



STATE OF UTAH
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

1989 FISHING PROCLAMATION

OF THE WILDLIFE BOARD FOR FISH AND CRAYFISH

We, the Utah Wildlife Board, by authority granted us under Title 23, Utah Code, hereby state the following rules governing the taking of all fish and crayfish from the waters of Utah. This proclamation is effective January 1, 1989, and will remain in effect until modified or rescinded by Board action. All dates are inclusive.

Sections B and C set forth general rules. Where more localized and specific rules are given in these and other sections of this proclamation, the more specific rules take precedence.

FISHING CHANGES FOR 1989

1. Chumming (which is illegal) is now defined as: Dislodging or depositing in the water any substance, not attached to a hook, line or trap, which may attract fish. Dislodging was added to eliminate the "San Juan Shuffle."
2. Fees: A ten dollar permit will now be required, in addition to an annual fishing or combination license, to use a set line. These permits are available at division offices only.
3. A set line permit allows the use of one set line with a maximum of 15 hooks. A set line must have a tag attached with name, address and set line number of the angler legibly indicated thereon. An angler must be within 100 yards attendance of his/her line.
4. Spearfishing for game fish is now allowed at Flaming Gorge Reservoir from June 1 through September 5. The daily bag limit is two game fish. No more than one trout, of any species, greater than 20 inches may be taken.
5. The Colorado River has been opened to the taking of carp by angling, archery or spearfishing equipment.
6. A daily bag limit of one (1) 30-inch or larger tiger muskellunge will be allowed.
7. The general application of restricted winter trout limits to large areas of the state has been dropped. Check Specific Water Rules for individual water restrictions.
8. The August 16 through September 30 fishing closure on East Canyon Creek has been reduced to the Mormon Flat historical Marker (Little Emigration Canyon).
9. On Mantua and Newton reservoirs the daily bag limit of two (2) bass has been removed. General bag limits now apply for bass 15 inches or larger.
10. The Provo River between the Columbia Lane diversion structure and Utah Lake is closed to the taking of nongame fish by methods other than angling.
11. Beaver Creek (Weber Creek, tributary to South Fork of Ogden River), Electric Lake Tributaries, Scofield Reservoir Tributaries, Strawberry Reservoir Tributaries and Kolob Creek will now open to fishing at 6:00 a.m. on July 1 rather than midnight on opening day.
12. Fairview Lakes are now closed to fishing from boats with motors.
13. Rock Creek, Upper Stillwater Dam and Enterprise Reservoir are now open to fishing.
14. Newcastle Reservoir has been opened to the harvest of bass.
15. Quail Creek Reservoir will have a four (4) trout daily bag limit from January 1 through May 26.
16. At Deer Creek Reservoir bass must be 12 inches or larger to be kept for the creel. All bass less than 12 inches must be immediately returned to the reservoir.
17. Noncommercial taking of brine shrimp is now covered by the Collection, Importation, Transportation and Subsequent Possession of Zoological Animals Rules. A Certificate of Registration is required and available at the division's Salt Lake office only.

HOW TO USE THIS PROCLAMATION

Step 1 - The general rules, page 2. Please read and become familiar with these rules first.

Step 2 - Read Section C for season dates and bag limits.

Step 3 - When you are ready to go fishing, consult the state map in this proclamation to determine in which management area your fishing waters are located.

Step 4 - Go to that area in Section D., Specific Water Rules. Check with the exceptions listed to see if the rules of the specific water you want to fish differ from the GENERAL rules you read in step 1.

Step 5 - If the water is not listed in these exceptions, then the general rules apply.

Step 6 - Definitions, page 2, explain important terms used in this proclamation. Please read them to make sure you understand their meaning.

Step 7 - For some facts and information which will help you be a better angler and understand fisheries management read pages 9-11.

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A. DEFINITIONS

1. **Aggregate.** The combined total of two or more species of fish or two or more size classes of fish which are covered by a limit distinction (i.e., trout and salmon in the aggregate).
2. **Angling.** Fishing with rod, pole, tipup, handline or trollboard, held in the hands of, or within 10 feet of, the person fishing and having a single line with legal hooks, baits or lures attached.
3. **Aquatic wildlife.** Any species of fish, crustaceans, aquatic insects, or amphibians (23-13-2(1)).
4. **Artificial fly.** Any fly made by the method known as fly tying. Weighted jigs, lures, spinners, attractor blades, or bait do not qualify as artificial flies.
5. **Artificial lure.** Any device made of rubber, wood, metal, glass, fiber, feathers, hair or plastic with hook or hooks attached.
6. **Bag limit.** Maximum limit, in number or amount, of aquatic wildlife which may lawfully be taken by any one person during one day (23-13-2(2)).
7. **Bait.** Any digestible substance including, but not limited to, worms, cheese, salmon eggs or marshmallows. Legal baits are described in B.3.a. Baits.
8. **Chumming.** Dislodging or depositing in the water any substance, not attached to a hook, line or trap, which may attract fish.
9. **Division.** The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.
10. **Fishing.** To take fish or crayfish by any means.
11. **Float tube.** A floating device capable of supporting one person and not considered a boat or a raft.
12. **Game fish.** Trout (rainbow, albino, cutthroat, brown, golden, brook, lake (mackinaw) and splake); kokanee salmon; grayling; whitefish; Bonneville cisco; crappie; yellow perch; largemouth and smallmouth bass; channel catfish; bullhead; bluegill; green sunfish; northern pike; walleye; white bass; tiger muskellunge; and striped bass.
13. **Lake or reservoir.** The standing water level existing at any time within the lake or reservoir basin. Unless posted otherwise, a stream flowing inside or within the high water mark is not considered part of the lake or reservoir.
14. **Length measurement.** The greatest length between the tip of the head or snout and the tip of the caudal (tail) fin when the fin rays are squeezed together. Measurement is taken in a straight line and not over the curve of the body.
15. **Minnow.** All members of the family of fish classified as Cyprinidae (chub, dace, goldfish, minnow, shiner, squawfish and carp); Cyprinodontidae (killifish) and Poeciliidae (mosquitofish). The term minnow does not include the fry or fingerlings of any species not in these three families (i.e., small trout are not minnows).
16. **Motor.** All electric and internal combustion motors.
17. **Nongame fish.** All fish species not listed as game fish. This includes carp, suckers, chubs and minnows.
18. **Nonresident.** Any person who does not qualify as a resident (23-13-2(18)).
19. **Possession.** Includes actual and constructive possession (23-13-2(22)).
20. **Possession limit.** One daily bag limit. This includes fish at home, in a cooler, camper, tent, freezer or any other place of storage.
21. **Protected wildlife.** All wildlife species of fish, birds, amphibians, reptiles, brine shrimp, crayfish, and mammals (23-13-2(27)).
22. **Resident** (23-13-2(29))
 - (a) Any person who has been domiciled in the State of Utah for six consecutive months immediately preceding the purchase of a license and who does not claim residency for hunting, fishing or trapping in any other state or country. Utah residents leaving Utah to serve in the armed forces of the United States or for religious or educational purposes and who do not claim residency for hunting, fishing, or trapping in any other state or country shall not lose their residency.
 - (b) A member of the armed forces of the United States who is not on temporary duty in this state and does not claim residency for hunting, fishing, or trapping in any other state or country is a resident for purposes of this chapter as of the date the member reports for duty under assigned orders in the state. A copy of the assignment orders must be presented to a Division office to verify the member's qualification as a resident. Dependents of a member of the armed forces who do not claim residency for hunting, fishing, or trapping in any other state or country may qualify as residents under this chapter after living in the state for 60 consecutive days immediately prior to purchasing a license.
 - (c) Nonresidents attending an institution of higher learning in this state as full-time students and who do not claim residency for hunting, fishing, or trapping in any other state or country may qualify as Utah residents for license purposes after having been physically present in this state for 60 consecutive days immediately preceding the purchase of the license. This license becomes invalid upon the purchase of a resident license for hunting, fishing, or trapping in any other state or country.
 - (d) Absentee landowners who pay property taxes on land they own in Utah do not qualify as a resident.
23. **Set line.** A line anchored at one end to a nonmoving object and not attached to a fishing pole.
24. **Single hook.** A hook or multiple hooks having a common shank.
25. **Snagging or gaffing.** Attempting to take a fish in such a manner that the fish does not take the hook voluntarily in its mouth. Snag or gaff hooks are hooks with or without handles used to take fish by snagging.
26. **Spoiled.** Impairment of the flesh quality of any form of wildlife beyond which point a reasonable and prudent person would consider it unfit for human consumption (23-13-2(32)).
27. **Take.** To hunt, pursue, harass, catch, capture, possess, angle, seine, trap, or kill any protected wildlife or any attempt to commit any of these acts (23-13-2(34)).
28. **Trout.** All species of the family Salmonidae except whitefish and cisco. (Trout includes rainbow, albino, cutthroat, brown, golden, brook, lake (mackinaw), splake, kokanee salmon and grayling).
29. **Waste.** Protected wildlife that has been abandoned, allowed to deteriorate, or used in a manner not normally associated with beneficial uses of the species involved (23-13-2(37)).
30. **Wildlife.** Any species of vertebrate animal life except feral animals generally living in a state of nature (23-13-2(39)).

B. GENERAL RULES

This section sets forth general rules. Where more localized and specific rules are given in this and other sections of the proclamation, the more specific rules take precedence.

Noncommercial use of brine shrimp is now covered by the rules of the Wildlife Board for Collection, Importation, Transportation and Subsequent Possession of Zoological Animals. A certificate of registration is required for their taking. Application for a certificate of registration must be submitted to the Division's Wildlife Registration Office located at the Salt Lake office.

1. LICENSE AND STAMP REQUIREMENTS

No person shall engage in fishing for protected wildlife as provided by this proclamation without first having procured the necessary fishing or combination license, permit and tag as herein provided and having at the time such license, permit and tag on his person; nor shall any person lend, transfer, sell, give or assign his license or any permits or tag belonging thereto or the rights granted by such license, permit or tag. It is unlawful for any person to use or have in his possession while fishing, any license or permit not issued to him (23-19-1).

June 10, 1989 has been designated FREE FISHING DAY in Utah. On that day only, no license is required. All other rules of this proclamation are in effect.

Sales of all licenses, certificates or permits are final, and no refunds may be made by the Division except in those instances where the opportunity to participate in the specific activity for which the license, certificate or

permit was obtained is withdrawn by the Division, Wildlife Board, or Board of Big Game Control (23-19-38).

Some interstate waters have separate licensing requirements. See B.1.b. Interstate Waters.

a. Age Requirements

(1) 12 Years and Older

Any person 12 years of age or older must have in possession a current valid fishing or combination license to take any fish or crayfish.

(2) Residents Under 12 Years of Age

(a) Residents less than 6 years of age may fish without a license while in the company of a licensed angler. Fish taken must be included in the limit of the licensed angler.

(b) Residents 6 through 11 years of age may fish without a license. In this case, the daily bag limit is equivalent to one-half of the daily bag and possession limit;

or

Residents 6 through 11 years of age may purchase a resident (age 12 and under 16) fishing license. In this case, full daily bag limits apply.

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B. GENERAL RULES (Continued)

(3) Nonresidents Under 12 Years of Age

- (a) Nonresidents under 12 years of age may fish without a license while in the company of a licensed adult angler. Fish taken must be included in the limit of the licensed angler;

or

Nonresidents under 12 years of age may purchase a nonresident fishing license. In this case, full daily bag limits apply.

b. Interstate Waters

Reciprocal fishing stamps for Flaming Gorge Reservoir or Lake Powell must be signed across the face by the holder, in the same manner as the holder's name appears on the fishing license, and attached to the fishing license. Reciprocal stamps are valid on a calendar year basis.

Anglers are subject to the rules of the state in which they are fishing.

The holder of a current valid Utah fishing or combination license may fish the Utah portions of all interstate waters.

Only one daily limit of fish may be taken by each licensed angler licensed in either or both states. An angler is entitled to only one limit per day even if licensed in both states.

(1) Bear Lake

The holder of a current valid Utah or Idaho fishing or combination license may fish any place on Bear Lake proper.

See other special Bear Lake rules under D. SPECIFIC WATER RULES.

