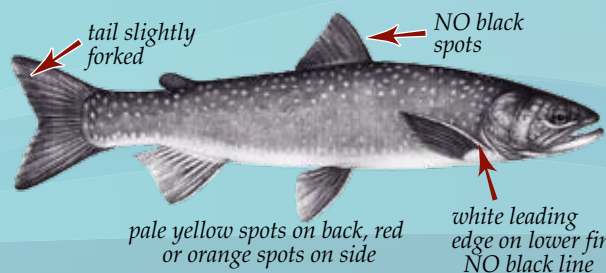
KNP: zero possession

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.

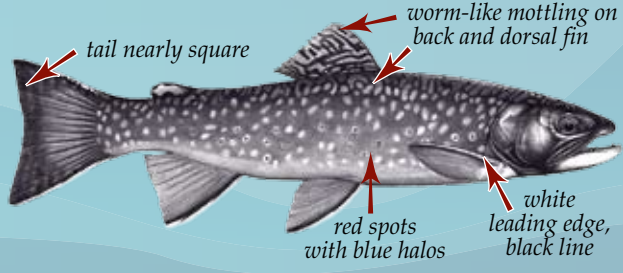
No black spots on body

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

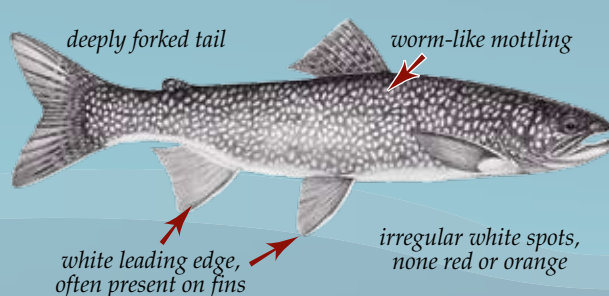


ALL PARKS: zero possession

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

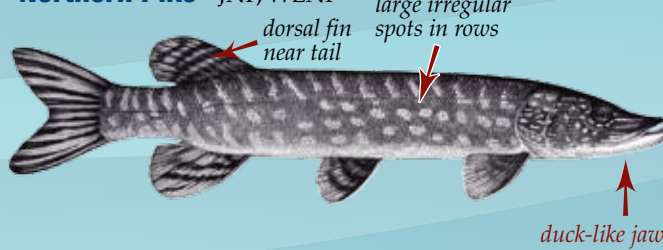


Lake Trout - BNP, JNP, KNP, YNP, WLNP, MRGNP



Other

Northern Pike - JNP, WLNP



Mountain Whitefish - BNP, JNP, KNP, YNP, WLNP



Lake Whitefish - BNP, JNP, WLNP



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 NEW!) (Waterton - Belly Rivers and tributaries, Upper, Middle and Lower Waterton Lakes)	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 US waters, you are a special risk. More information can be found at: www.pc.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: 403-762-1418
email: Banff.aquatics@pc.gc.ca
www.pc.gc.ca/banff

Yoho, Kootenay National Parks: 250-347-6159
email: llyk.aquatics@pc.gc.ca

Jasper National Park: 780-852-6205
email: ward.hughson@pc.gc.ca

Waterton Lakes National Park: 403-859-5182
email: barb.johnston@pc.gc.ca

Mount Revelstoke/Glacier National Parks: 250-837-7553
email: jen.theberge@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.