

# Idaho Fishing

## 2022-2024 Seasons & Rules

2nd Edition 2023



**Free Fishing Day**

June 10, 2023 • June 8, 2024

[idfg.idaho.gov](http://idfg.idaho.gov)



# Emergency closure along portion of Snake River effective September 29, 2023

**UPDATED: SEPTEMBER 29, 2023**

## EMERGENCY CLOSURE

### HUNTING, FISHING AND TRAPPING CLOSURE

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game Commission has enacted an emergency closure of hunting, fishing, and trapping in a portion of the Snake River to align with a closure enacted by the Idaho Department of Agriculture after the detection of quagga mussels in the area.

#### Emergency Closure Area:

Effective immediately, all hunting, fishing, and trapping are closed below the ordinary high water mark of the Snake River from Twin Falls Hydroelectric Dam to the bridge crossing the Snake River at Highway 46 (also known as Ken Curtis Bridge).



*Continue to next page*



Idaho Fish & Wildlife  
FOUNDATION

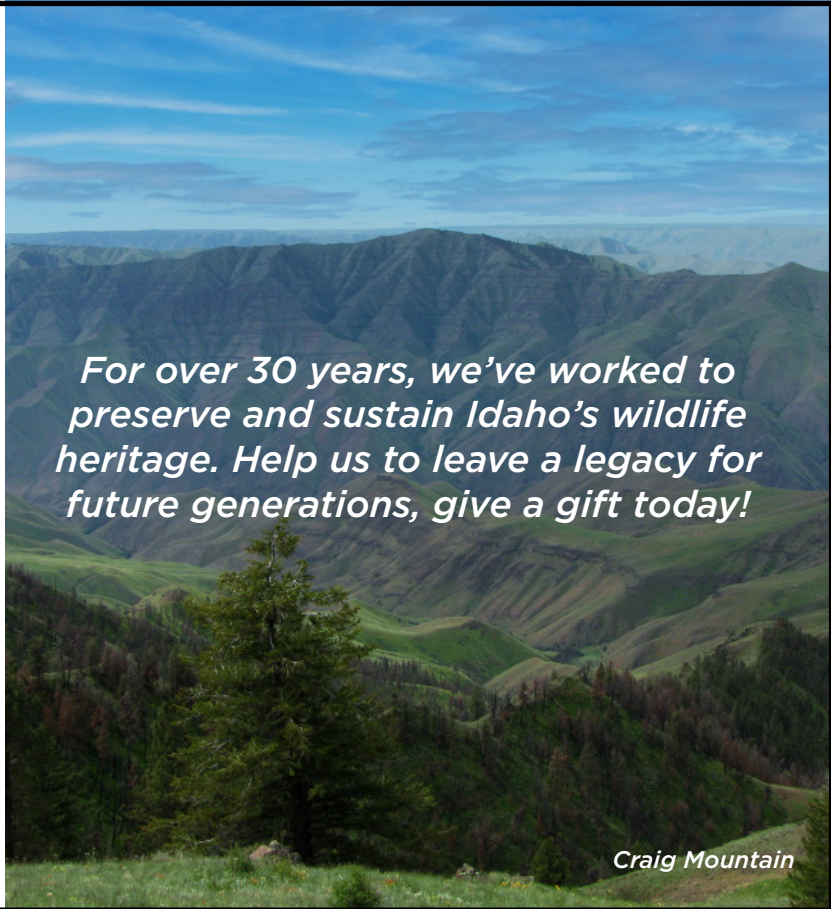
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visit **IFWF.org** or call  
**(208) 334-2648**



Craig Mountain

## IDAHO'S TRESPASS LAW

# ASK FIRST

Know before you go!



### Permission Form

Permission given to (print):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dates permission is valid:

from: \_\_\_\_\_  
to: \_\_\_\_\_

General Description of Property:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Landowner Name (print):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Owner or Agent Signature:  
\_\_\_\_\_

*A property owner may  
revoke permission at any time.*

**All persons must have written permission or other lawful form of permission to enter or remain on private land to shoot any weapon or hunt, fish, trap or retrieve game.**

A person should know land is private and they are not allowed without permission because:

- The property is associated with a residence or business;
- OR cultivated;
- OR fenced or enclosed in a way that delineates the private property;
- OR unfenced and uncultivated, but is posted with conspicuous "no trespassing" signs or bright orange/fluorescent paint at all property corners and boundaries where the property intersects navigable streams, roads, gates and rights-of-way entering the land and posted in a way that people can see the postings.

Note - if private property adjoins or is contained within public lands, the fence line adjacent to public land should be posted with "no trespassing signs" or bright orange/fluorescent paint at the corners of the fence adjoining public land and at all navigable streams, roads, gates and rights-of-way entering the private land from public land and posted in a way that people can see the postings.

It is illegal for anyone to post public land that is not held under an exclusive control lease.

Private posting at navigable streams shall not prohibit access to navigable streams below the high-water mark as allowed by Idaho law.

A property owner may revoke permission at any time. Any person must leave private property when asked to do so by the owner or agent.

A first conviction of trespass on private property carries a mandatory one-year revocation of hunting/fishing/trapping licenses in addition to misdemeanor fine and seizure of animals taken on private property. Federal law prohibits unauthorized trespass on Indian-owned reservation lands for hunting, fishing, or trapping purposes.

**Refer to Idaho Code 36-1603 and I.C. 18-7008.**

**Please visit: [idf.gov/askfirst](http://idf.gov/askfirst)**



## DIRECTOR SCHRIEVER'S OPEN LETTER TO THE HUNTERS, ANGLERS AND TRAPPERS OF IDAHO

No matter how long you've been in Idaho, you probably love the great outdoor recreation the state offers, which includes amazing fishing. Idaho is graced with more than 26,000 miles of streams and rivers, 3,000 natural lakes, and a quarter-million acres of ponds and reservoirs teeming with over 40 species of game fish that range from 10-foot long sturgeon to palm-sized panfish.

I hope you, as an angler, appreciate the role you play in maintaining this treasure. Your fishing license dollars provide critical funding for fisheries management and research that allows the Fish and Game Commission to make science-based decisions when setting fishing seasons and bag limits.

It doesn't stop there. Fishing licenses also help fund fishing access sites, such as boat ramps and fishing docks, as well as aquatic habitat improvements and operating hatcheries. These are all important to maintaining great fishing.

Speaking of access, in recent years Fish and Game completed numerous fishing and boating access projects, and continues to acquire valuable river frontage that provides access to rivers where it can be lost as Idaho grows and river frontage becomes more developed.

While access is critical to anglers, abundant fish populations are equally important for a successful fishing trip.

A key to providing diverse fishing opportunities is maintaining wild and native fish populations. Fish and Game's habitat programs focus on improving waters for wild fish. A recent habitat success story was almost 20 years in the making and involves rebuilding wild Bear Lake cutthroat trout to levels that allow harvest for the first time in years.

On Lake Pend Oreille, science-based predation management led to the recovery of the lake's kokanee population, which are key prey for rainbow and bull trout in the lake. For example, a derby-winning 31.75-pound rainbow trout was weighed at a local tournament in 2021, and multiple fish over 25 pounds were also reported. Lake Pend Oreille produced a new catch-and-release record bull trout that nearly eclipsed the 32-pound, world-record bull trout caught from Lake Pend Oreille in 1949.

Fish and Game hatcheries continue to support tremendous diversity of fishing opportunity from cutthroat trout in high mountain lakes to rainbows in local ponds to salmon and steelhead in Idaho rivers. Annually, we release about 13 million trout and landlocked salmon, as well as another 16.5 million young salmon and steelhead that migrate to the ocean with many later returning for anglers to catch as large, adult fish weighing up to 40 pounds.

With the increased number of hatchery and wild fall Chinook returning to Idaho, the Fish and Game Commission has provided more fishing opportunity on the Clearwater River. Recognizing the already popular steelhead fishery, Fish and Game formed a citizen-based working group to help develop seasons and limits, which the Commission incorporated. The new steelhead/salmon seasons enhance both the harvest and catch-and-release fisheries while providing increased harvest opportunity for fall Chinook anglers.

Idaho anglers enjoyed a record Coho salmon return in 2021, and the Commission approved Coho salmon seasons through 2024 in anticipation that returns will continue to be large enough to provide annual fishing opportunity.

Recent challenges with salmon and steelhead runs have been well documented, and I also know from experience because I've spent hundreds of hours on my boat fishing for salmon and steelhead in the Snake, Salmon and Clearwater rivers. I know how important these fish are to Idahoans, culturally, recreationally and economically, and I care deeply about restoring healthy runs of wild salmon and steelhead for future generations. I also strongly believe allowing anglers to fish for salmon and steelhead is vital to retaining the connection between people and the fish.

The causes, and the actions needed to reverse recent low salmon and steelhead returns, are many and complex. Fish and Game plays a direct role in managing part of the "4-Hs" (Hatcheries, Harvest, Habitat and Hydropower) that are often identified as causes of anadromous fish declines. Fish and Game will continue to provide science to decision makers to help develop policies that restore abundant, sustainable and well-distributed salmon and steelhead for present and future generations of Idahoans.

Regardless of what conditions or challenges we face, I assure you that the Commission and I, along with the entire Fish and Game staff, remain committed to keeping Idaho a great fishing state.

Thank you for supporting our fish and wildlife conservation because Fish and Game's ability to provide hunting and fishing opportunity depends on you!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Schriever".

**Ed Schriever**, Director  
Idaho Department of Fish and Game



# Idaho Department of Fish and Game

## Idaho Wildlife Policy

“All wildlife, including all wild animals, wild birds, and fish, within the state of Idaho, is hereby declared to be the property of the state of Idaho. It shall be preserved, protected, perpetuated, and managed. It shall be only captured or taken at such times or places, under such conditions, or by such means, or in such manner, as will preserve, protect, and perpetuate such wildlife, and provide for the citizens of this state and, as by law permitted to others, continued supplies of such wildlife for hunting, fishing and trapping.”

— Idaho Code Section 36-103

## Idaho Fish and Game Commission

- Dave Bobbitt, Panhandle
- Don Ebert, Clearwater
- Tim Murphy, Southwest
- Greg Cameron, Magic Valley
- Jordan Cheirrett, Southeast
- Derick Attebury, Upper Snake
- Ron Davies, Salmon

## Idaho Department of Fish and Game

600 S. Walnut St., P.O. Box 25  
Boise, ID 83707

208-334-3700 • [idfg.idaho.gov](http://idfg.idaho.gov)

- Ed Schriever, Director
- Amber Worthington, Deputy Director
- Jlm Fredericks, Deputy Director

## Regional Offices

- Panhandle Region..... 208-769-1414  
2885 W. Kathleen Ave., Coeur d’Alene ID 83815
- Clearwater Region ..... 208-799-5010  
3316 16th St., Lewiston ID 83501
- Southwest Region ..... 208-465-8465  
15950 N. Gate Blvd., Nampa ID 83687
- McCall Subregion..... 208-634-8137  
555 Deinhard Lane, McCall ID 83638
- Magic Valley Region ..... 208-324-4359  
324 S 417 E; Suite #1, Jerome ID 83338
- Southeast Region ..... 208-232-4703  
1345 Barton Rd., Pocatello ID 83204
- Upper Snake Region ..... 208-525-7290  
4279 Commerce Circle, Idaho Falls ID 83401
- Salmon Region..... 208-756-2271  
99 Highway 93 N., Salmon ID 83467

Idaho Fish and Game offices are open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday except state holidays. Offices in the Panhandle and Clearwater regions are in the Pacific Time Zone; all others are in the Mountain Time Zone.

## To Buy a License, Tag or Permit:

- In person, go to any Idaho Fish and Game office or license vendor.
- By credit card, within the United States call 1-800-554-8685. Outside the U.S., use the Internet or mail.
- A service fee is added for online transactions. **[gooutdoorsidaho.com](http://gooutdoorsidaho.com)**
- Commercial licenses and tags, duplicate tags, documents that require proof of disability, lifetime licenses, and bear baiting permits may be purchased only at Fish and Game offices.

## Other Information Numbers

Rules booklets, nonresident license applications: 208-334-3700

U. S. Forest Service:

- Southern Idaho ..... **[fs.usda.gov/r4](http://fs.usda.gov/r4)**
- Northern Idaho..... **[fs.usda.gov/r1](http://fs.usda.gov/r1)**
- Hells Canyon..... **[fs.usda.gov/r6](http://fs.usda.gov/r6)**

Bureau of Land Management: ..... **[blm.gov/idaho](http://blm.gov/idaho)**

Idaho Relay Service (TDD) .....1-800-377-3529

## To report wildlife crimes, call Citizens Against Poaching at 1-800-632-5999.

Emergency information can be relayed to Fish and Game personnel through any Idaho law enforcement agency.



*Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) adheres to all applicable state and federal laws and regulations related to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, disability or veteran’s status. If you feel you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility of Idaho Fish and Game, or if you desire further information, please write to: Idaho Department of Fish and Game, P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707 OR Chief, Public Civil Rights Division, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240. This publication will be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact the Department of Fish and Game for assistance.*

Information in this brochure summarizes rules and is an official proclamation of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission for the taking of wildlife. The official rules are available at **[adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current](http://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current)** or from the Office of Administrative Rules, Department of Administration, Statehouse Mail, Boise, ID 83720, and may be reviewed in some libraries. Maps are for general reference only.

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2022-2024-Fishing-2nd Edition/BOC/  
pca 31918/11-2022/175,000 ROP/NJ

Idaho Department of Fish & Game  
**Fishing Rules 2022–2024**

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**WHAT'S NEW**

- Panhandle Region: Pend Oreille River and Lake Pend Oreille boundary modifications (Pages 8–11)
- Southwest Region: several alpine lakes changed to general rules, Dick Knox Pond new trophy bass regulations (Pages 17–21)
- Magic Valley Region: Anderson Ranch Reservoir kokanee limit now 15/day, Baker Lake simplified 2-trout bag limit (Pages 22–28)
- Southeast Region: Blackfoot Reservoir - bass restrictions removed, Bannock Reservoir, Edson Fichter, and Montpelier Rearing Ponds adopt general rules (Pages 22–28)
- Southeast Region: Bear Lake - harvest of wild (unmarked) or hatchery Cutthroat Trout (adipose clipped) now allowed. Snake River - simplified seasons, limits, and gear restrictions from Eagle Rock to American Falls Dam. (Pages 29–32)
- Upper Snake Region: Henrys Lake harvest season and new catch-and-release season added (Pages 33–37)
- Salmon Region: Lemhi and Pahsimeroi rivers - trout length limits changed to general rules. Stanley Lake - trout limit may include only 2 Lake Trout per day (Pages 38–40)
- Clearwater River and Lower Snake River: new steelhead seasons and bag limits for 2022-2024 (Page 44)
- Fall Chinook and Coho salmon seasons and bag limits now included in this book (Page 45)

**Who needs a license to fish in Idaho:**

- **Any person 14 years of age or older is required to purchase a fishing license**
- **Resident** children under 14:
  - do NOT need to purchase a fishing license
  - can keep their own daily bag limit
  - may purchase a salmon/steelhead permit to keep their own limit of salmon/steelhead
  - may purchase a 2-pole permit
- **Nonresident** children under 14 years of age:
  - must be accompanied by the holder of a valid Idaho fishing license, and
  - their harvested catch must be included in the license holder's limit
  - OR, they may purchase a nonresident license and have their own limit.
- Any license, tag or permit which is defaced, altered or tampered with shall be invalid from the date and time of issuance.
- Fishing on Indian reservations may require tribal licenses and following tribal regulations. Please consult respective tribes.

**Información Importante**

Este libro incluye información importante acerca de las leyes de pesca de Idaho. Usted puede ser multado o encarcelado si viola estas leyes. Por favor, encuentra alguien que lea inglés para explicar la información en este libro.

# HOW TO USE THIS BOOKLET

## Idaho Fish & Game Regions and Map

Panhandle: pages 8-11

Clearwater: pages 12-16

Southwest: pages 17-21

Magic Valley: pages 22-28

Southeast: pages 29-32

Upper Snake: pages 33-37

Salmon: pages 38-40



1. Find the region where you plan to fish



2. Find your fish species and its daily bag limit



3. See if the water is listed under Special Rule Waters



- If so, turn the page to find the Special Rules for that water

PANHANDLE REGION

Panhandle

**General Fishing Season for the Panhandle Region**  
 All Waters Open All Year  
Except as modified in Panhandle Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 10-11.  
 Fishing is not allowed within the posted upstream and downstream boundary of any fish weir or trap.

**Daily Bag Limits for the Panhandle Region**

The following daily bag limits apply to all waters of the Panhandle Region except as modified in Panhandle Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 10-11. The possession limit is 3-times the daily bag limit after the second day of the season.

<p><b>Bass</b> (<i>Largemouth and Smallmouth</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bass limit is 6, both species combined</li> </ul> <p><b>Brook Trout</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brook Trout limit is 25</li> </ul> <p><b>Bull Trout</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bull Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release</li> </ul> <p><b>Burbot</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burbot limit is 6</li> </ul> <p><b>Chinook Salmon</b> (<i>landlocked</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chinook Salmon limit is 2, none under 20 inches</li> </ul> <p><b>Kokanee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kokanee limit is 15</li> </ul> <p><b>Sturgeon</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fishing for or targeting sturgeons in the Kootenai River is illegal</li> <li>• Sturgeon limit is 0</li> </ul>	<p><b>Tiger Muskie</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tiger Muskie limit is 2, none under 40 inches</li> </ul> <p><b>Trout</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Includes Brown Trout, Cutthroat Trout, Golden Trout, Lake Trout, Rainbow Trout, Splake, Arctic Grayling, steelhead (e.g., Tiger Trout)</li> <li>• Trout limit is 6, all species combined</li> </ul> <p><small>Does not include Bull Trout and Brook Trout which are listed separately.</small></p> <p><b>Whitefish</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whitefish limit is 25</li> </ul> <p><b>All Other Fish Species</b> <small>includes bullheads &amp; crayfish</small></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No bag, size or possession limit</li> </ul> <p><small>Check for potential fish consumption advisories. See Page 68.</small></p>
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**Special Rule Waters for the Panhandle Region (see Pages 10-11 for details)**

Anderson Lake	Deep Creek and tributaries	Robinson Lake
Antelope Lake	Fraserman Lake	Roman Nose Lake #3
Avonlea Lake	Gambelle (Gambrell) Lake	Round Lake (Bonner County)
Blue Lake (Priest River Drainage)	Gold Creek	St. Joe River and tributaries
Blue Lake (Coeur d'Alene Drainage)	Gerrits Creek and tributaries	St. Maries River and tributaries
Bonner Lake	Griffith Lake	Shepherd Lake
Brush Lake	Hayden Creek and tributaries	Sinclair Lake
Chase Lake	Heyden Lake	Smith Lake
Clark Fork River and tributaries	Jewett Lake	Spirit Lake
Clearwater River, Little North Fork and tributaries	Kelso Lake	Spokane River
Coeur d'Alene Lake	Kootenai River	Trestle Creek and tributaries
Coeur d'Alene River and tributaries	Lake Pend Oreille	Upper Priest Lake and tributaries
Coeur d'Alene River, Little North Fork and tributaries	Lower Golden Lake	
Coeur d'Alene River, North Fork and tributaries	Mirror Lake	
Coeur d'Alene River, South Fork and tributaries	Moyle River	
Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation	Pack River and tributaries	
Dawson Lake	Pond Oreille River	
	Perkins Lake	
	Priest Lake and tributaries	
	Priest River and tributaries	

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*General Information and Definitions pertaining to rules can be found starting on Page 47.*

# HOW TO AVOID FISHING VIOLATIONS

Idaho Fish and Game reminds all anglers to review Idaho's fishing seasons and rules and act within the law. **Here are common fishing violations, and how to avoid them:**

**Fishing without a valid license:** Any person 14 years or older must have a valid Idaho fishing license or permit to fish for fish, bullfrogs or crayfish. Anglers can buy a license at vendors, Fish and Game offices, by phone at (800) 554-8685 or at [gooutdoorsidaho.com](http://gooutdoorsidaho.com).

**Fishing with a barbed hook where prohibited:** Barbless hook may be required for certain waters and for certain species, including salmon, steelhead, sturgeon and some trout fishing. Check the Special Rule Waters for each region.

**Exceeding the legal number of poles:** Anglers are limited to one pole per person unless a person has a two-pole permit. Anglers may fish up to five lines while ice fishing. See Page 47.

**Fishing without your license in possession:** You must have a printed license, or electronic version with you while fishing. If you buy online, save a copy to your smartphone, and you can also use a photo of your printed license. But you must possess printed copies of salmon/steelhead tags.

**Fishing during a closed season:** Many waters, or fish species, are closed part of the year. Check the General Fishing Seasons for the region you are fishing in, and also check the Special Rule Waters for that region. Salmon and steelhead seasons frequently change, so check [idfg.idaho.gov](http://idfg.idaho.gov) for their current status.

**Have a question about fishing seasons and bag limits? Call any Fish and Game office (see Page 4)**



## PROXY STATEMENT (To transport fish taken by another person)

Taker's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Taker's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Taker's Address \_\_\_\_\_

License No. \_\_\_\_\_ Tag No. \_\_\_\_\_

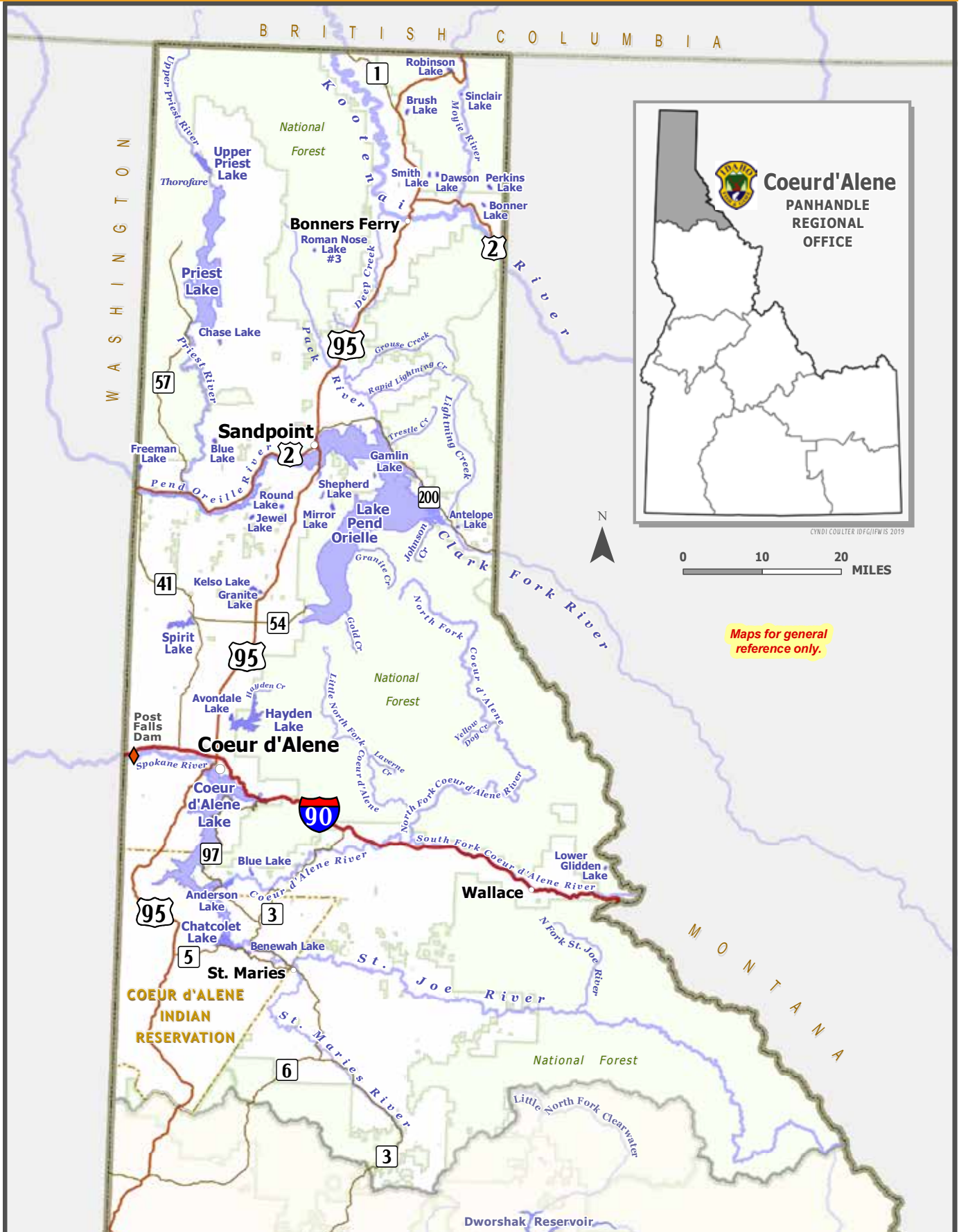
Fish Species	Description & Number Taken	Water Caught	Date

**Other Game:**

Species \_\_\_\_\_ #Taken \_\_\_\_\_ Date Killed \_\_\_\_\_



# PANHANDLE REGION



## General Fishing Season for the Panhandle Region

### All Waters Open All Year

Except as modified in Panhandle Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 10-11.

**Fishing is not allowed within the posted upstream and downstream boundary of any fish weir or trap.**

## Daily Bag Limits for the Panhandle Region

The following daily bag limits apply to all waters of the Panhandle Region except as modified in Panhandle Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 10-11. The possession limit is 3-times the daily bag limit.

### **Bass** (*Largemouth and Smallmouth*)

- Bass limit is 6, both species combined

### **Brook Trout**

- Brook Trout limit is 25

### **Bull Trout**

- Bull Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release

### **Burbot**

- Burbot limit is 6

### **Chinook Salmon** (*land-locked*)

- Chinook Salmon limit is 2, none under 20 inches

### **Kokanee**

- Kokanee limit is 15

### **Sturgeon**

- Fishing for or targeting sturgeon in the Kootenai River is illegal
- Sturgeon limit is 0

### **Tiger Muskie**

- Tiger Muskie limit is 2, none under 40 inches

**Trout** includes *Brown Trout, Cutthroat Trout, Golden Trout, Lake Trout, Rainbow Trout, Splake, Arctic Grayling, trout hybrids (e.g. Tiger Trout)*

- Trout limit is 6, all species combined

**Does not include Bull Trout and Brook Trout which are listed separately**

### **Whitefish**

- Whitefish limit is 25

**All Other Fish Species** includes *bullfrogs and crayfish*

- No bag, size or possession limit

**Check for potential fish consumption advisories.**

**See Page 68.**

## Special Rule Waters for the Panhandle Region (see Pages 10-11 for details)

Anderson Lake	Deep Creek and tributaries	Robinson Lake
Antelope Lake	Freeman Lake	Roman Nose Lake #3
Avondale Lake	Gamble (Gamlin) Lake	Round Lake (Bonner County)
Blue Lake (Priest River Drainage)	Gold Creek	St. Joe River and tributaries
Blue Lake (Coeur d' Alene Drainage)	Granite Creek and tributaries	St. Maries River and tributaries
Bonner Lake	Granite Lake	Shepherd Lake
Brush Lake	Hayden Creek and tributaries	Sinclair Lake
Chase Lake	Hayden Lake	Smith Lake
Clark Fork River and tributaries	Jewel Lake	Spirit Lake
Clearwater River, Little North Fork and tributaries	Kelso Lake	Spokane River and tributaries
Coeur d' Alene Lake	Kootenai River	Trestle Creek and tributaries
Coeur d'Alene River and tributaries	Lake Pend Oreille	Upper Priest Lake and tributaries
Coeur d' Alene River, Little North Fork and tributaries	Lower Glidden Lake	
Coeur d' Alene River, North Fork and tributaries	Mirror Lake	
Coeur d' Alene River, South Fork and tributaries	Moyie River	
Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation	Pack River and tributaries	
Dawson Lake	Pend Oreille River	
	Perkins Lake	
	Priest Lake and tributaries	
	Priest River and tributaries	

# Special Rule Waters for the Panhandle Region

For waters not listed below, see Page 9 for fishing season, bag and possession limits, and rules that apply to all waters within the Panhandle Region.