(2) Lake Powell

Any person possessing a current valid Arizona license may fish in the waters of Lake Powell within Arizona without a Utah reciprocal fishing stamp, and any person possessing a current valid Utah fishing or combination license may fish in the waters of Lake Powell within Utah without an Arizona reciprocal fishing stamp.

Any person qualifying as an Arizona resident having in his possession a current valid resident Arizona fishing license and a Utah reciprocal fishing stamp is permitted to fish within the Utah boundaries of Lake Powell.

Any person qualifying as a Utah resident having in his possession a current valid Utah fishing or combination license and an Arizona reciprocal fishing stamp is permitted to fish within the Arizona boundaries of Lake Powell.

Persons under the age of 14 may fish without a license. Creel and possession limits are the same as for licensed anglers.

Any person properly licensed pursuant to the rules set forth above may fish in any and all waters of Lake Powell and may enter said waters from any point.

See other special Lake Powell rules under D. SPECIFIC WATER RULES.

(3) Flaming Gorge Reservoir

These rules pertain only to Flaming Gorge Reservoir proper at the standing water elevation existing at the time of fishing. Tributaries to Flaming Gorge Reservoir are governed by the fishing rules of the state in which they are located.

Persons under the age of 14 may fish in any portion of Flaming Gorge Reservoir without a fishing license. A current valid fishing license is required for all persons 14 years of age or older to fish on Flaming Gorge Reservoir.

Any person possessing a current valid Wyoming fishing license may fish Flaming Gorge Reservoir within Wyoming without a Utah reciprocal fishing stamp, and any person possessing a current valid Utah fishing or combination license may fish Flaming Gorge Reservoir within Utah without a Wyoming reciprocal fishing stamp.

Any person possessing a current valid Wyoming fishing license and a Utah reciprocal fishing stamp is permitted to fish within Utah in the waters of Flaming Gorge Reservoir.

Any person possessing a current valid Utah fishing or combination license and a Wyoming reciprocal fishing stamp is permitted to fish within Wyoming in the waters of Flaming Gorge Reservoir.

Unlicensed persons under the age of 14 may take only one-half the daily bag limit.

Persons under the age of 14 eligible to buy a license under Utah or Wyoming rules may do so and are allowed a full daily bag limit.

See other special Flaming Gorge rules under D. SPECIFIC WATER RULES.

c. Fees

(1) Resident License Fees

Combination fishing and hunting (16 years and over) ... \$35.00

Annual fishing

Age 6 and under 12 (optional)★	8.00
Age 12 and under 16	8.00
Age 16 and under 65	18.00
65 and over	9.00

Blind, paraplegic, or otherwise permanently disabled so as to be permanently confined to a wheelchair or the use of crutches, or who has lost either or both lower extremities, upon furnishing satisfactory proof of this fact to the Division (available at Division offices only)50

Five-day fishing

Age 12 and under 16	4.00
Age 16 or older	9.00

★License may be purchased by individuals ages 6-11 wanting a full bag limit.

(2) Nonresident License Fees

Annual fishing	40.00
Five-day fishing	15.00
One-day fishing	5.00
One-day fishing stamp to extend 1- and 5-day license	5.00

(3) Reciprocal Fishing Stamps

Flaming Gorge Reservoir (for use with Wyoming resident license)	5.00
Lake Powell (for use with Arizona resident licenses)	8.00

(4) Set Line Permit

For use with annual fishing or combination license 10.00 (available at Division offices only)

d. Division Offices

Main Office (801/533-9333)
1596 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84116
Northern Regional Office (801/479-5143)
515 East 5300 South, Ogden, Utah 84405
Central Regional Office (801/489-5678)
1115 North Main Street, Springville, Utah 84663
Northeastern Regional Office (801/789-3103)
152 East 100 North, Vernal, Utah 84078
Southern Regional Office (801/586-2455)
622 North Main Street, Cedar City, Utah 84720
Southeastern Regional Office (801/637-3310)
455 West Railroad Avenue, Price, Utah 84501

2. EXHIBIT OF LICENSE, STAMP AND WILDLIFE

All persons while engaged in hunting, trapping, or fishing, or while transporting wildlife, shall be required upon demand of any conservation officer or any other peace officer to exhibit the required license, permit, tag or certificate of registration; any device or apparatus in his possession used for hunting, trapping, or fishing, or any wildlife in his possession (23-20-25).

3. FISHING METHODS

Game fish may be taken only by angling, set line (B.3.c.), spearfishing (B.3.b.) and cisco dipnetting (D.1.b.(1)). Also see nongame fish (B.3.e.).

Angling is fishing with one rod, pole, tipup, handline or trollboard, held in the hand of, or attended by, the person angling, and having a single line attached with legal hooks, baits, or lures. Attended means the angler must be within ten feet of equipment being used at all times. Fishing with more than one line is illegal, except for crayfishing (B.3.e.) or setlining (B.3.c.).

Angling is permitted with any two lures, except no lure may have more than three hooks. No line may have attached to it more than two baited hooks or two artificial flies, except for set lines noted in B.3.c.

Artificial light is permitted, except when spearfishing.

Obstructing waterways and use of chemicals, explosives, electricity, poisons, crossbows, firearms or pellet guns are unlawful to take aquatic wildlife. Persons or companies who want to use any of these means to take fish in any waters of the state must have written approval of the Division.

Snagging and gaffing are illegal, except that a gaff may be used to land fish caught by lawful means.

Chumming is prohibited.

When angling through the ice, no ice hole may exceed 12 inches across at the widest point, except at Bear Lake, Flaming Gorge Reservoir and Fish Lake where no hole may exceed 18 inches. For cisco dip netting at Bear Lake, see D.1.a.

a. Baits

Fishing is permitted with any bait, except corn, hominy, any live fish and any game fish or parts thereof; however, the eggs of all fish species are permitted for bait.

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B. GENERAL RULES (Continued)

The possession of corn or hominy when fishing is illegal.

Use or possession of any bait while fishing on waters designated artificial fly and lure only is unlawful.

Using live crayfish for bait is legal only on the water where the crayfish are captured. It is unlawful to transport live crayfish away from the water where captured.

Dead Bonneville cisco may be used as bait only in Bear Lake.

Dead yellow perch may be used as bait only in Deer Creek, Fish Lake, Gunnison, Hyrum, Pineview and Sevier Bridge (Yuba) reservoirs.

Dead white bass may be used as bait only in Utah Lake.

b. Spearfishing

Deer Creek Reservoir, Steinaker Reservoir, Fish Lake and Flaming Gorge Reservoir are open to taking game fish by means of scuba and snorkel spearfishing from June 1 through September 5.

The daily bag and possession limit is two game fish. No more than one lake trout greater than 20 inches may be taken at Fish Lake. No more than one trout of any species greater than 20 inches may be taken at Flaming Gorge Reservoir.

See B.3.e. for spearfishing nongame fish.

Spearfishing is permitted from sunrise to sunset. Use of artificial light at any time is prohibited for spearfishing.

A spearfishing permit is required in addition to a current valid fishing or combination license and may be obtained without charge from all Division offices.

c. Set Line Fishing

A set line may be used to take fish only in the Bear River proper downstream from the Idaho state line, including Cutler Reservoir and outlet canals; Little Bear River below Valley View Highway (U-30); Malad River; and Utah Lake.

Conventional fishing with one pole is permitted concurrent with set line fishing.

No more than one set line per angler may be used and it must not contain more than 15 hooks.

In addition to a current valid annual fishing or combination license, a set line permit is required. This set line permit is available for TEN DOLLARS at Division offices only.

When fishing a set line, the angler must be in attendance within 100 yards on the surface or bank of the water being fished.

A set line must have attached a legible tag with the name, address and set line permit number of the angler.

d. Completely Protected Fish

The following fish species are completely protected and may not be taken without prior written permission from the Division:

Colorado squawfish	<i>Ptychocheilus lucius</i>
Bonytail chub	<i>Gila elegans</i>
Humpback chub	<i>Gila cypha</i>
Roundtail chub	<i>Gila robusta</i>
Least chub	<i>Notichthys phlegethontis</i>
Woundfin	<i>Plagopterus argentissimus</i>
Razorback sucker	<i>Xyrauchen texanus</i>
Virgin River chub	<i>Gila robusta seminuda</i>
June sucker	<i>Chasmistes liorus</i>
Virgin River spinedace	<i>Lepidomeda mollispinis</i>

e. Taking Nongame Fish and Other Aquatic Wildlife

Nongame fish and crayfish may be taken by licensed anglers for personal, noncommercial purposes during the open season set for a given body of water. The Green, Colorado, White (Uintah County) and Virgin rivers are closed to the taking of nongame fish; however, carp may be taken from the Colorado and Green rivers by angling, archery or spearfishing equipment.

Nongame fish, EXCEPT Completely Protected Fish (B.3.d.), may be taken by angling or with traps, bow and arrow, liftnets, spear or seine (see D. SPECIFIC WATER RULES for exceptions); and crayfish may be taken by angling or with traps, liftnets, handlines or seine, provided that:

Crayfish may not be taken with game fish or parts thereof, or any substance illegal for angling.

Seines must not exceed 10 feet in length or width.

No more than five lines may be used to take crayfish. Lines used for crayfishing can be held in the hand or used with a rod and must not have hooks attached. Bait is tied to the line so that the crayfish grasps the bait with its claws.

All legally taken nongame fish must be either released or killed immediately upon removing them from the water.

All crayfish must be killed before transporting from the body of water where taken.

4. POSSESSION AND TRANSPORTATION

a. Dead Aquatic Wildlife

All fish possessed in the field or in transit must be kept in such a manner that (a) the species of fish can be readily identified, (b) the number of fish can be readily counted, and (c) the size of the fish can be readily measured where size limits apply. Fish fillets must have attached sufficient skin to include the conspicuous markings so species can be identified.

A legal limit of game fish may accompany a bona fide fishing license holder within the state or when leaving the state. A person may lawfully possess or transport a legal limit of fish when accompanied by a donation letter. See B.7.a. Donating.

It is unlawful for any person to have more than one daily bag limit in possession at any time.

A person may lawfully possess or transport dead fish on a seller's receipt from a registered commercial pond owner. This document must specify the number and species of fish purchased; the certificate number of the registered pond owner; the name, address and signature of the seller; and the date and place where the fish were purchased.

b. Live Aquatic Wildlife

It is unlawful for any person, except operators of properly registered commercial fish installations, to possess or transport live fish. This section does not preclude the use of live fish stringers, live wells or hold-type cages as part of normal angling procedures while on the same water in which the fish are taken.

It is unlawful to transport live crayfish away from the water where captured.

Utah Code (23-13-14) provides that unlawful introduction of any live fish or crayfish into a water is a Class A misdemeanor that could be punishable by a fine of up to \$2,500.00 and/or a jail sentence up to 12 months.

5. RELEASE OF TAGGED OR MARKED FISH

It is unlawful to tag or mark game fish for the purpose of offering a prize or reward as part of a contest.

It is illegal to introduce any tagged, marked or fin-clipped fish into the water or to tag, mark or fin clip any fish and return it to the water without prior written approval from the Division.

6. CHECKING STATIONS AND ROADBLOCKS

It is unlawful for any person to fail to stop at roadblocks or checking stations where a stop sign or red or blue light is displayed (23-20-19).

7. DISPOSAL OF WILDLIFE

a. Donating

A person may lawfully possess a legal limit of fish when accompanied by a donation letter. This letter must specify the number and species of fish donated; the fishing license number of the person who caught the fish; the name, address and signature of the donor; and the date and place where the fish were taken (23-20-9).

b. Purchasing or Selling

It is unlawful for any person to purchase, sell, offer for sale or barter, or to obtain for sale, purchase or barter, any protected wildlife, or parts of them (23-20-6).

c. Wasting

It is unlawful to waste or permit to be wasted or spoiled any protected wildlife or any part of them (23-20-8).

8. AIDING AND ASSISTING

It is unlawful for any person to aid or assist any other person to violate any rule (23-20-23).

9. EMERGENCY CLOSING

The Director of the Division shall have authority to declare emergency closed or open seasons in the interest of the wildlife resource of the state (23-14-8). As a conservation measure, any water or area may be closed to fishing by posting with suitable signs or markers and without further notice.

10. DAMAGE OF PROPERTY

It is unlawful for any person to deface, damage, move, remove or destroy any signs, placards or floating markers ordered placed, permitted to be placed, or caused to be placed in any part of this state by the Wildlife Board to enforce provisions of this proclamation or other actions of the Wildlife Board (23-20-13).

