

Idaho Fishing

2025–2027 Seasons & Rules

2nd Edition 2026



Explore and plan your next
adventure with the Fishing Planner

idfg.idaho.gov





PRESERVING ^{AND} SUSTAINING IDAHO'S WILDLIFE HERITAGE

Habitat Restoration | Public Access
Wildlife Conservation and Education



Idaho Fish & Wildlife
FOUNDATION

IFWF.org (208) 334-2648



If you have information about
a wildlife violation,

**Make The Call:
1-800-632-5999**



- The Citizen's Against Poaching (CAP) Hotline is open 24/7/365.
- Callers can remain anonymous, and may be eligible for a cash reward.
- The more details a caller can provide, the better! Examples: License plates, suspect descriptions, dates/times, locations, and wildlife involved.



Director Jim Fredericks' letter to the anglers of Idaho

If I had to describe Idaho's fishing in a single word, I'd say "diversity." Idaho has more than 40 game fish species in about 26,000 miles of streams and rivers, 3,000 natural lakes, and 250,000 acres of ponds and reservoirs. On one day, anglers can pursue salmon and steelhead that migrate over 600 miles after spending most of their lives in the ocean, and then on the next, fish for largemouth bass among lily pads.

Not only can we as anglers catch a tremendous variety of fish, we can do it in some of the most beautiful and unique places on earth. We can get out the heavy tackle and fish for 10-foot sturgeon in Hells Canyon, the deepest river gorge in North America, and use a 4-weight fly rod to cast to trout in an alpine lake over 10,000 feet in elevation.

As biologists, Fish and Game's fisheries staff has indepth knowledge of these diverse resources, but that's only a portion of successfully managing a fishery. A vital part is also knowing angler preferences, and how they want their fisheries managed. Fisheries managers learn that in a variety of ways, including public meetings, meetings with angler organizations, one-on-one conversations, and testimony at Fish and Game Commission meetings. Equally important, they conduct angler surveys to reach out to those who we might not otherwise hear from.

Fisheries staff conducts surveys when we consider changes to seasons and limits, such as those in the following pages. In addition to the issue-specific surveys, we also conduct a much broader "Angler Opinion Survey" every few years. We use the results of that survey to guide development of the Idaho's Fishery Management Plan, which is revised every six years. The FMP describes management direction of Fish and Game's fisheries programs, and it acts as the guiding document for our fisheries management activities. Although not as familiar to most anglers as the seasons and rules brochure, it's still a very important document.

In 2024, the Fish and Game Commission approved the 2025-2030 Fisheries Management Plan, and it is available at idfg.idaho.gov/fish/plans. The FMP includes very interesting information about fish and fishing in Idaho, as well as a summary of our most recent angler opinion survey.

Here are some key findings:

- Almost 20% of Idaho residents possess some sort of fishing license, which is relatively high compared to other states and above the national average of 15%.
- Recent studies indicate fishing in Idaho generates over \$1 billion annually in economic activity and supports over 8,700 jobs.
- Around 180,000 anglers purchase Idaho fishing licenses each year. In one year, Fish and Game sold fishing licenses to residents of all 50 states and four U.S. territories, as well as citizens from 61 other countries.
- Most Idaho anglers are male, but female participation has grown from 28% to 33% between 2017 and 2022.
- Consistent with previous surveys, Idaho anglers said trout were the most popular species, followed by bass and "anything that bites."
- When reductions in harvest are necessary, anglers strongly prefer more restrictive length or harvest limits over shorter seasons, or limited entry strategies.

If you've accepted an invitation to participate in an angling-related survey from Fish and Game, thank you for taking to time to offer your input, and I assure you it influences our decision making. Our ability to provide the experiences and opportunities that anglers desire can only be met if we know what those are.

When you buy an Idaho fishing license, I thank you for that as well. Your purchase is critical to helping fund our fish conservation and management programs, and we can't do them without you!

Jim Fredericks, Director
Idaho Department of Fish and Game

GETTING STARTED

Who needs a license to fish in Idaho?

Any person 14 years of age or older must buy a fishing license. Licenses can be bought at vendors and Fish and Game offices, online with a computer or mobile device at **GoOutdoorsIdaho.com**, or by phone at (800) 554-8685.

Anyone who fishes for salmon or steelhead must also have a permit for those species (See pages 51)

For a full menu of licenses and permits, see pages 76 – 78.

- 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 for fishing on reservations.

Fishing rules for children under age 14

Children under 14 are not required to buy a fishing license.

Idaho resident children under 14 may

- Catch and keep their own daily bag limit.
- Buy a salmon/steelhead permit to keep their own limit of salmon/steelhead.
- Buy a 2-pole permit.

Nonresident children under 14

- Must be accompanied by the holder of a valid Idaho fishing license, and
- Harvested fish must be included in the license holder's limit
- OR, a nonresident child may buy a nonresident license and salmon/steelhead permit to keep their own limit

Idaho Fish and Game Regions and Offices Map

Panhandle Region, page 14

Phone: (208) 769-1414

Clearwater Region, page 18

Phone: (208) 799-5010

Southwest Region, page 24

Southwest Region North - McCall, page 26

Phone: (208) 634-8137

Southwest Region South - Nampa, page 28

Phone: (208) 465-8465

Magic Valley Region, page 30

Phone: (208) 324-4359

Southeast Region, page 36

Phone: (208) 232-4703

Upper Snake Region, page 40

Phone: (208) 525-7290

Salmon Region, page 46

Phone: (208) 756-2271



HOW TO USE THIS BOOKLET & WHAT YOU NEED TO START

1. Review the Statewide General Rules found on page 8. See also the General Fishing Information and the Terms and Definitions sections on page 64 for more.

2. Find the region where you plan to fish.

3. Learn the fish species and its daily bag limit.

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

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

Fishing Season for the Panhandle Region

All Waters Open All Year, except as modified in the Special Rule Waters on Pages 16-17.

Daily Bag Limits

The following daily bag limits apply to all waters of the Panhandle Region except as modified in the Special Rule Waters on Pages 16-17. The possession limit is 3-times the daily bag limit.

<p>Bass (<i>Largemouth and Smallmouth</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bass limit is 6, both species combined <p>Brook Trout</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brook Trout limit is 25 <p>Bull Trout</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bull Trout –catch and release <p>Burbot</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burbot limit is 6 <p>Chinook Salmon (<i>land-locked</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinook Salmon limit is 2; none under 24 inches <p>Kokanee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kokanee limit is 15 <p>Sturgeon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing for or targeting sturgeon in the Kootenai River is illegal • Sturgeon caught incidentally must be released immediately 	<p>Tiger Muskie</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tiger Muskie limit is 2; none under 40 inches <p>Trout (<i>includes Brown Trout, Cutthroat Trout, Golden Trout, Lake Trout, Rainbow Trout, Splake, Arctic Grayling, trout hybrids (e.g. Tiger Trout)</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trout limit is 6, all species combined <p>Bull Trout and Brook Trout are listed separately</p> <p>Walleye (<i>Have not been stocked intentionally in this Region. May be harmful to existing fisheries</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No bag, size, or possession limits. Harvest is encouraged. <p>Whitefish</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whitefish limit is 25 <p>All Other Fish Species (<i>includes bullfrogs and crayfish</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No bag, size, or possession limits <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Please check for potential fish consumption advisories, see page 70.</p>
---	---

Special Rule Waters (see Pages 16-17 for details)

<p>Anderson Lake</p> <p>Antelope Lake</p> <p>Arundale Lake</p> <p>Blue Lake (Briest River Drainage)</p> <p>Blue Lake (Coeur d'Alene Drainage)</p> <p>Bonnie Lake</p> <p>Brush Lake</p> <p>Chase Lake</p> <p>Clark Fork River and tributaries</p> <p>Clearwater River, Little North Fork and tributaries</p> <p>Coeur d'Alene Lake</p> <p>Coeur d'Alene River and tributaries</p> <p>Coeur d'Alene River, Little North Fork and tributaries</p> <p>Coeur d'Alene River, North Fork and tributaries</p> <p>Coeur d'Alene River, South Fork and tributaries</p>	<p>Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation</p> <p>Dawson Lake</p> <p>Deep Creek and tributaries</p> <p>Freemont Lake</p> <p>Gumble (Gumlin) Lake</p> <p>Gow Creek</p> <p>Granite Creek and tributaries</p> <p>Grosvonts Lake</p> <p>Hayden Creek and tributaries</p> <p>Hayden Lake</p> <p>Jewell Lake</p> <p>Kelso Lake</p> <p>Kootenai River</p> <p>Lake Pend Oreille</p> <p>Lower Gifford Lake</p> <p>Mirror Lake</p> <p>Moyie River</p> <p>Rock River and tributaries</p>	<p>Pend Oreille River</p> <p>Perkins Lake</p> <p>Trilist Lake and tributaries</p> <p>Trilist River and tributaries</p> <p>Robinson Lake</p> <p>Roman Nose Lake #1</p> <p>Round Lake (Bonner County)</p> <p>Sa. Joa River and tributaries</p> <p>St. Marys River and tributaries</p> <p>Shepherd Lake</p> <p>Snodgrass Lake</p> <p>Smith Lake</p> <p>Spirit Lake</p> <p>Spokane River and tributaries</p> <p>Trestle Creek and tributaries</p> <p>Upper Priest Lake and tributaries</p>
--	--	--

Idaho Fishing Seasons & Rules 2025-2027 | idfg.idaho.gov 15

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.



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
Mike Roach, Magic Valley
Jordan Cheirrett, Southeast
Brody Harshbarger, 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

Jim Fredericks, Director
Amber Worthington, Deputy Director
Jon Rachael, 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:

- Go to Idaho Fish and Game's online licensing site at **GoOutdoorsIdaho.com**.
- Download our Go Outdoors Idaho app directly on your smartphone.
- In person, go to any Idaho Fish and Game office or license vendor.
- Dial 1-800-554-8685. Not available outside the US.
- Commercial licenses and tags, duplicate tags, documents that require proof of disability, lifetime licenses, and bear baiting permits can only be purchased at Fish and Game offices.

*A credit card service fee is added for online and telephone transactions.

Other Resources

U. S. Forest Service:

Southern Idaho fs.usda.gov/r4

Northern Idaho..... fs.usda.gov/r1

Hells Canyon..... fs.usda.gov/r6

Bureau of Land Management: 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** 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.

Front Cover Photo ©CSNafzger/Shutterstock.com

2025-2027 Fishing 2nd Edition/BOC/PCA 31918/11-2025/100,000

ROP/GG

Idaho Department of Fish & Game

Fishing Rules 2025-2027

CONTENTS

Getting Started	4 - 5
Regional Offices and Helpful Information	6
Statewide General Rules	8 - 13
License and Permit Requirements	8
Fishing Gear and Tackle	8 - 9
Seasons and Bag Limits	9
Bait	9
Trapping or Seining Minnows and Crayfish	9
Fishing in Boundary Waters	9-10
Salmon, Steelhead, and Sturgeon	10
Transportation, Sale or Shipment of Fish	10
Salvage of Fish	10
Idaho's Trespass Law	10
It Is Unlawful To	11
Navigability and Public Access	12
Trespass Permission and Transport Proxy Forms	13
Panhandle Region	14 - 17
Clearwater Region	18 - 22
Washington/Idaho Fishing in Boundary Waters Map	20
North Fork Clearwater River Map	20
Southwest Region	24 - 29
Magic Valley Region	30 - 35
Silver Creek Map	30
Hagerman Area Map	32
Southeast Region	36 - 39
Upper Snake Region	40 - 45
Henrys Fork Fishing Map	42
Salmon Region	46 - 49
Steelhead and Salmon Rules	50 - 55
River Location Codes and Map	50
Permit Validation	52
Steelhead Seasons and Limits	53
Coho and Fall Chinook Seasons and Limits	54
Sturgeon Fishing Rules	56
Crayfish Seasons and Rules	57
Fish Identification	58 - 63
General Fishing Information	64 - 66
Terms and Definitions	64
Fish Stocking	65
Releasing of Fish	65
Taking Photographs	65 - 66
Tagged Fish	66
Harvest Incentive and Bounty Programs	66
Free Fishing Day	66
Tournament/Fishing Contests	66
Reasons for Special Size and Bag Limits	66
State Record Fish Program	68 - 69
Fish Consumption Advisories	70
Licenses, Tags and Permits	74 - 75
To Buy a License, Tag or Permit	74
Refund Policy	74
Idaho Residency Requirements	74
Resident Price Lock	74
Resident Disable Licenses	75
Resident Lifetime License Certificates	75
Resident Licenses, Tag and Permit Fees	76 - 77
Nonresident Licenses, Tag and Permit Fees	78

WHAT'S NEW FOR 2026

Spearfishing has become a legal method of take for certain waters and species. Spearfishing is limited to the taking of fish by a person while underwater, with the aid of a manually or mechanically propelled single- or multiple-pronged spear.

The following allowances for spearfishing only apply to waters open to fishing.

Panhandle Region:

- Allow spearfishing for:
 - Northern Pike in Lake Pend Oreille, Clark Fork River, Pack River and its tributaries, and Pend Oreille River
 - Lake Trout in Lake Pend Oreille and in Upper Priest Lake
 - Walleye in all waters region-wide

Clearwater Region:

- Allow spearfishing for:
 - Bass in rivers and streams region-wide
 - Walleye in all waters region-wide

Southwest Region:

- Allow spearfishing for:
 - Bass in Salmon River; Salmon River Tributaries; Salmon River, Little; Salmon River, South Fork and tributaries; and, Salmon River, Middle Fork and tributaries
 - Walleye in all waters region-wide

Magic Valley Region:

- Allow spearfishing for bass in Magic Reservoir

Southeast Region:

- Allow spearfishing for bass in Blackfoot Reservoir

Upper Snake Region:

- Allow spearfishing for walleye in Ririe Reservoir

Salmon Region:

- Allow spearfishing for:
 - Bass in rivers and streams region-wide
 - Walleye in all waters region-wide

STATEWIDE GENERAL RULES

This section lists general fishing regulations that apply statewide during all seasons. More information on specific items can also be found in the Terms and Definitions section on pages 64 - 65. Please consult the Idaho Administrative Procedures Act webpage or Title 36 of the Idaho Code for complete details at adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/13/index.html or idfg.idaho.gov/title36.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

Fishing License: Any person 14 years or older must have a valid Idaho fishing license or permit to fish for fish, bullfrogs or crayfish, except when fishing in a private pond where the owner has a valid Private Pond Permit from Fish and Game, or on Free Fishing Day. Licenses are available to purchase at Fish and Game offices, license vendors, by phone at (800) 554-8685 or at GoOutdoorsIdaho.com.

- Resident children under 14 do not need to be accompanied by a valid Idaho fishing license holder, are not required to purchase a license and may catch and keep their own daily bag limit.
- Nonresident children under 14 must be accompanied by the holder of a valid Idaho fishing license, and harvested fish must be included in the license holder's limit. However, a nonresident child may purchase their own license and have their own limit.

Fishing License in Possession: You must have a printed license, or electronic version with you while fishing. Electronic versions that are allowed: accessing GoOutdoorsIdaho.com online, using Go Outdoors Idaho mobile app, a saved copy to your smartphone, or a saved photo of your printed license to your smartphone.

Two-Pole Permit: Any person wanting to fish with two poles at the same time with a valid resident or nonresident fishing license may purchase a two-pole permit. Any child 14 years or younger, wishing to fish with two poles, must purchase a two-pole permit. This permit authorizes the license holder or child to use two poles or rods during seasons specified. Valid for all open waters and salmon and steelhead fishing.

Salmon and Steelhead Permit: 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. Pages 51–52 have complete details on salmon and steelhead rules and information.

FISHING GEAR AND TACKLE

Pole/Rod Limits: It is illegal to use more than one (1) handline or pole with a line attached, except for a person with a two-pole permit (see Two-Pole Permit above). However, five rods or lines may be used when ice fishing.

Hook and Line Limits: Up to five (5) hooks per line may be used, except where specifically prohibited. Up to five (5) rods or lines per angler may be used when ice fishing. Only barbless hooks may be used when fishing for salmon or

steelhead in the Salmon and Clearwater river drainages and the Snake River below Hells Canyon Dam. A treble hook is considered a single hook; exceptions may apply in some special rule waters.

Bow (Archery) Fishing: This includes fishing with a bow and arrow, crossbow 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.

Gaff Hook: This is 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 unprotected fish species taken with archery equipment, provided the angler does not intend to release fish so caught.

Hands for Fishing: It is illegal to harvest any fish using only your hands, except when harvesting crayfish and bullfrogs. Anglers must use fishing gear to harvest all other fish species.

Ice Fishing: Fishing through an opening, broken or cut, through the ice. While ice fishing, each angler may fish with a maximum of five (5) lines. 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.

Fishing Shelter: It is illegal to leave an enclosure or shelter used for fishing unattended overnight on the ice of any water statewide without having the owner's name, telephone number, and current address legibly marked on two (2) opposing sides of the enclosure or shelter.

"No Motor" or "Electric Motor" Only Waters:

For fishing waters listed in proclamation as "no motors," no person may fish from a boat with a motor attached. For fishing waters listed "electric motors only," gas (internal combustion) motors may be attached to the boat; but use of the gas motor 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 56.

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.

Spearfishing: Is limited to the taking of fish by a person while underwater, with the aid of a manually or mechanically propelled single- or multiple-pronged spear.

Unattended 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.

SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS

Bag Limits: Defined as 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 fill the “bag limit” of another. Each region specifies the bag limits by species. It is illegal to fish in waters having special bag or species limits while in possession of fish in excess of those limits.

Note: Bullfrogs and crayfish have no bag, length or possession limit.

Possession Limits: The maximum limit in number or amount of wildlife which may be lawfully in the possession of any person. “Possession limit” shall apply to wildlife being in possession while in the field or being transported to final place of consumption or storage.

Season Limits: It is illegal to exceed the maximum number of fish that may be legally taken in any declared season.

Holding Live Fish: No permit is required to keep live game fish legally reduced to possession while the angler is at the body of water where the fish were taken. Only live fish may be sorted (high-grading, culling), so long as the fish will swim away freely when released, and the daily bag limit is not exceeded. Exceptions apply on some special rule waters. For anadromous (ocean-run) salmon/steelhead, those fish must be killed or released after landing. All fish must be killed, or released, prior to the angler leaving the water body where the fish were caught. Possessing and transporting live crayfish for personal consumption without a permit is allowed if they are not designated as invasive species in Idaho administrative code (see Crayfish, page 57).

Catch-and-Release: 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 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.

Fishing Closed or Out of Season Waterbodies:

No person may fish any waterbodies that are labeled as closed or out of season. Catch-and-release fishing is only allowed when a fishing season is open for that particular fish species.

BAIT

Bait: Organic substances, other than rubber, wood feather, fiber, or plastic, attached to a hook to attract fish can be used. Bait includes insects, insect larvae, worms, dead fish, fish parts, any other animal or vegetable matter, or scented synthetic materials. Game fish may be used as bait, if harvested using legal methods and bag limits, and count toward daily bag and possession limits.

Live Bait: It is illegal to use live fish, leeches, frogs, salamanders, waterdogs or shrimp as bait in Idaho, except that live crayfish may be used if caught on the body of water being fished. Bait of any kind may not be used with artificial lures when fishing artificial flies and lures-only waters.

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.

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. See page 57 for additional information on crayfish.

Harvesting Fish with Nets or Traps: All fish so taken must immediately be killed except non-invasive crayfish may be kept alive. Nongame fish and crayfish may only be taken during the season set for the taking of game fish in those waters. 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, license number, or sportsman identification number.

Number of Traps: 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.

Trap and Net Size: The seine or net must 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.

FISHING IN BOUNDARY WATERS

Any angler who fishes any 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.

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. When fishing this boundary water, one can only exercise the privileges of one license at the same time, even if they have licenses (and salmon/steelhead permits) for both states.

SALMON, STEELHEAD, AND STURGEON

Salmon and Steelhead fishing: Fishing for salmon and steelhead is only open during specific seasons set for those species and requires anglers to have a valid Salmon and/or Steelhead Permit. Additional restrictions apply to tackle, bag limits, and possession limits. Pages 51-52 have complete details on salmon and steelhead rules and information.

Sturgeon fishing: Sturgeon fishing is open statewide, all year, except for the Kootenai River, where fishing for sturgeon is illegal. Where open, sturgeon is catch-and-release only. Review page 56 for additional restrictions.