## Anderson Lake

(includes the channel to the Coeur d'Alene River)

- Bass limit is 6, only 2 may be Largemouth Bass, no Largemouth Bass under 16 inches

## Antelope Lake - Electric motors only

## Avondale Lake - Electric motors only

## Blue Lake (Priest River drainage) - Electric motors only

## Blue Lake (Coeur d'Alene drainage; includes the channel to the Coeur d'Alene River)

- Bass limit is 6, only 2 may be Largemouth Bass, no Largemouth Bass under 16 inches

## Bonner Lake - Electric motors only

## Brush Lake - Electric motors only

## Chase Lake - Electric motors only

- Bass limit is 6, only 2 may be Largemouth Bass, no Largemouth Bass under 16 inches

## Clark Fork River

Section: Entire river upstream of a straight line extending north of county boat dock (near mouth of Johnson Creek) to Bear Paw Point (southwest tip of Denton Slough)

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- Rainbow Trout catch-and-release December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend
- No limit on lake trout

## Clark Fork River tributaries

(includes Lightning Creek and tributaries)

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- Rainbow Trout catch-and-release December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend
- No bait allowed Dec. 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend

## Clearwater River, Little North Fork and tributaries

- Trout limit is 2

## Coeur d'Alene Lake (includes Benewah and Chatcolet lakes, Coeur d'Alene River "Chain Lakes" and all tributaries to Coeur d'Alene Lake)

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- Lake Creek and tributaries, closed to fishing

## Coeur d'Alene River and tributaries

Section: From the mouth to the confluence of the North Fork and South Fork

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of any trout with a red or orange slash below jaw

## Coeur d'Alene River, Little North Fork and tributaries

Section: From the mouth upstream to Laverne Creek

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of any trout with a red or orange slash below jaw

## Section: From and including Laverne Creek upstream

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of any trout with a red or orange slash below jaw
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

## Coeur d'Alene River, North Fork and tributaries

Section: From the confluence of the North Fork and South Fork upstream to Yellow Dog Creek

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of any trout with a red or orange slash below jaw

Section: From and including Yellow Dog Creek upstream

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of any trout with a red or orange slash below jaw
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

## Coeur d'Alene River, South Fork and tributaries

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of any trout with a red or orange slash below jaw

## Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation - Contact the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Office

## Dawson Lake - Electric motors only

## Deep Creek and tributaries

- Rainbow Trout catch-and-release December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend

## Freeman Lake - Electric motors only

## Gamble (Gamlin) Lake - Electric motors only

## Gold Creek (Pend Oreille Lake; includes North and South Gold creeks and tributaries)

- Closed to fishing

## Granite Creek and tributaries (Pend Oreille Lake)

- Closed to fishing

## Granite Lake - Electric motors only

## Hayden Creek and tributaries

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - closed to fishing

## Hayden Lake

- Bass limit is 6, only 2 may be Largemouth Bass, no Largemouth Bass under 20 inches
- Crappie limit is 6, none under 10 inches

## Jewel Lake - Electric motors only

## Kelso Lake - Electric motors only

## Kootenai River

- Trout limit is 2, no Rainbow or Cutthroat Trout under 16 inches
- Sturgeon - Fishing for or targeting sturgeon in the Kootenai River is illegal

**Lake Pend Oreille** *(includes Sand, Strong, Riser, Bayview, and Mirror creeks and their tributaries)*

- No limit on the number of fishing rods per angler while fishing from a boat
- Bass limit is 6, only 2 may be Largemouth Bass, no Largemouth Bass under 16 inches
- No limit on Lake Trout, Lake Trout can be possessed in the field or in transit with head removed
- No harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- Rainbow Trout limit is 2, only 1 over 20 inches

**Lower Glidden Lake** - Electric motors only**Mirror Lake** - Electric motors only**Moyie River**

- Trout limit is 2

**Pack River and tributaries** *from the railroad bridge near the mouth upstream; includes Grouse Creek and tributaries and Rapid Lightning Creek and tributaries)*

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- Rainbow Trout catch-and-release December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend
- No bait allowed December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend
- Fishing closed 100 yards upstream and downstream of Grouse Creek Falls (on Grouse Creek)

**Pend Oreille River**

*(from Highway 95 bridge at Sandpoint downstream to Idaho-Washington border, including tributaries and sloughs to the edge of flat water)*

- Bass limit is 6, only 2 may be Largemouth Bass, no Largemouth Bass under 16 inches
- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

**Perkins Lake** - Electric motors only**Priest Lake and tributaries** *(including Thorofare)*

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- Kokanee limit is 6

**Priest River and tributaries**

*(from its mouth to Priest Lake)*

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

**Robinson Lake** - Electric motors only

- Bass limit is 6, only 2 may be Largemouth Bass, no Largemouth Bass under 16 inches

**Roman Nose Lake #3** - Electric motors only**Round Lake (Bonner County)** - Electric motors only**St. Joe River and tributaries** *(except St. Maries River)*

Section: From Coeur d'Alene Lake upstream to and including the North Fork St. Joe River

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of any trout with a red or orange slash below jaw

Section: From the North Fork St. Joe River upstream

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of any trout with a red or orange slash below jaw
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

**St. Maries River and tributaries**

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout limit is 2, no harvest of any trout with a red or orange slash below jaw
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 2

**Shepherd Lake** - Electric motors only**Sinclair Lake** - Electric motors only**Smith Lake** - Electric motors only**Spirit Lake**

- Kokanee limit is 25

**Spokane River and tributaries**

Section: From state line upstream to Post Falls Dam

- Trout limit is 2

Section: From Post Falls Dam upstream to Coeur d'Alene Lake

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

**Trestle Creek and tributaries**

- Closed to fishing

**Upper Priest Lake and tributaries**

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- No limit on Lake Trout
- Kokanee limit is 6

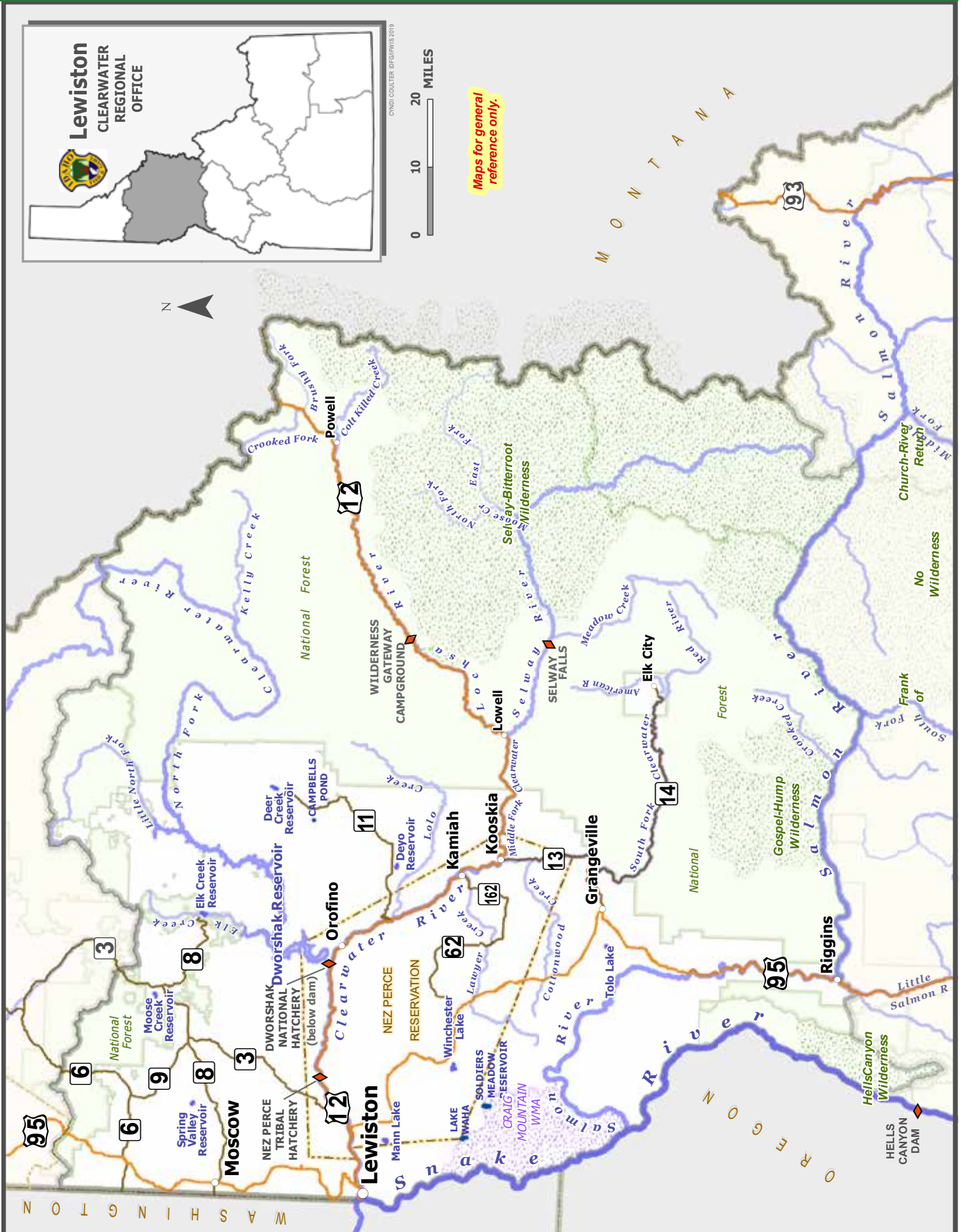


## Fishing & Boating Access Sites

For a complete guide to Idaho Fish and Game's access sites and other resources for anglers go to:

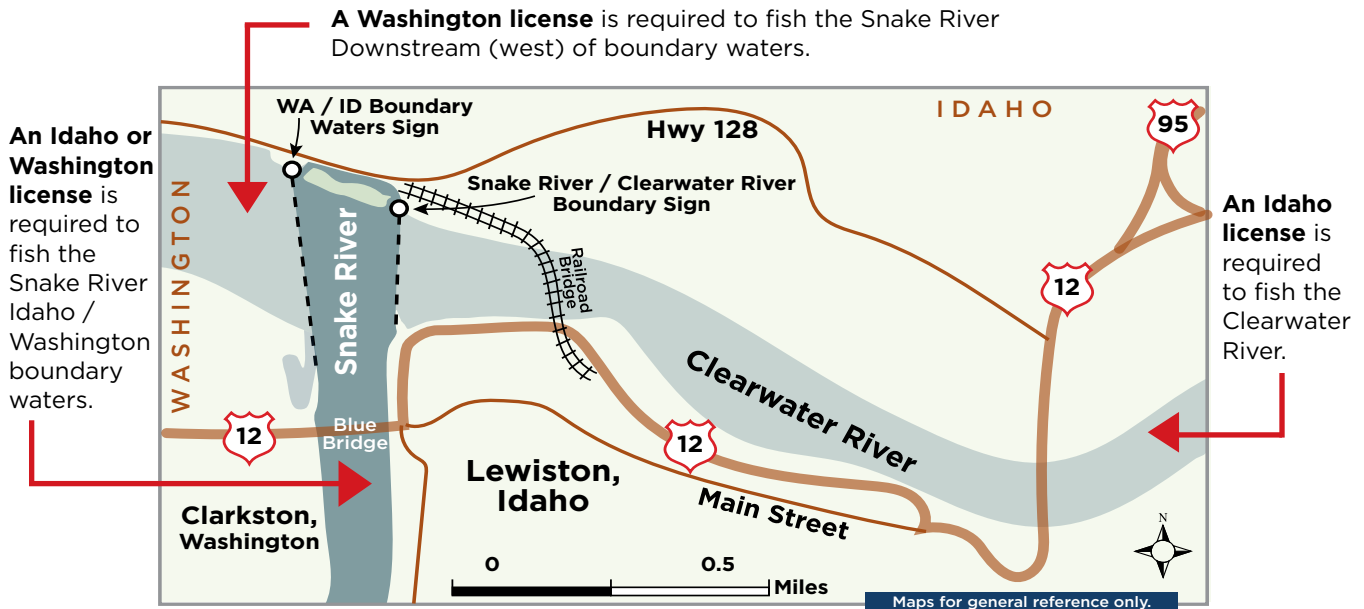
[idfg.idaho.gov/fish/access-guide](http://idfg.idaho.gov/fish/access-guide)

# CLEARWATER REGION



Maps for general reference only.

## Washington / Idaho Fishing In Boundary Waters



Clearwater

The Snake River between Idaho, Oregon, or Washington: The holder of a valid Idaho fishing license and salmon or steelhead permit may fish for those species provided the season is open in the Snake River where it forms the boundary between the states of Idaho and Oregon or Washington, subject to the fish and game laws of Idaho, but may not fish from the shoreline, including wading, and may not fish in sloughs or tributaries on the Oregon or Washington side. Any Oregon or Washington license holder has the same rights and restrictions with reference to the Idaho side. Any angler who fishes on the Snake River or any other water forming an Idaho boundary is entitled to have in possession only the limit allowed by one license regardless of the number of licenses in possession.

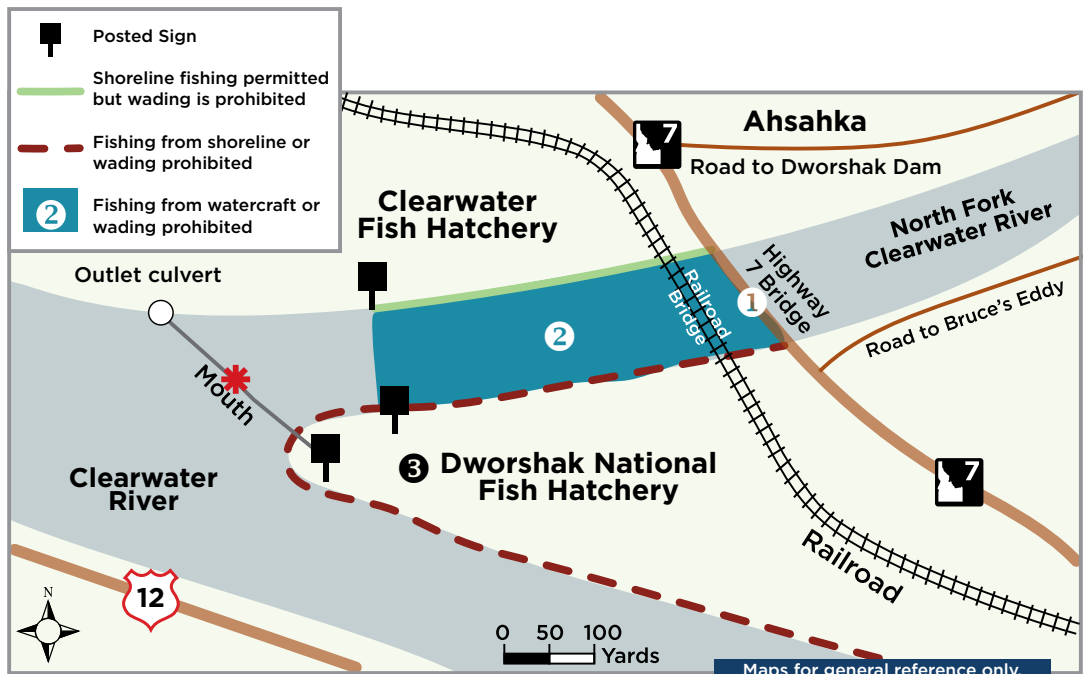
## Special Restrictions - North Fork Clearwater River

### KEY POINTS:

① When fishing from Ahsahka Highway 7 Bridge, it is unlawful to take or attempt to take any fish downstream of the railroad bridge. Fishing from the railroad bridge is prohibited.

② Fishing from any watercraft or wading is prohibited between the posted signs about 150 yards upstream from the mouth of the North Fork Clearwater River and the Ahsahka Highway 7 Bridge.

③ Fishing from the shoreline or wading along the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery is prohibited. Wading across the Clearwater or North Fork Clearwater rivers to fish near the Dworshak Hatchery perimeter is prohibited.



\* Mouth of North Fork Clearwater River defined as a straight line between the Clearwater Hatchery outlet culvert on the west side and the posted sign located at the tip of land below Dworshak Hatchery on the east side.

# CLEARWATER REGION

## General Fishing Season for the Clearwater Region

### All Waters Open All Year

Except as modified in Clearwater Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 15-16.

**Fishing is not allowed within the posted upstream and downstream boundary of any fish weir or trap.**

## Daily Bag Limits for the Clearwater Region

The following daily bag limits apply to all waters of the Clearwater Region except as modified in Clearwater Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 15-16. The possession limit is 3-times the daily bag limit.

### **Bass** (*Largemouth and Smallmouth*)

- In rivers and streams, no bag, size or possession limits
- In lakes and reservoirs, limit is 6, both species combined

### **Brook Trout**

- Brook Trout limit is 25

### **Bull Trout**

- Bull Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release

### **Kokanee**

- Kokanee limit is 25

### **Salmon**

- Spring and summer Chinook Salmon seasons and limits are set by the Idaho Fish and Game Commission and issued in separate brochures
- Seasons and limits for fall Chinook Salmon and Coho Salmon can be found on page 45 in this booklet
- Sockeye Salmon limit is 0 and fishing for or targeting Sockeye Salmon is illegal
- Fishing for or targeting salmon is prohibited unless a salmon season is specifically opened for that water

### **Steelhead** (*ocean-going*)

- Defined as Rainbow Trout longer than twenty (20) inches in length in the Snake River drainage below Hells Canyon Dam, the Salmon River drainage (excluding lakes and reservoirs), and the Clearwater River drainage (excluding that portion above Dworshak Dam, and lakes)
- Seasons and limits for steelhead can be found on page 44
- Fishing for or targeting steelhead is prohibited unless a steelhead season is specifically opened for that water

### **Sturgeon**

- Sturgeon limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Sturgeon must not be removed from the water and must be released upon landing
- Barbless hooks are required
- Use of a sliding swivel device to secure a weight, and a lighter test line to secure weight to sliding swivel device is required. See Page 54 for details

### **Tiger Muskie**

- Tiger Muskie limit is 2, none under 40 inches

**Trout** includes *Cutthroat Trout, Rainbow Trout, and trout hybrids (e.g. Tiger Trout)*

- In rivers and streams, trout limit is 2, all species combined
- In lakes, reservoirs, ditches and canals, trout limit is 6, all species combined

**Does not include Bull Trout and Brook Trout which are listed separately**

### **Whitefish**

- Whitefish limit is 25

**Protected Nongame Fish** includes *Pacific Lamprey and Sand Roller*

- May not be harvested or possessed

**All Other Fish Species** includes *bullfrogs and crayfish*

- No bag, size or possession limit

**Check for potential fish consumption advisories. See Page 68.**

## Special Rule Waters for the Clearwater Region (see Pages 15-16 for details)

Clearwater River  
Clearwater River, Middle Fork  
Clearwater River, North Fork  
Clearwater River, South Fork  
Crooked Fork  
(tributary to Lochsa River)  
Deer Creek Reservoir  
Deyo Reservoir

Dworshak Reservoir  
Elk Creek and tributaries  
(tributary to Dworshak Reservoir)  
Elk Creek Reservoir  
Kelly Creek and tributaries  
Lochsa River  
Mann Lake  
Moose Creek Reservoir

Salmon River  
Salmon River tributaries  
Selway River  
Snake River  
(ID/WA border upstream to Hells Canyon Dam)  
Spring Valley Reservoir  
Winchester Lake

# Special Rule Waters for the Clearwater Region

For waters not listed below, see Page 14 for fishing season, bag and possession limits, and rules that apply to all waters within the Clearwater Region.

## Clearwater River See map on page 13

### Section: From the mouth upstream to the Clearwater River Bridge at Orofino

- Trout limit is 6; only trout with a clipped adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar, may be kept; no harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- Fishing between posted boundaries 100 yards upstream and downstream from the Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery Ladder (near Cherry Lane Bridge) and extending into the river channel 50 yards is prohibited
- Fishing from the shoreline or wading along the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery is prohibited

### Section: From the Clearwater River Bridge at Orofino upstream to the confluence of the South Fork and Middle Fork Clearwater rivers

- Trout limit is 6; only trout with a clipped adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar, may be kept; no harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- September 1 through April 30 - No motors allowed

## Clearwater River, Middle Fork

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 - trout limit is 2, none under 14 inches
- September 1 through April 30 - No motors allowed

## Clearwater River, North Fork See map on page 13

### Section: From the mouth upstream to Dworshak Dam

- Trout limit is 6; only trout with a clipped adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar, may be kept; no harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- When fishing from Ahsahka Highway 7 Bridge, it is illegal to take or attempt to take any fish downstream of the railroad bridge; fishing from the railroad bridge is prohibited
- Fishing from any watercraft or wading is prohibited between the posted line approximately 150 yards upstream from the mouth of the North Fork Clearwater River and the Ahsahka Highway 7 Bridge
- Fishing from the shoreline or wading along the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery is prohibited

### Section: From the upper end of flat water of Dworshak Reservoir upstream

- Barbless hooks required
- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - trout limit is 0, catch-and-release, no bait allowed except maggots

- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 - trout limit is 2, no Cutthroat Trout under 14 inches, no bait allowed

## Clearwater River, South Fork

- Cutthroat Trout limit is 0, catch and release only
- Single-pointed barbless hooks are required while fishing for steelhead and salmon

## Crooked Fork (tributary to Lochsa River)

### Section: From the mouth to Brushy Fork

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

### Section: From Brushy Fork upstream - Clearwater Region general rules apply

## Deer Creek Reservoir

- Trout limit is 6, only 2 may be Tiger Trout, no Tiger Trout under 14 inches

## Deyo Reservoir

- Bass limit is 2, none under 16 inches

## Dworshak Reservoir

- Trout limit is 6, only 2 may be Cutthroat Trout, no Cutthroat Trout under 14 inches

## Elk Creek and tributaries (tributary to Dworshak Reservoir)

- Trout limit is 6, Brook Trout must be counted in trout limit

## Elk Creek Reservoir

- Trout limit is 6, Brook Trout must be counted in trout limit

## Kelly Creek and tributaries

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

## Lochsa River

### Section: From the mouth upstream to Wilderness Gateway Campground Motor Bridge, near Highway 12 milepost 122

- Barbless hooks required
- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release, no bait allowed except maggots
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 2, none under 14 inches, no bait allowed

### Section: From Wilderness Gateway Campground Motor Bridge upstream to the confluence of Colt Killed Creek and Crooked Fork Creek

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required



**Mann Lake** - Electric motors only  
 • Bass limit is 2, none under 16 inches

**Moose Creek Reservoir** - Electric motors only

**Salmon River**

- Trout limit is 6; only trout with a clipped adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar, may be kept; no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

**Salmon River tributaries**

Section: Those tributaries from the mouth of the Salmon River upstream to the Middle Fork Salmon River, except Little Salmon River (Page 20) and South Fork Salmon River (Page 21).

- Trout limit is 2

Section: Those tributaries upstream from the mouth of the Middle Fork Salmon River - See Page 40, Salmon River tributaries, Special Rule Waters

**Selway River**

Section: From the mouth upstream to Selway Falls cable car

- Barbless hooks required
- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - trout limit is 0, catch-and-release, no bait allowed except maggots

- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 2, none under 14 inches, no bait allowed

Section: From Selway Falls cable car upstream to Selway Falls Bridge at Meadow Creek

- Closed to fishing

Section: From Selway Falls Bridge at Meadow Creek upstream

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

**Snake River** (ID/WA border upstream to Hells Canyon Dam)

- Trout limit is 6; only trout with a clipped adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar, may be kept; no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

**Spring Valley Reservoir** - Electric motors only

- Bass limit is 2, none under 16 inches

**Winchester Lake** - Electric motors only



ENTRANCE TO ALL

**30**  
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**STATE**  
**PARKS**  
 FOR ONLY  
**\$10**

IT'S TOO GOOD  
 TO PASS UP

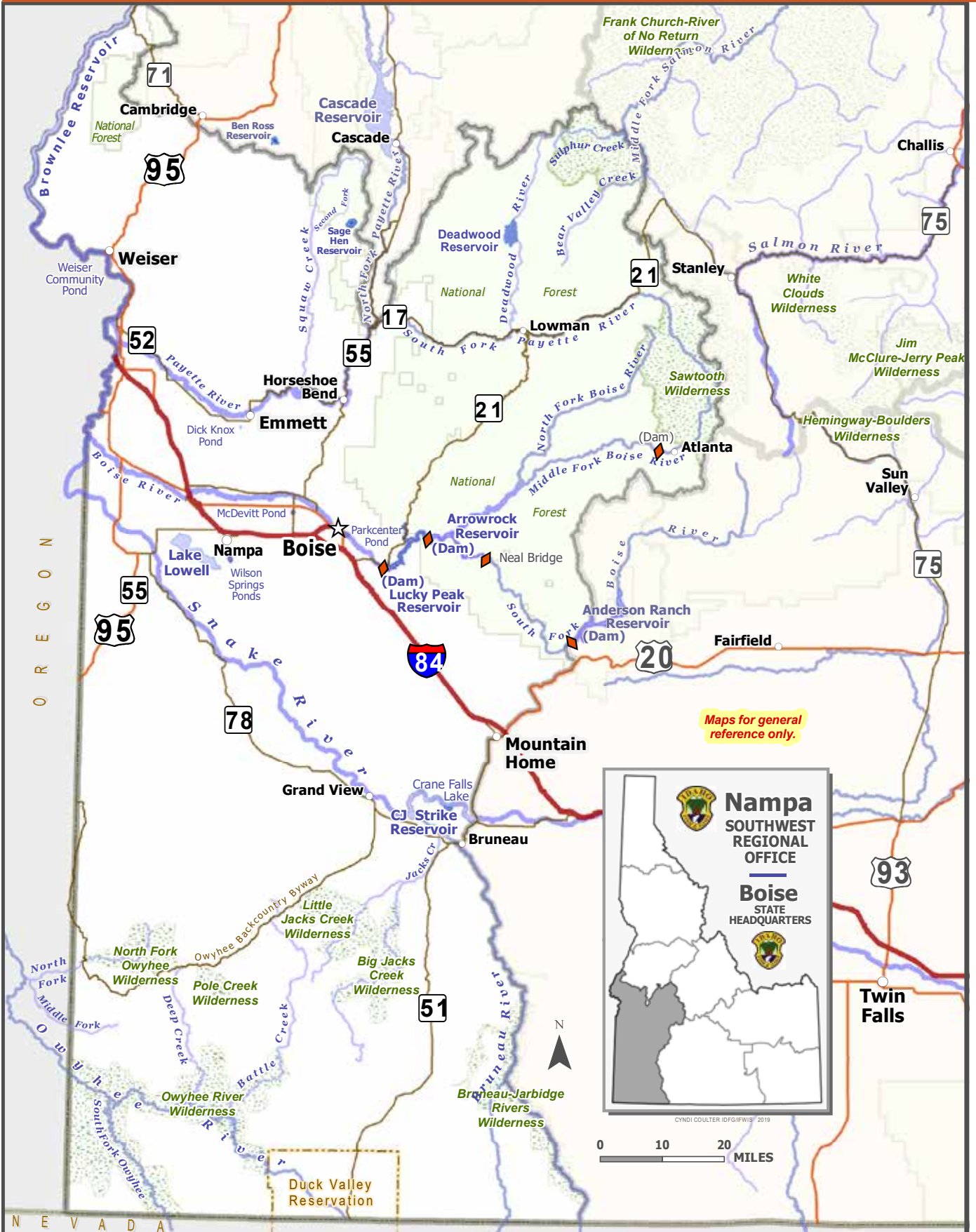


**NORTH IDAHO STATE PARKS**  
 Coeur d'Alene Parkway  
 Coeur d'Alene's Old Mission  
 Dworshak  
 Farragut  
 Hells Gate  
 Heyburn  
 Mary Minerva McCroskey  
 Priest Lake  
 Round Lake  
 Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes  
 Winchester Lake

**SOUTH/EAST IDAHO STATE PARKS**  
 Ashton-Tetonia Trail  
 Bear Lake  
 Bruneau Dunes  
 Castle Rocks  
 City Of Rocks  
 Eagle Island  
 Lake Cascade  
 Lucky Peak  
 Harriman  
 Henrys Lake  
 Ponderosa  
 Thousand Springs  
 Lake Walcott  
 Land Of The Yankee Fork  
 Massacre Rocks  
 Three Island Crossing

[IdahoParksPassport.com](http://IdahoParksPassport.com)

\*3 state parks managed by different agencies: Mowry, Veterans, & Glade Creek



Maps for general reference only.

