Welcome to another year of fishing in Yukon. Use this booklet to get familiar with the rules on where, when and how much you can fish. The Government of Yukon regulates fishing in lakes and rivers so that generations to come will enjoy fishing just as much as we do.

New rules may come into effect over the course of the season, so be sure to check Yukon.ca/fishing-regulations for up-to-date information on fishing in Yukon.

The Government of Yukon stocks 19 lakes as part of our Stocked Lakes Program. These lakes, located close to communities, provide good fishing opportunities and take some pressure away from our slow-growing native fish, such as lake trout. They also take pressure off popular fishing locations. In 2019, we stocked a new lake, Pocket Lake, located near Carmacks. These fish should grow large enough to harvest by next year.

Family Fishing Weekend takes place July 3 to 6, 2020. This is a great way to introduce friends and family members to fishing. During that weekend, Yukon residents can try to catch most fish species, without an angling licence.

I would like to thank all the groups involved in managing fisheries in Yukon: Yukon First Nations governments; Renewable Resources Councils; the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board; various associations; and of course, all the anglers who use our lakes and rivers. Together we can ensure fishing in Yukon stays sustainable. Happy fishing!

Mahsi,
Minister Frost

Pauline Frost, Minister of Environment

On the cover: Aaron Barker enjoys a relaxing day on Quiet Lake. Photo by Northern Capture.

Send us your photos! Did you enjoy your time fishing in Yukon waters? Want to be on next year’s cover? Send your pictures to fisheries@gov.yk.ca.
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Cette publication est disponible en français.
Diese Broschüre gibt es auch in deutscher Sprache.
The fees for Yukon Salmon Conservation Catch Cards have changed. See page 6.

Additional changes may come into effect mid-season. Check Yukon.ca/fishing-regulations for updates.

**Family Fishing Weekend, July 3 to 6, 2020**

If you’re a Yukon resident, you can fish for freshwater fish without an angling licence during the annual Family Fishing Weekend on July 3 to 6, 2020. You still need to:

- comply with all fishing regulations, including daily limits and possession limits; and
- produce proof of residency when asked.

To fish for salmon during this period, you will still need to have both an angling licence and a Salmon Conservation Catch Card.

**Index of waters with special rules**

For lakes and rivers not listed here, limits for General Waters (page 16) apply.

<p>| Aishihik Lake | Aishihik River (East) | Alligator Lake | Alsek River &amp; tribs | Atlin Lake | Bennett Lake | Big Salmon Lake | Big Salmon River | Dezadeash Lake | Drury Lake | Dū Ese (Poison) Lake | Duo Lake | East Aishihik River | Ethel Lake | Fire Lake | Fish farming lakes | Fishing Branch Ecological Reserve and adjacent Settlement Lands | Fox Lake | Frances Lake | Frank Lake | Frederick Lake | Frenchman Lake | Granite Creek | Granite Lake | Glenlyon Lake | Grass Lakes | Jackson (Louise) Lake |
|---------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------|---------------------|---------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|----------------------------|--------|-------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|
| 18            | 22-E                 | 18            | 24-I                | 20-A      | 18          | 18            | 18              | 20-B          | 18        | 18                   | 18      | 22-E                 | 18        | 18         | 32               | 23-G                          | 18      | 18          | 18         | 18          | 30-K         | 22-D          | 22-D        | 18          | 18         | 18          | 21-C         |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water Name</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jim Cook (Tēle) Lake</td>
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<td>Jo-Jo Lake</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathleen Lake</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathleen River</td>
<td>22-D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Klondike River</td>
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<td>Klukshu Lake</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Ladue Lake</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lake Laberge</td>
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<td>Little Salmon Lake</td>
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<tr>
<td>Little Wolverine Lake</td>
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<td>Long Lake (near Aishihik)</td>
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<td>Lower Kathleen Lake</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lubbock River</td>
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<td>Mandanna Lake</td>
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<td>Marsh Lake</td>
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<td>Mayo Lake</td>
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<td>McEvoy Lake</td>
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<tr>
<td>McIntyre Creek</td>
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<tr>
<td>McLean Lakes</td>
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<td>Nares River (Carcross Foot Bridge)</td>
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<td>Nesketahin Lake</td>
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<td>Nisutlin River Delta NWA</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Lakes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nûsgu Xhâdi (Wolverine Lake)</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Otter Pond</td>
<td>22-E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pine Lake</td>
<td>30-K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasant Lake</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poison (Dū Ese) Lake</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiet Lake</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quill Creek</td>
<td>22-D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainbow Lake</td>
<td>22-D</td>
</tr>
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<td>Rancheria River &amp; tribs</td>
<td>20-A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Lake</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sekulmun Lake</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sekulmun (Tahgah) River</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Six Mile (Tagish) River</td>
<td>23-G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smart River</td>
<td>27-J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snafu Lakes</td>
<td>30-K</td>
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<td>Stocked lakes</td>
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<td>Tagish (Six Mile) River</td>
<td>23-G</td>
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<td>Tahgah (Sekulmun) River</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Takhanne River</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Takhini River</td>
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<td>Tarfu Lakes</td>
<td>30-K</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tatchun River (Creek)</td>
<td>27-J</td>
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<td>Tatlmain Lake (Tetl’ámân)</td>
<td>9, 24-H</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tatshenshini River</td>
<td>24-I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tay Lake</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tchawsahmon Lake</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tēle (Jim Cook) Lake</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ten Mile Lake</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teslin Lake</td>
<td>23-G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teslin River at Johnsons Crossing</td>
<td>22-D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teslin River</td>
<td>22-D, 27-J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tetl’ámân (Tatlmain Lake)</td>
<td>9, 24-H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tincup Lake</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transboundary waters</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twin Lakes</td>
<td>30-K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village Creek</td>
<td>24-I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watson Lake</td>
<td>21-C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellesley Lake</td>
<td>9, 21-C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitefish Lakes</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windy Arm (Tagish Lake)</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolf Creek</td>
<td>27-J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolf Lake</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolverine Lake</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Nûsgu Xhâdi)</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yukon River</td>
<td>27-J</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Location and names of lakes and rivers

You can find the location of most of the waterbodies in this booklet in the Gazetteer of Yukon, available from Yukon.ca/gazetteer. These are locations of lakes that don’t appear in the gazetteer:

- Caribou Lake: 60°31'32"N, 134°16'02"W
- Fish Lake: 60°37'07"N, 135°14'15"W
- Fox Lake: 61°14'33"N, 135°28'10"W
- Little Wolverine Lake: 61°25'44"N, 130°09'59"W
- Long Lake: 61°20'54"N, 136°41'00"W
- McLean Lakes: 60°39'33"N, 135°05'15"W
- Nûsgu Xhådi (Wolverine Lake): 61°27'33"N, 130°15'33"W
- Otter Pond: 61°04'30"N, 136°59'26"W
- Pine Lake: 60°49'06"N, 137°26'58"W
- Pleasant Lake: 61°38'06"N, 133°23'22"W
- Snafu Lakes:
  - Lower Snafu Lake: 60°09'06"N, 133°47'08"W
  - Upper Snafu Lake: 60°06'09"N, 133°43'00"W
- Tarfu Lakes:
  - Tarfu Lake, Little Tarfu Lake: 60°02'34"N, 133°44'08"W
  - Unnamed lake: 60°04'27"N, 133°46'05"W
- Ten Mile Lake: 61°29'44"N, 135°36'00"W
- Twin Lakes: 61°41'53"N, 135°56'06"W
- Whitefish Lakes:
  - 61°14'33"N, 129°58'02"W
  - 61°10'50"N, 129°59'33"W
  - 61°09'20"N, 129°59'24"W
- Wolf Lake: 60°39'26"N, 131°40'24"W

Where is this waterbody? McLean Lakes
Where is this waterbody?

