

# 2014 UTAH FISHING GUIDEBOOK

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UTAH DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES



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### Division offices

Offices are open 8 a.m.–5 p.m.,  
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Box 146301  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6301  
801-538-4700

#### *Central Region*

1115 N Main Street  
Springville, UT 84663  
801-491-5678

#### *Northeastern Region*

318 N Vernal Avenue  
Vernal, UT 84078  
435-781-9453

#### *Northern Region*

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Ogden, UT 84405  
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319 N Carbonville Road, Ste A  
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1470 N Airport Road  
Cedar City, UT 84721  
435-865-6100

#### *Washington County Field Office*

451 N SR-318  
Hurricane, UT 84737  
435-879-8694

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## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDEBOOK

1. Review the general rules, starting on page 7. These rules explain the licenses you need, the fishing methods you may use, and when you can transport and possess fish.
2. Check general season dates, daily limits and possession limits, starting on page 19.
3. Look up a specific water in the section that starts on page 22. (If the water you're looking for is not listed there, it is subject to the general rules.)

## WHAT'S NEW?

**Keep more fish:** Starting in 2014, the possession limit will be twice the daily limit at most fishing waters in Utah. For details, see the regulation on page 19.

**Easily dispose of certain fish:** A new law allows anglers to easily dispose of carp and fish that are under a catch-and-kill order. For details, see page 38.

**Free Fishing Day:** This year, Free Fishing Day will be held on June 7. This annual event is a great opportunity to share fishing fun with a friend or family member. For more information, see page 7.

**Regulation changes at popular fisheries:** Regulations have changed at a handful of popular Utah fisheries, including Red Fleet Reservoir, Yuba Reservoir and Lost Creek Reservoir. For details, see *Rules for specific waters* on page 22.

**Spearfishing changes:** There have been changes to the list of waterbodies where spearfishing is allowed. For more information, see page 13.

**Possible changes to license fees:** The Division has proposed changes to many of its hunting and fishing license fees. The Utah Legislature will consider those proposals when it meets in early 2014. To learn more, see the information box on page 6.

**Watercraft restrictions:** A few southern Utah waterbodies now have watercraft restrictions in place to protect the fisheries. To learn more, see page 23.

**Change in reciprocal permit requirement at Lake Powell:** The state of Arizona no longer requires licensed Utah anglers to purchase a reciprocal permit to fish the Arizona side of Lake Powell. For details, see page 8.

**Two new community fisheries:** New community fisheries will open in Iron and Wasatch counties in 2014. For a complete list of Utah's community fisheries, see the information box on page 25.

**Adult quagga mussels found in Lake Powell:** In 2013, the National Park Service discovered live, adult quagga mussels in Lake Powell. For more information on this discovery and what it means for you and to learn more about protecting all Utah waters against invasive mussels, see page 39.

**New consumption advisories:** In 2013, the Utah Department of Health issued new fish-consumption advisories. For details, visit [fishadvisories.utah.gov](http://fishadvisories.utah.gov) or see the article on page 21.

## A closer look at the rules

This guidebook summarizes Utah's fishing laws and rules. Although it is a convenient quick-reference document for Utah fishing regulations, it is not an all-encompassing resource.

For an in-depth look at Utah's fishing laws and rules, visit [wildlife.utah.gov/rules](http://wildlife.utah.gov/rules).

You can use the references in this guidebook—such as Utah Administrative Rule R657-13-6 and Utah Code § 23-20-3—to search the Division's website for the detailed statute or rule that underpins the guidebook summary.

If you have questions about a particular rule, call or visit the nearest Division office.

## Who makes the rules?

The Utah Wildlife Board passes the rules and laws summarized in this guidebook.

There are seven board members, and each serves a six-year term. Appointed by the governor, board members are not Division employees.

The Division's director serves as the board's executive secretary but does not have a vote on wildlife policies.

Before board members make changes to wildlife rules, they listen to recommendations from Division biologists. They also receive input from the public and various interest groups via the regional advisory council (RAC) process.

If you have feedback or suggestions for board members, you can find their contact information online at [wildlife.utah.gov](http://wildlife.utah.gov).

## Wildlife Board members

Jake Albrecht, *Chair*  
Bill Fenimore, *Vice Chair*  
Gregory Sheehan,  
*Division Director &*  
*Executive Secretary*

John Bair  
Calvin Crandall  
Steve Dalton  
Michael King  
Kirk Woodward

## Discounted licenses for disabled veterans

To thank our servicemen and service-women, the Division offers discounted fishing licenses to Utah veterans who were disabled in the line of duty.

The discounted license is \$21—instead of the \$26 full price—and the license is good for 365 days from the day you buy it. Discounted licenses are available from all Division offices listed on page 2.

To purchase a discounted license, you must have a service-connected disability. When you visit a Division office to purchase your license, simply bring the verification of service-connected disability documentation that the Department of Veterans Affairs issued to you.

For more information, please visit [wildlife.utah.gov/disabled](http://wildlife.utah.gov/disabled) or call the nearest Division office.

## And remember

**Buy your license over the phone:** You can now buy a Utah fishing license over the telephone. Just call 1-800-221-0659. The line is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In addition to the fee for the license, you'll also be charged a \$2 transaction fee for each item you buy.

**Fish throughout the year:** Utah has a year-round fishing season. It runs from Jan. 1–Dec. 31, 2014.

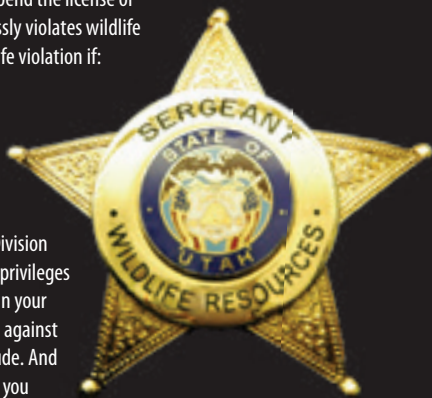
**Community fisheries:** You can learn more about Utah's 52 community fisheries by picking up a copy of the Division's Utah Community Fishing brochure or visiting [wildlife.utah.gov/cf](http://wildlife.utah.gov/cf).

## Don't lose your hunting and fishing privileges

If you commit a wildlife violation, you could lose the privilege of hunting and fishing in Utah. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources can suspend the license of anyone who knowingly, intentionally or recklessly violates wildlife laws. Your license can be suspended for a wildlife violation if:

- You are convicted.
- You plead guilty or no contest.
- You enter a plea in abeyance or diversion agreement.

Suspension proceedings are separate and independent from criminal prosecution. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources may suspend your license privileges whether or not the court considers suspension in your criminal case. You will be notified of any action against your privilege after criminal proceedings conclude. And remember, if your license is suspended in Utah, you may not be permitted to hunt or fish in most other states. (Visit [ianrc.org](http://ianrc.org) to see a map of participating states.)



**Share your feedback:** In 2013, the Division obtained substantial feedback on proposed fishing changes via open houses and an online questionnaire. Because these tools were so effective, Division biologists plan to use a similar format to obtain feedback in 2014. To review all of your feedback options, please see page 44.

**Corrections:** If errors are found in the printed guidebook, the Division will correct them in the online version. Visit [wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks](http://wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks) to view all of the Division's guidebooks and proclamations.

**Protection from discrimination:** The Division receives federal financial assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior and its bureaus prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex. If you believe that you have been discriminated

against in any program, activity or facility, or if you desire further information, please write to:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Office for Diversity and Civil Rights Programs—External Programs  
4040 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 130  
Arlington, VA 22203

**Private lands:** The Division cannot guarantee access to any private land. You may only access cultivated or properly posted private land if you obtain WRITTEN permission from the landowner or the landowner's authorized representative. For more information, see *Trespassing* on page 13.

**Division funding:** The Division is mostly funded by the sale of hunting and fishing licenses and through federal aid made possible by an excise tax on the sale of firearms and other hunting- and fishing-related equipment.

# LICENSE AND PERMIT FEES

## Resident licenses

1-day (14 years of age or older)	\$8
7-day (14 years of age or older)	\$16
365-day youth (12–13)	\$5
365-day senior (65 years of age or older)	\$21
365-day disabled veteran (see the box on page 4 for details)	\$21
365-day (over 14 years of age and under 65 years of age)	\$26
365-day combination	\$30

## Nonresident licenses

1-day (14 years of age or older)	\$12
7-day (14 years of age or older)	\$32
365-day youth (12–13)	\$5
365-day (14 years of age or older)	\$70
365-day combination	\$80

### License exemptions for youth organizations

Are you a scout leader or a mentor for a youth organization? Many youth groups can hold fishing events that don't require a fishing license for participants under the age of 14. To determine if you are eligible and to complete the license-exemption form, visit [wildlife.utah.gov/youth-org](http://wildlife.utah.gov/youth-org).

## Reciprocal fishing permits

Wyoming residents: Flaming Gorge, Utah reciprocal permit*	\$10
Arizona residents: Lake Powell, Utah reciprocal permit*	\$8

\* See page 8 for details.

## Other fishing permits

Setline permit† (residents and nonresidents)	\$15
Second-pole permit‡ (residents and nonresidents)	\$15

† To learn more about setline permits, please see page 12 of this guide.

‡ To learn more about second-pole permits, please see page 11 of this guide.

## Possible changes to license fees

In August 2013, the Utah Wildlife Board passed a number of proposed changes to Utah's fishing and hunting license fees.

The Utah Legislature will consider those proposed changes when it meets in early 2014. If lawmakers approve changes to the license fees, those changes may go into effect on July 1, 2014.

Please visit [wildlife.utah.gov](http://wildlife.utah.gov) after June 1, 2014 for more information about whether the license fees will be changing.

# GENERAL RULES: LICENSES AND PERMITS

*Utah Code §§ 23-19 and 23-20-3*

Obtaining a fishing license is the first step to fishing in Utah. The type of license you should purchase depends on many variables: how old you are, how often you want to fish, where you want to fish and whether you're a Utah resident. (To determine if you are a resident, see the definition on page 67.) This section provides information about the different licenses and permits that are available.

## Free Fishing Day

*Utah Code § 23-19-1 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-3*

The one day you don't need a license to fish in Utah is Saturday, June 7, 2014, which is Free Fishing Day. Everyone in Utah can fish for free that day, but please remember that all of the state's other fishing laws and rules still apply.

## Under 12 years of age

*Utah Code § 23-19-21 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-3*

If you're under 12 years of age, you do not need a fishing license to fish in Utah. You can fish without a license and take a full possession limit.

The only exceptions are if you'd like to fish with a second pole or a setline. If you're under the age of 12 and would like to fish with either a second pole or a setline, you must purchase a Utah fishing or combination license and a second-pole or setline permit. Please see page 11 of this guide for more information about second-pole and setline permits.

## 12 years of age and older

*Utah Code § 23-19-21 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-3*

If you're 12 years of age or older, you must purchase a fishing license or a combination license to fish in Utah. You can choose from four different licenses:

- One-day licenses allow you to fish for one day.
- Seven-day licenses allow you to fish for seven consecutive days.
- 365-day licenses allow you to fish for 365 consecutive days, including the day you buy the license.

• 365-day combination licenses allow you to do three things in Utah:

- Fish
- Hunt upland game and waterfowl
- Apply for hunting permits

When you buy a combination license, you also get a price break compared to buying your hunting and fishing licenses separately.

Fishing and combination licenses are available at [wildlife.utah.gov](http://wildlife.utah.gov) and from license

## Utah State Parks Annual Pass

Consider purchasing a Utah State Parks Annual Pass to access some of Utah's best fisheries. Annual passes are available for \$75. Utah seniors who are 62 and over can purchase discounted passes for \$35. Passes allow the permit holder, and up to seven guests traveling in the same vehicle, day-use entrance to most Utah state parks.

Passes are available at all Utah state parks, the Utah State Parks administrative office in Salt Lake City and online at [stateparks.utah.gov](http://stateparks.utah.gov).

You can see a list of all the Utah state parks that offer fishing at [stateparks.utah.gov/activities/fishing](http://stateparks.utah.gov/activities/fishing).

Camping reservations are accepted by telephone or online:

Salt Lake area: 801-322-3770

Outside Salt Lake: 800-322-3770

Online: [stateparks.utah.gov](http://stateparks.utah.gov)

agents and Division offices. You can also call 1-800-221-0659 to purchase your license by phone.

You must have your license with you while you're fishing, and you cannot alter your license or transfer it to another person.

## **Fishing across state lines and reciprocal fishing permits**

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-5*

Utah shares three waters—Bear Lake, Flaming Gorge and Lake Powell—with other states. Utah, Idaho, Wyoming and Arizona have entered into the following agreements to allow anglers to fish across state lines:

### **Bear Lake**

If you have a valid Utah fishing or combination license, or a valid Idaho fishing or combination license, you can fish anywhere on Bear Lake that's open to fishing with one fishing pole. With the purchase of a valid Utah fishing or combination license and a Utah second-pole permit, or a valid Idaho fishing or combination license and an Idaho two-pole permit, you may fish with two poles anywhere on Bear Lake that is open to fishing. A second-pole or two-pole permit must be purchased from the state of original license purchase.

If you plan to launch or fish on the Idaho side of the lake, you must have a current Idaho Invasive Species Fund sticker on your watercraft. You can purchase the sticker online, by mail, at any Idaho State Park and through some retail vendors.

### **Flaming Gorge Reservoir**

To fish across state lines at Flaming Gorge, you must have a valid fishing license from one state and a reciprocal fishing permit from the other state. For example, if you buy a Utah resident or nonresident fishing license, you can

fish the Utah portion of Flaming Gorge. After buying your Utah license, if you decide you also want to fish the Wyoming portion of the reservoir, you must buy a Wyoming reciprocal fishing permit. You can also choose to purchase a Wyoming fishing license.

For more information on obtaining a Wyoming reciprocal fishing permit or a Wyoming fishing license, call the Wyoming Game and Fish Department at 307-777-4600.

Even with a reciprocal Wyoming fishing permit, you must purchase a two-pole permit from Utah if you'd like to fish in Utah with two poles at the same time.

Utah reciprocal fishing permits are available at [wildlife.utah.gov](http://wildlife.utah.gov) and from Utah Division of Wildlife Resources offices and license agents that sell Utah fishing licenses.

If you plan to launch or fish on the Wyoming side of Flaming Gorge, you must have a Wyoming Aquatic Invasive Species decal on your watercraft. You can purchase the decal online or from a Wyoming license agent.

### **Lake Powell**

To fish across the state line at Lake Powell, any person with a valid Utah fishing license — either resident or nonresident — may fish any portion of Lake Powell, including the Arizona portion, without any additional permits or licenses.

A person with an Arizona license will still need to purchase and possess a valid Utah reciprocal permit to fish in the Utah waters of Lake Powell. Arizona residents may obtain a Utah reciprocal fishing permit at [wildlife.utah.gov](http://wildlife.utah.gov) and from Division offices and license agents that sell Utah fishing licenses.

An Arizona second-pole permit is not valid in Utah, even with a reciprocal fishing permit. A Utah second-pole permit must be purchased if you'd like to fish in Utah with two poles at the same time.



## More information about reciprocal permits

- Utah reciprocal fishing permits are valid for 365 days from the day you buy them.
- You must sign your name on your reciprocal permit the same way you signed your name on your fishing license.
- You are subject to the laws and rules of the state in which you're fishing.

## Fishing contests

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-58*

You can hold a fishing contest in Utah, but you must follow the rules, some of which have changed in recent years. For the current fishing contest rules, please see Utah Admin. Rule R657-58 at [wildlife.utah.gov/rules](http://wildlife.utah.gov/rules), visit [wildlife.utah.gov/fishingcontests](http://wildlife.utah.gov/fishingcontests) or contact the nearest Division office.

If you plan to hold a fishing contest at a Utah State Park, you should also check with the park to see if there are any additional rules that apply to the area.

## Licenses for residents with special needs

*Utah Code § 23-19-36*

If you're a Utah resident and have certain physical or mental disabilities—or a terminal illness—you may qualify for a free fishing license. A child who has been placed in the custody of the state by a court order may also qualify. To learn if you qualify, please see Utah Code § 23-19-36 at [wildlife.utah.gov/rules](http://wildlife.utah.gov/rules) or contact your nearest Division office.

# GENERAL RULES: FISHING METHODS

*Utah Code § 23-20-3*

There are laws and rules that govern fishing in Utah. By obeying these regulations and being an ethical angler, you will help keep fishing great for everyone. Please be familiar with the following general rules for taking fish and crayfish. You'll find some exceptions to these rules in the *Rules for specific waters* on page 22.

## Taking game fish

You may take game fish using only the following methods:

### Angling

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-6 and R657-13-11*

Angling is permitted from boats and float tubes—and other motorized and nonmotorized aquatic vehicles—on any water where such vehicle use is authorized. There are some waters, however, where you cannot fish from a float tube or a boat (see page 23 for more information). Please keep in mind that other agencies may have placed additional restrictions on the use of float tubes and boats at certain Utah waters.

You may not fish with more than one fishing line except when:

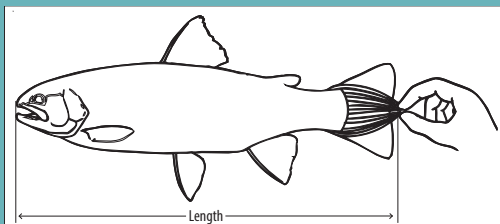
- You are fishing for crayfish. Please see page 14 of this guide for more information about fishing for crayfish.
- You have a second-pole or setline permit. See page 11 to learn more about fishing with a second pole or a setline.
- You are ice fishing at Flaming Gorge. Please see page 27 for the rules specific to Flaming Gorge.

While fishing, you must be within sight of the equipment you're fishing with (this distance cannot exceed 100 feet). The only exception to this rule is if you have a setline permit. Please see page 12 for more information about fishing with a setline.

There are a few additional angling rules to keep in mind:

## How to measure a fish

1. Place the fish on its side with the jaw closed.
2. Squeeze the tail fin together or turn it so you obtain the maximum overall length.
3. Measure a straight line from the tip of the snout to the extreme tip of the tail fin.