TRANSPORTATION, SALE OR SHIPMENT OF FISH

Head and Tail Removal: No person may have in the field or in transport any trout, bass, tiger muskie, steelhead, or salmon from which the head or tail has been removed unless:

1. The angler is ashore and done fishing for the day; and
2. The fish is processed or packaged with the skin naturally attached to the flesh; and
3. The fish is processed or packaged in a manner that the number of fish harvested can be readily determined; and
4. The processed fish is not transported by watercraft; and
5. The salmon or steelhead is properly validated on their permit; and
6. For any salmon or steelhead: processed meat must include a portion of the flesh with a healed, clipped adipose fin scar or the adipose fin; and
7. Must not process any jack salmon while in the field or in transit.

Fish Transport or Gift (by Proxy Statement):

Transporting legally taken game fish requires a proxy statement signed by the original taker accompanies the fish, showing the number and kinds, the date taken, the taker's name, address, and fishing license number. A Fish Transport Proxy Statement can be found on page 13.

Fish Possessed from State and Federal Fish

Hatcheries: No person can transit state and federal fish from hatcheries without a written receipt for those fish or as allowed by posted signage.

Transport and Introduction of Live Fish: It is illegal to transport or allow the live release of any live fish or fish eggs, into waters of the state of Idaho without a permit from the Director of Fish and Game. However, non-invasive crayfish may be transported alive for personal consumption (see Crayfish, on page 57). If you illegally introduce fish or crayfish into a water body without a permit, you could be held financially liable for restoration costs.

Private Pond Permit: 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.

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.

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.

TRESPASS LAW

Persons are required to have written permission or other lawful permission to enter private property. The law specifies:

No person shall enter or remain on private land to shoot any weapon or hunt, fish, trap or retrieve game without written permission or other lawful permission. See page 113 for lawful permission form.

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.

idfg.idaho.gov/title36/16/03

IT IS UNLAWFUL TO:

- Fish within the posted upstream and downstream boundaries of any fish weir or trap
- Fail to stop at 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 individual(s) do not possess any fish or wildlife. Idaho Law authorizes Idaho Fish and Game to use wildlife check stations to collect biological and harvest data from fish and wildlife, receive public input, and enforce Commission seasons and rules.
- Knowingly provide false information to the Department or Commission on any report required by law.
- Destroy, disturb, or remove any traps belonging to others.
- Use chemicals, poisons, electric current, or explosives for fishing.
- Waste game fish, 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.
- Molest or harass 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.

- Deposit, throw, place, allow or cause to pass into any of the waters of this state any deleterious drugs, toxicants, chemicals, poisonous substances, explosives, electrical current, or other material which may tend to destroy, kill, disable, or drive away fish.
- Place racks or traps or any other obstruction across any of the streams or waters of the state of Idaho in order to take fish for any purpose without first obtaining a permit from the Director. No unauthorized person shall tamper with, damage, or destroy any such permitted rack, trap, or other obstruction.
- Mark, scar, tag or mutilate fish without a Scientific Collecting permit.
- Fail to produce wildlife for inspection upon request of a conservation officer or other person authorized to enforce Idaho Fish and Game seasons and rules.
- Remove, alter, or possess Idaho Fish and Game signs.



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 or scan this QR code with your smart phone



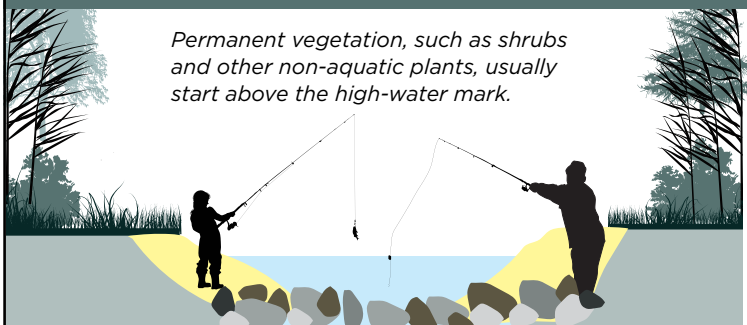
NAVIGABILITY AND PUBLIC ACCESS

(Refer to Idaho Code 36-1601)

WHEN FISHING IN NAVIGABLE STREAMS BORDERED BY PRIVATE PROPERTY

PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY IS BELOW HIGH WATER MARK

Permanent vegetation, such as shrubs and other non-aquatic plants, usually start above the high-water mark.

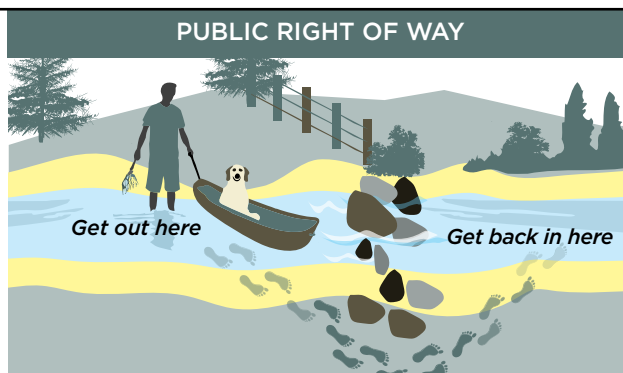


YOU MUST STAY BELOW THE NORMAL HIGH-WATER MARK

of the stream, unless you have landowners 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). High-water area in yellow.

WHEN GETTING OUT OF A STREAM TO GO AROUND AN OBSTRUCTION

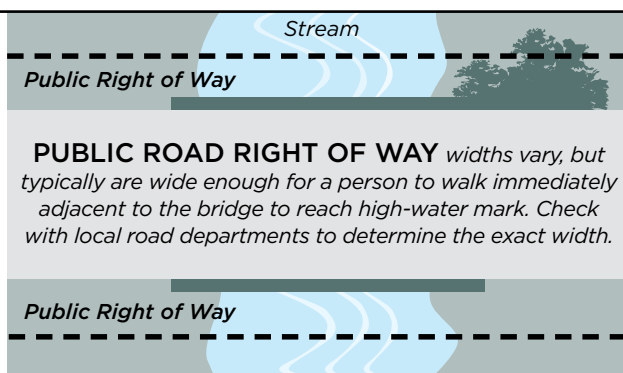
Take the shortest, most direct route around the obstruction to get back in the stream. Do not allow pets or children to trespass on adjacent private property without landowner permission.



YOU MAY ENTER AND EXIT A NAVIGABLE STREAM

at locations other than below the high-water mark, such as public right of way at county road bridges.

ASK FIRST Always get landowner permission before crossing private right of way.



Navigable streams are defined as any stream which, in its natural high-water condition, will float logs or any other commercial or float-able 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.

Illustrations: CC-BY Nancy Jasper at Idaho Fish and Game

**IDAHO TRESPASS 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.***FISH TRANSPORT PROXY STATEMENT**

(To transport fish taken by another person)

Taker's Name _____ Taker's Signature _____

Taker's Address _____

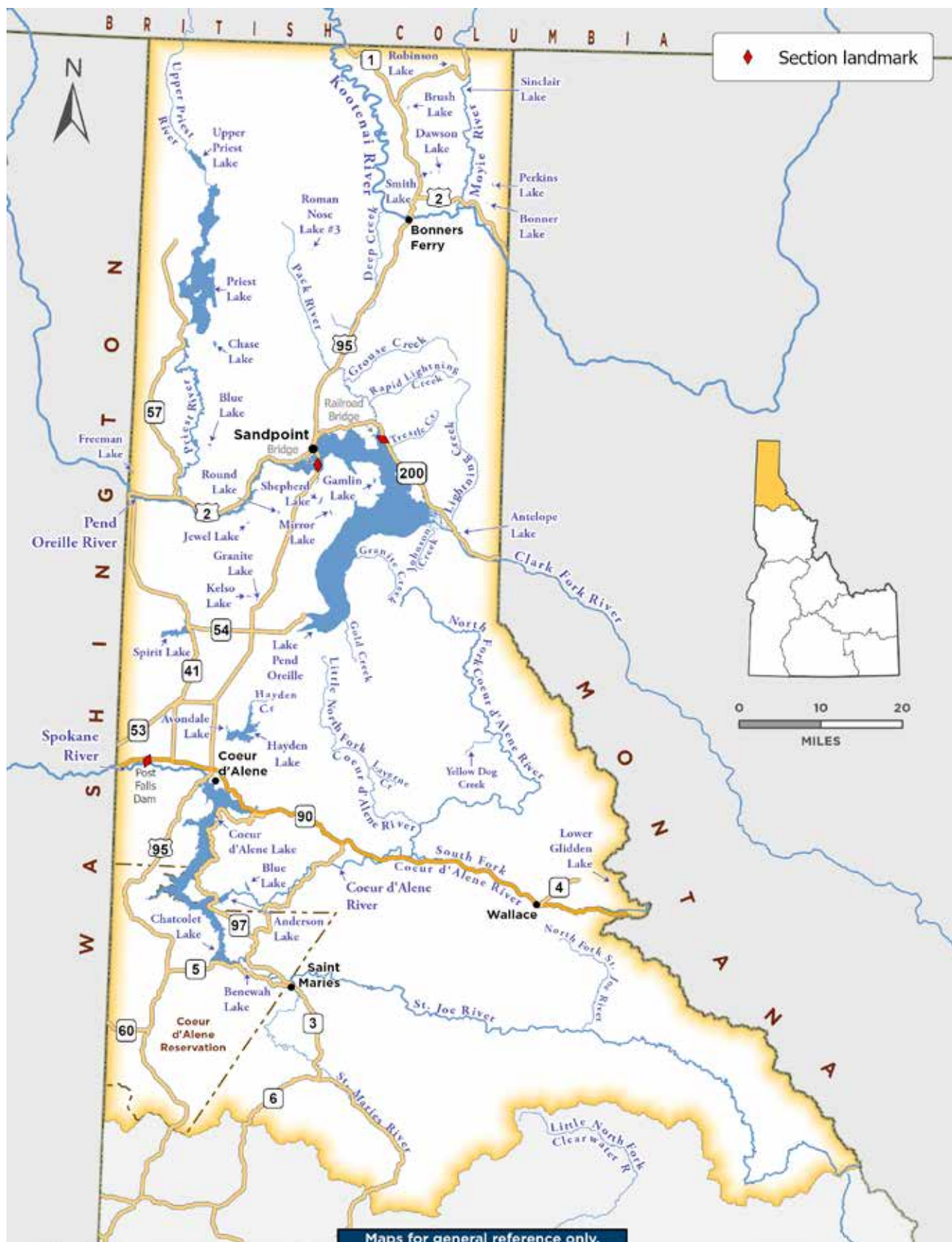
License No. _____ Tag No. _____

Fish Species	Description & Number Taken	Water Caught	Date

Other Game:

Species _____ #Taken _____ Date Killed _____

PANHANDLE REGION



Fishing Season for the Panhandle Region

All Waters Open All Year, except as modified in the Special Rule Waters on Pages 16-17.

General Daily Limits

The following daily bag limits apply to all waters of the Panhandle Region except as modified in the Special Rule Waters on Pages 16-17. 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 apply when fishing for Brook Trout

Bull Trout

- Bull Trout – catch-and-release

Burbot

- Burbot limit is 6

Chinook Salmon (*land-locked*)

- Chinook Salmon limit is 2, none under 24 inches

Kokanee

- Kokanee limit is 15

Northern Pike (*Stocked illegally in this Region. May be harmful to existing fisheries.*)

- No bag, length, or possession limits. Harvest is encouraged

Sturgeon

- Fishing for sturgeon in the Kootenai River is illegal
- Sturgeon caught incidentally must be released immediately

Tiger Muskie

- Tiger Muskie limit is 2, none under 40 inches

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

- Trout limit is 6, all species combined

Bull Trout and Brook Trout are listed separately

Walleye (*Stocked illegally in this Region. May be harmful to existing fisheries.*)

- Harvest encouraged. No bag, length, or possession limits, spearfishing allowed

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 apply when fishing for whitefish

All Other Fish Species *includes bullfrogs and crayfish*

- No bag, length, or possession limits

Please check for potential fish consumption advisories, see page 70.

Special Rule Waters (see Pages 16-17 for details)

Anderson Lake
Antelope Lake
Avondale Lake
Blue Lake (Priest River Drainage)
Blue Lake (Coeur d' Alene Drainage)
Bonner Lake
Brush Lake
Chase Lake
Clark Fork River and tributaries
Clearwater River, Little North Fork and tributaries
Coeur d' Alene Lake
Coeur d'Alene River and tributaries
Coeur d' Alene River, Little North Fork and tributaries
Coeur d' Alene River, North Fork and tributaries
Coeur d' Alene River, South Fork and tributaries

Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation
Dawson Lake
Deep Creek and tributaries
Freeman Lake
Gamble (Gamlin) Lake
Gold Creek
Granite Creek and tributaries
Granite Lake
Hayden Creek and tributaries
Hayden Lake
Jewel Lake
Kelso Lake
Kootenai River
Lake Pend Oreille
Lower Glidden Lake
Mirror Lake
Moyie River
Pack River and tributaries

Pend Oreille River
Perkins Lake
Priest Lake and tributaries
Priest River and tributaries
Robinson Lake
Roman Nose Lake #3
Round Lake (Bonner County)
St. Joe River and tributaries
St. Maries River and tributaries
Shepherd Lake
Sinclair Lake
Smith Lake
Spirit Lake
Spokane River and tributaries
Trestle Creek and tributaries
Upper Priest Lake and tributaries

Special Rule Waters for the Panhandle Region

For waters not listed below, see Page 15 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
- Northern Pike – Harvest is encouraged. Open all year. No bag, length, or possession limits, spearfishing allowed

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 (tributary to the Kootenai River)

- 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 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
- Lake Trout – Harvest is encouraged. No bag, length, or possession limits, spearfishing allowed
- Cutthroat Trout – catch-and-release
- Rainbow Trout limit is 2, only 1 over 20 inches
- Northern Pike – Harvest is encouraged. Open all year. No bag, length, or possession limits, spearfishing allowed

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)
- Northern Pike – Harvest is encouraged. Open all year. No bag, length, or possession limits, spearfishing allowed

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
- Northern Pike – Harvest is encouraged. Open all year. No bag, length, or possession limits, spearfishing allowed

Perkins Lake - Electric motors only

Priest Lake and tributaries *(including Thorofare)*

- Trout limit is 6, only 2 may be Cutthroat Trout, no Cutthroat Trout under 16 inches
- No harvest of Cutthroat Trout in tributaries *(including Thorofare)*
- 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

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

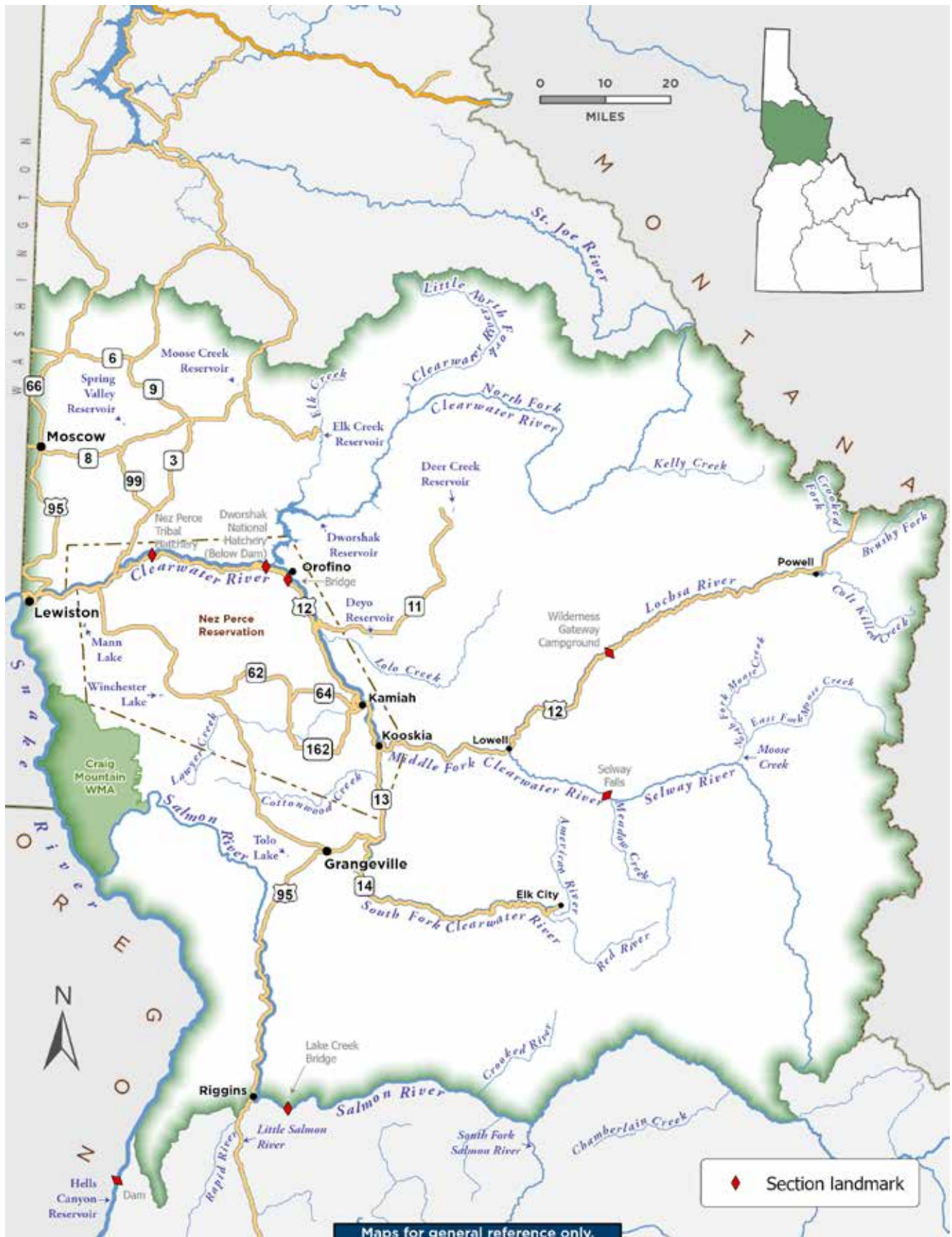
Trestle Creek and tributaries

- Closed to fishing

Upper Priest Lake and tributaries

- Trout limit is 6, only 2 may be Cutthroat Trout, no Cutthroat Trout under 16 inches
- No harvest of Cutthroat Trout in tributaries
- Lake Trout – Harvest is encouraged. No bag, length, or possession limits, spearfishing allowed in lake only.
- Kokanee limit is 6

CLEARWATER REGION



Fishing Season for the Clearwater Region

All Waters Open All Year, except as modified in the Special Rule Waters on Pages 21-22.

General Daily Limits

The following daily bag limits apply to all waters of the Clearwater Region except as modified in the Special Rule Waters on Pages 21-22. The possession limit is 3-times the daily bag limit.

Bass (*Largemouth and Smallmouth*)

- In rivers and streams, no bag, length or possession limits, spearfishing allowed
- In lakes and reservoirs, 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 apply when fishing for Brook Trout

Bull Trout

- Bull Trout – catch-and-release

Kokanee

- Kokanee limit is 25

Salmon (*ocean-run*)

- 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 54
- Sockeye Salmon fishing is prohibited. Defined as ocean-run *Oncorhynchus nerka* longer than 14 inches in the Snake River drainage below Hells Canyon Dam, the Salmon River drainage (excluding above Mosquito Flat Dam), and the Clearwater River drainage (excluding that portion above Dworshak Dam and lakes)
- Fishing for salmon is prohibited unless a salmon season is specifically opened for that water

Steelhead (*ocean-run*)

- Defined as Rainbow Trout longer than 20 inches 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)

- Fishing for steelhead is prohibited unless a steelhead season is specifically opened for that water (see steelhead seasons/limits on page 53)

Sturgeon

- Sturgeon – catch-and-release
- Sturgeon must not be removed from the water and must be released upon landing
- Barbless hooks, sliding swivel device to secure a weight, and a lighter test line to secure weight to sliding swivel device are required, see page 56

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

Bull Trout and Brook Trout are listed separately

Walleye (*Stocked illegally in this Region. May be harmful to existing fisheries.*)

- Harvest is encouraged. No bag, length, or possession limits. Spearfishing allowed

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 apply when fishing for whitefish

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, length, or possession limits

Please check for potential fish consumption advisories, see page 70.