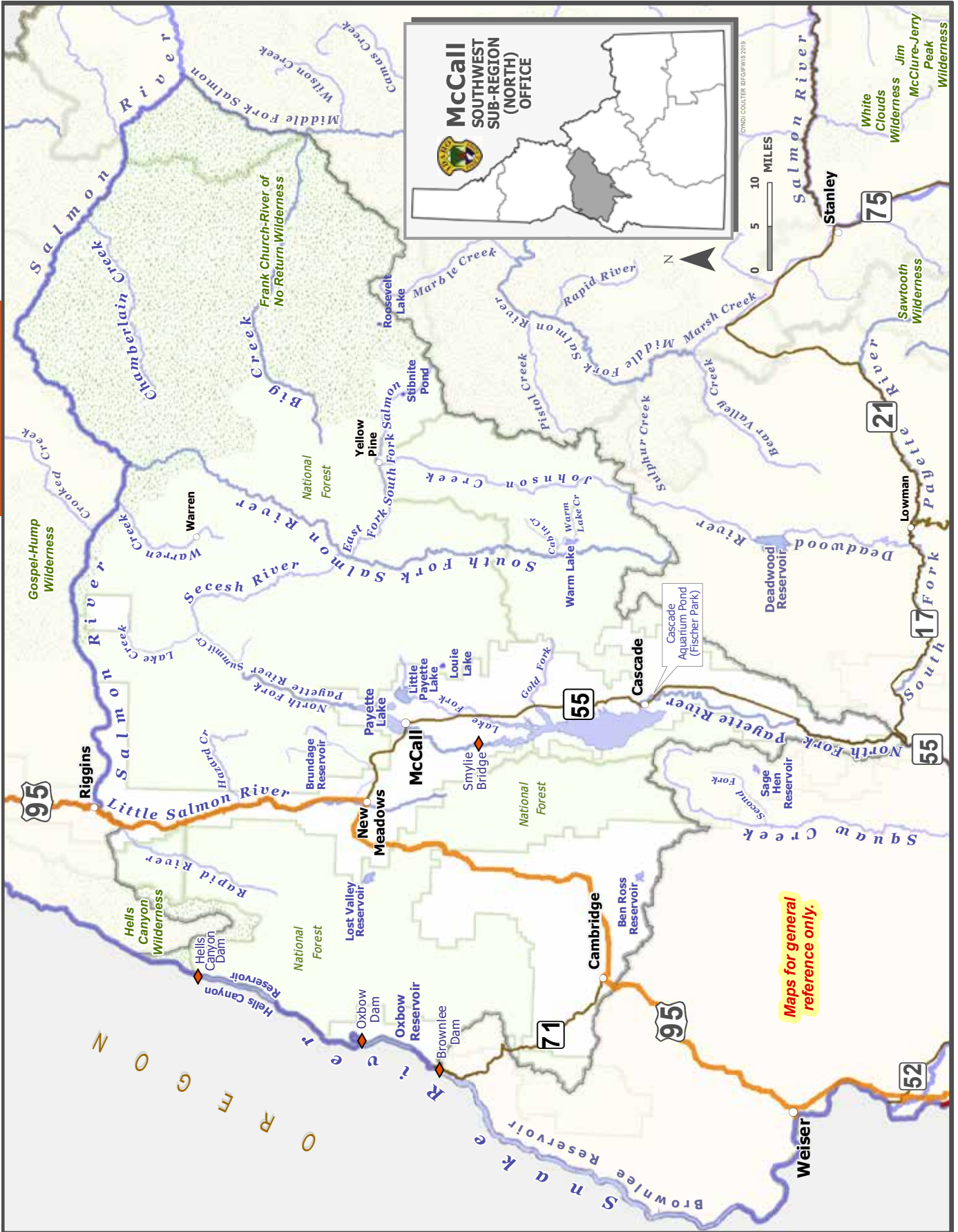
**Nampa**  
SOUTHWEST REGIONAL OFFICE

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**Boise**  
STATE HEADQUARTERS

CYNDI COULTER IDFG/IFWIS/ 2019





## General Fishing Season for the Southwest Region (includes McCall Sub-Region)

### All Waters Open All Year

Except as modified in Southwest Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 20-21.

**Fishing is not allowed within the posted upstream and downstream boundary of any fish weir or trap.**

### Daily Bag Limits for the Southwest Region

The following daily bag limits apply to all waters of the Southwest Region except as modified in Southwest Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 20-21. The possession limit is 3-times the daily bag limit.

#### **Bass** (*Largemouth and Smallmouth*)

- Bass limit is 6, both species combined
- None under 12 inches

#### **Brook Trout**

- Brook Trout limit is 25
- Harvest allowed during any open season unless otherwise noted under Special Rules – if gear or bait restrictions are listed, they must be followed when fishing for Brook Trout

#### **Bull Trout**

- Bull Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release

#### **Kokanee**

- Kokanee limit is 6

#### **Salmon**

- Spring and summer Chinook Salmon seasons and limits are set by the Idaho Fish and Game Commission and issued in separate brochures
- Seasons and limits for fall Chinook Salmon and Coho Salmon can be found on page 45 in this booklet
- Sockeye Salmon limit is 0 and fishing for or targeting Sockeye Salmon is illegal
- Fishing for or targeting salmon is prohibited unless a salmon season is specifically opened for that water

#### **Steelhead** (*ocean-going*)

- Defined as Rainbow Trout longer than twenty (20) inches in length in the Salmon River drainage (excluding lakes and reservoirs). Between Hells Canyon Dam and Oxbow Dam and the Boise River from its mouth upstream to Barber Dam during steelhead seasons, steelhead are Rainbow Trout over twenty (20) inches in length with the adipose fin clipped (as evidenced by a healed scar)

- Fishing for or targeting steelhead is prohibited unless a steelhead season is specifically opened for that water (see page 44)

#### **Sturgeon**

- Sturgeon limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Sturgeon must not be removed from the water and must be released upon landing
- Barbless hooks are required
- Use of a sliding swivel device to secure a weight, and a lighter test line to secure weight to sliding swivel device is required. See page 54 for details

#### **Tiger Muskie**

- Tiger Muskie limit is 2, none under 40 inches

**Trout** includes *Brown Trout, Lake Trout, Golden Trout, Arctic Grayling, Cutthroat Trout, Rainbow Trout, land-locked Chinook and Coho Salmon, trout hybrids (e.g. Tiger Trout)*

- Trout limit is 6, all species combined

**Does not include Bull Trout and Brook Trout which are listed separately**

#### **Whitefish**

- Whitefish limit is 25
- Harvest allowed during any open season unless otherwise noted under Special Rules – if gear or bait restrictions are listed, they must be followed when fishing for whitefish

**Protected Nongame Fish** includes *Pacific Lamprey*

- May not be harvested or possessed

**All Other Fish Species** includes *bullfrogs and crayfish*

- No bag, size or possession limit

**Check for potential fish consumption advisories. See Page 68.**

### Special Rule Waters for the Southwest Region (See Pages 20-21 for details)

Ben Ross Reservoir	Deadwood Reservoir	Owyhee River and tributaries	Salmon River tributaries
Big Creek	Deadwood Reservoir tributaries	Oxbow Reservoir	Salmon River, Middle Fork and tributaries
Boise River	Dick Knox Pond	Parkcenter Pond	Salmon River, South Fork and tributaries
Boise River, Middle Fork	Duck Valley Indian Reservation	Payette River, North Fork	Squaw Creek and tributaries
Boise River, South Fork	Lake Lowell	Payette River, South Fork and tributaries	Stibnite Pond (Glory Hole)
Brundage Reservoir and tributaries	Little Payette Lake	Rapid River and tributaries	Warren Creek
Cascade Aquarium Pond	Louie Lake	Roosevelt Lake	Weiser Community Pond
Chamberlain Creek and tributaries	McDevitt Pond	Sage Hen Reservoir tributaries	Wilson Springs Ponds
Crane Falls Lake	Middle Fork Salmon River	Salmon River	
	M.K. Nature Center		

# Special Rule Waters for the Southwest Region

For waters not listed below, see Page 19 for fishing seasons, bag and possession limits, and rules that apply to all waters within the Southwest Region.

## Ben Ross Reservoir

- Bass limit is 2, none between 12 and 16 inches

## Big Creek

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

## Boise River

*from the mouth upstream to Lucky Peak Dam (lower Boise River)*

**Section: From the downstream side of the East Parkcenter Bridge to the upstream side of the West Parkcenter Bridge**

- Trout limit is 2, none under 14 inches

All other sections of the lower Boise River - Southwest Region general rules apply

## Boise River, Middle Fork

**Section: From the confluence of the North Fork upstream to Atlanta Dam**

- Trout limit is 2, none under 14 inches
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

All other sections of the Boise River, Middle Fork - Southwest Region general rules apply

## Boise River, South Fork

**Section: From Neal Bridge (Forest Road 189) upstream to Anderson Ranch Dam**

- No bait allowed, one barbless hook per fly or lure
- December 1 through March 31 – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- April 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit 2, none under 20 inches

Section: Boise River, South Fork upstream of Anderson Ranch Dam; see Magic Valley Region rules (Page 25)

## Brundage Reservoir and tributaries

- Trout limit is 2, none over 14 inches
- No bait allowed

## Cascade Aquarium Pond

- Closed to fishing

## Chamberlain Creek and tributaries

- Trout limit is 2

## Crane Falls Lake - Electric motors only

- Bass limit is 2, none under 20 inches

## Deadwood Reservoir

- Kokanee limit is 15

## Deadwood Reservoir tributaries

- Trout limit is 2
- Kokanee limit is 15

## Dick Knox Pond

- Bass limit is 2, none under 20 inches

## Duck Valley Indian Reservation

*contact the Duck Valley Indian Tribal Office*

## Lake Lowell

- January 1 to June 30 - bass limit is 0, catch-and-release
- July 1 to December 31- bass limit is 2, none between 12 and 16 inches

## Little Payette Lake

- Bass limit is 2, none under 20 inches
- Kokanee limit is 25

## Little Salmon River

- Southwest Region general rules apply

## Louie Lake (an alpine lake in the Boulder Creek drainage)

- Trout limit is 2, none under 20 inches
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

## McDevitt Pond

- Trout limit is 2

## Middle Fork Salmon River

*(see Salmon River, Middle Fork and tributaries)*

## M.K. Nature Center

- Closed to fishing

## Owyhee River and tributaries

- Bass limit is 6, any size

## Oxbow Reservoir

*(between Brownlee Dam and Oxbow Dam)*

- Bass limit is 2, none between 12 and 16 inches

## Parkcenter Pond

- Trout limit is 2

## Payette River, North Fork

**Section: From Payette Lake upstream, including tributaries**

- Kokanee limit is 0, catch-and-release

**Section: From Smylie Bridge (Hartsell) to Payette Lake**

- December 1 to Friday of Memorial Day weekend - trout limit is 0, catch-and-release

All other sections of the Payette River, North Fork - Southwest Region general rules apply

## Payette River, South Fork and tributaries

*(except the Middle Fork Payette drainage)*

- Trout limit is 2

## Rapid River and tributaries (tributary to the Little Salmon River)

- Trout limit is 2

## Roosevelt Lake

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

### Sage Hen Reservoir tributaries

- December 1 through June 15 - closed to fishing
- June 16 through November 30 - trout limit is 2

### Salmon River

- Trout limit is 6; only trout with a clipped adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar, may be kept; no harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- No bag, size or possession limits on bass

### Salmon River tributaries

- No bag, size or possession limits on bass

**Section: Those tributaries from the mouth of the Salmon River upstream to the mouth of the Middle Fork Salmon River (except Little Salmon River and South Fork Salmon River)**

- Trout limit is 2

**Section: Those tributaries upstream of the mouth of Middle Fork Salmon River -See Page 40, Salmon River tributaries, Special Rule Waters.**

### Salmon River, Middle Fork and tributaries

*(includes: Bear Valley, Big, Camas, Elk, Loon, Marsh, Sulphur creeks, and tributaries)*

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required
- No bag, size or possession limits on bass

### Salmon River, South Fork and tributaries

*(includes: Johnson Creek, East Fork South Fork Salmon River, Secesh River, Lake Creek, Summit Creek and tributaries)*

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required
- No bag, size or possession limits on bass

### Squaw Creek and tributaries

- Trout limit is 2

### Stibnite Pond *(Glory Hole)*

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

### Warren Creek

- Trout limit is 2

### Weiser Community Pond

- Trout limit is 2

### Wilson Springs Ponds *(all waters within the Wilson Springs access area including Wilson Drain)*

- Trout limit is 2

# FISHING TOURNAMENTS

Idaho Fish and Game regulates fishing tournaments to help conserve fish populations and minimize user conflicts



Photo Courtesy of Take Me Fishing

If you are holding an event that has any of the following:

- A live fish weigh-in;
- Awards of \$1,000 or more in cash or prizes;
- 20 or more expected participants\*

**You are required to apply for a fishing tournament permit.**

\*Contests for participants under the age of 14 are exempt

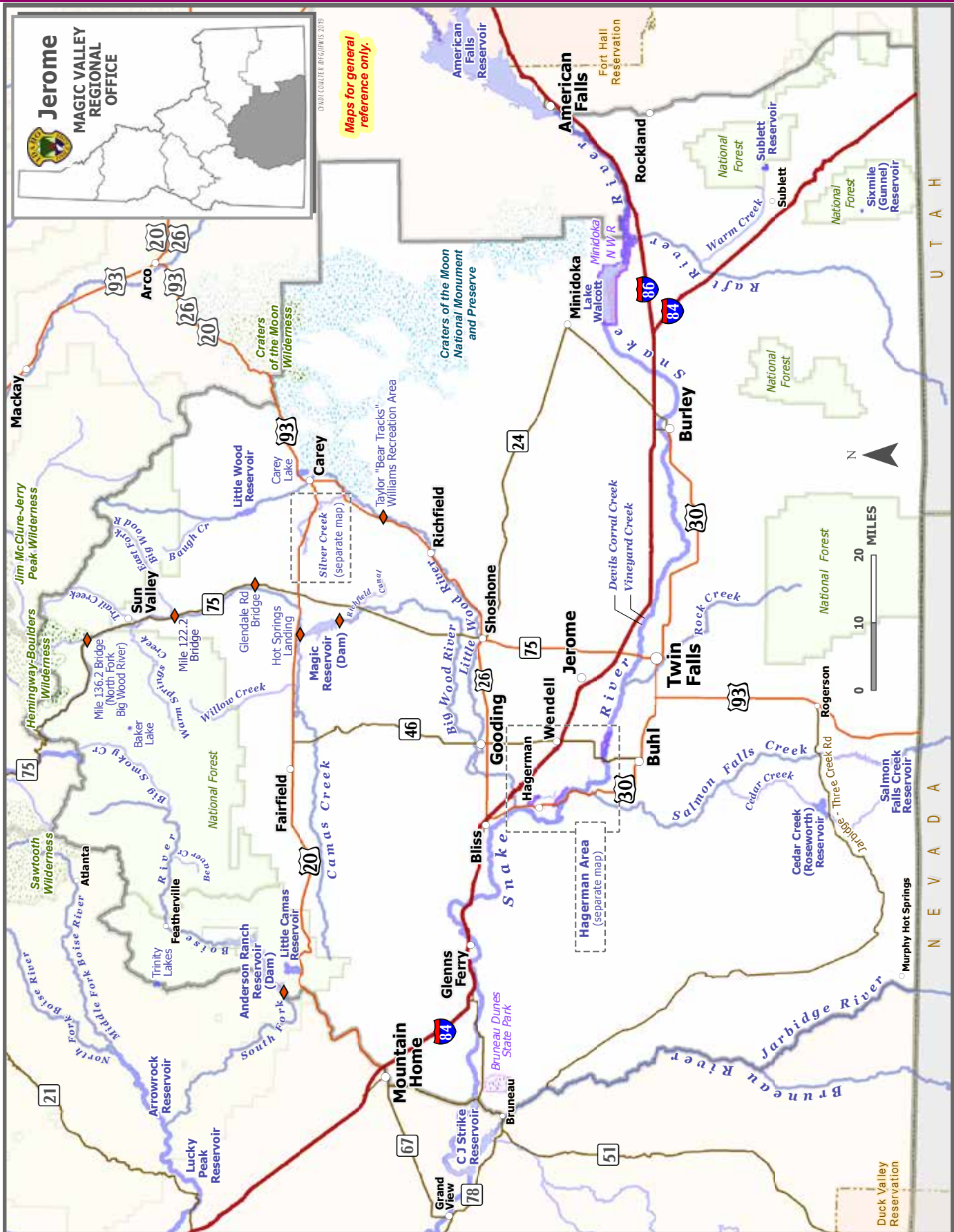


For application and information fess, go to:

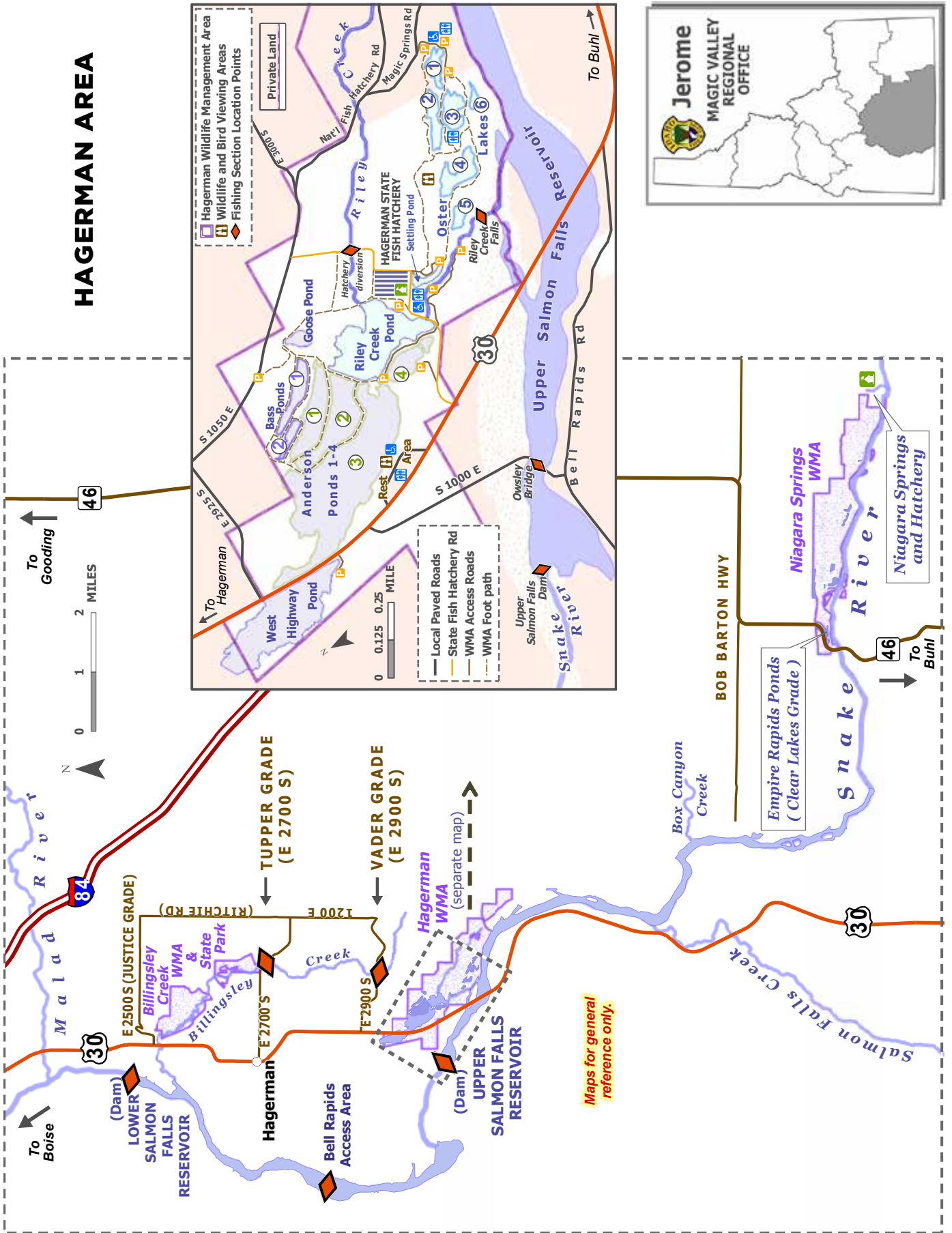
**[idfg.idaho.gov/fish/tournaments](http://idfg.idaho.gov/fish/tournaments)**

# MAGIC VALLEY REGION

## Magic Valley



# HAGERMAN AREA



Magic Valley



## General Fishing Season for the Magic Valley Region

### All Waters Open All Year

Except as modified in the Magic Valley Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 25-27.

**Fishing is not allowed within the posted upstream and downstream boundary of any fish weir or trap.**

## Daily Bag Limits for the Magic Valley Region

The following daily bag limits apply to all waters of the Magic Valley Region except as modified in Magic Valley Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 25-27. The possession limit is 3-times the daily bag limit.

### Bass (*Largemouth and Smallmouth*)

- Bass limit is 6, both species combined
- None under 12 inches

### Brook Trout

- Brook Trout limit is 25
- Harvest allowed during any open season unless otherwise noted under Special Rules – if gear or bait restrictions are listed, they must be followed when fishing for Brook Trout

### Bull Trout

- Bull Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release

### Kokanee

- Kokanee limit is 6

### Sturgeon

- Sturgeon limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Sturgeon must not be removed from the water and must be released upon landing
- Barbless hooks are required
- Use of a sliding swivel device to secure a weight, and a lighter test line to secure weight to sliding swivel device is required. See page 54 for details

### Tiger Muskie

- Tiger Muskie limit is 2, none under 40 inches

**Trout** includes *Brown Trout, Lake Trout, Golden Trout, Arctic Grayling, Cutthroat Trout, Rainbow Trout, land-locked Chinook and Coho Salmon, trout hybrids (e.g. Tiger Trout)*

- Trout limit is 6, all species combined
- In rivers and streams, only 2 of the 6 trout may be Cutthroat Trout

**Does not include Bull Trout and Brook Trout which are listed separately**

### Walleye

- Walleye limit is 6

### Whitefish

- Whitefish limit is 25
- Harvest allowed during any open season unless otherwise noted under Special Rules – if gear or bait restrictions are listed, they must be followed when fishing for whitefish

**Protected Nongame Fish** includes *Northern Leatherside Chub, Shoshone Sculpin, Wood River Sculpin, and Bluehead Sucker (also know as Green Sucker)*

- May not be harvested or possessed

**All Other Fish Species** includes *bullfrogs and crayfish*

- No bag, size or possession limit

**Check for potential fish consumption advisories. See Page 68.**

## Special Rule Waters for the Magic Valley Region (See Pages 25-27 for details)

Anderson Ranch Reservoir	Empire Rapids Ponds	Salmon Falls Creek Reservoir
Baker Lake	(Clear Lakes Grade-Niagara Springs WMA)	Silver Creek
Bell Rapids (See Snake River)	Sixmile Reservoir (Gunnel)	Silver Creek tributaries
Big Wood River	Hagerman Wildlife Management Area	Snake River
Big Wood River tributaries (upstream of Magic Reservoir)	Jarbidge River and tributaries	South Fork Boise River (see Boise River, South Fork)
Billingsley Creek	Little Wood River	Sublett Reservoir
Boise River, South Fork (upstream of Anderson Ranch Dam)	Magic Reservoir	Sublett Reservoir tributaries
Box Canyon Creek	Malad River	Trinity Lakes
Bruneau Dunes State Park	Niagara Springs Creek	Vineyard Creek
Carey Lake	Niagara Springs Wildlife Management Area	Willow Creek (tributary to Camas Creek)
Devils Corral Creek	Riley Creek (see Hagerman Wildlife Management Area)	

# Special Rule Waters for the Magic Valley Region

For waters not listed below, see Page 24 for fishing seasons, bag and possession limits, and rules that apply to all waters within the Magic Valley Region.

## Anderson Ranch Reservoir

- Kokanee limit is 15 per day

## Baker Lake (an alpine lake in Blaine County)

- Trout limit is 2

## Bell Rapids (See Snake River)

## Big Wood River

**Section: From the Richfield Canal Diversion upstream to Magic Dam**

- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through March 31 – trout limit is 6
- April 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – closed to fishing
- Bass limit is 6, any size

**Section: From the posted boundary about 700 yards east of Hot Springs Landing upstream to Glendale Road Bridge**

- December 1 through March 31 – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- April 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 6

**Section: From Glendale Road Bridge upstream to the Highway 75 Bridge near milepost 122.2**

- December 1 through March 31 – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- April 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 2, none between 12 and 16 inches

**Section: From Highway 75 Bridge near milepost 122.2 upstream to Highway 75 Bridge near milepost 136.2**

- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through March 31 – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release, no bait allowed, one barbless hook per fly or lure
- April 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – closed to fishing

**Section: From the Highway 75 Bridge near milepost 136.2 upstream to the headwaters of the Big Wood River**

- December 1 through March 31 – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- April 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 6

**All other sections of the Big Wood River - Magic Valley Region general rules apply**

## Big Wood River Tributaries

(upstream of Magic Reservoir)

- December 1 through March 31 – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- April 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 6

## Billingsley Creek

**Section: From Tupper Grade upstream to Vader Grade (see map Page 23)**

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 - trout limit is 6, fly-fishing only, no bait allowed

**All other sections of Billingsley Creek - Magic Valley Region general rules apply**

## Boise River, South Fork (upstream of Anderson Ranch Reservoir, see Southwest Region for information downstream from Anderson Ranch Dam)

**Section: From the mouth of Beaver Creek upstream to the mouth of Big Smoky Creek**

- Trout limit is 2, none under 14 inches
- No bait allowed, one barbless hook per fly or lure

**All other sections of the Boise River, South Fork upstream Anderson Ranch Dam - Magic Valley Region general rules apply**

## Box Canyon Creek

- Trout limit is 2

## Bruneau Dunes State Park - Electric motors only

- Bass limit is 2, none under 20 inches

## Carey Lake - Electric motors only

## Devils Corral Creek

- Trout limit is 2

## Empire Rapids Ponds

(Clear Lakes Grade-Niagara Springs WMA)

- Trout limit is 2

## Sixmile Reservoir (Gunnel)

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 2

**Hagerman Wildlife Management Area** - No motors

Section: The four Anderson Ponds, the Bass Ponds, Goose Pond, and the West Highway Pond (Highway 30) (see map Page 23)

- November 1 through June 30 – closed to fishing

Section: Oster Lakes, Riley Pond, and the Settling Pond

- November 1 through the last day of February – closed to fishing

Section: Riley Creek from the Falls upstream to the State Fish Hatchery Diversion

- November 1 through the last day of February – closed to fishing

All other sections of Riley Creek - Magic Valley Region general rules apply

**Jarbidge River and tributaries**

- Trout limit is 2

**Lake Walcott**

Section: From the downstream side of the Gifford Springs boat fishing zone (western boundary in Minnidoka NWR) upstream to Eagle Rock

- Bass limit is 2, any size
- Trout limit is 6, only 2 may be Cutthroat Trout

**Little Wood River**

Section: From the downstream end of the Taylor “Bear Tracks” Williams State Recreation Area near Highway 93 milepost 190, to the upstream end of the Recreation Area near Highway 93 milepost 192.5, as posted

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Fly-fishing only, barbless hooks required

Section: From Baugh Creek upstream (including tributaries)

- Trout limit is 2

All other sections of the Little Wood River - Magic Valley Region general rules apply

**Magic Reservoir** (from Magic Dam to the posted boundary about 700 yards east of Hot Springs Landing)

- Bass limit is 6, any size

**Malad River**

Section: From its mouth upstream to the Interstate 84 bridge at Malad Gorge

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release

**Niagara Springs Creek**

Section: From the Niagara Springs Steelhead Hatchery intake pool (above the lowest fall) upstream to the spring sources as posted

- Closed to fishing

All other sections of Niagara Springs Creek - Magic Valley Region general rules apply

**Niagara Springs Wildlife Management Area** – except Snake River

- Trout limit is 2

**Salmon Falls Creek Reservoir**

- Walleye limit is 6, only 1 over 20 inches

**Silver Creek** - No motors. All diversion ponds have the same rules as the connected stream.

Section: From its mouth upstream to Highway 93 - Magic Valley Region general rules apply

Section: From Highway 93 upstream to the North Picabo Road bridge (See Page 28, Section 1)

- December 1 through March 31 – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- April 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 6

Section: From the North Picabo Road bridge upstream to the bridge near milepost 187.2 on Highway 20 west of Picabo (See Page 28, Section 2)

- December 1 through March 31 – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- April 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 2, none between 12 and 16 inches

Section: From the bridge near milepost 187.2 on Highway 20 west of Picabo upstream to the road right-of-way fence on the west side of Kilpatrick Bridge (See Page 28, Section 3)

- No fishing from rafts or boats; float tubes are allowed
- April 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through March 31 - trout limit is 0, catch-and-release, fly-fishing only, no bait allowed, one barbless hook per fly

Section: From the road right-of-way on the west side of Kilpatrick Bridge upstream to the confluence of Grove Creek and Stalker Creek (See Page 28, Section 4).