- No artificial lure may have more than three hooks.
- No line may have attached to it more than three baited hooks, three artificial flies or three artificial lures. Please see page 12 of this guide for more information about fishing with a setline.
- When you're fishing through the ice, you may not fish through a hole that's more than 12 inches wide. The only exceptions are at Bear Lake, Flaming Gorge Reservoir and Fish Lake. For more information about ice fishing at these waters, please see page 22.
- Dead yellow perch may be used as bait only in Deer Creek, Echo, Fish Lake, Gunnison, Hyrum, Johnson, Jordanelle, Mantua, Mill Meadow, Newton, Pineview, Rockport, Starvation, Utah Lake, Willard Bay and Yuba reservoirs.
- Dead white bass may be used as bait only in Utah Lake and the Jordan River.
- Dead shad from Lake Powell may be used as bait only in Lake Powell. It is illegal to remove dead shad from the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.

## Bait

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-12*

While you are fishing, it is unlawful to:

- Use or possess corn, hominy or live baitfish
- Use or possess tiger salamanders (live or dead)
- Use or possess any bait if you are on waters designated artificial fly and lure only
- Use or possess artificial baits that are commercially imbedded or covered with fish or fish parts
- Use or possess bait in the form of fresh or frozen fish or fish parts, except as provided below:
  - Dead Bonneville cisco may be used as bait only in Bear Lake.

- Dead, fresh or frozen saltwater species, including sardines and anchovies, may be used as bait in any water where bait is permitted.
- Dead mountain sucker, white sucker, Utah sucker, redbelly shiner, speckled dace, mottled sculpin, fathead minnow, Utah chub and common carp may be used as bait in any water where bait is permitted.
- The eggs of any species of fish caught in Utah, except prohibited fish, may be used in any water where bait is permitted. You may not, however, take or use eggs from fish that are being released.

You may only use live crayfish for bait if you are on the water where the crayfish were captured. It is unlawful to transport live crayfish away from the water where they were captured.

You may use commercially prepared and chemically treated baitfish or their parts as bait in any water where bait is permitted.

Manufactured, human-made items that may not be digestible—including items that have been chemically treated with food stuffs, chemical fish attractants or feeding stimulants—may not be used on waters where bait is prohibited.

If the Utah Wildlife Board has declared that a water is infested with an aquatic invasive species—or the water is subject to a closure order or control plan—you may not transport any species of baitfish (live or dead) from that water to use in any other water. To determine whether a water is infested, visit [wildlife.utah.gov/affected-waters.html](http://wildlife.utah.gov/affected-waters.html).

## Restrictions on taking fish and crayfish

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-11*

You can use artificial light while fishing, but not when you are underwater spearfishing. There's one exception: if you're underwater spearfishing for burbot at Flaming Gorge, you can use artificial light.

You may not obstruct a waterway or use any chemical, explosive, electricity, poison, crossbow, firearm, pellet gun or archery equipment to take fish or crayfish. The only exceptions are found in *Taking Nongame Fish* (page 15), *Bowfishing* (page 12) and *Rules for specific waters, Lake Powell* on page 30.

You may not take or land a fish by snagging or gaffing, and you may not have a gaff in your possession while fishing. A fish hooked anywhere other than the mouth must be released immediately. The only exceptions are at Lake Powell (where you may use a gaff to

land striped bass), Bear Lake (where you may snag Bonneville cisco) and any waterbody where there is a catch-and-kill regulation for the fish you snag.

Chumming is prohibited on all waters except Lake Powell. Please see the *Rules for specific waters, Lake Powell* on page 30 for more information about chumming at Lake Powell.

## Fishing with more than one pole

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-7*

If you have a valid Utah second-pole permit, and a valid fishing or combination license, you can fish with two poles at any water in the state during its open fishing season. You may keep only one limit of fish. A second-pole permit does NOT allow you to keep two limits of fish.

Second-pole permits are available for \$15 at [wildlife.utah.gov](http://wildlife.utah.gov) and from license agents and Division offices.

A second-pole permit is a 365-day permit, but you must also have an unexpired one-day, seven-day or 365-day Utah fishing or combination license in order to use it. Only the person to whom the second-pole permit is issued can use the permit.

If you're under 12 years of age and would like to fish with a second pole, you must have a valid one-day, seven-day or 365-day Utah fishing or combination license, and a second-pole permit.

When fishing with a second pole, you must be within sight of the equipment you're fishing with (this distance cannot exceed 100 feet). See also *Fishing across state lines and reciprocal fishing permits* on page 8.

A person may use up to six lines, poles or tip-ups—without a second-pole permit—when fishing at Flaming Gorge Reservoir through the ice. Please see page 27 for more information.

## Setline fishing

Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-8

Setlines are lines that are anchored to a non-moving object and that are not attached to a fishing pole.

Setline permits are available for \$15 at [wildlife.utah.gov](http://wildlife.utah.gov) and from license agents and Division offices.

A setline permit is a 365-day permit, but you must also have an unexpired one-day, seven-day or 365-day Utah fishing or combination license in order to use it (a setline permit is not valid unless it's accompanied by a valid fishing or combination license).

If you're under 12 years of age and would like to use a setline, you must have a valid one-day, seven-day or 365-day Utah fishing or combination license, and a setline permit.

If you obtain a setline permit, and a Utah fishing or combination license, you can use a setline to take fish from the following waters: Bear River proper (downstream from the Idaho state line, including Cutler Reservoir and outlet canals); Little Bear River below Valley View Highway (SR-30); Malad River; and Utah Lake.

The following rules apply to setline fishing:

- You may not fish with more than one setline.
- A setline may not contain more than 15 hooks.
- When fishing with a setline, you must be within 100 yards of the surface or the bank of water you're fishing from.
- One end of your setline must be attached to a non-moving object that is not attached to a fishing pole. Your setline must also have a legible tag attached to it that includes your name, address and setline permit number.
- While fishing with a setline, you can also fish with one fishing pole. If you have a valid second-pole permit, you can fish with two fishing poles while you're also fishing with a setline.

## Dipnetting

Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-10

You can use a handheld dipnet to land game fish that you've legally taken by angling. However, you may not use a handheld dipnet as a primary method of taking game fish unless you are at Bear Lake, where you may use a dipnet to take Bonneville cisco.

When fishing for Bonneville cisco at Bear Lake, the opening of your dipnet may not exceed 18 inches. If you're dipnetting through the ice at Bear Lake, there is no restriction on the size of the hole you can drill in the ice. Please see *Rules for specific waters, Bear Lake* on page 22 for more information.

You may also use a handheld dipnet to take crayfish and nongame fish, except prohibited fish. For a list of fish you are prohibited to possess, please see page 15 of this guide.

## Bowfishing

Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-14 and R657-12-8

Fishing with archery tackle—also called bowfishing—is allowed in most Utah waterbodies but only for nongame fish such as carp. And within that limitation, there are waters where you may bowfish for carp only (see page 15 for details).

In most areas, bowfishing is allowed at night with the use of spotlights. There are a few notable exceptions: The tributaries of Utah Lake are closed at night (sunset to sunrise) from May 3 to July 12. A few other lakes, including Lake Powell, have closed areas. If you're wondering about a specific waterbody, see the section that begins on page 22 or call the Division office that manages that particular fishery.

Please remember that archery tackle is considered a weapon and cannot be discharged within 600 feet of a structure. Also, local communities may have ordinances against the discharge of weapons within city limits. If possible, please check with your local

city office to make sure you are following all the rules.

Some individuals have physical disabilities that prevent them from using conventional archery equipment. They may obtain a certificate of registration that allows them to use a crossbow to bowfish for carp.

If you have additional questions about bowfishing or the places you can bowfish, please contact your local Division office.

## Underwater spearfishing

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-9*

The waters listed below are open to underwater spearfishing for game fish from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31. Unless otherwise noted, you may use spearfishing to take any legal species within the limits that apply to each waterbody:

- Big Sandwash Reservoir (Duchesne County)
- Blue Lake, for tilapia only (Tooele County)
- Brown's Draw Reservoir (Duchesne County)
- Causey Reservoir (Weber County)
- Electric Lake (Emery County)
- Grantsville Reservoir (Tooele County)
- Kens Lake (San Juan County)
- Newcastle Reservoir, for wipers and rainbow trout only (Iron County)
- Porcupine Reservoir (Cache County)
- Recapture Reservoir (San Juan County)
- Red Fleet Reservoir (Uintah County)
- Sand Lake (Uintah County)
- Smith and Morehouse Reservoir (Summit County)
- Willard Bay Reservoir (Box Elder County)
- Yuba Reservoir (Juab and Sanpete counties)

## Restrictions on spearfishing for bass

The waters listed below are open to underwater spearfishing for game fish from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, but you may not use spearfishing to take largemouth and small-

mouth bass from April 1 through the fourth Saturday of June:

- Deer Creek Reservoir (Wasatch County)
- East Canyon Reservoir (Morgan County)
- Echo Reservoir (Summit County)
- Flaming Gorge Reservoir (Daggett County)
- Lake Powell (Garfield, Kane and San Juan counties)
- Pineview Reservoir, except closed year round to the take of tiger muskie (Weber County)
- Rockport Reservoir (Summit County)
- Starvation Reservoir (Duchesne County)
- Steinaker Reservoir (Uintah County)

## Additional spearfishing rules

Underwater spearfishing hours are from official sunrise to official sunset. It is illegal to use artificial light while underwater spearfishing, and free shafting is prohibited.

There are a few exceptions to these regulations:

- At Fish Lake (Sevier County), you may underwater spearfish for all fish species from 6 a.m. on June 7 until official sunset on Sept. 15.
- At Flaming Gorge, you can underwater spearfish for burbot from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 24 hours per day. You can also use artificial light while spearfishing for burbot at this reservoir. Please see page 27 for rules specific to Flaming Gorge.

All possession limits apply, regardless of the angling technique you use.

At all waters open to angling—during their open seasons—you can underwater spearfish for carp.

## Trespassing

*Utah Code §§ 23-20-14 and 23-20-3.5*

While fishing or engaging in wildlife-related activities, you may not—without permission—enter or remain on privately owned land that is:

- Cultivated
- Properly posted
- Fenced or enclosed in a manner designed to exclude intruders

In addition, you may not:

- Enter or remain on private land when directed not to do so by the owner or a person acting for the owner.
- Obstruct any entrance or exit to private property.

“Cultivated land” is land that is readily identifiable as land whose soil is loosened or broken up for the raising of crops, land used for the raising of crops, or a pasture that is artificially irrigated.

“Permission” means written authorization from the owner or person in charge to enter upon private land that is cultivated or properly posted. Permission must include all of the following details:

- The signature of the owner or person in charge
- The name of the person being given permission
- The appropriate dates
- A general description of the land

“Properly posted” means that signs prohibiting trespass—or bright yellow, bright orange or fluorescent paint—are clearly displayed at all corners, on fishing streams crossing property lines, and on roads, gates and rights-of-way entering the land. Or, they are displayed in a manner that is visible to a person in the area.

You may not post private property you do not own or legally control or land that is open to the public as provided by Utah Code § 23-21-4. In addition, it is unlawful to take protected wildlife or its parts while trespassing in violation of Utah Code § 23-20-14.

You are guilty of a class B misdemeanor if you violate any provision described in this section. Your license, tag or permit privileges may also be suspended.

## Stream access in Utah

*Utah Code § 73-3-29*

In 2010, the Utah Legislature passed the Public Waters Access Act. The act changed the recreational easement recognized by the Utah Supreme Court in 2008, which allowed the public to walk on the private bed of a river, stream or lake.

The act does not allow recreational water users (including anglers, kayakers, tubers, hunters and others) to walk on the private bed of a river, stream or lake. This means that if you are fishing or recreating in public water that flows over private property closed to trespass, you may not walk on the land beneath the water without obtaining landowner permission.

The act does allow you to float on the surface of the water, even if you're floating over private property that is closed to trespass. It also allows you to fish while floating.

For more information, please visit [wildlife.utah.gov/streamaccess](http://wildlife.utah.gov/streamaccess).

## Native American Trust Lands

If you're fishing on land that belongs to any of the Native American tribes in Utah, you must observe tribal regulations. These regulations are available from the Native American tribe that owns the land.

## Taking crayfish

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-15*

Fishing for crayfish (also called crawdads) is a fun activity for the whole family.

If you're under the age of 12, you do not need a license to fish for crayfish. If you're 12 years of age or older, you must have a valid Utah fishing or combination license to fish for crayfish. You may take crayfish for personal,

noncommercial purposes at any body of water where there's an open fishing season. You may not take crayfish if the fishing season at that water is closed.

You may take crayfish by hand or with a trap, dipnet, liftnet, handline, pole or seine.

You must also obey all of the following rules:

- You may not use game fish or their parts for bait, or use any substance that is illegal for fishing.
- Seines (nets) may not exceed 10 feet in length or width.
- You may not use more than five lines, and only one of those lines can have hooks attached to it, unless you have a valid second-pole permit. If you have a second-pole permit, then you may use two hooked lines. (On the lines without hooks, simply tie your bait to the line so the crayfish can grasp the bait with its claw.)
- You may not transport live crayfish away from the body of water where you captured them.

## Prohibited fish

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-13*

Possession of the following nongame fish is prohibited. If you catch any of these fish, you must release them immediately:

- Bonytail
- Bluehead sucker
- Colorado pikeminnow (formerly, Colorado squawfish)
- Flannelmouth sucker
- Gizzard shad (except at Lake Powell, where you may possess dead shad and use them as bait)
- Grass carp
- Humpback chub
- June sucker
- Least chub
- Northern leatherside chub
- Razorback sucker

- Roundtail chub
- Southern leatherside chub
- Virgin chub
- Virgin spinedace
- Woundfin

## Taking nongame fish

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-14 and R657-12-8*

If you have a valid Utah fishing or combination license, you may take nongame fish—except those listed in the *Prohibited Fish* section above—for personal, noncommercial purposes, as long as you're fishing at a body of water during its open fishing season.

There are, however, more than a dozen waters where carp are the only nongame fish you may take. Those waters are listed in the *Taking carp* section below.

To take nonprohibited nongame fish, you may use angling, traps, archery (excluding crossbows, unless otherwise authorized), dipnets, cast nets, liftnets, seines or a hand-held spear from above the surface of the water. When using these methods, please remember the following rules:

- Seines (nets) may not exceed 10 feet in length or width.
- Cast nets may not exceed 10 feet in diameter (a five-foot radius).
- Nongame fish that are legal to take must either be released or killed immediately after you remove them from the water. You may not leave them on the shoreline.

Underwater spearfishing for nongame fish (other than carp) is only allowed at the waters listed on page 13.

## Taking carp

You may use a variety of techniques—including angling, archery (excluding crossbows, unless otherwise authorized), a spear from above the surface of the water, or underwater spearfishing—to take carp in any water during its open fishing season.

Anglers who are bowfishing for carp must use standard archery equipment unless they have physical disabilities that prevent them from using the equipment. In that case, they may obtain a certificate of registration that allows them to use a crossbow to bowfish for carp.

For more information on bowfishing rules, see page 12.

You may also use artificial lights while bowfishing for carp.

Carp are the *only* nongame fish you may take in the following waters:

- Ash Creek
- Beaver Dam Wash
- Colorado River
- Diamond Fork
- Duchesne River (from the Myton SR-40 bridge to the confluence with the Green River)
- Fort Pierce Wash
- Green River (from the Colorado state line in Browns Park upstream to Flaming Gorge Dam, including Gorge Creek, a tributary that enters the Green River at Little Hole)
- Green River (from the confluence with the Colorado River upstream to the Colorado state line in Dinosaur National Monument)
- Hobble Creek
- La Verkin Creek
- Main Canyon Creek (tributary to Wallsburg Creek)
- Provo River (below Deer Creek Dam)
- Raft River (from the Idaho state line, including all tributaries)
- San Juan River

- Santa Clara River (from Pine Valley Reservoir downstream to the confluence with the Virgin River)
- Snake Valley waters (west and north of US-6 and the part of US-6 and US-50 in Millard and Juab counties)
- Spanish Fork River
- Thistle Creek
- Virgin River (main stem and the north and east forks)
- Weber River
- White River (Uintah County)
- Yellow Creek

## Taking brine shrimp

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-52*

Many people who visit the Great Salt Lake want to take some of the lake's brine shrimp home with them. You may take brine shrimp from the lake without a fishing license, but you may not take more than one gallon in a seven-day period.

## Checkpoints and officer contacts

*Utah Code §§ 23-20-25 and 77-23-104*

The Division is the trustee and guardian of Utah's fish and wildlife. Division conservation officers monitor the taking and possession of fish, and the required licenses and equipment used for fishing. You should expect to encounter conservation officers and biologists checking anglers at waters and at checkpoints across Utah.

If you meet a conservation officer, you must provide the items he or she asks for, including any licenses required for fishing, any devices used to participate in fishing and any fish that you've taken. These contacts allow the Division to collect valuable information about fish populations in Utah.



# GENERAL RULES: POSSESSION AND TRANSPORTATION

Utah Code § 23-20-3

Once you've taken a fish or crayfish, several rules apply to how you can use it. Please be familiar with the following general rules for possessing and transporting fish and crayfish.

## Dead fish and crayfish

Utah Code § 4-37-305 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-16

You may possess a legal limit of game fish or crayfish as you travel within Utah—or if you leave the state—as long as you have a valid fishing or combination license.

Starting Jan. 1, in addition to one legal daily limit of fish, you may also possess one additional limit of fish as long as those fish meet all of the following requirements:

- They were caught on a previous day.
- They have been cleaned and gutted (entrails removed).
- They are a legal species and limit for the waterbody where you were fishing.

The above rule applies to most waterbodies, where you may have a maximum of two daily limits in your possession at any one time. The only exceptions to this rule are at Strawberry Reservoir and Flaming Gorge, where you may have only one daily limit in your possession.

## Possession of filleted fish

While you are in the act of fishing, it is unlawful to possess filleted fish from the current day's catch or fish that have had their heads or tails removed. This does not apply to fish processed for immediate consumption or from a previous day's catch.