Special Rule Waters (see Pages 21-22 for details)

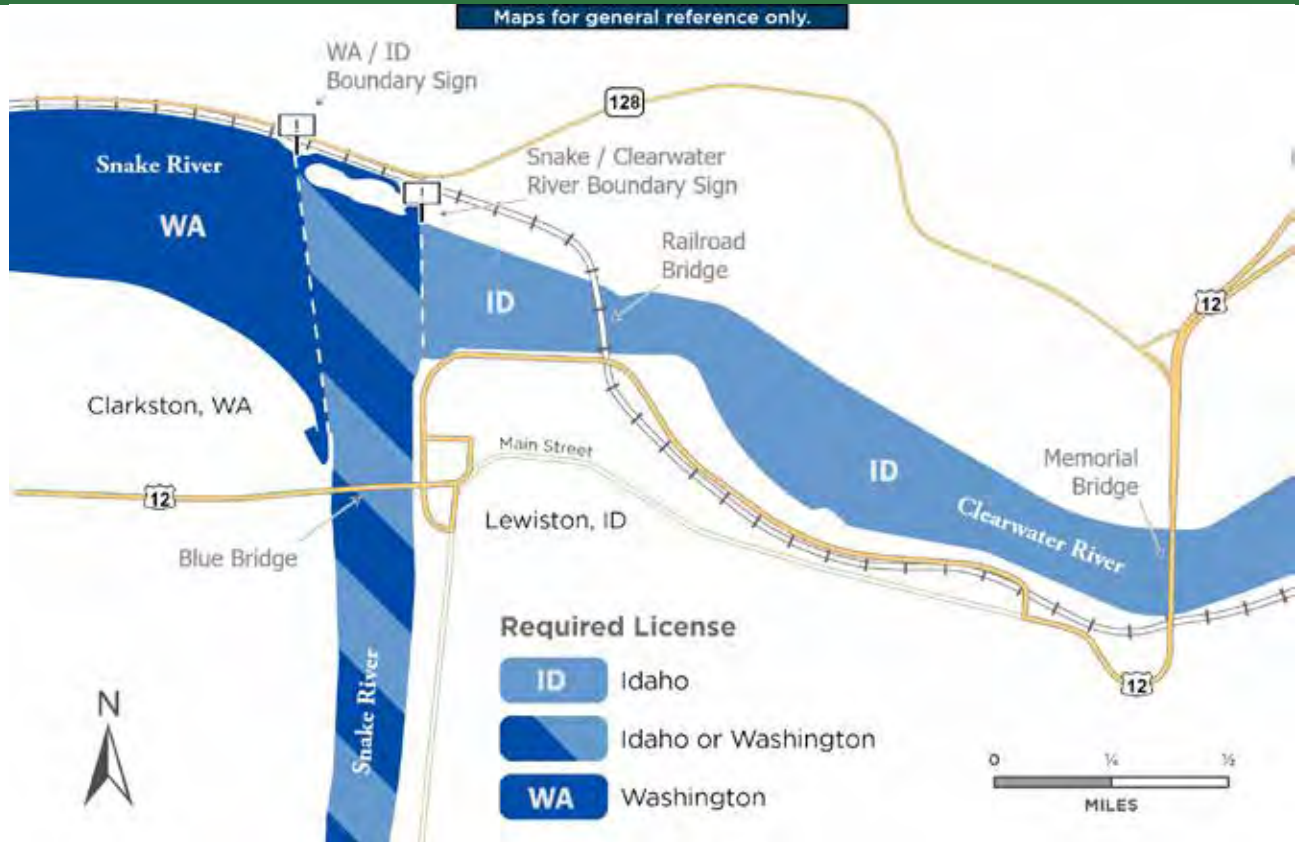
Clearwater River
Clearwater River, Little North Fork
and tributaries
Clearwater River, Middle Fork
Clearwater River, North Fork
Clearwater River, South Fork
Crooked Fork
(tributary to Lochsa River)

Deer Creek Reservoir
Deyo Reservoir
Dworshak Reservoir
Kelly Creek and tributaries
Lochsa River
Mann Lake
Moose Creek Reservoir
Salmon River

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

Washington/Idaho Fishing In Boundary Waters

Clearwater



Special Restrictions – North Fork Clearwater River

Key Points:

A When fishing from 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.

B Fishing from any watercraft of 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.

C 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.

D The mouth of North Fork Clearwater River is defined as a straight line between the Clearwater Hatchery outlet culvert on the west side and the posted sign located on the Dworshak Hatchery fence near the tip of land on the east side.



Special Rule Waters for the Clearwater Region

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

Clearwater River See map on page 20

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, Little North Fork and tributaries

- Trout limit is 2

Clearwater River, Middle Fork

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout – 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 20

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 – 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 – 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 – 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 20 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

Kelly Creek and tributaries

- Trout – 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 – 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 – 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, Little

- Clearwater Region general rules apply
- No bag, length, or possession limits on bass

Salmon River tributaries

Section: Those tributaries from the mouth of the Salmon River upstream to the Middle Fork Salmon River, except Little Salmon River and South Fork Salmon River (page 27).

- Trout limit is 2

Section: Those tributaries upstream from the mouth of the Middle Fork Salmon River – See Page 48, 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 – 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

All other sections of the Selway River – Clearwater Region general rules apply

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

NATIONAL
**FISH
HABITAT**
PARTNERSHIP

With ID F&G as a partner, the National Fish Habitat Partnership works to improve habitat through projects by the Western Native Trout Initiative, Reservoir Fish Habitat Partnership, Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative, and Desert Fish Habitat Partnership.

**Learn
More**



- Conserved 156 stream miles in Idaho.
- Completed 46 on-the-ground habitat conservation projects.
- Leveraged a \$1.85 million federal investment.
- Secured over \$8.3 million in matching funds.
- Improved habitat in streams, lakes, and rivers.
- Enhanced fishing opportunities for Idahoans since 2006.



Follow the Fishing Trailer

During the summer months the fishing trailers travel across Idaho ready to help families start fishing.

- Free and open to everyone. Just show up and register at the event.
- Fishing equipment can be checked out for free. First-come, first-served basis.
- Learn the basic fishing skills from knowledgeable staff.
- No license required for registered participants during the duration of the event.

idfg.idaho.gov/fish



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 14, 2025

JUNE 13, 2026

JUNE 12, 2027

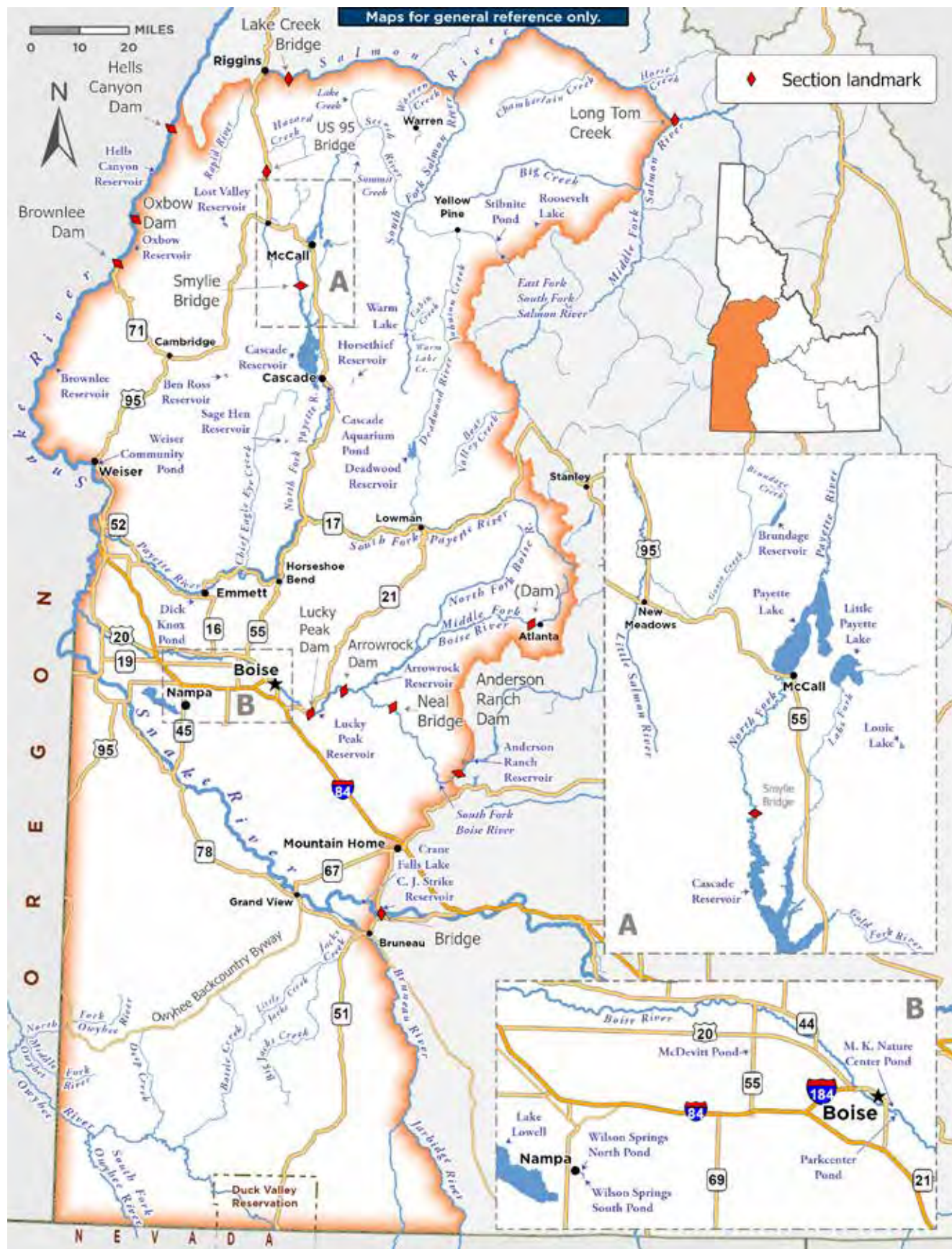
Pull the Plug

All drain plugs and internal water must be removed before trailering to prevent the spread of invasive species.



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

SOUTHWEST REGION



Fishing Season for the Southwest Region

All Waters Open All Year, except as modified in the Special Rule Waters on Pages 27-29.

General Daily Limits

The following daily bag limits apply to all waters of the Southwest Region except as modified in the Special Rule Waters on Pages 27-29. 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 apply when fishing for Brook Trout

Bull Trout

- Bull Trout – catch-and-release

Kokanee

- Kokanee limit is 6

Salmon (*ocean-run*)

- 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 54
- Sockeye Salmon fishing is illegal. Defined as ocean-run *Oncorhynchus nerka* longer than 14 inches in the Snake River drainage below Hells Canyon Dam and the Salmon River drainage (excluding above Mosquito Flat Dam)
- Fishing for salmon is prohibited unless a salmon season is specifically opened for that water

Steelhead (*ocean-run*)

- Defined as Rainbow Trout longer than 20 inches 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 20 inches with the adipose fin clipped (as evidenced by a healed scar)

- Fishing for steelhead is prohibited unless a steelhead season is specifically opened for that water (see steelhead seasons/limits on page 53)

Sturgeon

- Sturgeon – catch-and-release
- Sturgeon must not be removed from the water and must be released upon landing
- Barbless hooks, sliding swivel device to secure a weight, and a lighter test line to secure weight to sliding swivel device are required, see page 56

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
- Chinook Salmon and steelhead placed in ponds are counted in the trout bag limit

Bull Trout and Brook Trout are listed separately

Walleye (*Stocked illegally in this Region. May be harmful to existing fisheries.*)

- Harvest is encouraged. No bag, length, or possession limits. Spearfishing allowed

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 apply 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, length, or possession limits

Special Rule Waters (See Pages 27-29 for details)

Southwest Region North – McCall

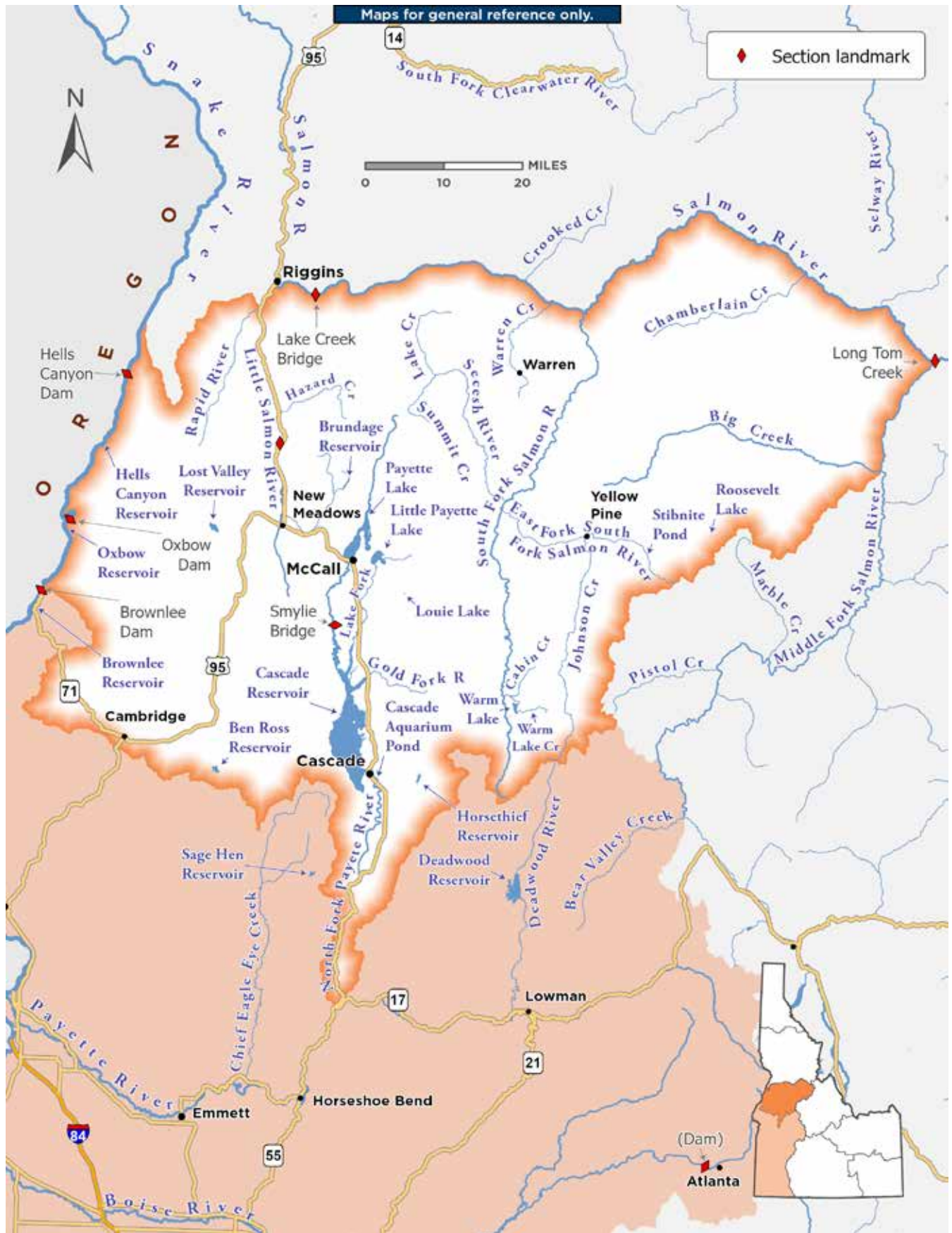
Ben Ross Reservoir	Rapid River and tributaries
Big Creek	Roosevelt Lake
Brundage Reservoir and tributaries	Salmon River
Cascade Aquarium Pond	Salmon River, Little
Chamberlain Creek and tributaries	Salmon River tributaries
Hells Canyon Reservoir	Salmon River, South Fork and tributaries
Little Payette Lake	Stibnite Pond (Glory Hole)
Louie Lake	Warren Creek
Oxbow Reservoir	
Payette River, North Fork	

Southwest Region South – Nampa

Bear Valley Creek	McDevitt Pond
Boise River	Middle Fork Salmon River
Boise River, Middle Fork	M.K. Nature Center
Boise River, South Fork	Owyhee River and tributaries
Caldwell Ponds	Parkcenter Pond
Chief Eagle Eye Creek and tributaries	Payette River, South Fork and tributaries
CJ Strike Reservoir	Sage Hen Reservoir tributaries
Crane Falls Lake	Salmon River, Middle Fork and tributaries
Deadwood Reservoir tributaries	Weiser Community Pond
Dick Knox Pond	Wilson Springs Ponds
Duck Valley Indian Reservation	
Lake Lowell	

SOUTHWEST REGION NORTH - MCCALL

Southwest



Special Rule Waters for the Southwest Region North – McCall

For waters not listed below, see Page 25 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 *(tributary to the Middle Fork Salmon River)*

- Trout – catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

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

Hells Canyon Reservoir

- Bass limit is 6, any size

Little Payette Lake

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

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

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

Oxbow Reservoir

(between Brownlee Dam and Oxbow Dam)

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

Payette River, North Fork

Section: From Payette Lake upstream, including tributaries

- Kokanee – catch-and-release

Section: From Smylie Bridge (Hartsell) to Payette Lake

- December 1 to Friday of Memorial Day weekend – trout – catch-and-release

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

Rapid River and tributaries

(tributary to the Little Salmon River)

- Trout limit is 2

Roosevelt Lake

- Trout – catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

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
- Bass – No bag, length, or possession limits, spearfishing allowed

Salmon River, Little

- Southwest Region general rules apply
- Bass – No bag, length, or possession limits, spearfishing allowed

Salmon River tributaries

All sections:

- Bass – No bag, length, or possession limits, spearfishing allowed

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 48, Salmon River tributaries, Special Rule Waters.

Salmon River, South Fork and tributaries

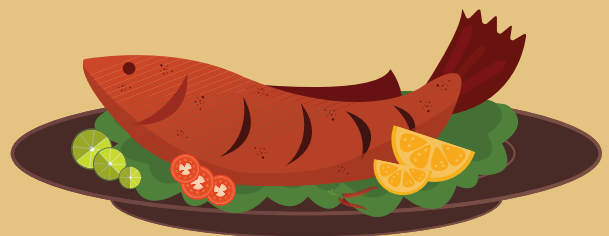
(includes: Johnson Creek, East Fork South Fork Salmon River, Secesh River, Lake Creek, Summit Creek, and tributaries)

- Trout – catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required
- Bass – No bag, length, or possession limits, spearfishing allowed

Stibnite Pond *(Glory Hole)*

- Trout – catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

Check health advisories

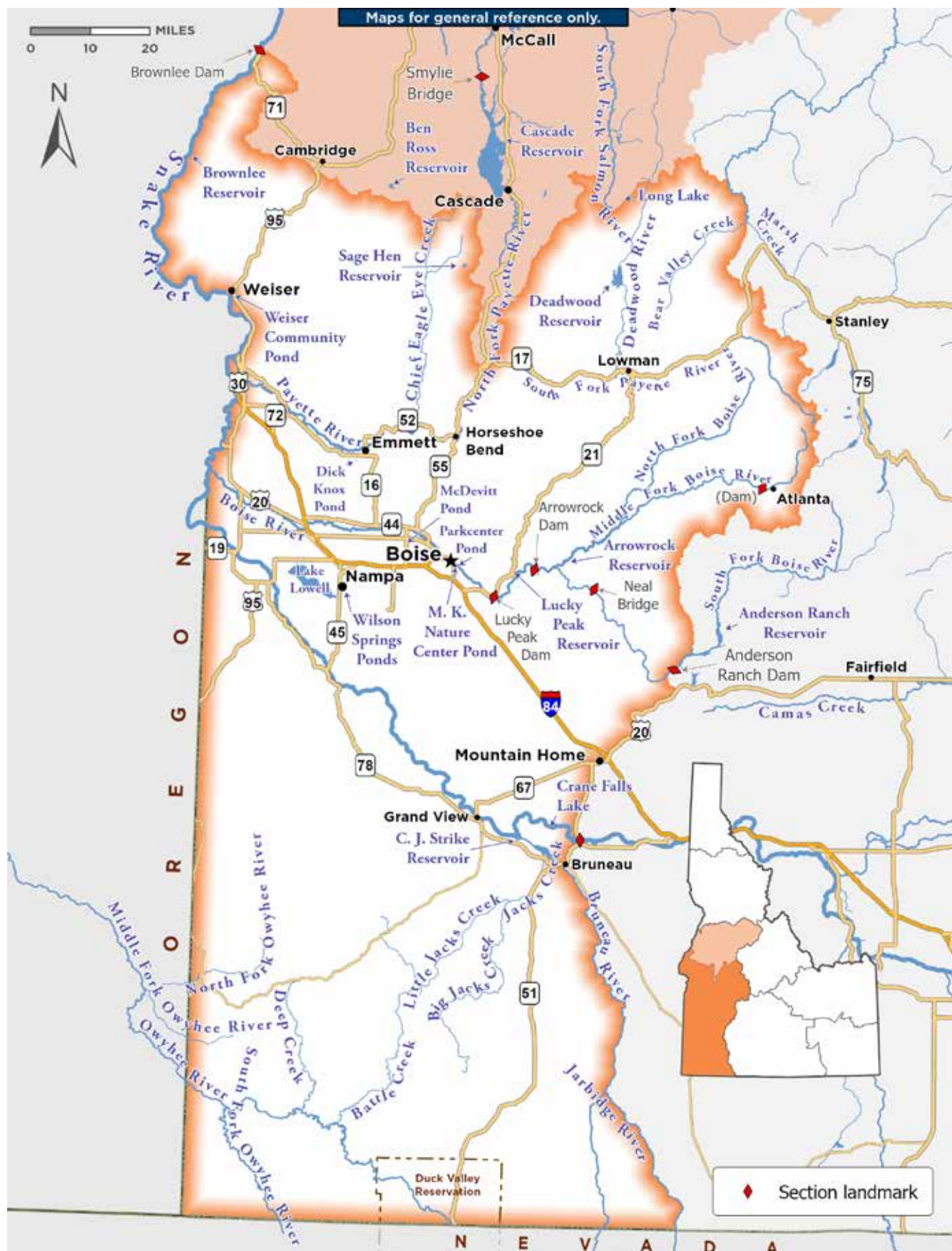


before eating fish.