B. GENERAL RULES (Continued)

It is unlawful for any person, without the consent of the owner or person in charge of any privately owned land, to tear down, mutilate, or destroy any sign, signboard or other notice which regulates trespassing for purposes of hunting, trapping, or fishing on this land; or to, without such consent, tear down, deface, or destroy any fence or other enclosure on this privately owned land, or any gate or bars belonging to any such fence or enclosure (23-20-15).

It shall be unlawful to remove, destroy or deface any Division signs that are properly posted to provide information relating to a specific water or Division-owned lands. It shall be unlawful to fail to abide by the posted regulations on Division lands.

No person shall operate a recreation vehicle in connection with acts of vandalism, harassment of wildlife or domestic animals, burglaries or other crimes, or damage to the environment which includes pollution of air, water or land, abuse of the watershed, impairment of plant and animal life or excessive mechanical noise (41.22.13).

11. INDIAN LANDS

Indian Trust Lands are administered separately from state, private and other federal lands. Anglers should observe tribal regulations for fishing on Trust Lands of the reservations. Any person wishing additional information on fishing should contact the respective tribe. Information concerning the Uintah-Ouray Reservation may be obtained by contacting the Ute Indian Tribe, Fort Duchesne, Utah.

12. TRESPASS (23-20-14)

Any person entering upon privately owned land of any other person, firm or corporation which is properly posted, without permission from the owner or person in charge, is guilty of a Class B misdemeanor.

Any person who upon request of the owner or person in charge of private land shall refuse to immediately leave such private land, whether posted or not, is guilty of a Class B misdemeanor.

Any person who without the owner's permission shall obstruct any entrance or exit to private property is guilty of a Class B misdemeanor.

Any person convicted of violating any provisions of this section while in the act of hunting or fishing may have his license, certificate or permit relating to the activity engaged in at the time of such violation revoked by the Division, and such person may not obtain another license, certificate or permit for that activity until a period of one year shall elapse from the date of revocation.

Private property shall be deemed posted properly when "No Trespassing" signs and/or a minimum of 100 square inches of fluorescent or bright yellow paint (on exterior fenceposts, trees; or when metal fenceposts are used, the entire exterior side must be painted) are displayed at all corners, and at all fishing streams that cross property lines, and along all roads, and trails, gates and rights-of-way entering such land. Posting must be confined to privately owned land under the control of an individual, group or organization and is not valid in restricting access to public lands other than lands controlled by public agencies posted as conservation measures.

Any landowner desiring enforcement of this provision must notify the Division of Wildlife Resources in writing 14 days prior to the opening of any hunting and fishing season that property is posted in the prescribed manner and that unless anyone has written permission to hunt or fish on the property, the landowner expects the Division to apprehend and prosecute the trespasser.

This section shall not apply to peace or conservation officers in the performance of their duties.

Any person, firm or corporation desiring to permit hunting on privately owned property by the owner or owners and not others, except by permission, may post a special sign "hunting by permission only."

"Hunting by Permission Cards" will be provided to landholders by the Division upon request, for use in granting access to such lands.

Written permission is not required for access to lands posted "Hunting by Permission"; verbal permission is sufficient for access to such lands.

C. SEASON DATES AND BAG LIMITS

This section sets forth general rules. Where more localized and specific rules are given in other sections of this proclamation, the more specific rules take precedence.

1. CLOSED AREAS

All waters of state fish-raising or spawning facilities are CLOSED to fishing. State waterfowl management areas are CLOSED to fishing except as posted or as listed under D. SPECIFIC WATER RULES.

2. SEASON DATES

The general season for fishing waters is January 1 through December 31, 24 hours each day. Exceptions are listed separately under D. SPECIFIC WATER RULES.

3. BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS

The following daily bag limits apply statewide, except where listed otherwise in D. SPECIFIC WATER RULES. No completely protected fish may be taken (see B.3.d.).

*Trout, salmon and grayling in the aggregate, except that no more than two shall be lake trout	8 fish
*Whitefish	10 fish
Bonneville cisco	30 fish
*Largemouth and smallmouth bass in the aggregate	6 fish
Striped bass	10 fish
*Walleye	6 fish
*Channel catfish	8 fish
Bullhead	24 fish
*Bluegill and green sunfish in the aggregate	50 fish
*Crappie	50 fish
Northern pike	6 fish
*Tiger muskellunge (hybrid)	1 fish
White bass	No Limit
Yellow perch	No Limit
Crayfish	No Limit
Nongame fish species	No Limit

*On some waters, bag or size restrictions apply.
See D. SPECIFIC WATER RULES for variations.

It is unlawful for any person to have more than one daily bag limit in possession at any time. This means a person may not harvest in one day or have in possession more than one daily bag limit of each species regardless of the number of days spent fishing. Consuming the fish on the same day they were taken does not allow the angler to take more fish and exceed the daily bag limit.

EXAMPLE: If you take 8 rainbow trout in one day and eat 4 of them, you may only take 4 more the next day. You may not take more fish the first day even after eating the 4 fish.

It is unlawful to fish in waters having a special bag or size limit while having fish in possession in violation of that limit.

a. Residents Under 12 Years of Age

Residents less than 6 years of age must be in the company of a licensed angler, and the fish taken must be included in the daily bag and possession limit of the licensed angler.

Residents 6 through 11 years of age fishing without a license may possess a limit equivalent to one-half of the daily bag and possession limit.

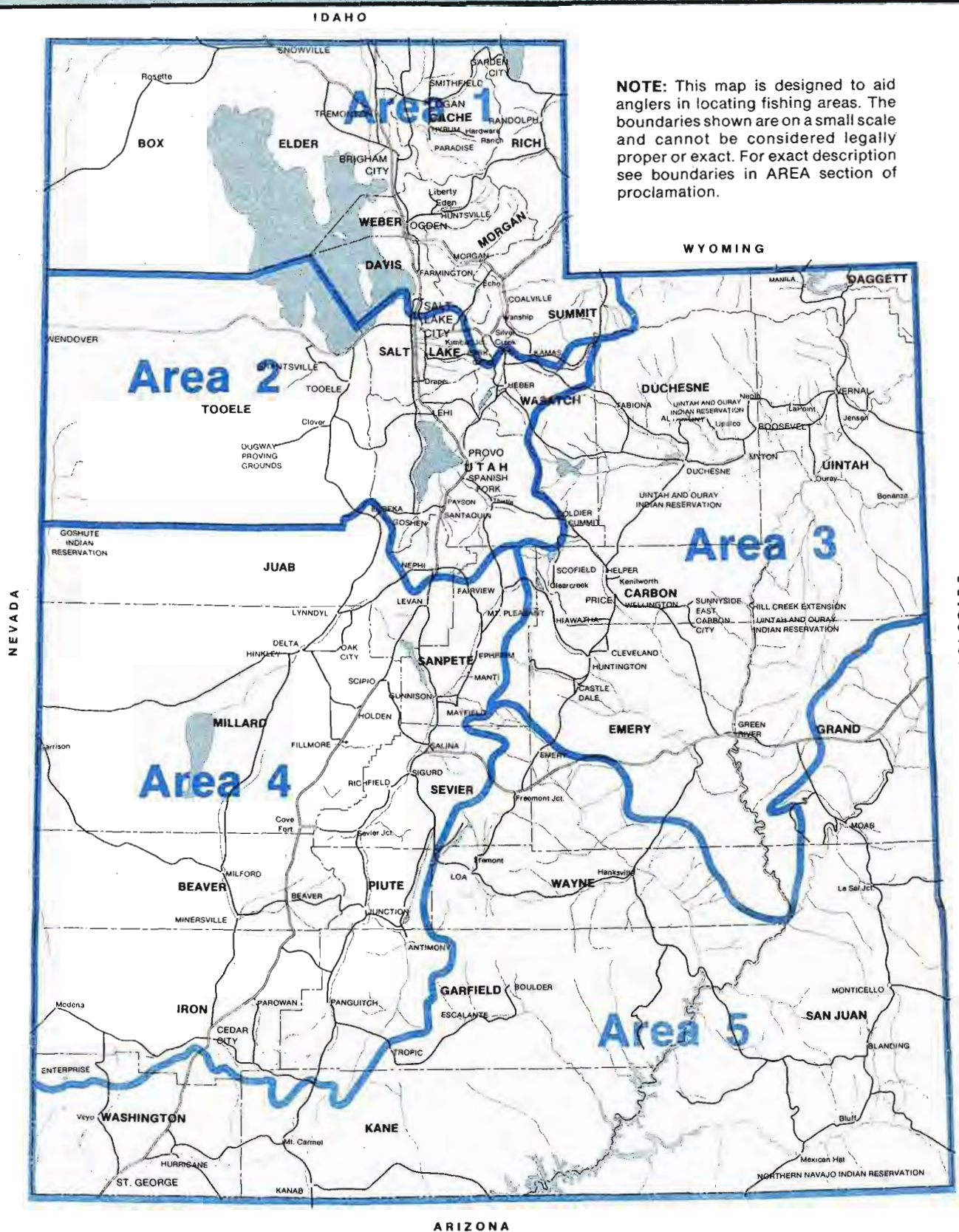
Residents 6 through 11 years of age fishing with a resident fishing license may possess a full daily bag limit.

Nonresidents Under 12 Years of Age

Nonresidents under 12 years of age fishing without a license must be in the company of a licensed adult angler, and the fish taken must be included in the daily bag and possession limit of the licensed angler.

Nonresidents under 12 years of age fishing with a nonresident fishing license may possess a full daily bag limit.

D. SPECIFIC WATER RULES



The rules set forth in this section take precedence over the general rules in Sections B. and C.

For waters not listed in this section, general rules apply.

1. AREA 1:

BEAR RIVER, RAFT RIVER, WEBER AND OGDEN RIVER DRAINAGES AND ALL WATERS IN BOX ELDER AND DAVIS COUNTIES

The following waters have specific exceptions to the general rules:

a. **BEAR LAKE**

- See B.1.b.(1) for license requirements.
- The mouth of Big Spring Creek from State Highway 30 out into the lake as buoyed, CLOSED April 15 through June 30.
- The mouth of Swan Creek into the lake 2,000 feet, or as buoyed, CLOSED April 15 through June 30.
- Trout limit 6, only 2 over 16 inches and no more than 2 lake trout.
- Cisco limit 30. Cisco may be taken with a hand-held dip net January 1 through February 13. Net opening must not exceed 18 inches in any dimension. When netting through ice, the hole size is unrestricted.
- Whitefish limit 20.

b. **BEAVER CREEK (Weber Creek, tributary to South Fork Ogden River)**

- CLOSED January 1 through 6:00 a.m. July 1.

c. **BIG SPRING CREEK**

- CLOSED April 15 through June 30.
- Same daily bag and possession limit as Bear Lake.

d. **BIRCH CREEK RESERVOIR**

- CLOSED.

e. **BLACKSMITH FORK**

- Approximately one-half mile above the second dam as posted, upstream to its source, trout limit is 3 (2 under 12 inches and 1 over 18 inches). For unlicensed anglers under 12, trout limit is 2 (2 under 12 inches or 1 under 12 inches and one over 18 inches). All other trout must be immediately returned to the river. ARTIFICIAL FLIES AND LURES ONLY.

f. **CAUSEY RESERVOIR AND ITS TRIBUTARIES**

- January 1 through May 26, trout limit 4.

g. **EAST CANYON CREEK**

- From East Canyon Reservoir upstream to the Mormon Flat Historical Marker (Little Emigration Canyon), CLOSED August 16 through September 30.

h. **EAST CANYON RESERVOIR**

- January 1 through May 26, trout limit 4.

