

FISHING REGULATIONS SUMMARY

Mountain National Parks in Alberta & British Columbia

April 1, 1997 - March 31, 1998



MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARKS GENERAL FISHING REGULATIONS

Fishing permits are mandatory in Canada's national parks. They are available at park information, administration, campground, and warden offices. Some tackle shops and boat rentals also carry them. Provincial regulations and permits are not valid inside national parks.

Anyone under the age of 16 may fish without a permit if accompanied by a permit holder. However, their catch is then included within the permit holder's limit. Anyone under 16 may also purchase their own permit, and be entitled to the full catch limit.

Fishing is prohibited from two hours after sunset to one hour before sunrise.

When angling in a national park, you can:

- only use one rod and line and cannot leave it unattended.
- only have a single hook, fly or lure on your line.
- only use motor-powered boats where allowed.
- only use lead-free fishing weights (unless weight is over 50 grams)

you can not:

- use bait where a bait ban is in effect. (Where bait is permitted, you cannot use any type of fish or parts thereof for bait or have bait fish in your possession.)
- put any food for fish in park waters.
- allow your catch to spoil or be wasted.
- sell, trade or barter any fish caught.
- place live fish or fish eggs into park waters or transfer them between bodies of water in the park.



Wildlife Watch
Report Suspicious Activities
Call Toll Free
1-888-WARDENS
(1-888-927-3367)

OPEN SEASONS, CLOSED WATERS

JASPER NATIONAL PARK

OPEN SEASONS - Rivers and Streams

Year Round

Athabasca River, Miette River, Snaring River, Sunwapta River, Talbot Lake, Mile 9 Lake (Highway 16 east), Maligne River below Maligne Canyon.

May 17 to Sept. 1

Ranger Creek, Rocky River, Lake Annette, Maligne Lake, Beaver Lake, Mile 14 Lake (Highway 16 east), Dragon Lake, First Trefoil Lake, Moab Lake, Jacques Lake, Mona Lake, Long Lake, Lower Colefair Lake, Pyramid Lake, Lorraine Lake, Virl Lake, Mile 16 1/2 Lake (Highway 93A), No Name Lake (Highway 93 south, km 48)
Third, Fourth, Fifth Lakes in Valley of the Five Lakes.

July 1 to Nov. 2

All other waters except closed waters.

Fly fishing only: Medicine Lake.

Aug. 1 to Oct. 1

Fly fishing only: Maligne River, between Maligne Lake and Medicine Lake including that part of Maligne Lake within a 100 m radius of a point in the middle of the Maligne River where it leaves Maligne Lake and 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.

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

Bait ban in effect on all waters.

Motor boats allowed on Pyramid Lake only.

CLOSED WATERS - Year Round

Osprey Lake.

Cabin Lake and stream emptying into Cabin Lake.

All streams emptying into Amethyst Lake.

The area of Amethyst Lake situated within a 180 m radius from a midpoint on the outlet stream from the southeast end of Amethyst Lake.

The area of Astoria River situated between Amethyst Lake and 400 m downstream from Amethyst Lake.

The outlet stream from Moab Lake to its junction with the Whirlpool River, including the area of Moab Lake situated within a 180 m radius from a midpoint on the outlet stream where it leaves Moab Lake.

The outlet stream from Beaver Lake to its junction with Maligne Lake Road.

CONSUMPTION NOTICE (Athabasca River and tributaries)

Mountain Whitefish - do not eat more than one meal of these fish per week. These fish may be contaminated with the industrial contaminants dioxin or furan as a result of river pollution taking place downstream of the park boundary.

KOOTENAY NATIONAL PARK

OPEN SEASONS

May 17 to Sept. 1

Cobb Lake, Olive Lake.

June 15 to Oct. 31

Kootenay River, Vermilion River.

July 1 to Sept. 1

Kaufmann Lake, Dog Lake.

July 1 to Oct. 31

All other waters.

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

Bait ban in effect on all waters.

Kootenay and Vermilion Rivers: trout and char minimum size limit 30 cm.

YOHO NATIONAL PARK

OPEN SEASONS

Year Round

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

May 17 to Sept. 1

McArthur Lake, Sink Lake, Summit Lake, Wapta Lake.