At most waters, you may fillet harvested game fish, or remove their heads or tails, after you have:

- Completed the act of fishing
- Arrived at camp
- Reached a fish-cleaning station
- Arrived at a principle means of land transportation

At Strawberry Reservoir, Scofield Reservoir, Lost Creek Reservoir and Panguitch Lake, you may not fillet trout and salmon, and you may not remove their heads or tails while in the field or in transit.

Likewise, at Jordanelle, you may not fillet smallmouth bass, and you may not remove their heads or tails while in the field or in transit.

**Note:** Do not dispose of entrails and carcasses on the bank. Leave them in the water where you caught the fish.

## Possession of fish obtained from other sources

You may possess or transport a legal limit of game fish or crayfish caught by another person if you have a donation letter from that person. Please see *Donating* on page 18 for more information.

If you have purchased or obtained fish from a registered commercial fishing installation, a private pond owner or a short-term fishing event, you may only possess or transport dead fish if you have a receipt. The receipt must include all of the following information:

- The species and number of fish
- The date the fish were caught
- The certificate of registration number of the installation, pond or short-term fishing event
- The name, address and telephone number of the seller

To help prevent the spread of disease, dead fish and crayfish may not be moved between waters.

## Live fish and crayfish

*Utah Code § 23-13-14 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-17*

You may not release fish or crayfish into the wild except as provided in the Wildlife Code, rule, proclamation or order of the Wildlife Board. For example, you can release fish caught at Scofield Reservoir back into Scofield, but you cannot take live fish from Scofield and place those fish in another water. Any person who moves live fish from one body of water to another is guilty of a class A misdemeanor and may be fined up to \$2,500.

You may use live fish stringers, livewells or holding cages to store fish or crayfish while fishing on the water where you caught them.

A trout, salmon or grayling may not be released if it's been held on a stringer or in a fish basket, livewell or any other type of device.

You may not transport live fish or crayfish away from the water where they were caught.

## Release of tagged or marked fish

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-18*

You may not, without prior authorization from the Division, perform any of the following activities:

- Tag, mark or fin-clip fish for the purpose of offering a prize or reward as part of a contest
- Introduce a tagged, marked or fin-clipped fish into any water in the state
- Tag, mark or fin-clip a fish and return it to the water

## Disposal of aquatic wildlife

### Donating

*Utah Code § 23-20-9*

The following are the only places where you may donate or give protected aquatic wildlife or its parts to another person:

- The residence of the donor
- The residence of the recipient

- A meat locker
- A storage plant
- A meat-processing facility

You may not donate fish in the field.

A written statement of donation must be kept with the protected aquatic wildlife or parts that includes all of the following information:

- The number and species of protected aquatic wildlife or parts donated
- The date of donation
- The license or permit number of the donor
- The signature of the donor

## Purchasing or selling

*Utah Code § 23-20-3*

You may not purchase or sell protected aquatic wildlife or its parts except as provided in the Wildlife Code, rule, proclamation or order of the Wildlife Board.

## Disposal of fish

*Utah Code § 23-20-8*

In most instances, you may not waste any fish or crayfish or allow them to be wasted or spoiled. Waste means to abandon a fish or crayfish or allow it to spoil or be used in a manner not normally associated with its beneficial use. For example, using the meat of game fish as fertilizer or for trapping bait is not considered a beneficial use of the meat.

In 2013, however, the Utah Legislature passed a new law that allows anglers to dispose of carp and a few other species—particularly species under catch-and-kill orders at certain waterbodies—without violating the state's wasting statute. If you visit any of the following waters and catch any of the species listed for those waters, you may dispose of them:

- All waters statewide: common carp
- Blue Lake: tilapia
- Colorado River: burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass and walleye

- Colorado River tributaries: burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass and walleye (see page 25 for a list of applicable tributaries)
- Deer Creek Reservoir: white bass and black bullhead
- Flaming Gorge: burbot
- Grantsville Reservoir: smallmouth bass
- Green River: burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass and walleye
- Green River tributaries: burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass and walleye (see page 29 for a list of applicable tributaries)
- Lake Powell: striped bass
- Red Fleet Reservoir: walleye
- San Juan River: burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass and walleye
- San Juan River tributaries: burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass and walleye (see page 34 for a list of applicable tributaries)
- Utah Lake: northern pike

After catching any of the above fish, you may consume them or dispose of them at one of the following locations:

- In the water where the fish was caught
- A fish-cleaning station
- The angler's place of residence
- Another location where disposal is authorized by law

## Season dates, daily limit and possession limit

Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-19

This section provides general rules for fishing in Utah. Many waters have localized and specific rules, which are listed in *Rules for specific waters* on page 22.

On waters that have a specific rule, that rule takes precedence over the general rules below.

## Closed areas

All of the state's fish hatcheries are closed to fishing, including the warmwater fish hatchery at the Lee Kay Public Shooting Center. All of the state's waterfowl management areas are also closed to fishing unless they're posted open to fishing or they're listed as open to fishing in *Rules for specific waters* on page 22.

## Season dates

Utah's general fish and crayfish season is Jan. 1 through Dec. 31. Fish may be caught by angling or setline 24 hours a day. Underwater spearfishing is allowed from official sunrise to official sunset. See page 13 for details.

## Daily limits and possession limits

Residents and nonresidents who are under 12 years of age may fish without a license and take a full possession limit.

Starting Jan. 1, in addition to one legal daily limit of fish, you may also possess one additional limit of fish as long as those fish meet all of the following requirements:

- They were caught on a previous day.
- They have been cleaned and gutted (entrails removed).
- They are a legal species and limit for the waterbody where you were fishing.

The above rule applies to most waterbodies, where you may have a maximum of two daily limits in your possession at any one time. The only exceptions to this rule are at Strawberry Reservoir and Flaming Gorge, where you may have only one daily limit in your possession.

When calculating your possession limit, please remember the following rules:

- Any trout, salmon or grayling not immediately released is part of your possession limit.
- A trout, salmon or grayling may not be released if it's been held in or on a

- stringer, fish basket, livewell or by any other device.
- Any fish that doesn't meet the size or species rules for the water you're fishing must be returned to the water immediately.
  - You may not fish at waters that have a specific size limit if you possess fish in

- violation of that limit. You may continue to fish while in possession of a full limit, but you must immediately release any additional fish you catch.
- The following daily limits apply state-wide, except as provided in *Rules for specific waters* on page 22.

DAILY LIMITS

Bluegill and green sunfish (a combined total)*	50
Bonneville cisco	30
Bullhead	24
Burbot (Anglers must not release any burbot they catch. All burbot caught must be immediately killed.)	No limit
Channel catfish*	8
Community fisheries (The limit includes fish of any species, but anglers are encouraged to release all largemouth bass. See the complete list of community waters on page 25.)	2
Crappie*	50
Crayfish	No limit
Largemouth and smallmouth bass (a combined total)*	6

Nongame species (except prohibited fish; see page 15 for a list of prohibited fish)	No limit
Northern pike*	6
Tiger muskellunge*	1 over 40 inches
Sacramento perch	10
Striped bass	No limit
Trout, including salmon, grayling and hybrids (a combined total), except no more than two can be lake trout/mackinaw. Also, you can take extra brook trout at some waters in the state.*	4
Walleye*	10, only 1 over 24 inches
Whitefish*	10
White bass	No limit
Wiper*	6
Yellow perch*	50

\* On some waters, specific bag or size restrictions apply. Please see *Rules for specific waters* on page 22 for variations.

# FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES

Go online to learn about elevated mercury levels in some of Utah's fish.

Fish are an important part of a healthy diet, and most are safe to eat on a regular basis. You should, however, limit your intake of some fish found in certain Utah waters.

Why? Recent testing identified elevated levels of mercury in some populations of fish. Over time, eating these fish may be unhealthy if consumed in large amounts.

Be sure to visit [fishadvisories.utah.gov](http://fishadvisories.utah.gov) before eating the fish you catch. The Utah Fish Advisories website is updated frequently and has the latest information about mercury levels in Utah's fish and waters.

If you decide to share your fish with family or friends, be sure to communicate any relevant advisories.

## Advisories issued in 2013

In 2013, there were a few new and modified fish-consumption advisories. They were for the following species and waterbodies:

- Largemouth bass at Quail Creek Reservoir
- Largemouth bass at Recapture Reservoir
- Walleye at Starvation Reservoir
- Northern pike and walleye at Yuba Reservoir

For details, visit [fishadvisories.utah.gov](http://fishadvisories.utah.gov).

## Your best resource for information

Three government agencies work together closely to keep the Utah Fish Advisories website current.

First, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) obtain fish samples from lakes and rivers across the state. Then, the DEQ analyzes the samples and forwards the results to the Utah Department of Health (DOH). After reviewing the data, the DOH decides whether to issue a consumption advisory.

This partnership makes [fishadvisories.utah.gov](http://fishadvisories.utah.gov) your best resource for accurate, up-to-date fish consumption advisories.

## Learn more

To learn more about Utah's on-going battle with mercury, visit [wildlife.utah.gov/mercurygroup](http://wildlife.utah.gov/mercurygroup). For more information about the health effects of mercury, visit [wildlife.utah.gov/mercury](http://wildlife.utah.gov/mercury).

## Utah's boating laws and rules

Boaters have the responsibility to practice and advocate safe and ethical use of our waterways. If you're planning to take your boat out on Utah waters, you should take the following safety measures:

Wear your life jacket. Utah law requires those under 13 to wear their life jacket when on a boat, and it is recommended everyone wear one.

Let someone know where you are going and what time you expect to return.

Carry the required boating safety equipment. For a detailed list of safety equipment, visit [stateparks.utah.gov/boating/checklist](http://stateparks.utah.gov/boating/checklist).



Keep your boat 150 feet away from a displayed diver-down flag (illustrated to the right). The flag means that someone is diving in the area.

By completing a Utah Boating Course, you may reduce your boat insurance premiums. For additional boating information, visit [stateparks.utah.gov/boating](http://stateparks.utah.gov/boating).

## RULES FOR SPECIFIC WATERS

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-20

The rules below take precedence over the general rules listed earlier in this guidebook. The seasons, limits and other restrictions in this section apply only to the waters listed below. General rules apply to all of the waters **NOT** listed in this section. (See *Daily limits* on page 20 to learn more about catching and harvesting fish at waters that are **NOT** listed in this section.)

### **American Fork Creek**, Utah County

From Utah Lake upstream to I-15.

- CLOSED March 1 through 6 a.m. on the first Saturday of May.

### **Ashley Creek**, Uintah County

From Steinaker (Thornburg) diversion upstream to the water treatment plant near the mouth of Ashley Gorge.

- Limit 2 trout.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

### **Aspen-Mirror Lake**, Kane County

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the third Saturday of April.
- Fishing from a boat or a float tube is unlawful.

### **Badger Hollow**, Wasatch County

See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

### **Barney Lake**, Piute County

- Limit 2 trout.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

### **Bear Lake**, Rich County

See *Fishing across state lines and reciprocal fishing permits* on page 8 for license requirements.

- Limit 2 trout.
- Cutthroat trout or trout with cutthroat markings with all fins intact must be immediately released. Only cutthroat trout that have had one or more healed fins clipped may be kept.
- Cisco may be taken with a handheld dipnet. Net opening may not exceed 18

inches in any dimension. When dipnetting through the ice, the size of the hole is unrestricted.

- When ice fishing for fish other than cisco, the size of the hole may not exceed 18 inches.
- Anglers may keep foul-hooked Bonneville cisco that are taken through normal, legal fishing activities.
- A person may not possess a multipoint hook with a weight permanently or rigidly attached directly to the shank — or a weight suspended below a multipoint hook — unless the hook is on an unweighted dropper line that is at least three inches long.

### **Bear Lake tributaries**, Rich County

(a) Big Spring Creek from Lamborn Diversion (approximately 500 yards below SR-30) downstream to Bear Lake and that area extending from the mouth out into the lake 1,000 feet, or as buoyed.

- CLOSED April 15 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.
- Catch and release only and artificial flies and lures only (Jan. 1 through April 14 and from 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July through Dec. 31).

(b) Swan Creek from the headwater spring downstream to Bear Lake and that area extending from the mouth out into the lake 1,000 feet, or as buoyed.

- CLOSED April 15 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.
- Catch and release only and artificial flies and lures only (Jan. 1 through April 14

and from 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July through Dec. 31).

**Beaver Creek**, Cache County

See *Logan River*.

**Beaver Creek**, San Juan County

Tributary to La Sal Creek.

- CLOSED to the possession of cutthroat trout or trout with cutthroat markings.
- All cutthroat trout must be immediately released.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

**Beaver River**, Beaver County

From Minersville Reservoir upstream to the bridge at Greenville.

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Beer Creek**, Utah County

From Utah Lake upstream to I-15 (includes Benjamin Slough).

- CLOSED March 1 through 6 a.m. on the first Saturday of May.

**Benches Pond tributaries**, Sanpete County

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Bicknell Bottoms**, Wayne County

This area is along the Fremont River.

- Open to fishing, except where posted CLOSED.

**Big Spring Creek**, Rich County

See *Bear Lake tributaries*.

**Blacksmith Fork River**, Cache County

From the first highway bridge (at the mouth of the canyon) of State Road 101 (Blacksmith Fork Canyon Road) to the headwaters.

- Only one fish may be over 15 inches.
- Bonus limit of 4 brown trout (total limit of no more than 8 trout if at least 4 are brown trout).

## Watercraft restrictions

Before you launch a boat at any waterbody, be sure to check with local, state or federal agencies about any watercraft restrictions that may exist.

In southern Utah, there are a handful of Division-managed waters with restrictions in place to protect the fisheries. Fishing from boats and float tubes is prohibited at the following waterbodies:

- Aspen-Mirror Lake (Kane County)
- Duck Creek Springs Lake (Kane County)
- Pine Valley Reservoir (Washington County)

Fishing from a boat with a motor of any kind is prohibited at the waterbodies listed below:

- Anderson Meadow Reservoir (Beaver County)
- Barney Lake (Piute County)
- Boulder Mountain Lakes (Garfield and Wayne counties, except for Wide Hollow Reservoir, Pine Lake and Lower Bowns Reservoir)
- Little Reservoir (Beaver County)

Regulations differ from one water to another, depending on which municipality or agency is in charge. It's your responsibility to learn and follow the rules for a particular water.

You can view a partial list of additional watercraft restrictions at [wildlife.utah.gov/watercraft](http://wildlife.utah.gov/watercraft) (click the *Watercraft Restrictions* tab).

**Blue Lake**, Tooele County

- No limit for tilapia. Anglers must not release any tilapia they catch. All tilapia must be immediately killed.
- Underwater spearfishing is allowed for tilapia and carp only.

**Boulder Mountain lakes and reservoirs,**

Garfield and Wayne counties

Includes all lakes and reservoirs found within the boundary beginning at the junction of SR-24 and SR-62; then south on SR-62 to SR-22, then south on SR-22 to the Antimony-Widtsoe Road; then south on this road to SR-12; then east and north on SR-12 to SR-24; and then west on SR-24 to the beginning point at the junction of SR-24 and SR-62; EXCEPT Otter Creek Reservoir, Pine Lake and Wide Hollow Reservoir (where statewide rules apply) and Dougherty Basin Lake (where separate specific rules apply).

- Limit 4 trout.
- Only 2 trout over 14 inches.
- Bonus limit of 4 brook trout (total limit of no more than 8 trout if at least 4 are brook trout) at the following waters: Donkey Reservoir, Oak Creek Reservoir and Moosman Lake.
- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the third Saturday of April and Nov. 1 through Dec. 31. This closure excludes the following waters, which are OPEN year round: Blind Lake, Coleman Reservoir, Cook Lake, Miller Lake, Oak Creek Reservoir, Upper and Lower Barker reservoirs, Donkey Reservoir, Posey Lake and the Garkane main impoundment.

**Broad Hollow,** Wasatch County

See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

**Brough Reservoir,** Uintah County

- Limit 1 trout over 22 inches.
- All trout 22 inches or smaller must be immediately released.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

**Brown Duck Basin,** Duchesne County

Uinta Mountains—all streams in the Brown Duck Basin and the outlet of Clemments Reservoir downstream to the Lake Fork Creek confluence.

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Bryants Fork,** Wasatch County

See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

**Bullock Reservoir,** Uintah County

- Unlawful to use whole fish for bait. Cut baitfish must not be larger than one inch in any dimension and no more than one piece per hook.

**Calder Reservoir,** Uintah County

- Limit 1 trout over 22 inches.
- All trout 22 inches or smaller must be immediately released.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

**Causey Reservoir,** Weber County

- CLOSED to the possession of kokanee salmon with any red color within the high-water mark of the reservoir from Aug. 15 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of September.

**Causey Reservoir tributaries,** Weber County

Right and left forks of the South Fork Ogden River, from Causey Reservoir upstream to the headwaters.

- CLOSED Aug. 15 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of September.

**Chicken Creek,** Wasatch County

See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

**Chipman Creek,** Wasatch County

See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

**Clyde Creek,** Wasatch County

See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

**Cold Springs Lakes,** Box Elder County

Also called Honeyville Ponds.

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the Saturday before Memorial Day.



## Community fishing waters

The following rules apply to all the fisheries listed below:

- The daily limit is 2 fish.
- Anglers are encouraged to voluntarily release all largemouth bass.
- Waters are open to fishing only when the community parks are open to the public.

**Box Elder County:** Mayors Pond and Pioneer Park Pond

**Cache County:** Skylars Pond (West Willow Pond) and Wellsville Reservoir

**Carbon County:** Carbon County Community Fishery and Gigliotti Pond

**Davis County:** Adams Reservoir, Bountiful Lake, Clinton Pond, Farmington Pond, Jensen Park Pond (Syracuse Pond), Kaysville Ponds, Mabey Pond and Steed Pond

**Emery County:** Green River State Park Golf Course Ponds and Huntington Game Farm Ponds

**Iron County:** Brian Head Pond, Leigh Hill Reservoir, Parowan Pond and Woods Pond

**Juab County:** Burraston Ponds

**Rich County:** Garden City Community Fishery

**Salt Lake County:** Black Ridge Reservoir, Cove Pond, Kidney Pond, Midas Pond, Mill-race Park Pond, Riverton Pond, Sandy Urban Fishery, Sunset Pond and Willow Park Pond

**Sevier County:** Monroe Community Fishery and Salina City Pond

**Utah County:** Canyon View Park Pond, Highland Glen Park Pond, Manila Creek Pond, Salem Pond, Spanish Oaks Reservoir, Spring Lake and Vivian Park Pond (Note: Spanish Oaks Reservoir and Manila Creek Pond are closed Dec. 1 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of February.)

