

# Fishing **Regulations**



Mountain National Parks in Alberta and British Columbia April 1st 2023 - March 31st 2024

Parks Parcs Canada Canada

Canadä

A national park fishing permit is required when angling in national parks in Canada. Provincial fishing licenses are not valid.

#### **Jasper National Park (JNP)**

#### SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

· Ban on felt-soled wading boots.

#### **OPEN SEASONS - Rivers and Streams**

Year Round: Sunwapta River

#### April 1 to September 4 and November 1 to April 2

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

#### April 1 to September 4 and November 1 to April 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. Use artificial flies only.

July 1 to September 4 All other rivers and streams except closed waters.

#### **OPEN SEASONS - Lakes**

May 20 to September 4 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 Vallev of the Five Lakes.

May 20 to October Maligne Lake, Talbot Lake, Edna Lake

July 1 to October 31 Fly fishing only: Medicine Lake. Use artificial flies only.

July 1 to October 3 All other lakes except closed waters.

#### **OPEN SEASONS - 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 4 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 4 and November 1 to March 31

#### **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;
- The 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;

- The part of 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 Maligne Lake Road

#### FOR CURRENT INFORMATION

parks.canada.ca/jasperfishing



Mount Revelstoke and Glacier National Parks (MRGNP)

#### SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

· Ban on felt-soled wading boots.

#### **OPEN SEASONS**

July 1 to October 31 All lakes.

#### **CLOSED WATERS**

All rivers and streams.

#### FOR CURRENT INFORMATION

parkscanada.gc.ca/revelstoke-fishing parkscanada.gc.ca/glacier-fishing



#### Waterton Lakes National Park (WLNP)

#### SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

- Ban on felt-soled wading boots
- Use barbless hooks only. This is a hook in which the barbs have been removed or pressed against the shaft so they are non-functional.
- Additional restrictions may be in place. Check the Important Bulletins online.

#### **BOATING RESTRICTIONS**

- · Mandatory 90-day guarantine for all motorized and trailer-launched watercraft.
- Special permitting required for all hand-launched watercraft and equipment used in the water such as fishing and diving gear and personal floatation devices.

#### **OPEN SEASONS**

#### May 20 to September 4

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

July 1 to October 31 All other waters except closed waters

#### CLOSED WATERS

- Sofa Creek, Dungarvan Creek, Maskinonge Lake and Inlet;
- North Fork Belly River and its tributaries.

# parkscanada.gc.ca/waterton-fishing

## **Banff National Park (BNP)**

#### SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

- Ban on felt-soled wading boots.
- Reduced possession limits. See reverse
- See additional boating restrictions below

#### **OPEN SEASONS**

Year Round

May 20 to September 4

July 1 to August 31

July 1 to October 31 Cascade River and tributaries above Lake Minnewanka reservoir (excluding closed waters).

July 1 to August 15 Owen Creek.

July 1 to October 31 All other waters except closed waters

#### **CLOSED WATERS**

#### The following waterbodies are closed to water activities including fishing.

Bow River from Bow Lake outlet to Hector Lake inlet: Babel Creek: Johnson Lake reservoir, adjacent wetland and outflow creek to confluence with Cascade River: Helen Creek: Little Herbert Lake: Mystic Lake and outlet downstream to confluence with 40-mile Creek: Outlet Creek: Sawback Lake: Sawback Creek; Rainbow Lake; Elk Lake; Cuthead Creek; Spray River above Spray Lakes reservoir: Castleguard River - the 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; Lake Agnes; Luellen Lake outflow stream from fisheries' boundary markers, downstream to the confluence of the outflow stream and Johnston Creek; Marvel Lake and outlet downstream to confluence with Brvant Creek: all tributaries and associated lakes in the Clearwater and Siffleur river systems, excluding Isabella Lake.

### FOR CURRENT INFORMATION

parkscanada.gc.ca/banff-fishing





Blakiston/Bauerman creeks (including Pass Creek) and their tributaries;



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

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

All tributaries of the Bow River, except the Cascade River (see below).



#### Kootenay National Park (KNP)

#### SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

- Ban on felt-soled wading boots.
- Catch and release only.
- See additional boating restrictions below

#### **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.

# FOR CURRENT INFORMATION parkscanada.gc.ca/kootenay-fishing



#### SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

- Ban on felt-soled wading boots
- Catch and release only
- See additional boating restrictions below

#### **OPEN SEASONS**

#### Year Round

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

#### May 20 to September 4

McArthur, Ottertail, Summit, Sink and Wapta Lakes.

#### 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 except closed waters

#### **CLOSED WATERS:** Yoho Pond

FOR CURRENT INFORMATION parkscanada.gc.ca/yoho-fishing



## Boating Restrictions for Banff. Yoho, and Kootenav National Parks

- Non-motorized watercraft and equipment used in the water such as fishing and diving gear and personal floatation devices are required to obtain a Clean, Drain, Dry self-certification permit.
- All motorized watercraft must undergo a Parks Canada inspection prior to launching in Lake Minnewanka reservoir. Motor boats (gas or electric) are allowed on Lake Minnewanka reservoir only.

# ATTENTION

## Protect park waters

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) threaten pristine freshwater ecosystems, harm fish populations, damage infrastructure and reduce aquatic recreational opportunities Stop the spread of AIS. Clean, drain, dry your watercraft and water-related gear.

