



Fishing Regulations



Two Jack Lake, Banff National Park / S. Martin

Egalement offert en français

**Mountain National Parks
in Alberta and British Columbia**
April 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023



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

Jasper National Park (JNP)

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

- Ban on felt-soled wading boots.

OPEN SEASONS - Rivers and Streams

Year Round Sunwapta River.

April 1 to September 5 and November 1 to March 31

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

July 30 to October 2

Fly fishing only: Maligne River from a point 420 m downstream from the Maligne Lake Outlet bridge to Medicine Lake including that part of Medicine Lake within a 180 m radius of a point in the middle of the Maligne River where it enters Medicine Lake. **Use artificial flies only.**

July 1 to September 5

All other rivers and streams except closed waters.

OPEN SEASONS - Lakes

May 21 to September 5

Annette Lake, Beaver Lake, Dragon Lake, Long Lake, Lorraine Lake, Moab Lake, Mona Lake, No Name Lake (Hwy 93 south, km 48), Pyramid Lake, Lakes Three, Four and Five in the Valley of the Five Lakes.

May 21 to October 2

Maligne Lake, Talbot Lake, Edna Lake.

July 1 to October 31

Fly fishing only: Medicine Lake. **Use artificial flies only.**

July 1 to October 31

All other lakes except closed waters.

OPEN SEASONS - Athabasca River

(Note: the Athabasca River has three fisheries management zones.)

Zone 1: From Athabasca Falls upstream

Year Round

Zone 2: From 12 Mile Bridge (km 22, Hwy 16 East) upstream to Athabasca Falls

April 1 to September 5 and November 1 to March 31

Zone 3: From 12 Mile Bridge (km 22, Hwy 16 East) downstream to east park boundary, including all side channels, Pocahontas Ponds and other connected wetlands

June 1 to September 5 and November 1 to March 31

CLOSED WATERS

- Maligne Lake Outlet/Maligne River (the portion including the part of Maligne Lake within a 100 m radius of a point in the middle of the Maligne River where it leaves Maligne Lake, to a point 420 m downstream from the Maligne Lake Outlet bridge);
- Jacques Lake and Jacques Lake Outlet stream between Jacques Lake and the Rocky River;
- Mile 9 (km 15) Lake, Hwy 16 (East);
- All streams emptying into Amethyst Lake;
- That part of Amethyst Lake situated within a 180 m radius from a point in the middle of the outlet stream from the southeast end of Amethyst Lake;

- That part of the Astoria River situated between Amethyst Lake and a point 400 m downstream from Amethyst Lake;
- Osprey Lake;
- The outlet stream from Moab Lake to its junction with the Whirlpool River, including that part of Moab Lake situated within a 180 m radius of a point in the middle of the outlet stream where it leaves Moab Lake;
- The outlet stream from Beaver Lake to its junction with Maligne Lake Road

FOR CURRENT INFORMATION

parksCanada.gc.ca/jasperfishing



Mount Revelstoke and Glacier National Parks (MRGNP)

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

- Ban on felt-soled wading boots.

OPEN SEASONS

July 1 to October 31

All lakes.

CLOSED WATERS

All rivers and streams.

FOR CURRENT INFORMATION

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



Waterton Lakes National Park (WLNP)

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

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

BOATING RESTRICTIONS

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

OPEN SEASONS

May 21 to September 5

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

July 1 to October 31

All other waters except closed waters.

CLOSED WATERS

- Sofa Creek, Dungarvan Creek, Maskinonge Lake and Inlet;
- Blakiston/Bauermaan creeks and their tributaries;
- North Fork Belly River and its tributaries.

FOR CURRENT INFORMATION

parksCanada.gc.ca/waterton-fishing



Banff National Park (BNP)

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

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

OPEN SEASONS

Year Round

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

May 21 to September 5

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

July 1 to August 31

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

July 1 to October 31

Cascade River and tributaries above Lake Minnewanka reservoir (excluding closed waters).

July 1 to August 15

Owen Creek.

July 1 to October 31

All other waters except closed waters.

CLOSED WATERS

The following waterbodies are closed to water activities including fishing.