**Wasatch County:** Wasatch Mountain State Park Pond

**Washington County:** Hurricane Pond (Grandpa's Pond), Razor Ridge Pond, Skyline Drive Pond, Sullivan Virgin River Park Pond and Tawa Ponds (Upper and Lower)

**Weber County:** Fort Buenaventura, Glassmans Pond, Goode Ski Lake (21st Street Pond) and Meadow Creek Pond

Check the Community Fishing booklet or visit [wildlife.utah.gov/cf](http://wildlife.utah.gov/cf) for specific site recreation rules.

**Co-op Creek,** Wasatch County  
See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

**Coal Canyon,** Wasatch County  
See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

**Colorado River,** Garfield, Grand, San Juan and Wayne counties  
From the Colorado state line downriver to the Hite bridge on SR-95

- No limit for channel catfish.
- No limit for burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass or walleye. Anglers may not release any of these fish, which must be immediately killed.

- Species of threatened and endangered fish occur in the Colorado. If you catch one of these fish, you must release it immediately. See page 15 for a list of prohibited fish.

**Colorado River tributaries,** Garfield, Grand and Wayne counties

*Dolores River* (Grand County) from the confluence with the Colorado River upstream to the Colorado state line; *Mill Creek* (Grand County) from the confluence with the Colorado River upstream to headwaters; *Dirty Devil River* (Garfield and Wayne counties) from the SR-95 bridge upstream to the Hanksville Diversion.

- No limit for channel catfish.
- No limit for burbot, northern pike, small-mouth bass or walleye. Anglers may not release any of these fish, which must be immediately killed.

**Cottonwood Reservoir**, Uintah County

- Unlawful to use whole fish for bait. Cut baitfish must not be larger than one inch in any dimension, with no more than one piece per hook.

**Cow Hollow**, Wasatch County

See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

**Currant Creek**, Wasatch County

From the confluence with Water Hollow Creek upstream to the headwaters, including all tributaries to Currant Creek Reservoir, but not the reservoir itself.

- Limit 4 trout.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

**Deer Creek Reservoir**, Wasatch County

- No limit on white bass or black bullhead catfish. Anglers must not release any white bass or black bullhead catfish they catch. All white bass or black bullhead catfish must be immediately killed.
- Closed to the use of underwater spearfishing to take largemouth and smallmouth bass from April 1 through the fourth Saturday of June.

**Deer Valley Lakes**, Wasatch County

- Limit 2 trout.

**Deseret Reservoir**, Tooele County

The reservoir is located at Deseret Chemical Depot, a U.S. Army facility.

- Open to fishing on the first Saturday of May through Oct. 31 during daylight hours. (A gate will be closed and locked from dusk to dawn.)

- Facility CLOSED Nov. 1 through Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 through April 30.
- Fishing at Deseret Reservoir requires an onpost fishing permit. You can obtain one at any of the following locations: the Outdoor Recreation Shop (Building 1011, 435-833-3100) or the TEAD Physical Fitness Center (Building 1002, 435-833-2159).
- Shore fishing only.

**Dougherty Basin Lake**, Garfield County  
Boulder Mountain—the lake and outflow from the dam downstream one-quarter mile.

- CLOSED to the possession of cutthroat trout or trout with cutthroat markings.
- Artificial flies and lures only.
- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Dry Creek**, Utah County

From Utah Lake upstream to I-15.

- CLOSED March 1 through 6 a.m. on the first Saturday of May.

**Duck Creek**, Kane County

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the third Saturday of April.

**Duck Creek Springs Lake**, Kane County

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the third Saturday of April.
- Fishing from a boat or a float tube is unlawful.

**Duck Fork Creek and other tributaries to Duck Fork Reservoir**, Sanpete County

- Limit 2 tiger trout.
- CLOSED to the possession of cutthroat trout or trout with cutthroat markings.
- Artificial flies and lures only.
- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Duck Fork Reservoir**, Sanpete County

- Limit 2 tiger trout.

- CLOSED to the possession of cutthroat trout or trout with cutthroat markings.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

### **East Canyon Reservoir**, Morgan County

- Closed to the use of underwater spearfishing to take largemouth and smallmouth bass from April 1 through the fourth Saturday of June.

### **East Fork Boulder Creek**, Garfield County

From the confluence with West Fork Boulder Creek upstream to the headwaters.

- Limit 4 trout.
- Bonus limit of 4 brook trout (total limit of no more than 8 trout if at least 4 are brook trout).

### **East Fork Little Bear River and its tributaries**, Cache County

From Porcupine Reservoir upstream to the headwaters.

- CLOSED Aug. 15 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of September.

### **East Fork Little Bear River**, Cache County

From Porcupine Dam downstream to the Avon-Paradise County road (165), second stream crossing below reservoir.

- Limit 2 trout and salmon in the aggregate.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

### **East Fork Sevier River**, Garfield and Piute counties

(a) Feeder canal from the diversion near Antimony down the channel to Otter Creek Reservoir:

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

(b) From the BLM boundary (about four miles south of the town of Antimony) upstream to the confluence of Deer Creek:

- Limit 2 trout.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

### **East Fork Smiths Fork River**, Summit County

- CLOSED to the possession of kokanee with any red color from Aug. 15 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of September.

### **Echo Reservoir**, Summit County

- Closed to the use of underwater spearfishing to take largemouth and smallmouth bass from April 1 through the fourth Saturday of June.

### **Electric Lake**, Emery County

- CLOSED to the possession of kokanee salmon with any red color from Aug. 15 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of September.

### **Electric Lake tributaries**, Emery County

From Electric Lake upstream to the headwaters

- CLOSED to the possession of kokanee salmon with any red color from Aug. 15 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of September.

### **Fish Lake**, Sevier County

- Limit 4 trout, only 1 may exceed 28 inches, regardless of species
- Underwater spearfishing is permitted from 6 a.m. on the first Saturday of June through Sept. 15.
- When ice fishing, the size of the hole may not exceed 18 inches.

### **Flaming Gorge Reservoir**, Daggett County

See *Fishing across state lines and reciprocal fishing permits* on page 8 for license and permit requirements.

- Limit 4 trout or kokanee salmon (excluding lake trout) in the aggregate, no more than 3 may be kokanee salmon.
- Limit 8 lake trout/mackinaw, only 1 may exceed 28 inches.

- All kokanee salmon caught from Sept. 10 through Nov. 30 must be immediately released.
- Linwood Bay, west of a line from the easternmost point of the south shore of Linwood Bay (mouth of canyon) to easternmost point of the north shore of Linwood Bay (Lucerne Point), CLOSED to nighttime angling (sunset to sunrise) from Oct. 15 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of December.
- Limit 6 catfish.
- Limit 10 smallmouth and largemouth bass in the aggregate.
- An angler may have only one daily limit in possession at any time.
- No limit for burbot. Anglers must not release any burbot they catch. All burbot must be immediately killed.
- When ice fishing, the hole size may not exceed 18 inches.
- A person may use up to six lines without a second-pole permit when fishing at Flaming Gorge Reservoir through the ice. When using more than two lines at Flaming Gorge Reservoir, the angler's name shall be attached to each line, pole or tip-up, and the angler shall check only their lines.
- Open to taking burbot by means of underwater spearfishing from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 24 hours each day. Artificial light is permitted while engaged in underwater spearfishing for burbot. Artificial light may not be used to take other fish species with spearfishing techniques. No other species of fish may be taken with underwater spearfishing techniques between official sunset and official sunrise.
- Closed to the use of underwater spearfishing to take largemouth and smallmouth bass from April 1 through the fourth Saturday of June.

### **Gooseberry Creek**, Sanpete County

From the confluence with Upper Fish Creek upstream to Gooseberry Dam.

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

### **Gooseberry Reservoir tributaries**,

Sanpete County

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

### **Granddaddy Lake tributaries**, Duchesne County

Located in the Uinta Mountains.

- All tributaries to Granddaddy Lake CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

### **Grantsville Reservoir**, Tooele County

- No limit for smallmouth bass. Anglers must not release any bass they catch. All bass must be immediately killed.

### **Grassy Trail Reservoir**, Carbon County

- CLOSED TO FISHING.

### **Green River**, Carbon, Daggett, Emery, Grand, San Juan, Uintah and Wayne counties

(a) From the Flaming Gorge Dam downriver to the confluence of the Colorado River:

- No limit for channel catfish.
- No limit for burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass or walleye. Anglers may not release any of these fish, which must be immediately killed.
- Species of threatened and endangered fish occur in the Green River. If you catch one of these fish, you must release it immediately. See page 15 for a list of prohibited fish.

(b) From the Colorado state line in Browns Park upstream to Flaming Gorge Dam, including Gorge Creek, a tributary entering the Green River at Little Hole:

- Limit 3 trout (2 under 15 inches and 1 over 22 inches).

- All trout from 15 to 22 inches must be immediately released.
- No limit for burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass or walleye. Anglers may not release any of these fish, which must be immediately killed.
- Artificial flies and lures only.
- CLOSED to fishing from a boat with a motor between the Utah-Colorado state line and Flaming Gorge Dam.

**Green River tributaries**, Carbon, Duchesne, Emery and Uintah counties

*Ashley Creek* (Uintah County) from the confluence with the Green River upstream to the town of Vernal; *Brush Creek* (Uintah County) from the confluence with the Green River upstream to Red Fleet Dam; *Duchesne River* (Duchesne and Uintah counties) from the confluence with the Green River upstream to the Knight Diversion; *White River* (Uintah County) from the confluence with the Green River to the Utah-Colorado border; *Willow Creek* (Uintah County) from the confluence with the Green River upstream to the confluence with Hill Creek; *Price River* (Carbon and Emery counties) from the confluence with the Green River upstream to the Farnham Dam/Diversion near Wellington; *San Rafael River* (Emery County) from the confluence with the Green River upstream to the Hatt's Ranch Diversion near State Highway 24; *Range Creek* (Carbon and Emery counties) from the confluence with the Green River upstream to headwaters; *Nine Mile Creek* (Carbon and Duchesne counties) from the confluence with the Green River upstream to headwaters.

- No limit for channel catfish.
- No limit for burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass or walleye. Anglers may not release any of these fish, which must be immediately killed.

**Gunlock Reservoir**, Washington County

- Limit 6 largemouth bass, only 1 may be over 12 inches.
- No limit on smallmouth bass.

**Hobble Creek**, Utah County

From Utah Lake upstream to I-15.

- CLOSED March 1 through 6 a.m. on the first Saturday of May.

**Hobbs Reservoir**, Davis County

- Limit 2 trout under 15 inches.
- All trout over 15 inches must be immediately released.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

**Holmes Creek Reservoir**, Davis County

- Limit 6 largemouth bass, only 1 may be over 12 inches.

**Honeyville Ponds**, Box Elder County

Also called Cold Springs Lakes.

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the Saturday before Memorial Day.

**Horse Creek**, Wasatch County

See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

**Huntington Creek**, Emery County

Below Electric Lake.

(a) Right Fork (from Flood and Engineers canyons upstream to Electric Lake Dam):

- Limit 2 trout.
- Artificial flies only

(b) Left Fork (from the top of the USFS campground, near the confluence with Right Fork, to the headwaters, including all tributaries: Scad Valley Creek, Rolfson Creek, Lake Creek, Staker Creek, Millers Flat Creek and Paradise Creek):

- Anglers are encouraged to harvest brown trout.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

**Huntington Reservoir**, Sanpete County

Near the top of Huntington Canyon.

- CLOSED to the possession of cutthroat trout or trout with cutthroat markings.

**Huntington Reservoir tributaries**,

Sanpete County

Near the top of Huntington Canyon.

- CLOSED to the possession of cutthroat trout or trout with cutthroat markings.
- Anglers are encouraged to harvest tiger trout.
- Artificial flies and lures only.
- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Huntington North Reservoir**, Emery

County

Near the city of Huntington.

- Limit 6 bass, only 1 may be over 12 inches.

**Indian Creek**, Wasatch County

See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

**Joel Valley Reservoir**, Emery County

- Limit 4 trout, only 1 trout may be over 18 inches.

**Johnson Reservoir**, Sevier County

- Unlawful to use whole fish for bait. Cut baitfish must not be larger than one inch in any dimension and no more than one piece per hook.

**Jones Hole Creek**, Uintah County

- Limit 2 trout, only 1 may be a brown trout over 15 inches.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

**Jordanelle Reservoir**, Wasatch County

- Limit 6 bass, only 1 may be over 12 inches.
- Bass may not be filleted, and the heads or tails may not be removed in the field or in transit.
- CLOSED to spearfishing.

**Kolob Reservoir**, Washington County

- Limit 2 trout under 15 inches or over 22 inches.
- All trout from 15 to 22 inches must be immediately released.
- Artificial flies and lures only from Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the third Saturday in May, and from the second Saturday in September through Dec. 31.

**Kolob Reservoir tributaries**, Washington

County

From Kolob Reservoir upstream to the headwaters.

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Lake Canyon Lake**, Duchesne County

- Limit 2 trout, only 1 may be a cutthroat trout over 22 inches.
- All cutthroat trout 22 inches or smaller must be immediately released.
- Artificial flies and lures only.
- CLOSED near the inlet stream, as posted for spring spawning operations.

**Lake Powell**, Garfield, Kane and San Juan

counties

See *Bait* on page 10 for the use of dead shad as bait in Lake Powell.

- Limit 20 smallmouth bass.
- Limit 5 largemouth bass.
- Limit 10 crappie.
- Limit 25 channel catfish.
- No limit on striped bass.
- No limit on walleye.
- Fish may be filleted at any time.
- Anglers may possess filleted fish.
- Chumming is allowed, but you may chum only with legal baits, as specified in Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-12.
- Gaffs may be used to land striped bass only.
- Closed to the use of underwater spearfishing to take largemouth and

smallmouth bass from April 1 through the fourth Saturday of June.

- Archery and underwater spearfishing are prohibited within all of the following areas:

- One-quarter mile of all existing developed areas, including shoreline campgrounds, docks, launch ramps, breakwaters and trailheads
- One-quarter mile of any structure, including any building, shed, pump-out, boat dock, breakwater, permanent harbor fixture, camper, motor home, trailer, tent or vehicle
- Rainbow Bridge National Monument
- One-quarter mile of Dangling Rope Marina, including any land- or harbor-based structures
- One hundred yards (300 feet) of any boats (unless the person owns, rents, leases or lawfully occupies the boat), or another boat moves into the 100-yard perimeter after the bow or spearfishing activity has commenced

#### **Little Co-op Creek**, Wasatch County

See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

#### **Little Creek Reservoir**, Rich County

- Limit 8 trout from Aug. 1 through Oct. 31.
- Limit 4 trout from Jan. 1 through July 31 and from Nov. 1 through Dec. 31.

#### **Little Dell Reservoir**, Salt Lake County

- CLOSED to the possession of cutthroat trout or trout with cutthroat markings.
- All cutthroat trout must be immediately released.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

#### **Logan River**, Cache County

- (a) From Card Canyon Bridge upstream to the

highway bridge at Red Banks Campground, including all tributary streams in between:

- Limit 2 trout and whitefish in the aggregate.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

(b) From the highway bridge at Red Banks Campground upstream to the Idaho state line, including all tributaries:

- Limit 2 trout and whitefish in the aggregate.
- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

#### **Lost Creek**, Morgan County

From the bridge (culvert) approximately one-quarter mile above Lost Creek Reservoir upstream to the headwaters, EXCEPT Squaw Creek.

- Catch and release only.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

#### **Lost Creek Reservoir**, Morgan County

- Limit 4 trout (a combined total).
- No more than 3 trout may be under 15 inches.
- No more than 1 trout may be over 22 inches.
- All trout between 15 and 22 inches must be immediately released.
- Trout and salmon may not be filleted, and their heads or tails may not be removed in the field or in transit.
- CLOSED to fishing 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. daily.
- CLOSED to spearfishing.

#### **Lower Fish Creek (Price River)**, Carbon and Utah counties

From the railroad bridge (approximately one mile below the Scofield Reservoir dam) downstream to the confluence with the White River.

- Artificial flies and lures only.

#### **Mammoth Creek**, Garfield County

From the canal diversion (about three miles upstream from the Mammoth Creek Fish Hatchery), upstream 7.5 miles to the end of

Hatch Meadow and the beginning of summer home sites.

- Limit 2 trout between 10 and 15 inches.
- All trout less than 10 inches or over 15 inches must be immediately released.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

**Manila Creek Pond**, Utah County

- CLOSED to fishing Dec. 1 through Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of February.

**Manning Meadow Reservoir, tributaries and spillway**, Piute County

- Limit 1 trout over 22 inches.
- All trout 22 inches or smaller must be immediately released.
- Artificial flies and lures only
- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Mill Meadow Reservoir**, Sevier County

- Limit 8 tiger muskie of any size (no size restrictions on tiger muskie on this water).

**Minersville Reservoir**, Beaver County

- Limit 1 trout over 22 inches.
- All trout 22 inches or smaller must be immediately released.
- Artificial flies and lures only.
- Cement outlet channel between the dam and spillway pond, approximately 55 feet long, is CLOSED.

**Moon Lake**, Duchesne County

- Limit 4 trout, only 2 may be splake.

**Mountain Dell Creek**, Salt Lake County

(a) From Mountain Dell Reservoir upstream to Little Dell Dam.

- CLOSED TO FISHING.

(b) From Little Dell Reservoir upstream to the headwaters.

- CLOSED to the possession of cutthroat trout or trout with cutthroat markings.

- Artificial flies and lures only.

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Mountain Dell Reservoir**, Salt Lake County

- CLOSED TO FISHING.

**Mud Creek**, Wasatch County

See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

**Newcastle Reservoir**, Iron County

- Limit 2 wiper.
- Underwater spearfishing is allowed for wipers and rainbow trout only.