Please check for potential fish consumption advisories, see page 70.

SOUTHWEST REGION SOUTH - NAMPA

Southwest



Special Rule Waters for the Southwest Region South – Nampa

For waters not listed below, see Page 25 for fishing seasons, bag and possession limits, and rules that apply to all waters within the Southwest Region.

Bear Valley Creek

- Trout – 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 (*see page 64 for hook definitions*)
- December 1 through March 31– trout – 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 33)

Caldwell Ponds

- Bass limit is 2, none under 20 inches

Chief Eagle Eye Creek and tributaries

- Trout limit is 2

CJ Strike Reservoir *(includes Bruneau Arm, and CJ Strike Dam to Loveridge Bridge at HW51)*

- Bass limit is 6, no minimum length, only 1 over 16 inches

Crane Falls Lake - Electric motors only

- Bass limit is 2, none under 20 inches

Deadwood Reservoir tributaries

- Trout limit is 2
- Kokanee limit is 6

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 – catch-and-release
- July 1 to December 31- bass limit is 2, none between 12 and 16 inches

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

Parkcenter Pond

- Trout limit is 2

Payette River, South Fork and tributaries

(except the Middle Fork Payette drainage)

- Trout limit is 2

Sage Hen Reservoir tributaries

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

Salmon River, Middle Fork and tributaries

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

- Trout – catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required
- Bass – No bag, length, or possession limits, spearfishing allowed

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



**STOP AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS!™**

Be A Good Steward.
Clean. Drain. Dry.

StopAquaticHitchhikers.org

MAGIC VALLEY REGION



Fishing Season for the Magic Valley Region

All Waters Open All Year, except as modified in the Special Rule Waters on Pages 33-35.

General Daily Limits

The following daily bag limits apply to all waters of the Magic Valley Region except as modified in the Special Rule Waters on Pages 33-35. 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 apply when fishing for Brook Trout

Bull Trout

- Bull Trout – catch-and-release

Kokanee

- Kokanee limit is 6

Sturgeon

- Sturgeon – catch-and-release
- Sturgeon must not be removed from the water and must be released upon landing
- Barbless hooks, sliding swivel device to secure a weight, and a lighter test line to secure weight to sliding swivel device are required. See page 56

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

Bull Trout and Brook Trout 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 apply when fishing for whitefish

Protected Nongame Fish *includes Northern Leatherside Chub, Shoshone Sculpin, Wood River 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, length or possession limits

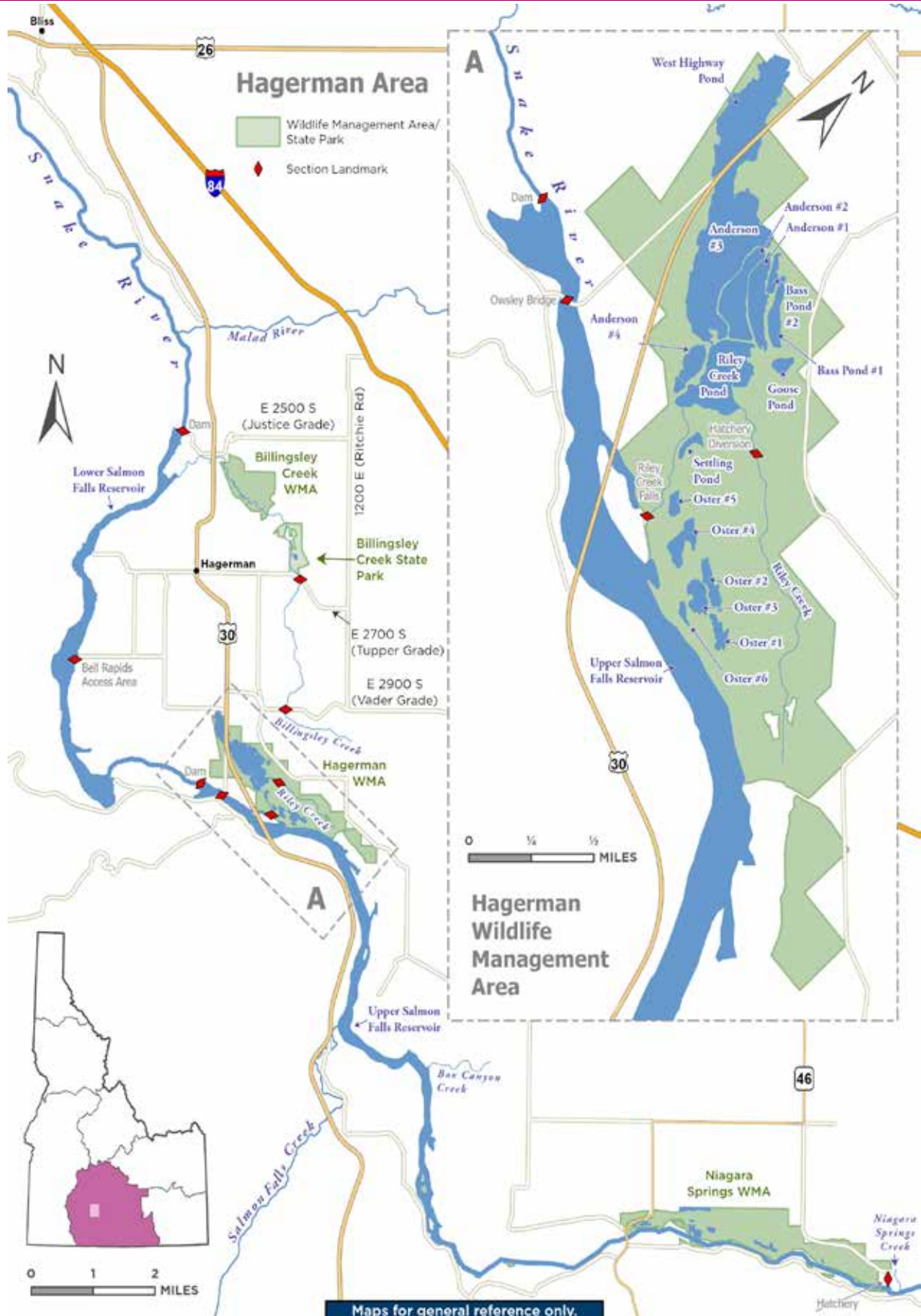
Special Rule Waters (See Pages 33-35 for details)

Anderson Ranch Reservoir
Baker Lake
Bell Rapids (See Snake River)
Big Wood River
Big Wood River tributaries
(upstream of Magic Reservoir)
Billingsley Creek
Boise River, South Fork
(upstream of Anderson Ranch Dam)
Box Canyon Creek
Bruneau Dunes State Park
Carey Lake
Devils Corral Creek

Empire Rapids Ponds
(Niagara Springs Empire Ponds)
Sixmile Reservoir (Gunnel)
Hagerman Wildlife Management Area
Jarbidge River and tributaries
Little Wood River
Magic Reservoir
Malad River
Niagara Springs Creek
Niagara Springs Wildlife
Management Area
Riley Creek (see Hagerman Wildlife
Management Area)

Silver Creek
Silver Creek tributaries
Snake River
Sublett Reservoir
Sublett Reservoir tributaries
Trinity Lakes
Vineyard Creek
Willow Creek
(tributary to Camas Creek)

Hagerman Area Map



Special Rule Waters for the Magic Valley Region

For waters not listed below, see Page 31 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

All sections:

- Bass – no bag, length, or possession limits

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

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

- December 1 through March 31 – trout – 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 – 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 – 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 – 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

Big Wood River Tributaries *(upstream of Magic Reservoir)*

- Bass – no bag, length, or possession limits
- December 1 through March 31 – trout – 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 on page 32)*

- 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 *(tributary to the Snake River)*

- 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

(Niagara Springs Empire Ponds)

- 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, 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

Jarbridge 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 – 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 – No bag, length, or possession limits, spearfishing allowed

Malad River

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

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout – 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

Silver Creek - No motors.

Section: From its mouth upstream to the bridge near milepost 187.2 on Highway 20 west of Picabo (See map page 30, Section 1)

- Open all year

- 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 confluence of Grove Creek and Stalker Creek (See map on page 30, Section 2, does not include Kilpatrick Pond listed separately below)

- 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 – catch-and-release, fly-fishing only, no bait allowed, one barbless hook per fly

Section: Kilpatrick Pond, from the Kilpatrick Pond diversion dam upstream to Kilpatrick Bridge (See map on page 30)

- 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 – 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 map on page 30, Section 2)

- 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 – catch-and-release, fly-fishing only, no bait allowed, one barbless hook per fly

Section: All tributaries outside the Nature Conservancy Silver Creek Preserve (See map on page 30, Section 3)

- 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 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 – 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



ENTRANCE TO ALL

30

IDAHO 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

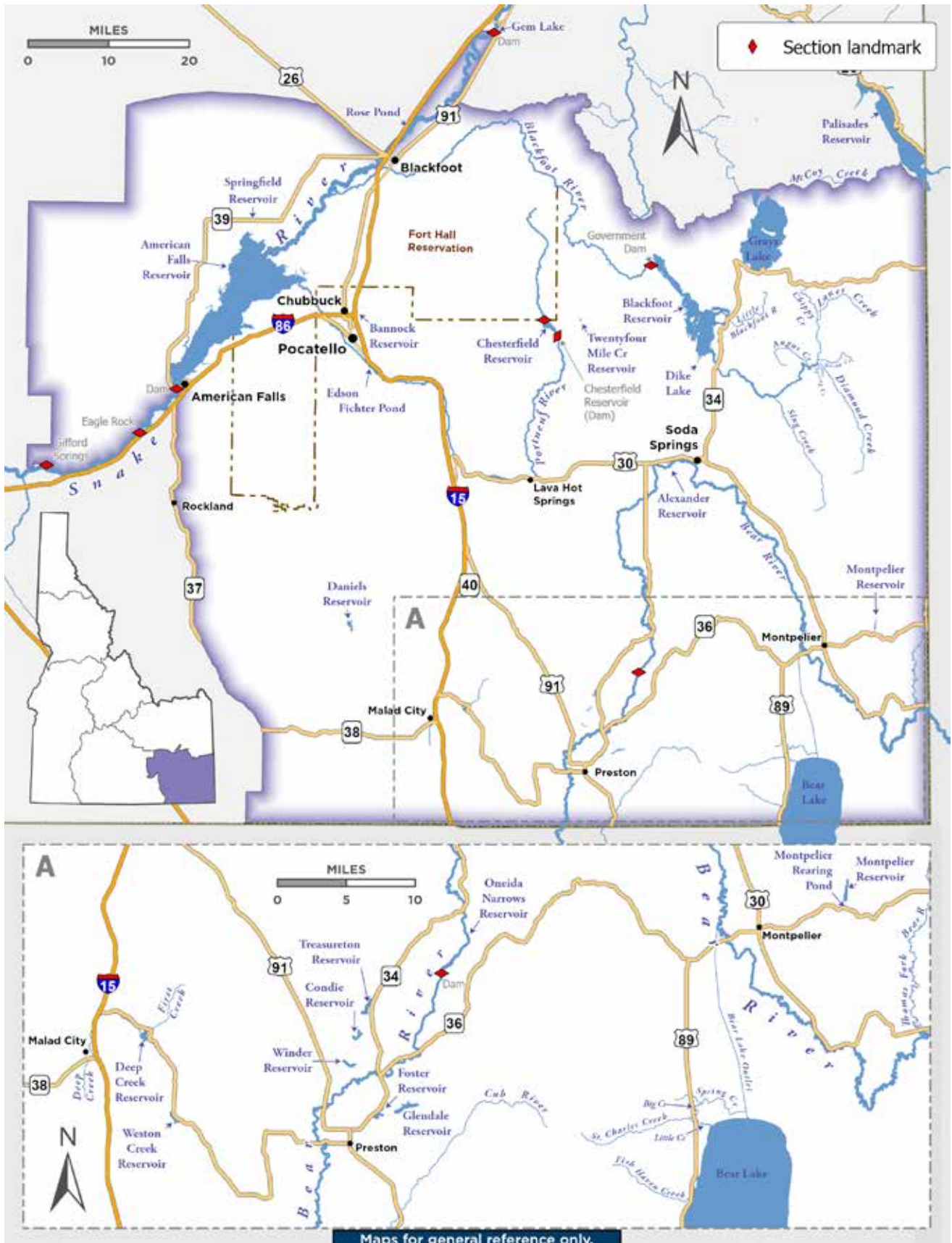
SOUTH/EAST IDAHO STATE PARKS

- Ashton-Tetonia Trail
- Bear Lake
- Bruneau Dunes
- Castle Rocks
- City Of Rocks
- Eagle Island
- Lake Cascade
- Lucky Peak
- Harriman
- Henry's Lake
- Ponderosa
- Thousand Springs
- Lake Walcott
- Land Of The Yankee Fork
- Massacre Rocks
- Three Island Crossing

IdahoParksPassport.com

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

SOUTHEAST REGION



Fishing Season for the Southeast Region

All Waters Open All Year, except as modified in the Special Rule Waters on Pages 38-39.

General Daily Limits

The following daily bag limits apply to all waters of the Southeast Region except as modified in the Special Rule Waters on Pages 38-39. 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 apply when fishing for Brook Trout

Cisco (*Bear Lake only*)

- Cisco limit is 30

Kokanee

- Kokanee limit is 6

Sturgeon

- Sturgeon – catch-and-release
- Sturgeon must not be removed from the water and must be released upon landing
- Barbless hooks, sliding swivel device to secure a weight, and a lighter test line to secure weight to sliding swivel device are required, see page 56

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

Brook Trout 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 apply when fishing for whitefish

Protected Nongame Fish *includes Northern Leatherside Chub, Bear Lake Sculpin, and Green Sucker*

- May not be harvested or possessed

All Other Fish Species *includes bullfrogs and crayfish*

- No bag, length or possession limits

Please check for potential fish consumption advisories, see page 70.

Special Rule Waters for the Southeast Region (see Pages 38-39 for details)

American Falls Reservoir	Fish Haven Creek	St. Charles Creek
Bear Lake	First Creek	Snake River
Bear River	Fort Hall Indian Reservation	Springfield Reservoir
Bear River tributaries	Glendale Reservoir	Treasureton Reservoir
Blackfoot Reservoir	Little Blackfoot River and tributaries	Twenty-Four Mile Reservoir
Blackfoot River and tributaries	McCoy Creek and tributaries	
Chesterfield Reservoir	Montpelier Reservoir	
Condie Reservoir	Oneida Narrows Reservoir	
Daniels Reservoir	Portneuf River	
Deep Creek Reservoir		

Special Rule Waters for the Southeast Region

For waters not listed below, see page 37 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
- Bass – No bag, length, or possession limits, spearfishing allowed.

Blackfoot River and tributaries

Section: From the confluence with the Snake River upstream to Blackfoot Dam (Government Dam) including tributaries

- Trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

Section: Upstream from Blackfoot Reservoir (includes: Diamond Creek, Lanes Creek, Slug Creek and tributaries. Does not include Little Blackfoot River)

- May 1 through June 30 – closed to fishing
- July 1 through April 30 – trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout, no bait allowed

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 length, bag, or possession limits on Bass

Fish Haven Creek

- December 1 through June 30 – closed to fishing

First Creek (tributary to Deep Creek Reservoir)

- December 1 through June 14 – closed to fishing

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 – 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

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 – 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
- Bass – no bag, length, or possession limits
- 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



**STOP AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS!™**

Be A Good Steward.
Clean. Drain. Dry.

StopAquaticHitchhikers.org



**EXPLORE AND
PLAN YOUR
NEXT FISHING
ADVENTURE.**

South
east

Photo courtesy: WAFWA/RBFF

Search by location, species, access, facilities, or type of fishing experience. Links to maps and more!

Visit idfg.idaho.gov and click on the Idaho Fishing Planner icon



UPPER SNAKE REGION



Fishing Season for the Upper Snake Region

All Waters Open All Year, except as modified in the Special Rule Waters on Pages 43-44.

General Daily Limits

The following daily bag limits apply to all waters of the Upper Snake Region except as modified in the Special Rule Waters on Pages 43-44. The possession limit is 3-times the daily bag limit.

Bass (*Largemouth and Smallmouth*)

- Bass – no bag, length, 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 apply when fishing for Brook Trout

Bull Trout

- Bull Trout – catch-and-release

Kokanee

- Kokanee limit is 15

Sturgeon

- Sturgeon – catch-and-release
- Sturgeon must not be removed from the water and must be released upon landing
- Barbless hooks, sliding swivel device to secure a weight, and a lighter test line to secure weight to sliding swivel device are required, see page 56

Tiger Muskie

- Tiger Muskie limit is 2, none under 40 inches

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

- Trout limit is 6, all species combined

Bull Trout and Brook Trout are listed separately

Walleye (*Have not been stocked intentionally in this Region. May be harmful to existing fisheries*)

- No bag, length, or possession limits, harvest is encouraged

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 apply when fishing for whitefish

Protected Nongame Fish including *Bluehead Sucker (also known as Green Sucker)*

- May not be harvested or possessed

All Other Fish Species includes *bullfrogs and crayfish*

- No bag, length or possession limits

Please check for potential fish consumption advisories, see page 70.