July 15 to Oct. 31

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

July 1 to Oct. 31

All other waters.

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

Bait ban in effect on all waters.

BANFF NATIONAL PARK

OPEN SEASONS

Year Round

Bow River - from Bow Lake outlet (southeast end of lake at trail crossing) to east park boundary, including associated backwaters and oxbows.

May 17 to Sept. 1

Copper Lake, Pilot Lake, Kingfisher Lake, Two Jack Lake, Ghost Lake, Lake Minnewanka, Johnson Lake and adjacent inflow stream and beaver ponds.

Vermilion Lakes (3) and their connecting streams and beaver ponds.

July 1 to Sept. 1

All tributaries of the Bow River.

July 1 to Oct. 31

Cascade River, its tributaries and associated lakes above Lake Minnewanka.

All other waters except closed waters.

July 5 to Oct. 31

Marvel Lake, Owl Lake, Gloria Lake, Terrapin Lake, Leman Lake.

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

Bait ban in effect on all waters.

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

No ice fishing on the Bow River.

Motor boats allowed on Lake Minnewanka only.

CLOSED WATERS - Year Round

Forty Mile Creek - in the vicinity of the water intake reservoir.

Fish Lakes - the two Fish Lakes nearest campsite "Mo 18".

All tributaries and associated lakes in the Clearwater and Siffleur River systems, excluding Isabella Lake. Cave & Basin marsh system.

Castleguard River - that upper portion of the river located in the Zone I - Special Preservation Area.

Luellen Lake - outflow stream from fisheries' boundary markers, downstream to the confluence of the outflow stream and Johnston Creek.

Lake Agnes.

Marvel Lake- downstream from line formed between fisheries' boundary markers to confluence of Marvel and Bryant Creeks.

MOUNT REVELSTOKE AND GLACIER NATIONAL PARKS

OPEN SEASONS

July 1 to Oct. 31

All waters, except rivers and streams.

CLOSED WATERS - Year Round

All rivers and streams.

WATERTON LAKES NATIONAL PARK

OPEN SEASONS

Year Round

The Dardanelles, Knights (Lower Waterton) Lake, Waterton River, Maskinonge Lake.

May 17 to Sept. 1

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

July 1 to Sept. 1

Blakiston (Pass) Creek and tributaries.

July 1 to October 31

All other waters except closed waters.

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

Bait ban in effect: Waterton River and tributaries, Belly River and tributaries (excluding Upper and Middle Waterton Lakes, Cameron Lake and Creek, and backcountry lakes).

Motor boats allowed on Middle and Upper Waterton Lakes only.

CLOSED WATERS -

Year Round

North Fork Belly River and its tributaries.



HOW TO IDENTIFY YOUR CATCH

TROUT: dark spots, light background

CHARS: light spots on darker body

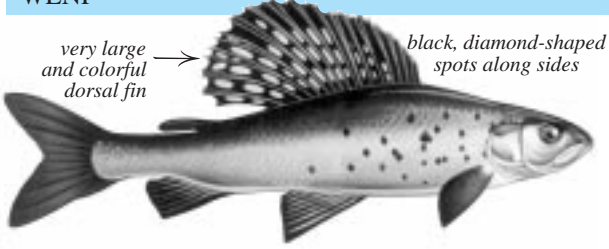
OTHER:

* CREDIT: Dept. of Fisheries and Oceans

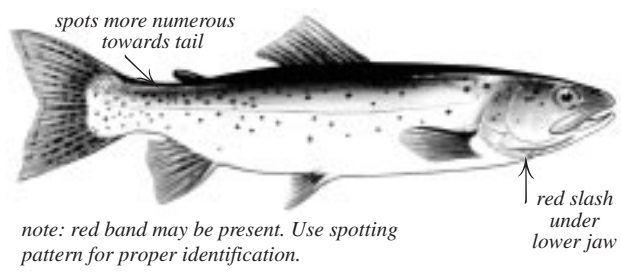
Kokanee Salmon - spawning period: Sept. - Oct.
KNP