Snafu and Tarfu lakes

* Fishing regulations for McLean Lakes, Snafu Lakes, and Tarfu Lakes apply to all the shaded waters identified on the maps.
To fish in Yukon, you must have a current angling licence. Licences are valid from April 1 to March 31. If you intend to fish for salmon, you must also have a valid Yukon Salmon Conservation Catch Card, except when fishing for kokanee salmon in lakes. Salmon Conservation Catch Cards are valid from April 1 to November 30.

**Licence fees (GST extra)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>6 day</th>
<th>1 day</th>
<th>Salmon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yukon/Alaska resident (16 to 65)*</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>$10.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian resident</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
<td>$20.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-resident</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
<td>$51.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior – Yukon resident (65 and older)</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor (youth under 16)</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Nation and Inuvialuit</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Alaska residents must produce a current Alaska resident sport fishing licence and government-issued photo identification to be eligible for this price.

**See page 38.

Where to get an angling licence

You can get Yukon angling licences:

- online from Yukon.ca/yukon-fishing-licence;
- at Department of Environment offices; and
- at participating vendors, see Yukon.ca/licences-permits-vendors.

Everyone who gets a Yukon angling licence online or at a Department of Environment office has an Environment ID. You can use this ID to view your client profile and get other licences and permits on env.eservices.gov.yk.ca

Where to get a Salmon Conservation Catch Card

You can get Salmon Conservation Catch Cards:

- online from recfish-pechesportive.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/nrls-sndpp/index-eng.cfm;
- at participating vendors, see www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/yukon/licence-permis-eng.html

If you have any issues getting a catch card, contact Fisheries and Oceans Canada (fishing-peche@dfo-mpo.gc.ca).
Minors (youth under 16)

- **Yukon minor**: You may fish with or without an angling licence. You are entitled to your own catch limits and can fish on your own without having an adult licence holder with you.

- **Canadian and non-resident minor**: You may fish without a Yukon angling licence, but you must have an adult licence holder with you. They count your catch as part of their limit. You can get your own Yukon angling licence, which lets you have your own catch limits and means you don’t need to fish with an adult licence holder.

- **Minor fishing for salmon**: You must have your own Salmon Conservation Catch Card. You are entitled to your own salmon catch limits if you have your own angling licence. If you are fishing under the angling licence of an adult, then they count your salmon catch as part of their catch limit.

Minors should bring a birth certificate or passport as ID to prove their age when getting a licence.

---

**One licence, one angler**

If you’re 16 or older, it’s against the law to use another person’s angling licence or allow another person to use yours. No one of any age can share their Salmon Conservation Catch Card with someone else.

---

Seniors (65 and older)

You still need a Yukon angling licence. You also need a Salmon Conservation Catch Card to fish for salmon.

- **Yukon resident seniors** can get a licence and catch card free of charge.
- **Non-resident seniors** pay the applicable fee.

---

**Carry it with you**

You must sign your paper licence and catch card if you have one. You do not need to sign a printed licence you got online. Carry your licence and catch card on your person when angling. You must produce them when asked by a conservation or fishery officer. This can be a printed copy, a digital version on your phone or a paper licence.
Lost licences

If you angling licence is lost or destroyed, you must replace it before you can fish again. If you bought your licence online or at a Department of Environment office, you can reprint your licence using your Environment ID from env.eservices.gov.yk.ca free of charge, or have this done for you at a Department of Environment office. You can replace paper licences bought from a vendor for $2.00 (GST extra) at a Department of Environment office.

If you find your paper licence after replacing it, return the recovered licence to your nearest Department of Environment office as soon as possible.

Yukon-BC transboundary waters

Both Yukon and BC angling licences are valid on all parts of the following transboundary waters:

- Bennett, Laidlaw, Morley, Tagish and Teslin lakes (not including inlet or outlet streams).
- Rancheria River, Swift River and their tributaries.

Know where you are in transboundary waters! You must follow the regulations of the jurisdiction you’re in, including tackle restrictions. **Using fish (dead or alive) or parts thereof for bait is prohibited in BC waters.**

See page 10 for Yukon bait regulations.

To sportfish within the BC portions of Atlin Lake, or the Tatshenshini River or its tributaries, you must have a valid BC angling licence and follow the BC Freshwater Fishing Regulations. To keep salmon caught in BC waters, you’ll also need a valid Salmon Conservation Stamp attached to your licence. Find more information:

- BC Freshwater Fishing Regulations Synopsis: www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/sports-culture/recreation/fishing-hunting/fishing/fishing-regulations
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada’s sport fishing website: www.bcsportfishguide.ca
You must have a sport fishing licence if you want to fish in any of the circumstances found below. Sport fishing licences are free, but you need a Yukon angling licence to get one.

You can get a sport fishing licence from a Department of Environment office or from other locations as noted.

You must report these catches to the Department of Environment either in person or by mail. There is a space on the licence to record your catch.

**Tetl’ámân (Tatlimain Lake)**

You can also get a sport fishing licence for this lake from a licence vendor in Pelly Crossing.

See page 24 for more information about fishing at Tetl’ámân.

**Wellesley Lake**

You can also get a sport fishing licence for this lake from a licence vendor in Beaver Creek.

If you are returning to Alaska after a fishing trip to Wellesley Lake, you have the option to leave your completed angling report at the Beaver Creek – 1202 Motor Inn.

See page 21 for more information about fishing at Wellesley Lake.

**Dipnetting for lake whitefish and suckers**

You need a sport fishing licence to dipnet lake whitefish or suckers in specified waters.

**Set lining for burbot**

Only use set lines during the ice-covered periods.

See Yukon.ca/fishing for more information. Look under “How and where to catch Yukon fish.”

**Fishing derbies**

Contact the Fisheries Unit at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5721 for licensing information for fishing derbies.
Snagging cisco for bait off the Tagish Bridge or Carcross Foot Bridge (Nares River)

These bridges are the only locations in Yukon where you can snag fish. Cisco is the only species you can snag. The daily limit of five cisco applies. You must kill cisco before using them as bait.

Fishing in national parks

You can’t fish with a Yukon angling licence in Kluane, Ivavik or Vuntut national parks. Instead, you need a national park fishing licence. For Kluane National Park, you can get a licence from the Kluane National Park and Reserve Visitor Centre in Haines Junction or at the Parks Canada office in Whitehorse.

For more information, phone 867-634-7250.

General regulations and definitions

Angling

Angling is fishing with a hook and line whether you use a rod or not. It does not include fishing with a set line.

Artificial fly

An artificial fly is a hook that:

- is dressed only with fur, feathers, textiles or tinsel wire; and
- does not have a spinning device or external weight attached to it.

Attending your line

It’s against the law to leave a fishing line unattended when angling. Attending the line means keeping the line in your direct line of sight. This applies to open-water fishing and ice fishing.

Bait

- You can use the head, tail, fins, bones or internal organs of legal fish (but no edible parts of a fish, except cisco) as bait.
General regulations and definitions

- You can’t use any live fish as bait or possess any live fish for use as bait.
- You can’t bring other live aquatic organisms into Yukon waters for use as bait.

