Fishing from the shoreline or wading along the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery is prohibited. Fishing is also prohibited in the area of the ladder to the Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery (approximately 1 mile upstream of the Cherry Lane Bridge) as delineated by posted boundaries approximately 100 yards upstream and downstream from the ladder, and extending into the river channel approximately 50 yards.

**North Fork Clearwater River:** The mouth of the North Fork Clearwater River is defined as a straight line between the posted signs located at the Clearwater Hatchery outlet culvert on the west side and at the tip of land below the Dworshak Hatchery on the east side. Fishing from the shoreline or wading along the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery 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 to the Ahsahka Highway 7 Bridge. When fishing from the 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.

IDFG 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 if you desire further information, please write to: Idaho discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility of IDFG, accordance with section 60-202, Idaho Code.

Costs associated with this publication are available from IDFG in brochure for other regulations relating to fishing, license costs and other Department information.

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**Special Restrictions**

**Fishing Seasons and Rules for exact wording and complete listing.**

**It Is Unlawful:**
- To fish within the posted upstream or downstream boundary of any fish weir or trap.
- To refuse to produce license or fish for inspection upon request by a conservation officer.
- To fail to stop and report at check stations established to inspect licenses and fish and game.
- To possess, transport or use as bait any live fish, leeches, frogs, salamanders, waterdogs, or shrimp as bait, except that live crayfish may be used if caught on the body of water being fished.
- To catch any part of another person’s bag limit, EXCEPT in the case of license-exempt persons fishing for salmon and steelhead.
- To transport for another or accept as a gift any game fish, unless a statement signed by the taker accompanies the fish, showing the number and kinds, the date taken, the taker’s name, address and fishing license number.
- To claim ownership to more wild game or fish taken within the state of Idaho than allowed by established possession limits.
- To ship any fish by commercial carrier unless the outside of the package is marked as to the number and kinds of fish and the package contains a written statement showing the taker’s name, address and fishing license number.
- To use seines, dip nets, spears, snag hooks, or any other contrivances in taking any fish from the waters of the state EXCEPT as allowed by Commission regulation. (Note: Tribal fisheries may use gear types other than those allowed in sport fisheries)
- To claim ownership to more wild game or fish taken within the state of Idaho than allowed by established possession limits.
- To ship any fish by commercial carrier unless the outside of the package is marked as to the number and kinds of fish and the package contains a written statement showing the taker’s name, address and fishing license number.
- To use seines, dip nets, spears, snag hooks, or any other contrivances in taking any fish from the waters of the state EXCEPT as allowed by Commission regulation. (Note: Tribal fisheries may use gear types other than those allowed in sport fisheries)
- To sell waste fish.
- To sell fish without a permit.

**Snagging**

It is unlawful to take or attempt to take salmon by snagging. Snagging shall mean the 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. A salmon that has been hooked anywhere other than its mouth or jaw must be released.

**Other Relevant Statutes & Rules**

The following acts are unlawful by statute or commission rule. Consult Title 36, Idaho Code, or the 2019-2021 Idaho Fishing Seasons and Rules for exact wording and complete listing.

- Any person, age 14 and older, must have a valid Fishing License and Salmon Permit in possession to fish for salmon.
- Any person, age 14 and older, who does not qualify as a resident must purchase a Nonresident Season Fishing License and Salmon Permit, a Nonresident Junior Fishing License and Salmon Permit, or a 3-Day Salmon/Steelhead License to fish for salmon.
- To qualify for resident status, a person must be domiciled in the state for at least six months.
- Children (including nonresidents) under the age of 14 may fish without a license and salmon permit provided they are accompanied by the holder of a valid permit and that any Coho Salmon kept must be recorded on the permit holder’s card and all salmon kept must be counted in the permit holder’s legal bag, possession, and season limit.
- Resident children under the age of 14 may purchase their own salmon permit so that they may catch their own limit of salmon.
- Nonresident children under the age of 14 may purchase a Nonresident Junior Fishing License and a salmon permit so that they may catch their own limit of salmon.
- Children (including nonresidents) under the age of 14 may purchase a two pole permit.
- Consult the 2019-2021 Fishing Seasons and Rules brochure for other regulations relating to fishing, license costs and other Department information.

**Licenses, Permits and Requirements**

- Resident Salmon Permit (License Required) ………. $15.25
- Resident Price Locked Salmon Permit ………….. $12.75
- Nonresident Salmon Permit (License Required) …… $25.75
- Nonresident Coho Salmon Permit (License Required) …… $20.25
- Nonresident Junior Coho Salmon (License Required) …… $15.25
- Nonresident Steelhead Salmon Permit (License Required) …… $12.75
- Nonresident Junior Steelhead Salmon Permit (License Required) …… $12.75

**Salmon**

Tribal fisheries also occur in Idaho. They are governed by the Tribes and have different rules than Idaho sport fisheries. Please be respectful of these different fishing traditions.