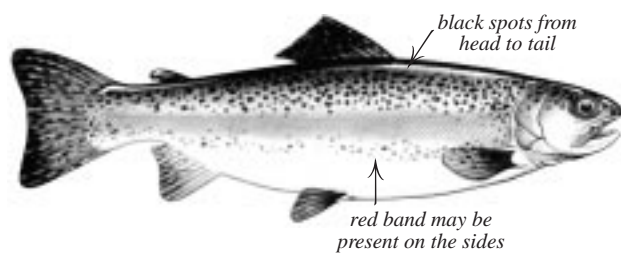
Arctic Grayling - spawning period: May - June
WLNP



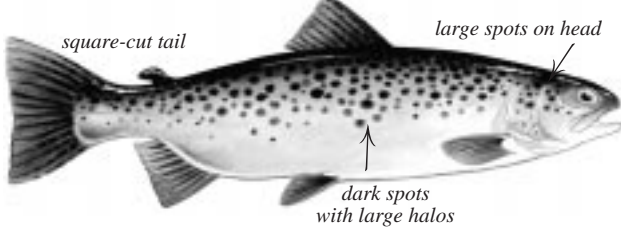
Cutthroat Trout - spawning period: May - July
BNP, JNP, KNP, YNP, WLNP, MRGNP



Rainbow Trout - spawning period: May - July
BNP, JNP, KNP, YNP, WLNP, MRGNP



Brown Trout - spawning period: Oct. - Dec.
BNP



MAXIMUM CATCH AND POSSESSION LIMITS

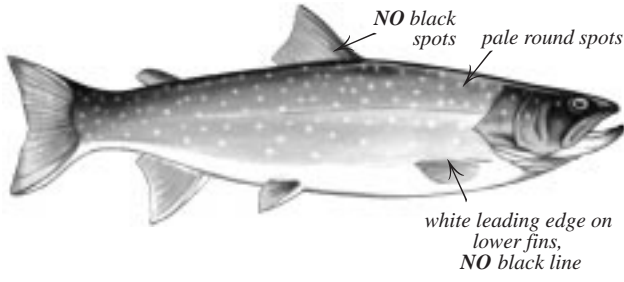
Species:	Limit:
Northern Pike	2
Whitefish (mountain or lake)	2
Trout and char (except bull & cutthroat)	2
Cutthroat trout (Banff only)	0
Cutthroat trout (all other mountain parks)	2
Bull trout	0
Kokanee salmon	0
All species not mentioned above	0
All species of fish in aggregate	2

- No person shall continue fishing on any day after having caught and retained the aggregate daily catch and possession limit.
- It is the responsibility of the angler to be able to distinguish one fish species from another.
- No person can be in possession of more than 2 game fish at one time within the boundaries of a mountain national park.
- If a fish has been filleted, two fillets will be considered one fish.

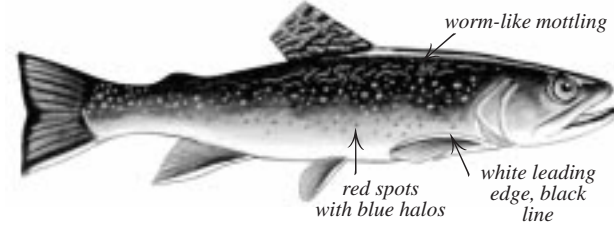
HELP SUPPORT FISHERIES

You can support fisheries by obeying regulations, taking part in creel and user surveys and reporting tagged fish. If you have any comments or concerns about fisheries management in our national parks, please direct them to any park superintendents.

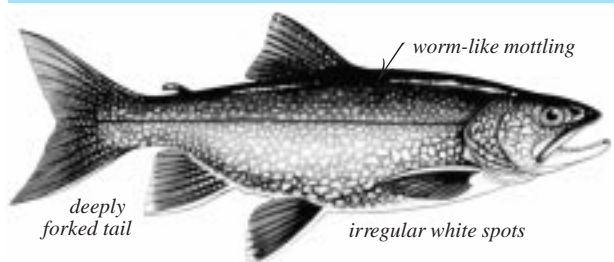
Bull Trout - spawning period: Sept. - Nov.
BNP, JNP, KNP, YNP, WLNP, MRGNP