Buying and selling fish

It’s against the law to buy, sell or barter fish caught under a Yukon angling licence.

Dip nets

A dip net is a net hung on a ring or frame that has a closed bottom. You can only use a dip net to catch lake whitefish or suckers. You will need a sport fishing licence to do this (see page 9).

Dressing and packaging your catch

You must leave the head and tail on your catch until you get the fish to your permanent residence. You must dress or pack the fish so it can be readily identified, counted and measured. We suggest you gut the fish immediately.

Fish size

Size limits apply to most species. The length of a fish is the distance from the tip of a fish’s snout to the tip of its tail.

You must return all fish less than 20 cm (8”) in length, caught by angling, to the water in the least harmful manner. For easy reference, this booklet is 20 cm (8”) tall.

The easiest way to measure a fish is to mark the size limits on a stick and then hold it in the water beside the fish. You can also pick up a free size limits sticker for your boat from any Department of Environment office.
Fishing

For the purposes of this booklet, “fishing” is fishing for recreational purposes. It includes fishing by angling, using a dip net or using a set line. All other methods of taking fish under a Yukon angling licence are against the law.

Hooks

A barbless hook is a hook without barbs, a hook that has all its barbs filed off or broken off, or a hook that has all its barbs bent down flat to the shaft.

A single hook is one hook with a single point.

A treble hook is one hook having three single points on a common shaft.

You can purchase some types of barbless hooks at local sporting goods stores. You can easily convert barbed hooks to barbless by either crimping or filing the barb off.

Barbless hooks are recommended on all Yukon waters, and are mandatory on all Conservation Waters, some Special Management Waters, and when fishing for salmon. The use of barbless hooks makes it easier to remove the hook, reducing fish handling and injury. This increases the chances of survival for released fish.

Inspections by conservation or fishery officers

You must show your angling licence, sport fishing licence(s) and Salmon Conservation Catch Card to a conservation or fishery officer when asked to do so. You must also allow them to examine your catch and gear.

Limits

The daily limit (or daily catch limit) is the number of fish that you can legally catch and keep in a 24-hour period from one midnight to the next midnight.

The possession limit is the total number of fish that you may have in your personal custody, the custody of another person, or in any other place for the benefit of yourself or anyone else. This includes a freezer at home.
Mandatory release of some fish
If you catch a fish that the regulations do not allow you to keep, you must return it to the water in the least harmful manner. This applies even if the fish looks fatally injured. If we let anglers keep injured or dead fish in excess of the limits, we can’t enforce the regulations and the resource will suffer.

Nisutlin River Delta National Wildlife Area

Federal regulations prohibit and restrict activities within National Wildlife Areas (NWAs), including the Nisutlin River Delta.

While Yukon angling licences and Salmon Conservation Catch Cards are valid within the Nisutlin River Delta NWA, it is against the law to use lead sinkers. This federal regulation is necessary to protect waterfowl from lead poisoning.

For more information on prohibited and restricted activities within the Nisutlin River Delta NWA, contact the Canadian Wildlife Service at 867-393-6700 (Whitehorse) or at 1-800-668-6767. To report NWA fish and wildlife violations, call Environment and Climate Change Canada at 1-888-569-5656.

Potential hazards from military debris
Nisutlin Bay was a former bombing range used by the Department of National Defence. If you see a suspicious object, don’t disturb it and don’t use cell phones or satellite phones near the object. Once you are a safe distance away, call the RCMP at 867-390-5555 in Teslin or 867-667-5555 in Whitehorse.

For more details, visit www.uxocanada.forces.gc.ca.
General regulations and definitions

Number of lines and hooks
It's against the law to do the following.

- Use more than one line except while ice fishing, when you may use two lines.
- Use any gear designed to catch more than one fish on a line, with these exceptions:
  - you can use two artificial flies while fly fishing; and
  - you can use multiple hooks per line when set lining.

Set lines
A set line is a line with one or more hooks attached, left unattended in the water. You can use set lines to fish for burbot in Yukon lakes and rivers during the ice-covered period if you have a sport fishing licence (see page 9). The hook(s) on a set line must rest on the bottom of the river or lake, and you must check these lines at least once every 30 hours. Other licence conditions may apply.

Snagging
Snagging is catching or attempting to catch a fish with a hook in any manner other than by inducing it to take the hook in its mouth. It’s against the law to snag fish, with one exception (see “Snagging cisco for bait” on page 10). Release accidentally snagged fish in the least harmful manner.

Transfer of live fish or other aquatic organisms
It's against the law to bring live fish, uncured fish eggs, crayfish, leeches or other water creatures into Yukon or to transfer live fish, fish eggs or other aquatic organisms from one body of water to another without a permit. For details, contact the Government of Yukon’s Fisheries Unit or Fisheries and Oceans Canada (see page 53 for contact information).
Unlawful equipment
It's against the law to do the following.

- Use a landing gaff or spear while fishing, or to possess a landing gaff while fishing.
- Use a firearm to kill or injure fish.
- Use torches or artificial lights to attract fish.

Waste and abandonment
It's against the law to abandon fish or waste any portion that is suitable for human consumption. Releasing a fish you can’t legally keep is not considered waste or abandonment. You are not required to keep or eat the head, tail, fins, bones or internal organs.

Common offences
Common offences under the Yukon Territory Fishery Regulations may result in the following fines:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offence</th>
<th>Fine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fishing without a licence</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceed the daily catch limit</td>
<td>$100 plus $50/fish to a max. of $1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceed the possession limit</td>
<td>$100 plus $50/fish to a max. of $1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing with a barbed hook on waters regulated as barbless</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing by snagging (no permit)</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail to record salmon on Salmon Conservation Catch Cards</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail to produce Salmon Conservation Catch Card</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you fish during a closed time or in a closed area, you can get a Notice to Appear in Court.
These limits apply to all waters except for Conservation Waters, Special Management Waters and stocked lakes.

Check the index on page 2 to find out if special catch limits or other regulations apply to the waterbody where you plan to fish.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Daily limit</th>
<th>Possession limit</th>
<th>Size limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lake trout</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Only one may be longer than 65 cm (26”).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bull trout</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Only one may be longer than 50 cm (20”).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arctic grayling</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Only one may be longer than 40 cm (16”).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern pike</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Only one may be longer than 75 cm (30”).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinook salmon*</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coho, sockeye, chum and pink salmon*</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kokanee salmon**</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arctic char</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainbow trout</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dolly Varden</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitefish</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inconnu (sheefish)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cisco</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burbot</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other species</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Salmon catch, possession and aggregate limits may be changed in-season through Fishery Notices. Visit notices.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fns-sap/index-eng.cfm.

** Daily and possession limits for kokanee salmon are in addition to aggregate limits for other salmon.
Limit for General Waters:

**Lake trout: limits for General Waters**
- Keep only one
- Length: 65 cm

**Bull trout: limits for General Waters**
- Keep only one
- Length: 50 cm

**Arctic grayling: limits for General Waters**
- Keep only one
- Length: 40 cm

**Northern pike: limits for General Waters**
- Keep only one
- Length: 75 cm

Fishing regulations - 17
Conservation Waters have stocks that are in need of recovery, are managed to keep high-quality fishing opportunities, or are vulnerable to over-fishing because of their ease of access.