- No fishing from rafts or boats; float tubes are allowed
- December 1 through the Friday before Memorial Day weekend – closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release, fly-fishing only, no bait allowed, one barbless hook per fly

**Silver Creek tributaries** - No motors. All diversion ponds have the same rules as the connected stream

Section: All tributaries within the Nature Conservancy Silver Creek Preserve property (See Page 28, Section 5)

- No fishing from rafts or boats; float tubes are allowed
- December 1 through the Friday before Memorial Day weekend—closed to fishing

- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30—trout limit is 0, catch-and-release, fly-fishing only, no bait allowed, one barbless hook per fly

**Section: All tributaries except those within the Nature Conservancy Silver Creek Preserve and posted Hayspur Fish Hatchery waters (See Page 28, Section 6)**

- December 1 through the Friday before Memorial Day weekend – closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 2

**Section: The posted sections of Loving and Butte creeks on Hayspur Fish Hatchery property (See Page 28, Section 7)**

- December 1 through the Friday before Memorial Day weekend - closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30—trout limit is 2, none under 20 inches

### Snake River

**Section: From Lower Salmon Falls Dam (Bell Rapids area) upstream to Upper Salmon Falls Dam (0.3 miles below Owsley Bridge)**

- January 1 through June 30 - bass limit is 0, catch-and-release
- July 1 through December 31 - bass limit is 2, none between 12 and 16 inches

**Section: From the downstream side of the Gifford Springs boat fishing zone (western boundary in Minnidoka NWR) upstream to Eagle Rock**

- Bass limit is 2, any size
- Trout limit is 6, only 2 may be Cutthroat Trout

**All other sections of the Snake River including reservoirs within the Magic Valley Region - Magic Valley Region general rules apply**

### Sublett Reservoir *(see also Sublett Reservoir tributaries)*

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 - trout limit is 6

### Sublett Reservoir tributaries

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 - trout limit is 2

### Trinity Lakes - No motors

### Vineyard Creek

- November 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through October 31 - trout limit is 2

### Willow Creek *(tributary to Camas Creek)*

- Trout limit is 2



Photo Courtesy by Bill Pate

## ATTENTION ANGLERS

**It is illegal to transport and release live fish in Idaho without a permit.**

Illegal transport and release of live fish has adverse effects on fish populations and fishing. If you suspect an illegal fish release has occurred or may occur, report it to IDFG.

Call the CAP toll-free number  
1-800-632-5999  
[idfg.idaho.gov/poacher](http://idfg.idaho.gov/poacher)



Magic Valley

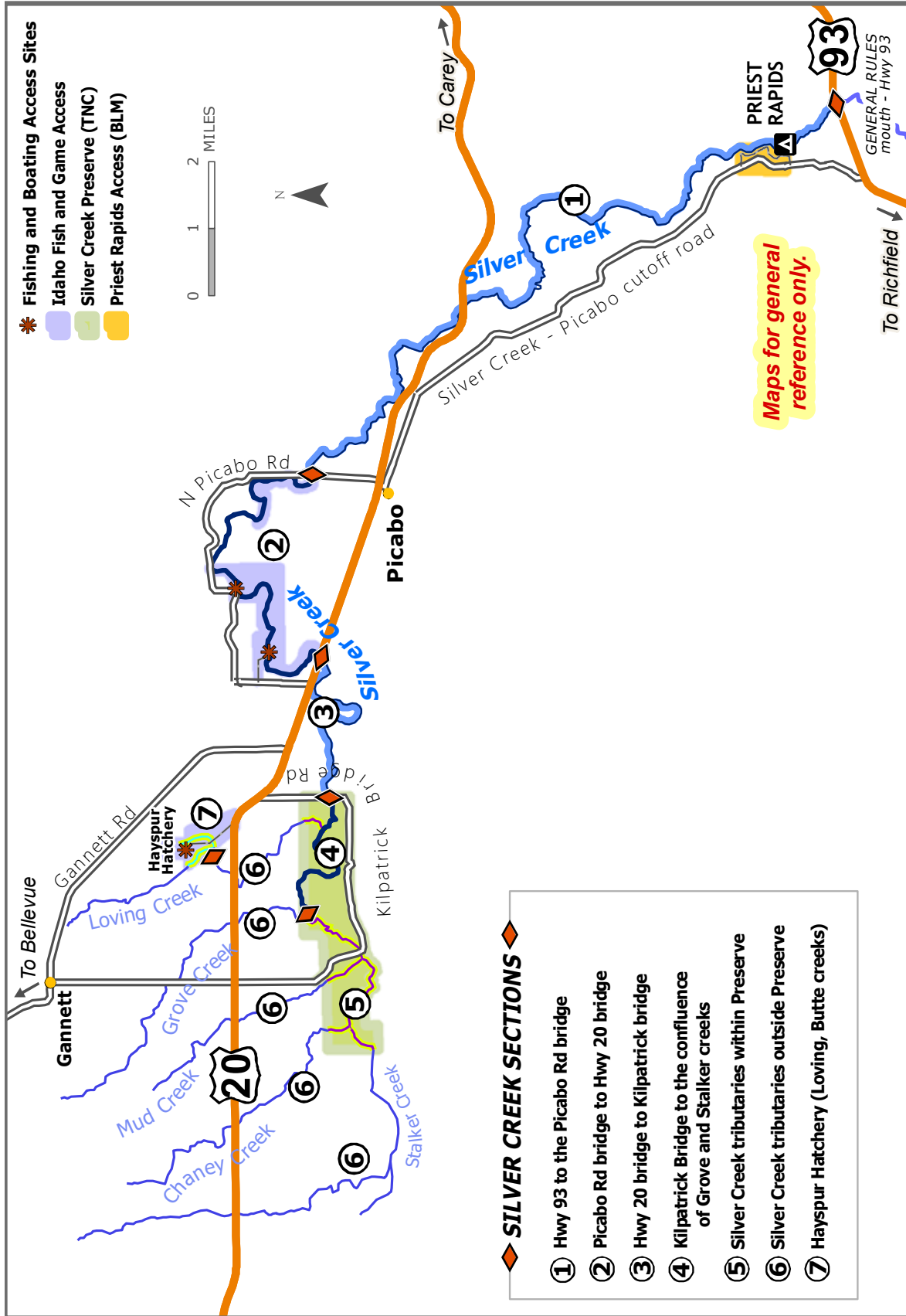


**D**uring the summer months the fishing trailers travel across Idaho ready to help families start fishing.

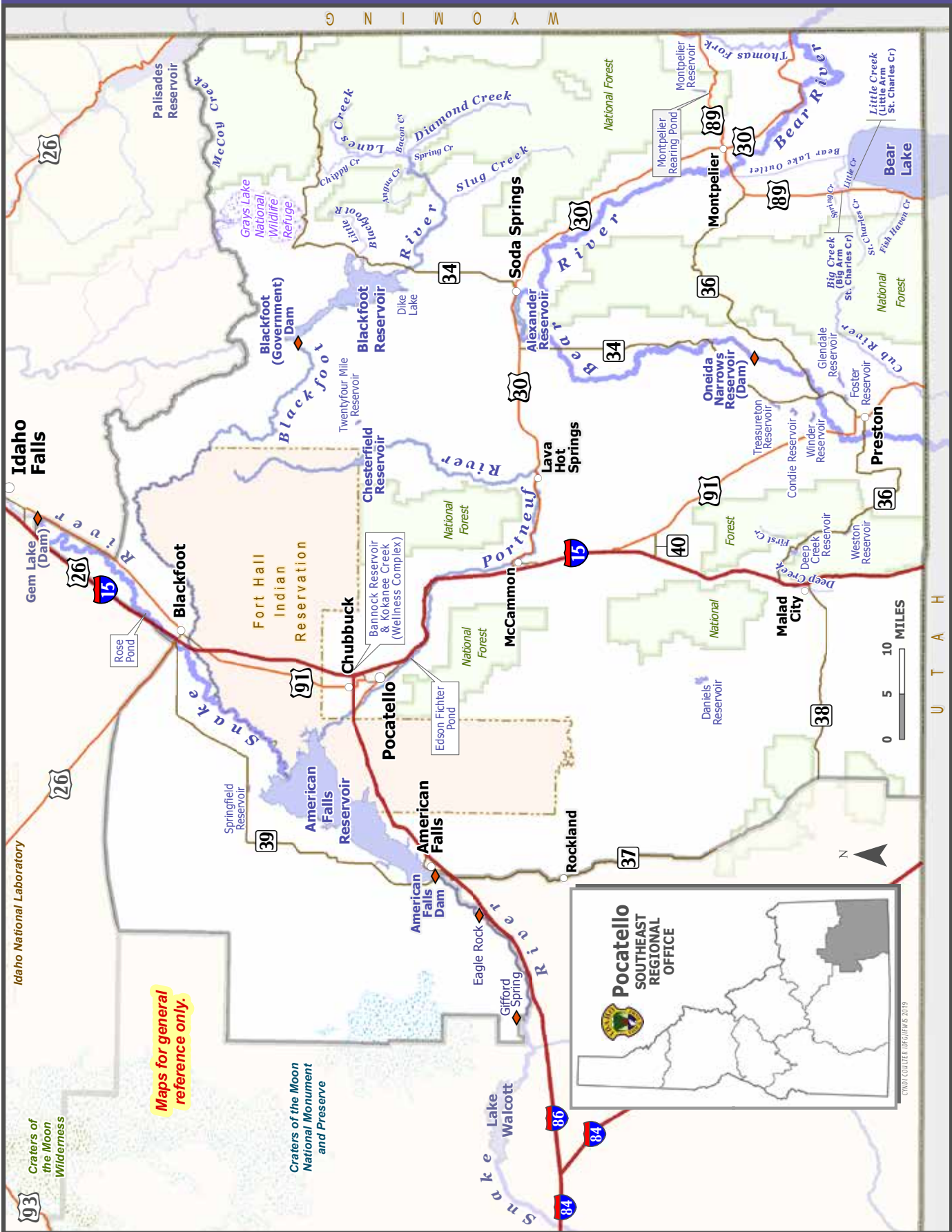
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# SILVER CREEK FISHING MAP



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Maps for general reference only.



CND/COUTLER/DEGIJNIS 2019

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Southeast

# SOUTHEAST REGION

## General Fishing Season for the Southeast Region

### All Waters Open All Year

except as modified in Southeast Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 31-32.

**Fishing is not allowed within the posted upstream and downstream boundary of any fish weir or trap.**

## Daily Bag Limits for the Southeast Region

The following daily bag limits apply to all waters of the Southeast Region except as modified in Southeast Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 31-32. The possession limit is 3-times the daily bag limit.

### **Bass** (*Largemouth and Smallmouth*)

- Bass limit is 6, both species combined
- None under 14 inches

### **Brook Trout**

- Brook Trout limit is 25
- Harvest allowed during any open season unless otherwise noted under Special Rules – if gear or bait restrictions are listed, they must be followed when fishing for Brook Trout

### **Cisco** (*Bear Lake only*)

- Cisco limit is 30

### **Kokanee**

- Kokanee limit is 6

### **Sturgeon**

- Sturgeon limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Sturgeon must not be removed from the water and must be released upon landing
- Barbless hooks are required
- Use of a sliding swivel device to secure a weight, and a lighter test line to secure weight to sliding swivel device is required. See page 54 for details

### **Tiger Muskie**

- Tiger Muskie limit is 2, none under 40 inches

### **Trout** includes *Brown Trout, Lake Trout, Cutthroat Trout, Rainbow Trout, and trout hybrids (e.g. Tiger Trout).*

- Trout limit is 6, all species combined
- In rivers and streams, only 2 of the 6 trout may be Cutthroat Trout

**Does not include Brook Trout which are listed separately**

### **Whitefish**

- Whitefish limit is 25
- Harvest allowed during any open season unless otherwise noted under Special Rules – if gear or bait restrictions are listed, they must be followed when fishing for whitefish

### **Protected Nongame Fish** includes *Northern Leatherside Chub, Bear Lake Sculpin, and Bluehead Sucker (also known as Green Sucker)*

- May not be harvested or possessed

### **All Other Fish Species** includes *bullfrogs and crayfish*

- No bag, size or possession limit

**Check for potential fish consumption advisories. See Page 68.**

## Special Rule Waters for the Southeast Region (see Pages 31-32 for details)

American Falls Reservoir

Bear Lake

Bear River

Bear River tributaries

Blackfoot Reservoir

Blackfoot River and tributaries

Chesterfield Reservoir

Condie Reservoir

Daniels Reservoir

Deep Creek Reservoir

Fish Haven Creek

First Creek

Fort Hall Indian Reservation

Glendale Reservoir

Little Blackfoot River and tributaries

McCoy Creek and tributaries

Montpelier Reservoir

Oneida Narrows Reservoir

Portneuf River

Rose Pond

St. Charles Creek

Snake River

Springfield Reservoir

Treasureton Reservoir

Twenty-Four Mile Reservoir

# Special Rule Waters for the Southeast Region

For waters not listed below, see page 30 for fishing seasons, bag and possession limits, and rules that apply to all waters within the Southeast Region.

## American Falls Reservoir

- Bass limit is 2, any size

## Bear Lake

- From the mouth of St. Charles Creek (Little Creek) for a radius of 300 yards into the lake is closed to fishing from April 16 through June 30
- Not more than 2 baited hooks, flies, or lures per line
- One line only when ice fishing. Two lines permitted when ice fishing with a two-pole permit
- Trout limit is 2
- Cisco limit is 30; dip-netting permitted January 1 through February 15. Dip nets may not exceed 18 inches in any dimension. Any size hole may be cut through the ice to catch cisco
- Whitefish limit is 10

## Bear River

Section: From the Utah state line upstream to Oneida Narrows Dam

- Trout limit is 2, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- Bass limit is 6, any size

Section: From the confluence with Oneida Narrows Reservoir upstream to the Wyoming state line

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

## Bear River tributaries (all tributaries including the Cub River and Thomas Fork Bear River)

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

## Blackfoot Reservoir

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- No size, bag, or possession limits on bass

## Blackfoot River and tributaries

Section: From the confluence with the Snake River upstream to Blackfoot Dam (Government Dam) - Southeast Region general rules apply

Upstream from Blackfoot Reservoir (includes: *Diamond Creek, Lanes Creek, Slug Creek and tributaries*)

- December 1 through June 30 - closed to fishing
- July 1 through November 30 - trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout, no bait allowed, barbless hooks required

## Chesterfield Reservoir

- Trout limit is 2

## Condie Reservoir

- Bass limit is 2, none under 20 inches

## Daniels Reservoir

- Trout limit is 2, none under 20 inches
- One line only when ice fishing
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

## Deep Creek Reservoir

- Trout limit is 6, only 2 may be Cutthroat Trout
- No size, bag or possession limits on Bass

## Fish Haven Creek

Section: From the confluence with Bear Lake upstream to the Caribou-Targhee National Forest boundary

- December 1 through June 30 - closed to fishing
- July 1 through November 30 - Southeast Region general rules apply

Section: Fish Haven Creek upstream of the Caribou-Targhee National Forest boundary - Southeast Region general rules apply

## First Creek (tributary to Deep Creek Reservoir)

- December 1 through June 14 - closed to fishing
- June 15 through November 30 - Southeast Region general rules apply

## Fort Hall Indian Reservation - contact Shoshone-Bannock Tribal Office

### Glendale Reservoir

- Bass limit is 2, none under 16 inches

### Little Blackfoot River and tributaries

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

### McCoy Creek and tributaries

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

### Montpelier Reservoir - Electric motors only

### Oneida Narrows Reservoir

- Walleye limit is 6
- Bass limit is 6, any size

### Portneuf River

Section: From above the East Main Street bridge in Lava Hot Springs upstream to Chesterfield Reservoir

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - trout limit is 0, catch-and-release, no bait allowed, barbless hooks required
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 - trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

Section: From the Fort Hall Indian Reservation boundary upstream to the East Main Street bridge in Lava Hot Springs

- Southeast Region general rules apply

All sections within the Fort Hall Indian Reservation - contact Shoshone-Bannock Tribal Office.



### St. Charles Creek

Section: St. Charles Creek (including both lower forks) upstream to the Caribou-Targhee National Forest boundary

- December 1 through June 30 - closed to fishing
- July 1 through November 30 - Southeast Region general rules apply

Section: St. Charles Creek upstream of Caribou-Targhee National Forest boundary - Southeast Region general rules apply

### Snake River

Section: From the downstream side of the Gifford Springs boat fishing zone (western boundary in Minnidoka NWR) upstream to Eagle Rock

- Bass limit is 2, any size
- Trout limit is 6, only 2 may be Cutthroat Trout

Section: From Eagle Rock upstream to American Falls Dam

- October 16 – Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend – October 15 – trout limit is 2

Section: From American Falls Reservoir upstream to Gem Lake dam

- Trout limit is 6, only 2 may be Cutthroat Trout
- Bass limit is 2, any size

### Springfield Reservoir

- Trout limit is 2, none under 20 inches
- One line only when ice fishing
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

### Treasureton Reservoir

- Trout limit is 2, none under 20 inches
- No size, bag or possession limits on bass
- One line only when ice fishing
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

### Twenty-Four Mile Reservoir - No motors

- Trout limit is 2, none under 20 inches
- One line only when ice fishing
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

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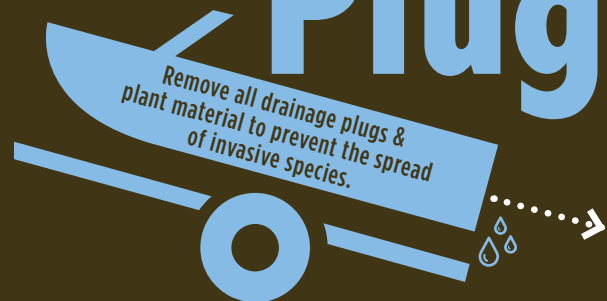


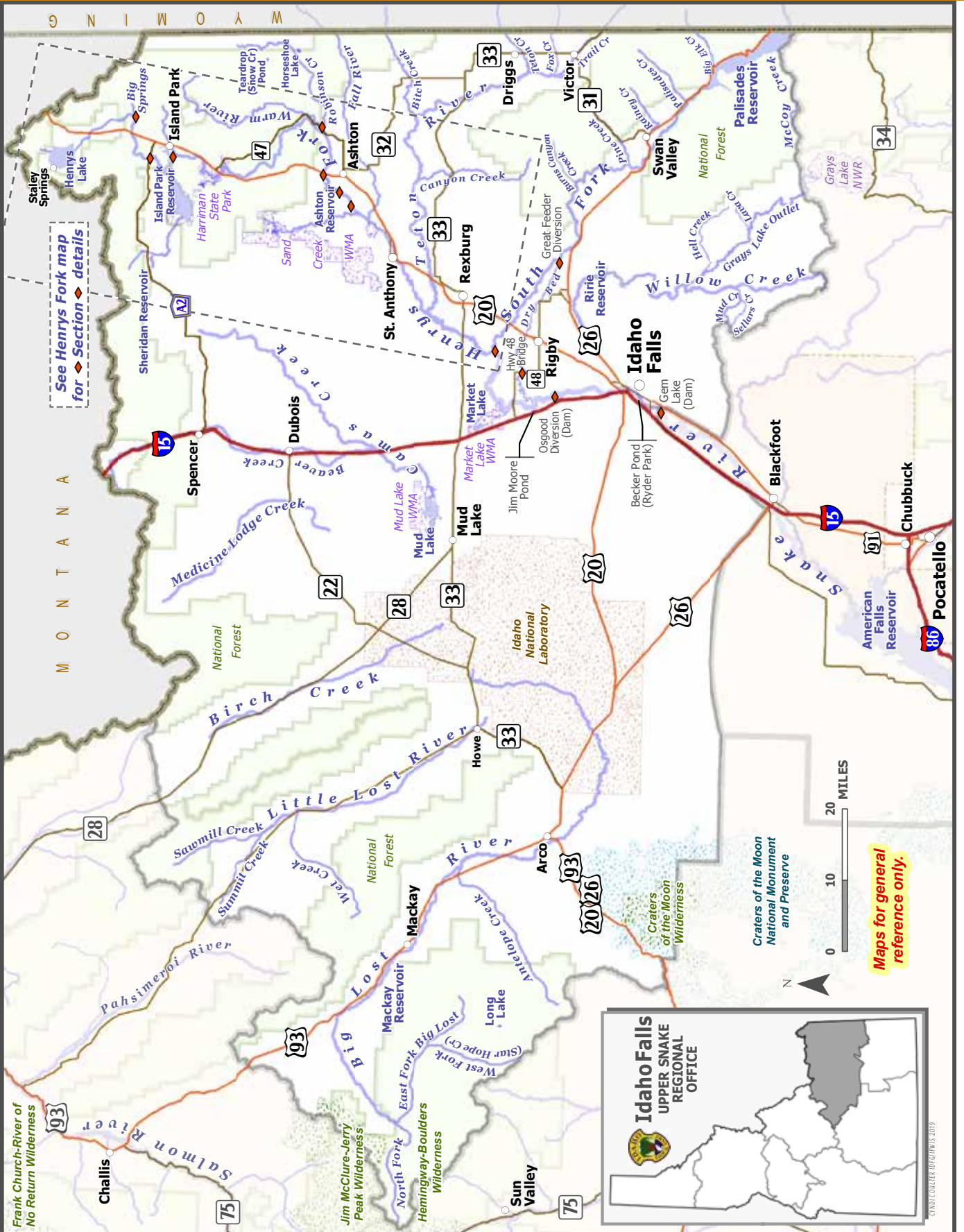
Visit [idfg.idaho.gov](https://idfg.idaho.gov) and click on the Idaho Fishing Planner icon



# Pull the Plug

Remove all drainage plugs & plant material to prevent the spread of invasive species.





Upper Snake

# UPPER SNAKE REGION

## General Fishing Season for the Upper Snake Region

### All Waters Open All Year

Except as modified in Upper Snake Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 35-36.

Fishing is not allowed within the posted upstream and downstream boundary of any fish weir or trap.

## Daily Bag Limits for the Upper Snake Region

The following daily bag limits apply to all waters of the Upper Snake Region except as modified in Upper Snake Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 35-36. The possession limit is 3-times the daily bag limit.

### Bass (*Largemouth and Smallmouth*)

- Bass limit is 6, both species combined

### Brook Trout

- Brook Trout limit is 25
- Harvest allowed during any open season unless otherwise noted under Special Rules – if gear or bait restrictions are listed, they must be followed when fishing for Brook Trout

### Bull Trout

- Bull Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release

### Kokanee

- Kokanee limit is 15

### Sturgeon

- Sturgeon limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Sturgeon must not be removed from the water and must be released upon landing
- Barbless hooks are required
- Use of a sliding swivel device to secure a weight, and a lighter test line to secure weight to sliding swivel device are required, see Page 54 for details

### Tiger Muskie

- Tiger Muskie limit is 2, none under 40 inches

**Trout** includes *Brown Trout, Golden Trout, Lake Trout, Splake, Arctic Grayling, Cutthroat Trout, Rainbow Trout, and trout hybrids (e.g. Tiger Trout)*

- Trout limit is 6, all species combined

**Does not include Bull Trout and Brook Trout which are listed separately**

### Whitefish

- Whitefish limit is 25 – see Big Lost River exception
- Harvest allowed during any open season unless otherwise noted under Special Rules – if gear or bait restrictions are listed, they must be followed when fishing for whitefish

**Protected Nongame Fish** including *Northern Leatherside Chub and Bluehead Sucker (also known as Green Sucker)*

- May not be harvested or possessed

**All Other Fish Species** includes *bullfrogs and crayfish*

- No bag, size or possession limit

**Check for potential fish consumption advisories. See Page 68.**

## Special Rule Waters for the Upper Snake Region (see Pages 35-36 for details)

Beaver Creek and tributaries	Henrys Lake tributaries	Sellars Creek (see Willow Creek tributaries)
Becker Pond (Ryder Park Pond)	Horseshoe Lake (Fremont County)	Silver Lake (Harriman State Park)
Big Lost River and tributaries	Jim Moore Pond	Snake River
Burns Creek (see South Fork Snake River tributaries)	Lava Creek (see Willow Creek tributaries)	South Fork Snake River
Dry Beds (Snake River)	Little Lost River and tributaries	South Fork Snake River tributaries
Fall River and tributaries	Long Lake (Custer County)	Teardrop Lake (Snow Creek Pond)
Fish Creek (Harriman State Park)	Market Lake Wildlife Management Area	Teton Creek (see Teton River tributaries)
Fox Creek (see Teton River tributaries)	McCoy Creek and tributaries	Teton River
Golden Lake (Harriman State Park)	Medicine Lodge Creek and tributaries	Teton River tributaries
Hell Creek (see Willow Creek tributaries)	Mud Lake	Thurmon Creek (Harriman State Park)
Henrys Fork (Snake River, North Fork)	Palisades Creek (see South Fork Snake River tributaries)	Trail Creek (see Teton River tributaries)
Henrys Fork tributaries (excluding Thurmon Creek, Warm River and the Fall River)	Palisades Reservoir tributaries	Warm River and tributaries
Henrys Lake	Pine Creek (see South Fork Snake River tributaries)	Willow Creek
Henrys Lake Outlet	Rainey Creek (see South Fork Snake River tributaries)	Willow Creek tributaries
	Sand Creek Wildlife Management Area	

# Special Rule Waters for the Upper Snake Region

For waters not listed below, see page 34 for fishing seasons, bag and possession limits, and rules that apply to all waters within the Upper Snake Region.

## Beaver Creek and tributaries

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

## Becker Pond (Ryder Park Pond)

- 2 fish any species

## Big Lost River and tributaries

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release; whitefish limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 6; whitefish limit is 0, catch-and-release

## Dry Beds (Snake River)

**Section: From the Highway 48 bridge upstream to the Great Feeder irrigation diversion headgate**

- May 1 through March 31 – Upper Snake Region general rules apply
- April 1 through April 30 – it is legal to take fish with dip nets, by snagging or by hand – Upper Snake Region bag limits apply

## Fall River and tributaries

- Limit is 2 trout, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

## Fish Creek (Harriman State Park)

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- Fly-fishing only

## Golden Lake (Harriman State Park)

- Closed to fishing

## Henrys Fork (Snake River, North Fork) (see map on page 37)

**Section: South Fork Snake River/Henrys Fork confluence upstream to Vernon Bridge**

- Trout limit is 2, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

**Section: From Vernon Bridge upstream to Ashton Dam**

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout limit is 0; catch-and-release only
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 2, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

**Section: From Highway 20 bridge upstream to the posted boundary upstream of Riverside Campground**

- Trout limit is 2, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

**Section: From the posted boundary upstream of the Riverside Campground upstream to the lower Harriman State Park boundary**

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release, no bait allowed, barbless hooks required

**Section: From the lower Harriman State Park boundary upstream to the upper Harriman State Park boundary (Harriman Ranch)**

- December 1 through June 14 – closed to fishing
- June 15 through November 30 – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release, fly fishing only, barbless hooks required

**Section: From the upper Harriman State Park boundary to Island Park Dam**

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

**Section: From McCrea Bridge upstream to the Henrys Lake Outlet**

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 6, only 2 may be Cutthroat Trout, no Cutthroat Trout under 16 inches

**Section: From Henrys Lake Outlet upstream to the head of Big Springs**

- Closed to fishing

**All other sections of Henrys Fork including Ashton and Island Park Reservoirs - Upper Snake Region general rules apply**

## Henrys Fork tributaries (except Warm River, Fall River, and Thurmon Creek)

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

## Henrys Lake

**Section: Those portions of the lake within the posted boundaries of Staley Springs and within 100 yards of Hatchery Creek**

- Closed to fishing

**Remainder of Henrys Lake**

- February 15 through Friday before Memorial Day Weekend - trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend through February 14 - trout limit is 2, Brook Trout counted in the trout limit
- Fishing must cease after the 2-trout daily bag limit has been retained

## Henrys Lake Outlet

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 6, only 2 may be Cutthroat Trout, no Cutthroat Trout under 16 inches

**Henrys Lake tributaries**

- July 1 through March 31 – no harvest of Cutthroat Trout; Brook Trout limit is 25, only 2 Brook Trout over 16 inches
- April 1 through June 30 – closed to fishing
- Hatchery Creek – closed to fishing

**Horseshoe Lake** (*Fremont County*) - no motors

- Trout limit is 2

**Jim Moore Pond**

- Trout limit is 2

**Little Lost River and tributaries**

- Trout limit is 2

**Long Lake** (*an alpine lake in Custer County*)

- Trout limit is 2, none under 20 inches

**Market Lake Wildlife Management Area**

- March 1 through July 15 – no boats, rafts or float tubes

**McCoy Creek and tributaries**

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

**Medicine Lodge Creek and tributaries**

- Trout limit is 2, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

**Mud Lake** (*west of the posted boundary which runs north and south from McKenzie Point*)

- March 1 through July 15 – no boats, rafts or float tubes

**Palisades Reservoir tributaries**

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- No harvest of kokanee

**Sand Creek Wildlife Management Area**

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through July 15 – no boats, rafts or float tubes
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – motorized watercraft prohibited

Additional closures to protect wildlife may be in effect. Call the Upper Snake Regional Office at 208-525-7290 for the latest information.