**Idaho Department of Fish and Game**

Ed Schriever, Director
P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707
Phone: (208) 334-3700
https://idfg.idaho.gov/fish/coho
Citizens Against Poaching
1-800-632-5999

Illustration by Joseph Tomlletti

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Salmon in this brochure refer to anadromous (ocean run) Coho Salmon of the species *Oncorhynchus kisutch.*
Seasons
Open September 15 through December 31, or until further notice, whichever comes first

The following waters are open to fishing for Coho Salmon during the period listed above. Waters not specifically designated below shall remain CLOSED to fishing for Coho Salmon unless opened by Commission action.

**Clearwater River:** From its mouth upstream to Memorial Bridge: open 7 days per week.

**Clearwater River:** From Memorial Bridge upstream to the confluence of the Middle Fork Clearwater and South Fork Clearwater rivers: open 4 days per week (Thursday through Sunday) until October 18, 2020, then open 7 days per week through the end of the season (see Mainstem Clearwater River special restrictions in this brochure).

**North Fork Clearwater River:** From its mouth upstream to Dworshak Dam: open 4 days per week (Thursday through Sunday) until October 18, 2020, then open 7 days per week through the end of the season (see North Fork Clearwater River Special Restrictions in this brochure).

**Middle Fork Clearwater River:** From the mouth of the South Fork Clearwater River upstream to the confluence of the Selway and Lochsa rivers: open 4 days per week (Thursday through Sunday) until October 18, 2020, then open 7 days per week through the end of the season.

Fishing Hours
Fishing for Coho Salmon is permitted 24-hours a day during the designated seasons and locations

**Daily, Possession, & Season Limits**
- **Daily Bag Limit:** Two (2) Coho Salmon
- **Possession Limit:** Six (6) Coho Salmon
- **Season Limit:** There is no limit on the number of Coho Salmon that can be harvested during the 2020 season.

Anglers must cease fishing for Coho Salmon once they have retained their daily or possession limit.

Releasing Fish
Any salmon that is landed and not reduced to possession must be released. Anglers should strive to minimize handling and stress on each fish caught and released to maximize their chance to survive.

Methods of Take

A. Only barbless hooks may be used when fishing for salmon. Bending the barb(s) down to the shank of a single, double, or treble hook will meet this requirement.

B. It is unlawful to use any hook larger than 5/8-inch measured from the point of the hook to the shank.

![Hook Illustration](image)

Harvest Rules

A. Coho Salmon with an adipose fin can be harvested. Please be aware that steelhead and fall Chinook Salmon occur in these waters, and are subject to different rules and regulations. Know the difference between these species. (see illustrations in this pamphlet for examples).

B. All harvested Coho Salmon, regardless of their size, must be recorded on their salmon permit.

No person shall have in the field or in transit a hatchery-produced adult anadromous salmon that has been processed by removing the head and tail unless the following conditions are met: 1) the fish has been recorded on the taker’s salmon permit; 2) the fish is processed and packaged with the skin naturally attached to the flesh including a portion with a healed, clipped, adipose fin scar or the adipose fin and 3) it must be packaged in a manner that the number of fish harvested can readily be determined. No person shall process salmon until they are ashore and done fishing for the day. No person shall transport processed salmon via boat. Any processed salmon count towards an angler’s possession limit while in the field or in transit.

**Permit Validation**

Any angler fishing for Coho Salmon must have a valid salmon permit. This is the same permit that can be used when fishing for Chinook Salmon.

When a Coho Salmon has been hooked, landed and reduced to possession, the angler hooking the fish must immediately:

A. Cut out and completely remove one numbered notch from the permit.

B. Look up the location code number from the list below and write it in the space provided; and

C. Enter in space provided, the month and day fish was caught.

Note:

- When a salmon is released unharmed, as in catch-and-release fishing, the angler is not required to make an entry on the permit.
- All harvested Coho Salmon, regardless of their size, must be recorded on their salmon permit.

For example, a Coho Salmon harvested on October 20 from the Middle Fork Clearwater River would be entered as:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Location Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**RIVER LOCATION CODES**

See Seasons section for full description of fishing boundaries. All of a river section may not be open for salmon fishing.

**Know Your Fish**

Before you harvest a Coho Salmon, be certain of your species identification, as steelhead and fall Chinook Salmon may be encountered. The pictures below can help you identify these fishes.

**Coho Salmon**
- White gums around base of teeth
- 120° angle between anal fin and tail

**Chinook Salmon**
- Black gums
- 120° angle between anal fin and tail

**Steelhead**
- White gums
- Spots through-out caudal fin
- 90-100° angle between anal fin and tail