**Newton Reservoir**, Cache County

- CLOSED to the possession of tiger muskie. All tiger muskie must be immediately released.
- Unlawful to use whole fish for bait. Cut baitfish must not be larger than one inch in any dimension and no more than one piece per hook.

**Ogden River**, Weber County

From Pineview Dam downstream to the first bridge, approximately one-half mile.

- CLOSED TO FISHING.

**Otter Creek Stream**, Piute County

From Otter Creek Reservoir upstream to the Angle Diversion.

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Panguitch Lake**, Garfield County

- Limit 4 trout in the aggregate.
- No more than 2 may be cutthroat or tiger trout under 15 inches, and no more than 1 may be a cutthroat or tiger trout over 22 inches.
- All cutthroat and tiger trout from 15 to 22 inches must be immediately released.
- Trout may not be filleted and the heads or tails may not be removed in the field or in transit.



- Any trout with cutthroat markings is considered to be a cutthroat trout. To learn how to identify the fish in this water, see the detailed descriptions that begin on page 47.

### **Panguitch Lake tributaries**, Garfield County

Excluding *Blue Springs Creek* upstream from Bunker Creek Road Bridge. (The bridge is approximately one mile upstream from Panguitch Lake.) Also excluding *Clear Creek* upstream from the Panguitch Lake North Shore Highway, located approximately one-quarter mile upstream from Panguitch Lake.

- Limit 4 trout in the aggregate.
- No more than 2 may be cutthroat or tiger trout under 15 inches, and no more than 1 may be a cutthroat or tiger trout over 22 inches.
- All cutthroat and tiger trout from 15 to 22 inches must be immediately released.
- Any trout with cutthroat markings is considered to be a cutthroat trout. To learn how to identify the fish in these waters, see page 47.
- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

### **Paragonah (Red Creek) Reservoir**, Iron County

- Limit 8 trout.

### **Paragonah (Red Creek) Reservoir tributaries**, Iron County

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

### **Parleys Creek**, Salt Lake County

(a) From Mountain Dell Reservoir upstream to SR-65.

- CLOSED TO FISHING.

(b) From SR-65 upstream to the headwaters.

- CLOSED to the possession of cutthroat trout or trout with cutthroat markings.

- Artificial flies and lures only.
- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

### **Pelican Lake**, Uintah County

- Limit 20 bluegill and green sunfish (a combined total).

### **Petes Hole Reservoir tributaries**,

Sanpete County

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

### **Pine Hollow**, Wasatch County

See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

### **Pine Lake inflow**, Garfield County

Inflow, including the spawning channel.

- CLOSED TO FISHING.

### **Pineview Reservoir**, Weber County

- Limit 20 crappie.
- CLOSED to the possession of tiger muskie. All tiger muskie must be immediately released.
- Tiger muskie may not be taken by means of underwater spearfishing.
- Closed to the use of underwater spearfishing to take largemouth and smallmouth bass from April 1 through the fourth Saturday of June.
- Unlawful to use whole fish for bait. Cut baitfish must not be larger than one inch in any dimension and no more than one piece per hook.

### **Porcupine Reservoir**, Cache County

- Limit 12 trout and salmon, only 4 may be rainbow, cutthroat or brown trout in the aggregate. To take 12 fish, you must possess at least 8 salmon.
- CLOSED to the possession of kokanee salmon with any red color from Aug. 15 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of September.
- See EAST FORK LITTLE BEAR RIVER.

**Price River (Lower Fish Creek)**, Carbon and Utah counties

From the railroad bridge (approximately one mile below the Scofield Reservoir dam) downstream to the confluence with the White River.

- Artificial flies and lures only.

**Provo River**, Summit, Utah and Wasatch counties

(a) From Center Street Bridge (entrance to Utah Lake State Park) upstream to I-15 (Utah County):

- CLOSED to taking of nongame fish by methods other than angling.
- CLOSED March 1 through 6 a.m. on the first Saturday of May.

(b) From Olmstead Diversion Dam upstream to Deer Creek Dam (Utah and Wasatch counties):

- Limit 2 trout under 15 inches.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

(c) From Legacy Bridge on Midway Lane (SR-113) in Midway upstream to Jordanelle Dam (Wasatch County):

- Limit 2 trout under 15 inches.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

(d) From Jordanelle Reservoir upstream to the confluence of the South Fork Provo River (Wasatch County):

- Limit 2 brown trout under 15 inches.
- CLOSED to the possession of cutthroat and rainbow trout and their hybrids. All cutthroat and rainbow trout and their hybrids must be immediately released.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

**Quail Creek Reservoir (Quail Lake)**,

Washington County

- Limit 6 largemouth bass, only 1 may be over 12 inches.
- No limit on smallmouth bass.

**Red Butte Creek and Red Butte Reservoir**, Salt Lake County

- CLOSED TO FISHING.

**Red Fleet Reservoir**, Uintah County

- No limit on walleye. Anglers may not release any of these fish, which must be immediately killed.

**Right Fork of Logan River**, Cache County

See *Logan River*.

**Road Hollow**, Wasatch County

See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

**Rockport Reservoir**, Summit County

- Closed to the use of underwater spearfishing to take largemouth and smallmouth bass from April 1 through the fourth Saturday of June.

**Sage Creek**, Wasatch County

See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

**San Juan River**, San Juan County

From Lake Powell to the Utah-Colorado state line.

- No limit for channel catfish.
- No limit for burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass or walleye. Anglers may not release any of these fish, which must be immediately killed.

**San Juan River tributaries**, San Juan County

*Comb Wash* (San Juan County) from the confluence with the San Juan River upstream to headwaters; *Montezuma Creek* (San Juan County) from the confluence with the San Juan River upstream to headwaters; *Recapture Creek* (San Juan County) from the confluence with the San Juan River upstream to the Recapture Reservoir dam.

- No limit for channel catfish.
- No limit for burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass or walleye. Anglers may not release any of these fish, which must be immediately killed.

**Sand Hollow Reservoir**, Washington County

- Limit 6 largemouth bass, only 1 may be over 12 inches.
- No limit on smallmouth bass.
- Quagga mussels have been detected at Sand Hollow, so plan on extra time to have your boat washed before you leave the reservoir.

**Santa Clara River**, Washington County

- No limit on smallmouth bass.

**Scofield Reservoir**, Carbon and Utah counties

- Limit 4 trout in the aggregate.
- No more than 2 may be cutthroat or tiger trout under 15 inches, and no more than 1 may be a cutthroat or tiger trout over 22 inches.
- All cutthroat and tiger trout from 15 to 22 inches must be immediately released.
- Trout may not be filleted, and the heads or tails may not be removed in the field or in transit.
- Any trout with cutthroat markings is considered to be a cutthroat trout. To learn how to identify the fish in this water, please see page 47.

**Scofield Reservoir tributaries**, Carbon, Sanpete and Utah counties  
Including *Gooseberry Creek*.

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Sheep Creek**, Daggett County

From Flaming Gorge Reservoir upstream to the Ashley National Forest boundary.

- CLOSED Aug. 15 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of November.

**Sheep Creek Lake**, Daggett County

- Limit 2 trout, only 1 may be a cutthroat trout over 22 inches.

- All cutthroat trout 22 inches or smaller must be immediately released.
- Artificial flies and lures only.
- CLOSED near the spawning trap and portions of the lake and canal, as posted during spring spawning operations.

**Soldier Creek**, Wasatch County

See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

**Spanish Fork River**, Utah County

From Utah Lake upstream to I-15.

- CLOSED to fishing March 1 through 6 a.m. on the first Saturday of May.

**Spanish Oaks Reservoir**, Utah County

- CLOSED to fishing Dec. 1 through Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of February.

**Spring Creek**, Utah County

From Utah Lake upstream to I-15.

- CLOSED to fishing March 1 through 6 a.m. on the first Saturday of May.

**Spring Run Creek**, Utah County

From Utah Lake upstream to I-15.

- CLOSED March 1 through 6 a.m. on the first Saturday of May.

**Squaw Creek**, Wasatch County

See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

**Starvation Reservoir**, Duchesne County

- Closed to the use of underwater spearfishing to take largemouth and smallmouth bass from April 1 through the fourth Saturday of June.

**Stateline Reservoir**, Summit County

- CLOSED to the possession of kokanee salmon with any red color from Aug. 15 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of September.

**Steinaker Reservoir**, Uintah County

- Closed to the use of underwater spearfishing to take largemouth and smallmouth bass from April 1 through the fourth Saturday of June.

**Strawberry Reservoir**, Wasatch County

- Limit 4 trout or kokanee salmon in the aggregate.
- No more than 2 may be cutthroat trout under 15 inches, and no more than 1 may be a cutthroat trout over 22 inches.
- All cutthroat trout from 15 to 22 inches must be immediately released.
- Trout and salmon may not be filleted, and the heads or tails may not be removed in the field or in transit.
- An angler may have only one daily limit in possession at any time.
- Anglers are encouraged to voluntarily release all cutthroat trout.
- Any trout with cutthroat characteristics (not necessarily jaw slashing) is considered to be a cutthroat trout. Slash marks under the jaw should not be used to distinguish Bear Lake cutthroat trout from rainbow trout at Strawberry. Slashing is sometimes absent on Bear Lake cutthroats and sometimes visible on rainbows. Better characteristics are deep orange pelvic and anal fins on the cutthroats, and white-tipped pink to gray-green pelvic and anal fins on the rainbows. Rainbows also have the pinkish lateral stripe on the sides (see fish descriptions beginning on page 47 of this guide for more information).

**Strawberry Reservoir tributaries**,

Wasatch County

(a) *Indian Creek and all tributaries to Indian Creek, Squaw Creek*, the *Strawberry River* from Strawberry Reservoir upstream to USFS Road 124 (Bull Springs Road), *Co-op Creek* from the confluence with the Strawberry River upstream

to US-40, and the *Central Utah Project Canal* (commonly known as the “steps” or “ladders”) from Strawberry Reservoir up the channel to US-40, including that portion of the reservoir confined to the narrow “steps” or “ladders” channel.

- CLOSED TO FISHING.

(b) The *Strawberry River and its tributaries* upstream from USFS Road 124 (Bull Springs Road) to the headwaters, *Co-op Creek* and its tributaries upstream from US-40 to the headwaters, *Soldier Creek, Coal Canyon, Cow Hollow, Trout Creek, Sage Creek, Chicken Creek, Little Co-op Creek, Clyde Creek, Mud Creek, Bryants Fork, Horse Creek, Chipman Creek, Trail Hollow, Broad Hollow, Pine Hollow, Badger Hollow and Road Hollow*.

- Catch and release only. (All fish must be immediately released. It is illegal to fish if you have any fish in possession.)
- Artificial flies and lures only. (The use or possession of bait while fishing is illegal.)
- CLOSED May 15 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July, and from Sept. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of October.

**Strawberry River**, Duchesne and Wasatch counties

From the confluence with Red Creek, near Pinnacles, upstream to Soldier Creek Dam.

- Artificial flies and lures only.
- No overnight camping on Division land.

**Swan Creek**, Rich County

See *Bear Lake tributaries*.

**Temple Fork**, Cache County

See *Logan River*.

**Trail Hollow**, Wasatch County

See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

**Trout Creek**, Wasatch County

See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

**Twin Creek**, Sevier County

Tributary to Fish Lake.

- CLOSED TO FISHING.

**Uinta Mountains lakes and streams**,

Daggett, Duchesne, Summit, Uintah and Wasatch counties

Includes streams and lakes in Utah within the boundary beginning on I-80 at the Utah-Wyoming state line southwest of Evanston, Wyoming and continuing southwest along I-80 to Highway 40 (near Park City); then east along Highway 40 to Vernal, Utah; then north along Highway 44 to Manila, Utah; then west on Highway 43 to the Wyoming state line; and then west and north along the Wyoming state line back to the beginning point at I-80.

- Limit 4 trout.
- Bonus limit of 4 brook trout (total limit of no more than 8 trout if at least 4 are brook trout).

**UM Creek**, Sevier and Wayne counties

From Forsyth Reservoir upstream to the headwaters, including the right and left forks.

- CLOSED to the possession of cutthroat trout or trout with cutthroat markings.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

**Upper Kents Lake inflow**, Beaver County

Inflow, approximately 900 feet, from the mouth up to the waterfall.

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Utah Lake**, Utah County

- Limit 6 bass, only 1 may be over 12 inches.
- No limit on northern pike. Anglers must not release any northern pike they catch. All northern pike must be immediately killed.
- All suckers must be immediately released.

**Utah Lake tributaries west of I-15**, Utah County

Including but not limited to: *American Fork Creek*, *Beer Creek*, *Dry Creek*, *Hobble Creek*, *Provo River*, *Spanish Fork River*, *Spring Creek* and *Spring Run Creek*.

- All suckers must be immediately released.
- CLOSED March 1 through 6 a.m. on the first Saturday of May.
- CLOSED to nighttime bowfishing (sunset to sunrise) from the first Saturday of May through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Virgin River**, Washington County

- No limit on smallmouth bass.

**Weber River**, Summit County

(a) From the first I-80 bridge upstream from Echo Reservoir (near Exit 164) upstream to the I-80 bridge near Wanship (near Exit 156).

- Limit 2 trout.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

(b) From the Great Salt Lake to Echo Reservoir dam.

- All cutthroat trout—or trout with cutthroat markings—must be immediately released.

**West Fork Duchesne River**, Duchesne and Wasatch counties

From the confluence with North Fork upstream to the headwaters, including Wolf Creek.

- Limit 4 trout, only 2 may be cutthroat trout or trout with cutthroat markings.
- Artificial flies and lures only.
- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Wheeler Creek**, Weber County

From the confluence with the Ogden River upstream to SR-39 (approximately one-quarter mile).

- CLOSED TO FISHING.

**White River**, Uintah County

- Limit 24 channel catfish.

**Whitney Reservoir tributaries**, Summit County

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Willard Bay Reservoir and inlet channel**, Box Elder County

- Limit 10 crappie.
- Limit 6 walleye, only 1 walleye may be over 24 inches.
- Limit 3 wiper.
- Possession and use of commercially sold and preserved gizzard shad is allowed. Otherwise, possession of gizzard shad, dead or alive, is unlawful.

**Wolf Creek**, Duchesne and Wasatch counties

- Limit 4 trout, only 2 trout may be cutthroat trout or trout with cutthroat markings.
- Artificial flies and lures only.
- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Yankee Meadow Reservoir inlet**, Iron County

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Yuba Reservoir**, Juab County

- Limit 20 northern pike, only 1 northern pike may be over 36 inches.

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## DISPOSAL OF CERTAIN FISH SPECIES

Anglers have new options to dispose of carp and catch-and-kill species.

To help manage Utah's fish populations and protect habitat, the Utah Legislature has passed a new law that allows you to dispose of some fish. This law will help control fish species that are threatening the health of Utah's fish populations.

### What's different?

You may know that Utah already has catch-and-kill rules in place. The new disposal rule doesn't get rid of catch-and-kill regulations, but it does give you the option to dispose of certain fish.

Previously, you were required to catch, kill and consume certain species. Now, you're not required to eat fish caught at catch-and-kill waters. Under the new rules, you can dispose of catch-and-kill fish — and some additional species — instead of consuming them.

If you decide to dispose of the dead fish, you can put them in the water where you caught them. You can also dispose of them at a fish-cleaning station or your home.

While the new rules allow for disposal of fish, they don't let you release the fish alive. It is still illegal to release these fish in any water. For a detailed look at the new regulation, see page 18.

### Eligible species

The new disposal rules apply to all the species that catch-and-kill rules apply to, and a few more.

One of the added species is the common carp, which you can now dispose of when you catch it at any water in Utah. Other species, such as burbot and smallmouth bass, are only disposable if caught at certain waters.

To see if a specific waterbody has new disposal regulations, see the section that begins on page 22 or call the Division office that manages that particular fishery.

# PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE SPECIES AND DISEASE

Clean, drain and dry your boat and equipment after every use.

Utah's rivers, lakes and reservoirs are critical to our quality of life. They store drinking water, support industry, nourish crops, sustain fisheries, and provide popular recreation destinations.

The state of Utah is committed to protecting our waters from aquatic invasive species, whirling disease and other pathogens, and you can help.

## Invasive mussel damage

Invasive quagga and zebra mussels are thumbnail-sized clams that have been found in Utah waterways and neighboring states. Their dense colonies destroy water transport systems, dam operations, and boating equipment.

Currently, we know that Lake Powell and Sand Hollow Reservoir are affected by quagga mussels. For more information on Lake Powell and quagga mussels visit [nps.gov/glca/parknews/musselupdate.htm](http://nps.gov/glca/parknews/musselupdate.htm).

If you have been in a mussel-affected water in another state or country, you must decontaminate your boat before traveling in Utah. For more information on invasive mussels and decontamination, visit [wildlife.utah.gov/mussels](http://wildlife.utah.gov/mussels).

## Certify that your boat is mussel-free

When you visit a Utah lake or reservoir, be prepared to complete a Decontamination Certification Form. The form requests information about your recent boating trips and decontamination efforts. It is required by law and must be displayed in your launch vehicle. You can find the form at most boat ramps or online at [wildlife.utah.gov/selfcertification](http://wildlife.utah.gov/selfcertification).

## The threat of whirling disease

Whirling disease is caused by a microscopic parasite. It can damage trout fisheries by attacking the tissue of a fish's head and spine. If a young fish is heavily infected, it may swim in circles or later develop head and spinal deformities. These fish often die before they fully mature.

Although whirling disease does not affect humans, and fish from affected waters are safe for human consumption, we need your help to prevent whirling disease from spreading to uncontaminated Utah waters:

- Clean fish where you catch them. Do not transport fish—alive or dead—to a new water (or a different section of the same water) before cleaning them.
- Decontaminate waders, boots and wetted fishing gear or recreational equipment. Before you leave a fishing area, rinse all the mud and other debris off of your waders, boots and fishing gear. Then, generously spray all of it with Formula 409 and leave it on your equipment for 10 minutes. Allow everything to dry for one hour prior to re-use.
- Avoid felt-soled wading gear. There is increasing evidence that waders and boots with felt soles help spread whirling disease spores and invasive species. Please be a responsible angler and choose footwear without felt soles.