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D. SPECIFIC WATER RULES (Continued)

- i. **EAST FORK LITTLE BEAR**
 - Upstream from Porcupine Reservoir, CLOSED August 16 through September 30.
- j. **FARMINGTON CITY RESERVOIR**
 - CLOSED January 1 through May 26.
- k. **HOLMES CREEK RESERVOIR**
 - Fishing from boats and float tubes is unlawful.
- l. **HONEYVILLE (COLD SPRINGS) PONDS**
 - CLOSED January 1 through May 26.
- m. **HYRUM RESERVOIR**
 - Minimum bass size limit 15 inches. All bass less than 15 inches must be immediately returned to the reservoir.
- n. **LOCOMOTIVE SPRINGS**
 - CLOSED January 1 through January 16 and November 14 through December 31.
- o. **LOST CREEK RESERVOIR**
 - January 1 through May 26, trout limit 4.
- p. **MANTUA RESERVOIR**
 - Minimum bass size limit 15 inches. All bass less than 15 inches must be immediately returned to the reservoir.
- q. **NEWTON RESERVOIR**
 - Minimum bass size limit 15 inches. All bass less than 15 inches must be returned to the reservoir.
- r. **OGDEN RIVER**
 - See South Fork Ogden River.
- s. **PINEVIEW RESERVOIR**
 - Minimum tiger muskellunge size 30 inches. All tiger muskellunge less than 30 inches must be immediately returned to the reservoir.
 - Minimum bass size limit 15 inches. All bass less than 15 inches must be immediately returned to the reservoir.
- t. **PORCUPINE RESERVOIR**
 - Daily bag and possession limit 24 kokanee salmon and trout in the aggregate, no more than 8 of which may be brown trout, cutthroat trout or splake, in combination.
- u. **ROCKPORT RESERVOIR (Wanship Reservoir)**
 - Bass limit 2 larger than 12 inches. All bass less than 12 inches must be immediately returned to the reservoir.
- v. **SOUTH FORK OGDEN RIVER**
 - January 1 through May 26, trout limit 4.
- w. **SPRING CREEK RESERVOIR**
 - CLOSED January 1 through May 26.
- x. **STODDARD SLOUGH**
 - From Stoddard Lane Bridge upstream to its source, CLOSED January 1 through May 26.
 - From Stoddard Lane Bridge downstream to Weber River, trout limit 2, ARTIFICIAL FLIES AND LURES ONLY.
- y. **SWAN CREEK**
 - CLOSED April 15 through June 30.
- z. **WELLSVILLE RESERVOIR**
 - CLOSED January 1 through May 26.
- aa. **WILLARD BAY INLET CHANNEL**
 - East of south boat harbor buoys, as posted, CLOSED March 1 through April 30.
- c. **BURRASTON PONDS**
 - Fishing from boats with motors is unlawful.
- d. **DEER CREEK RESERVOIR**
 - Minimum bass size 12 inches. All bass less than 12 inches must be immediately returned to the reservoir.
- e. **DRY CREEK (tributary to Utah Lake)**
 - West of I-15 CLOSED between 7:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m., February 1 through April 30.
 - Walleye limit 2.
- f. **GRANTSVILLE RESERVOIR**
 - Fishing from boats with internal combustion motors is unlawful.
- g. **HOBBLE CREEK (tributary to Utah Lake)**
 - West of I-15 CLOSED between 7:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m., February 1 through April 30.
 - Walleye limit 2.
- h. **MAPLE LAKE**
 - Fishing from boats with motors is unlawful.
- i. **McCLELLAN RESERVOIR**
 - Fishing from boats with motors is unlawful.
- j. **PAYSON RESERVOIR**
 - Fishing from boats with motors is unlawful.
- k. **PROVO RIVER**
 - CLOSED from the Highway U.S. 40 bridge at Hailstone Junction upstream as posted.
 - From Olmstead diversion dam upstream (not including Deer Creek Reservoir) to the county road 241 bridge directly south of Woodland, the limit is 2 trout. All trout over 15 inches must be immediately returned to the river. ARTIFICIAL FLIES AND LURES ONLY.
 - West of I-15 CLOSED between 7:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m., February 1 through April 30.
 - Walleye limit 2.
 - CLOSED to the taking of nongame fish by methods other than angling from Columbia Lane diversion structure to Utah Lake.
- l. **RED BUTTE CREEK**
 - CLOSED.
- m. **RED BUTTE RESERVOIR**
 - CLOSED to general public. OPEN to disabled veterans of the United States Armed Forces who are domiciled in veterans' hospitals.
- n. **RED CREEK RESERVOIR (near Payson)**
 - Fishing from boats with motors is unlawful.
- o. **SETTLEMENT CANYON RESERVOIR**
 - Fishing from boats is unlawful.
- p. **SILVER LAKE FLAT RESERVOIR**
 - Fishing from boats with internal combustion motors is unlawful.
- q. **SPANISH FORK RIVER**
 - West of I-15 CLOSED between 7:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m., February 1 through April 30.
 - Walleye limit 2.
- r. **SPRING CREEK (tributary to Utah Lake)**
 - West of I-15 CLOSED between 7:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m., February 1 through April 30.
 - Walleye limit 2.
- s. **TIBBLE FORK RESERVOIR**
 - Fishing from boats with internal combustion motors is unlawful.
- t. **VERNON RESERVOIR**
 - Fishing from boats with internal combustion motors is unlawful.

2. AREA 2:

**PROVO RIVER, JORDAN RIVER AND UTAH LAKE DRAINAGES
AND ALL WATERS IN TOOELE COUNTY
(includes Burraston Ponds and Salt Creek in Juab County)**

The following waters have specific exceptions to the general rules:

- a. **AMERICAN FORK CREEK**
 - West of I-15 CLOSED between 7:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m., February 1 through April 30.
 - Walleye limit 2.
- b. **BEER CREEK (Benjamin Slough, tributary to Utah Lake)**
 - West of I-15 CLOSED between 7:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m., February 1 through April 30.
 - Walleye limit 2.

3. AREA 3:

**ALL WATERS IN THE GREEN RIVER DRAINAGE.
MAJOR TRIBUTARIES ARE BLACKS FORK, HENRYS FORK,
ASHLEY CREEK, DUCHESNE RIVER, STRAWBERRY RIVER, PRICE RIVER,
HUNTINGTON CREEK, COTTONWOOD CREEK AND FERRON CREEK**

The following waters have specific exceptions to the general rules:

D. SPECIFIC WATER RULES (Continued)

- a. **ASHLEY CREEK**
 - From Steinaker (Thornburg) diversion to the water treatment plant near the mouth of Ashley Gorge, trout limit 6, no more than 2 brown trout. ARTIFICIAL FLIES AND LURES ONLY.
- b. **BROWN DUCK BASIN (Uinta Mountains)**
 - All streams in the Brown Duck Basin and the outlet of Clemments Reservoir to its confluence with Lake Fork Creek, CLOSED January 1 through July 14.
- c. **ECCLES CREEK (Carbon County)**
 - See Scofield Reservoir Tributaries D.3.p.
- d. **ELECTRIC LAKE TRIBUTARIES**
 - All tributaries to Electric Lake CLOSED January 1 through 6:00 a.m. July 1. Boulder Creek is only CLOSED from Electric Lake upstream to Boulder Reservoir.
- e. **FAIRVIEW LAKES**
 - Fishing from boats with motors is unlawful.
- f. **FISH CREEK (and all its tributaries from Scofield Reservoir upstream to Gooseberry Reservoir)**
 - See Scofield Reservoir Tributaries D.3.p.
- g. **FLAMING GORGE RESERVOIR**
 - See B.1.b.(3) for license requirements.
 - Licensed anglers, limit 8 trout or salmon in the aggregate, no more than 2 may be lake trout. Only 1 trout of any species larger than 20 inches may be taken.
 - Unlicensed anglers under age 14, limit 4 trout or salmon in the aggregate, no more than 1 may be lake trout. Only 1 trout of any species larger than 20 inches may be taken.
 - Bass and catfish limit 10 in the aggregate.
 - No line may have more than 3 baited hooks or artificial flies in series or more than 3 lures.
- h. **GRANDDADDY LAKE TRIBUTARIES (Uinta Mountains)**
 - All tributaries to Granddaddy Lake CLOSED January 1 through July 14.
- i. **GREEN RIVER**
 - CLOSED to the taking of nongame fish, EXCEPT that carp may be taken by angling, archery or spearfishing equipment.
 - Channel catfish limit 24.
 - From Flaming Gorge Dam downstream to the Colorado state line, trout limit is 3 (2 under 13 inches and 1 over 20 inches). For unlicensed anglers under age 12, trout limit is 2 (2 under 13 inches or 1 under 13 inches and 1 over 20 inches). All other trout must be immediately returned to the river. ARTIFICIAL FLIES AND LURES ONLY.
 - From Flaming Gorge Dam downstream to Indian Crossing Raft Ramp, fishing from boats with motors is unlawful.
- j. **HUNTINGTON CREEK**
 - Above Electric Lake, see D.3.d.
 - From Flood and Engineer canyons upstream to Electric Lake Dam, ARTIFICIAL FLIES ONLY.
- k. **HUNTINGTON NORTH RESERVOIR**
 - CLOSED to largemouth bass harvest (catch and release only). All bass taken must be immediately returned to the reservoir.
- l. **JONES HOLE CREEK**
 - Trout limit 6, no more than 2 may be brown trout.
 - ARTIFICIAL FLIES AND LURES ONLY.
- m. **PELICAN LAKE**
 - Bluegill and green sunfish limit 20 in the aggregate.
- n. **PONTOWN CREEK (tributary to Scofield Reservoir)**
 - See Scofield Reservoir Tributaries D.3.p.
- o. **RED CREEK (including RED CREEK RESERVOIR in Duchesne County)**
 - CLOSED January 1 through April 30 and December 1 through December 31.
- p. **SCOFIELD RESERVOIR TRIBUTARIES**
 - All tributaries to Scofield Reservoir CLOSED January 1 through 6:00 a.m. July 1. Fish Creek is only CLOSED from Scofield Reservoir upstream to Gooseberry Reservoir.
 - Trout limit 4.
- q. **SHEEP CREEK**
 - From Flaming Gorge Reservoir upstream to Ashley National Forest boundary, CLOSED August 16 through October 31.
- r. **STRAWBERRY RESERVOIR TRIBUTARIES**
 - CLOSED January 1 through 6:00 a.m. July 1.
 - Trout limit 4.
- s. **STRAWBERRY RIVER**
 - Above Strawberry Reservoir Tributaries (see D.3.r.).
 - From Soldier Creek Dam downstream to the mouth of Red Creek, CLOSED January 1 through June 30 and October 16 through December 31. ARTIFICIAL FLIES ONLY.
- t. **WEST FORK DUCHESNE RIVER**
 - CLOSED January 1 through June 30.
 - ARTIFICIAL FLIES AND LURES ONLY.
- u. **WHITE RIVER (Utah County)**
 - CLOSED to the taking of nongame fish.
 - Channel catfish limit 24.

4. AREA 4:

ALL WATERS IN SEVIER RIVER DRAINAGE, MILLARD, BEAVER AND IRON COUNTIES, AND A SMALL PORTION OF KANE COUNTY INCLUDING NAVAJO LAKE AND DUCK CREEK. MAJOR TRIBUTARIES ARE SAN PITCH RIVER, SALINA CREEK, LOST CREEK, ASAY CREEK, PANGUITCH CREEK AND BEAVER RIVER

The following waters have specific exceptions to the general rules:

- a. **ASPEN-MIRROR LAKE**
 - CLOSED January 1 through May 26.
 - Fishing from boats or float tubes is unlawful.
- b. **BIRCH CREEK (Deep Creek Mountains, Juab County)**
 - CLOSED.
- c. **DUCK CREEK**
 - CLOSED January 1 through May 26.
- d. **DUCK CREEK SPRINGS LAKE**
 - CLOSED January 1 through May 26.
 - Fishing from boats or float tubes is unlawful.
- e. **EAST FORK SEVIER RIVER**
 - Feeder canal from Antimony to Otter Creek Reservoir, CLOSED January 1 through May 26.
 - Kingston Canyon, including all portions of the river and spillway ponds between Otter Creek and Piute reservoirs, January 1 through May 26, trout limit 4; May 27 through December 31, trout limit 6.
- f. **ENTERPRISE RESERVOIRS TRIBUTARIES (tributaries to Upper and Lower Reservoirs)**
 - CLOSED January 1 through May 26.
- g. **MINERSVILLE RESERVOIR**
 - January 1 through May 26, trout limit 4.
 - May 27 through December 31, trout limit 6.
- h. **OTTER CREEK**
 - Otter Creek Reservoir upstream to Angle Diversion, CLOSED January 1 through May 26.
- i. **OTTER CREEK RESERVOIR (and spillway ponds immediately downstream from dam)**
 - January 1 through May 26, trout limit 4.
 - May 27 through December 31, trout limit 6.
- j. **PALISADE LAKE**
 - Fishing from boats with motors is unlawful.
- k. **PANGUITCH LAKE**
 - January 1 through May 26, trout limit 4.
- l. **PANGUITCH LAKE TRIBUTARIES**
 - All tributaries to Panguitch Lake CLOSED January 1 through 6:00 a.m. July 1. Blue Springs Creek is only CLOSED from Panguitch Lake upstream to the Bunker Creek Road Bridge (approximately one mile upstream from Panguitch Lake).