Bow River from Bow Lake outlet to Hector Lake inlet; Babel Creek; Johnson Lake reservoir and surrounding waters including outflow creek to confluence with Cascade River; Helen Creek; Little Herbert Lake; Marvel Lake; Mystic Lake and outlet downstream to confluence with 40-mile Creek; Outlet Creek; Sawback Lake; Sawback Creek; Rainbow Lake; Elk Lake; Cuthead Creek; Spray River above Spray Lakes reservoir; Castleguard River - the upper portion of the river located in the Zone 1 - Special Preservation Area; Cave and Basin marsh system; Fish Lakes - the two Fish Lakes nearest campsite Mo 18; Lake Agnes; Luellen Lake - outflow stream from fisheries' boundary markers, downstream to the confluence of the outflow stream and Johnston Creek; Marvel Lake and outlet downstream to confluence with Bryant Creek; all tributaries and associated lakes in the Clearwater and Siffleur river systems, excluding Isabella Lake.

FOR CURRENT INFORMATION

parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-fishing



Kootenay National Park (KNP)

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

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

OPEN SEASONS

May 20 to September 4

Cobb Lake, Olive Lake.

June 15 to October 31

Kootenay River, Vermilion River.

July 1 to September 4

Dog Lake, Kaufmann Lake.

July 1 to October 31

All other waters.

FOR CURRENT INFORMATION

parksCanada.gc.ca/kootenay-fishing



Yoho National Park (YNP)

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

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

OPEN SEASONS

Year Round

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

May 21 to September 5

McArthur, Ottertail, Summit, Sink and Wapta Lakes.

July 15 to October 31

North bay of Lake O'Hara and Cataract Brook for 1.6 km downstream from Lake O'Hara.

July 1 to October 31

All other waters except closed waters.

CLOSED WATERS: Yoho Pond

FOR CURRENT INFORMATION

parksCanada.gc.ca/yoho-fishing



Boating Restrictions for Banff, Yoho, and Kootenay National Parks

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

ATTENTION WATER ENTHUSIASTS

Preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species requires everyone's support. **Clean, drain and dry** all watercraft and water gear before entering a new waterbody.

Report all sightings of aquatic invasive species and fish with whirling disease:

403-762-1470 or 1-855-336-BOAT (2628)

Preventing invasive mussels from entering waterways is a Parks Canada priority. If they arrive, removal is next to impossible.



Quagga Mussels

1 - 2 cm

Invasive Mussels

Quagga and Zebra mussels are small, fan-shaped, and range from dark brown to white in colour. Just a few mussels can produce millions of eggs. They are very efficient at filtering nutrients from the water, leaving no food for native species. Dense colonies of mussels can clog water pipes and make the shoreline unusable because of their sharp shells and odour.

Current information:
parksCanada.ca/banff-quagga



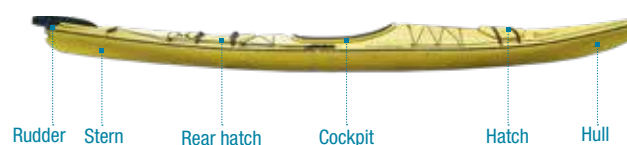
Whirling Disease

Whirling Disease

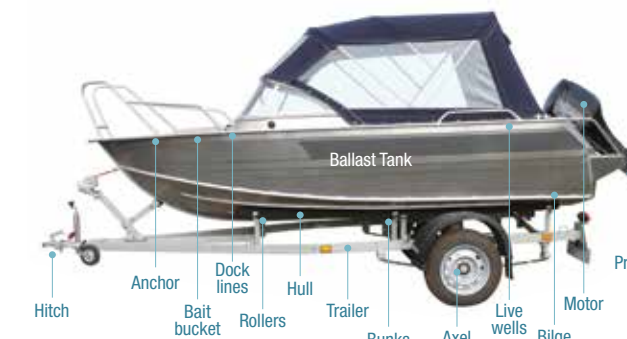
Whirling disease is caused by a parasite that causes skeletal deformities of an infected fish's body or head, usually in young fish, and the tail may appear dark or black. The disease can be spread to other waterbodies through spores in mud. This disease is not harmful to humans or other mammals but can have significant effects on some fish populations.

Current Information:
parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-whirling

Check Hiding Spots for Aquatic Invasive Species



CLEAN and inspect watercraft and gear. Feel for very small bumps that could be juvenile mussels attached to your equipment. Remove all mud, sand, plant materials before leaving the shore. Rinse scub, or pressure wash. Use hot water if possible.



DRAIN on land before leaving the waterbody. Drain by inverting or tilting the watercraft, opening compartments and removing seats if necessary.



DRY the watercraft and gear completely between trips and allow all areas to dry. Leave compartments open and sponge out standing water.