**Helping wildlife  
makes you look good.**  
(Now your car wants a turn.)



 [wildlife.utah.gov](http://wildlife.utah.gov)

## Decontaminate every time

Decontamination kills aquatic invasive species, whirling disease and other pathogens. Make decontamination a regular practice.

Whenever you leave a water body, you should:

- Clean mud, plants, animals or other debris from your boat and all equipment.
- Drain the ballast tanks, bilge, live wells and motors (drop the foot on the lower unit and let the pint of water drain to the ground).

- Dry your boat and equipment for seven days in the summer or for 18 days in the spring or fall. In winter, the drying time is 30 days, or you can choose to freeze a properly winterized boat and equipment for three consecutive days.

If you prefer professional decontamination, there are decontamination units at many Utah waters. You can find information on available decontamination locations at [wildlife.utah.gov/mussels/decon\\_units.php](http://wildlife.utah.gov/mussels/decon_units.php). At these units, certified personnel will decontaminate boats, trailers all recreational equipment with high-pressure, scalding (140°F) water.

If you observe invasive mussels or any other invasive species—or you see diseased fish—please call a Division office.



# WHAT UTAH ANGLERS WANT

Results from an in-depth 2011 angler survey.

Every five years, the Division works with Utah State University to conduct an in-depth, scientific survey of angler behaviors and preferences. (This is not the informal survey the Division posts online each spring.)

The most recent five-year survey occurred in 2011. It went out to 50,000 anglers and had a response rate of 20 percent, which is fairly high for a survey of this type. The researchers published their findings in late 2012.

## Location, location

Here's what the survey revealed about where Utah anglers like to fish:

- Sixty percent prefer to fish from shore.
- Seventy percent prefer to fish at lakes and reservoirs.
- Twenty percent fish at community ponds.
- Fifty percent fish at Blue Ribbon waterbodies.
- Fifty percent prefer to fish where they have an opportunity to catch a variety of fish species.

## Why they fish and what they want to catch

Fishing is a social activity for two-thirds of Utah anglers. Survey respondents are primarily motivated to go fishing for four reasons:

- To be outdoors
- To relax
- To spend time with family and friends
- To enjoy the challenge of catching and landing fish

The survey also revealed interesting information about anglers' preferences :

- Eighty-three percent of Utah anglers prefer to fish for trout or salmon species, while 17 percent prefer to fish for warm-water and cool-water species.
- Fifty percent fish with bait.
- Forty-three percent prefer to catch a few large fish rather than a lot of fish.

## Fishing supports jobs and a healthy economy

The survey also pointed out some interesting facts about the economic impact of fishing in Utah:

- The Division issued 483,806 licenses to anglers during 2011. This was a 17-percent increase when compared to license sales in 2005.
- Anglers spent approximately \$451 million fishing in Utah during 2011.
- Angler expenditures helped create nearly 10,000 Utah jobs in 2011.

Finally, the survey revealed that lack of time and money are the largest barriers to angling participation in Utah.

All of this data is very useful to the Division's fisheries biologists. They analyze it and integrate it into their planning and proposals for managing Utah fisheries.

To see the summary report for the 2011 survey, visit [wildlife.utah.gov/fisheries-surveys](http://wildlife.utah.gov/fisheries-surveys).

## RESTORING UTAH'S NATIVE CUTTHROAT TROUT

Work provides great fishing, boosts native species and prevents federal listing.

Conserving native cutthroat trout is an important part of the Division's work to manage Utah's fisheries.

To help the state's cutthroat trout subspecies, biologists are working to remove non-native trout from specific streams. These projects are beneficial because they:

- Eliminate competition and predation that could harm native cutthroat populations.
- Prevent federal listing under the Endangered Species Act.
- Give Utah anglers a unique fishing experience.

In 2013, the Division's fisheries biologists in northern Utah had some notable successes in conserving two cutthroat subspecies.

They used chemical treatment and electrofishing to remove non-native trout. The removal process is only part of a broader, multi-year project to restore habitat to native cutthroat trout in several drainages in northern Utah.

### Restoring cutthroat trout in the Logan River

One of the biggest removal projects took place in the Right Hand Fork (RHF) of the Logan River. Native Bonneville cutthroats are now swimming in the majority of RHF, without the threat of other species. Reintroducing the species to RHF was the crowning event in a long list of efforts by multiple agencies, organizations and public volunteers.

For many years, RHF was occupied exclusively by non-native brown trout, which resulted in a growing brown trout population in the middle portions of the Logan River

drainage. Over the past decade, researchers from Utah State University extensively monitored the stream.

After years of planning and preparation, biologists used two chemical treatments to eradicate the brown trout. To prevent re-invasion, the Division reinforced a natural barrier on the RHF in 2010, blocking brown trout from moving up the drainage.

### Trout restoration in Johnson Creek

In 2013, biologists conducted similar work in Johnson Creek, a small stream in the Raft River Mountains. Native Yellowstone cutthroat trout were found in the stream's headwaters in 2001. The cutthroats were outnumbered 10 to 1 by non-native brook trout in the lower reaches of the drainage. By 2012, brook trout outnumbered cutthroat trout 30 to 1.

To enhance the native cutthroat trout population in the headwaters and prepare to chemically treat the lower drainage, biologists installed a temporary migration barrier in one of the headwater tributaries in 2011. Then, they removed brook trout from the three miles upstream.

To be safe, biologists made three full electrofishing passes above the barrier in 2011. They repeated them in 2012 and once more in 2013. Finally, on the ninth and last pass through the stream, there were no brook trout left to remove. (During the first pass, they removed 431.)

In September 2013, biologists chemically treated the stream below the barrier to remove brook trout from the lower drainage. Following a second chemical treatment in September 2014, they will remove the barrier, and native

Yellowstone cutthroat trout will be free to move downstream and occupy habitat previously dominated by non-native brook trout.

## Benefitting cutthroat trout and anglers

These projects help strengthen the status of native cutthroat trout, and they also provide somewhat rare opportunities for anglers to fish

for native cutthroats in the absence of other trout species.

Cutthroat trout are fairly easy to catch, and unlike other trout species, they don't tend to overpopulate an area. They often grow bigger and fatter than non-native trout in these small streams.

If you've never fished for a native cutthroat trout before, this is the year to do it.

## DEALING WITH DROUGHT

Anglers can help by conserving water and adapting their fishing techniques.

Drought is a fact of life here in Utah. Despite decades of building reservoirs and improving water-delivery systems, we can't alter the fact that we live in the nation's second-driest state (ranked just behind Nevada).

Reservoirs have enabled our population to grow and maintain a quality of life we all enjoy. They have also provided some tremendous fishing opportunities. Both of these things suffer when we experience a serious drought.

### Lower water affects fish stocking rates

Even though we had record snowfall in early 2011, most areas of Utah have been very dry over the past few years.

Division biologists routinely monitor reservoir and stream levels around the state and then adjust the fish stocking schedule according to water levels and temperatures. In 2013, some stockings were either canceled or reduced because of poor water conditions.

Cancellations of this kind are hopefully just a short-term measure. Improvements to the state's hatchery system over the last 15 years will allow the Division to quickly restock most of the fisheries that were shorted as soon as the water returns.

### Anglers must adapt

Not all effects of drought are negative for anglers. Lower water levels mean that the fish are crowded into a smaller area and can be easier to catch.

Just remember that lower water can result in higher water temperatures, which can stress the fish more than usual. Adjusting your angling patterns to fish in the coolest part of the day—right around sunrise—can greatly improve your chance to take advantage of the more crowded fish.

Division personnel want to provide you with the best possible fishing opportunities. Good snowfall and effective water conservation will help us accomplish that goal.

We can all help alleviate the effects of drought by using some simple measures to conserve water. Learn more at [conservewater.utah.gov](http://conservewater.utah.gov).

## ANGLER FEEDBACK DRIVES CHANGES

Many of the 2014 regulation changes came directly from anglers.

Wherever you fish—whether it's a big reservoir, a slow river or a bustling community pond—you probably have an opinion about fishing in Utah.

This is your chance to let us know what's on your mind.

### How do biologists gather public feedback?

In the spring of 2013, fisheries biologists held open houses in their regions to discuss possible changes and collect angler feedback. They also placed their recommendations online and allowed the public to submit comments via an informal survey.

At the end of the survey, anglers could write in their suggestions and recommendations for other changes. Biologists also gathered public input through phone calls, emails and Internet forums, as well as more formal creel surveys and targeted email questionnaires.

Many of the anglers' suggestions shaped this year's final recommendations and helped biologists identify issues that needed more scrutiny and discussion.

### What changes were angler-driven?

Anglers made the case for a number of regulation changes that the Wildlife Board approved in November 2013:

- Changes to the possession limit
- Changes to underwater spearfishing rules
- Changes to the limit at Currant Creek
- Regulations to protect two populations of spawning kokanee
- Adding more community fisheries

The Division is grateful to those of you who completed the survey and sent in suggestions.

### Why didn't the Division use my suggestion?

Don't give up yet. Some anglers' write-in suggestions in the 2013 survey may become key proposals in the 2014 survey. The Division's fisheries managers felt that a handful of issues required additional study and public input before they could recommend a course of action to the Wildlife Board.

Please realize that the Division may not be able to implement every suggestion it receives. Some suggestions are in direct conflict with each other and may require a compromise recommendation. In general, though, your feedback lets the biologists know which topics are your highest priorities.

### How can I share my feedback?

If you want to see a fishing regulation change in Utah in 2015, you should contact the Division before June 15, 2014. There are four easy ways to share your suggestions:

1. E-mail your idea to: [DWRComment@utah.gov](mailto:DWRComment@utah.gov)
2. Mail your idea to: Sport Fisheries Coordinator, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, P.O. Box 146301, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6301
3. Attend an open house and talk to fisheries biologists in the spring of 2014. The Division will hold these open houses in May and early June. As soon as they are scheduled, you can find dates and times online at [wildlife.utah.gov/calendar](http://wildlife.utah.gov/calendar).
4. Share your idea while completing the Fishing Proposals survey. There will be a blank field at the end of the survey where you can submit ideas. The survey will be available at [wildlife.utah.gov/fisheries-surveys](http://wildlife.utah.gov/fisheries-surveys) by May 2014.

Division biologists will finalize their recommendations for the 2015 fishing season in early summer.

After the biologists put their proposals together, they'll share them with the public at a series of Regional Advisory Council (RAC) meetings held across Utah in September.

The Utah Wildlife Board will consider public input when it meets in early October to approve Utah's 2015 Fishing Guidebook.

The Utah Wildlife Board—not the Division—makes all wildlife policy in the state of Utah. If you'd like to discuss an issue with one or more board members before the October meeting, you can find their contact information at [wildlife.utah.gov/boardmembers](http://wildlife.utah.gov/boardmembers).

The Division, the RACs and the Utah Wildlife Board value your insights and suggestions—please share them today!



**If you want to fish it tomorrow,  
help us protect it today.**

**UTIP**

**1-800-662-3337**

**Turn In a Poacher**

## UPDATING THE STRAWBERRY RESERVOIR MANAGEMENT PLAN

Committee members are working to protect and improve the fishing at Strawberry.

In 2013, the Division assembled a diverse committee to draft an updated management plan for the Strawberry Reservoir fishery.

Participants represented 17 organizations, ranging from various government agencies and local businesses to angling groups and fishing advocates.

Strawberry's previous plan was drafted in 1988. It focused on chemically treating the reservoir and providing a sustainable fishery after the treatment. Although the Division has been very successful in achieving many of the goals outlined in the old plan, Strawberry Reservoir has changed since the late 1980s — and so have public expectations and preferences.

### Gathering input

Before beginning the process of drafting a new plan, the Division conducted an extensive statewide survey of angler opinions about the Strawberry Reservoir fishery.

The results of that survey were used to help guide the direction for the new plan. The draft plan is still under review, and will go out for public comment in 2014.

### Setting specific goals

The latest draft outlines four main goals for the fishery:

- Prevent chubs from negatively affecting the sport fishery at Strawberry Reservoir.
- Ensure a high-quality, diverse fishery and associated habitats.
- Provide anglers with a variety of fishing experiences.
- Improve natural reproduction of cutthroat trout and kokanee salmon populations.

Each of the identified goals includes a list of specific objectives and strategies. These strategies will provide direction for the biologists who manage Strawberry Reservoir's world-class fishery.

### Moving forward

With this plan, fishery managers can obtain funding, research and resources to provide the type of fishery the angling public prefers at Strawberry Reservoir.

Although it is impossible to satisfy everyone's wish list for Strawberry, the committee tried to provide direction for a fishery that would appeal to as many people as possible.

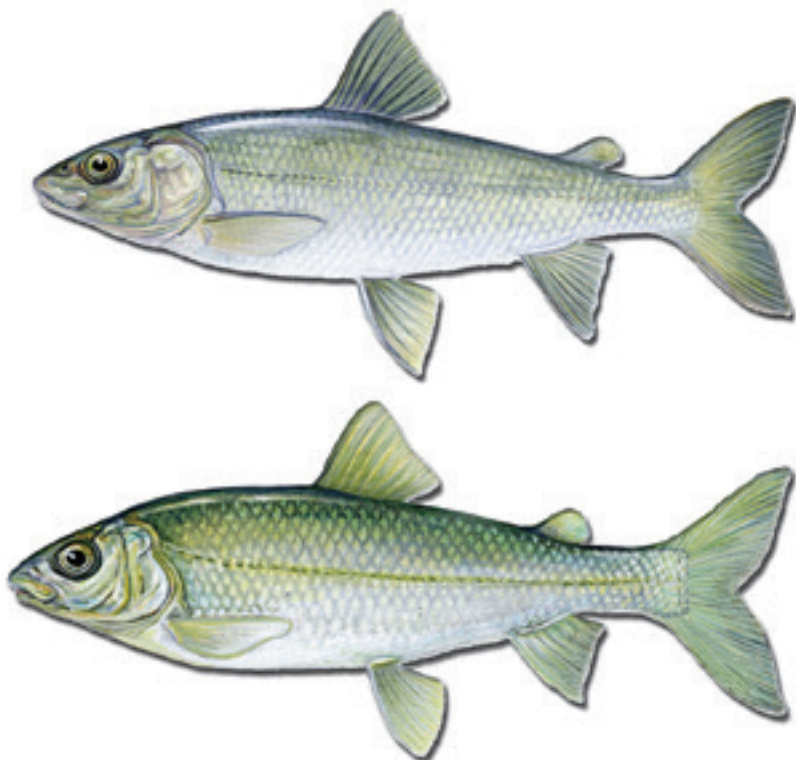
We hope to continue providing the high-quality fishing experiences that many have enjoyed at Strawberry during past decades, and we want future generations to personally experience the "Good Old Days" at Strawberry.

## IDENTIFYING UTAH'S NATIVE AND NONNATIVE FISH

When you catch a fish, you need to be able to identify it quickly and accurately, especially if you're at a fishery with size or species restrictions. The illustrations and descriptions in this section should help you identify fish across Utah. Please keep in mind that anglers set new fishing records throughout the year. You can find up-to-date fishing records online at [wildlife.utah.gov/record-fish.html](http://wildlife.utah.gov/record-fish.html).

### Native coldwater sportfish

#### Bonneville whitefish and Bear Lake whitefish



These two fish are indistinguishable below 10 inches in length. Bonneville whitefish have gray-blue spots along their sides. These whitefish are elongated, relatively cylindrical fish. They are silvery-white along their sides, grading into a charcoal gray to black on their backs. They have small delicate mouths that make them difficult to catch. Bonneville whitefish may reach four pounds and grow to 20 inches. Both species occur only in Bear Lake.

**Angling record:** 1982; 4 lbs. 4 oz.; L: 21 in.; G: 13 3/4 in.; Deon Sparks; Bear Lake.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2009; L: 23 1/4 in.; Scott Tolentino; Bear Lake.

## Bonneville cisco



The Bonneville cisco is a long, slender, pearly-silver fish found only in Bear Lake. It rarely grows beyond seven inches. It has a dusky blue back and a brassy band along its flanks at spawning time. The snout is sharply pointed. It is noted for its mid-January spawning concentrations along a rocky beach on the east side of Bear Lake, where it is dipnetted in large numbers.

## Mountain whitefish



This fish is light brown on its back and fins and silver to white on its belly and sides. The lower jaw and snout are short and blunt, with a flap on each nostril.

**Angling record:** 1997; 4 lbs. 12 oz.; L: 21 1/2 in.; G: 14 in.; Roy L. Montoya, Deer Creek Reservoir.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2004; L: 24 in.; Craig Shriner; Weber River.



## Cutthroat trout

Three primary subspecies (strains) of native cutthroat trout are found in Utah, including Bonneville cutthroat trout, Colorado River cutthroat trout and Yellowstone cutthroat trout. The Bear Lake cutthroat trout is a lake-dwelling form of the Bonneville cutthroat trout. Except for Bear Lake cutthroat trout, cutthroats are best distinguished by their crimson slash along the lower jaw. Cutthroat trout lack the iridescent pink stripe or the white-tipped pelvic and anal fins of the rainbow trout.

**Angling record:** 1930; 26 lbs. 12 oz.; Mrs. E. Smith; Strawberry Reservoir.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2011; L: 31 1/2 in.; Curtis Robinson; East Canyon Reservoir.

**Spearfishing record:** 2008; 1 lb. 9 oz.; L: 16 1/2 in.; G: 8 in.; Russell Sexton; Causey Reservoir.

### Bonneville cutthroat



Bonneville cutthroat trout originally inhabited the Bonneville Basin. They have sparsely scattered, large and very distinctive round spots over the upper body, with few spots on or near the head. Bonneville cutthroat trout are a subdued silver-gray to charcoal color on the upper body, with shades of bronze and pink on their flanks during spawning.

### Bear Lake cutthroat



Bear Lake cutthroat trout often lack the bright crimson jaw slash, which may at times be yellow, gray or non-existent. Deep orange pelvic and anal fins and the presence of few, if any, spots on the head readily distinguish Bear Lake cutthroat from rainbow trout (see rainbow trout description). Bear Lake cutthroat can exhibit a variety of spotting patterns, but spots are generally sparsely scattered, large and rounded in outline. Spotting is typically more concentrated near the tail. During the spawning season, Bear Lake cutthroat (particularly the males) take on a bronze color along the sides and lower body, and often develop rosy-colored gill plates.