**Silver Lake** (*Harriman State Park*)

- Closed to fishing

**Snake River**

Section: Gem Lake Dam to Osgood Diversion Dam

- Trout limit is 6, only 2 may be Cutthroat Trout

Section: Osgood Diversion Dam upstream to the confluence of Henrys Fork (North and South Fork)

- Trout limit is 2, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

**South Fork Snake River**

- No harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- Brown Trout limit is 2
- No limit on Rainbow Trout or trout hybrids

**South Fork Snake River tributaries**

- No harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- No limit on Rainbow Trout or trout hybrids
- June 1 through June 30 – closed to fishing

**Teardrop Lake** (*Snow Creek Pond*)

- Trout limit is 2

**Teton River**

- No limit on Rainbow Trout or hybrids
- No harvest of Cutthroat Trout

**Teton River tributaries**

- No harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- No limit on Rainbow Trout or hybrids
- June 1 through June 30 – closed to fishing

**Thurmon Creek** (*Harriman State Park*)

- Closed to fishing

**Warm River and tributaries**

Section: Within the posted boundaries from the state highway 47 bridge downstream (approx. 350 yards) to the next bridge near the mouth of Robinson Creek

- Closed to fishing

All other sections of the Warm River

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend, trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

**Willow Creek**

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

**Willow Creek tributaries**

- No harvest of Cutthroat Trout
- No limit on Rainbow Trout or hybrids
- June 1 through June 30 – closed to fishing



**STOP AQUATIC  
HITCHHIKERS!™**

Prevent the transport of nuisance species.  
Clean all recreational equipment.

# Henry's Fork Fishing Map

See Page 35-36 for specific boundaries



## Cutthroat Trout need your help in the South Fork Snake and Teton rivers!

<https://idfg.idaho.gov/south-fork-snake>

- ▶ Non-native Rainbow Trout are a serious threat to native Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout in the South Fork Snake and Teton rivers
- ▶ Over time, Rainbow Trout replace Cutthroat Trout through competition for space and food, and by interbreeding, creating hybrids
- ▶ Hybrid trout are fertile and readily spawn with Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout, creating more hybrids
- ▶ Fish and Game uses traps on SF Snake tributaries to help block Rainbow Trout from spawning in Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout streams
- ▶ You can help protect Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout by harvesting non-native Rainbow Trout and hybrids from the SF Snake River and Teton River
- ▶ Win prizes when you harvest Rainbow Trout! Turn in the heads of Rainbow Trout harvested from the SF Snake River for a chance to win between \$50 - \$1,000!
- ▶ Heads can be deposited in freezers at Conant and Byington boat ramps, and the Fish and Game office in Idaho Falls
- ▶ Learn about the South Fork Snake River and Angler Incentive Program at: <https://idfg.idaho.gov/south-fork-snake>

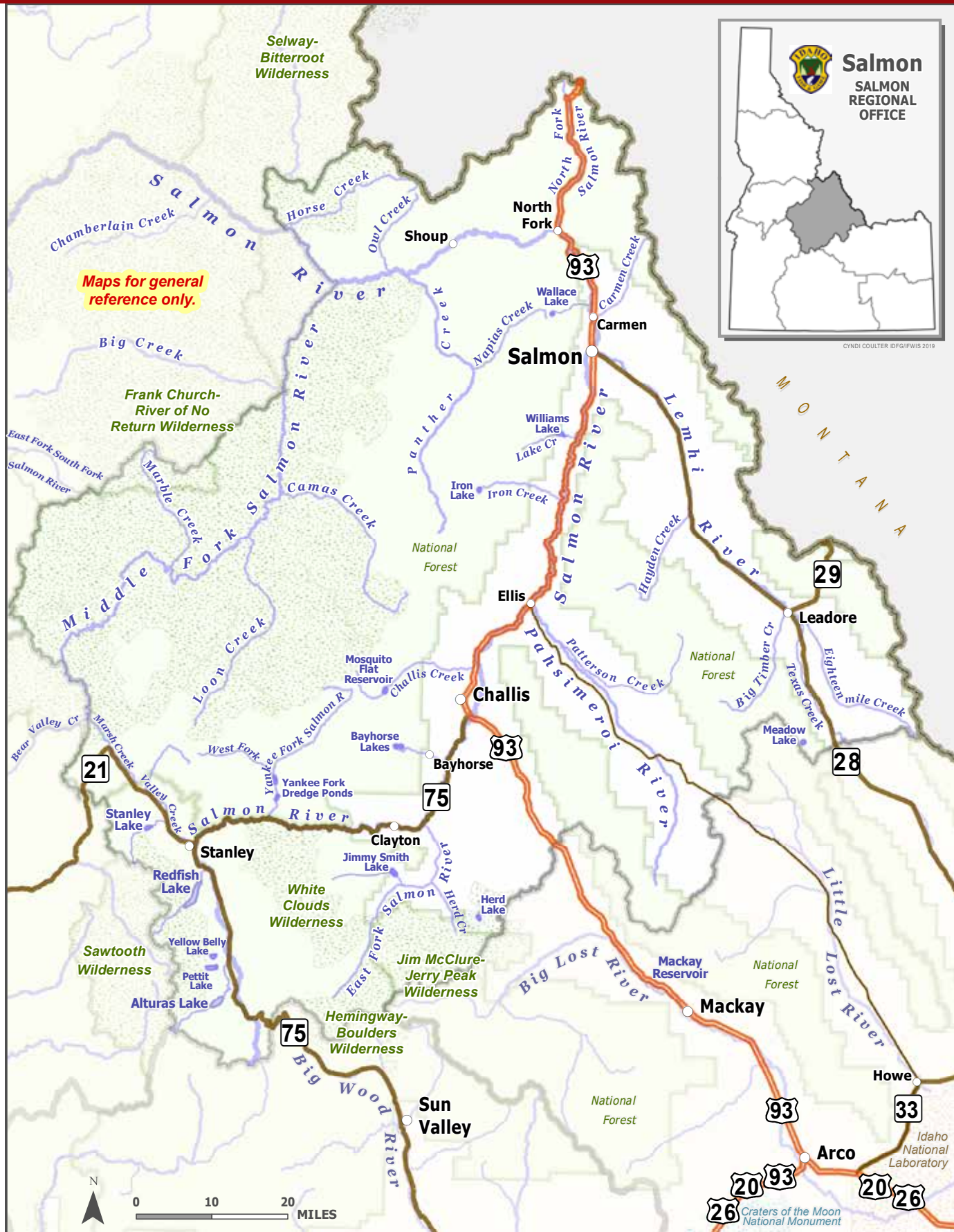
- ▶ Rainbow/Cutthroat hybrid trout can have a wide arrange of colors and markings of both parent species. Hybrids are most easily identified by their white fin tips.



white fin tip

Upper Snake

# SALMON REGION



**General Fishing Season for the Salmon Region**

**All Waters Open All Year**

Except as modified in Salmon Region Special Rule Waters on Page 40.

**Fishing is not allowed within the posted upstream and downstream boundary of any fish weir or trap.**

**Daily Bag Limits for the Salmon Region**

The following daily bag limits apply to all waters of the Salmon Region except as modified in Salmon Region Special Rule Waters on Page 40. The possession limit is 3-times the daily bag limit.

**Bass** (*Largemouth and Smallmouth*)

- No bag, size or possession limits

**Brook Trout**

- Brook Trout limit is 25
- Harvest allowed during any open season unless otherwise noted under Special Rules – if gear or bait restrictions are listed, they must be followed when fishing for Brook Trout

**Bull Trout**

- Bull Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release

**Kokanee**

- Kokanee limit is 25

**Salmon**

- Spring and summer Chinook Salmon seasons and limits are set by the Idaho Fish and Game Commission and issued in separate brochures
- Seasons and limits for fall Chinook Salmon and Coho Salmon can be found on page 45 in this booklet
- Sockeye Salmon limit is 0 and fishing for or targeting Sockeye Salmon is illegal
- Fishing for or targeting salmon is prohibited unless a salmon season is specifically opened for that water

**Steelhead** (*ocean-going*)

- Defined as Rainbow Trout longer than twenty (20) inches in length in the Salmon River drainage (excluding the Lemhi and Pahsimeroi rivers, lakes and reservoirs, and ponds)
- Fishing for or targeting steelhead is prohibited unless a steelhead season is specifically opened for that water (see steelhead seasons/limits page 44)

**• Sturgeon**

- Sturgeon limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Sturgeon must not be removed from the water and must be released upon landing
- Barbless hooks are required
- Use of a sliding swivel device to secure a weight, and a lighter test line to secure weight to sliding swivel device is required. See page 54 for details

**Tiger Muskie**

- Tiger Muskie limit is 2, none under 40 inches

**Trout** *includes Lake Trout, Golden Trout, Arctic Grayling, Cutthroat Trout, Rainbow Trout, Sunapee Trout and trout hybrids (e.g. Tiger Trout)*

- Trout limit is 6, all species combined
- Chinook Salmon and steelhead placed in ponds are counted in the trout bag limit

**Does not include Bull Trout and Brook Trout which are listed separately**

**Whitefish**

- Whitefish limit is 25
- Harvest allowed during any open season unless otherwise noted under Special Rules – if gear or bait restrictions are listed, they must be followed when fishing for whitefish

**Protected Nongame Fish** *including Pacific Lamprey*

- May not be harvested or possessed

**All Other Fish Species** *includes bullfrogs and crayfish*

- No bag, size or possession limit

*Check for potential fish consumption advisories.*

*See Page 68.*

**Special Rule Waters for the Salmon Region (see Page 40 for details)**

East Fork Salmon River, see Salmon River East Fork	North Fork Salmon River see Salmon River, North Fork	Salmon River, North Fork
Herd Lake	Pahsimeroi River	Salmon River, Yankee Fork and West Fork Yankee Fork
Jimmy Smith Lake	Redfish Lake	Stanley Lake
Lake Creek and tributaries (Lemhi County)	Salmon River	Wallace Lake
Lemhi River	Salmon River tributaries	Yankee Fork Salmon River Dredge Ponds
Middle Fork Salmon River see Salmon River, Middle Fork	Salmon River, East Fork	Yankee Fork Salmon River see Salmon River, Yankee Fork
	Salmon River, Middle Fork and tributaries	



# Special Rule Waters for the Salmon Region

For waters not listed below, see Page 39 for fishing seasons, bag and possession limits, and rules that apply to all waters within the Salmon Region.

## East Fork Salmon River *(see Salmon River, East Fork)*

### Herd Lake

- Trout limit is 25

### Jimmy Smith Lake

- Trout limit is 25

### Lake Creek and tributaries *(above Williams Lake)*

- December 1 through June 30 - closed to fishing upstream from the posted boundary at Williams Lake
- July 1 through November 30 - Salmon Region general rules apply

### Lemhi River

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 - trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

### Lemhi River tributaries

- Salmon Region general rules apply

### Middle Fork Salmon River *(see Salmon River, Middle Fork and tributaries)*

### North Fork Salmon River *(see Salmon River, North Fork)*

### Pahsimeroi River

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 - trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

### Pahsimeroi River tributaries

- Salmon Region general rules apply

### Redfish Lake

- January 1 through August 7 - Salmon Region general rules apply
- August 8 through December 31 - kokanee limit is 0, catch-and-release

### Salmon River

- Trout limit is 6; only trout with a clipped adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar, may be kept, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

### Salmon River tributaries

Section: Those tributaries from the mouth of the Salmon River upstream to the Middle Fork Salmon River, except Little Salmon River (Page 20) and South Fork Salmon River (Page 21).

- Trout limit is 2

Section: Those tributaries from the mouth of the Middle Fork Salmon River upstream (except: North Fork Salmon River, Lemhi, Pahsimeroi, East Fork Salmon River, and Yankee Fork Salmon River)

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 - Salmon Region general rules apply

### Salmon River, East Fork

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

### Salmon River, East Fork tributaries

- Salmon Region general rules apply

### Salmon River, Middle Fork and all tributaries

*(includes: Bear Valley, Big, Camas, Elk, Loon, Marsh, Sulphur creeks, and tributaries)*

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

### Salmon River, North Fork

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

### Salmon River, North Fork tributaries

- Salmon Region general rules apply

### Salmon River, Yankee Fork and West Fork Yankee Fork

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

### Salmon River, Yankee Fork tributaries

- Salmon Region general rules apply

### Stanley Lake

- Trout limit is 6, only 2 may be Lake Trout

### Wallace Lake

- Trout limit is 2

### Yankee Fork Salmon River Dredge Ponds

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend - closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 - Salmon Region general rules apply

### Yankee Fork Salmon River *(see Salmon River, Yankee Fork)*

# ANADROMOUS STEELHEAD AND SALMON RULES AND INFORMATION

Anyone fishing for anadromous (ocean-run) salmon and/or steelhead, except those expressly exempt, must have a valid fishing license and salmon and/or steelhead permit(s) on their person. These license and permit requirements also apply when fishing for hatchery salmon or steelhead stocked by Idaho Fish and Game in the Boise River or Hells Canyon Reservoir.

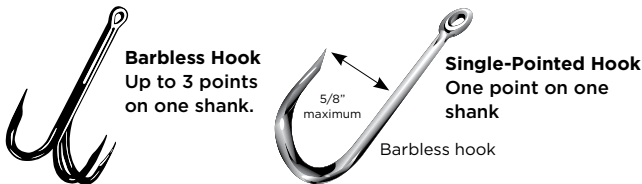
Any person who does not qualify as a resident (see Page 63) must purchase either a nonresident season fishing license and a full-season salmon and/or steelhead permit or a nonresident 3-day salmon/steelhead license/permit.

Children (including nonresident children) under the age of 14 are exempt from purchasing salmon and steelhead permits. They may fish without permits if they are accompanied by a valid permit holder, provided that any fish caught must be recorded on the permit holder's card and counted in the permit holder's legal bag, possession and season limits. A resident child under 14 may purchase permits without a license so that they may catch their own limit(s) of salmon and/or steelhead.

Any nonresident under the age of 18 may purchase a junior nonresident fishing license and appropriate permit so they may catch their own limit of salmon or steelhead.

## Methods of Take

- Any angler, who has attained the bag, possession, or season limit on those waters with salmon or steelhead limits, must cease fishing for salmon or steelhead including catch-and-release fishing.



- Only single-pointed barbless hooks are allowed when fishing for salmon or steelhead in the South Fork Clearwater River.
- Only barbless hooks with a maximum 5/8 inch gap between shank and point may be used when fishing for salmon or steelhead in the Salmon and Clearwater river drainages and the Snake River below Hells Canyon Dam. Bending the barb(s) down to the shank of a single, double, or treble hook will meet this requirement.
- Salmon and steelhead may be taken with barbed hooks in the Boise River and the Snake River between Hells Canyon and Oxbow dams.
- No person shall kill or retain in possession any salmon or steelhead which has been hooked other than in the mouth or jaw. Any salmon or steelhead hooked other than in the mouth or jaw must be released. See snagging definition on Page 48.

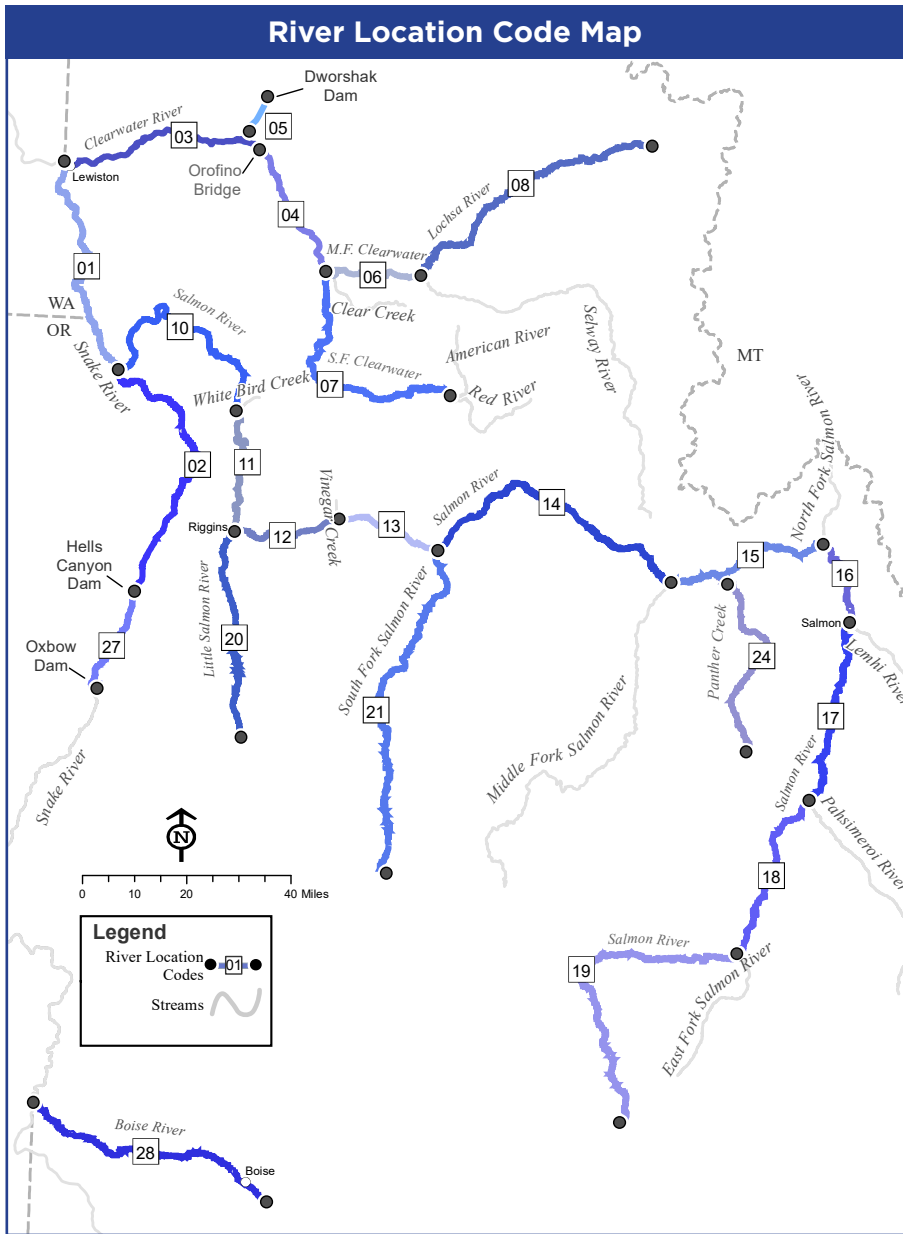
## Please Note

- Fishing for or targeting salmon or steelhead is prohibited unless a season is specifically opened for the species on that water.
- Steelhead with an intact adipose fin cannot be reduced to possession and must be released.
- Any anadromous (ocean-run) salmon or steelhead that is being reduced to possession must be killed immediately. Otherwise, the fish must be released upon landing.
- All fish that are hooked, landed, and reduced to possession shall be counted in the limit of the person hooking the fish.
- No person shall have in the field or in transit any salmon or steelhead from which the head or tail has been removed unless: 1) the angler is ashore and done fishing for the day; 2) the salmon or steelhead is properly recorded on the anglers permit; and 3) the fish is processed or packaged with the skin naturally attached to the flesh including a portion with a healed, clipped adipose fin scar or the adipose fin. The fish must be processed or packaged in a manner that the number of fish harvested can be readily determined. Processed salmon and steelhead cannot be transported by boat.
- Steelhead harvest and angler participation are estimated by surveys conducted within three months after the season closes. You may be contacted and asked about your effort and success. Please save your permit until three months after the season has closed or until you are contacted by Idaho Fish and Game.



**STOP AQUATIC  
HITCHHIKERS!™**

Prevent the transport of nuisance species.  
Clean all recreational equipment.



### River Location Codes

**Snake River**

- Snake River, downstream from Salmon River .....01
- Snake River, from Salmon River to Hells Canyon Dam.....02
- Snake River, Hells Canyon Dam to Oxbow Dam.....27

**Clearwater River**

- Clearwater River, downstream from Orofino Bridge.....03
- Clearwater River, upstream from Orofino Bridge .....04
- North Fork Clearwater River.....05
- Middle Fork Clearwater River.....06
- South Fork Clearwater River .....07
- Lochsa River.....08

**Salmon River**

- Salmon River, downstream from Whitebird Creek .....10
- Salmon River, Whitebird Creek to Little Salmon.....11
- Salmon River, Little Salmon to Vinegar Creek.....12
- Salmon River, Vinegar Creek to South Fork.....13
- Salmon River, South Fork to Middle Fork.....14
- Salmon River, Middle Fork to North Fork .....15
- Salmon River, North Fork to Lemhi River.....16
- Salmon River, Lemhi River to Pahsimeroi River .....17
- Salmon River, Pahsimeroi River to East Fork.....18
- Salmon River, upstream from the East Fork.....19

**Other**

- Little Salmon River .....20
- South Fork Salmon River .....21
- Panther Creek .....24
- Boise River.....28

## Permit Validation

When an adult Chinook Salmon (24 or more inches in length), adult Coho Salmon (20 or more inches in length), or steelhead has been hooked, landed and reduced to possession (must be killed immediately), the angler hooking the fish must immediately:

1. Completely remove one numbered notch from their steelhead or salmon permit, depending on which species was caught.
2. Enter the month and day the fish was harvested.
3. Look up the number code from the River Location Code list and write it in the space provided.

**For example:** an adult fall Chinook Salmon kept from the Clearwater River downstream Orofino Bridge on September 6 would be entered as:

FISH BIRD	MONTH	DAY	LOCATION CODE	MONTH	DAY	LOCATION CODE	FISH BIRD
1				9	6	03	21
2							22
3							23
4							24
5							25

When a salmon or steelhead is released rather than reduced to possession, the angler should not make an entry on the permit.

Unless otherwise stipulated by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game Commission, jack Chinook Salmon (less than 24 inches in length) and jack Coho Salmon (less than 20 inches in length) are not included in an angler's season limit and need not be entered on their permit. Anglers can record Coho Salmon and Chinook Salmon on the same permit.

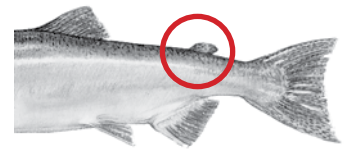
## RELEASING WILD SALMON AND STEELHEAD

Please help ensure the survival of released wild salmon and steelhead by:

- Using proper-sized gear and keeping fight time to a minimum
- Not pulling fish onto rock, sand, or dirt banks—instead, use a net or "tail" the fish
- Minimizing the time out of water
- Not handling the fish by the gills
- Reviving the fish by gently holding it in the water, if necessary

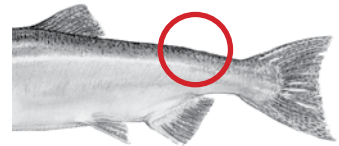
## Unclipped Adipose Fin

Steelhead with an unclipped adipose fin must be released. Fall Chinook Salmon and Coho Salmon with an unclipped adipose fin can be kept. Spring and summer Chinook Salmon seasons are set annually and anglers should refer to season proclamations to determine if spring and summer Chinook Salmon with an unclipped adipose fin can be retained.



## Clipped Adipose Fin

Hatchery steelhead or salmon may be kept if the adipose fin has been clipped as evidenced by a healed scar.



## Wild about Salmon and Steelhead?



Visit: [idfg.idaho.gov/fish/wild](https://idfg.idaho.gov/fish/wild)

To find out about Idaho's wild salmon and steelhead

- News and updates
- Conservation stories
- Science articles



Photo courtesy Ron Roberts



# Anadromous Steelhead and Salmon Rules

\*These rivers have additional restrictions. Please refer to page 13 for details.

Steelhead Seasons and Limits												
River Section	Spring Season (20 fish per season) Possession limit 3-times daily bag limit						Fall Season (20 fish per season) Possession limit 3-times daily bag limit					
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Snake River		Jan 1 - Apr 30 3 fish per day				Closed	Jul 1 - Aug 31 catch-and-release				Sep 1 - Dec 31 3 fish per day	
Clearwater River - lower		Jan 1 - Apr 30 3 fish per day				Closed	Jul 1 - Aug 31 catch-and-release				Sep 1 - Dec 31 2 fish per day	
Clearwater River - upper*		Jan 1 - Apr 30 3 fish per day				Closed	Jul 1 - Sep 9 catch-and-release	Sep 10 - Oct 14 2 fish per day	Oct 15 - Nov 9 catch-and-release		Nov 10 - Dec 31 2 fish per day	
North Fork Clearwater River*		Jan 1 - Apr 30 3 fish per day				Closed					Sep 1 - Dec 31 2 fish per day	
South Fork Clearwater River*		Jan 1 - Apr 30 3 fish per day				Closed	Jul 1 - Sep 9 catch-and-release	Sep 10 - Oct 14 2 fish per day	Oct 15 - Nov 9 catch-and-release		Nov 10 - Dec 31 2 fish per day	
Salmon River - lower		Jan 1 - Apr 30 3 fish per day				Closed					Sep 1 - Dec 31 3 fish per day	
Salmon River - middle		Jan 1 - Mar 31 3 fish per day				Closed					Sep 1 - Dec 31 3 fish per day	
Salmon River - upper		Jan 1 - Apr 30 3 fish per day				Closed					Sep 1 - Dec 31 3 fish per day	
Little Salmon River		Jan 1 - May 15 3 fish per day				Closed					Sep 1 - Dec 31 3 fish per day	
Hells Canyon Reservoir		Jan 1 - May 31 3 fish per day				Closed					Sep 1 - Dec 31 3 fish per day	
Boise River												
Open when steelhead are present 2 fish per day												
River Boundary Descriptions												
Snake River: from the ID/WA border (see map on page 13) upstream to Hells Canyon Dam												
Clearwater River - lower: from the mouth upstream to the Memorial Bridge of U.S. Highway 12 at Lewiston (see map on page 13)												
Clearwater River - upper: from the Memorial Bridge of U.S. Highway 12 at Lewiston upstream to Clear Creek on the Middle Fork Clearwater River												
North Fork Clearwater River: from the mouth upstream to Dworshak Dam (see map on page 13)												
South Fork Clearwater River: from the mouth upstream to the confluence of American and Red rivers												
Salmon River - lower: from the mouth upstream to the Lake Creek Bridge (about 6 miles upstream from the mouth of the Little Salmon River)												
Salmon River - middle: from the Lake Creek Bridge upstream to Long Tom Creek (3/4 mile upstream from the Middle Fork Salmon River)												
Salmon River - upper: from Long Tom Creek (3/4 mile upstream from the Middle Fork Salmon River) upstream to posted boundary 100 yards downstream of Sawtooth Hatchery												
Little Salmon River: from the mouth upstream to the U.S. Highway 95 bridge near Smokey Boulder Road												
Hells Canyon Reservoir: from Hells Canyon Dam upstream to Oxbow Dam												

### Coho Salmon Seasons and Limits

<b>River Section</b>	<b>Bag/Possession Limits</b> Daily limit is 2 adult Coho Salmon (greater than or equal to 20 inches length), no limit on jacks (less than 20 inches length). Adipose clipped or unclipped fish may be kept. Possession limit is 3-times daily bag limit.			
	<b>Sept</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>
<b>Clearwater River:</b> Mouth to confluence of South Fork and Middle Fork Clearwater rivers <b>North Fork Clearwater River:</b> Mouth to Dworshak Dam <b>Middle Fork Clearwater River:</b> Mouth to Clear Creek <b>South Fork Clearwater River:</b> Mouth to Red River <b>Snake River:</b> ID/WA border to Hells Canyon Dam	Sep 1 - Dec 31			

### Fall Chinook Salmon Seasons and Limits

<b>River Section</b>	<b>Bag/Possession Limits</b> Daily limit is 3 adult fall Chinook Salmon (greater than or equal to 24 inches length), no limit on jacks (less than 24 inches length). Adipose clipped or unclipped fish may be kept. Possession limit is 3-times daily bag limit.		
	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sept</b>	<b>Oct</b>
<b>Clearwater River:</b> Mouth to Memorial Bridge	<b>Closed</b>	Aug 18 - Oct 31	
<b>Clearwater River:</b> Memorial Bridge to Orofino Bridge		Aug 18 - Oct 14	<b>Closed Oct 15</b>
<b>Clearwater River:</b> Orofino Bridge to South Fork Clearwater River		Aug 18 - Oct 31	
<b>North Fork Clearwater River:</b> Mouth to Dworshak Dam	<b>Closed</b>	Sept 1 - Oct 31	
<b>Middle Fork Clearwater River:</b> Mouth to Clear Creek <b>South Fork Clearwater River:</b> Mouth to Red River <b>Snake River:</b> ID/WA border to Hells Canyon Dam <b>Salmon River:</b> Mouth to Little Salmon River	<b>Closed</b>	Aug 18 - Oct 31	

**SPRING AND SUMMER CHINOOK SALMON SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS WILL BE SET ANNUALLY BY THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME COMMISSION.**

**NOTE:** Salmon and steelhead seasons and bag limits may be changed by Commission or Director action. Please see [idfg.idaho.gov](http://idfg.idaho.gov), license vendors, or regional offices for changes to rules published in this document.