Brook Trout - spawning period: Sept. - Oct.
BNP, JNP, KNP, YNP, WLNP, MRGNP



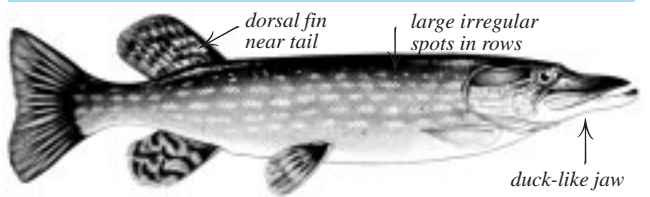
Lake Trout - spawning period: Sept. - Oct.
BNP, JNP, YNP, WLNP



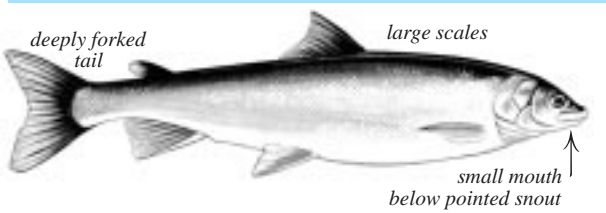
Sucker - spawning period: May - July
BNP, JNP, KNP, YNP, WLNP, MRGNP



Northern Pike - spawning period: April - May
JNP, WLNP



Mountain Whitefish - spawning period: Sept. - Nov.
BNP, JNP, KNP, YNP, WLNP



Lake Whitefish - spawning period: Oct. - Dec.
JNP, BNP, WLNP



HOW TO RELEASE FISH

- Minimize the time you play a fish. A fish played too long may not survive even if released.
- Be gentle, keeping the fish in the water at all times while releasing it.
- 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 hook quickly (barbless hooks are recommended to make release easier.) If the fish is deeply hooked, do not attempt to remove the hook; simply cut the line and release the fish. The hook will deteriorate and fall out on its own.
- 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, it will likely not survive if released. Kill it and include as part of your catch.

FISH CLEANING AND DISPOSAL

Improper disposal of entrails may attract bears and endanger park visitors. Please use fish cleaning and disposal facilities where provided. If not available, please dispose of entrails by puncturing the swim bladder (this allows entrails to sink) and deposit into deep water, using a boat if available. Always clean your catch well away (300 metres) from campsites, picnic sites, docks or other facilities.

LITTER

Discarded monofilament line, lures and packaging poses a threat to park wildlife and is unsightly. If you packed it in - please pack it out. Picking up litter you find while fishing will help to keep the parks clean.

DEFINITIONS:

Artificial fly: this is a single or double hook on a common shank, dressed with silk, tinsel, wood, fur, feathers or other materials, or any combination thereof without a spinning device whether attached to the hook or line.

Bait Ban: where a bait ban is in effect you can only use lures made of feathers, fibre, rubber, wood, metal or plastic. No edible material, scented lures or chemical attractants are permitted.

Fly Fishing Only: means artificial flies only may be used.

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

FISH MANAGEMENT IN THE MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARKS

Unlike introduced varieties of rainbow, cutthroat and eastern brook trout, native stocks of westslope cutthroat, Athabasca rainbow and bull trout evolved in the streams and lakes of Canada's mountain national parks. They are genetically unique, and they're found only here. The same is true for mountain whitefish, northern pike and other native species.

We didn't always know this. Fisheries managers used to poison lakes, stock exotic fish and kill native predators like bull trout. Some streams and lakes may never recover. Many native stocks are gone forever — ironic, since Canada's national parks are to be kept "unimpaired for future generations."

Some native fish persist, but they need our help. New regulations introduced this year reduce catch and possession limits on native fish. Open seasons have been adjusted to protect these stocks in spawning season. A few lakes and streams are now closed to angling to protect genetically-pure native stocks and provide new opportunities for people to observe and learn about fish undisturbed by human predation.

We can't change the past, but by choosing to protect native fishes today we can ensure tomorrow's ecosystems will be more secure. Bull trout, protected in 1995, already appear to be recovering. Future generations may again be able to see big bull trout spawning in small streams, schools of mountain whitefish massing in late fall, and native cutthroats dimpling the riffles of headwater creeks. Thanks for playing your part in restoring ecological health to Canada's national parks.

NOTE:

This brochure is neither a legal document nor a complete listing of angling regulations. It is a summary of the Parks Canada regulations, published to assist anglers to understand the rules of angling. Details of the regulations may be obtained from the nearest warden or park administration office.