**Colorado River cutthroat**

Colorado River cutthroat trout are native to the Green and Colorado River watersheds and are noted for their brilliant coloration. The males, in spawning condition, have bright crimson stripes along the sides and the stomach. Spotting is usually concentrated toward the tail area.

**Yellowstone cutthroat (not pictured)**

Yellowstone cutthroat trout are native to the Snake River watershed in northwestern Utah, including the Raft River Mountains. Yellowstone cutthroat trout are lightly spotted, with distinctly round spots concentrated toward the tail area.

**Nonnative coldwater sportfish****Trout, char & salmon****Rainbow trout**

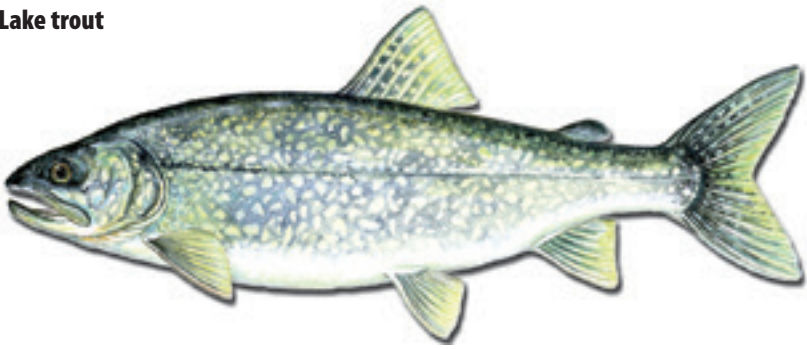
A rainbow trout is dark green to bluish on the back with silvery sides. The pinkish to reddish horizontal band typifies the species. The belly may be white to silvery. Irregular and profuse black spots are usually present on the head, back and sides. The pelvic and anal fins are translucent pink to gray-green and tipped in white. The coloration of a river-dwelling rainbow trout is often more vibrant than that of a lake dweller. Rainbow trout also tend to have a fairly blunt snout.

**Angling record:** 1979; 26 lbs. 2 oz.; Del Canty; Flaming Gorge Reservoir.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2000; L: 29 in; Enich Mockli; East Canyon Reservoir.

**Spearfishing record:** 1992; 3 lbs. 8 oz.; L: 19 in.; G: 9 1/2 in.; Paul Gibson; Fish Lake.

## Lake trout



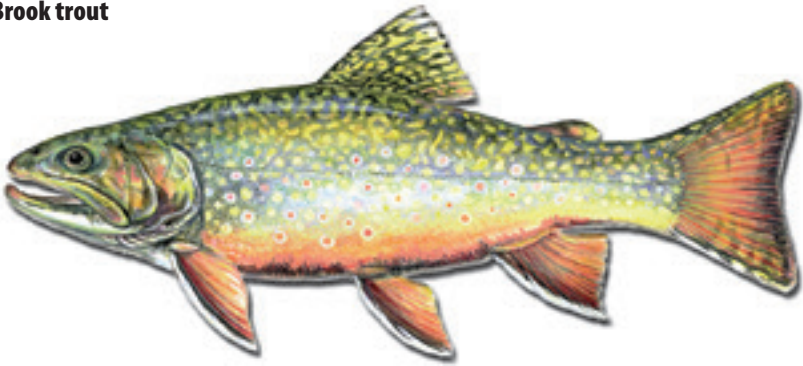
This species of char has a background color of gray-brown, overlaid with light spots that vary in intensity with age and environment. The background color covers the back, sides and fins, highlighting the lighter gray spots. Lake trout in large lakes are sometimes so silvery that the spots are difficult to see. Spotting is usually more intense on small fish. The caudal fin is deeply forked. The mouth is large and features strong teeth on both jaws.

**Angling record:** 1988; 51 lbs. 8 oz.; L: 45 1/8 in.; G: 31 3/4 in.; Curt Bilbey; Flaming Gorge Reservoir.

**Catch-and-release record:** 1998; L: 46 1/2 in.; Ray Johnson; Flaming Gorge Reservoir.

**Spearfishing record:** 2008; 32 lbs. 7 oz.; L: 26 1/2 in.; Bruce A. Boyd; Fish Lake.

## Brook trout



This species of char may be olive to blue-gray on its back and white on its belly. Red spots, usually with bluish halos around them, are present on the sides. Colors can vary greatly, depending on whether the fish lives in a stream or a lake. Characteristic light wavy marks on the back are a distinguishing feature. The obvious white-and-black striping pattern along the front edge of each of the lower fins makes it easier to distinguish brook trout from other trout species. The caudal fin is squared or lightly forked.

**Angling record:** 1971; 7 lbs. 8 oz.; Milton Taft; Boulder Mountain.

**Catch-and-release record:** 1997; L: 23 in.; Travis L. Clark; Boulder Mountain.

### Arctic grayling

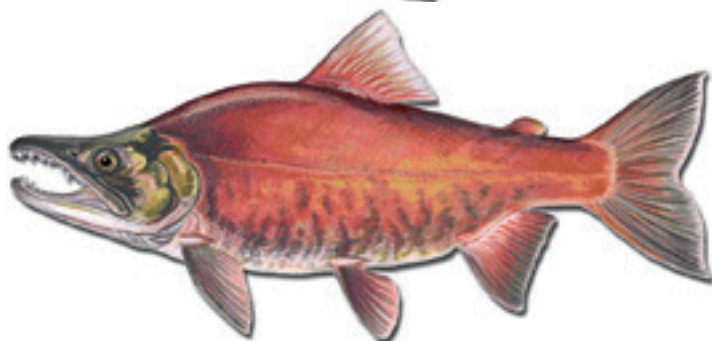
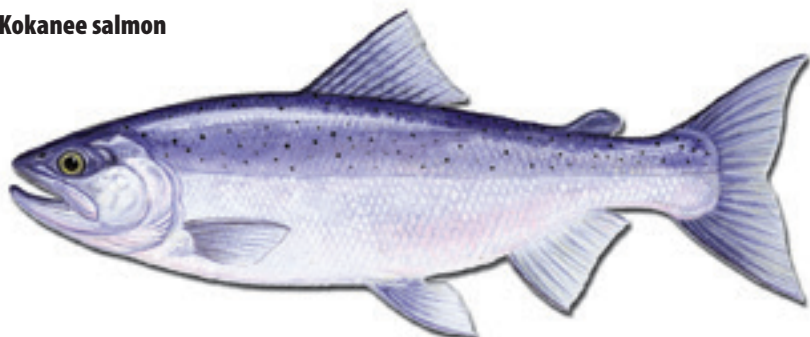


Arctic grayling are silvery to light purple on the sides and bluish-white on the belly. They are relatively slender and are most easily distinguished by their long, high, sail-like dorsal fin. The dorsal fin is brilliantly colored with shades of pink, green and purple.

**Angling record:** 1998; 1 lb. 12 oz.; L: 17 1/4 in.; G: 8 3/4 in.; Terry J. Fieldsted; Big Dog Lake, South Slope Uintas.

**Catch-and-release record:** 1999; L: 19 in.; Russell Lee, Jr.; Uinta Mountains.

### Kokanee salmon



Kokanee are bright silvery fish with no definitive spotting pattern. Kokanee have a dark blue back with silvery sides. As the spawning season approaches, kokanee turn from silver to orange to deep red, and the male develops the characteristic hump on the back, elongated head and hooked jaw common to the Pacific salmon. A deeply forked tail also distinguishes them from rainbow, cutthroat and brown trout.

**Angling record:** 1995; 6 lbs.; L: 25 in.; G: 16 in.; Todd Chikaraishi; Strawberry Reservoir.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2004; L: 26 5/8 in.; Ray Johnson; Flaming Gorge Reservoir.

**Spearfishing record:** 2012; 2 lb. 5 oz.; L: 18 5/8 in.; G: 12 1/4 in.; Mike Smith; Causey Reservoir.

### Brown trout



Brown trout generally have golden brown hues with yellow underparts. During spawning, the males often have brilliant crimson spots circled with blue halos. The upper body is usually dappled with large, irregular, dark-chocolate spots. Brown trout are carnivorous and have stronger, sharper teeth than most trout.

**Angling record:** 1977; 33 lbs. 10 oz.; L: 40 in.; G: 25 in.; Robert Bringhurst; Flaming Gorge Reservoir.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2001; L: 32 in.; Cody Mortensen; Jordanelle Reservoir.

**Spearfishing record:** 1983; 21 lbs. 12 oz.; L: 35 1/2 in.; Bruce Boyd; Fish Lake.

## Cool and warmwater sportfish

### Walleye



Prominent sharp teeth distinguish this big perch from its smaller cousin, the yellow perch. Walleye are a brassy olive buff color that sometimes shades to yellowish sides and a white underbelly. There is a large, dark blotch at the rear base of the first dorsal fin, and the lower lobe of the tail is white-tipped. The tail is moderately forked.

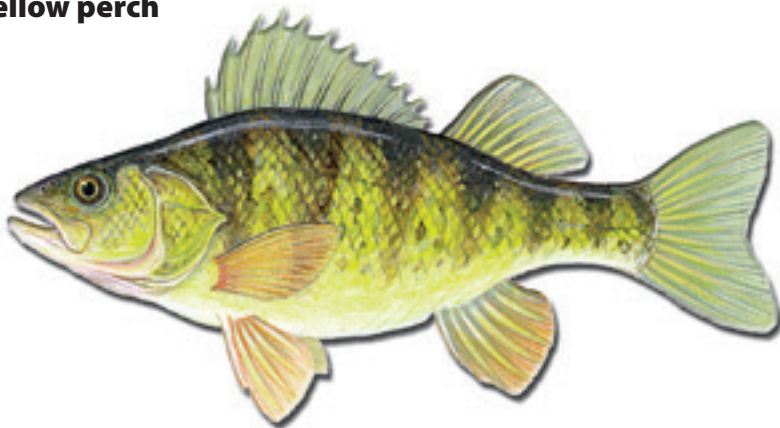
**Angling record:** 1991; 15 lbs. 9 oz.; L: 31 3/4 in.; G: 20 3/4 in.; Jeffery Tanner; Provo River.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2002; L: 31 1/2 in.; Enich Mockli; Starvation Reservoir.

**Spearfishing record:** 2010; 13 lbs. 3 oz.; L: 31 1/2 in.; G: 20 in.; Shane Andersen; Deer Creek Reservoir.



## Yellow perch



Yellow perch are yellowish with dark vertical bars. The caudal fin is forked, and the dorsal fin is divided.

**Angling record:** 1984; 2 lbs. 11 oz.; L: 15 1/8 in.; G: 9 3/4 in.; Ray Johnson; Yuba Reservoir.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2000; L: 15 1/4 in.; Brad Cutler; Yuba Reservoir.

**Spearfishing record:** 2011; 1 lb. 2 oz.; L: 11 3/8 in.; G: 9 3/4 in.; Stephen Phair; Starvation Reservoir.

## Striped bass



Striped bass coloration ranges from bluish-black to either dark grey or olive-green above. Their sides are silvery and their bellies white. Striped bass have seven to nine unbroken stripes along each side. The body is somewhat streamlined. The mouth is oblique, and the lower jaw longer than the upper. The dorsal fins are clearly separated. The caudal fin is forked.

**Angling record:** 1991; 48 lbs. 11 oz.; L: 45 in.; G: 31 1/4 in.; Travis T. Jensen; Lake Powell.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2000; L: 32 1/2 in.; Marty Peterson; Lake Powell.

## White bass

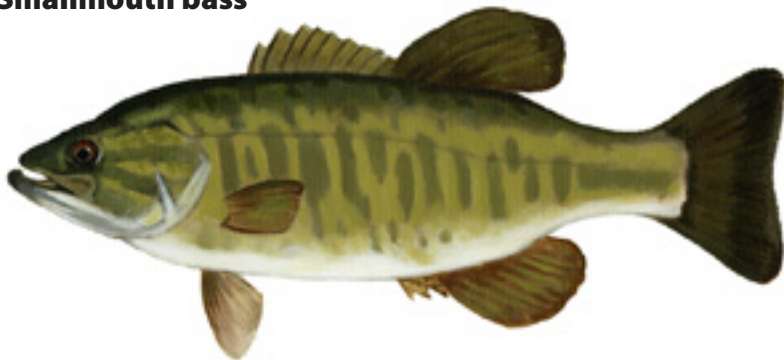


The back of a white bass is usually grey, charcoal or green. It typically has silvery sides and a white belly. It also has five to seven longitudinal stripes on each side. The body of a white bass is deeper and less streamlined than that of the striped bass.

**Angling record:** 1970; 4 lbs. 1 oz.; John R. Welcker; Utah Lake.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2005; L: 19 in.; Clint Lance; Salem Pond.

## Smallmouth bass



The snout is long and bluntly pointed, with the lower jaw slightly longer than the upper jaw. Smallmouth bass vary in color, depending on their habitat, but are normally dark olive/brown on the back. Their sides and belly are lighter and yellowish. There are 8 to 15 (average 9) dark vertical bars on the sides, which distinguish them from the largemouth bass. The anterior dorsal fin has 10 spines and is strongly joined to the soft dorsal. The anal fin has three spines.

**Angling record:** 1996; 7 lbs. 6 oz.; L: 22 in.; G: 16 1/2 in.; Alan Iorg; Midview Reservoir (Lake Borham).

**Catch-and-release record:** 2003; L: 23 1/2 in.; Clifford Sackett Jr.; Jordanelle Reservoir.

**Spearfishing record:** 2007; 4 lbs.; L: 17 7/8 in.; G: 11 1/2 in.; Michael Weyland; Flaming Gorge Reservoir.

## Largemouth bass



The head of a largemouth bass is large and long. Its mouth is also large, with an upper jaw that reaches past the center of the eye in adults. The upper parts of the body and head are greenish, with a silvery or brassy shine. The belly is white to yellow, and there is an irregular dark stripe along the sides. The eyes of a largemouth bass are brown.

**Angling record:** 1974; 10 lbs. 2 oz.; L: 24 1/4 in.; G: 20 in.; Sam Lamanna; Lake Powell.

**Catch-and-release record:** 1998; L: 27 in.; Dennis Miller; Quail Lake.

**Spearfishing record:** 2011; 8 lbs. 8 oz.; L: 22 in.; G: 20 in.; Nick Anderson; Ken's Lake.

## Bullhead



Adults are blackish, dark olive or dark brown on the back. The belly is greenish-white or bright yellow. The tail is not forked.

**Angling record:** 1999; 3 lbs. 4 oz.; L: 16 in.; G: 13 in.; Jack Gilgen; Cutler Reservoir.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2009; L: 14 in.; Roman Chase; Pineview Reservoir.

**Spearfishing record:** 2009; 1 lb. 3 oz.; L: 12 3/8 in.; G: 8 1/4 in.; Russell Sexton; Pineview Reservoir.



## Channel catfish



Channel catfish have a long anal fin and deeply forked tail that distinguish them from other catfish. The body is pale bluish-olive above and bluish-white below. They usually have spots but lose them with age. Both the dorsal and pectoral fins have strong, sharp spines. The mouth is short, wide and horizontal with chin and snout barbels.

**Angling record:** 1978; 32 lbs. 8 oz.; L: 39 3/4 in.; G: 22 in.; LeRoy Mortenson; Utah Lake.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2013; 36 in.; John Konzelman; Cutler Reservoir.

**Setline record:** 1975; 31 lbs.; L: 39 in.; G: 20 1/2 in.; Dorothy Lorenzen; Utah Lake.

## Crappie



The crappie has two closely-joined dorsal fins. Crappie are silver-olive with numerous black or green splotches on the sides. Vertical bars, prominent in the young, are absent in adults. Their sides are light, iridescent green to silvery. The belly is silvery to white. Pelvic fins are opaque with some black on the tips of the membranes, and pectoral fins are dusky and transparent.

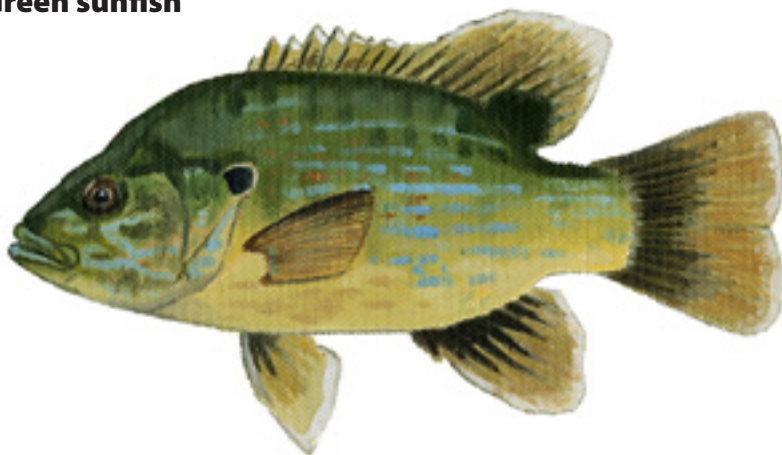
**Angling record:** 2009; 3 lbs. 5 oz.; L: 18 1/2 in.; G: 15 1/8 in.; James Maack; Lake Powell.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2007; L: 16 in.; Dustin Gunrud; Pineview Reservoir.

**Setline record:** 2012; 7 oz.; L: 9 1/4 in.; G: 8 1/12 in.; Ben Davis; Bear River.

**Spearfishing record:** 2013; 12 oz.; L: 11 in.; G: 8 15/16 in.; Stephen Phair; Deer Creek Reservoir.

## Green sunfish



Green sunfish are brassy-green or blue-green on the back, sometimes with metallic-green flecks and dusky bars on the sides. The flap over the gills is a dark color.

**Angling record:** 2003; 15.5 oz.; L: 10 1/4 in.; G: 10 in.; Sean Buchanan; Glassman Pond.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2000; L: 10 1/2 in.; Jack Vincent; Pelican Lake.