Photo: Quagga Mussel - CC: Ministry of Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Change

Canada National Parks Act General Fishing Regulations

IT IS UNLAWFUL TO:

- Fish without a valid national park fishing permit in your immediate possession.
- Fish with or possess within 100 metres of park waters the following:
 - natural bait and chemical attractants;
 - any lead tackle (sinkers, jigs, lures and flies) under 50 grams;
 - lures with more than 2 gang hooks;
 - a line capable of catching more than one fish at one time;
 - live or dead fish or any parts thereof for use as bait.
- Fish by any method other than angling.
- Fish with more than one line at a time.
- Fish with a line having more than one artificial fly.
- Fish closed waters.
- Leave a fishing line unattended.
- Fish from 2 hours after sunset to one hour before sunrise.
- Sell, trade or barter any fish caught.
- Place or transfer any fish or fish eggs between any park waters.
- Place any food for fish in park waters.
- Harass fish by throwing objects or impeding their movements
- When fishing in park waters that allow possession (see Catch and Possession Limits), it is unlawful to:
 - possess more than 2 game fish at one time;
 - continue fishing on any day after having caught and retained the maximum daily catch and possession limit;
 - allow your catch to spoil or to be wasted.

Report suspicious activities.

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

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

NOTE: This brochure is NOT a complete listing of National Parks Fishing Regulations and has no legal status. For a complete listing go to: laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/C.R.C.,_c._1120/index.html



Check Your Tackle Box!

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

Fishing Permits

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

Definitions

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

Artificial fly: A single or double hook on a common shank, dressed with silk, tinsel, wood, fur, feathers or other materials (no lead), or any combination thereof without a spinning device, whether attached to the hook or line.

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

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

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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

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

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

Waterton Lakes National Park: 403-859-2224
email: waterton.info@pc.gc.ca

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

Catch and Possession Limits

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

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

SPECIES	LIMIT
Lake trout from Lake Minnewanka reservoir	2
All other species: BNP, YNP, KNP	0
Arctic grayling, rainbow trout, brown trout, brook trout, lake trout, northern pike, mountain whitefish, lake whitefish: JNP, MRGNP, WLNP	2
Lake and mountain whitefish from Lac Beauvert, JNP	0
Cutthroat trout: JNP, *WLNP	2
* WLNP - Exceptions with zero (0) limit: Belly River and Waterton River and their tributaries, Upper, Middle, and Lower Waterton Lakes, Goat Lake	0
Cutthroat trout: all other parks	0
All species not mentioned above	0
Maximum daily catch and possession limit	2

(If a fish has been filleted, two filets will be considered one fish.)



9 TIPS

Help Released Fish Survive

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

- Minimize the time you play a fish. A fish played too long may not survive even if released. Always bring fish up from depth slowly. Fish brought up too quickly will rupture their air bladders and die.
- Keep the fish in the water at all times when handling and releasing.
- Handle the fish with bare, wet hands. Keep fingers away from the gills and do not squeeze to avoid injuring the fish.
- Remove the hook gently with needle-nosed pliers. If the hook is deep, cut the leader rather than pulling the hook out. The hook will decompose in time.
- Continue to hold the fish in the water, gently moving it back and forth. This moves water past the gills and will help revive it. For flowing waters, face the fish upstream. When the fish begins to struggle, let it go.
- If the fish is bleeding excessively, it will likely not survive if released. Kill it and include as part of your catch if permitted. Release all zero-possession species.
- The use of barbless hooks is recommended to make release easier. Hooks can be made barbless by flattening the barb with needle-nosed pliers.
- Single hooks are recommended to release fish more easily.
- Angling for trout in waters exceeding 18°C reduces the ability of these fish to survive the 'catch and release' process. Please consider not angling during exceptionally hot weather periods.

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



How to Identify Your Catch

Black spots, light background

Cutthroat Trout - BNP, JNP, KNP, YNP, WLNP, MRGNP

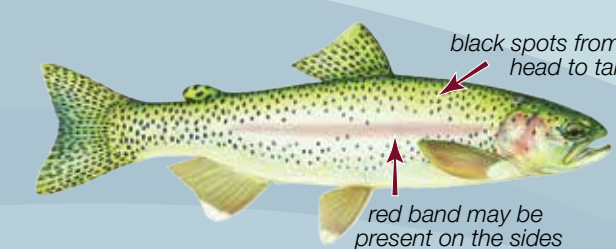


Note: red band may be present. Use red slash for proper identification.