Conservation Waters regulations apply to these waterbodies:

- Aishihik Lake
- Alligator Lake
- Bennett Lake
- Big Salmon Lake
- Big Salmon River from Quiet Lake to Big Salmon Lake, incl. Sandy Lake
- Blind Lakes
- Chain Lakes
- Claire Lake
- Coghlan Lake
- Drury Lake
- Dū Ese (Poison) Lake
- Ethel Lake
- Fire Lake
- Frances Lake
- Frank Lake
- Frederick Lake
- Glenlyon Lake
- Grass Lakes
- Jo-Jo Lake
- Kluane Lake*
- Kusawa Lake*
- Lake Laberge*
- Little Wolverine Lake
- Long Lake (near Aishihik)
- Marsh Lake
- Mayo Lake*
- McEvoy Lake
- Morley Lake
- Morris Lake
- Nares Lake*
- Nares River*
- North Lakes
- Nūsgu Xhâdi (Wolverine Lake, off Hwy #4)
- Pleasant Lake
- Quiet Lake
- Sandy Lake
- Sekulmun Lake
- Tagish Lake incl. Windy Arm
- Tahgah (Sekulmun) River
- Tay Lake
- Tchawsahmon Lake
- Tēle (Jim Cook) Lake
- Ten Mile Lake
- Tincup Lake
- Whitefish Lakes
- Wolf Lake

### Barbless hooks only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Daily limit</th>
<th>Possession limit</th>
<th>Size limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lake trout</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Must release all lake trout 65 to 100 cm (26 to 39&quot;) in length. Only one may be longer than 100 cm (39&quot;).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arctic grayling</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Must release all grayling 40 to 48 cm (16 to 19&quot;) in length. Only one may be longer than 48 cm (19&quot;).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern pike</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Must release all pike 75 to 105 cm (30 to 41&quot;) in length. Only one may be longer than 105 cm (41&quot;).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other species</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Limits for General Waters on pages 16-17 apply.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
* Use of barbless hooks is not yet mandatory in this waterbody, but will be once a federal regulation change process is complete. We strongly recommend using barbless hooks to get ahead of this change.

**Limits for Conservation Waters**

**Lake trout: limits for Conservation Waters**
- Keep only one
- Release
- Keep

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length (in)</th>
<th>Length (cm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Arctic grayling: limits for Conservation Waters**
- Keep only one
- Release
- Keep

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length (in)</th>
<th>Length (cm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Northern pike: limits for Conservation Waters**
- Keep only one
- Release
- Keep

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length (in)</th>
<th>Length (cm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Special Management Waters have extra protection for a variety of reasons, such as declining or depressed stocks or species of interest. The Government of Yukon identifies these cases through community management planning processes, land claims, Renewable Resources Councils or other means. We grouped waters in this list into categories for simplicity (A–L).

Before you fish in any of the following waters, take the time to understand the special limits and regulations that apply.

### A Laidlaw Lake, Atlin Lake, Rancheria River and tributaries, Swift River and tributaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Daily limit</th>
<th>Possession limit</th>
<th>Size limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arctic grayling</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other species</td>
<td></td>
<td>Limits for General Waters on pages 16-17 apply.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### B Dezadeash Lake

**Single-pointed barbless hooks only.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Daily limit</th>
<th>Possession limit</th>
<th>Size limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lake trout</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Must release all lake trout 65 to 100 cm (26 to 39”) in length. Only one may be longer than 100 cm (39”).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arctic grayling</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Must release all grayling 40 to 48 cm (16 to 19”) in length. Only one may be longer than 48 cm (19”).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern pike</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Must release all pike 75 to 105 cm (30 to 41”) in length. Only one may be longer than 105 cm (41”).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other species</td>
<td></td>
<td>Limits for General Waters on pages 16-17 apply.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Limits for Special Management Waters

C Braeburn Lake, Caribou Lake, Chadburn Lake, Duo Lake, Ladue Lake, Little Atlin Lake, Little Fox Lakes, Louise (Jackson) Lake*, Minto Lake, Watson Lake, Wellesley Lake**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Daily limit</th>
<th>Possession limit</th>
<th>Size limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lake trout</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Must release all lake trout longer than 65 cm (26&quot;).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arctic grayling</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Must release all grayling longer than 40 cm (16&quot;).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern pike</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Must release all pike longer than 75 cm (30&quot;).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other species</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Limits for General Waters on pages 16-17 apply.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Use of barbless hooks is not yet mandatory in this waterbody, but will be once a federal regulation change process is complete. We recommend using barbless hooks to get ahead of this change.

**Additional sport fishing licence required for Wellesley Lake. See page 9.
**Limits for Special Management Waters**

**Kathleen River system** (Granite, Lower Kathleen, Rainbow and Crescent lakes, Granite Creek, Kathleen River and Quill Creek outside Kluane National Park), **Lubbock River, Teslin River at Johnsons Crossing** (from the outlet at Teslin Lake to one kilometre below the confluence of Squanga Creek)

- **Lake trout**  
  - Daily limit: 1  
  - Possession limit: 1  
  - Size limit: Must release all lake trout longer than 65 cm (26’’).

- **Arctic grayling**  
  - Daily limit: 2  
  - Possession limit: 2  
  - Size limit: Must release all grayling longer than 40 cm (16’’).

- **Northern pike**  
  - Daily limit: 4  
  - Possession limit: 4  
  - Size limit: Must release all pike longer than 75 cm (30’’).

- **Rainbow trout**  
  - Daily limit:  
  - Possession limit:  
  - Size limit: Must release all rainbow trout.

- **All other species**  
  Limits for General Waters on pages 16-17 apply.

---

**East Aishihik River** (including Otter Pond), **McLean Lakes**

- **Rainbow trout**  
  - Daily limit:  
  - Possession limit:  
  - Size limit: Must release all rainbow trout.

- **All other species**  
  Limits for General Waters on pages 16-17 apply.

*Rainbow trout is the only game fish species in McLean Lakes.*
## Limits for Special Management Waters

### Mandanna Lake

**Barbless hooks only.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Daily limit</th>
<th>Possession limit</th>
<th>Size limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lake trout</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Must release all lake trout.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arctic grayling</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Must release all grayling 40 to 48 cm (16 to 19&quot;) in length. Only one may be longer than 48 cm (19&quot;).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern pike</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Must release all pike 75 to 105 cm (30 to 41&quot;) in length. Only one may be longer than 105 cm (41&quot;).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other species</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Limits for General Waters on pages 16-17 apply.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Fish Lake*, Fox Lake*, Little Salmon Lake*, Tagish (Six Mile) River, Tagish Bridge, Teslin Lake

**Barbless hooks only.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Daily limit</th>
<th>Possession limit</th>
<th>Size limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lake trout</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Fish Lake, Fox Lake, Little Salmon Lake and Tagish River: must release all lake trout over 65 cm (26&quot;) in length. Tagish Bridge: size limits do not apply. Keep the first lake trout you catch. Teslin Lake: must release all lake trout 65 to 100 cm (26 to 39&quot;) in length. Only one may be longer than 100 cm (39&quot;).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arctic grayling</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Must release all grayling 40 to 48 cm (16 to 19&quot;) in length. Only one may be longer than 48 cm (19&quot;).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Northern pike | 4 | 4 | Must release all pike 75 to 105 cm (30 to 41”) in length. Only one may be longer than 105 cm (41”).

All other species | Limits for General Waters on pages 16-17 apply.

*Use of barbless hooks is not yet mandatory in this waterbody, but will be once a federal regulation change process is complete. We recommend using barbless hooks to get ahead of this change.