## Bluegill



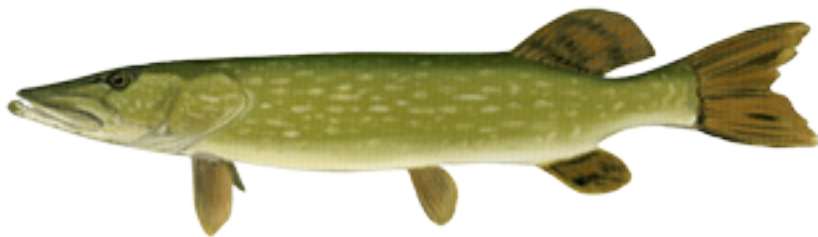
Bluegill are shorter, deep-bodied fish, whose name comes from the dark flap over the gills. The body is olive-green with vertical bars, and some blue and orange may be present.

**Angling record:** 1993; 2 lbs. 7 oz.; L: 11 1/2 in.; G: 14 5/8 in.; Jack Rask; Mantua Reservoir.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2007; L: 11 5/8 in.; Derek Harryman; Pelican Lake.

**Spearfishing record:** 2009; 14 oz.; L: 9 3/4 in.; G: 10 in.; Tony Arbaney; Steinaker Reservoir.

## Northern pike



Northern pike are characterized by a long, slender, torpedo-shaped body. They have a pattern of light-colored markings on each side of the body that form seven to nine horizontal rows on a dark background. The tail fins are rounded at the ends. The northern pike differs from other similar species in having fully scaled cheeks.

**Angling record:** 2013; 26 lbs. 1 oz.; L: 45 1/2 in.; G: 22 in.; Vlad Zoranovic; Yuba Reservoir.

**Catch-and-release record:** 1998; L: 49 3/4 in.; Logan Hacking; Lake Powell.

## Hybrid sportfish

### Wiper



The wiper is a hybrid cross between a female striped bass and a male white bass. Its appearance reflects both parents. It has six to eight dark, horizontal broken stripes over a silver-white background, with a dark charcoal to black back. It has two dorsal fins, the anterior with eight to ten sharp spines. It is slightly heavier bodied than the striped bass and grows up to 12 pounds in weight and 24 inches in length.

**Angling record:** 2012; 10 lbs. 13 oz.; L: 29 1/2 in.; G: 19 in.; Olivia Aviles; Willard Bay.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2005; L: 25 in.; Dale P. Tracy; Willard Bay.

## Tiger muskellunge



The tiger muskie is a hybrid cross between a muskellunge and northern pike. It features characteristics from both parents. It has a very elongated torpedo-like body. Its most notable features are the grey-green vertical bars along its sides. It can reach lengths of more than 50 inches and weigh more than 30 pounds.

**Angling record:** 2006; 33 lbs. 9 oz.; L: 49 in.; G: 21 1/2 in.; Kelly Parry; Pineview Reservoir.

**Catch-and-release record:** 1998; L: 53 1/4 in.; Ray Johnson; Pineview Reservoir.

**Spearfishing record:** 2013; 28 lbs. 15 oz.; L: 46 in.; G: 21 3/4 in.; Jonathan Patrick Vail; Fish Lake.

## Tiger trout



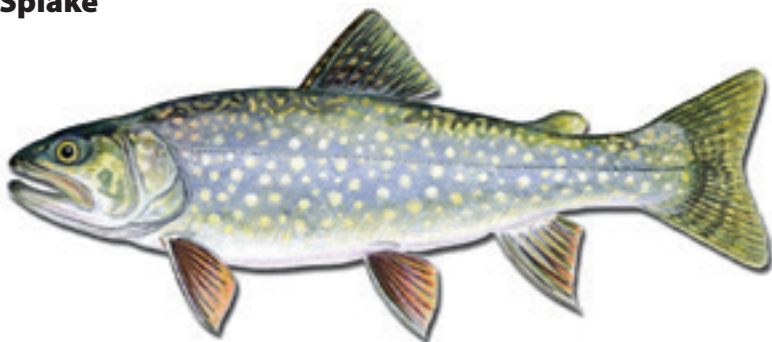
The tiger trout, a cross between a brown trout and a brook trout, has a unique, dark maze-like pattern all over its brownish, gray body. The belly is yellowish-orange as are the pectoral, pelvic and anal fins. The tail fin is square.

**Angling record:** 2013; 19 lbs. 2 oz.; L: 37 1/2 in.; G: 19 5/8 in.; Jake Trane; Scofield Reservoir.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2013; L: 29 in.; Joe Bell; Scofield Reservoir.

**Spearfishing record:** 2012; 2 lb. 13 oz.; L: 19 in.; G: 11 in.; Mike Smith; Causey Reservoir.

## Splake



A splake trout is the hybrid cross between lake trout and brook trout. It has a dark background with white spots. Its tail fin is not as deeply forked as that of a lake trout.

**Angling record:** 2006; 17 lbs. 4 oz.; L: 36 1/2 in.; G: 21 1/8 in.; Stacy S. Wilden; Fish Lake.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2009; L: 27 in.; Ron Sorenson; Joes Valley Reservoir.

**Spearfishing record:** 2012; 16 lbs. 7 oz.; L: 38 in.; G: 17 1/2 in.; Daniel James Boyd; Fish Lake.

## Native nongame fish

### Utah sucker



The Utah sucker is dark olive to copper, with dusky fins and a downward-facing mouth.

## Utah chub



Utah chub have robust bodies and large scales. Their coloration ranges from dark olive green or black on the upper back to silvery, brassy or golden sides. They can be distinguished by the way their fins align. The front edge of the dorsal fin (on the fish's back) aligns with the front edge of the middle fin on the fish's belly.

## Nonnative nongame fish

### Carp



Carp have deep, thick bodies that are gray to brassy green or yellowish green. The body is normally covered with large scales, and carp have fleshy barbels on each side of the mouth. A large spine is present at the front of the dorsal (top) fin.

**Angling record:** 1993; 32 lbs.; Cougar Elfervig; Lake Powell.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2012; L: 35 3/4 in.; Joseph A. Weisner; Great Salt Lake Marsh.

**Spearfishing record:** 2013; 31 lbs.; L: 33 3/4 in.; G: 26 7/8 in.; Casey Bird; Flaming Gorge Reservoir.

**Setline record:** 2012; 1 lb. 6 oz.; L: 14 1/2 in.; G: 10 1/4 in.; Ashley Davis; Bear River.

**Archery record:** 2012; 33 lbs. 10 oz.; L: 35 in.; G: 29 1/2 in.; Chad Geilman; Willard Spur.



## Burbot



Burbot, or ling cod, were illegally introduced into Flaming Gorge Reservoir, where the population is rapidly expanding. Burbot are a slender, smooth-skinned fish with a large barbel in the middle of the chin and two dorsal fins, the second of which is half the length of the body and matched by an anal fin of about the same length. The coloring ranges from yellow to light brown with a wavy pattern of dark brown or black. Despite the odd, eel-like appearance, burbot have flaky white flesh that tastes excellent. All burbot caught in Flaming Gorge must be immediately killed (see page 27).

## Species not illustrated

### Golden trout

**Angling record:** 1977; 14 oz.; L: 14 1/2 in.; Breck Tuttle; Atwood Creek.

**Catch-and-release record:** 2008; L: 11 1/8 in.; Zachary Beames; Echo Lake.

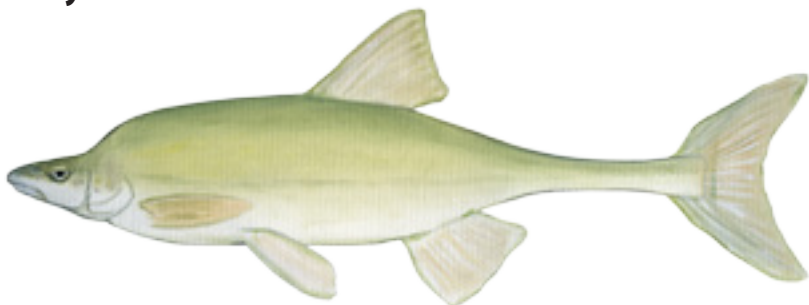
## Utah's endangered fish

### June sucker



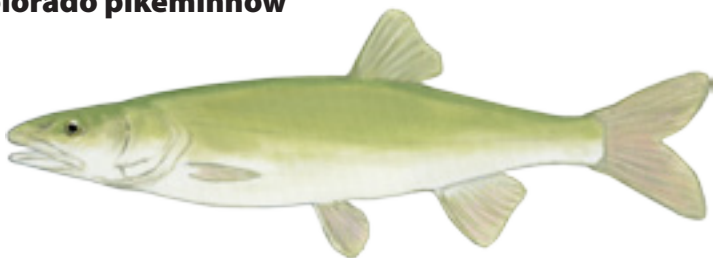
The June sucker occurs in Utah Lake and the Provo River. Although once abundant in Utah Lake, it is now rare. The June sucker is listed as endangered, and efforts to help recover the June sucker population are ongoing. Although June suckers are members of the sucker family, they are not bottom feeders. The jaw structure of the June sucker allows the species to feed on zooplankton in the middle of the water column.

## Bonytail



The bonytail is currently found in limited stretches of the Green and Colorado mainstem rivers, where the species is stocked by the Upper Colorado River Recovery Program. The species is endangered and, if caught, should be returned immediately to the water unharmed. The body is highly streamlined, with a bluish, dusky color above to pale below. The head is short and noticeably concave. The area just in front of the fish's tail fin is extremely narrow. Bonytail can reach lengths of 22 inches and weigh more than two pounds in the wild.

## Colorado pikeminnow



The highly predacious Colorado pikeminnow is found in the Green, Colorado and San Juan rivers and their tributaries. The pikeminnow is an endangered species, and efforts are underway to protect the fish throughout its native range. The pikeminnow's body is long and slender, with a gray-green back and silver sides. The head is long and conical, with a large, horizontal mouth. The tail fin is large and deeply forked. The pikeminnow can reach lengths up to six feet and can weigh 80 pounds. It should be returned to the water immediately if caught.

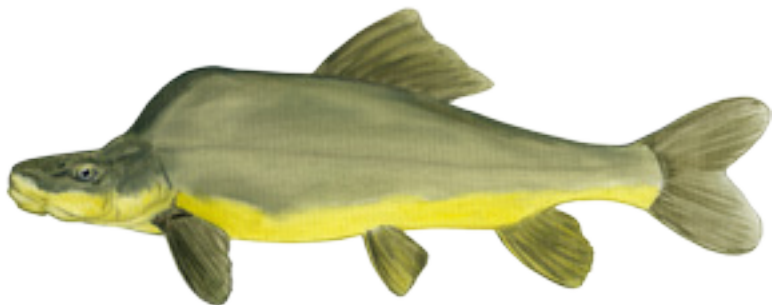


## Humpback chub



The humpback chub is found in canyon-bound habitats of the Green and Colorado rivers. The humpback chub has a streamlined body, with a dark, olive-gray back and silver sides. The head is small. The area in front of its tail is slender, although thicker than that of the bonytail. The fatty hump that is thought to keep the fish on the stream bottom and stabilize it in fast, flowing waters. The humpback chub can reach lengths up to 18 inches and can weigh up to two pounds.

## Razorback sucker



The razorback sucker is found in the mainstem Green, Colorado and San Juan rivers. Razorback suckers prefer shallow, off-channel habitats for spawning in the springtime. The razorback sucker is endangered and is stocked in many portions of its native range, including Utah, by the Upper Colorado River Recovery Program. The species normally has an olive-colored to brown or black back, brown to pinkish sides, and a white to yellow belly. Adults have a sharp-edged keel or “humpback.” The mouth faces downward, and the lower lip is widely separated into two lobes by a deep groove. The razorback sucker can reach lengths up to 36 inches and can weigh up to 13 pounds.

## DEFINITIONS

*Utah Code § 23-13-2 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-2*

**Aggregate** means 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).

**Angling** means fishing with a rod, pole, tip-up, handline or troll board that has a single line with legal hooks, baits or lures attached to it, and is held in the hands of, or within sight (not to exceed 100 feet) of the person fishing.

**Artificial fly** means a fly made by the method known as fly tying. Artificial fly does not mean a weighted jig, lure, spinner, attractor blade or bait.

**Artificial lure** means a device made of rubber, wood, metal, glass, fiber, feathers, hair or plastic with a hook or hooks attached. Artificial lures (including artificial flies) do not include fish eggs or other chemically treated or processed natural baits or any natural or human-made food, or any lures that have been treated with a natural or artificial fish attractant or feeding stimulant.

**Bait** means a digestible substance, including worms, cheese, salmon eggs, marshmallows or manufactured baits including human-made items that are chemically treated with food stuffs, chemical fish attractants or feeding stimulants.

**Camp** means, for the purposes of this rule, any place providing temporary overnight accommodation for anglers including a camper, campground, tent, trailer, cabin, houseboat, boat or hotel.

**Chumming** means dislodging or depositing in the water any substance not attached to a hook, line or trap, which may attract fish.

**Commercially prepared and chemically treated baitfish** means any fish species or fish parts which have been processed using a chemical or physical preservation technique other than freezing (including irradiation, salting, cooking, or oiling) and are marketed, sold or traded for financial gain as bait.

**Daily limit** means the maximum limit, in number or amount, of protected aquatic wildlife that one person may legally take during one day.

**Dipnet** means a small bag net with a handle that is used to scoop fish or crayfish from the water.

**Filleting** means the processing of fish for human consumption typically done by cutting away flesh from bones, skin and body.

**Fishing** means to take fish or crayfish by any means.

**Fishing contest** means any organized event or gathering where anglers are awarded prizes, points or money for their catch.

**Float tube** means an inflatable floating device less than 48 inches in any dimension, capable of supporting one person.

**Free shafting** means to release a pointed shaft that is not tethered or attached by physical means to the diver in an attempt to take fish while engaged in underwater spearfishing.

**Gaff** means a spear or hook, with or without a handle, used for holding or lifting fish.

**Game fish** means Bonneville cisco; bluegill; bullhead; channel catfish; crappie; green sunfish; largemouth bass; northern pike;

Sacramento perch; smallmouth bass; striped bass, trout (rainbow, albino, cutthroat, brown, golden, brook, lake/mackinaw, kokanee salmon, and grayling or any hybrid of the foregoing); tiger muskellunge; walleye; white bass; whitefish; wiper; and yellow perch.

**Handline** means a piece of line held in the hand and not attached to a pole used for taking fish or crayfish.

**Harvest** means to catch and retain in possession for personal use.

**Immediately released** means that the fish should be quickly unhooked and released back into the water where caught. Fish that must be immediately released cannot be held on a stringer, or in a live well or any other container or restraining device.

**Lake** means the standing water level existing at any time within a lake basin. Unless posted otherwise, a stream flowing inside or within the high water mark is not considered part of the lake.

**Length measurement** means 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.

**Liftnet** means a small net that is drawn vertically through the water column to take fish or crayfish.

**Motor** means an electric or internal combustion engine.

**Nongame fish** means species of fish not listed as game fish. (Also see *Prohibited fish* for more information.)

**Nonresident** means a person who does not qualify as a resident.

**Possession** means actual or constructive possession.

**Possession limit** means, for purposes of this guide only, two daily limits, including fish at home, in a cooler, camper, tent, freezer, livewell, or any other place of storage.

**Protected aquatic wildlife** means, for purposes of this guide only, all species of fish, crustaceans or amphibians.

**Reservoir** means the standing water level existing at any time within a reservoir basin. Unless posted otherwise, a stream flowing inside or within the high water mark is not considered part of the reservoir.

**Resident** means a person who has a fixed permanent home and principal establishment in Utah for six consecutive months immediately preceding the purchase of a license or permit, AND DOES NOT claim residency for hunting, fishing or trapping in any other state or country.

An individual retains Utah residency if he or she leaves Utah to serve in the armed forces of the United States, or for religious or educational purposes, and does NOT claim residency for hunting, fishing or trapping in any other state or country.

Members of the armed forces of the United States and dependents are residents as of the date the member reports for duty under assigned orders in Utah, if:

- the member is NOT on temporary duty in Utah and does NOT claim residency for hunting, fishing or trapping in any other state or country.
- the member presents a copy of his or her assignment orders to a Division office to verify the member's qualification as a resident.

A nonresident attending an institution of higher learning in Utah as a full-time student may qualify as a resident if the student has

been present in Utah for 60 consecutive days immediately preceding the purchase of the license or permit and does NOT claim residency for hunting, fishing or trapping in any other state or country.

A Utah resident license or permit is invalid if a resident license for hunting, fishing or trapping is purchased in any other state or country.

An individual DOES NOT qualify as a resident if he or she is an absentee landowner paying property tax on land in Utah.

**Second pole** means fishing with one additional rod, pole, tip-up, handline or troll board that has a single line with legal hooks, bait or lures attached to it, and is held in the hands of, or within sight (not to exceed 100 feet) of the person fishing. (A valid fishing or combination license and second pole permit are required to use a second pole.)

**Seine** means a small mesh net, with a weighted line on the bottom and float line on the top, that is drawn through the water. This type of net is used to enclose fish when its ends are brought together.

**Setline** means a line anchored to a non-moving object and not attached to a fishing pole.

**Single hook** means a hook or multiple hooks having a common shank.

**Snag** means to hook a fish anywhere other than its mouth.

**Spear** means a long-shafted, sharply pointed hand held instrument with or without barbs used to pierce fish from above the surface of the water.

**Spearfishing (underwater)** means fishing by a person swimming, snorkeling, or diving and using a mechanical device held in the hand, which uses a rubber band, spring, pneumatic power, or other device to propel a pointed shaft to take fish from under the surface of the water.

**Take** means to hunt, pursue, harass, catch, capture, possess, angle, seine, trap or kill any protected wildlife; or attempt any of the aforementioned actions.

**Tributary** means a stream flowing into a larger stream, lake or reservoir.

**Trout** means species of the family Salmonidae, including rainbow, albino, cutthroat, brown, golden, brook, lake/mackinaw, kokanee salmon, and grayling or any hybrid of the foregoing. Trout does not include whitefish or Bonneville cisco.

**Underwater spearfishing** (see Spearfishing underwater.)

**Waste** means to abandon protected wildlife or to allow protected wildlife to spoil or to be used in a manner not normally associated with its beneficial use.