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D. SPECIFIC WATER RULES (Continued)

m. PARAGONAH (RED CREEK) RESERVOIR TRIBUTARIES

- CLOSED January 1 through May 26.

n. PIUTE RESERVOIR

- January 1 through May 26, trout limit 4.
- May 27 through December 31, trout limit 6.
- CLOSED to smallmouth bass harvest (catch and release only). All bass taken must be immediately returned to the reservoir.

o. SCIPPO LAKE

- Minimum bass size limit 15 inches. All bass less than 15 inches must be immediately returned to the lake.

p. TROUT CREEK (Deep Creek Mountains, Juab County)

- CLOSED.

f. IVINS RESERVOIR

- Minimum bass size limit 15 inches. All bass less than 15 inches must be immediately returned to the reservoir.

g. KOLOB CREEK

- Upstream from Kolob Reservoir, CLOSED January 1 through 6:00 a.m. July 1.

h. LAKE POWELL

- See B.1.b.(2) for license requirements.
- Crappie limit 20.
- Channel catfish limit 25.
- Striped bass limit 10.
- Walleye limit 10.
- Unlicensed anglers under 14 years of age may take a full daily bag limit.

i. LOWER SAND COVE RESERVOIR

- Minimum bass size limit 15 inches. All bass less than 15 inches must be immediately returned to the reservoir.

j. LOYDS LAKE (South Creek Reservoir)

- Fishing from boats with internal combustion motors is unlawful.

k. MONTICELLO LAKE

- Fishing from boats with motors is unlawful.

l. OAK CREEK RESERVOIR (UPPER BOWNS RESERVOIR) AND TRIBUTARIES

- CLOSED January 1 through June 30.

m. PINE VALLEY RESERVOIR

- Fishing from boats or float tubes is unlawful.

n. QUAIL CREEK RESERVOIR

- January 1 through May 26, trout limit 4.
- Minimum bass size limit 15 inches. All bass less than 15 inches must be immediately returned to the reservoir.

o. SAN JUAN RIVER

- Channel catfish limit 24.

p. TWIN CREEK (tributary to Fish Lake)

- CLOSED.

q. UPPER SAND COVE RESERVOIR

- Minimum bass size limit 15 inches. All bass less than 15 inches must be immediately returned to the reservoir.

r. VIRGIN RIVER

5. AREA 5:

ALL WATERS IN THE COLORADO RIVER DRAINAGE (except Green River Drainage).

MAJOR TRIBUTARIES ARE VIRGIN RIVER, SAN JUAN RIVER, ESCALANTE RIVER, FREMONT RIVER, MUDDY RIVER, INDIAN CREEK, MILL CREEK AND DOLORES RIVER

The following waters have specific exceptions to the general rules:

a. BLANDING RESERVOIR #3 and #4

- Fishing from boats is unlawful.

b. COLORADO RIVER

- CLOSED to the taking of nongame fish, EXCEPT that carp may be taken by angling, archery or spearfishing equipment.
- Channel catfish limit 24.

c. FISH LAKE

- January 1 through May 26, trout limit 4, no more than 2 may be lake trout (mackinaw) and only may be a lake trout larger than 20 inches.
- May 27 through December 31, trout limit 8, no more than 2 may be lake trout (mackinaw) and only 1 may be a lake trout larger than 20 inches.

d. FOY LAKE

- Fishing from boats with motors is unlawful.

e. GUNLOCK RESERVOIR

- Minimum bass size limit 15 inches. All bass less than 15 inches must be immediately returned to the reservoir.

It is provided by law that the above rules shall have the full force and effect of law. Any violation shall be considered a misdemeanor and shall be prosecuted as such. Each violation shall constitute a separate offense.

Adopted by the Utah Wildlife Board on the 4th day of November, 1988.

UTAH WILDLIFE BOARD

By Paul Stringham
Chairman of the Board

By William H. Geer
Board Secretary

STATE OF UTAH)
) ss
COUNTY OF SALT LAKE)

On this 4th day of November, 1988, personally appeared before me William H. Geer, Director of the Division of Wildlife Resources, acting on behalf of the Division of Wildlife Resources and as Secretary of the Wildlife Board, and Dr. Paul Stringham, Chairman of the Wildlife Board, who duly acknowledged to me that they signed the foregoing proclamation of the Wildlife Board and that the same has been duly adopted, filed and published in accordance with Title 23, Utah Code, and the Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, Chapter 46a, Title 63.

Clea D. Chidester
Notary Public Residing in Salt Lake County

My Commission Expires: September 11, 1989

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

COLLECTION, IMPORTATION, TRANSPORTATION AND SUBSEQUENT POSSESSION OF ZOOLOGICAL ANIMALS

A separate rule governs the collection, importation, transportation and subsequent possession of zoological animals. Many nonnative species and forms of animals are prohibited in Utah because of potential adverse effects on native wildlife. It is unlawful to collect, import, transport, or possess any species of live wildlife without first obtaining a certificate of registration. Persons contemplating collection, importing, transporting or possessing any species are strongly urged to obtain a copy of the rule for Collection, Importation, Transportation and Subsequent Possession of Zoological Animals. A copy of this rule and applications for these certificates may be obtained at any Division office.

ENDANGERED COLORADO RIVER FISHES

Anglers fishing the Green, Colorado and White rivers should be especially alert to the presence of endangered fish species. They are illegal to possess. The Colorado squawfish and humpback chub readily take lures and bait. Each year anglers fishing these waters encounter a few of these rare fish. If you should catch one of these fish, or any fish you are unable to identify, carefully release it, unharmed, as quickly as possible. Report any catches of rare fish to the nearest Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) office or by calling 533-9333. Some of these fish have been marked with a tag attached at the base of the dorsal fin. If you find a tag, do not remove it, but record the number and tag color and report it to the UDWR. Your assistance is needed to help conserve these fish species in their native habitat.

HELP KEEP OUR FISHING WATERS CLEAN

Many fishing areas also serve as drinking water sources or are privately owned, so it is essential for all of us to keep our waters and their shorelines clean if we expect them to remain open to angling.

When fishing, either clean your catch away from the water or place the entrails in a plastic bag for later disposal. By doing this, you are helping to do your part to help keep excessive nutrients from re-entering the water. Care should also be taken not to litter with bait containers, food wrappers, drink containers, disposable diapers or fire materials.

Carbon County Ordinance No. 184 specifically prohibits disposal of fish entrails into and along the shoreline of Scofield Reservoir.

Please do your part to help keep our fishing waters clean and scenic to visit.

FISHERMAN'S GUIDE TO THE HIGH UINTAS

A set of ten booklets have been published to describe the lakes of the High Uintas. Over 650 lakes and 19 drainages are managed to provide fishing in this unique area.

The new booklets sell for \$1.00 each and provide improved maps, updated trail descriptions, and pertinent information about each lake. They are available at each of the regional offices and the Salt Lake office.



HOOK A FRIEND OR KID ON FISHING!!! FREE FISHING DAY JUNE 10, 1989

On June 10, 1989, anyone can enjoy a day of fishing in Utah without a fishing license. All other rules remain in effect, and people thinking of fishing should pick up and read a copy of the 1989 Fishing Proclamation to avoid problems.

This is a great time for kids and other non-anglers to be introduced to the sport of fishing. Though fishing can be an enjoyable solitary sport, taking a friend or other member of the family along can make the experience even more meaningful. After all anglers enjoy telling others of the "Big One" that got away or "I could see them but they just weren't biting." Then too, if you've never seen the sparkle in a child's eye as he or she tries to land a fish; then you haven't totally enjoyed all the thrills of fishing.

Let 1989 be the year you share your enjoyment of fishing with a friend or youngster. Better yet, buy them a fishing license and enjoy their companionship in the outdoors all year.

Several free fishing clinics will be held that day to help inexperienced people learn more about fishing. Watch and listen for more on this in the news media just prior to June 10, 1989.

A closing thought for all of us to ponder - It's not the numbers or size of the fish we catch that counts, but the joy of being alive and being able to just enjoy a day in the outdoors.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (Continued)

Catch and Release
Suggestions That Help Put Them Back Alive

Utah anglers are sometimes required, by law, to return fish to the waters alive. Many fishermen also return fish voluntarily. By following a few simple rules you can be more certain that released fish will live to be caught again.

TIME is of the essence. Play and release fish as rapidly as possible. A fish played gently for too long may be too exhausted to recover.

KEEP FISH IN THE WATER as much as possible when handling it. This prevents suffocation and injury. If pictures are to be taken, the fish should be kept in the water until the pictures are taken and then returned quickly to avoid undue harm.

GENTLENESS in handling is essential. A dip net is very useful and highly recommended as a means to handle and control fish without removing them from the water. Above all, do not drag fish out of the water onto the shore, squeeze them real tight or stick your fingers in their eyes when planning to release them. If the fish needs measuring to determine whether or not it can be kept - place some colored tape at various lengths on your rod. That way the fish can be measured right in the water.

UNHOOK the fish as rapidly as possible by backing the hook out - don't jerk it out. Longnosed pliers work well for this. If a fish is deeply hooked, it is best to cut the line or leader and leave the hook in. If one plans to do a lot of catch and release fishing, the barb should be pinched down on the hook or use barbless hooks.

REVIVE the fish in the water by holding it gently and facing it upstream in the current until it becomes reacquainted. In lakes, moving the fish slowly back and forth in the water will help it regain and maintain its equilibrium.

FISHING TACKLE should be artificial flies and/or lures for anglers who want to return fish to the water alive. These fishing methods normally do not hook fish as deeply as bait fishing and survival is much higher. If you are catching numerous small fish, switch to artificial lures to increase survival of the released fish. Care also needs to be used when selecting hooks, as noncorrosive (plated) and treble hooks are almost certain death if left in fish.

COMMON SENSE is important. Not all released fish live to fight another day. Some sustain fatal injuries, either from the fight they put up or from the handling when released, that are not evident to us as they swim away. Memories of the fishing experience, in its total, should mean more than to seek to catch large numbers of fish.

STATE OF UTAH RECORD FISH RULES, PROCEDURES AND CURRENT RECORDS

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources maintains current state record fish by species. The Division will recognize anglers who catch fish breaking a current record, and an attractive certificate will be awarded.

Certain procedures must be followed to qualify for certification of record fish. This article enumerates those procedures.

- RULES
1. CATCHING THE FISH
- To qualify for the state record, the fish must be caught legally by angling. However, a separate record fish category has been established for fish caught by other legal methods. These include set line, archery, and spear fishing.
2. IDENTIFYING THE FISH
- The fish must be positively and properly identified. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources is the sole judge. The fish is to be documented by Division personnel whenever possible.
- If a Division employee is not available to verify identification, the angler must present a close-up, side view, color photo with the fish laying near a suitable, legible measuring stick. This should be done as soon as possible and before freezing. In the event the fish cannot be identified by the Division from the color photo, a certificate will not be issued.
3. WEIGHING THE FISH
- Only one weighing is required. The fish must be weighed on a inspected certified scale (most grocery store scales are certified and inspected). This weighing must be witnessed and certified in writing.
- a. WITNESS AND CERTIFICATION
- A Utah Division of Wildlife Resources employee should witness and certify the fish's weight and species in writing. If a Division employee is not available, the weigh-in must be witnessed by at least TWO UTAH RESIDENTS who are not members of the successful angler's family or fishing party. The witnesses must be 18 years of age or older, and must provide their address, phone numbers, and make written statement that the weigh-in was on inspected scales, and attest to the accurate true weight of the fish.
4. Fish taken from Flaming Gorge Reservoir, Lake Powell, and Bear Lake will be recognized if taken legally from any portion of these waters, provided that the fish must be weighed in Utah in accordance with Sections 2 and 3, of these rules. Page, Arizona will also be accepted as an official weigh-in location.
5. TIME LIMIT FOR ENTREES
- All entrees must be made within 30 days of the date of catch. Pictures and other documentation must be received within 60 days.
6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION AND INFORMATION
- Applicants must provide the following information to the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Fisheries Section, 1596 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84116.
- a. Name, address, telephone number, and Utah fishing or combination license number and fishing stamp (on applicable waters) of the person taking the fish.
- b. Common name of the fish.
- c. Weight—in pounds and nearest whole ounce or nearest tenth of pound.