### Tetl’ámān* (Tatlmain Lake)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Limits for General Waters on pages 16-17 apply.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>All fish species</strong></td>
<td>Limits for General Waters on pages 16-17 apply.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aggregate catch limit</strong></td>
<td>You must stop fishing after catching five fish in one day, even if you released some or all of the fish.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


### Alsek River and tributaries, including Tatshenshini River and select tributaries and headwater lakes (Blanchard River, Klukshu River, Klukshu Lake, Nesketahin Lake, Takhanne River, Tatshenshini River, Village Creek)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>April 1 to August 14: must release all sockeye salmon, unless specified in an in-season Fishery Notice.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sockeye salmon</strong></td>
<td>Limits for General Waters on pages 16-17 apply.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>All other species</strong></td>
<td>Limits for General Waters on pages 16-17 apply.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Limits for Special Management Waters

See map (over) for Tatshenshini River and select tributaries.

A Klukshu Lake
Year round: must release all salmon.

B Klukshu River, Nesketahin Lake, Village Creek
June 15 to November 30: closed to all fishing.

Klukshu River and Village Creek
June 1 to November 30: Single-pointed barbless hooks with a gap of less than 20 mm (¾") only.

Takhanne River
June 1 to November 30: Single-pointed barbless hooks with a gap of less than 20 mm (¾") only.

C Additional rules for the Takhanne River downstream of Million Dollar Falls
July 24 to August 31: must release all salmon.
Year round: Artificial flies only.

D Blanchard River
July 24 to August 31: must release all salmon.
June 1 to November 30: Single-pointed barbless hooks with a gap of less than 20 mm (¾") only.

Tatshenshini River
June 1 to November 30: Single-pointed barbless hooks with a gap of less than 20 mm (¾") only.

See page 8 for more information about fishing in Yukon-BC transboundary waters.
Unless specified in a current Public Fishery Notice, it is unlawful to retain sockeye salmon from the Yukon portions of the Tatshenshini, Takhanne or Blanchard Rivers prior to August 15.
Yukon River and select tributaries
(Blind Creek, Klondike River, Lapie River, McIntyre Creek, Morley River, Smart River, Takhini River, Tatchun River, Teslin River, Yukon River, Wolf Creek)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Limits for General Waters on pages 16-17 apply.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- **Blind Creek, Klondike River, Lapie River, Morley River, Smart River, Takhini River, Tatchun River, Teslin River, Yukon River**

  **July 1 to October 15:** Single-pointed barbless hooks with a gap of less than 20 mm ($\frac{3}{4}$") only.

  **Yukon River from Whitehorse dam 2.5 km downstream to the Robert Campbell Bridge**

  **July 15 to September 30:** Artificial flies only.
Takhini River
August 20 to September 15: Artificial flies only.

Wolf Creek
Must release all salmon.

McIntyre Creek
(from the Alaska Highway to the Yukon River)
Must release all salmon.

Tatchun River
(and Yukon River at mouth)
See map (facing page).

August 1 to September 30: no fishing in Tatchun River including the Yukon River at the mouth of the Tatchun River. Signs mark these boundaries.

Whitehorse Rapids Fish Ladder area

It’s against the law to fish within 23 metres (75’) downstream of the entrance to the Whitehorse Rapids Fish Ladder.
Limits for Special Management Waters

Tatchun River – area 18 on catch cards

Closed to all angling Aug 1st - Sept 30th

Fishing boundary marker

Boat Launch
Parking

Tatchun River
Tatchun Lake Road

Tatchun Lake
Klondike Highway

ENV.548.02
### Limits for Special Management Waters

#### Frenchman Lake, Pine Lake*, Snafu Lakes, Tarfu Lakes, Twin Lakes

* Use of single-pointed barbless hooks is not yet mandatory in this water-body, but will be once a federal regulation change process is complete. We recommend using barbless hooks to get ahead of this change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Daily limit</th>
<th>Possession limit</th>
<th>Size limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lake trout</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Must release all lake trout.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arctic grayling</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Must release all grayling longer than 40 cm (16”).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern pike</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Must release all pike longer than 75 cm (30”).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other species</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Limits for General Waters on pages 16-17 apply.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Fishing Branch Ecological Reserve and adjacent Settlement Lands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Daily limit</th>
<th>Possession limit</th>
<th>Size limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arctic grayling</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other species</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Limits for General Waters on pages 16-17 apply.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Government of Yukon works closely with the Yukon Fish and Game Association to provide easily-accessible, high-quality fishing opportunities near many communities.

Nineteen lakes are stocked with rainbow trout, Arctic char, or kokanee salmon:

- Cantlie Lake
- Chadden Lake
- Coffee Lake
- Fisheye Lake
- Gloria Lake 2
- Haldane Lake
- Hidden Lakes 1 & 3
- Hour Lake
- Judas Lake
- Long Lake (near Whitehorse)
- Lucky Lake
- Pocket Lake (stocked in 2019, ready to fish in 2021)
- Rantin Lake
- Salmo Lake
- Scout Lake
- Veronica Lake
- Whiskers Lake
- Wrong Lake

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Daily limit</th>
<th>Possession limit</th>
<th>Size limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rainbow trout</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bull trout</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Only one bull trout may be longer than 50 cm (20”).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arctic char</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kokanee salmon</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information and the location of a stocked lake near you, pick up the Angler’s Guide to Yukon Stocked Lakes from a Department of Environment office or download it from Yukon.ca/anglers-guide-yukon-stocked-lakes.
Though you can fish in most waters in Yukon year-round, there are certain places where fishing is prohibited. Knowing and following these regulations is your responsibility.

**Fish farming lakes closed to angling**

The Government of Yukon licenses a number of fishless pothole lakes for fish farming. These lakes are closed to angling. There are no other special restrictions on the use of these public waters. Visit Yukon.ca/fishing-closures for a list of these lakes and their geographic coordinates.

You might find fish farming lakes not listed on the website that are still closed. These will have official public closure notices posted at the lake. These lakes didn’t always have fish. Private individuals stocked the fish at their own expense after going through a rigorous approval process. If you’re unsure that a pothole lake was privately stocked, contact the Government of Yukon’s Fisheries Unit at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5721.

**Lands closed to fishing from shore**

Some Yukon First Nations lands are closed to public camping and fishing from shore, including specific areas of Lake Laberge, Surprise Lake, Tagish Lake and the Yukon River near Whitehorse and Dawson City. Visit Yukon.ca/fishing-closures for maps and notes.
A federal responsibility

Fisheries and Oceans Canada is responsible for the overall management of salmon in Canada. In Yukon, Fisheries and Oceans Canada manages salmon fisheries based on recommendations from the Yukon Salmon Sub-Committee.

You need a catch card

To fish for any species of salmon in Yukon other than kokanee salmon in lakes, you need a valid Yukon Salmon Conservation Catch Card – no matter your age. See page 6 to find out how to get one.

The Salmon Conservation Catch Card includes area-based restrictions and mandatory reporting requirements. Check your catch card for details.

Before you fish

Special restrictions apply to angling for salmon. Consult the appropriate section on page 16 to 30 for the waterbody where you plan to fish.

After catching a salmon

When you catch a salmon, you must immediately record the following information on your Yukon Salmon Conservation Catch Card, even if you release the salmon:

- date;
- location;
- species;
- sex;
- presence of tags;
- presence of adipose fin; and
- type of gear used to catch the salmon.