**Chinook Salmon**

Black mouth, black gums  
Spots on entire tail fin



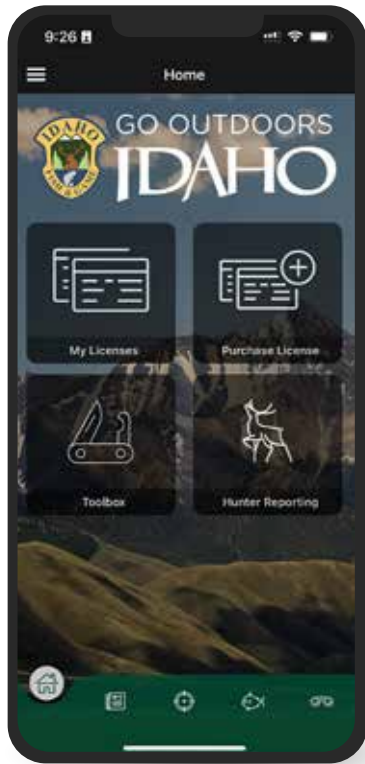
**Steelhead**

White mouth, white gums  
Spots on entire tail fin



**Coho Salmon**

Black mouth, white gums  
Spots only on upper half of tail fin



## FISHING IN IDAHO JUST GOT EASIER.

Download our **Go Outdoors Idaho** app to buy and store your fishing and hunting license on your phone.

SCAN ME



## Keep Idaho Waters Clean!

Trash and fishing line can be harmful to wildlife and the scenery.

### How You Can Help:

- ✓ Don't leave used line, tackle or bait containers behind
- ✓ Properly discard used fishing line and tackle
- ✓ Pack out your trash
- ✓ Do your part, and fill your net!



Below are several terms, rules, and definitions used in this booklet. Please consult the Idaho Administrative Procedures Act webpage or Title 36 of the Idaho Code for more detail at [adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/13/index.html](http://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/13/index.html) or [idfg.idaho.gov/title36](http://idfg.idaho.gov/title36).

## **Methods of Fishing and Equipment**

**Archery and Spear Fishing:** Fishing with a bow and arrow, crossbow, spear or mechanical device, excluding firearms. This type of fishing is permitted only in the taking of bullfrogs and unprotected nongame fish and only in those waters during the season set for the taking of game fish.

**Artificial Fly:** Any fly made entirely of rubber, wood, metal, glass, feather, fiber or plastic by the method known as fly tying.

**Artificial Lure:** Any device made entirely of rubber, wood, metal, glass, feather, fiber, or plastic with hook or hooks attached. Bait of any kind may not be used with artificial lures when fishing artificial flies and lures-only waters.

**Attendance of Fishing Gear:** You must attend to your fishing gear while fishing. This means being able to watch your rod at all times and be able to react to a potential strike.

**Bait:** Organic substances, other than rubber, wood feather, fiber, or plastic, attached to a hook to attract fish. Bait includes insects, insect larvae, worms, dead fish, fish parts, any other animal or vegetable matter, or scented synthetic materials.

Note: Use of live fish, leeches, frogs, salamanders, waterdogs or shrimp as bait is prohibited in Idaho, except that live crayfish may be used if caught on the body of water being fished.

**Bait Fishing:** Fishing with any organic substance defined as “bait.”

**Barbless Hook:** A fish hook without barbs or on which barbs have been bent completely closed (point of barbed area touches the body of the hook).

**Catch-and-Release Fishing:** Effort, by permitted methods, to catch or attempt to catch a fish or species of fish is legal, with the restriction that any fish or species of fish so caught must be released immediately, unharmed back to the water. Catch-and-release fishing is only allowed when a fishing season is open for that particular fish species.

Note: Species of fish not specifically listed as catch-and-release may be harvested under their appropriate limits.

**Chumming:** The use of any substance not attached to a hook that is intended to attract fish. It is illegal to chum while fishing in Idaho.

**Closed to Fishing:** No fishing of any type is allowed in the water body.

**Disturbing Traps or Fishing Gear Belonging to Others:** It is illegal to destroy, disturb, or remove any traps belonging to others.

**Electric Motor Only:** When fishing waters listed “electric motors only,” gas (internal combustion) motors may be attached to the boat; but use of the gas motor is prohibited

**Fishing:** Any effort made to take, kill, injure, capture, or catch any fish, crayfish, or bullfrog. All fishing in Idaho requires a valid fishing license except fishing in a private pond where the owner has a valid Private Pond Permit from Fish and Game.

**Fishing Gear:** It is unlawful to fish in any waters of Idaho with more than one (1) handline or pole with a line attached, except a person with a two (2) pole permit may use two (2) poles; or with more than five (5) lines while ice fishing; or by archery, spearfishing, snagging, hands, and netting except as permitted. Not more than five (5) hooks may be attached per line. The line or lines must be attended by the person fishing.

**Fishing License:** You must have in your possession a valid Idaho fishing license to fish in Idaho. You must produce your license or fish upon request of an agent of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

**Fishing Shelter:** Any enclosure or shelter used for fishing. If left unattended overnight on the ice of any water statewide, it shall have the owners’ name, telephone number, and current address legibly marked on two opposing sides of the enclosure or shelter.

**Fly-Fishing:** Fishing with a fly rod, fly reel, fly line, and artificial flies.

**Float Tube:** A floating device which suspends a single occupant, from the seat down, in the water, and is not propelled by oars, paddles or motor.

**Gaff Hook:** A pointed device designed to pierce a fish for the purpose of reducing the fish to possession. It is illegal to land fish of any species with a gaff hook except through a hole cut or broken in the ice in waters which have no length restrictions or harvest closures for that species or when landing non-game fish taken with archery equipment.

**Hands, Use of for Fishing:** The only fish you can legally catch and harvest using your hands are crayfish and bullfrogs. You must use fishing gear to harvest all other fish species.

**Hook:** A bent wire device, for the catching of fish, to which one, two, or three points may be attached to a single shank. Up to five (5) hooks per line may be used, except where specifically prohibited. When fishing for salmon or steelhead, the gap between the point and shank cannot be greater than 5/8 inch. A single-pointed hook has one shank and one point.

**Ice Fishing:** Fishing through an opening, broken or cut, through the ice. You may fish with a maximum of five (5) lines per angler. The opening in the ice may not exceed 10 inches in diameter except on Bear Lake while fishing for cisco. Note: two-pole permits do not entitle the angler to exceed the five pole limit for ice fishing.



**Illegal Fishing Methods:** It is illegal to use chemicals, poisons, electric current, or explosives for fishing.

**Maggot:** An unhatched fly larva.

**Molesting Fish:** It is illegal to molest any fish by shooting at it with a firearm or pellet gun, striking at it with a club, hands, rocks, or other objects, building obstructions for catching fish, or chasing fish up or downstream in any manner.

**Motor:** Includes electric and internal combustion motors.

**No Motor:** Fishing from a watercraft with a motor attached is prohibited.

**Sliding Sinker for Sturgeon:** A method of attaching a sinker to a device that slides freely on the main line. When fishing for sturgeon, a person must use a sliding sinker and a lighter test line to attach the weight to the main line (the line attached to the reel). See Sturgeon Fishing Rules on page 54.

**Snagging:** Taking or attempting to take a fish by use of a hook or lure in any manner or method other than enticing or attracting a fish to strike with, and become hooked in, its mouth or jaw. Game fish cannot be harvested unless hooked in the mouth or jaw. Snag fishing is illegal except where allowed by special rule. Snagging of unprotected nongame fish species is permitted.

**Tagging/Marking Fish** It is illegal to mark, scar, tag or mutilate fish without a Scientific Collecting permit.

**Trapping or Seining Minnows and Crayfish:** All game fish (except yellow perch) and protected nongame fish incidentally taken while trapping or seining must be immediately released alive. Nongame fish (minnows), yellow perch, and crayfish may be taken only in waters open to fishing; provided the seine or net does not exceed ten (10) feet in length or width, and nets and seines must have three-eighths (3/8) inch square or smaller mesh; and the minnow or crayfish trap does not exceed two (2) feet in length, width or height. If the trap is of irregular dimension, but its volume does not exceed the volume of an eight (8) cubic foot trap, it is also legal to use. Nets and seines may not be left unattended. Traps must be checked at least every forty-eight (48) hours. All traps must have a tag attached bearing the owner's name and address.

All fish so taken must immediately be killed except where stated otherwise. Crayfish may be kept alive to be used as bait only on the water where captured. Nongame fish and crayfish may only be taken during the season set for the taking of game fish in those waters.

Only five (5) crayfish traps can be fished with a valid fishing license. If more than five traps are used at one time, you must obtain a Commercial Fishing License and trap tags.

It is illegal to destroy, disturb, or remove any traps belonging to others.

**Two-Pole Permit:** A person who has a valid resident or nonresident fishing license may purchase a two-pole permit. This permit authorizes the license holder to use two poles or rods at the same time on waters and during seasons specified

by Commission Rule. Valid for all open water and salmon and steelhead fishing.

**Watercraft:** Those devices designed as a means of transportation on water.

## Fish Terms and Limits

**Bag Limit:** The maximum number of fish that may be legally harvested by any one person in one day. The term "bag limit" shall be construed to be an individual, independent effort and shall not be interpreted in any manner as to allow one individual to harvest more fish than their "bag limit" or help the "bag limit" of another.

It is illegal to fish in waters having special bag or species limits while in possession of fish in excess of those limits.

**Clipped Adipose Fin:** See diagram page 43. The adipose fin must be missing or nearly missing with a healed scar where the adipose fin is supposed to be located.

**Game Fish:** Brook, Brown, Bull, Cutthroat, Golden, Lake (Mackinaw), Rainbow (including Steelhead), Splake and Sunapee Trout; trout hybrids (e.g. Tiger Trout); Atlantic, Chinook, Coho, Kokanee, and Sockeye Salmon; Arctic Grayling; Whitefish; Cisco; Crappie; Perch; Bass; Catfish; Bullhead; Sunfish; White Sturgeon; Northern Pike; Tiger Muskie; Walleye and Sauger; and Burbot (Ling). Crayfish are also defined as game fish.

**General Rules:** The seasons, gear, and bag limits adopted for the region where you are fishing.

**Harvest:** Reduce a fish to possession.

**Hybrid Fish:** The offspring of two different species.

**Limit is 0:** Catch-and-release fishing is allowed but the fish species listed in the rule must be released after landing and may not be reduced to possession.

**Nongame Fish:** Any fish not specifically defined as a "game fish." **Protected nongame fish are** Bear Lake, Shoshone and Wood River Sculpin; Sand Roller, Northern Leatherside Chub, Bluehead Sucker (also referred to as Green Sucker), and Pacific lamprey.

**Possession Limit:** Maximum number of fish that may be lawfully in possession of any person. Possession limit shall apply to fish while in the field or being transported. All fish hooked, landed and not immediately released shall be counted in the possession limit of the person hooking the fish. The possession limit is 3-times the daily bag limit.

**Salmon, Chinook:** Anadromous (ocean-run) salmon of the species *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* in the Snake River drainage below Hells Canyon Dam, the Salmon River drainage, and the Clearwater drainage (excluding lakes, reservoirs and the North Fork of the Clearwater River above Dworshak Dam), and the Boise River, when stocked.

**Salmon, Coho:** Anadromous (ocean run) salmon of the species *Oncorhynchus kisutch* in the Snake River drainage below Hells Canyon Dam, the Salmon River drainage, and Clearwater River

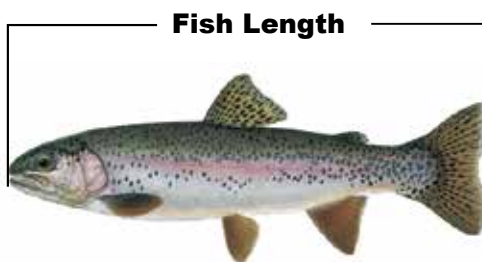
drainage (excluding lakes, reservoirs and the North Fork of the Clearwater River above Dworshak Dam).

**Season Limit:** The maximum number of fish that may be legally taken in any declared season.

**Special Rule Waters:** Any water with a gear, season, or bag limit rule that is different from the general rule.

**Steelhead:** Rainbow trout longer than 20 inches in length in the Snake River drainage below Hells Canyon Dam, the Salmon River drainage (excluding lakes and the Lemhi and Pahsimeroi rivers), and the Clearwater river drainage (excluding that portion above Dworshak Dam, and lakes). Rainbow trout longer than 20 inches in length with a clipped adipose fin (as evidenced by a healed scar) are defined as steelhead in the Snake River from Hells Canyon Dam upstream to Oxbow Dam, and in the Boise River from its mouth upstream to Barber Dam.

**Fish Length:** The length as measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail.



## **Boundary and Water Definitions**

**Confluence of a River or Stream:** The point where two rivers or streams come together.

**Diversion:** A man-made structure designed to change the direction of flowing water in a stream.

**Diversion Pond:** A man-made pond holding water taken from a stream or reservoir. The diversion pond may be connected to the stream or reservoir by an open ditch or pipe.

**Drainage:** All water flowing into a common river or stream system, either above or below ground, due to area geography.

**Fish Trap:** Any man-made structure designed to capture fish.

**Fish Weir:** Any man-made structure placed in a water body to delay or divert migrating fish.

**Flat Water:** Water where there is no observable direction of flow.

**Milepost:** An official state highway marker which denotes a mile location. Milepost markers are typically found at one-mile intervals on Idaho highways.

**Mouth of a River or Stream:** The place where a river or stream enters a larger body of water.

**Private Pond:** A man-made, off-channel pond on private property. The owner may only stock the pond with fish after obtaining a private Pond Permit from Fish and Game.

**Reservoir:** The flat water level existing at any time within a reservoir basin. Unless noted otherwise, a stream flowing through the drawn down portion of a reservoir is not considered part of the reservoir.

**Section:** An area of river, stream, or reservoir between specific boundary locations.

**Tributary:** A stream flowing into a larger stream or lake.

**Upstream:** Moving from a lower elevation point in a stream towards a higher elevation point in the same stream.

## **Tournament/ Fishing Contests**

An organized event based on the capture of individual fish where there is: a) a live fish weigh-in; or b) awards cash or prizes valued at \$1,000 or more based on number, size or species of fish captured; or c) is expected to draw 20 or more anglers. Contests for participants under the age of 14 are exempt. Any person or entity that participates or conducts a fishing contest must first obtain a fishing contest permit from IDFG. The Department will not issue a permit for a harvest contest for wild native trout or sturgeon in rivers or streams. The Director may issue a permit for a catch-and-release contest for these species if he determines there will be no harm to that fishery resource in the particular water where the contest is to take place. No harvest tournaments on native fish will be allowed. Applications can be obtained at any IDFG Office or from our website at [idfg.idaho.gov/fish/tournaments](http://idfg.idaho.gov/fish/tournaments). Allow a minimum of 30 days for processing.

## **Transport, Release, and Possession of Fish**

**Check Stations:** Idaho Law authorizes IDFG to use wildlife check stations to collect biological and harvest data from fish and wildlife, receive public input, and enforce Commission seasons and rules. Anyone hunting, fishing or trapping is required to stop if they encounter a check station that requires all hunters, anglers, and trappers to stop, even if the hunting, fishing or trapping activity occurred outside of Idaho and even if individuals do not possess any fish or wildlife.

### **Fish Possessed from State and Federal Fish**

**Hatcheries:** Fish can only be taken from a state or federal fish hatchery when given a written receipt for those fish or as allowed by posted signage.

**Head and Tail Removal:** While in transit it is illegal to remove heads or tails from any trout, kokanee, bass, tiger muskie, steelhead or salmon unless the following conditions are met: 1) the angler is ashore and done fishing for the day; 2) the fish is processed or packaged with the skin naturally attached to the flesh; 3) the fish must be processed or packaged in a manner that the number of fish harvested can be readily determined. Processed fish species listed above cannot be transported by boat.

**Holding Live Fish:** No permit is required to keep game fish alive that have legally been reduced to possession, in a livewell, net or on a stringer while at the body of water from which they were taken. All fish must be killed or released prior to leaving the water body. However, anadromous salmon and steelhead must either be killed or released after landing.

**Private Fish Pond:** You are required to have a private pond permit from Fish and Game to own a private pond stocked with game fish. Permit applications are available on Fish and Game's website or at regional offices.

**Proxy Statement for Fish Transport or Gift:** You must have a proxy statement to transport fish for another person or accept as a gift any game fish. See page 7 for a proxy statement form. It must be signed by the taker, show the number and kind of fish, the date taken, the taker's address, and fishing license number. No person may claim ownership of more fish than allowed by the possession limit.

**Sale of Fish:** Fish harvested by anglers cannot be bought or sold without a commercial license except as provided by Idaho code.

**Shipment of Fish:** No person shall ship legally harvested fish unless the package is marked on the outside with: the name, address and fishing license number of the person who caught the fish, the name and address of the person to whom the fish are being shipped with or sent to, and the number of fish, by species, contained in the package.

**Waste of Game Fish:** It is illegal through carelessness, neglect or otherwise to allow or cause the waste of edible portions of any game fish including the fillets of fish and tails of crayfish.

### **Salvage of Fish**

Fish salvage may be authorized when fish populations are threatened by water shortages or other causes. No salvage of fish from public waters will be allowed without Fish and Game authorization. When salvage is allowed, fish may be taken by snagging, spearing, archery, dip netting, seining, or by hand. Bag limits are typically removed. Use of toxic chemicals explosives, firearms, or electric current is prohibited. A valid fishing license is required. Anglers are reminded that access along canal banks and salvage fishing in most canals and ditches requires prior permission from irrigation companies.

**Transport and Introduction of Live Fish:** It is illegal to transport or allow the release of any species of live fish (including crayfish and bullfrogs), or fish eggs, in the state of Idaho without a permit from the director of Fish and Game. If you illegally introduce fish into a water body without a permit, you could be held financially liable for restoration costs.

### **Fishing in Boundary Waters**

**Bear Lake between Idaho and Utah:** The holder of a valid Idaho or Utah fishing license may fish all of Bear Lake except in areas closed to all fishing by the respective states. Anglers are

subject to the rules and regulations of the state in which they are fishing.

### **Snake River between Idaho and Oregon or Washington:**

The holder of a valid Idaho fishing license may fish the Snake River where it forms the boundary between the states of Idaho and Oregon or Washington, subject to the fish and game laws of Idaho but may not fish from the shore including wading, and may not fish in sloughs or tributaries on the Oregon or Washington side. An Oregon or Washington license holder has the same rights and restrictions with reference to the Idaho side.

Any angler who fishes on the Snake River or any other water forming an Idaho boundary is entitled to have in possession only the limit allowed by one license regardless of the number of licenses in possession.

### **Releasing Fish**

Releasing fish may be a good way to help maintain healthy populations and quality fisheries where angling effort is high. To ensure released fish survive, we recommend the following practices:

You can do your part to increase fish survival by following these stress reducing practices:

- Use the proper size tackle to land the fish quickly, which can help minimize stress.
- Use barbless hooks to ease hook removal and minimize damage to the fish.
- Do not squeeze the fish.
- Do not touch or hold fish by the gills, gill covers, or the eyes.
- Be cognizant of the amount of time fish are held out of water while removing the hook; holding fish upside down in the water often makes them easier to handle.
- If the hook is too deep to be easily removed, cut the line. This will give the fish the best chance to survive.

### **Taking Photographs**

Photographs of a trophy catch can provide priceless memories of a great fishing trip, but anglers should use care to take the photo responsibly. Here are things you can do to capture that special image and allow the fish to fight another day (remember – sturgeon can't be removed from the water):

- Have the camera ready and the shot framed before removing the fish from the water.
- When lifting a fish from the water, support the fish with both hands as you gently lift it from the water.
- Strive to hold the fish over the water so if it struggles from your hands it will fall back in the water and not onto a hard surface such as a rock or a boat floor.
- Hold the fish out of the water only as long as it takes to take a picture.

## Reasons for Special Size and Bag Limits

Harvest restrictions help maintain the overall numbers and size of fish in a lake or stream, and also ensure “fair share” so every angler has a chance to catch or harvest fish. Restrictive harvest rules are sometimes used simply to provide a different type of fishing experience or to maximize the size of fish available.

Idaho Fish and Game manages recreational fisheries to provide a variety of experiences using different combinations of size, gear, and bag limits. The range of harvest rules includes:

- General bag and size limits apply in typical harvest oriented fishing waters without gear or bait restrictions. Many of these waters are stocked with harvestable-sized hatchery trout.
- Wild trout management focuses on sustaining naturally-reproducing wild populations without hatchery stocking. In certain instances, lower bag limits, size limits, or gear and bait restrictions may be applied to keep populations healthy.
- Special size limits are used where the goal is to catch more and larger fish by giving up some harvest opportunity. A bag limit of 2 fish (trout or bass) and various size limits such as a 14 or 16–inch minimum or a 12 to 16–inch protected range are common.
- Trophy fish or large trout management may require more restrictive limits. For example, this could include catch-and-release rules or a bag limit of 2 fish (for both trout and bass) combined with length restrictions. Gear or bait restrictions may apply.
- Special Cutthroat Trout rules are implemented across most of the state to protect our state fish. Cutthroat Trout are easily overfished, so various special rules are used to protect them from excess harvest. Many waters throughout the state have catch-and-release, restrictive bag or length limits, or other rules to protect Cutthroat Trout.



**FISHING THE BACKCOUNTRY?**

SEE THE ALPINE LAKE FISHING PAGE FOR:

- TIPS AND TRICKS
- WHERE TO FISH
- SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT

[IDFG.IDAHO.GOV/FISH/ALPINE](https://IDFG.IDAHO.GOV/FISH/ALPINE)



# FREE FISHING DAY

**No license required to fish statewide**

At Free Fishing Day events, you will find:

- How-to Clinics -
- Tackle available -
- Questions answered -
- Skills development -

**SATURDAY**  
**JUNE 11, 2022**  
**JUNE 10, 2023**  
**JUNE 8, 2024**

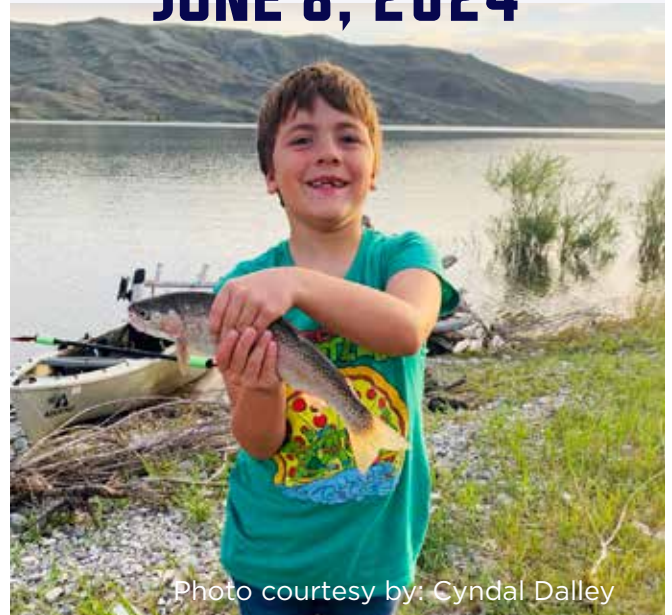


Photo courtesy by: Cyndal Dalley

For more information, contact the Fish and Game office nearest to you.



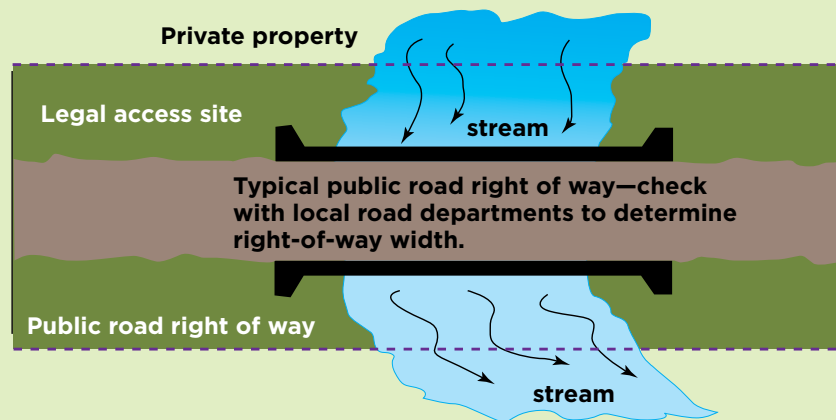
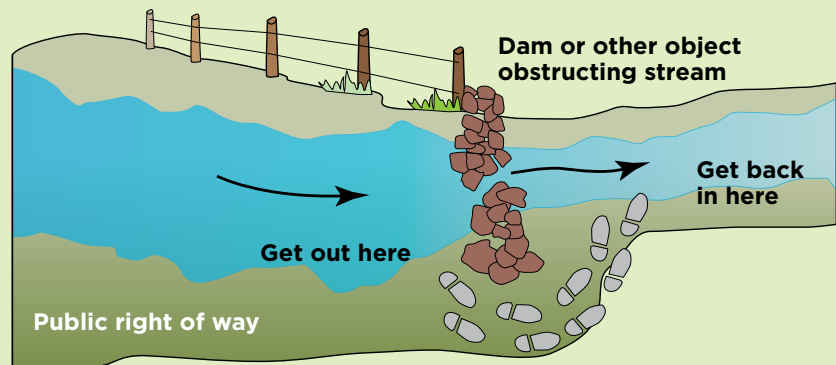
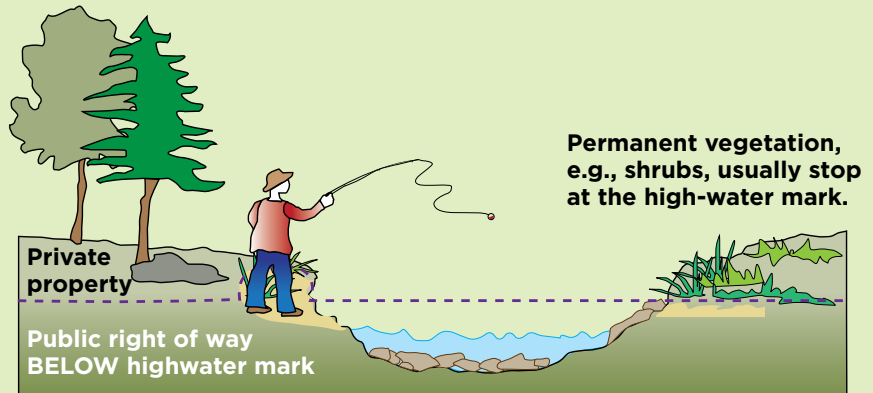
# NAVIGABILITY AND PUBLIC ACCESS

(Refer to Idaho Code 36-1601)

**N**avigable streams are defined as any stream which, in its natural high-water condition, will float logs or any other commercial or floatable commodity, or is capable of being navigated by oar or motor propelled small craft for pleasure or commercial purposes. Navigable streams are recognized as public transportation corridors, thus members of the public have the right to use the corridor, provided they enter and exit the corridor at a public right of way, and remain within the corridor. Many navigable streams flow through private property, thus it is important that anglers know their rights and responsibilities when fishing in navigable waters that flow through private property.