- d. The total length in inches from tip of snout to tip of tail, and girth in inches (in front of the forward edge of the dorsal fin).
- e. Name of lake or stream and exact location in that water where the fish was caught.
- f. Date and time of day taken.
- g. Type of gear used—trolling, angling, set line, archery, or spear gun.
- h. Kind of bait or name of lure.
- i. Name of Division personnel who witnessed the species identification and weight OR all necessary documents required in Section 2 and 3 concerning names and signatures of witnesses and pictures of fish.

CURRENT RECORD FISH TAKEN BY HOOK AND LINE

SPECIES	YEAR	WEIGHT	LOCATION
BASS, Largemouth	1974	10 lb 2 oz	Lake Powell
BASS, Smallmouth	1983	6 lb 12 oz	Midview Reservoir
BASS, Striped	1987	39 lb 12 oz	Lake Powell
BASS, White	1970	4 lb 1 oz	Utah Lake
BLUEGILL	1983	2 lb 3 oz	Pelican Lake
BULLHEAD, Black	1984	2 lb 7 oz	Utah Lake
CARP	1960	30 lb 0 oz	Great Salt Lake Marshes
CATFISH, Channel	1978	32 lb 5 oz	Utah Lake
CHUB	1987	1 lb 11 oz	Starvation Reservoir
CRAPPIE, Black	1982	2 lb 11 oz	Lake Powell
GRAYLING, Artic	1976	1 lb 1/2 oz	Uinta Primitive Area
PERCH, Sacramento	1987	2 lb 12 oz	Garrison Reservoir
PERCH, Yellow	1984	2 lb 11 oz	Sevier Bridge Reservoir
PIKE, Northern	1986	22 lb 0 oz	Sevier Bridge Reservoir
SALMON, Kokanee	1984	5 lb 5 oz	Flaming Gorge Reservoir
SCULPIN, Mottled	1987	0 lb 1.12 oz	Spring Creek
SUCKER, Bluehead	1988	2 lb 6 oz	Weber River
SUCKER, Flannemouth	1985	2 lb 7 oz	Flaming Gorge Reservoir
SUCKER, Utah	1988	6 lb 6 oz	Weber River
SUCKER, White	1985	1 lb 12 oz	Flaming Gorge Reservoir
SUNFISH, Green	1988	0 lb 12 oz	Montez Creek Reservoir
TROUT, Albino	1987	1 lb 2 oz	Joels Valley Reservoir
TROUT, Brook	1971	7 lb 8 oz	Boulder Mountain
TROUT, Brown	1977	33 lb 10 oz	Flaming Gorge Reservoir
TROUT, Cutthroat	1930	26 lb 12 oz	Strawberry Reservoir
TROUT, Golden	1977	0 lb 13.5 oz	Atwood Creek
TROUT, Lake	1988	51 lb 8 oz	Flaming Gorge Reservoir
TROUT, Rainbow	1979	26 lb 2 oz	Flaming Gorge Reservoir
TROUT, Splake	1988	21 lb 4 oz	Blind Lake
WALLEYE	1988	13 lb 1 oz	Starvation Reservoir
WHITEFISH, Bonneville	1982	4 lb 4 oz	Bear Lake
WHITEFISH, Mountain	1984	4 lb 6 oz	Upper Provo River

CURRENT SET LINE, ARCHERY AND SPEARFISHING RECORD FISH			
PERCH, Yellow	1988	0 lb 5 oz	Fish Lake
SUCKER, Utah	1988	3 lb 12 oz	Fish Lake
TROUT, Rainbow	1988	1 lb 3 oz	Fish Lake
TROUT, Splake	1988	0 lb 12 oz	Fish Lake

WAR Declared on Illegal Fish Planters!

On October 13, 1988, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources Fisheries Biologists caught a 4 lb. walleye in their nets while conducting a lake survey at Scofield Reservoir. This is the most recent in a number of illegal fish plants that have been discovered in Utah's waters. This incident, in one of Utah's best producing trout fisheries, caused more than just a little frustration to the biologists and division director.

At a press conference on October 18, war was declared on these violators. There can be no tolerance or complacency for such acts. They are wildlife criminals of the lowest form. They rob the honest anglers of their opportunity to fish for more quality fisheries and they waste the license dollars that sportsmen expect (and rightfully so) to be spent for stocking of fish, improvement of habitat, angler access, etc.

Almost without exception the illegally planted species are an act of selfish, stupid, personal interest. These species, whether they are walleye, yellow perch, bluegill, crappie, chubs, suckers, northern pike, bass, trout, minnows, crayfish or any number of possibilities, usually cause an immediate detrimental effect on the more desired and managed game fish. In many cases, the immediate effect in trout waters is the need to stock larger fish (EXPENSIVE). Other situations, where trout species are mixed, cause a rapid decline of the better managed species or jeopardizes a pure strain of native cutthroat. In still other causes where warmwater species are mixed the biological balance gets upset. A truly positive circumstance involving illegally planted fish just doesn't seem to exist. The end result is the need to spend thousands of dollars to chemically treat the water to get rid of the illegally planted species. The sad part is that some waters affected by illegal plants can not be treated, which affects angling opportunity for generations to come. The Division of Wildlife Resources and many sportsman's clubs have united and are offering a reward for information leading to the arrest of these outlaws.

Illegal fish plants are similar to having someone plant weeds in your flower garden while you're away on vacation. Upon your return, they've taken over and your only solution to get rid of the weeds is to till the whole area up and start again. In the case of fishing waters the tilling and replanting takes considerable time. Chemicals to treat the water must be purchased and hatchery fish have been obligated a couple years in advance and are not readily available to be planted to produce an immediate acceptable product. In some cases the problems caused by illegal fish plants may not be correctable. So it is that the Division has declared war on such violators - it's an extremely serious crime.

If you have any knowledge of or information about illegal fish, crayfish or wildlife stockings call a Division of Wildlife Office or the HELP STOP POACHING phone number 1-800-662-DEER. Any information concerning things you've seen or heard about that you question would be greatly appreciated.

(ATTENTION:) Utah Law (23-13-14) provides that unlawful introduction of any live fish or crayfish into a water is a class A misdemeanor that could be punishable by a fine of up to \$2,500 and/or a jail sentence up to 12 months.

FISHING AT LAKE POWELL—Fantastic or Frustrating—

Lake Powell, a fantastic fishery or frustrating puzzle, it depends on where you happen to be on any given day. Fishing is great or awful in adjacent coves of the same canyon. This is some of the mystic that matches the scenic granduer of this great lake and keeps coming back in increasing numbers year after year.

The fishing has been good more often than bad over the past 25 years. The fish species have changed with the passage of time but there is always something to catch. Largemouth bass were the dominant fish in the 60's and 70's. As the reservoir filled, the flooded brush provided excellent cover for young bass. The newly flooded soil added life-giving nutrients to the crystal clear water. Largemouth bass and crappie thrived in this perfect environment.

With time the reservoir filled and habitat changed. The inundated brush disappeared. The "crappie trees" decomposed leaving only bare stumps. Bass and crappie no longer owned this changing reservoir. Although walleye were never introduced their numbers slowly grew from the population present in the river when the dam was closed. Walleye numbers exploded as the lake filled. The Colorado River Gorge and steep rockslides became the dominant habitat type. Bass and crappie still used the shallow brushy coves but their numbers declined as favorable habitat was no longer available to them. Walleye populations reached their highest numbers as the reservoir filled in 1980-81.

The decline of the largemouth bass population was recognized and measures taken to offset it by the introduction of smallmouth bass in 1982. Smallmouth bass love rocks. The young fish hide in them and the adult fish lie in wait to ambush crayfish and sunfish that frequent these rocky areas. The rocky shoreline shunned by largemouth bass is now being repopulated with smallmouth bass. Black bass fishing in 1989 will rival that seen in the 1970's. A stable largemouth population combined with increasing smallmouth numbers mean good news for Lake Powell anglers.

Striped bass, another popular species, were introduced in 1974 to provide a trophy fishery while controlling the underutilized population of open water threadfin shad. Before the introduction of striped bass, shad were only eaten in the shallow water near shore where bass, crappie and walleye lived. Striped bass could now use shad in the open water area which was rapidly increasing in the filling reservoir. This worked well until 1980 when striped bass were found to be reproducing in the flat calm water of the reservoir. This phenomenon was unheard of anywhere else in the world. Striped bass were not known to be able to reproduce under conditions as they existed at Lake Powell.

Nature's surprise caused striped bass numbers to expand beyond the capabilities of the tiny shad's ability to support the lake's predatory fishing population. Striped bass literally eliminated shad from the vast open water zone. Shad, however, do still exist in the canyons and coves where turbid water protects them from total elimination. Each spring spawning adult shad produce sufficient young to repopulate the reservoir, but these tiny fish are eaten by young striped bass before they can reach open water.

Adult striped bass which are confined to the deep, cool water in the summertime by their strict temperature requirements. During fall and winter they are able to feed heavily on shad throughout the lake; however, in the summertime feeding consists of quick trips into the warm water where shad are more numerous and easy to capture. When shad numbers declined and disappeared from the open water, adult striped bass could no longer compete effectively for food. Their body condition declined and numbers were reduced by angler harvest and natural mortality.

The current striped bass population is composed of warm water tolerant, 12 to 20-inch fish that eat the annual shad crop. They then forage directly on plankton when the shad are gone. Presently the striped bass and shad populations have suppressed each other to the point that striped bass cannot grow much larger than 20 inches and shad cannot populate the open water of the reservoir. A delicate balance exists between predator and prey. Fewer shad have also caused a decline in walleye numbers. Largemouth and smallmouth bass meanwhile have not been directly impacted because of the different area they occupy and food habits that allow them to eat whatever is available.

In 1989, the Lake Powell fisheries will be dominated by juvenile striped bass and an increasing population of black bass. Anglers will always be able to catch an occasional crappie or walleye but cannot expect limit catches of these species. On any given day, 12 to 20-inch striped bass will be commonly caught anywhere in the reservoir. These fish will provide good sport and good eating while striped bass larger than 18 inches may be suffering from malnutrition and will be less desirable as table fare.

While anglers are fishing and enjoying Lake Powell this year, DWR biologists will be continuing to study the problem of forage limitation. Research has indicated that the food shortage could be relieved by adding a deep, cool water fish to take some of the predatory burden off the shad population. Utah biologists have proposed the introduction of rainbow smelt to the presently unoccupied depths of Lake Powell. Smelt would occupy a vacant area, not compete with shad for food or space and provide excellent forage for striped bass and walleye which would leave shad available for bass and crappie.

The plan seems to be well accepted as a solution at Lake Powell. Unfortunately, smelt will not stay totally in Utah. Smelt would rapidly colonize all Colorado River reservoirs. Because of this, there is great concern that smelt would jeopardize the small and struggling populations of humpback chub and razorback sucker that cling to survival in the lower Colorado River. Studies are being conducted to determine the impact of smelt throughout the entire system. A project of this magnitude takes time. It is prudent to proceed slowly realizing the uniqueness of the river system and seriousness of this undertaking. Once an introduction is made, it is forever. Right or wrong we have to live with it. Meanwhile, the public is being asked to be patient for the year or two delay that this extensive research will require. If it can be proven without a doubt that smelt will rejuvenate the fishery at Lake Powell without causing unacceptable consequences downstream, the appropriate steps will be taken to get them introduced.

Continued on page 11

FREE Guide to Fishing Areas

A popular and useful pamphlet available at no cost from Division of Wildlife Resources offices is the UTAH HUNTING AND FISHING GUIDE.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (Continued)

LAKE TROUT AT FLAMING GORGE

Where We Are And Where Are We Going

Few outdoor experiences can match the thrill of a heavy lake trout at the end of your line. Lake trout, or mackinaw, are the "big game" of Utah's sport fishes, and Flaming Gorge Reservoir is the premier water in the state in which to pursue these lunkers. Many lake trout weighing more than 35 pounds have been taken there in recent years, including the current state record weighing 51 pounds and 8 ounces.