Special Rule Waters (see Pages 43-44 for details)

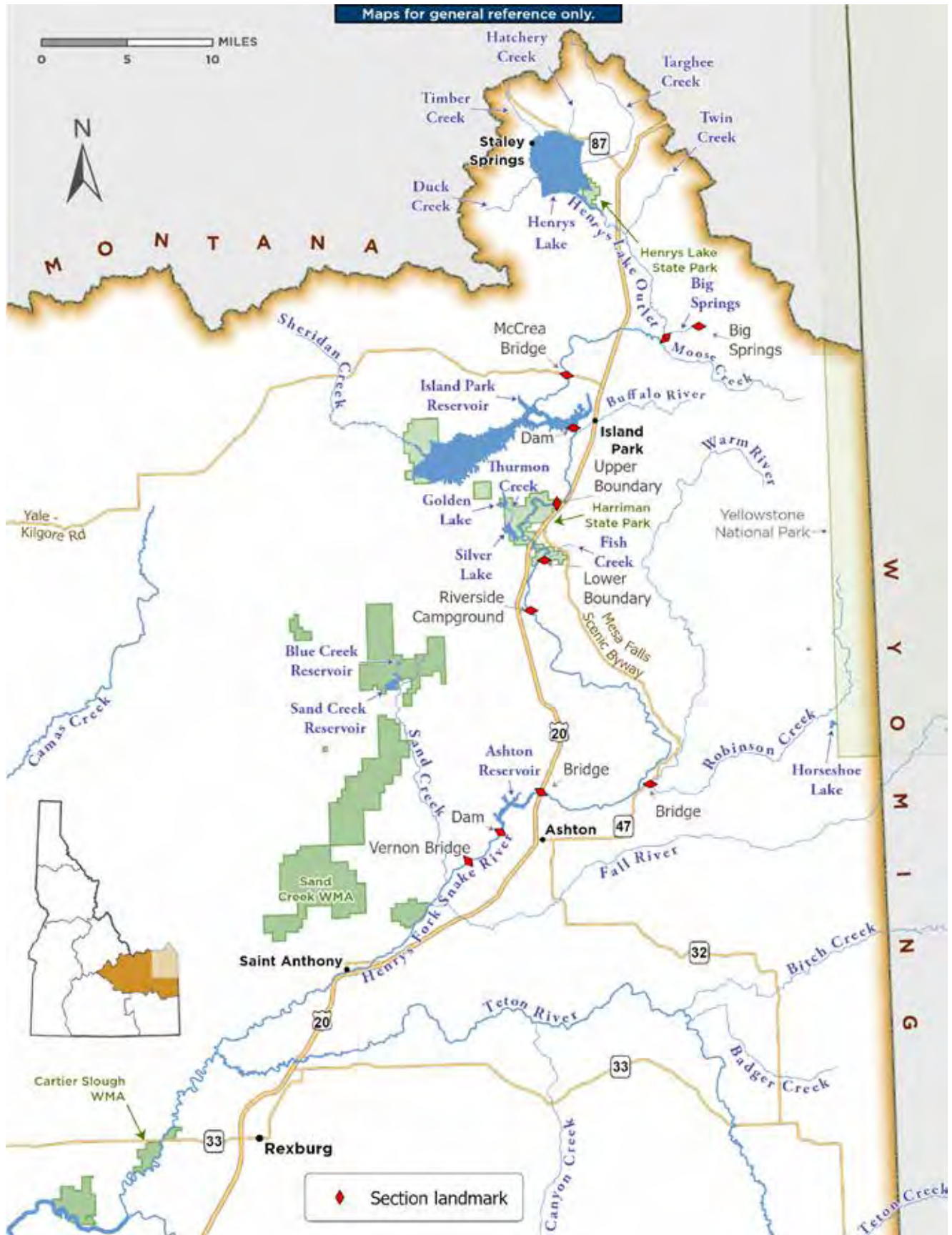
Beaver Creek and tributaries
Becker Pond (Ryder Park Pond)
Big Lost River and tributaries
Dry Beds (Snake River)
Fall River and tributaries
Fish Creek (Harriman State Park)
Golden Lake (Harriman State Park)
Hell Creek (see Willow Creek tributaries)
Henrys Fork (Snake River, North Fork)
Henrys Fork tributaries (excluding Thurmon Creek, Warm River and the Fall River)
Henrys Lake

Henrys Lake Outlet
Henrys Lake tributaries
Horseshoe Lake (Fremont County)
Jim Moore Pond
Lava Creek (see Willow Creek tributaries)
Little Lost River and tributaries
Long Lake (Custer County)
Market Lake Wildlife Management Area
McCoy Creek and tributaries
Medicine Lodge Creek and tributaries
Mud Lake
Palisades Reservoir tributaries

Ririe Reservoir
Sand Creek Wildlife Management Area
Silver Lake (Harriman State Park)
Snake River
South Fork Snake River
South Fork Snake River tributaries
Teardrop Lake (Snow Creek Pond)
Teton River and tributaries
Thurmon Creek (Harriman State Park)
Warm River and tributaries
Willow Creek
Willow Creek tributaries

HENRYS FORK FISHING MAP

See Page 43 for specific boundaries



Special Rule Waters for the Upper Snake Region

For waters not listed below, see page 41 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 – catch-and-release; (*except Brook Trout*); whitefish – catch-and-release
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 6; whitefish – 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 42)

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 – catch-and-release (*except Brook Trout*)
- 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 – catch-and-release (*except Brook Trout*)
- 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 – catch-and-release, fly fishing only, barbless hooks required

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

- Trout – catch-and-release (*except Brook Trout*)
- 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 – catch-and-release (*except Brook Trout*)
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 6

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 – catch-and-release (*except Brook Trout*)
- 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 – catch-and-release, including Brook Trout.
- 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 reduced to possession

Henrys Lake Outlet

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout – catch-and-release (*except Brook Trout*)
- 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**All Sections:**

- Bass limit is 6

Section: from 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

Ririe Reservoir

- Walleye – Harvest is encouraged. No bag, length, or possession limits, spearfishing allowed

Sand Creek Wildlife Management Area (*motorized watercraft prohibited*)**Blue Creek Reservoir, Sand Creek Pond #1, and Sand Creek Pond #2**

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 6; no boats, rafts, or float tubes allowed prior to July 16

Sand Creek Pond #3 and Sand Creek Pond #4

- December 16 through June 30 – closed to fishing
- July 1 through December 15 – trout limit is 6; no boats, rafts, or float tubes allowed before July 16

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 (*includes Burns, Palisades, Pine, and Rainey creeks and tributaries*)

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

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 (*includes Bitch, Badger, Canyon, Fox, Trail, Teton, and S Leigh creeks and tributaries*)

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

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 – catch-and-release (except Brook Trout)
- 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 – catch-and-release (except Brook Trout)
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 6, no harvest of Cutthroat Trout

Willow Creek tributaries (*includes Sellar Creek*)

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

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.




IDAHO FISH & GAME

YELLOWSTONE CUTTHROAT

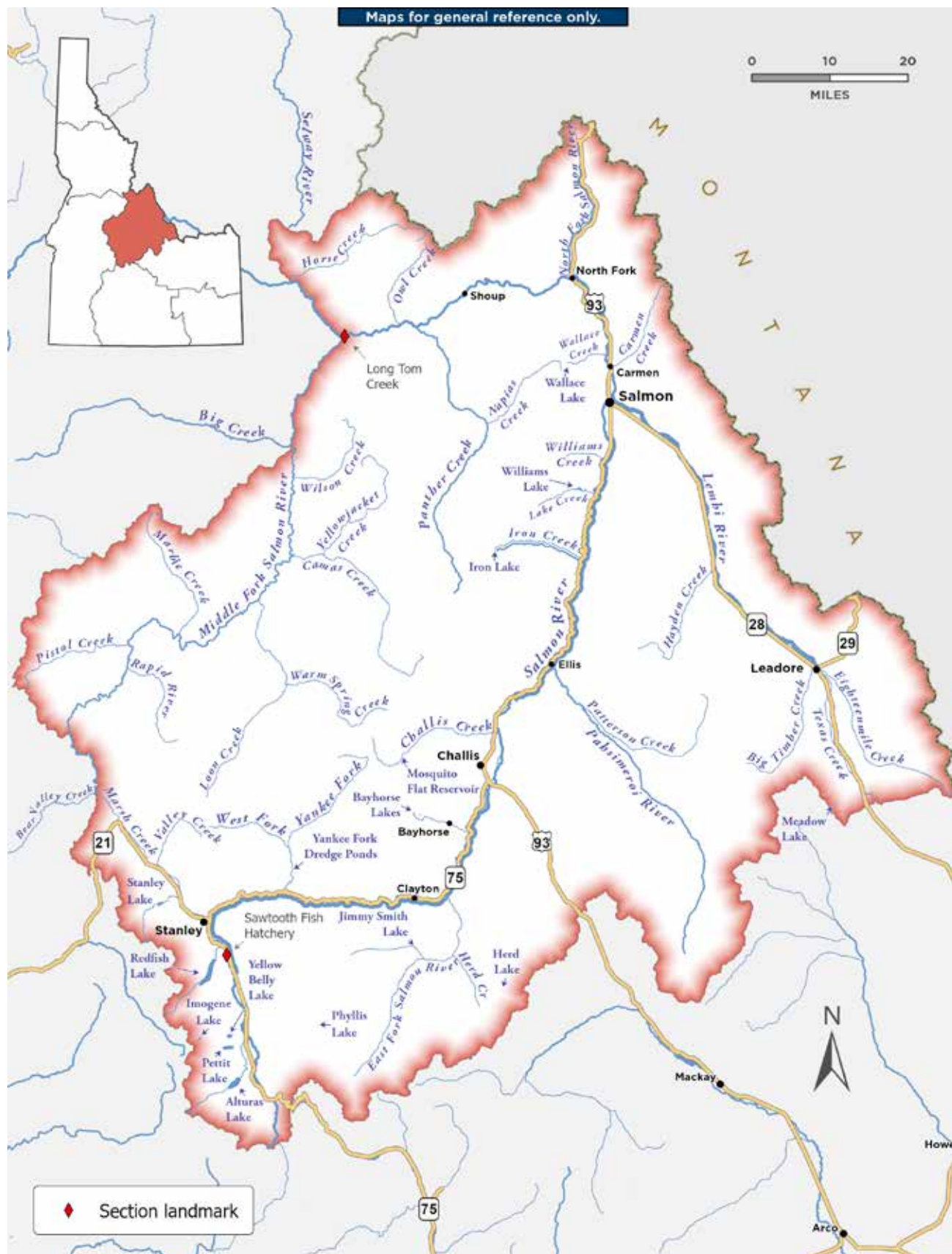
CONSERVATION PROGRAM

HARVESTING RAINBOW TROUT ON THE SOUTH FORK OF THE SNAKE RIVER CONSERVES IDAHO'S NATIVE YELLOWSTONE CUTTHROAT.

CATCHING A RAINBOW TROUT COULD NET YOU \$1,000!



SALMON REGION



Fishing Season for the Salmon Region

All Waters Open All Year, except as modified in the Special Rule Waters on Page 48.

General Daily Limits

The following daily bag limits apply to all waters of the Salmon Region except as modified in the Special Rule Waters on Page 48. The possession limit is 3-times the daily bag limit.

Bass (*Largemouth and Smallmouth*)

- In rivers and streams, no bag, length or possession limits, spearfishing allowed

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 apply when fishing for Brook Trout

Bull Trout

- Bull Trout – catch-and-release

Kokanee

- Kokanee limit is 25

Salmon (*ocean-run*)

- 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 54
- Sockeye Salmon fishing is illegal. Defined as ocean-run *Oncorhynchus nerka* longer than 14 inches in the Salmon River drainage (excluding above Mosquito Flat Dam)
- Fishing for salmon is prohibited unless a salmon season is specifically opened for that water

Steelhead (*ocean-run*)

- Defined as Rainbow Trout longer than 20 inches in the Salmon River drainage (excluding the Lemhi and Pahsimeroi rivers, lakes and reservoirs, and ponds)
- Fishing for steelhead is prohibited unless a steelhead season is specifically opened for that water (see steelhead seasons/limits on page 53)

Sturgeon

- Sturgeon – catch-and-release
- Sturgeon must not be removed from the water and must be released upon landing
- Barbless hooks, sliding swivel device to secure a weight, and a lighter test line to secure weight to sliding swivel device are required, see page 56

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

Bull Trout and Brook Trout are listed separately

Walleye

- Harvest is encouraged. No bag, length, or possession limits, spearfishing allowed.

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 apply 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, length, or possession limits

Please check for potential fish consumption advisories, see page 70.

Special Rule Waters (see Page 48 for details)

Herd Lake
Jimmy Smith Lake
Lake Creek and tributaries (Lemhi County)
Lemhi River and tributaries
Pahsimeroi River
Pettit Lake
Redfish Lake

Salmon River and tributaries
Salmon River, East Fork and tributaries
Salmon River, Middle Fork and tributaries
Salmon River, North Fork and tributaries
Salmon River, Yankee Fork and West Fork Yankee Fork

Stanley Lake
Wallace Lake
Yankee Fork Salmon River Dredge Ponds

Special Rule Waters for the Salmon Region

For waters not listed below, see Page 47 for fishing seasons, bag and possession limits, and rules that apply to all waters within the Salmon Region.

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 – 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

Pahsimeroi River

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout – 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

Pettit Lake

- January 1 through August 7 – Salmon Region general rules apply
- August 8 through December 31 – kokanee - catch-and-release

Redfish Lake

- January 1 through August 7 – Salmon Region general rules apply
- August 8 through December 31 – kokanee - 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 and South Fork Salmon River (page 27).

- 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 – 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 – 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 – catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

Salmon River, North Fork

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout – 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 – 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

it's **TROUT SLAM** *time!*

**Take on the biggest trout challenge in the West.
Catch native trout. Win prizes. Support conservation.**

A fishing challenge, at your pace, that helps Western Native Trout Initiative conserve 20 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**



RELEASING WILD SALMON AND STEELHEAD

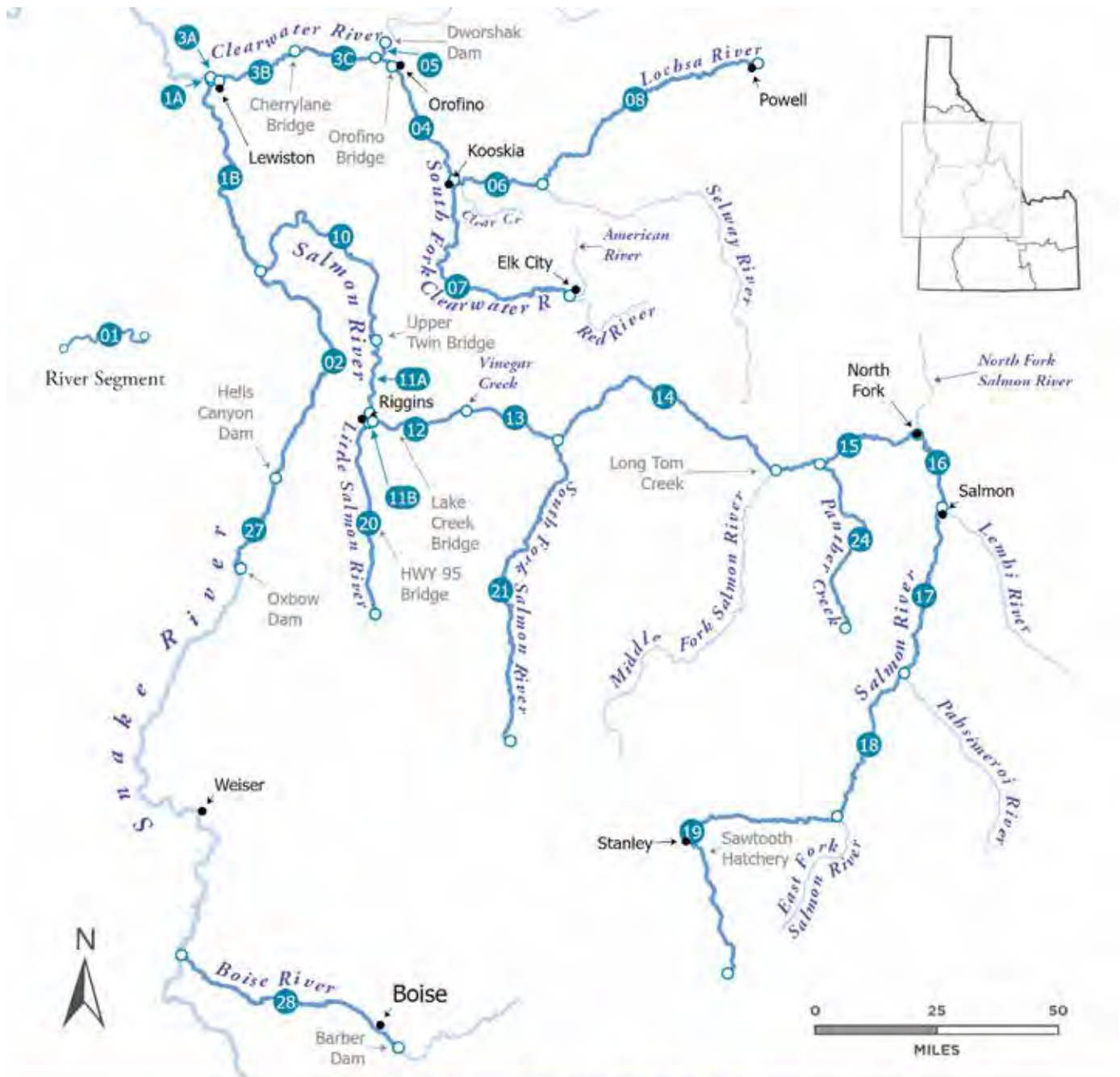


**Please help ensure the survival of
released wild salmon and steelhead.**

- Use proper-sized gear and keep fight time to a minimum
- Avoid pulling fish onto rock, sand, or dirt banks—instead, use a net or "tail" the fish
- Minimize the time out of water
- Don't handle the fish by the gills
- Revive the fish by gently holding it in the water, if necessary



Photo courtesy Ron Roberts



ANADROMOUS STEELHEAD AND SALMON RULES AND INFORMATION

SPRING AND SUMMER CHINOOK SALMON SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS WILL BE SET ANNUALLY BY 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, license vendors, or regional offices for changes to rules published in this document.



Chinook Salmon

Black mouth, black gums
Spots on entire tail fin



Sockeye

Non-spawning color is
silver to steel blue

NO FISHING ALLOWED



Coho Salmon

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



Steelhead

White mouth, white gums
Spots on entire tail fin

Anadromous (ocean-run) Fish

Salmon, Chinook: An anadromous (ocean-run) species of salmon 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: An anadromous (ocean-run) species of salmon 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).

Salmon, Sockeye: Defined as ocean-run *Oncorhynchus nerka* longer than 14 inches in the Snake River drainage below Hells Canyon Dam, the Salmon River drainage (excluding above Mosquito Flat Dam), and the Clearwater River drainage (excluding that portion above Dworshak Dam and lakes).

Sockeye Salmon fishing is prohibited.

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.

License/Permit Requirements

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 74) 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.

Fishing Rules

- 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 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.



Barbless Hook
Up to 3 points
on one shank.



Barbless Single-Pointed Hook
One point on one
shank

- 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 65.
- Fishing for salmon or steelhead is prohibited unless a season is specifically opened for the species on that water.
- 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. No jack salmon may be processed while in the field or in transit.
- 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.

Unclipped Adipose Fin

Steelhead with an unclipped adipose fin must be released. Fall Chinook Salmon and Coho Salmon with an unclipped adipose fish 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.



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. Validate their salmon or steelhead permit electronically using the GoOutdoorsID application (if using e-tagging).
- OR if using a paper permit,
2. Write in the space provided, the month and day the fish was harvested; and
3. Look up the location code number from the River Location Code list (page 50, or your permit) and write it in the space provided; and
4. Indicate species (Chinook or Coho) and adipose clip status if validating a salmon permit.

For example, a steelhead kept from the Snake River between the Salmon River and Hells Canyon Dam on October 1 would be entered as:

FISH	MONTH DAY	LOCATION CODE	MONTH DAY	LOCATION CODE	FISH
1	10/01	02			21
2					22

For example, an adipose-clipped Chinook Salmon kept from the Little Salmon River on June 1 would be entered as:

Fish	Month Day	River Location Code	Chinook	Coho	Adipose Fin Clipped?
1	06/01	20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Note:

- Anglers may retain jack salmon less than 24 inches in length as part of their bag and possession limit but they are not required to record them on their permit.
- Anglers are not required to possess or validate their salmon permit on Free Fishing Day, and any salmon harvested on free fishing day does not count toward an angler's season limit. All other seasons, daily bag and possession limits, and rules apply on Free Fishing Day.
- 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 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. Even though Coho Salmon and Chinook Salmon must be tagged on the same salmon permit, anglers are still allowed to keep daily and possession limits for each species.

Note: Salmon and steelhead seasons and limits may be changed by Commission or Director action. Please see idfg.idaho.gov, license vendors, regional offices or scan this QR code for changes to rules published in this document.



Steelhead Seasons and Limits												
River Section	Spring Season (Season limit: 20 fish) Possession limit: 3-times daily bag limit						Fall Season (Season limit: 20 fish) 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							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 20)												
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 20)												
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												

*These rivers have additional restrictions. Please refer to pages 20 - 21 for details.

Coho Salmon Seasons and Limits				
River Section	Bag/Possession Limits 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. No season limit.			
	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Clearwater River: Mouth to confluence of South Fork and Middle Fork Clearwater rivers North Fork Clearwater River: Mouth to Dworshak Dam Middle Fork Clearwater River: Mouth to Clear Creek South Fork Clearwater River: Mouth to Red River Snake River: ID/WA border to Hells Canyon Dam	Sep 1 - Dec 31			

Fall Chinook Salmon Seasons and Limits			
River Section	Bag/Possession Limits 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. No season limit.		
	Aug	Sept	Oct
Clearwater River: Mouth to Memorial Bridge	Closed	Aug 18 - Oct 31	
Clearwater River: Memorial Bridge to Orofino Bridge		Aug 18 - Oct 14	Closed Oct 15
Clearwater River: Orofino Bridge to South Fork Clearwater River		Aug 18 - Oct 31	
North Fork Clearwater River: Mouth to Dworshak Dam	Closed		Sept 1 - Oct 31
Middle Fork Clearwater River: Mouth to Clear Creek South Fork Clearwater River: Mouth to Red River Snake River: ID/WA border to Hells Canyon Dam Salmon River: Mouth to upper Vinegar Creek Boat Ramp	Closed		Aug 18 - Oct 31

Wild about Salmon and Steelhead?