When fishing in navigable streams bordered by private property:

- You must stay within the normal high-water marks of the stream, unless you have landowner permission to get out on the bank, or have no other means of getting around an obstruction in the stream (such as a fence or diversion dam).
- When getting outside of the stream to go around an obstruction, take the shortest, most direct route around the obstruction to get back in the stream.
- Do not allow pets or children to trespass on adjacent private property, without landowner permission.
- You may enter and exit navigable streams at other public rights of way, such as county road bridges.
- **ASK FIRST!** Always get landowner permission before crossing private lands outside of a public right of way.



# Tag You're It!

## If you catch a tagged fish



- Write down or photograph tag number(s). Some fish have 2 tags.
- Call hotline or report via IDFG website
- Provide additional information as prompted
- Some tags offer a cash reward. Simply cut or remove the tag whether you keep or release the fish. To receive the reward you MUST report the tag AND mail or bring it to:



Report your tags  
through this QR code  
OR  
[tag.idaho.gov](http://tag.idaho.gov)  
1-866-258-0338

Fish Tag Returns — IDFG  
1414 E. Locust Lane  
Nampa ID 83686

Thanks for your help!



## BEWARE OF HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS

### WHAT ARE HARMFUL ALGAE BLOOMS (HABS)?

HABs can be dangerous to people and animals. Some can produce chemicals toxic to humans and animals if ingested, inhaled, or if contacted by skin or mucous membranes

### WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Keep people and pets away from water that is pea-soup green, scummy, foamy, blue-green, brownish-red, or thick like paint

### HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS AND FISHING

When a bloom is present, avoid fishing, swimming and drinking contaminated water

### EATING FISH CAUGHT IN AFFECTED WATERS

Risks from eating fish caught in waters with harmful algal blooms are uncertain. Algal bloom toxins accumulate in the organs and may be present in the fillet.

If you decide to eat fish, remove the fat, skin, and organs before cooking and wash hands and equipment. Cooking fish will not remove toxins that might be in the fillet.

## WHEN IN DOUBT, STAY OUT!

For more information, see the websites for Idaho Department of Environmental Quality at [deq.idaho.gov](http://deq.idaho.gov), or the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare at [healthandwelfare.idaho.gov](http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov).



# STURGEON FISHING RULES

The White Sturgeon is the largest freshwater fish in North America. To reach their maximum adult size of 8 to 10 feet or more, sturgeon must survive for many years. Unintentional deaths result in fewer fish living the 25-65 years of age necessary to reach large sizes. Research has found that baited hooks, fishing line and swivels, broken off by anglers, may be ingested by sturgeon, and in rare instances cause death. Because of this, IDFG adopted rules designed to reduce the amount of tackle lost by anglers (see diagram below) with the overarching goal of reducing unintentional sturgeon deaths. Specifically, these rules increase an angler's chance of retrieving their hook, leader and swivel when snagged (in most instances the weight breaks off and the rig is retrieved). If the hook does break off, these rules will help increase the likelihood that the weight and hook separate, reducing the chance of "ghost gear". In addition, the following tips were developed for sturgeon anglers to assist them in catching fish and releasing them successfully.

## If You Catch a Sturgeon

- *Sturgeon must not be removed from the water and must be released upon landing.*
- Sturgeon can be rolled onto their backs in the water before removing the hook. This generally calms the fish down making it easier to remove the hook.
- Do not grasp a sturgeon by the gills. Gills are the lungs of a fish and can be easily damaged. If you need to keep a sturgeon in place, you can easily hold onto its lower lip while it is upside down.
- Do not mark, scar, or put a tail rope on sturgeon.
- If fishing from a boat and you snag the bottom, back over the snagged hook/weight and pull from different angles to try and dislodge them. This will increase your odds of retrieving your setup/rigging.

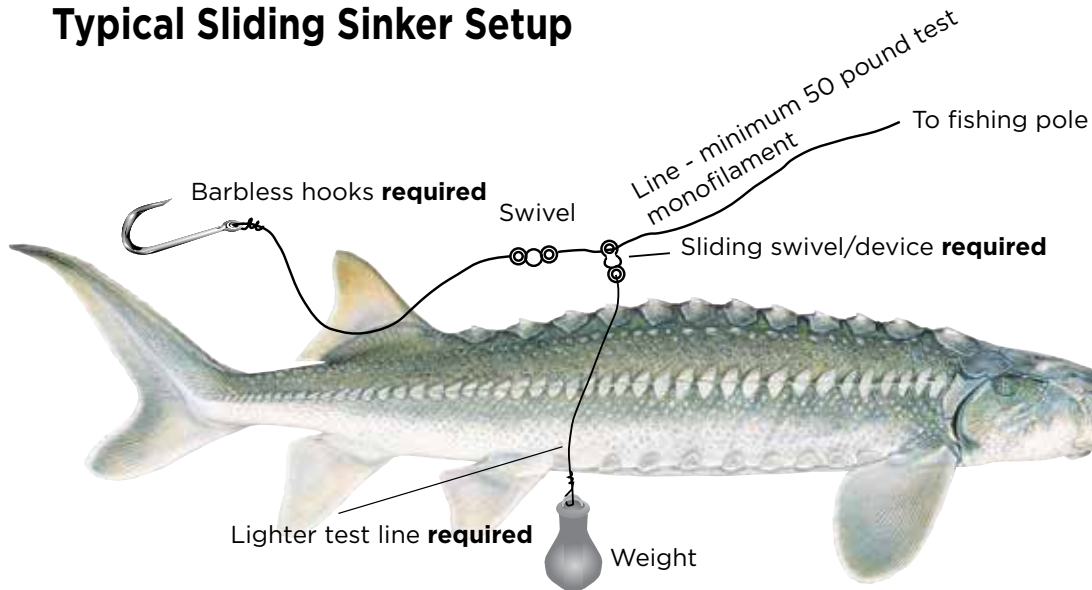
- If fishing from shore and you become snagged try repeatedly giving the line slack and then quickly pull back. If this does not work, retrieve as much line as possible and pull from different angles to try and dislodge your hook/weight.
- Do not leave discarded line on shore or in the water. It is a hazard to both fish and wildlife.

## Sturgeon Fishing Setup/Rigging (also see diagram below)

- When fishing for White Sturgeon, anglers are **required** to use barbless hooks, a sliding swivel device to secure a weight, and a lighter test line to secure a weight to the sliding swivel or other device.
- We **recommend** a minimum of 50 pound test monofilament line on your reel. This greatly reduces the chances of breaking off your main line either with a fish on or when snagged.



## Typical Sliding Sinker Setup



# GET BETWEEN A ROCK *and a* COOL PLACE™

**Catch trout in the West.  
Win the adventure of a lifetime.**

A fishing challenge, at your pace, that helps Western Native Trout Initiative conserve 21 native trout and char species in 12 states.



**Everything you need,  
All in One Cool Place.  
Maps. Species. Trout Conservation.  
Rewards. The Adventure of a Lifetime.**

**\$25** for Adults 18+  
Kids 17 and under play FREE

Get started by visiting  
[WesternNativeTroutChallenge.org](http://WesternNativeTroutChallenge.org)



## Set it and forget it.

Set your license to auto-renew  
online or through our app.



Photo courtesy Hailey Thomas



Hailey Thomas (and son Weston) with the current Catch-and-Release State Record for Rainbow x cutthroat trout hybrid from Henrys Lake.

## Record Fish Program Guidelines

Only fish caught in publicly accessible waters with legal fishing methods during an open season are eligible for State Records. All applicants must have a valid Idaho fishing license at the time the fish was caught. No records will be awarded for fish caught during salvage seasons or at private pay-to-fish facilities. Catch/release records must be released. See tips on safely releasing fish in this booklet!

- Catch/release White Sturgeon records (Catch and Release only) must be broken by a minimum of 2 inches. Catch/Release records for all other species must be broken by a minimum of ½ inch.
- All applications must be submitted within 30 days of the catch date.

## How to Apply For a Record

Complete program information and the Record Fish Application form are available online at: [idfg.idaho.gov/fish/record](http://idfg.idaho.gov/fish/record)

## Certified Weight Records applications need:

- A receipt from the certified scale documenting the weight (typically be found at grocery stores or US Post Offices), verification of species from an IDFG office.
- At least one photo of the fish and a witness to the weight.

## Catch and Release Record applications need:

- Fish length - from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail. Sturgeon should be measured upside down along the belly from the snout to tip of the upper lobe of the tail.
- Salmon, Steelhead, Bull Trout and White Sturgeon must be measured and photographed in the water.
- Photos: (1) of the fish directly next to a ruler/tape measure or object of known verifiable length and (2) a photo of the angler with the fish.
- At least one witness to the measurement and release

**The current list of Catch and Release Records is available at [idfg.idaho.gov/fish/record](http://idfg.idaho.gov/fish/record) OR scan the QR code below:**



# STATE RECORD FISH - CERTIFIED WEIGHT

- Certified Weight Records are based on the weight of a fish legally harvested. Application forms require a receipt from a certified scale.
- Application forms and complete information on State Record Fish are available online: [idfg.idaho.gov/fish/record](http://idfg.idaho.gov/fish/record)

## Game Fish

Species	Weight (lbs.)	Length (in.)	Girth (in.)	Location	Angler	Date
Atlantic Salmon	13.25	29.75	17.75	Deadwood Reservoir	Garrett Buffington	10/15/1995
Black Crappie	3.56	17.5	15	Brownlee Reservoir	Jason Monson	06/08/2003
Bluegill	3.5	-	-	C.J. Strike Reservoir	Darrell Grim	1966
Bluegill/P-seed Hybrid	1.00	9.88	10.25	Star Lane Pond	Kevin Graveline	05/08/2001
Bonneville Cutthroat Trout	18.94	-	-	Bear Lake	Roger Grunig	04/30/1970
Bonneville Whitefish	3.16	19.5	11.5	Bear Lake	Gaylon Newbold	12/05/2014
Brook Trout	7.06	23.5	15.5	Henrys Lake	DeVere Stratton	08/16/1978
Brown Trout	27.31	37	24	Ashton Reservoir	Wes Case	11/06/2007
*Bull Trout	32	-	-	Pend Orielle Lake	Nelson Higgins	1949
Bullhead Catfish	3.88	20.5	11.88	Brownlee Reservoir	James Winter	05/25/1986
Burbot (Ling)	14	-	-	Kootenai River	P.A. Dayton	1954
Channel Catfish	32.9	36.5	23.5	C.J. Strike Reservoir	Cody Kastner	06/16/2022
Chinook Salmon (fresh water)	42	41.25	29.75	CdA Lake	Jane Clifford	09/13/1987
Chinook Salmon (ocean run)	54	-	-	Salmon River	Merrold Gold	1956
Coho Salmon (fresh water)	6	23.5	-	Cascade Reservoir	Ted Bowers	09/19/1992
Coho Salmon (ocean-run)	11.75	33	17	Clearwater River	Steve Micek	11/08/2014
Cutthroat Trout -Bonneville	18.94	-	-	Bear Lake	Roger Grunig	04/30/1970
Cutthroat Trout -Lahontan	3.14	21	9.5	Grasmere Reservoir	Hayleigh Urban	10/05/2022
Cutthroat Trout -Westslope		OPEN				
Cutthroat Trout -Yellowstone		OPEN				
Flathead Catfish	58.5	48	31	Brownlee Reservoir	J. Newberry/K. McCormick	08/23/1994
Golden Trout	5.13	-	-	White Sands Lake	George Wolverton	1958
Arctic Grayling	2.44	18.13	-	Nez Perce Lake	Velma Mahaffey	06/21/1992
Green Sunfish	0.67	9	9	Fernan Lake	John Moore	06/25/2019
Kokanee Salmon	6.59	24.5	14.5	Priest Lake	JerryVerge	06/09/1975
Lake Trout	57.5	49	32.5	Priest Lake	Lyle McClure	11/14/1971
Lake Whitefish	6.5	26	23.75	Pend Oreille Lake	Dale Hofmann	08/06/2010
Largemouth Bass	10.94	-	-	Anderson Lake	Mrs. M.W. Taylor	-
Mountain Whitefish	5.9	22.5	14	Island Park Reservoir	Robert Hall	1997
Northern Pike	40.13	51.5	22.75	Lower Twin Lake	Kim Fleming	08/06/2010
Pumpkinseed	0.88	9.75	10	Chase Lake	Bob Russell	1977
Rainbow Trout	20.00	34.25	22.25	Snake River	Michelle Larsen-Williams	07/29/2009
Rainbow Trout-Gerrard	37	-	-	Pend Oreille Lake	Wes Hamlet	1947
Rainbow/Cutt. Trout Hybrid	34.74	41.13	27.13	American Falls Reservoir	Mark Adams	07/25/2011
Smallmouth Bass	9.72	23.75	20.5	Dworshak Reservoir	Dan Steigers	10/28/2006
*Sockeye Salmon	5	24	-	Redfish Lake	June McCray	08/08/1970
Splake	10.78	28.5	18.88	Ririe Reservoir	Brian Allison	05/12/2006
Steelhead	30.13	44	-	Clearwater River	Keith Powell	11/23/1973
Tiger Muskie	44.25	52.5	25	Little Payette Lake	Edward Kalinowski	08/06/2013
Tiger Trout	4.8	24	-	Becker Pond	Gatlynn Mayes	12/16/2020
Walleye	17.88	34.5	21.88	Oakley Reservoir	Damon Rush	09/10/2011
Warmouth	0.60	8.75	8.5	Snake River	Marvin Stevens	06/23/1988
White Crappie	3.80	17.5	15.75	Crane Creek Reservoir	Trenten Smith	07/16/2012
* White Sturgeon (Rod & Reel)	394	-	-	Snake River	Glenn Howard	1956
* White Sturgeon (Set Line)	675	-	-	Snake River	Unknown	1908
Yellow Perch	3.22	16.25	-	Cascade Reservoir	Adam Mann	03/09/2021

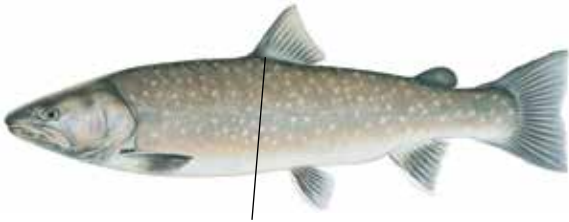
## Nongame

Species	Weight (lbs.)	Length (in.)	Girth (in.)	Location	Angler	Date
Bridgelip Sucker	2.2	17.75	-	Lemhi River	Eric Geisthardt	05/18/2021
Chiselmouth	1.16	14.25	8.38	Salmon River	Justin Powell	04/15/2003
Common Carp (Archery)	67.65	47	34.5	C.J. Strike Reservoir	Scott Frazier II	07/23/2011
Common Carp (Rod & Reel)	34	38	-	Snake River	Henry Charlier	05/03/2021
Goldfish (Archery)	3.4	-	-	Snake River	Kyle Stevens	03/13/2021
Grass Carp (Archery)	39.5	40.63	36	Snake River	Saige Wilkerson	07/16/2012
Grass Carp (Rod & Reel)	46.7	50	-	Snake River	Cris Endicott	10/10/2021
Largescale Sucker	9.04	27	-	Cascade Reservoir	Dave Gassel	12/17/2017
Northern Pikeminnow	7.89	25.25	16	Snake River	Emil Nowoj	05/07/2004
Peamouth Chub (Rod & Reel)	1.14	14.5	-	Snake River	Benjamin Fahnholz	03/08/2022
Peamouth Chub (Archery)	1.12	14.5	-	Snake River	Matthew Carlson	09/13/2022
Redside Shiner	0.08	4.7	-	Blackfoot River	Raiden Schneider	07/23/2022
Tench	5.32	20.5	-	Lake Pend Oreille	Phillip Biggerstaff	06/19/2022
Tilapia	4.28	16	-	Swan Falls Reservoir	Jason Arneson	08/03/2008
Utah Chub	2.81	16.7	11.2	Lake Walcott	Alfred E. Woolstenhulme	02/07/2010
Utah Sucker	7.86	25.5	-	South Fork Snake River	Rick Thompson	08/20/2011

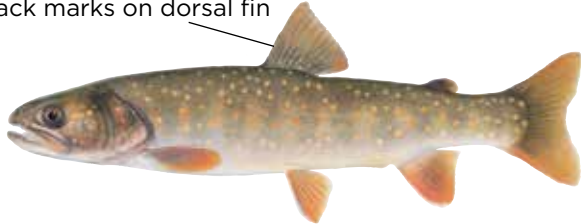


# FISH IDENTIFICATION

Illustrations © Joseph Tomelleri



No black marks on dorsal fin



## **Bull Trout** No Harvest Allowed

Olive green with brown above and on sides, shading to white on belly. Lacks wormlike markings as in BROOK TROUT. Upper body with yellow spots, sides with red or orange spots. No bluish halos around spots and white borders on fins less distinct than in BROOK TROUT. Tail is slightly forked. NATIVE.

Bluish halos

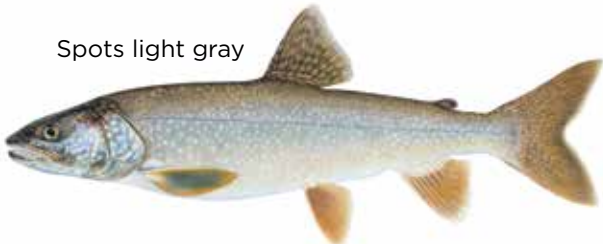


White border

## **Brook Trout**

Dark green or blue black on back, to white on belly. Belly and lower fins may turn brilliant red in spawning males. Upper body and dorsal fin with mottled or wormlike markings. Sides with pale spots and reddish spots which may have bluish rings around them. Lower fins, including tail. Have distinct white leading edge. Tail square, or only slightly forked. INTRODUCED.

Spots light gray



## **Lake Trout (Mackinaw)**

Dark gray or gray green above, belly light gray to white. Irregular shaped light gray spots on back, sides, dorsal fin and tail. Pink or blue spots ABSENT. White borders on fins less distinct than in BROOK TROUT. Tail deeply forked. Inhabits only large, deep lakes. INTRODUCED.



## **Cutthroat Trout**

Red to orange slashes on underside of lower jaw. Body color variable. Back steel gray to olive green. Sides may be yellow brown with red or pink along belly. Spotting more closely grouped toward tail. May spawn in wild with rainbow. NATIVE. Three subspecies of cutthroat are native to Idaho



## **Rainbow Trout**

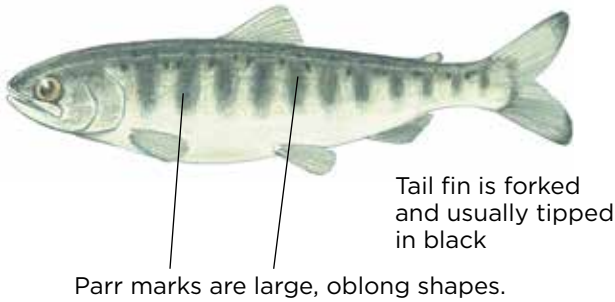
Body color variable. May be silvery in lakes and reservoirs. Back olive to greenish blue, belly white to silvery. Sides may show red or pink streak, white tip on pelvic (belly) and anal fin usually evident. Irregular spots on back, sides, head, dorsal fin and tail. Spots are more evenly distributed from head to tail on rainbow trout than Cutthroat Trout. NATIVE.



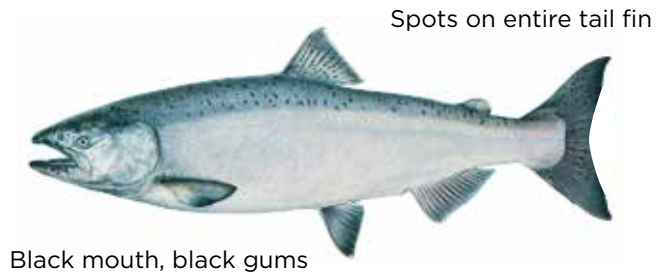
## **Sockeye Salmon** No Harvest Allowed

An anadromous (ocean going) relative of kokanee salmon. Non-spawning color is silver to steel blue. Males turn a bright red on the back and a darker red on the sides at spawning time. Females also turn red, but the red on the sides is somewhat darker. Sockeye typically spend two years in freshwater and one year in the ocean before returning to spawn in Idaho. NATIVE.

### Juvenile Chinook Salmon



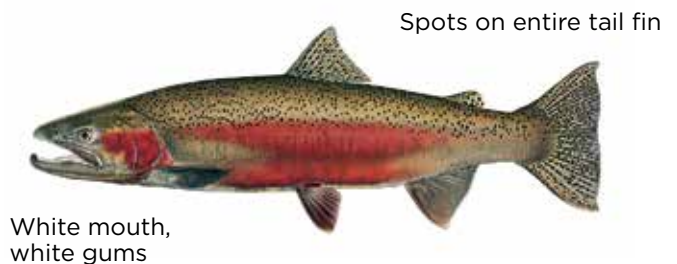
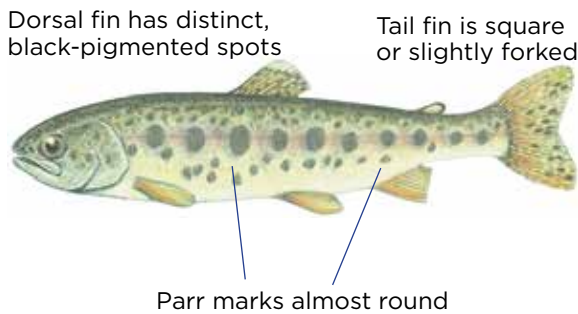
**No Harvest Allowed**  
**In waters with ocean-going salmon or steelhead**



### Adult Chinook Salmon

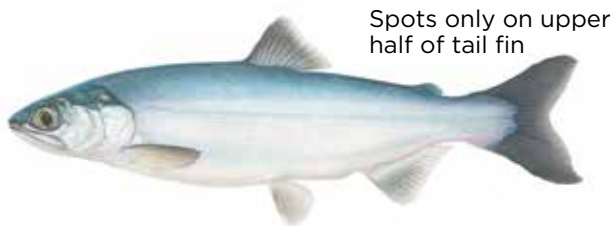
Adults 24-40 inches in length. Irregularly shaped black spots on back, dorsal fin and tail. Teeth well developed. Black mouth and gum line. Adults return to Snake, Salmon and Clearwater rivers to spawn after 1-3 years at sea. Juveniles migrate to ocean after 18 months in streams. NATIVE.

### Juvenile Rainbow Trout/Steelhead



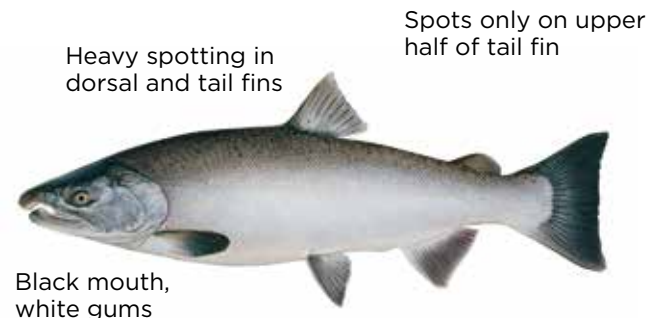
### Adult Steelhead

Adults generally 20-40 inches in length. Irregularly shaped black spots on back, dorsal fin and tail. STEELHEAD are ocean-run rainbow which spawn in Snake, Clearwater and Salmon drainages; juveniles migrate to the ocean, return as adults after 1-2 years. NATIVE. See Pages 41-46.



### Kokanee (Blueback)

Back greenish blue with faint speckling and few if any spots. Sides and belly silvery. Forked tail with large eye. Typically, no distinct spotting in dorsal fin or tails as in RAINBOW. During spawning (September-December in both streams and shoreline gravels), bodies become 'leathery' and turn dark red to bright scarlet and heads dusky green. Spots are visible on the back half of the fish when in spawning coloration. Kokanee are native to the Payette lakes and the Stanley Basin lakes and have been established in other large lakes and reservoirs throughout the state. NATIVE.



### Coho Salmon

Appearance similar to kokanee with spotting on back, dorsal and upper lobe of tail fin. Sharp teeth on tongue and roof of mouth. 14-16 rays in anal fin. Can be confused with rainbow trout in reservoirs. Chinook salmon can be distinguished from coho by black inside of mouth and gums, while coho have white or gray gums. INTRODUCED.



### Tiger Trout

A hybrid or cross between a Brown Trout and Brook Trout. Very pronounced dark vermiculations (tiger like stripes) all over a brownish, gray body and dorsal fin. Adipose fin and tail with spots and/or vermiculations. INTRODUCED.

Blue-gray halos



No spots or very few spots on tail fin

**Brown Trout**

Back brown or olive with large black spots. Sides light brown to yellowish with numerous brown, black and red spots surrounded by halos of blue gray. Adipose fin usually with orange border. Few, if any, spots on tail. Tail slightly forked. INTRODUCED.



**Burbot**

Commonly referred to as cod or ling and found in the Kootenia River basin. Burbot are streamlined, elongated fish with a wide flattened head and have one single barbel in center of lower jaw and very long secondary dorsal fin. No true spines in fins. Yellow light brown or tan with background color being overlain with dark brown or black lace-like pattern. NATIVE.



**Mountain Whitefish**

Color light grayish blue on back; silvery on sides; and dull whitish on belly. Small mouth without teeth. Five other species of whitefish are found in Idaho. NATIVE.



**White Sturgeon No Harvest Allowed**

Five rows of bony plates or scutes; mouth directed downward; four barbels in front of mouth; size up to 10 feet in Snake, Salmon and Kootenai rivers. NATIVE. See Page 54 for more information.



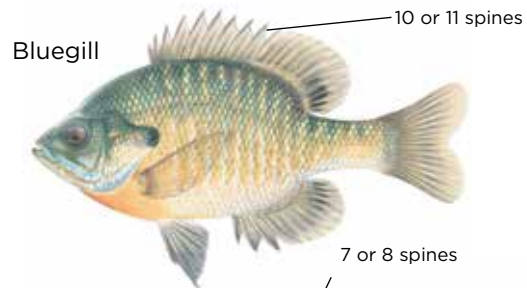
**Tiger Muskie**

A sterile hybrid cross of a northern pike and a muskellunge. Olive green to dark gray color with VERTICAL MARKINGS on sides. INTRODUCED.



**Northern Pike**

Bluish-green to gray on back and sides with irregular rows of light-colored HORIZONTAL SPOTS on sides. INTRODUCED.



Bluegill

Black Crappie



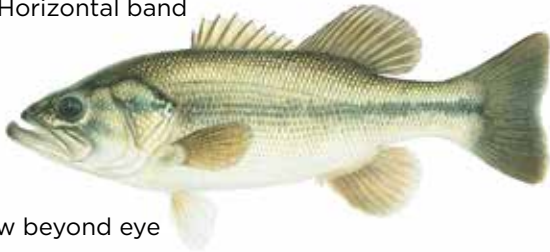
White Crappie



**Bluegill and Crappie**

Have spines in the dorsal fin. Bluegill have a blue spot on the gill cover, the back is olive to dark green with a bluish luster, sides are bluish, belly is yellowish. Crappie are grayish to silvery green on the head, with lighter sides and a silvery-white belly. Heavy black spotting or splotches on body and fins. INTRODUCED.

Horizontal band



Jaw beyond eye

### Largemouth Bass

Dark green on back and sides, belly white. Dark, irregular HORIZONTAL band along sides. Upper jaw, when closed, extends behind the eye. INTRODUCED.

Vertical bands



Jaw not beyond eye

### Smallmouth Bass

Dark olive to brown on back, sides bronze, belly white. Dark VERTICAL bands on sides. Eyes reddish. Upper jaw, when closed, does NOT EXTEND behind eye. INTRODUCED.