## Before and after entering a water body:



CLEAN

Clean mud. sand. plant or animal parts from all items before leaving the shore.

#### DRAIN

Drain water from watercrafts, trailers, and gear. Invert or tilt items. Open all compartments. Pull drain plugs.



Dry items completely before entering any river, pond, lake or stream.



### CERTIFY







Report all sightings of aquatic invasive species. Include photos, location and description if possible. Call Parks Canada 403-762-1470 or Alberta 1-855-336-BOAT (2628). E-mail ReportAIS-SignalerEAE@pc.gc.ca

#### Whirling Disease

#### **Invasive Cravfish**





# Invasive Mussels











## 2.0 cm



#### National Parks of Canada **Fishing Regulations**

#### IT IS UNLAWFUL TO:

- Fish without a valid national park fishing permit in your immediate possession.
- · 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; - live or dead fish or any parts thereof for use as bait.
- Fish by any method other than angling.
- Fish with more than one line at a time.
- Fish with a line having more than one artificial fly.
- Fish closed waters.
- Leave a fishing line unattended.
- Fish from 2 hours after sunset to one hour before sunrise.
- Sell, trade or barter any fish caught.
- Place or transfer any fish or fish eggs between any park waters.
- Place any food for fish in park waters.
- Harass fish by throwing objects or impeding their movements.
- When fishing in park waters that allow possession (see Catch and Possession Limits), it is unlawful to:
- possess more than 2 game fish at one time; - continue fishing on any day after having caught and retained the maximum daily catch and possession limit:
- allow your catch to spoil or to be wasted.

#### **Report suspicious activities.**

Banff, Yoho, Kootenay, Waterton Lakes: 1-888-927-3367

Jasper, Mount Revelstoke, Glacier: 1-877-852-3100

**NOTE:** This brochure is NOT a complete listing of National Parks Fishing Regulations and has no legal status. For a complete listing go to: laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/ C.R.C., c. 1120/index.html



#### **Check Your Tackle Box!**

Some fishing tackle and baits are not allowed near or within 100 metres of national park waters. Refer to the National Parks Fishing Regulations section in this brochure.

#### **Fishing Permits**

Anyone under the age of 16 may fish in the national parks without a permit if accompanied by a national park fishing permit holder 16 years of age or older. However, their catch is then included within the permit holder's daily limit. A valid national park pass is also required when fishing in the mountain national parks.

#### Definitions

**Angling:** Fishing with a hook and line held in the hand or with a hook, line and rod held in the hand. It does not mean fishing with a set line.

**Artificial flies:**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.

**Natural bait ban:** You can only use lures made of feathers, fibre, rubber, wood, metal or plastic. No edible material (plant or animal products), scented lures or chemical attractants are permitted.

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

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

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Banff National Park: 403-762-1550 email: banffinfo@pc.gc.ca

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

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

Waterton Lakes National Park: 403-859-5133 email: waterton.info@pc.gc.ca

Mount Revelstoke and Glacier National Parks: 250-837-7500 email: mrg.information@pc.gc.ca

#### Catch and Possession Limits

Possession limits for Banff, Yoho and Kootenay national parks reduced to zero except for Lake Minnewanka lake trout.

The possession limit is zero for many native species. You must correctly identify your catch. If you are not sure, release it immediately.

SPECIES	LIMIT
Lake trout from Lake Minnewanka reservoir	2
All other species: BNP, YNP, KNP	0
Arctic grayling, rainbow trout, brown trout, brook trout, lake trout, northern pike, mountain whitefish, lake whitefish: JNP, MRGNP, WLNP	2
Lake and mountain whitefish from Lac Beauvert, JNP	0
Cutthroat trout: JNP, *WLNP - Cameron Lake, Alderson Lake, Carthew Lakes, Lineham Lakes, Lone Lake	2
* WLNP - All other waters - limit 0	0
Cutthroat trout: all other parks	0
All species not mentioned above	0
Maximum daily catch and possession limit	2





- 1. Minimize the time you play a fish. A fish played too long may not survive even if released. Always bring fish up from depth slowly. Fish brought up too quickly will rupture their air bladders and die.
- 2. Keep the fish in the water at all times when handling and releasing.
- 3. Handle the fish with bare, wet hands. Keep fingers away from the gills and do not squeeze to avoid injuring the fish.
- decompose in time.
- struggle, let it go.
- possession species.
- nosed pliers.
- 8. Single hooks are recommended to release fish more easily.
- not angling during exceptionally hot weather.

BNP = Banff National Park JNP = Jasper National Park KNP = Kootenav National Park YNP = Yoho National Park WINP = Waterton Lakes National Park MRGNP = Mount Revelstoke and Glacier National Parks

## Help Released Fish Survive

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

- 4. 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
- 5. 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
- 6. If the fish is bleeding excessively, it will likely not survive if released. Kill it and include as part of your catch if permitted. Release all zero-
- The use of barbless hooks is recommended to make release easier. Hooks can be made barbless by flattening the barb with needle-
- 9. Angling for trout in waters exceeding 18°C reduces the ability of these fish to survive the 'catch and release' process. Please consider



## How to Identify Your Catch