Return your completed catch card information to Fisheries and Oceans Canada by November 30. You can:

- submit your catch information online at recfish-pechesportive.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/nrls-sndpp; or
- mail it to the Whitehorse Fisheries and Oceans Canada Office (see page 53).
Fishing for salmon in Yukon

It's a legal requirement to submit your catch information by the deadline. If you don't, you won't be able to get another catch card until you submit this year's catch information to Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

For more information, contact Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Yukon Transboundary Rivers Area office or visit www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/yukon/index-eng.html.

Short notice changes and public notices

A wide range of factors influence salmon run sizes. If a change in salmon behavior is identified, Fisheries and Oceans Canada may make short notice changes or produce additional regulations and close areas to ensure conservation targets are met and that a sufficient number of salmon can return to their spawning grounds.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada advertises in-season changes through Fishery Notices. You can see these online at www-ops2.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fns-sap/index-eng.cfm. You can filter notices by Waters (e.g., Yukon/TBR) or by Management Area (e.g., Yukon River or Alsek/Tatshenshini River). Fishery Notices communicate closures, openings and any changes to possession limits. You can also sign up to get Fishery Notices by email.

In-season changes that take effect on Friday, Saturday, Sunday or a statutory holiday will be posted by midnight on the Wednesday prior to the effective date.

Tagged Chinook salmon

If you catch a Chinook salmon, check to see if the adipose fin is missing. If it is, the salmon likely has a microscopic coded-wire tag in its nose carrying information about its origin.

Record all required information on your Yukon Salmon Conservation Catch Card. If you keep the fish, remove the salmon’s head and freeze it in a plastic bag along with information on the date and place of capture, sex, length and weight of the salmon. Return this information and the head in frozen condition to Fisheries and Oceans Canada’s Yukon Transboundary Rivers Area office in Whitehorse (see page 53), or call 867-393-6722 (toll-free 1-866-676-6722) for further instructions. For information about regulation changes or questions, call 867-393-3133 (toll-free 1-877-725-6662).
Salmon identification

Certain species of salmon may look similar to others. If in doubt, release the salmon unharmed.

Chinook salmon

- Mature adult fish become dark and reddish, spots on both lobes of tail and dorsal fin.
- Black mouth with black gums at base of teeth in lower jaw.
- Usually 5 to 20 kg.
- Adults return to the Yukon and Alsek River watersheds between June and September.
Salmon identification

Coho salmon

- Wide tail base with black spots on upper portion of tail.
- Mature adult males are reddish on sides, grey/green on back and head, grey on belly, and develop a hooked jaw.
- Mature adult females are less strongly coloured.
- Black mouth with white gums at base of teeth in lower jaw.
- Usually 3 to 6 kg.
- Adults return to the Alsek River watershed in September and October and to the Yukon River watershed (including the Porcupine River) in October and November.

Chum salmon

- Mature adult fish are olive to olive/grey in colour with a dark purple/grey irregular band on the side of the body.
- Tail has no spots.
- Large pupil, more than half the diameter of the whole eye.
- Adults return to the Yukon River watershed (including the Porcupine River) between August and October.

Sockeye salmon

- Mature adult males have a pale green head, hooked jaw, humped back, bright red body and red fins.
- Mature adult females will develop a grey/green head and grey/red body but do not possess a hump or hooked jaw.
- No spots on back, dorsal fin, or tail.
- Usually 2 to 4 kg.
- Adults return to the Alsek River watershed from June to October.
Public rights and responsibilities on First Nations lands

There are public rights and responsibilities you should be aware of when travelling and camping on First Nations lands.

Locating First Nations lands

To view detailed maps of where First Nations Settlement Lands are located, visit a Department of Environment office or Yukon.ca/maps.

Your rights

You may:

- fish in all navigable water bodies within or beside First Nations lands, subject to the fishing regulations;
- use dead wood (standing or down) to make campfires within 30 metres of navigable water bodies; and
- enter, cross and stay for a reasonable period of time on undeveloped First Nations lands for non-commercial recreation, including camping and fishing, subject to any of that First Nation's laws and to the responsibilities described below.

Your responsibilities

When using undeveloped First Nation land you must not:

- damage the land or structures;
- interfere with the use and enjoyment of the land by the First Nation; or
- commit acts of mischief.

No matter where you are in Yukon, you are in the traditional territories of Yukon First Nations and other Indigenous nations. It is always good practice to contact a Department of Environment office or the office of the appropriate First Nation for information on the lands you may visit.

Contact the Department of Environment if you want to fish in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region and are not a beneficiary of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement.

Exceptions

Some lands owned by Yukon First Nations are closed to public camping and fishing from shore. Consult maps at your local Department of Environment office or visit Yukon.ca/fishing-closures.
Members of Yukon First Nations and Inuvialuit have rights to fish for food without an angling licence in parts of Yukon. Please refer to Final and Self-Government Agreements for specific provisions.

In the following situations, you will need to have a valid Yukon angling licence and follow the Yukon fishing regulations. You will also need a Salmon Conservation Catch Card to fish for salmon.

**Member of a Yukon First Nation with a Final Agreement**

You will need a licence to fish outside the traditional territory of your First Nation, unless you have written permission from a First Nation with a Final Agreement to fish in part of its traditional territory that does not overlap with the traditional territory of another First Nation.

- You must follow their rules and are subject to the conditions of that First Nation’s communal fishing licence for salmon.
- A First Nation **cannot** give you permission to fish in an area that overlaps with another Yukon First Nation’s traditional territory.

**Beneficiary of the Gwich’in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement**

You will need a licence to fish outside:

- the Primary Use Area;
- the Secondary Use Area; and
- parts of the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun’s Traditional Territory that overlap with any other Yukon First Nation’s traditional territory.

**Member of the White River First Nation or a Kaska Nation with an asserted land claim in Yukon**

You will need a licence to fish outside the asserted traditional territory in Yukon of your First Nation.

**Beneficiary of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement**

You will need a licence to fish outside the Inuvialuit Settlement Region.
Contact the Department of Environment at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5652 if you have further questions about your rights and responsibilities when subsistence fishing.

Fishing gear

Mark your name and the name of your First Nation on each gill net, fish trap and set box so fishery officers, conservation officers and game guardians know that these items are being used to exercise subsistence harvest rights.

Catching tagged fish

If you catch a tagged fish, please contact the nearest Department of Environment office. Provide the tag number and information about when and where you caught the fish.

If you keep the fish, please send in its tag with its weight and length. If you release the fish, leave the tag in place and record the tag number and the length of the fish if possible.

Send your information or the tag to: Government of Yukon, Fisheries Unit, Box 2703 (V-5A), Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 2C6. Or call 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5721.

Release lake trout with pink tags

The Government of Yukon is carrying out a multi-year study of lake trout in Yukon’s interconnected Southern Lakes (Bennett, Tagish, Marsh and Atlin). Lake trout with internal transmitters also have an external pink tag just below their dorsal fin. These lake trout provide valuable data, but only as long as the fish is still alive. Consider releasing these fish, even if the regulations let you keep them.
The Government of Yukon promotes live release mainly as a management tool to help choose the fish we keep and eat. If anglers practise live release without restraint, it can lead to higher mortality rates in fish.

Select what you keep

Large females carry more eggs. They can dig deeper redds (spawning nests), which means more of those eggs survive. Releasing these fish helps maintain fish stocks for the future. You can make a healthy, fresh meal out of smaller fish. There are more of them and they usually taste better.