### Yellow Perch

Dark green back and yellow sides with 6 to 8 dark vertical bars. Front fin has sharp spines and cheek has serrated edges. INTRODUCED.



### Sucker

Eight species of suckers found in Idaho. Bronze, brown or grayish on back and sides; and white, cream or pale yellow color on belly. Breeding male in spring have rosy or dark stripe along sides. Long compressed torpedo shaped bodies. Short conical head with distinct down facing mouth with weak and fleshy lips, no teeth in mouth. Soft rayed dorsal fin. NATIVE.

Channel catfish



Forked tail

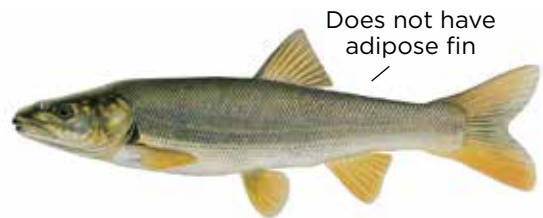
Bullhead



Rounded tail

### Channel Catfish and Bullhead

MEMBERS of the catfish family have 4 pairs of barbels (whiskers), spines on their dorsal and pectoral fins, and no scales. Bullheads in Idaho are normally a more solid brown. INTRODUCED.

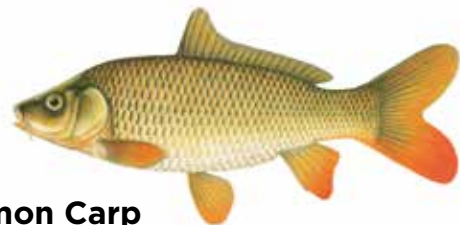


Does not have adipose fin

### Northern Pikeminnow

*(formerly the northern squawfish)*

Body color has a general yellowish tone, back is dark olive green, sides are grayish-silver, belly is yellowish-white. Tail fin is distinctly forked, the mouth is large. Fins without spots. NATIVE.



### Common Carp

Deep bodied with triangular head, often large in size. Olive green to gold on the back and sides becoming yellow to pale yellow on belly. Paired barbels at margins of mouth, resemble a large goldfish. Aquarium koi are Common Carp bred for ornamental purposes. INTRODUCED.



### Walleye

Closely related to the yellow perch, but lacks vertical bars and has prominent "canine" teeth. Lower lobe of tail fin is white tipped. INTRODUCED.



# Licenses, Tags and Permits

## To Buy a License, Tag or Permit

- Visit an Idaho Fish and Game office or license vendor.
- Download the “GoOutdoorsIdaho” mobile application from the Google Playstore or Apple Appstore.
- From your computer or mobile device, go to **GoOutdoorsidaho.com**
- Within the United States call 1-800-554-8685.
- For an overview of all license buying options, visit **idfg.idaho.gov/buy**
- Commercial licenses, duplicate tags, documents that require proof of disability, lifetime certificates, and bear baiting permits may be purchased only at Fish and Game offices.

When buying licenses by telephone, the buyer will be assigned a confirmation number that may be used in lieu of the actual license for 14 days from the date of issue. When this number is used, the person must carry their driver’s license or identification card. A confirmation number may not be used in lieu of a tag or permit such as salmon/steelhead or Upland Game Bird Permits. Purchasers must wait until tags or permits arrive in the mail.

**Licenses purchased online must be printed from the buyer’s computer; they will not be mailed. However, all tags and notchable permits will be mailed.** A confirmation number may not be used in lieu of a tag or salmon/steelhead permit. Purchasers must wait until tags or permits arrive in the mail.

The charge for phone-in purchases is three percent of the transaction plus \$6.50; the charge for online purchases is three percent of the transaction plus \$3.50.

Any license, tag or permit that is defaced or altered is invalid from the date and time of issue. It is unlawful to use or attempt to use any license that has been defaced or altered.

**Nonresidents:** If you hunt with an outfitter in Idaho, the outfitter should buy your tags through the “outfitter set-aside” pool of tags.

**Sale Dates:** Most licenses and tags go on sale December 1, but resident deer, and elk tags are not available until after the controlled hunt drawings are done. Most licenses are valid only for the calendar year for which they are issued.

## Hunter and Bowhunter Education

- To buy a hunting license, all hunters must show proof that they have completed a hunter education course if they were born on or after January 1, 1975, unless they have held a valid hunting license from Idaho or another state.
- To buy an archery permit, all bowhunters must possess a valid hunting license and show proof they have completed an approved bowhunter education course or show evidence of having been licensed for an archery-only hunt in Idaho or another state, or complete an affidavit to that effect.
- Course and registration information can be found on Fish and Game’s website or by contacting any Fish and Game office.
- **Individuals planning to participate in fall hunts are encouraged to enroll in a course before June 30, as the number of courses offered becomes very limited closer to fall hunting seasons.**

- Prospective hunters have two course options to receive their certification: **Instructor-led Course** – 12 to 18 class hours plus an outdoor field day and final written exam. **Online Course** – A self-paced, online instruction and an online exam. An additional outdoor field day may be required for hunter certification, check **idfg.idaho.gov/hunt/education**.

## Refund Policy

No refunds will be made on resident licenses, tags or permits. No refunds will be made on fishing licenses. Nonresident hunting licenses and tags may be refunded less issuance fees and a \$50 processing fee, in the event of:

- Illness or injury that disables a license holder for the entire applicable hunting season.
- Military deployment of license holder due to armed conflict.
- Death of the license holder’s parent, spouse or child.

Tags and license must be returned with proof (death certificate, obituary, written justification by a licensed medical doctor, or copy of military orders). Hunting license fees will not be refunded after the license is used to apply for a controlled hunt or to buy a turkey, mountain lion, bear or gray wolf tag. The request must be postmarked by December 31 of the year in which the license was valid, except for “event of death” refund, which must be submitted within 1 year of the death.

A controlled hunt permit and tag may be made available in the same hunt for purchase by an immediate family member of a person who died before using his or her tag. Contact Licenses at (208) 334-2592.

If a refund is requested for any other reason, only the tag fees (not the license or permit fee) may be refunded at the following sliding scale rate:

- Postmarked before April 1 – 75 percent refund.
- Postmarked April 1 through June 30 – 50 percent refund.
- Postmarked July 1 through August 31 – 25 percent refund.
- Postmarked September 1 through December 31–No refund. For more information please visit **idfg.idaho.gov/nonresident-refund-information**.

## Resident Disabled Licenses

Any resident certified as permanently disabled or eligible for federal supplemental income (SSI), social security disability income (SSDI), railroad retirement board disability, a nonservice-connected veteran’s pension, or a service-connected veteran’s disability benefit with 40 percent or more combined/overall disability rating, may qualify for a “disabled” license. An applicant must provide either a benefit verification letter from the Social Security Administration in their name showing they are receiving SSI or SSDI benefits for the current year, or a letter from the Railroad Retirement board verifying disability status and being dated within 3 years preceding application for a license, or an official identification card issued by the U.S. Department of Defense, or a letter of any date from the U.S Department of Veterans Affairs verifying a service-connected disability rating of 40% or greater, or a current year’s letter from the Veteran Affairs office showing the applicant is receiving a nonservice-

connected pension, or a form prescribed by the department that certifies permanent physical disability. A physically disabled person means a person who has lost the use of one (1) or both lower extremities or both hands, or is unable to walk 200 feet or more unassisted by another person or without the aid of a walker, cane, crutches, braces, prosthetic device or a wheelchair, or is unable to walk 200 feet or more without great difficulty or discomfort due to one or more of the following impairments: neurological, orthopedic, respiratory, cardiac, arthritic disorder, blindness (a medically documented loss or impairment of vision and includes any person whose visual acuity with correcting lens does not exceed 20/200 in the better eye, or whose vision in the better eye is restricted to a field which subtends an angle of not greater than 20 degrees), or the loss of function or absence of a limb.

An applicant may present a valid Idaho driver's license if the holder meets disability requirements or section 49-117(7)(b), Idaho Code, and license is marked as disabled.

Disabled licenses may be purchased at Fish and Game offices, selected license vendors (see website for list), and through the mail.

### Disabled Hunter/Companion

The rules for a companion assisting a disabled hunter allow the companion to take an animal that has been wounded by the disabled hunter and to place and validate the disabled hunter's tag on the animal.

The rules apply for disabled hunters who possess a valid disability license, disabled archery permit, a disabled hunt-from-a-motor-vehicle permit and a valid tag, or a disabled veteran participating in a hunt as provided in section 36-408(7), Idaho Code, and has a valid tag or permit.

The companion is not required to have a tag or controlled hunt permit to assist a disabled hunter. However, the companion must have a valid license and applicable special weapon permit (i.e. – for an archery only hunt, the companion would need an archery permit) when assisting a disabled hunter.

The companion must have a written statement of designation from the disabled hunter while hunting with the disabled hunter or assisting them with taking and tagging their harvested animal. The statement must include the disabled hunters name, address, hunting license, big game tag number and the dates of the designation as a companion.

The companion must accompany the disabled hunter while hunting and they are required to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices.

For more information about the rules for a companion to a disabled hunter, please contact your local Fish and Game office.

### Resident Lifetime License Certificates

The purchase of a lifetime certificate could be the best investment you ever make. Lifetime certificates authorize all privileges associated with a corresponding annual license, are valid for the life of the certificate holder and are available to Idaho residents. The lifetime certificate does not include tags and permits. If a lifetime certificate holder moves out of Idaho, they will continue to receive an annual license, but will pay nonresident tag and permit fees. Lifetime certificates can be purchased at IDFG offices only.

Applicant	Combination	Hunting	Fishing
0 - 1 year	\$795.50	\$276.75	\$601.75
2 - 50 years	\$1,113.00	\$386.75	\$841.75
51 and older	\$636.75	\$221.75	\$481.75

### Idaho Residency Requirements

Proof of residency is required to buy any resident license. A previous year's license is not proof of residency.

**1. Drivers must present:** A valid Idaho driver's license and must have been domiciled in the state of Idaho for the last six months immediately prior to purchasing a resident license, tag or permit. Owning real property or paying property taxes within the state of Idaho does not in itself establish residency. You cannot claim resident privileges in any other state or country if you intend to claim residency and purchase resident licenses in the state of Idaho.

**2. Non-drivers must present:** An Idaho identification card issued by the Department of Transportation; or a combination of two documents bearing your name and address but not issued by yourself.

#### Examples include:

- Home utility bills for the previous six months.
- Rent receipts or mortgage statements for the previous six months.
- Notarized statement from an employer on business letterhead.
- Proof of voter registration dated six months prior.
- For a minor child under 18, identification from a parent.

**3. Military members:** A member of the military service of the United States or a foreign country, state National Guard or Air National Guard, together with spouse and children under 18 years of age, residing in his/her household, who have been officially transferred, stationed, domiciled and on active duty in the state of Idaho for a period of 30 days last preceding application, as long as such assignment continues, is eligible to purchase a resident license.

To show eligibility you need: A current "Military Status and Residency Affidavit" signed by first sergeant, section commander or commander; or a current request and authorization for permanent change of station showing a 'report no later than' date within the last 60 days; or a combination of two documents given in number two (2) above dated thirty (30) days prior.

This is a summary of residency requirements, for additional details see Idaho Code 36-202(S) and 36-405; online at [idfg.idaho.gov/title36](http://idfg.idaho.gov/title36) and [idfg.idaho.gov/idapa13](http://idfg.idaho.gov/idapa13) or contact your local Fish and game office. Persons who do not qualify as residents must purchase a nonresident license.

### Hunting Passports

Hunting Passports are available only to first time hunters. Anyone who has previously held a hunting license in any state is not eligible. For more information, visit: [idfg.idaho.gov/hunt/passport](http://idfg.idaho.gov/hunt/passport), or contact your local Fish and Game office.



## Resident License, Tag and Permit Fees

Prices listed below include prices for those who have held a valid annual/3 year license in 2019 and 2020 who are considered "Price Locked" and prices for those who are not price locked. To opt in to the price lock you may purchase a 3 year license. See important notes on next page.

FEE OR LICENSE	WITH PRICE LOCK		WITHOUT PRICE LOCK	
	ANNUAL	3-YEAR <sup>7</sup>	ANNUAL	3-YEAR <sup>7</sup>
Access-Depredation Fee for Adults	\$5.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$10.00
Access-Depredation Fee for Jr./Sr./DAV/Furlough	2.00	4.00	2.00	4.00
A license buyer is required to pay this annual fee when purchasing their first annual license of the year. It will not apply to any additional annual licenses purchased later in the year, nor is it required to purchase a daily license.				
<b>Adult Licenses: 18 years of age and older</b>				
Sportsman's Package (Adult or Youth) <sup>1</sup>	\$124.25	N/A	\$144.60	N/A
Combination (Hunting & Fishing)	33.50	97.00	38.75	97.00
Disabled Combination	5.00	11.50	5.75	11.50
Military Furlough Combination	17.50	N/A	20.50	N/A
Hunting	12.75	34.75	15.75	34.75
Fishing	25.75	73.75	30.50	73.75
Daily Fishing (first day) <sup>8</sup>	11.50	N/A	13.50	N/A
Each consecutive day at initial time of purchase	5.00		6.00	
Disabled Fishing	5.00	11.50	5.75	11.50
Military Furlough Fishing	17.50	N/A	20.50	N/A
Trapping (expires June 30)	26.75	N/A	29.75	N/A
Taxidermist/Furbuyer (expires June 30) <sup>2</sup>	40.00	5-yr-176.75	40.00	5-yr-176.75
Hunting Passport (8+ yrs Junior or Adult) <sup>6</sup>	1.75	N/A	1.75	N/A
<b>Youth Licenses</b>				
Junior Combination (Hunting & Fishing, 14-17 yrs)	\$17.50	\$49.00	\$19.75	\$49.00
Junior Hunting (10-17 yrs) <sup>5</sup>	7.25	18.25	8.25	18.25
Junior Fishing (14-17yrs)	13.75	37.75	16.00	37.75
Youth Trapping (expires June 30)	7.25	N/A	8.25	N/A
<b>Senior Licenses - 65 or Older</b>				
Senior Combination (Hunting & Fishing)	\$11.75	\$31.75	\$13.75	\$31.75
<b>Permits and Validations</b>				
Archery or Muzzleloader Permit	\$18.25	N/A	\$19.50	N/A
DAV Archery or Muzzleloader Permit	3.75		3.75	
Bear Baiting Permit <sup>2</sup>	12.75		15.00	
Hound Hunter Permit	12.75		15.00	
Upland Game Bird Permit (Department-stocked birds ;18+ yrs)	23.75 each		28.75	
Sharp-tailed Grouse Permit	4.75		5.75	
Disabled Archery or Disabled Motor Vehicle Permit <sup>2,3</sup>	1.75		1.75	
Migratory Bird (HIP) Permit	1.75		2.75	
Salmon or Steelhead Permit	12.75		15.25	
Two-Pole Permit	13.75		15.00	
<b>Adult Tags</b>				
Deer	\$19.75	N/A	\$24.75	N/A
Elk	30.75		36.75	
Pronghorn	31.25		36.50	

FEE OR LICENSE	WITH PRICE LOCK		WITHOUT PRICE LOCK	
	ANNUAL	3-YEAR <sup>7</sup>	ANNUAL	3-YEAR <sup>7</sup>
<b>Adult Tags</b>				
Bear/Second Bear and Mt. Lion/Second Mt. Lion	\$11.50 each	N/A	\$13.75	N/A
Gray Wolf	11.50 each		13.75	
Gray Wolf Trapping (expires June 30)	11.50 each		13.75	
General Turkey	19.75		22.75	
Extra Turkey	12.25 each		12.25	
Special Unit Turkey	5.00 each		5.00	
Sandhill Crane	19.75 each		22.75	
Swan	22.75		22.75	
Moose, Bighorn Sheep, Mountain Goat (tag only, does not include application fee)	166.75		199.75	
Sage Grouse	\$22.75		22.75	
<b>Youth, Senior and DAV Tags<sup>4</sup></b>				
Deer <sup>4</sup>	\$10.75	N/A	\$12.50	N/A
Elk <sup>4</sup>	16.50		18.75	
Bear and Second Bear <sup>4</sup>	6.75 each		7.75	
Turkey and Discounted Turkey <sup>4</sup>	10.75 each		12.50	
<b>Controlled Hunt</b>				
Application for Deer, Elk, Pronghorn, Bear, or Turkey	\$6.25 each	N/A	\$6.25	N/A
Application for Moose, Sheep or Mt. Goat	16.75		16.75	

For licenses not listed, please visit our web page at: [idfg.idaho.gov](http://idfg.idaho.gov)

**Resident Notes:**

- <sup>1</sup> The sportsman’s package includes deer, elk, turkey, bear, gray wolf and mountain lion tags, and archery, muzzleloader, salmon and steelhead permits.
- <sup>2</sup> Available only at Idaho Fish and Game offices.
- <sup>3</sup> Disability must be certified by a medical doctor on a Fish and Game form.
- <sup>4</sup> Must have a senior combination or hunting license, a junior combination or hunting license, a junior hunting passport, or a DAV combination or hunting license.
- <sup>5</sup> All youth younger than twelve must be accompanied in the field by an adult license holder close enough to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices. A 9-year old may buy a license to apply for a controlled hunt tag, but he or she must be 10 years old at the time of the hunt.
- <sup>6</sup> Anyone hunting with this license must be accompanied in the field by an adult license holder close enough to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices.
- <sup>7</sup> If a 3-year resident hunting, fishing or combination license holder moves out of Idaho, the license will remain valid, but the holder will be required to purchase nonresident tags and permits.
- <sup>8</sup> Price Lock on daily fishing is only available as long as the customer has a current year annual or a valid multiyear hunting license. Otherwise customer must pay fees in column 3.

# UPGRADE YOUR LICENSE FOR \$5

When you purchase your license, add a durable hard card at [gooutdoorsidaho.com](http://gooutdoorsidaho.com)



*Licenses are instantly available upon purchase. Please allow 7-10 business days to receive your hard card, tags, and permits by mail.*



## Nonresident License, Tag and Permit Fees

Prices listed below are as of December 1, 2020. Prices may change without notice. Licenses, tags and permits are valid through December 31, except where noted. All tags, permits and applications require the purchase of a license.

FEE OR LICENSE	ANNUAL	3-YEAR
Access-Depredation Fee for Adult	\$10.00	20.00
Access-Depredation Fee for Jr./DAV	4.00	8.00
A license buyer is required to pay this annual fee when purchasing their first annual license of the year. It will not apply to any additional annual licenses purchased later in the year, nor is it required to purchase a daily license.		
Adult Licenses: 18 years of age and older		
Combination Hunting & Fishing (Not valid for the first five days of pheasant season)	\$264.00	788.50
Hunting (includes three-day fishing license each year of license) (Not valid for the first five days of pheasant season)	185.00	551.50
Disabled American Veteran Hunting (DAV) <sup>6</sup> (Includes three-day fishing license) (Not valid for the first five days of pheasant season)	31.75	N/A
Small Game Hunting (Not valid for the first five days of pheasant season)	141.75	N/A
Three-Day Nonresident Small Game Hunting (Not valid for the first five days of pheasant season)	71.75	N/A
Nongame Hunting	39.00	N/A
Shooting Preserve Hunting	26.00	N/A
Fishing	108.00	291.25
Daily Fishing (first day) Each consecutive day at initial time of purchase	22.75 7.00	N/A
Three-day Salmon/Steelhead	44.75	N/A
Trapping (expires June 30)	331.75	N/A
Taxidermist/Furbuyer <sup>1</sup> (expires June 30)	187.00	N/A
Hunting Passport <sup>2</sup> (8+years Junior or 18+years Adult) (Not valid for the first five days of pheasant season)	1.75	N/A
Junior Mentored & Youth Licenses		
Junior Mentored Hunting <sup>5</sup> (10-17 yrs) (Includes three-day fishing license) (Not valid for the first five days of pheasant season)	\$91.75	\$271.75
Junior Fishing (under 18 yrs)	23.75	67.75
Permits and Validations		
Archery or Muzzleloader Permit	\$81.75	
DAV Archery or Muzzleloader Permit, effective 7/1/20	5.75 ea	N/A
Bear Baiting Permit <sup>1</sup>	34.75	
Hound Hunter Permit <sup>1</sup>	301.75	N/A

FEE OR LICENSE	ANNUAL	3-YEAR
Permits and Validations		
Upland Game Bird Permit (Department-stocked birds ;18+ yrs)	56.75 ea.	
Sharp-tailed Grouse Permit	\$17.75	
Disabled Archery or Disabled Motor Vehicle Permit <sup>1,3</sup>	1.75	N/A
Migratory Bird (HIP) Permit	5.00	
Salmon or Steelhead Permit	28.25	
Two-Pole Permit	17.00	
Adult Tags		
Deer	\$351.75	
Elk	651.75	
Pronghorn	342.75	
Bear	231.75	
Reduced Bear and Second Bear	41.75 ea	
Mountain Lion	204.50	
Reduced Mountain Lion and Second Mountain Lion	41.75 ea.	
Gray Wolf and Gray Wolf Trapping (expires June 30)	31.75 ea.	N/A
General Turkey and Extra Turkey	80.00 ea.	
Special Unit Turkey	5.00 ea.	
Sandhill Crane	74.25	
Swan	67.50	
Moose, Bighorn Sheep, Mountain Goat (tag only, does not include application fee)	\$2,626.75	
Sage Grouse	74.25	
Junior Mentored		
Deer <sup>4</sup>	\$176.75	
Elk <sup>4</sup>	299.75	
Bear <sup>4</sup>	116.75 ea.	N/A
Second Bear <sup>4</sup>	41.75 ea..	
Turkey and Extra Turkey <sup>4</sup>	44.75 ea.	
Disabled American Veteran Tags		
Deer <sup>4</sup>	\$23.75	
Elk <sup>4</sup>	39.75	
Bear and Second Bear <sup>4</sup>	23.75 ea.	N/A
Turkey and Discounted Turkey <sup>4</sup>	19.75 ea.	
Controlled Hunt		
Application for deer, elk, pronghorn, bear, or Turkey	\$18.00 ea.	N/A
Application for moose, sheep or mt. goat	45.75	

### Nonresident Notes:

- <sup>1</sup> These licenses and permits are only available at Idaho Fish and Game offices.
- <sup>2</sup> Anyone hunting with this license must be accompanied in the field by an adult license holder close enough to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices.
- <sup>3</sup> Disability must be certified by a medical doctor on a Fish and Game form.
- <sup>4</sup> Must have a Junior Mentored Hunting license, Junior Hunting Passport, or a DAV license. Any adult accompanying any youth possessing a Junior Mentored tag(s) must have a tag(s) for the same species. Junior Hunting Passport mentors may not accompany more than 2 mentored hunters at one time.
- <sup>5</sup> Anyone hunting with this license must be accompanied in the field by an adult license holder close enough to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices. A 9-year old may buy a license to apply for a controlled hunt, but he or she must be 10 years old at the time of the hunt.
- <sup>6</sup> Disability must be certified by the U.S. Department of Defense or by Veterans Affairs on their official letterhead showing combined service-connected disability rating of 40% or more.

## Enjoy your season and remember...



- **Be a mentor.** Pass on the heritage and traditions of hunting, fishing and trapping in Idaho.
- Fishing on private land is a privilege. Always get permission and thank the landowner.



## YOU CAN HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF NOXIOUS WEEDS IN IDAHO!

1. Cleaning boats, trailers and watercraft after leaving a water body
2. Pumping the bilge of your boat before entering a water body
3. Cleaning boating and fishing gear from any plant material
4. Reporting infestations to your County Weed Superintendent



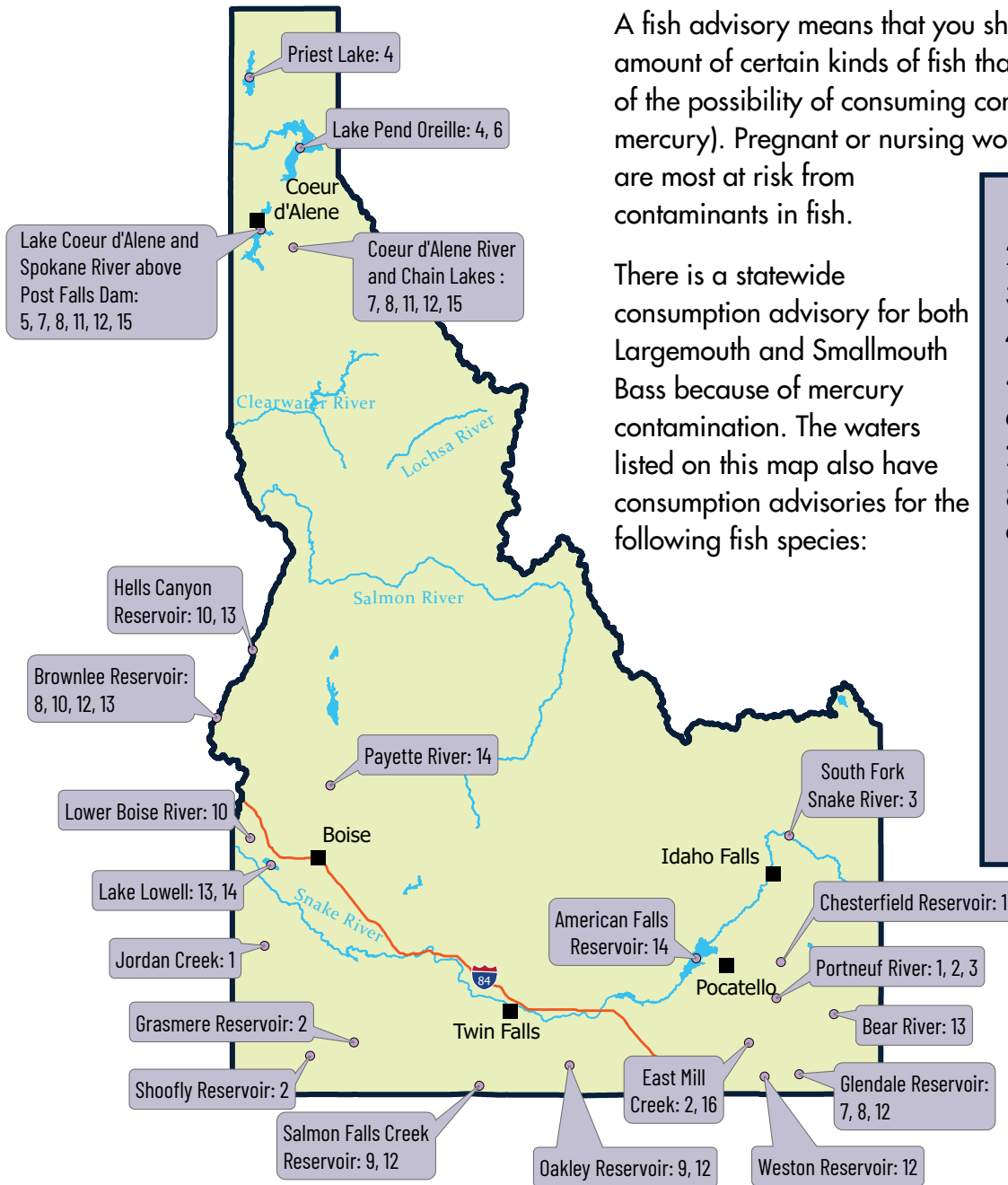
CALL 1-844-WEEDSNO

Pulling  Together  
Against Invasive Weeds

[WWW.IDAHOWEEDAWARENESS.COM](http://WWW.IDAHOWEEDAWARENESS.COM)



# IDAHO FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORY FOR SELECTED WATERS



A fish advisory means that you should monitor the amount of certain kinds of fish that you eat because of the possibility of consuming contaminants (e.g., mercury). Pregnant or nursing women and children are most at risk from contaminants in fish.

There is a statewide consumption advisory for both Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass because of mercury contamination. The waters listed on this map also have consumption advisories for the following fish species:

1. Rainbow Trout
2. Cutthroat Trout
3. Brown Trout
4. Lake Trout
5. Kokanee
6. Whitefish
7. Bluegill
8. Crappie
9. Walleye
10. Catfish
11. Bullhead
12. Perch
13. Carp
14. Sucker
15. Northern Pike
16. Brook Trout

For fish meal consumption information visit the Department of Health and Welfare’s Environmental Health Program website: [healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/environmentalhealth](http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/environmentalhealth) or call 1-800-445-8647



July 2021