Brown Trout - BNP, WLNP

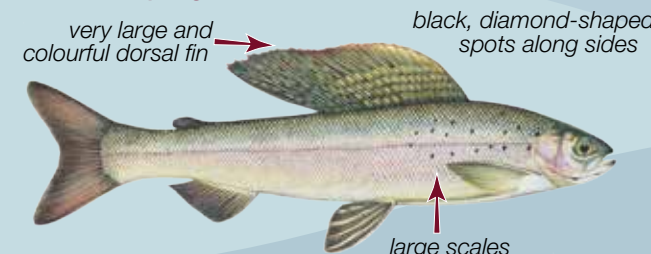


Rainbow Trout - BNP, JNP, KNP, YNP, WLNP, MRGNP



Note: use lack of red slash under jaw for proper identification.

Arctic Grayling - WLNP



Kokanee Salmon - KNP

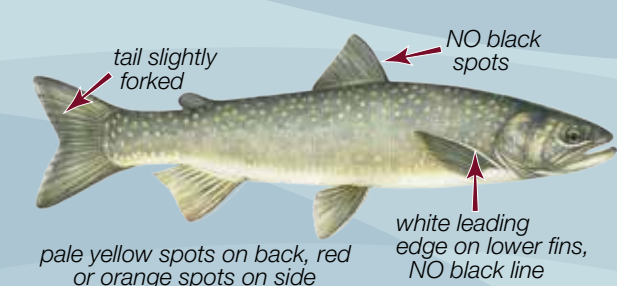


Females and males: red bodies during fall spawn, with green or black heads. Silvery bodies for remainder of the year.

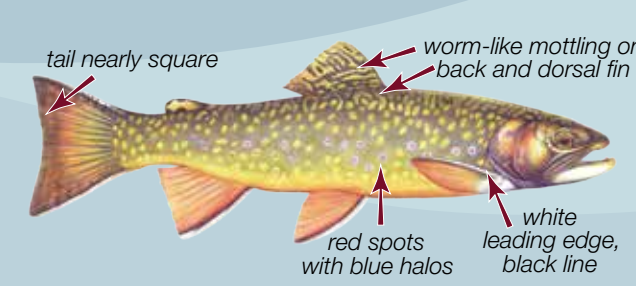
! Anglers are responsible for distinguishing one fish species from another. If you are unsure, release it.

No black spots on body

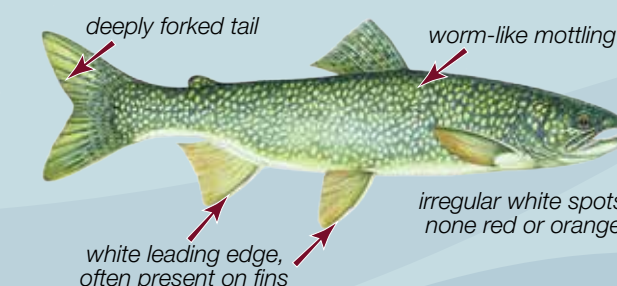
Bull Trout - BNP, JNP, KNP, YNP, WLNP, MRGNP



Brook Trout - BNP, JNP, KNP, YNP, WLNP, MRGNP

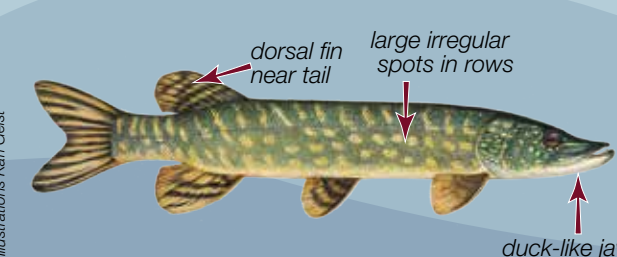


Lake Trout - BNP, JNP, KNP, YNP, WLNP

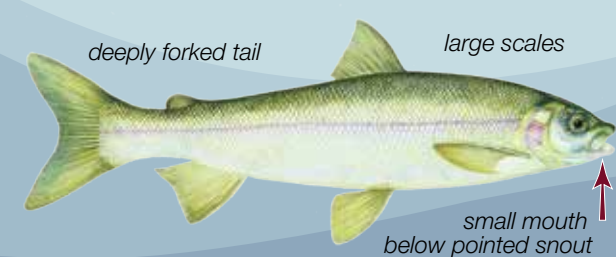


Other

Northern Pike - JNP, WLNP



Mountain Whitefish - BNP, JNP, KNP, YNP, WLNP, MRGNP



Lake Whitefish - BNP, JNP, WLNP