To find out about Idaho's wild salmon and steelhead

- News and updates
- Conservation stories
- Science articles

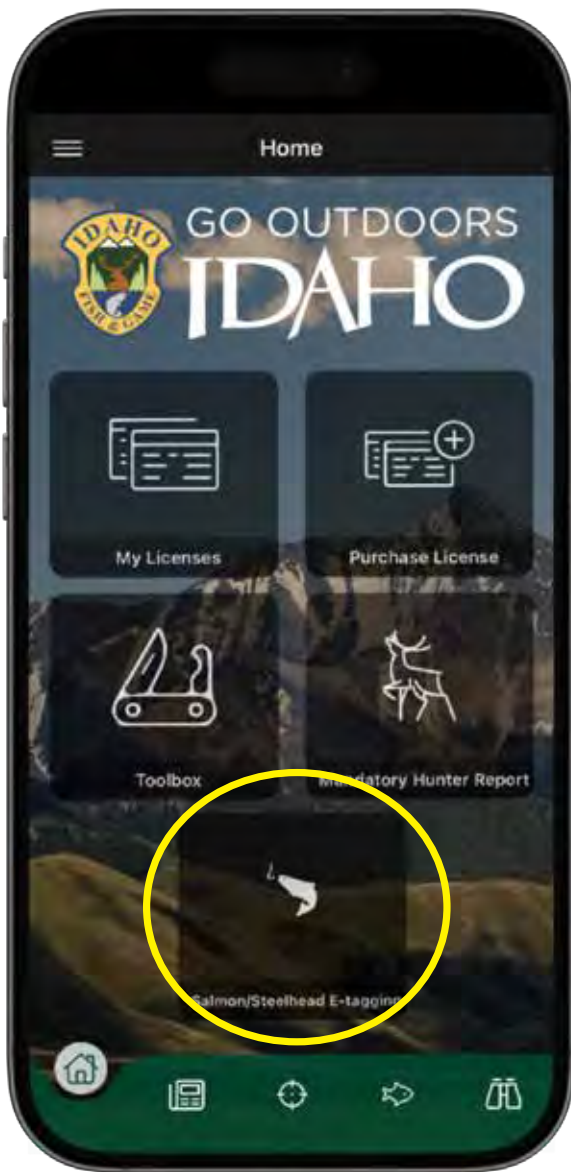
Visit: idfg.idaho.gov/fish/wild



E-TAGGING FOR SALMON & STEELHEAD NOW AVAILABLE

Fishing in Idaho just got easier

Download our **Go Outdoors Idaho** mobile app to make purchases, store licenses, and tag your salmon or steelhead catches on your phone.



SCAN ME



DOWNLOAD ON THE
Apple Store



GET IT ON
Google Play

GoOutdoorsIdaho.com



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 goal of reducing sturgeon mortality. 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.

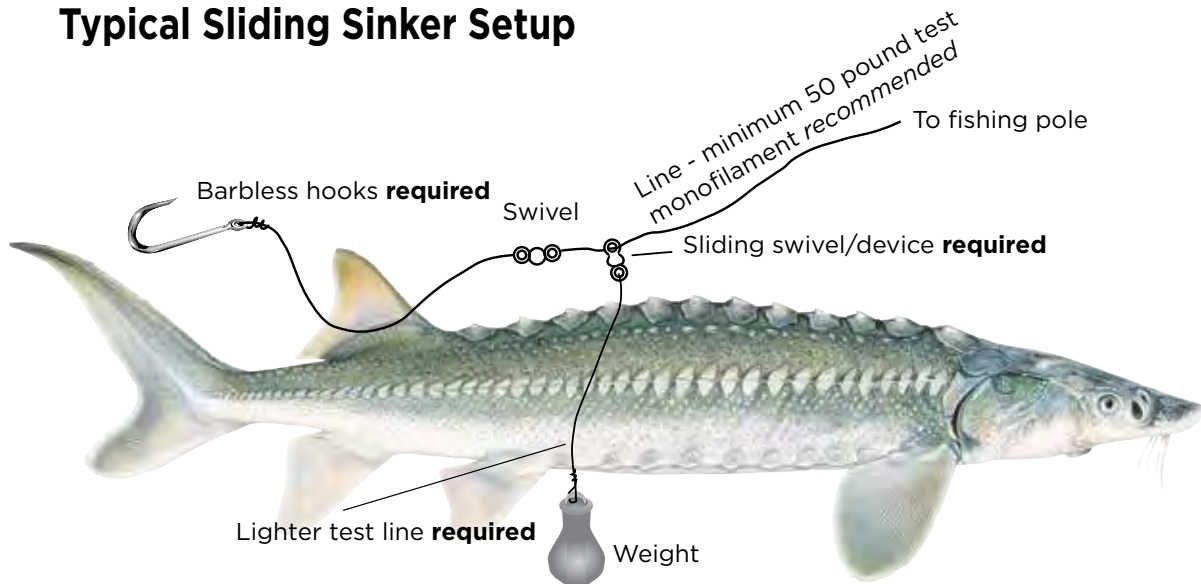
Fishing Rules

- Sturgeon must be released immediately upon landing
- Removing sturgeon from the water or having them in possession (including in a live well, on a stringer or tail rope) are prohibited.
- Fishing for sturgeon in the Kootenai River is illegal
- 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 when fishing for White Sturgeon.
- 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).

Tips

- 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.
- Sturgeon can be rolled onto their backs, positioned belly-up 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.
- 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.

Typical Sliding Sinker Setup

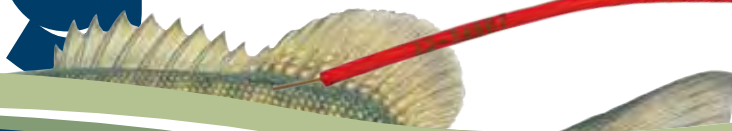




Crayfish may be taken only in waters during the season set for the taking of game fish in those waters. Review the additional rules regarding trap requirements on Page 9 under “Trapping or Seining Minnows and Crayfish”.

- A maximum of five (5) crayfish traps can be fished with a valid fishing license. Anglers may apply for a commercial fishing license should they want to use more than five traps.
- Crayfish may also be caught or harvested using your hands.
- All game fish (except yellow perch) and protected nongame fish taken while trapping or seining must be immediately released alive.
- All traps must have a tag attached bearing the owner’s name and address, license number, or sportsman identification number.
- Crayfish may be kept alive to be used as bait only in the water where captured.
- Crayfish may be transported live for personal consumption. However, live transport is NOT allowed for invasive species including: Red Claw, Yabby, Marone, Marbled, and Rusty crayfish.
- Live crayfish may only be released back to the waterbody where they were captured.

Tag You’re It!



If you catch a tagged fish



- Write down or photograph tag number(s). Some fish have 2 tags.
- Report online: tag.idaho.gov
- 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

Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Attn: Fish Tag Returns
600 S. Walnut Street/P.O. Box 25
Boise, ID 83712

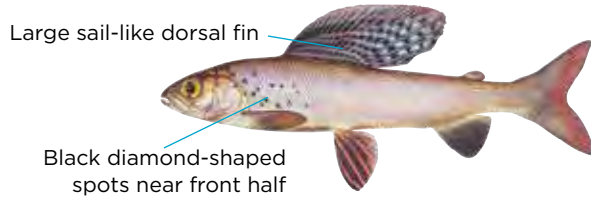
Thanks for your help!



GAME SPECIES

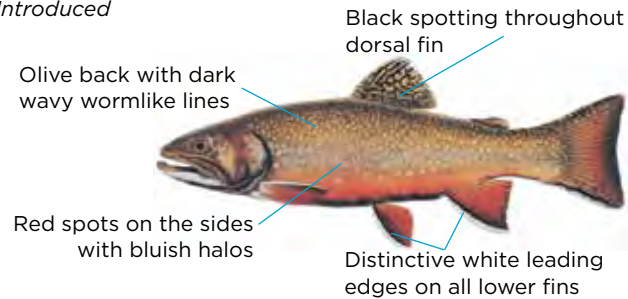
Arctic Grayling

Large scales compared to other trout. *Introduced*



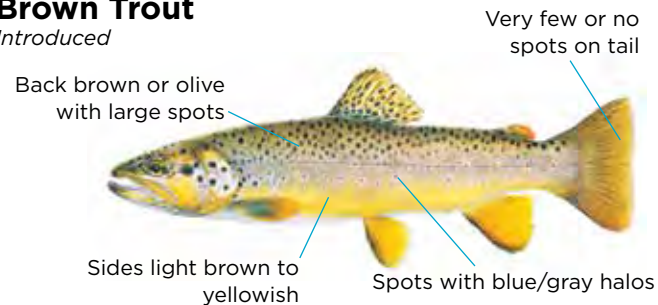
Brook Trout

Introduced



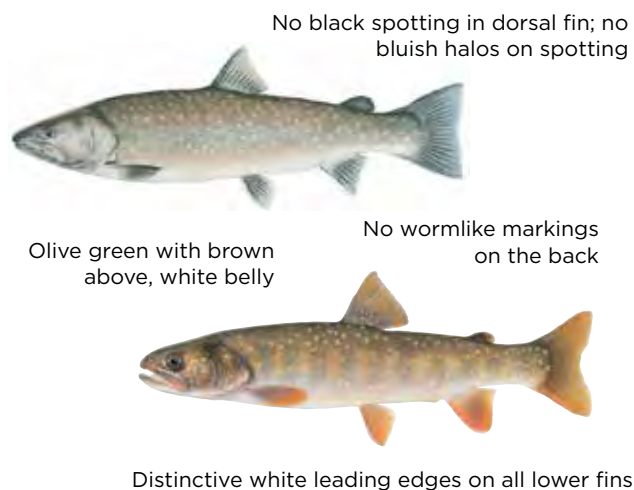
Brown Trout

Introduced



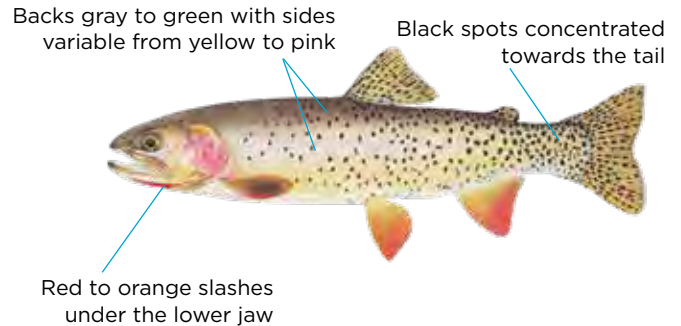
Bull Trout

Native | **NO HARVEST**



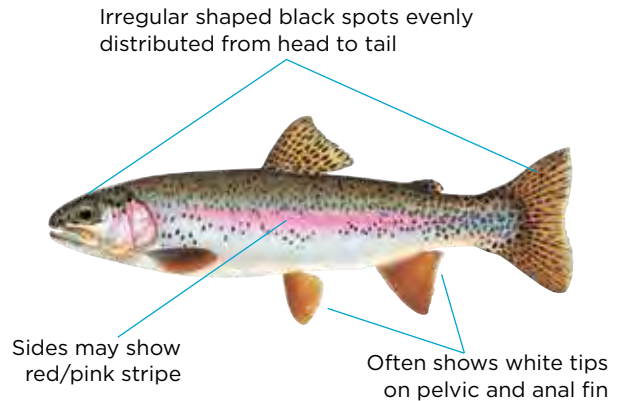
Cutthroat Trout

Native



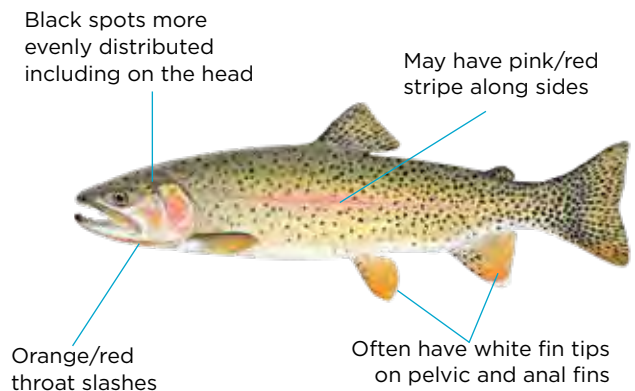
Rainbow Trout

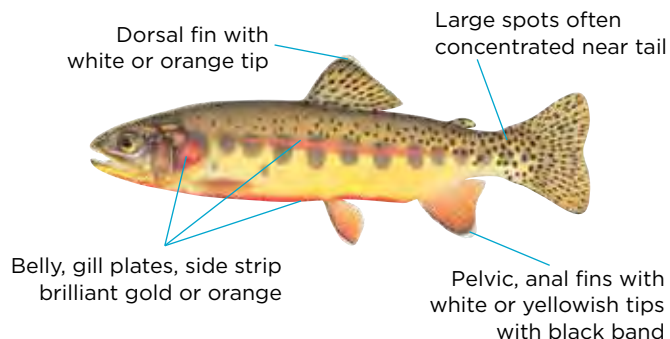
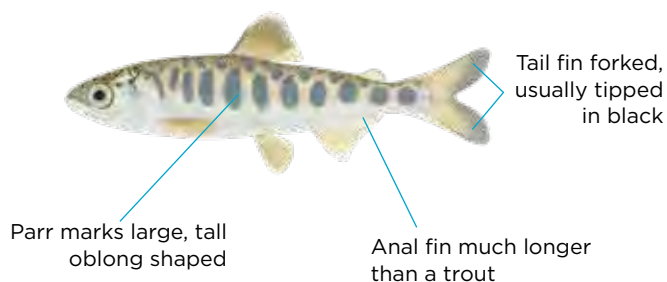
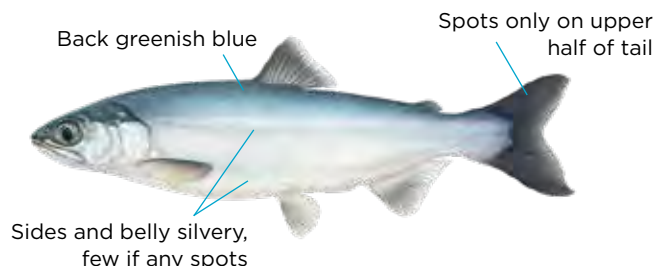
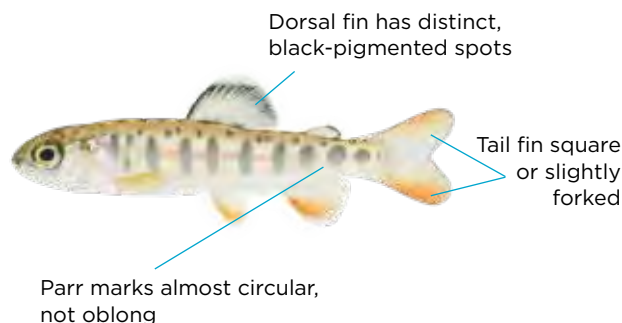
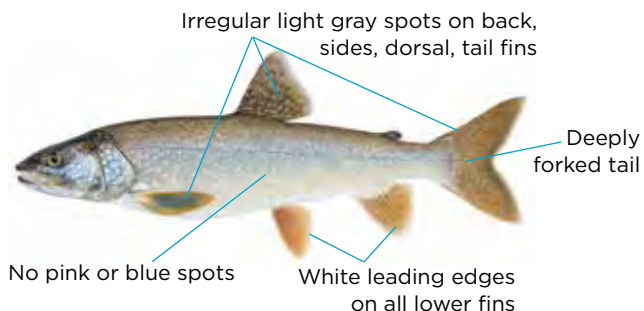
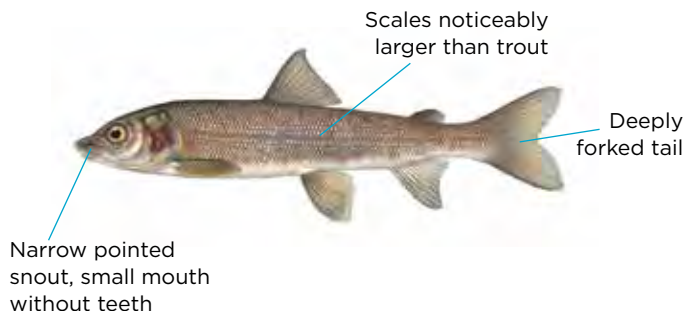
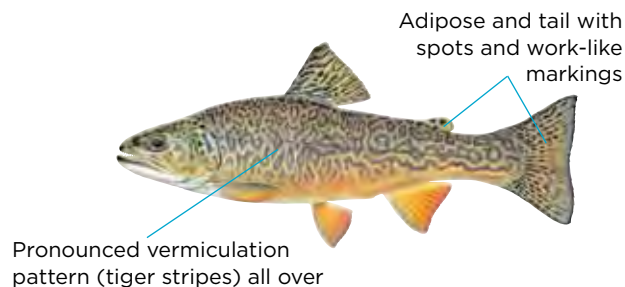
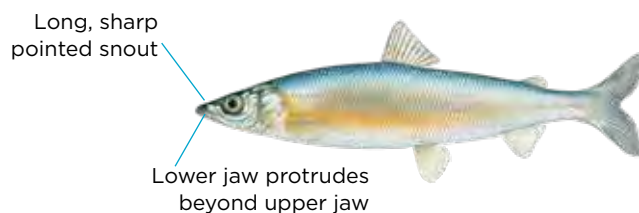
Color highly variable, often silvery in lakes. Back olive to greenish blue. *Native (Introduced in some waters)*



Cuttbow Trout (Rainbow/Cutthroat Trout Hybrid)

Color and spotting similar to Rainbow and Cutthroat trout. *Native*



Golden Trout*Introduced***Juvenile Chinook Salmon***Native* / **NO HARVEST ALLOWED** - In waters with ocean-run salmon or steelhead**Kokanee (Blueback)**Bright red sides and green heads while spawning. Native to Payette Lakes and Stanley basin, and introduced elsewhere. *Introduced statewide***Juvenile Rainbow Trout/Steelhead***Native***Lake Trout (Mackinaw)**Lives in large, deep lakes. *Introduced***Mountain Whitefish**Sides silvery white with no spots, back brown to grayish blue. Often lives in rivers with trout. *Native***Tiger Trout (Brown and Brook Trout Hybrid)***Introduced***Bonneville Cisco**Back is green to blue, sides silvery with white belly, large eyes. Golden streak along sides during spawning. Typically, less than 8 inches, found only in Bear Lake. *Native*

SALMON, STEELHEAD

Chinook Salmon

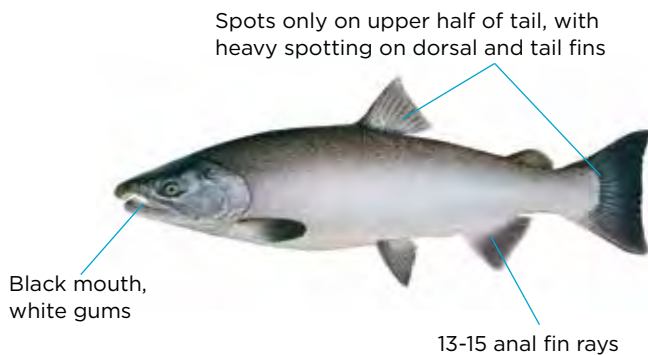
Adults 24-40 inches, irregularly shaped black spots on back, dorsal fin and tail. *Native*



See page 51 for salmon fishing information

Coho Salmon

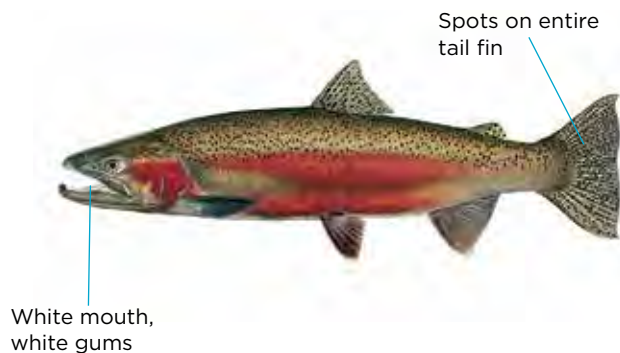
Looks similar to kokanee with spotting on back, dorsal and upper lobe tail fin. *Native*