Survival rates can be high

Survival rates for released fish can be very high when done properly. Studies suggest that about 94 per cent of released pike and about 90 per cent of grayling survive. Survival rates for released lake trout range from 93 per cent for lightly-handled fish to 76 per cent for deep-hooked fish. Hook placement significantly impacts the survival of all species.

How to release fish unharmed

Use the right gear

- Use barbless hooks. They’re easy to remove and require less handling time.
- Long-nose pliers make hook removal easier on you and the fish.
- Use artificial lures, not bait, to reduce the chance of deep hooking.
- If you use a landing net, use one made of rubber or knotless mesh.

Limit the stress on the fish

- Bring the fish in quickly before it becomes exhausted.
- Keep the fish wet and limit its exposure to air. When you remove the hook, hold the fish underwater in a net or keep it in a live well.
- Handle the fish as little as possible and always with wet hands.
- Changes in pressure affect fish. If you want to release your fish, avoid fishing in deep waters. “Fizzing” (squeezing the belly to make a swim bladder deflate) can damage a fish’s internal organs. We don’t recommend it.
Release the fish carefully

- Remove the hook as gently as possible, using your pliers to grasp the hook by its shank.
- If you must handle the fish, hold it gently with one hand on its tail and the other under the fish, just behind the gill cover. Never hold it vertically. Don’t touch the gills or squeeze the belly.
- Consider cutting your line if the fish is deeply hooked.
- Warm water is very hard on fish. Release fish into water as cold as where they were caught.
- To revive a fish, hold it upright in the water and allow it to recover. Watch for gill movement and release it when it begins to swim normally on its own.

Be considerate

Too much live release can harm fish populations. The number of dead fish adds up. Even with a high survival rate like 90 per cent, if you catch and release 20 fish, two of those fish probably won’t survive. This is the same as harvesting two fish, which is the daily catch limit on many waters.

Read the list of ethics below. Good fish management practices will ensure that Yukon’s rivers and lakes continue to have fish for generations to come.

**Treat it humanely. Kill it quickly!**

*Immediately kill fish you plan to eat. Using stringers (tethers) and live wells to keep fish alive is not respectful.*

Live release ethics

1. Treat the fish gently, with respect.
2. Learn proper handling techniques (see above).
4. Keep any legal fish that are bleeding or injured.
5. Stop fishing when you reach your limit.
6. Don’t practise live release in schools of spawning fish.
7. Don’t practise live release in hot weather or warm water.
8. If you are not going to keep a fish, release it right away.
Yukon lake trout: Let the big ones go

Lake trout are popular catches and vulnerable to overfishing. Anglers catch many large, old fish. They feed aggressively in the summer and are more likely to take a lure. Females must eat a lot to produce eggs. Yukon lake trout also grow very slowly. If large fish are removed from a lake, it can take many years before a new generation of large fish replaces them. Releasing large fish helps keep females alive and protects future fish stocks.

Fish care in the field

Fish flesh decays much faster than game meat like moose. It doesn’t have the connective tissue that holds game meat together.

The following tips will help you preserve the quality and taste of your catch.

- Bring an ice-filled cooler and keep it out of the sun.
- Kill the fish quickly with a sharp blow to the head just behind the eyes.
- For best results, gut the fish right away. See page 11 for information about dressing fish.
- If you choose to gut the fish later, bleed it right away by inserting a knife through the gills and cutting straight down.
- Put the cleaned or bled fish in a plastic bag and put the bag in your cooler, preferably on ice.
- When at home, if you fillet your catch, do not rinse the fillets in water. Wipe them with paper towels.
- Freeze your catch as soon as you get it home or cook it within 24 hours for best results.

Your role in fisheries management

Do you have information on the status of particular lakes or rivers? Is the fishing better or worse than it used to be? Your comments can help fisheries managers focus their efforts on ensuring the sustainability of fish stocks. Email us your observations at fisheries@gov.yk.ca or call 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5721.
Help protect our waters

Aquatic invasive species can harm native species by bringing disease and altering ecosystems. This affects fishing, tourism, health and recreation in Yukon. Keep aquatic invasive species out by following these simple steps when moving between bodies of water:

**CLEAN** mud, weeds and aquatic life from equipment before leaving the area.

**DRAIN** water from bilges, pumps, coolers and buckets before leaving the area.

**DRY** your boat and gear before heading to another body of water. It can take five days in the sun to dry. You can also power wash, freeze small items overnight, or fully immerse or soak gear in very hot water for half an hour.

**CHOOSE YOUR GEAR WISELY.** Studded or soft rubber waders are your best choice. Felt and other porous soles in boots can trap moisture and spread aquatic invasive species. If you have felt-soled wading boots, it’s best to freeze them overnight.

Pay special attention when you are moving between lakes and rivers. Report all sightings of possible invasive species to the Department of Environment.

To learn more, visit [Yukon.ca/aquatic-invasive-species](http://Yukon.ca/aquatic-invasive-species) or [yukoninvasives.com](http://yukoninvasives.com).
Report zebra and quagga mussels

Report any mussels you find attached to boats or equipment to the Department of Environment. The Pacific Northwest, including Yukon, is the last part of North America that is still free of zebra and quagga mussels. These mussels cause major impacts to the environment and infrastructure like hydropower and municipal water supplies. They are spread by watercraft, transported overland between waterbodies. The mussels can attach to boats within hours, and their microscopic larvae can live in standing lake water. Adult mussels and larvae can survive up to 30 days on a boat out of the water.

How to identify zebra and quagga mussels:

- They are small: only up to 3 cm.
- They form dense clumps and attach to hard surfaces.
- Propeller-blade shaped.
- Zebra stripes often but not always, present.
Follow standard food safety practices when handling, cleaning or cooking any fish.

**Mercury**

Fish caught in Yukon may contain small amounts of mercury. In general, adults who are not pregnant do not need to limit how much lake trout, burbot or pike they eat. However, because larger fish have higher concentrations of mercury, consuming smaller lake trout, burbot and pike (i.e., less than 60 cm or 24" in length) gives an extra degree of safety. Women of childbearing age and children under the age of 12 should limit the number of large lake trout, burbot and pike (longer than 60 cm) they eat to only one or two meals per week. Small fish (less than 40 cm) do not pose a risk and you can eat as many as you like.

Other commonly targeted species of fish, including grayling, whitefish and salmon have mercury levels well below the Health Canada guideline.

**Fish parasites**

You might find parasites in the flesh and organs of some Yukon fish. Many of these parasites look unpleasant, but most are harmless for humans or pets. You can stop the threat of infection by thoroughly cooking the fish and using proper hygiene when cleaning and handling raw fish.

Parasite load varies between species and lakes. Some populations have a lot of parasites. Don’t harvest these fish unless you plan to eat them.

For more information, call the Animal Health Unit at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5600.

There is a wealth of information on the benefits of eating fish, food safety, mercury and fish parasites in the Yukon Fish Health Handbook. This handbook is available from Department of Environment offices and from Yukon.ca/yukon-fish-health-handbook.
There are five drainages in Yukon. Arctic grayling, northern pike, lake whitefish, round whitefish, lake trout, burbot and longnose sucker are present in all the drainage systems. Other species are present as follows:

**Alsek River drainage:** Chinook salmon, coho salmon, sockeye salmon, kokanee salmon, rainbow trout, steelhead, Dolly Varden and pygmy whitefish.

**Liard River drainage:** bull trout, mountain whitefish and white sucker.

**North Slope drainage:** Dolly Varden, Arctic lamprey, inconnu, rainbow smelt, least cisco, broad whitefish and chum salmon.

