

# 2013 - 2015 Fishing Seasons and Rules Including Steelhead

Third Edition 2015



Photo courtesy Kathryn Powell.



Take advantage of the Idaho Fishing Planner at  
<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/ifwis/fishingPlanner/>



**Free Fishing Day  
Saturday, June 13, 2015**



## RULES

**January 2013  
through  
December 2015**

**Three-Year  
Book!**



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is from the Federal Aid in Sport  
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# Idaho Department of Fish & Game

## Fishing Rules 2013 - 2015

### Contents

<b>Regional Offices, Helpful Information</b>	10
<b>How to Use This Booklet</b>	11
<b>Panhandle Region</b>	12 - 15
<b>Clearwater Region</b>	16 - 19
<b>Southwest Region</b>	20 - 24
<b>Magic Valley Region</b>	25 - 29
Silver Creek Fishing Guide	30
<b>Southeast Region</b>	31 - 34
<b>Upper Snake Region</b>	35 - 38
Henrys Fork (Snake River, North Fork)	39
<b>Salmon Region</b>	40 - 42
<b>Steelhead Rules</b>	43 - 47
River Location Codes	44
Steelhead Seasons and Limits	45 - 46
Steelhead Fishing in Boundary Waters	47
Permit Validation	47
Washington/Idaho Fishing Waters Boundaries	47
<b>General Fishing Information</b>	48 - 62
Threatened and Endangered Species	48
Proxy Statement	48
Maps and Publication Orders	49
Family Fishing Waters	50
Methods of Fishing and Equipment	50 - 51
Fish Terms and Limits	51 - 52
Boundary and Water Definitions	52 - 53
Transport, Release, and Possession of Fish	53
Salvage of Fish	53
Salmon and Steelhead Rules	53
Fishing in Boundary Waters	53
Releasing Fish	53 - 54
Taking Photographs	54
Reasons for Special Seasons	54
Reasons for Special Size and Bag Limits	54
Navigability and Public Access	55
Trespass Law	55
Sturgeon Fishing Rules	56
Fish Consumption and Advisory Information	57
Official List of Idaho Record Fish	58
Fish Identification	59 - 62
<b>License, Tag and Permits</b>	64 - 67
Residency Requirements	65
Idaho Resident Fees	66
Nonresident Fees	67

### New in this booklet.

- This booklet is good for three years
- Changes in kokanee fishing opportunities for the Panhandle Region
- Check for new bag limits on select urban ponds
- Standardization of rules in the Bear River and Upper Snake River drainages



### STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!™

Clean, drain and dry to protect  
Idaho's fishing heritage.



# 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

Fred Trevey - Chairman - Clearwater  
Brad Corkill - Panhandle  
Blake Fischer- Southwest  
Mark Doerr - Magic Valley  
Lane Clezie - Southeast  
Kenny Anderson - Upper Snake  
Will Naillon - Salmon

## Idaho Department of Fish and Game

600 S. Walnut St., P.O. Box 25  
Boise, ID 83707  
208-334-3700 - <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov>

**Virgil Moore, Director**  
**Deputy Directors**

Sharon Kiefer - Jim Unsworth

## 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

3101 S. Powerline Rd., Nampa ID 83686

**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.

## Other Information Numbers

- Rules booklets, nonresident license applications: 208-334-3700.
- U. S. Forest Service – Boise National Forest: 208-373-4007 or 1-888-246-7523.
- Bureau of Land Management – Idaho Office: 208-373-4000 or 1-888-246-7523.
- Idaho Relay Service (TDD) 1-800-377-3529

## 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 telephone transactions.
- From your computer or mobile device, go to <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov>. A service fee is added for online transactions.
- Commercial licenses, duplicate tags, documents that require proof of disability, lifetime licenses, and bear baiting permits may be purchased only at Fish and Game offices.

You may refer to the link below for laws in the Idaho Administrative Procedures Act pertaining to this rule book: <http://adminrules.idaho.gov>.



**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 Fish and Game adheres to all applicable state and federal laws and regulations related to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, or handicap. If you feel you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility of IDFG, or if you desire further information, please write to: Idaho Department of Fish and Game, P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707; or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Federal Assistance, Mailstop: MBSP-4020, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203. Telephone: (703) 358-2156. 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 and/or fish. The official rules are available 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.

# How to Use This Booklet

## 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 18-19.  
Fishing is not allowed within the posted upstream and downstream boundary of any fish weir or trap.

### General Bag and Possession Limits for the Clearwater Region

The following bag and possession limits apply to all waters of the Clearwater Region except as modified in Clearwater Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 18-19.

#### 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
- No bull trout harvest is allowed

#### Kokanee

- Kokanee limit is 25, 50 in possession

#### Salmon (ocean-going)

- Salmon seasons and limits are set annually by the Idaho Fish and Game Commission and rules are issued in a separate brochure
- 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 the Clearwater River drainage (excluding that portion above Dworshak Dam,

### Special Rule Waters for the Clearwater Region (see Pages 18-19 for details)

Big Elk Creek (tributary to South Fork Clearwater River)

Crooked Creek  
Crooked Fork Creek (tributary to Lochsa River)

Elk Creek Reservoir  
Fish Lake (Cedars Area)  
Kelly Creek and tributaries  
Lake Creek (Cedars Area)  
Lochsa River  
Mann Lake

Clearwater River, Middle Fork  
Clearwater River, North Fork  
Clearwater River, South Fork

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

General Information and Definitions pertaining to rules  
can be found starting on Page 50.

1. Find the region where you plan to fish

2. Find the regional fishing season dates

3. Find your fish species and bag limit

4. See if the water you want to fish is listed under Special Rule Waters

5. Turn the page for details on Special Rule Waters

## Who needs a license to fish in Idaho:

Any person 14 years of age or older must have a valid license or permit to fish for fish, bullfrogs or crayfish in Idaho. No person shall fish without having the proper license on his or her person.

Any license, tag or permit which is defaced, altered or tampered with shall be invalid from the date and time of issuance. It is a violation to use or attempt to use any license, tag or permit that has been defaced, altered or tampered with by means of (but not limited to) erasures and type overs, or tears in the paper.

Resident children under 14 years of age need not be accompanied by the holder of a valid fishing license and they may have their own separate limit. A resident child under 14 may not purchase an annual fishing license and the associated two-pole permit.

Resident children under 14 can purchase a two-pole permit without a fishing license.

A resident child under 14 may purchase a salmon or steelhead permit without a license so that he or she may catch his or her own limit of steelhead or salmon.

Nonresident children under 14 years of age must be accompanied by the holder of a valid fishing license and their fish must be included in the license holder's limit in order to fish without a license, or they may purchase a nonresident license and have their own limit.

Fishing on Indian reservations may require tribal licenses and adherence to tribal regulations.

## 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 lee inglés explicar la información en este libro para usted.