See page 51 for salmon fishing information

Steelhead

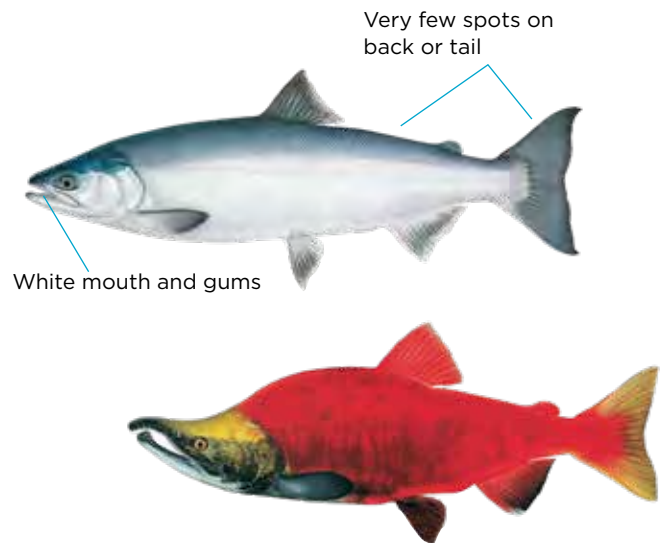
Adults typically 20-40 inches. Irregularly shaped black spots on back, dorsal fin and tail. *Native*



See page 51 for steelhead fishing information

Sockeye Salmon

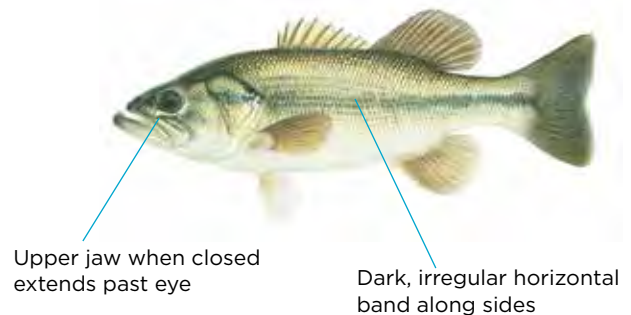
Adult 18-24 inches. Spawning adults turn bright red with greenish heads. *Native* / **NO HARVEST**



BASS, WALLEYE, PERCH, PIKE

Largemouth Bass

Dark green on back and sides, white belly. *Introduced*



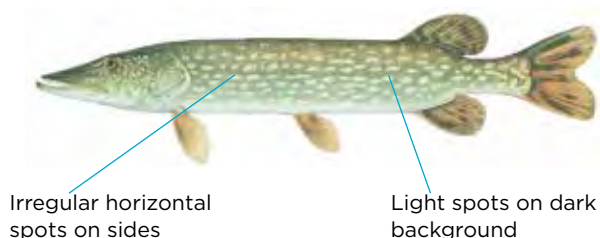
Smallmouth Bass

Dark olive to brown on back, sides bronze, white belly. Dark vertical bands on sides. *Introduced*

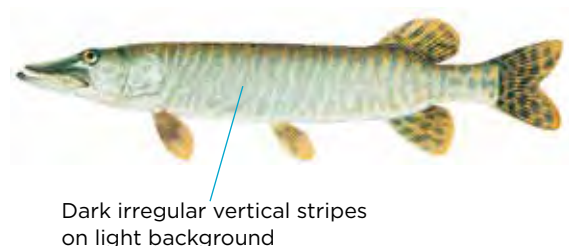


Northern Pike

Long slender body, duck-billed shaped mouth with many teeth. *Introduced*

**Tiger Muskie**

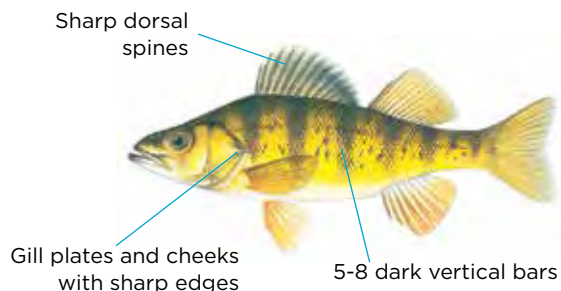
Northern Pike and Muskellunge hybrid. *Introduced*

**Walleye**

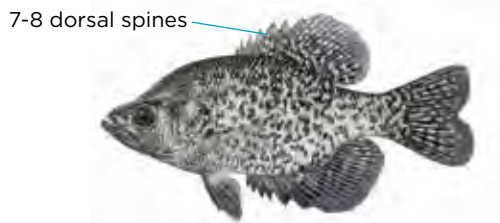
Dark green backs white belly with sharp dorsal spines. Similar shape to Yellow Perch, without vertical barring. *Introduced*

**Yellow Perch**

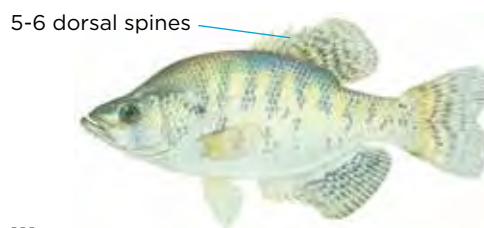
Dark green back with yellow sides. *Introduced*

**SUNFISH****Black Crappie**

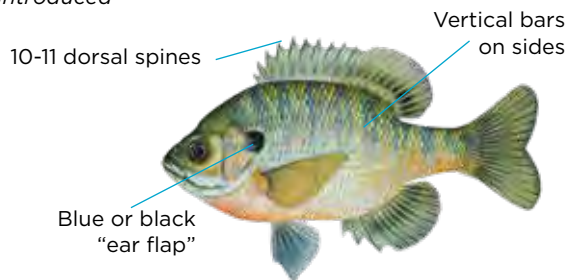
Heavy black spotting, no vertical bars. *Introduced*

**White Crappie**

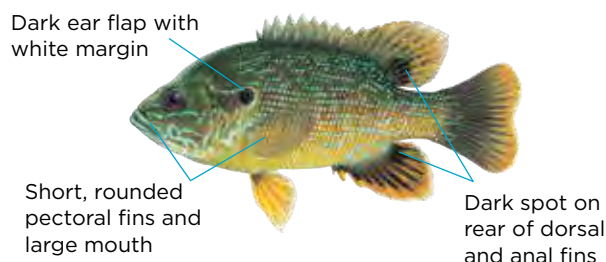
Silvery white sides with faint vertical bars. *Introduced*

**Bluegill**

Introduced

**Green Sunfish**

Back and sides bluish green, yellow or white belly. *Introduced*

**Pumpkinseed**

Yellowish sides spotted with orange, red, blue. Bright orange and blue streaks side of head. *Introduced*



CATFISH

Bullhead

Solid brown coloration with lighter belly. Typically, less than 14" long. Very smooth skin with no scales. *Introduced*



Channel Catfish

Very smooth skin with no scales. Coloration variable, olive brown to gray. *Introduced*



Flathead Catfish

Mottled brown and gray across body. *Introduced*



OTHER

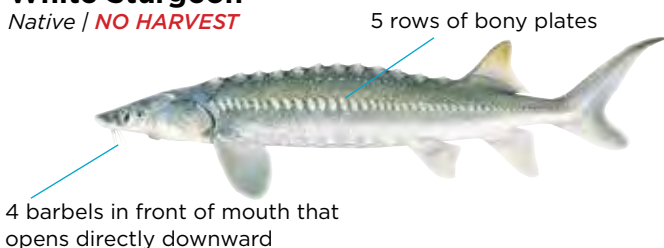
Burbot (Ling)

Long streamlined body with wide flat head, dark brown lace patterning. *Native*



White Sturgeon

Native | **NO HARVEST**

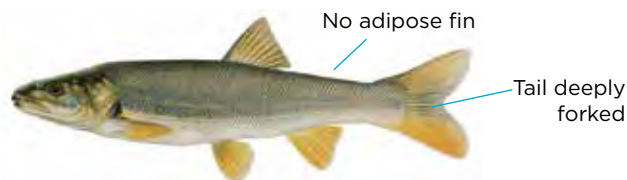


See page 56 for sturgeon fishing information

COMMON NONGAME SPECIES

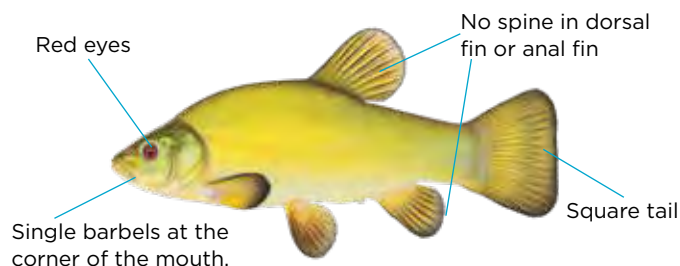
Northern Pikeminnow

Dark green back, sides silvery gray, belly yellowish white. Fins without spots or spines. *Native*



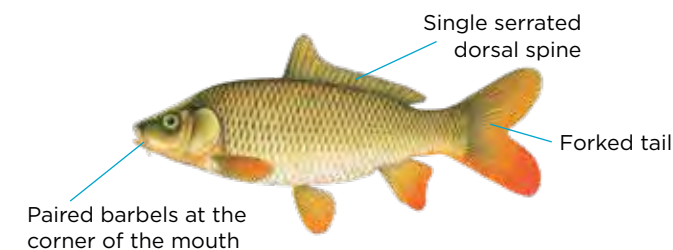
Tench

Olive green, brown, or orange in color with small scales. *Introduced*



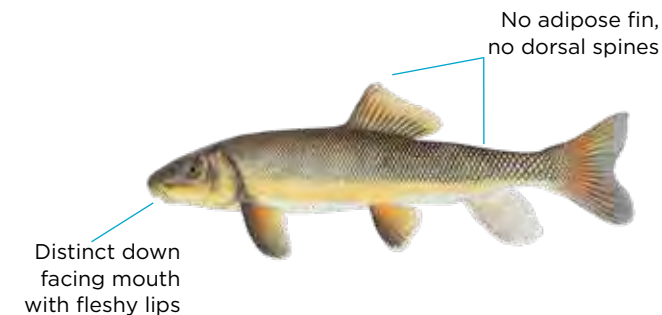
Common Carp

Olive green to gold with large scales. Resembles large goldfish. *Introduced*



Sucker

Bronze, green, or grayish on back with cream or yellowish belly. Spawning males have dark stripe along sides. *Native*



Peamouth

Dark brown or green on back; silvery white or yellowish sides and belly. Red stripe along sides during spawning time. Adults typically 6-12" long. *Native*



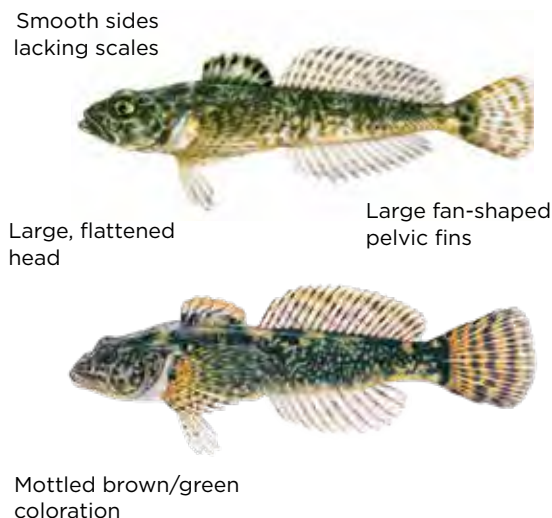
Redside Shiner

Steely blue, green or brown on back, silvery sides. Yellow and red band along side. Typically, less than 6 inches long. *Native*



Sculpin

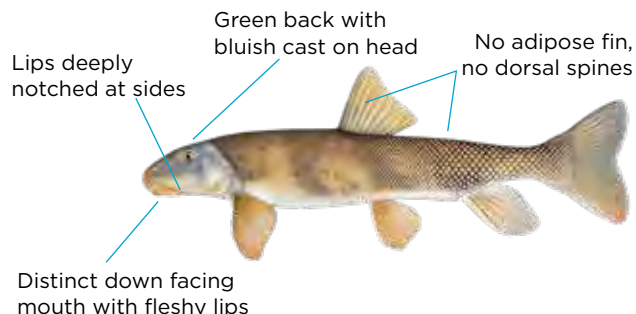
Small, bottom-oriented fish typically less than 5 inches. **Note:** Bear Lake, Shoshone, and Wood River sculpins - no harvest. *Native*



PROTECTED NONGAME SPECIES

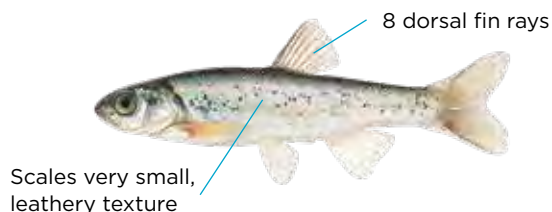
Green Sucker (also referred to as Blue Sucker)

Found only in rivers above Shoshone Falls. *Native* / **NO HARVEST**



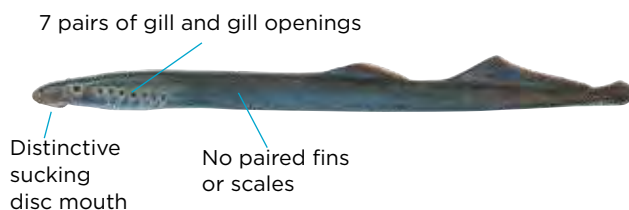
Northern Leatherside Chub

Back bluish or greenish gray, silvery sides and belly. Typically 3-7 inches. *Native* / **NO HARVEST**



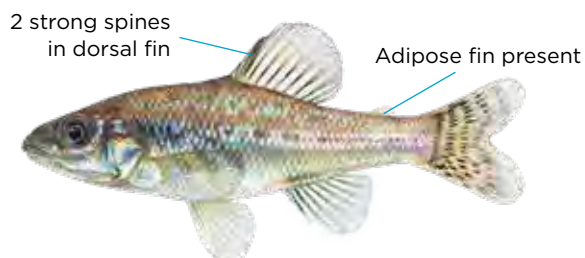
Pacific Lamprey

Cylindrical, shaped like an eel. Coloration varies from bluish gray to brown and green. *Native* / **NO HARVEST**



Sand Roller

Green back with grayish sides, white belly. Oblong dark blotches along sides. Typically, 3-4 inches. Found only in the lower Clearwater and Snake rivers. *Native* / **NO HARVEST**



GENERAL FISHING INFORMATION

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 or idfg.idaho.gov/title36.

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

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.

Bait: Organic substances, other than rubber, wood, feathers, 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.

Bait Fishing: Fishing with any organic substance defined as "bait."

Bag Limit: The maximum number of fish that may be legally harvested by any one person in one day.

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).

Boundary Waters: Waters that share a border between Idaho and neighboring states.

Bow Fishing (Archery): This includes fishing with a bow and arrow, crossbow or mechanical device (excluding firearms).

Chumming: The use of any substance not attached to a hook that is intended to attract fish.

Clipped Adipose Fin: See diagram page 52. The adipose fin must be missing or nearly missing with a healed scar where the adipose fin is supposed to be located.

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

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 or river.

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

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.

Fishing: Any effort made to take, kill, injure, capture, or catch any fish, crayfish, or bullfrog.

Fishing Shelter: Any enclosure or shelter used for fishing.

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

Float Tube: Single occupant floating device not to exceed 6 feet in any dimension that is not propelled by oars, paddles, or motors.

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

Game Fish: Game fish includes the following fish and crayfish: American shad, Arctic Grayling, Bear Lake Whitefish, Black Bullhead, Black Crappie, Blue Catfish, Bluegill and Bluegill hybrid, Brook Trout, Brown Bullhead, Brown Trout, Bull Trout, Burbot, Channel Catfish, Chinook Salmon, Cisco, Coho Salmon, Crayfish, Cutthroat trout, Flathead Catfish, Golden Trout, Green Sunfish, kokanee, Lake Trout, Largemouth Bass, Northern Pike, Pumpkinseed, Rainbow Trout, Rainbow/Cutthroat Trout hybrid (cutbow), Sauger, Smallmouth Bass, Sockeye Salmon, Steelhead, Splake, Sunapee Trout, Tiger Trout, Tiger Muskie, Walleye, Warmouth, Whitefish, White Crappie, White Sturgeon, Yellow Bullhead, Yellow Perch. See pages 58 - 62 for game fish identification.

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

Harvest: Reduce a fish to possession.

Hook: A bent wire device, for the catching of fish, to which one, two, or three points may be attached to a single shank. A treble hook is considered a single hook; exceptions may apply in some special rule waters.

Hybrid Fish: The offspring of two different species.

Ice Fishing: Fishing through an opening, broken or cut, through the ice.

Limit is Zero (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.

Maggot: An unhatched fly larva.

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

Motor: Includes electric and internal combustion motors.

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

Nongame Fish: Any fish not specifically defined as a “game fish,” including bullfrogs. Protected nongame fish include Bear Lake, Shoshone and Wood River Sculpin; Sand Roller, Northern Leatherside Chub, Bluehead Sucker (also referred to as Green Sucker), and Pacific lamprey. See page 58 - 62 for fish identification of common and protected nongame fish.

Possession: Both actual and constructive possession, and any control of the object or objects referred to; provided that wildlife (fish/crayfish) taken accidentally and in a manner not contrary to the provisions of this title shall not be deemed to be in possession while being immediately released live back to the wild. Possession includes but is not limited to any fish harvested, held in a live well or other type of enclosure, or on a stringer. Holding fish using a tether, rope or tail-rope is a form of possession and is unlawful for fish that must be immediately released. Nontarget fish taken with legal methods are not considered in possession as long as they are immediately released live back to the wild.

Possession Limit: The maximum limit in number or amount of wildlife which may be lawfully in the possession of any person. “Possession limit” shall apply to wildlife being in possession while in the field or being transported to final place of consumption or storage.

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.

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

Sliding Sinker: A method of attaching a sinker to a device that slides freely on the main line.

Spearfishing: Is limited to the taking of fish by a person while underwater, with the aid of a manually or mechanically propelled single- or multiple-pronged spear.

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.

Special Rule Waters: Any water with a gear, season, length 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.

Sunfish: Game fish species that include Bluegill, Pumpkinseed, Green Sunfish, and Warmouth.

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

Upstream: Moving from a lower elevation point in a stream

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

FISH STOCKING

Idaho Fish and Game stocks over 30-million fish from its hatcheries into rivers, lowland lakes, reservoirs and mountain lakes every year. Stocked fish include fry, fingerlings, and “catchable-sized” fish from 19 different species, including several species and strains of salmon, trout and kokanee. Most of the fish stocked in rivers and lakes are primarily Rainbow Trout and kokanee, but other fish include channel catfish, arctic grayling, Cutthroat Trout, tiger muskie and more. Stocked Rainbow Trout, including 10-12 inches, are stocked in popular fishing spots where anglers are likely to find them.

RELEASING FISH

Releasing fish may be a good way to help maintain healthy populations and quality fisheries where angling effort is high. You can do your part to increase fish survival by following these strategies to reduce stress:

- Use the proper size tackle to land the fish quickly, which can help minimize stress.
- Using barbless hooks makes removing hooks easy and minimizes damage to the fish.
- Do not squeeze the fish.
- Do not touch or hold fish by the gills, gill covers, or the eyes.
- Minimize the time fish are out of the water.
- Holding fish upside down in the water often can make them easier to handle.
- If the hook is too deep to be easily removed, cut the line for the best chance to survive.
- Revive the fish, if necessary, by gently holding it in the water.

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.

TAGGED FISH

Biologists attach “t-bar anchor tags” to various fish species throughout the state to learn more about them. This helps to understand how many fish are caught by anglers, describes fish migrations and can be used to compare survival and catch of different types of hatchery-raised fish after they are stocked. When anglers report a tag, it provides information about angler catch, survival and abundance of certain species, which helps biologists manage fish populations for better fishing.

Each tag is labeled with a unique tag number that anglers should document for reporting. Based on the type of tag found, anglers have two options to report them:

Non-reward tags:

- Report it online at tag.idaho.gov
- Tag can be removed from the fish or leave it for the next angler catch.