The success of the Flaming Gorge lake trout fishery is due, in part, to current fishing regulations allowing only one trout over 20 inches. This is one of the most restrictive regulations found on North American lake trout waters, but there is growing evidence that it may not be restrictive enough.

Although lake trout are highly prized for their sporting qualities and large size, it takes many years to produce a trophy. Age and growth studies from Flaming Gorge Reservoir show that lake trout grow slowly for the first five to seven years of their life. During that period they feed primarily on zooplankton (microscopic shrimp-like animals), crayfish and aquatic insects. The low availability of such forage make these lean years for lake trout, and the fish are usually long and "snaky" in appearance. Upon reaching 24-28 inches, lake trout switch to an almost exclusively fish diet, and growth rates increase rapidly. Utah chubs, kokanee salmon and stocked rainbow trout are the major prey items. Still, a 20-pound lake trout is probably 12 to 15 years old, and a 35-pound fish may be in its twenties.

When compared to big game trophies pursued by the hunter, it takes nature a long time to produce a trophy lake trout. By five years of age, a mule deer buck sports a four point rack and a bull elk will have six points on a side, definite trophies in anybody's book. Lake trout also take a relatively long time to sexually mature, with females reaching maturity at six-to-eight years of age and 28 inches in length.

Because of their slow-growing, late-maturing nature, lake trout have been of special concern to Utah and Wyoming biologists. Efforts to closely monitor the fishery at Flaming Gorge Reservoir have produced conflicting data which suggests some concerns are valid, while other information implies the overall population is in good shape.

Since the mid-1970s, there have been angler creel (use and harvest) surveys of varying intensities conducted on Flaming Gorge Reservoir. Statistics show that lake trout harvest increased steadily until 1984, when an estimated 11,419 fish were taken from May through November. Since that time, harvest has declined each year, with an estimated 6,980 fish taken during the same period of 1987. Although the estimated harvest has declined steadily, the average size of harvested fish has remained relatively stable. If over-fishing were occurring, and large fish were being "mined" out, it might be expected that the average size of harvested fish would decrease.

Another statistic from the creel survey suggests that anglers are killing and keeping lake trout once the fish reach a moderate size. During 1987, 83 percent of the lake trout over 28 inches which were caught by anglers were kept. During the spring of 1987, 90 percent of the lake trout over 24 inches caught were kept. On the other hand, anglers released over half of the lake trout under 24 inches that were caught throughout the creel survey period.

The primary concern is that anglers are not voluntarily releasing larger fish. This, coupled with future increases in fishing pressure, will likely impact the fishery.

A major concern for fishery biologists is the preliminary results of a tagging study initiated three years ago for Flaming Gorge Reservoir. Approximately 400 lake trout are tagged each spring with a \$5 reward tag to estimate the percentage of the lake trout being harvested each year.

The first-year returning rates ranged from 11 to 15 percent of the tags, which is considered high for such a long-lived fish. It's important to note that these are minimum estimates due to factors such as tag loss and incomplete tag returns. It is therefore likely that the actual harvest rate of the tagged population is even higher.

What is the attitude of the lake trout anglers themselves? Some insight was provided in a study conducted by the University of Wyoming during August and September of 1987. A total of 400 boating recreationists were interviewed, and of these, 55 percent indicated that they regularly fish for lake trout on Flaming Gorge Reservoir. Of those anglers, 87 percent responded that they would like reservoir management directed toward producing a 20-pound fish. In addition, nearly 80 percent of the regular lake trout anglers would support stricter regulations to meet those management objectives.

The findings of this study support what fisheries biologists have been hearing from anglers the past few years. With the increased efficiency of new fishing methods, (echo sounders, down riggers, etc.) anglers are voicing concerns about the number of lake trout being harvested. Although anglers seem to be alarmed, and harvest rates are fairly high, the creel surveys do not conclusively indicate the population of lake trout has decreased. The creel rate is defined as the number of fish kept per angler hour. The creel rate for boat anglers directing pressure specifically at lake trout (i.e. "experts") has remained relatively constant since 1982. Creel rates are a particularly sensitive indicator of changes in a fishery, and it would be expected that these rates would decrease over time if the fishery was being over-exploited.

Where does that leave us? On one hand there is a declining harvest, high exploitation rates, a lack of voluntary release of large fish, and an apparently growing number of concerned anglers. On the other hand, there is a relatively stable size structure, average size and creel rate of harvested fish. In the balance is a highly-prized, popular fishery that must be protected and managed carefully for the future.

Presently, Utah and Wyoming biologists are closely monitoring new data as it becomes available and continuing the work in the field. An intensive year-round creel survey which includes up-dated fishing pressure estimates is scheduled to begin this spring. This survey will help considerably in interpreting trends in lake trout harvest. The study of harvest rates will continue with the tagging of an additional 400 fish this spring and the ongoing analysis of incoming tag returns.

Anglers can assist this study by turning in all lake trout tags to the address printed on the tag. Include the length and weight of the fish, the date and location of the catch, whether you kept or released it and your name and address. You'll receive the tag back as a souvenir along with information on when and where the fish was tagged.

The lake trout fishery at Flaming Gorge is one of the finest in the

country. Fishery professionals and anglers alike share the desire to perpetuate the qualities that established that reputation. By sharing information and closely studying the system, that goal can be achieved.

Should additional data indicate that a problem at Flaming Gorge exists, what measures could be taken to restrict the harvest and maintain the trophy fishery found today? A list of options might include the following:

- 1) Tackle restrictions.
- 2) Yearly bag limit by issuing each angler a tag or tags for lake trout over a specified size (for example, 30 inches).
- 3) Slot limit protecting fish in a particular size interval, say 28 to 36 inches. This may be combined with a more liberal harvest of fish smaller than the slot.
- 4) Slot limit combined with a tag for one large fish (i.e. greater than 36 inches).
- 5) Closed season for a portion of the year or in specific areas of the reservoir.

The objective of any successful strategy would be to maintain an acceptable lake trout harvest while continuing to provide an opportunity to catch a trophy-sized fish. Caution must be exercised, however, when dealing with any top-level predator. Any further harvest restrictions could increase the biomass (pounds) of lake trout in the reservoir, and it's possible they could over-run their prey base, the Utah chub and kokanee salmon. Besides negative effects on the kokanee fishery, this would eventually result in a large population of stunted lake trout. Under more restrictive management, it would be vital that biologists monitor trends in prey fish abundance to assess impacts of the regulations.

RESTORATION OF STRAWBERRY RESERVOIR: Are We Making Progress?

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) has given restoration of Utah's premier trout fishery, Strawberry Reservoir, its highest fishery priority. The accomplishment of this task is getting closer and closer. Without the support and assistance of other resource agencies, particularly in rehabilitation of streams, these efforts, however, could fail.

BRIEF HISTORY OF EFFORTS

In June, 1981, the UDWR alerted sportsmen and other resource agencies that the fishery in Strawberry Reservoir was in jeopardy. At that time, we proposed that nongame fish (chubs and suckers) be removed by chemical treatment before the reservoir was enlarged in 1984. An interagency/citizen team was formed to evaluate the proposal. It met for the first time in October 1981, and for over eighteen months evaluated the proposal and alternatives for eliminating nongame fish from the reservoir. Little support for the treatment was found. Sportsmen could not see the need for treatment while fishing was good. And, without financial assistance from other resource agencies the UDWR could not afford to pay for the treatment. The 1984 treatment never occurred.

Two events transpired during 1985 that altered prospects for reestablishing Strawberry Reservoir's trout fishery: 1) additional funds were made available to the UDWR for chemical treatment through expansion of the Dingell-Johnson excise tax on fishing gear; and 2) the quality of fishing at Strawberry Reservoir declined to the lowest level experienced after the 1961 treatment. As a result, new emphasis was placed on restoration of the reservoir. The interagency team reconvened and started the planning process for total treatment.

In May 1986, UDWR established the Strawberry Project to research factors that could influence the success of total treatment and to assist in the planning process. By November, the interagency/citizen team completed a comprehensive plan for restoration of Strawberry Valley's fisheries. That plan outlines restoration of Strawberry Reservoir as a drainage-wide (watershed) approach. It contains three essential components: 1) elimination of undesirable fish; 2) introduction of fish that will maintain a quality trout fishery; and 3) improvement of streams to foster natural reproduction by trout instead of nongame fish.

CURRENT EFFORTS

Elimination of Undesirable Fish

Elimination of undesirable fish from Strawberry Valley is the largest chemical fish eradication project ever attempted. The reservoir will have a surface area of approximately 14,000 surface acres, and approximately 161 miles of streams will be treated. Over one million pounds of powdered rotenone and four thousand gallons of liquid rotenone will be required. A crew of more than 95 men will have to work at least 7 days to distribute the chemical.

Due to the magnitude of this project, an environmental assessment (EA) of possible impacts had to be completed before any chemical could be purchased. Preparation of this comprehensive document began in January 1987. After sportsmen groups, resource agencies, public health agencies, and legislative representatives reviewed the EA it was submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) for approval. In March 1988, the FWS concluded that no significant impacts would result from the project and the EA was approved.

Contacts with chemical supply companies began early in 1987. Most of the world supply of rotenone earmarked for fish eradication projects is required for the Strawberry treatment. Chemical companies indicated that meeting this requirement would be a difficult task. Given enough time, they felt the quantity required could be supplied. Unfortunately, efforts to supply the chemical have been deterred by terrorist activities in Peru, the world's largest exporter of rotenone. The treatment has been postponed while chemical suppliers developed other sources for rotenone. They currently believe they have found another source of chemical and the treatment could be rescheduled shortly. The preferred target date is August of 1989, if the chemical is available.

The UDWR has been continuing its investigations into alternative methods of controlling nongame species because the quantity of chemical needed for total treatment might not be obtained. Investigations include documenting distribution patterns and life history characteristics of nongame fish, performance of Bear Lake cutthroat trout in Strawberry Reservoir and evaluation of the partial treatment approach. So far, the partial approach appear risky, and would take a long time to be effective.

Fish Introduction

The interagency/citizen team recommended stocking three game fish species in Strawberry Reservoir: sterile rainbow trout, kokanee salmon,

and Bear Lake cutthroat trout. These fish should help control the nongame fish and provide an excellent fishery due to their unique biological adaptations. Bear Lake cutthroat trout eat small chubs and suckers. Kokanee salmon compete with chubs and suckers for food. Rainbow trout have always done well in Strawberry Reservoir, but they are being sterilized to prevent them from hybridizing with cutthroat trout. In 1988, approximately one million sterile rainbow trout, fifty thousand Bear Lake cutthroat trout, and one-hundred thousand kokanee salmon were stocked in Strawberry Reservoir. The maximum number of fish available for each of these species is currently being stocked each year. The UDWR has been working towards establishing brood stocks of cutthroat trout and kokanee salmon so that larger numbers can be stocked, but it will be 1990 before a significant increase in stocking rates is possible. If total treatment can not occur, these introductions will initiate biological control of nongame fish in the reservoir.

Stream Rehabilitation

More than 10 years ago the first plan that addressed stream rehabilitation in Strawberry Valley was prepared. That plan dealt with restoring historic flows to four streams. Since that time, biologists, administrators, anglers, and cattlemen alike have been working on plans for restoration of Strawberry Valley streams. In addition, numerous plans dealing with stream improvement were developed. To date, however, little progress has been made on stream rehabilitation.

Strawberry Valley is one of the few locations in Utah that offers the potential to produce enough young fish each year through natural reproduction to sustain a major trout fishery. Maximizing trout reproduction and recruitment of young-of-the-year trout and salmon to the Reservoir through stream habitat management, therefore, will be extremely important. In addition, stream habitat management in reservoir tributaries will play a vital role in the control of nongame fish. Habitat management, therefore, is critical in reestablishing quality trout fishing in Strawberry Valley.

In 1988, the interagency/citizen team developed a stream rehabilitation plan. This plan was developed after consultation with participants of earlier teams and review of previous documents. It represents an interagency, interdisciplinary approach. In general, five major categories of rehabilitation were identified: 1) reestablishment of historic flows; 2) bank stabilization through livestock exclusion, placement of stream-side structures, and elimination of aerial herbicide application; 3) closure of some roads; 4) removal of migration barriers; and 5) placement of instream structures to replace and enhance spawning gravels for trout.