**Peel River drainage:** Dolly Varden, inconnu, white sucker and broad whitefish.

**Yukon River drainage:** Chinook salmon, chum salmon, coho salmon, inconnu, pygmy whitefish, broad whitefish, Arctic lamprey and least cisco.

**Cabins – do not disturb**

Most of the cabins you'll find in the backcountry belong to licensed trappers who use them during the winter trapping season. Don’t disturb these cabins or any traps or equipment you find in wilderness areas. Chances are, someone is counting on that cabin being in good shape, and the equipment being in place, when winter returns.
Lake trout
- Light spots on dark body.
- Worm-like markings on back and dorsal fin.
- Deeply forked tail.

Rainbow trout
- Dark spots on light body.
- Radiating rows of black spots on tail.

Arctic char
- Light spots on dark body.
- Slightly forked tail.
- Found in Pumphouse Pond, McIntyre Creek, Porter Creek and some stocked lakes.

Arctic grayling
- Long, high dorsal fin edged with a coloured band and dotted with rows of spots.
Freshwater fish of Yukon

Dolly Varden
- Light spots on dark body.
- No worm-like markings on dorsal fin.
- Slightly forked tail.
- Small head.

![Dolly Varden](image)

Bull trout
- Similar to Dolly Varden.
- Large, flattened head.

![Bull trout](image)

Northern pike
- Large mouth with prominent teeth.

![Northern pike](image)

Burbot
- Flattened head with whisker-like barbel under jaw.

![Burbot](image)
**Broad whitefish**
- Upper jaw projects beyond lower jaw.
- Tip of snout is lower than the eye.

**Lake (humpback) whitefish**
- Upper jaw projects beyond lower jaw.
- Tip of snout is above lower margin of eye.

**Inconnu**
- Lower jaw projects beyond upper jaw.

**Kokanee salmon**
- Landlocked sockeye salmon.
- Seldom longer than 40 cm or heavier than 0.5 kg.
Bear safety

Yukon is bear country. Your chances of encountering a bear go up if you are near an active fish spawning area, especially a stream where salmon spawn. Pick up more information on bear safety at a Visitor Information Centre, any Department of Environment office or visit Yukon.ca/stay-safe-bear-country.

In camp
- Don’t camp on the shore of a spawning stream.
- If you’re tenting, store your fish and food away from your tent, in bear-resistant containers.
- If you have a vehicle nearby, keep your fish cooler in it.
- Burn your garbage thoroughly or store it in odour-proof containers and pack it out.
  Keep a clean camp.
- Don't handle bait or clean your fish on picnic tables.

When fishing
- Keep an eye out for bears so you can give them plenty of room. Look for bear signs like tracks, scat, fresh diggings or partially eaten fish.
- Fish with friends. Bears are less likely to approach groups.
- Make noise, especially when your visibility is limited. If a bear hears you coming it will probably leave the area.
- Carry a can of bear spray and be sure you can reach it quickly and know how to use it.
- Don't leave your catch exposed and unattended. If fishing from shore, store your catch in your vehicle or a sealed container.

After fishing
- Clean your catch at the shoreline, not at your campsite.
- Throw the guts into deep or fast-moving water. Pop the air bladder so the guts will sink. You can also bag the guts and dispose of them at home. Don’t leave fish guts on the bank or in shallow water.
- Wash your hands, knife and cutting board after cleaning the fish. Don’t get fish odours on your clothes or waders.
If you have an encounter

- Stay calm. Encounters rarely result in an attack.
- Cut the line if you’re fighting a fish. The splashing may attract the bear.
- If there are other people around, group together.
- If a bear approaches you, stop. Try to stay calm and prepare to use your bear spray or other deterrent. Try to determine if the bear is behaving in a defensive or non-defensive manner. If possible, back away slowly.
- If a bear approaches you very closely, stand your ground, and use your deterrent.
- If the bear physically attacks you while defending food or cubs, play dead. If a bear physically attacks you in a non-defensive manner, fight back.
- Report your encounter to a conservation officer or call the TIPP line at 1-800-661-0525.

Boating safety

By law, all boats must carry safety equipment. What exactly you have to carry depends on the type and size of your boat. Check all equipment regularly, maintain it well and replace if necessary.

Common items needed on board are:

- Canadian-approved personal flotation device or lifejacket for each person;
- paddles or oars;
- a bailing device;
- a fire extinguisher;
- watertight flashlight or flares;
- a buoyant heaving line;
- a sound signaling device; and
- navigation lights.

Pleasure Craft Operator Card

All operators of pleasure crafts must carry a proof of competency (Pleasure Craft Operator Card) on board.

Like any other winter activity, the key to being safe and comfortable while ice fishing is to choose which days to go out and to dress for the conditions.

- Check the weather forecast and choose other activities on colder, windier days.
- Bring multiple layers of clothing.
- Avoid ice travel until there is at least 15 cm (6") of clear, strong ice.
- Avoid using snowmobiles on ice less than 25 cm (10") thick.
- Avoid areas with current, where the ice may be thin.

⚠️ Not a legal document

This booklet is not a legal document and may not contain all the details of the most current fishing regulations. It is an abbreviated guide designed to help you interpret the rules. For details, ask a conservation or fishery officer. You can also view the Yukon Territory Fishery Regulations in full at laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations.
Freshwater fish

Government of Yukon, Department of Environment

Main office 10 Burns Road .............................. 867-667-5652
Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6

Toll-free in Yukon .................... 1-800-661-0408 ext. 5652

Fisheries Unit .............................................. 867-667-5721
Email .......................................................... fisheries@gov.yk.ca

Conservation officers:
Whitehorse ................................................. 867-667-5652
Carmacks ...................................................... 867-863-2411
Dawson City ............................................... 867-993-5492
Faro .............................................................. 867-994-2862
Haines Junction ........................................... 867-634-2247
Mayo ............................................................. 867-996-2202
Old Crow ....................................................... 867-993-5492
Ross River ..................................................... 867-969-2202
Teslin ............................................................ 867-390-2685
Watson Lake ............................................... 867-536-3210

Salmon

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Fishery officers ....................................................... 867-393-6771
Main office ......................................................... 1-866-666-6722
100-419 Range Road, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 3V1
Web ................................................................. www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/yukon/index-eng.html
Observe, Record, Report line ....................... 1-800-465-4336
Salmon Conservation Catch Card .................. 1-877-535-7307

Yukon Salmon Sub-Committee

Main office 409 Black Street, second floor .... 867-393-6725
Box 31094, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 5P7
Email .............................................................. ex.dir@yscc.ca
Web ................................................................. yscc.ca

Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board

Main office 409 Black Street, second floor .... 867-667-3754
Box 31104, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 5P7
Web ................................................................. yfwmb.ca
Protect Yukon wildlife

When to call the TIPP line

- dangerous or aggressive wildlife encounters
- winter bear activity
- hunting or fishing out of season
- exceeding bag limits
- illegal sale of fish or wildlife
- deposit of harmful substances in lakes, streams and on the ground
- littering

If you see someone you suspect is violating wildlife or environmental laws, don’t confront them. That’s our job. Watch carefully and record the facts:

- date and time
- location
- number of people involved
- description of the people
- description of the vehicle and licence plate number
- details of the violation or activity

When you reach a phone call the TIPP line and report the details of the offence. You’ll be helping the wildlife conservation effort and you may be eligible for a cash reward.