Reward Tags:

- If the tag says "REWARD", the tag should be removed and reported online at tag.idaho.gov
- To redeem a “REWARD” tag, mail it to: Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Attn: Fish Tag Returns, 600 S. Walnut Street/P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83712

Note: Reward tags must be mailed to Idaho Fish and Game to be paid.

HARVEST INCENTIVE AND BOUNTY PROGRAMS

Anglers can help Idaho Fish and Game remove fish that pose risks to fisheries and earn cash. Programs currently in place are for Lake Pend Oreille and portions of the Snake River. For more details on each incentive program, go to idfg.idaho.gov/fish/incentive.

Rules vary for each species, please review the details for each program or contact a Fish and Game Regional Office for more information.

FREE FISHING DAY

Idaho's Free Fishing Day is an annual event held the second Saturday of every June. All anglers, residents and nonresidents, can celebrate the day by fishing Idaho's waters without a license or salmon permit. Statewide, regional, and Chinook Salmon

seasons, rules, bag and possession limits still apply. Any Chinook Salmon harvested on free fishing day will not count towards one's season limit. Upcoming Free Fishing dates are June 14, 2025, June 13, 2026, and June 12, 2027.

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. Any person or entity that participates or conducts a fishing contest must first obtain a fishing contest permit from IDFG. Contests for participants under the age of 14 are exempt. The Department will not permit a harvest contest for wild native trout or sturgeon in rivers or streams. The Department will assess effects on fish population, compatibility with management and fishery goals, potential for conflict, and previous compliance with submitting fishing contest reports to determine whether permits will be issued. Applications can be obtained at IDFG Offices or idfg.idaho.gov/fish/tournaments. Allow a minimum of 30 days for processing.

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 length, gear, and bag limits. The range of harvest rules includes:

- General bag and length 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, length limits, or gear and bait restrictions may be applied to keep populations healthy.
- Special length and bag 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 length 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 conserve 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)



Take a Drive on the Wild Side

When you purchase a newly redesigned Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation license plate, your money supports conservation and research efforts to save and enhance Idaho's fish and wildlife populations.

Purchase your new plates today at your local DMV or online at dmvonline.itd.idaho.gov.





Jase Groesbeck of Kamiah with the current Catch-and-Release State Record for Coho Salmon, caught from the Clearwater River.

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-and-release records must be released. See tips on safely releasing fish in this booklet!

- Catch-and-release White Sturgeon records must be broken by a minimum of 2 inches. Catch-and-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

Certified Weight Records Applications Need:

- A receipt from the certified scale documenting the weight (typically 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 OR scan this QR code:



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

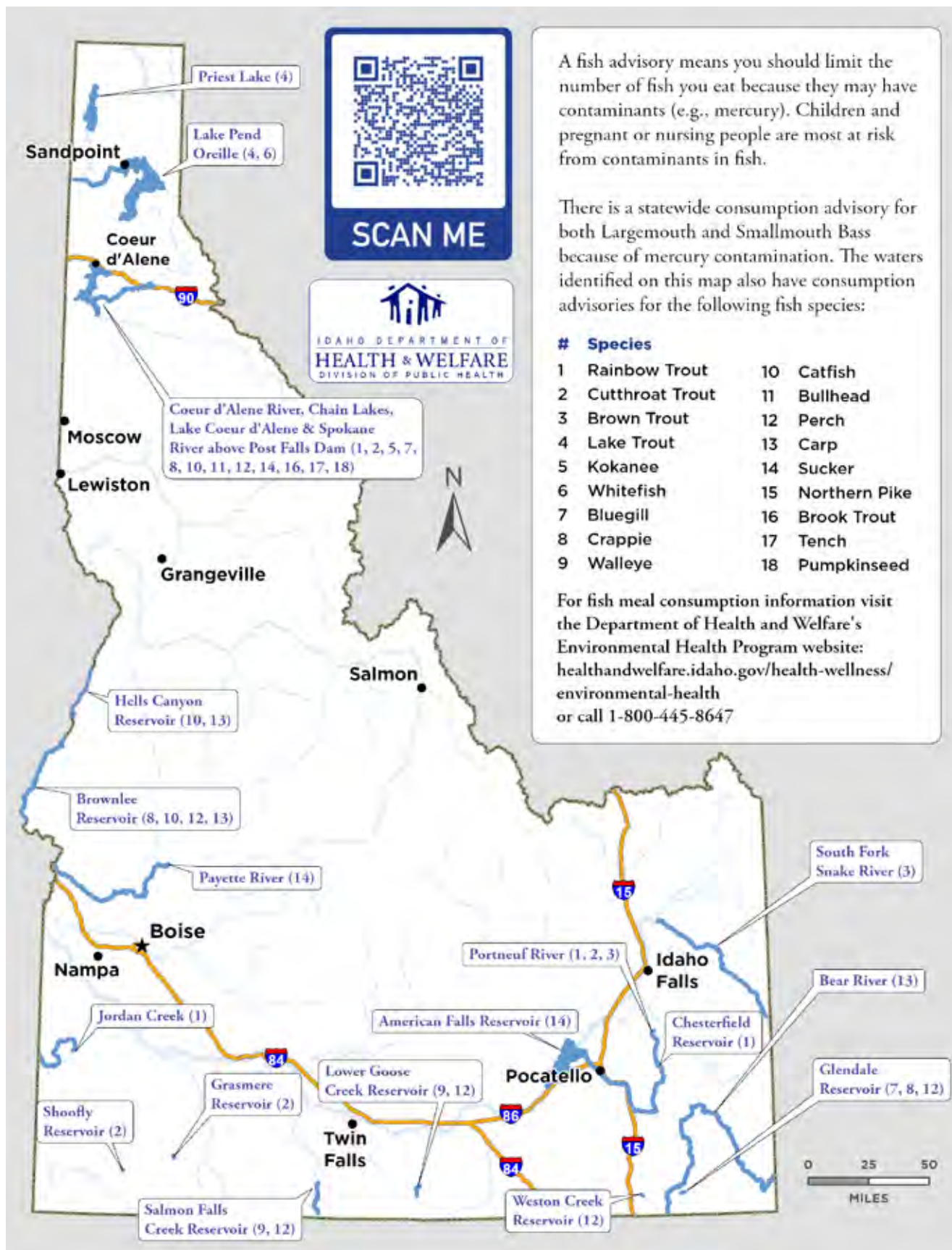
Game Fish

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 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	-	C.J. Strike Reservoir	Cody Kastner	06/16/2022
Chinook Salmon (fresh water)	42	41.25	29.75	Coeur d' Alene 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)	11.78	32.68	-	Clearwater River	Matt Hosking	10/13/2023
Cutthroat Trout -Bonneville	18.94	-	-	Bear Lake	Roger Grunig	04/30/1970
Cutthroat Trout -Lahontan	3.14	21	-	Grasmere Reservoir	Hayleigh Urban	10/05/2022
Cutthroat Trout -Westslope	0.56	11	-	Alpine Creek Lake #14	Spencer Smith	8/18/2024
Cutthroat Trout -Yellowstone	2.88	20	-	Henrys Lake	Spencer Smith	1/1/2023
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	Mary Alice Hurt Taylor	10/22/1948
Mountain Whitefish	5.9	22.5	14	Island Park Reservoir	Robert Hall	1997
Northern Pike	40.76	49	26.5	Hayden Lake	Thomas Francis	3/21/2023
Pumpkinseed	0.93	9.5	-	Chase Lake	James Milton	7/17/2023
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	9.13	27.25	-	Montpelier Reservoir	Austin Christensen	6/1/2024
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

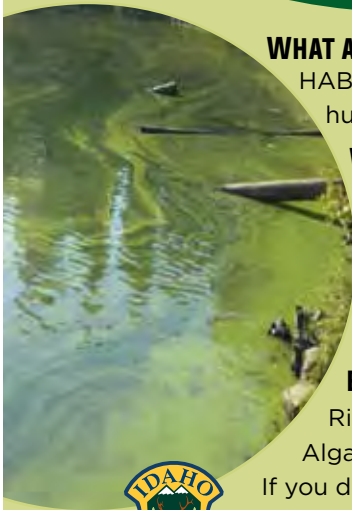
Nongame

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)	4.9	18.5	-	Snake River	Justin Brothers	04/04/2025
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	03/08/2021
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 (Rod/reel)	5.32	20.5	-	Lake Pend Oreille	Phillip Biggerstaff	06/19/2022
Tench (Archery)	6.13	22	-	Priest Lake	Ryan Gangi	7/18/2024
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

IDAHO FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORY FOR SELECTED WATERS



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, or the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare at healthandwelfare.idaho.gov.

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

ANGLERS, REMEMBER TO REGISTER YOUR BOAT ANNUALLY!
VISIT [PARKSANDRECREATION.IDAHO.GOV](https://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov) FOR MORE INFO



HELP FIGHT THE QUAGGA MUSSEL!
NON-MOTORIZED VESSELS NEED AN INVASIVE SPECIES
STICKER TOO!



VISIT [PARKSANDRECREATION.IDAHO.GOV](https://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov)
FOR INFO ON HOW TO GET YOURS

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!



FOLLOW US!



@idahofishgame



@idfg



@idahofishgame



@idahofishandgame

Licenses, Tags and Permits

Information on the following pages apply to fishing licenses and permits. For details on licenses, permits, and tags for hunting or trapping, please visit our website at idfg.idaho.gov/licenses, or review the Seasons and Rules brochure for the species you are interested in.

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 Play store 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 permits or tags, documents that require proof of disability, and lifetime certificates, may be purchased only at Fish and Game offices.

Licenses purchased online or over the phone must be printed from the buyer’s computer; they will not be mailed. However, all tags and notchable permits will be mailed, unless e-tagging is selected. A confirmation number may not be used in lieu of a tag or salmon/steelhead permit. Items sent in the mail will arrive within 7-10 business days, so customers should be mindful when placing their order for mailed items.

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.

Refund Policy

No refunds will be made on resident licenses, tags or permits. No refunds will be made on fishing licenses.

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 nonresident member of the Armed Forces of the United States or a foreign country, which includes state National Guard or Air National Guard, may obtain a resident license provided the service member presents a copy of assignment orders appropriate for the branch of service, such as “Request for Authorization for Permanent Change of Station-Military” that indicate the member is on active duty with permanent duty station in Idaho at the time of license application. The nonresident active duty member’s spouse and dependent children less than 18 years of age may obtain a resident license, provided they present a copy of the service member’s assignment orders and documentation they are a member of the active duty members household. Authorized documentation includes a marriage certificate, identification issued by the Idaho Department of Transportation indicating the same address as the active duty service member, or a current signed “Military Status and Residency Affidavit”. Members of the Armed Forces who are not residents of Idaho, and who are stationed or domiciled in Idaho fewer than 30 days immediately preceding application are not eligible for a resident license or military furlough license and must purchase nonresident licenses and tags.

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 and idfg.idaho.gov/idapa13 or contact your local Fish and game office. Persons who do not qualify as residents must purchase a nonresident license.

Resident Price Lock

Price Lock is a win-win for Idahoans and Idaho Fish and Game. We are keeping resident costs to fish, hunt and trap among the lowest in the West, and each license purchased directly funds wildlife conservation, management, and enforcement. Once enrolled, residents will need to continue to purchase an annual license each year to continue receiving discounted pricing. Some exceptions apply with certain Resident license holders and life events. Learn more at idfg.idaho.gov/licenses/pricelock or contact your local Fish and Game office.

How To Enroll in Price Lock

- Residents who had a license in 2017 and kept purchasing one every year since or have purchased a three-year license are automatically enrolled in Price Lock.
- Residents who have not purchased a license each year since 2017 can enroll by purchasing a three-year license. Then, as long as they buy a license each year, they’ll keep receiving the discounted pricing.

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.

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. Details on hunting and trapping lifetime certificates can be found at idfg.idaho.gov/licenses/lifetime.

Applicant	Combination	Hunting	Fishing	Trapping
0 - 1 year	\$795.50	\$276.75	\$601.75	\$701.75
2 - 50 years	\$1,113.00	\$386.75	\$841.75	\$981.75
51 and older	\$636.75	\$221.75	\$481.75	\$561.75





Set it and forget it.

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

Resident Fishing License, Tag and Permit Fees

Prices listed below are as of December 1, 2024. 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.

For a complete list of license, tags and permit fees available to purchase, please visit: idfg.idaho.gov/licenses

DAILY LICENSES	DAILY PRICE	DAILY WITH PRICE LOCK ¹
Daily Fishing (first day) ² - 14 years or older	\$13.50	\$11.50
Each consecutive day at initial time of purchase	\$6.00	\$5.00
YOUTH DAILY LICENSES		
Youth Fishing - 0-13 years ³	No license required. Must observe all limits and regulations.	

ANNUAL AND MULTI-YEAR LICENSES	PRICE		WITH PRICE LOCK ¹	
	ANNUAL	3-YEAR ⁴	ANNUAL	3-YEAR ⁴
ADULT LICENSES: 18 YEARS OR OLDER				
Fishing	\$30.50	\$73.75	\$25.75	\$73.75
Disabled Fishing ⁵	\$5.75	\$11.50	\$5.00	\$11.50
Military Furlough Fishing	\$20.50	N/A	\$17.50	N/A
Combination (Hunting & Fishing)	\$38.75	\$97.00	\$33.50	\$97.00
Disabled Combination ⁵	\$5.75	\$11.50	\$5.00	\$11.50
Military Furlough Combination	\$20.50	N/A	\$17.50	N/A
Sportsman's Package - includes adult combination license plus deer, elk, turkey, bear, gray wolf and mountain lion tags, and archery, muzzleloader, salmon and steelhead permits.	\$144.60	N/A	\$124.25	N/A
SENIOR LICENSES: 65 YEARS OR OLDER				
Senior Combination (Hunting & Fishing)	\$13.75	\$31.75	\$11.75	\$31.75
YOUTH LICENSES				
Youth Fishing - 0-13 years ³	No license required. Must observe all limits and regulations.			
Junior Fishing - 14-17 years	\$16.00	\$37.75	\$13.75	\$37.75
Junior Combination (Hunting & Fishing) - 14-17 years	\$19.75	\$49.00	\$17.50	\$49.00
Sportsman's Package - includes adult combination license plus deer, elk, turkey, bear, gray wolf and mountain lion tags, and archery, muzzleloader, salmon and steelhead permits.	\$144.60	N/A	\$124.25	N/A

ANNUAL ACCESS-DEPREDAATION FEE ⁶ <i>Required one-time fee for annual and 3-year license holders</i>	PRICE		WITH PRICE LOCK ¹	
	ANNUAL	3-YEAR ⁴	ANNUAL	3-YEAR ⁴
Adults - 18 years or older	\$5.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$10.00
Jr./Sr./DAV/Furlough	\$2.00	\$4.00	\$2.00	\$4.00

PERMITS <i>Requires a valid license before purchasing</i>	PRICE		WITH PRICE LOCK ¹	
	ANNUAL	3-YEAR ⁴	ANNUAL	3-YEAR ⁴
Salmon or Steelhead Permit	\$15.25	N/A	\$12.75	N/A
Two-Pole Permit	\$15.00	N/A	\$13.75	N/A

Resident Notes:

- ¹ Customers who held a license in 2017 and have consistently purchased a license each year are currently in Price Lock. This includes 3-year license holders. Resident customers that are not currently in Price Lock, can opt-in by purchasing a 3-year license and then continue to purchase a license each year following the expiration date of their current license. Price lock is only available to Idaho residents.
- ² Price Lock on daily fishing is only available as long as the customer has a current year annual or a valid multiyear license. Otherwise customer must pay fees in column 1.
- ³ Resident children from 0-13 years of age, do NOT need to purchase a daily or annual fishing license. They can keep their own daily bag limit, can purchase a salmon/steelhead permit to keep their own limit of salmon/steelhead, and purchase a 2-pole permits.
- ⁴ 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.
- ⁵ Disability must be certified by a medical doctor on a Fish and Game form.
- ⁶ 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. This fee helps improve hunting and fishing access and provides more resources to manage big game and depredation impacts.



GET MORE FOR LESS

SAVE 38% WHEN YOU PURCHASE THE SPORTSMAN'S PACKAGE*

***LICENSE AVAILABLE FOR RESIDENTS ONLY**

PACKAGE INCLUDES AN ADULT COMBINATION LICENSE PLUS PERMITS AND TAGS FOR DEER, ELK, BEAR, MOUNTAIN LION, WOLF, TURKEY, SALMON AND STEELHEAD. LEARN MORE AT [IDFG.IDAHO.GOV/LICENSES/FEES-RESIDENT](https://idfg.idaho.gov/licenses/fees-resident)



Enjoy your season and remember...

Photo courtesy: WAFWA/RBFF

- **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.

Nonresident Fishing License, Tag and Permit Fees

Prices listed below are as of December 1, 2024. 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.

For a complete list of license, tags and permit fees available to purchase, please visit: idfg.idaho.gov/licenses

DAILY LICENSES	DAILY PRICE
Daily Fishing (first day) ² - 14 years or older	\$22.75
Each consecutive day at initial time of purchase	\$7.00
Three-day Salmon/Steelhead	\$44.75
YOUTH DAILY LICENSES	
Youth Fishing - 0-13 years ¹	No license required. Must fish with an adult Idaho license holder, and their harvested catch must be included in the adult license holder's limit.

Nonresident Notes:

¹ Nonresident children from 0-13 years of age, do NOT need to purchase a fishing license and must be accompanied by the holder of a valid Idaho fishing license, and their harvested catch must be included in the adult license holder's limit OR, they may purchase a nonresident license and have their own limit.

² 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.

³ 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.

⁴ 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. This fee helps improve hunting and fishing access and provides more resources to manage big game and depredation impacts.

ANNUAL AND MULTI-YEAR LICENSES	ANNUAL PRICE	3-YEAR PRICE
ADULT LICENSES: 18 YEARS OR OLDER		
Fishing	\$108.00	\$291.25
Combination (Hunting & Fishing)	\$264.00	\$788.50
Hunting - includes three-day fishing license each year of license	\$185.00	\$551.50
Disabled American Veteran Hunting (DAV) ² - includes three-day fishing license	\$31.75	N/A
YOUTH LICENSES		
Youth Fishing - 0-13 years ¹	No license required. Must fish with an adult Idaho license holder, and their harvested catch must be included in the adult license holder's limit.	
Junior Fishing - 14-17 years	\$23.75	\$67.75
Junior Mentored Hunting ³ - 10-17 years - includes three-day fishing license	\$91.75	\$271.75

ANNUAL ACCESS-DEPREDATION FEE ⁴ <i>Required one-time fee for annual and 3-year license holders</i>	ANNUAL PRICE	3-YEAR PRICE
Adults - 18 years or older	\$10.00	\$20.00
Jr./Sr./DAV/Furlough	\$4.00	\$8.00

PERMITS <i>Requires a valid license before purchasing</i>	ANNUAL PRICE
Salmon or Steelhead Permit	\$28.25
Two-Pole Permit	\$17.00



If you have information about
a wildlife violation,

**Make The Call:
1-800-632-5999**



Photo: CC-BY Martin Koenig for IDFG

- The Citizen's Against Poaching (CAP) Hotline is open 24/7/365.
- Callers can remain anonymous, and may be eligible for a cash reward.
- The more details a caller can provide, the better! Examples: License plates, suspect descriptions, dates/times, locations, and wildlife involved.

• DON'T CRAMP THE RAMP •

Boat ramps can be crowded and hectic during peak times when boaters are launching and retrieving their craft. To make things go smoothly, please do these things:

- ♦ Load all your gear, or as much as possible, before you approach the ramp, and leave the ramp as quickly as possible. When trailering your boat, clear the ramp immediately and use the parking area to prep your boat for travel.
- ♦ Make sure the plug is in your boat.
- ♦ If launching kayaks, canoes, and other boats that don't require a trailer, use the edges of the ramp so trailered boats can be launched and retrieved at the same time.
- ♦ Don't use the boat ramp or adjacent dock as a fishing, lounging or picnic spots.
- ♦ Be patient and helpful. Complaining or being confrontational isn't likely to speed up the process, but it can spoil a good day on the water.



idfg.idaho.gov

¡Ve de pesca este año!

Compra su licencia de pesca antes de que vayas.

- Todos los pescadores mayores de 14 años deben tener una licencia de pesca. Niños menores de 14 años pescan gratis
- Compra su licencia de pesca en oficinas de Fish and Game, varios vendedores locales, o en línea en **GoOutdoorsIdaho.com**.
- Utilice su teléfono inteligente para descargar la aplicación de Go Outdoors Idaho para más información. Búscalo en Google Play o App Store.