Land management agencies need to begin stream rehabilitation actions as soon as possible. The urgency of this action does not change, no matter what method is used to control and reduce nongame fish in Strawberry Reservoir. The condition of streams in the valley are essential to the recovery of this vital fishery. The stream restoration activities should follow the recommendations outlined by the interagency fishery rehabilitation team.

WINTER FISHING

In 1985, Utah began a new approach to increase angling opportunity. Most of Utah's waters were opened to year-round fishing. This increased fishing opportunity, also complicated regulations with many bag and possession limits changing at specific times of the year. The DWR made a commitment to study the impacts of winter fishing, the general public acceptance of winter fishing and to implement these findings into future regulations.

These studies have resulted in a simplification of regulations. Bag possession limits are the same summer and winter except as noted for some specific waters listed in the SPECIFIC WATER RULES. The fisheries in these specific waters are being protected for any number of reasons. Excess winter harvest may severely impact a fishery that is managed as a summer fishery. Some species are especially vulnerable to fishing in fall and winter and over harvest may impact natural reproduction. In many waters managed with small fingerling, the fish are not big enough to be acceptable to the angler and a heavy mortality results from improper catch and release, particularly where bait is used. Even with these restricted waters there are numerous waters available to those anglers who enjoy an outing in the winter months.

Ice fishermen need to be aware of potential dangers associated with this type of fishing. Not only can the severe cold be a problem but ice conditions constantly change and can be extremely dangerous.

Some general rules to follow when venturing on ice are as follows:

1. New ice is stronger than old ice.
2. Slush ice (white frosty looking ice) is only about half as strong as clear blue ice.
3. River ice is considerably weaker than lake ice, and continuous travel over the same route across ice will tend to weaken it.
4. Ice may have weak spots in areas of currents or springs.
5. Two inches of ice will generally support one adult of average size on foot.
6. Three inches of ice will support a small group of people, providing they walk in single file and remain well spaced.
7. Ice over twelve inches thick will usually support the weight of a car.

If an accident should occur and a fellow sportsman falls through the ice remember to offer help by extending a pole or rope or article of clothing. Keep weight evenly distributed on the ice by spreading arms and legs as you move toward the hole. Use extreme caution. It is vital to the victim that warmth and dry clothing be found as soon as possible. If no other source is available, use one or two people to provide body heat in a prewarmed sleeping bag. The old adage about an "ounce of prevention" holds true when fishing through the ice.

PRIVATE PONDS

There are separate rules which govern keeping aquatic wildlife in private ponds. It is illegal to have fish in a private pond or to purchase, transport, or import fish for a private pond without first having a certificate of registration for each pond. All certificates of registration are valid for a calendar year and must be renewed annually. Applications for a certificate and a copy of the rule for private fish ponds and private fish installations are available at all Division regional offices.

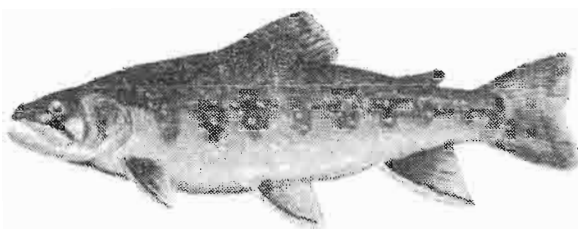
FISH IDENTIFICATION

Anglers in Utah must be able to identify various sport fish. This is particularly true now that some possession and size limits are listed by species. The drawings below illustrate the most prominent distinguishing characteristics for each species. A description of the colors and spotting patterns is included.



Rainbow Trout

Body color usually olive to greenish-blue on the back; belly white to silvery; sides usually show a prominent red or pink streak. This marking is indistinct or absent in young. Fish from lakes sometimes lose essentially all color and appear silvery-pink. Irregular spots on back, sides, head, dorsal fin and tail. No teeth on back of tongue.



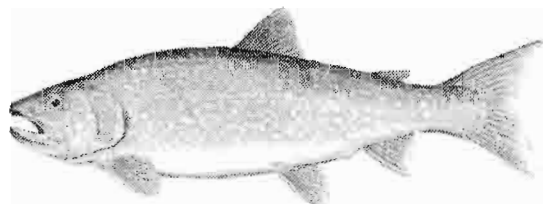
Brook Trout

Color ranges from olive, blue-gray or black on the back to white on the belly. Belly and lower fins may turn brilliant red in spawning males. Upper body and dorsal fin have mottled or worm-like markings. Red spots, with or without bluish rings around them, are evident on the side though they are not numerous. The most distinguishing marks are the white and then black stripe along the foreedge of the lower fins. Tail square or slightly forked.



Smallmouth Bass

Dark olive to brown on back, sides bronze, belly white. Five dark vertical bands on sides. Eyes reddish. Dorsal fin with 9-10 sharp spines without a deep notch separating them from the soft rays. Upper jaw when closed does not extend beyond the rear edge of the eye.



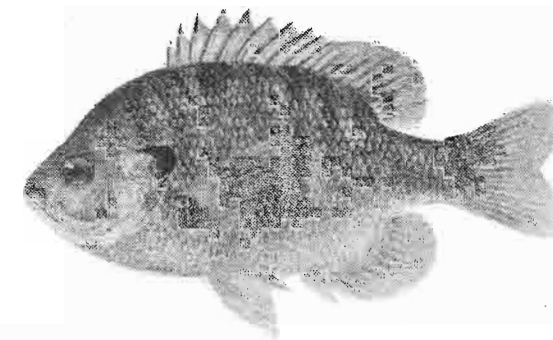
Lake Trout (Mackinaw)

Not as highly colored as other trout. Dark gray or gray-green above, belly light gray or white. Light gray irregular shaped spots or lines on the back, sides, dorsal fin and tail. No white edging appears on lower fins, as in brook trout. Tail deeply forked.



Cutthroat Trout

Body color is variable. Back may be steel-gray to olive-green. Sides may be yellow-brown with red or pink along the belly. Slash marks on either side of the throat beneath the lower jaws may be crimson-red or orange. Fins uniform color with no white tips. Scattered spots are usually round and black, more closely grouped toward the tail (the Snake River strain has profuse spottings, with many small irregular spots). Teeth on back of tongue. May hybridize in wild with rainbow.



Bluegill

Very colorful. Light to dark blue to bright purple. In breeding season, the breast of the male is red. Gill covers often blue with a black spot on the rear of the "ear flap." Faint vertical bars on the side. Dorsal fin has 10 spines followed without interruption by 10 or 12 rays. The mouth is small and when closed, barely reaches the front of the eye. Body deep for its length and compressed from side to side.



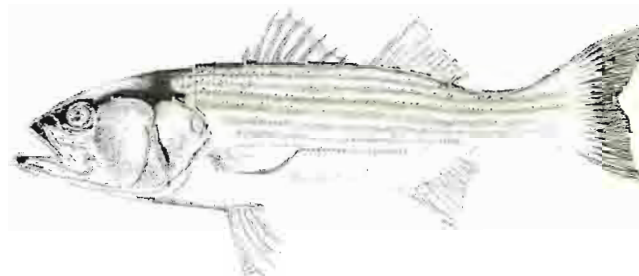
Brown Trout

Back brown or olive with large black spots. Sides light brown to yellowish, with numerous black and also red-orange spots surrounded by light blue ring. Adipose fin in young fish may be orange. Few, if any, spots on tail. Tail square, not forked.



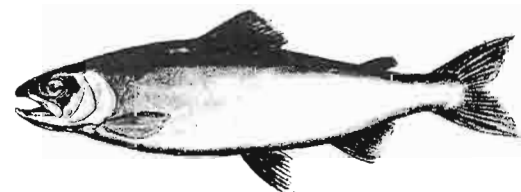
Largemouth Bass

Dark green on back and sides, silvery below. Belly is greenish-white. A broad, dark band on the sides which consists of irregular patches touching together. Dorsal fin with 9-10 sharp spines, nearly separated from the soft rays by a deep notch. Upper jaw when closed extends at least to rear edge of eye in adults—usually beyond.



Striped Bass

Body olive-green above, shading through silvery on sides to white on belly, with brassy reflections. There are 7 or 8 longitudinal dark stripes following the scale rows. A spiny dorsal fin is barely separated from a soft dorsal fin. The tail is forked. Body cylindrical in shape.



Kokanee Salmon

Back greenish-blue with faint speckling. The sides and belly are silvery. No distinct spotting on dorsal fin or tail as in the rainbow. Anal fin rays generally number 14 to 16 and are not less than 13 (trout have less than 13 rays). During spawning in the fall, skin becomes "leathery" and turns dark red to bright scarlet and the head turns dusky green.

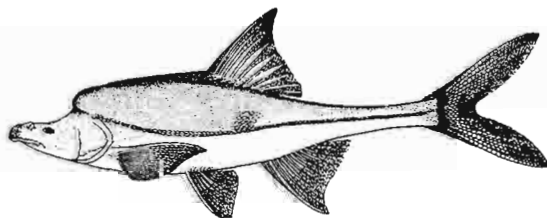
COMPLETELY PROTECTED SPECIES—ILLEGAL TO POSSESS

The fish described in this section are native to the Colorado River Drainage. Five of the six fish described are threatened with extinction. The remaining species, the roundtail chub, is still common but the threatened fish are frequently mistaken for it. If you catch any of these fishes, immediately return them unharmed to the water. Your knowledge and willingness to protect these species may significantly affect the outcome of their preservation.



Roundtail Chub

No hump. Mouth at end of snout, EXTENDS ONLY TO FRONT OF EYE. Usually 9 dorsal fins and 9 anal fin rays. Sides silvery-gray, dark on dorsal surfaces. Seldom grows longer than 13 inches. No spot at base of tail. This species is OFTEN MISTAKEN for the Colorado squawfish. It has been given protection even though it is still common throughout the Green and Colorado river drainages.



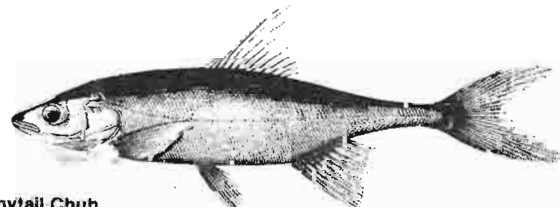
Humpback Chub

Rounded, nearly scaleless hump. Snout overhangs mouth. Usually 9 dorsal fin rays and 10 anal fin rays. Sides silvery-gray, darker on dorsal surfaces. Found in the canyon reaches of the Colorado River Basin's large rivers.



Virgin River Chub

No hump. Olive to brownish-black, and silvery sides and belly. Common to the Virgin River, below LaVerkin Springs.



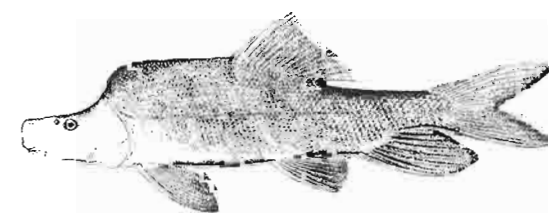
Bonytail Chub

No hump. Mouth at end of snout, extends to front of eye. Rear part of body with a thin, pencil-like portion in front of tail. Usually 10 or more dorsal and 10 anal fin rays. Sides silvery-gray, dark on dorsal surfaces. Formerly common in the Green River and may still be present anywhere along the Green and Colorado rivers.



Colorado Squawfish

No hump. Mouth at end of snout, extending to rear of eye. Usually 9 dorsal and 9 anal fin rays. Olive-green back with silvery-white belly. A wedge-shaped dark spot at base of tail distinguishes young squawfish. Today it has disappeared from the Lower Colorado Basin, and is rare in the Upper Basin. May be caught in the Yampa, Green, White or Colorado rivers.



Razorback Sucker

A narrow keel-like bone forms a hump along the back, which is knife-like when viewed from top. Snout overhangs mouth. Usually 14-15 dorsal fin rays. Olive-brown to black on back; yellowish-white belly. Once abundant in the mainstream rivers of the Colorado River Drainage from Wyoming to New Mexico, this species is found in small numbers through most of the free-flowing stretches of these rivers.