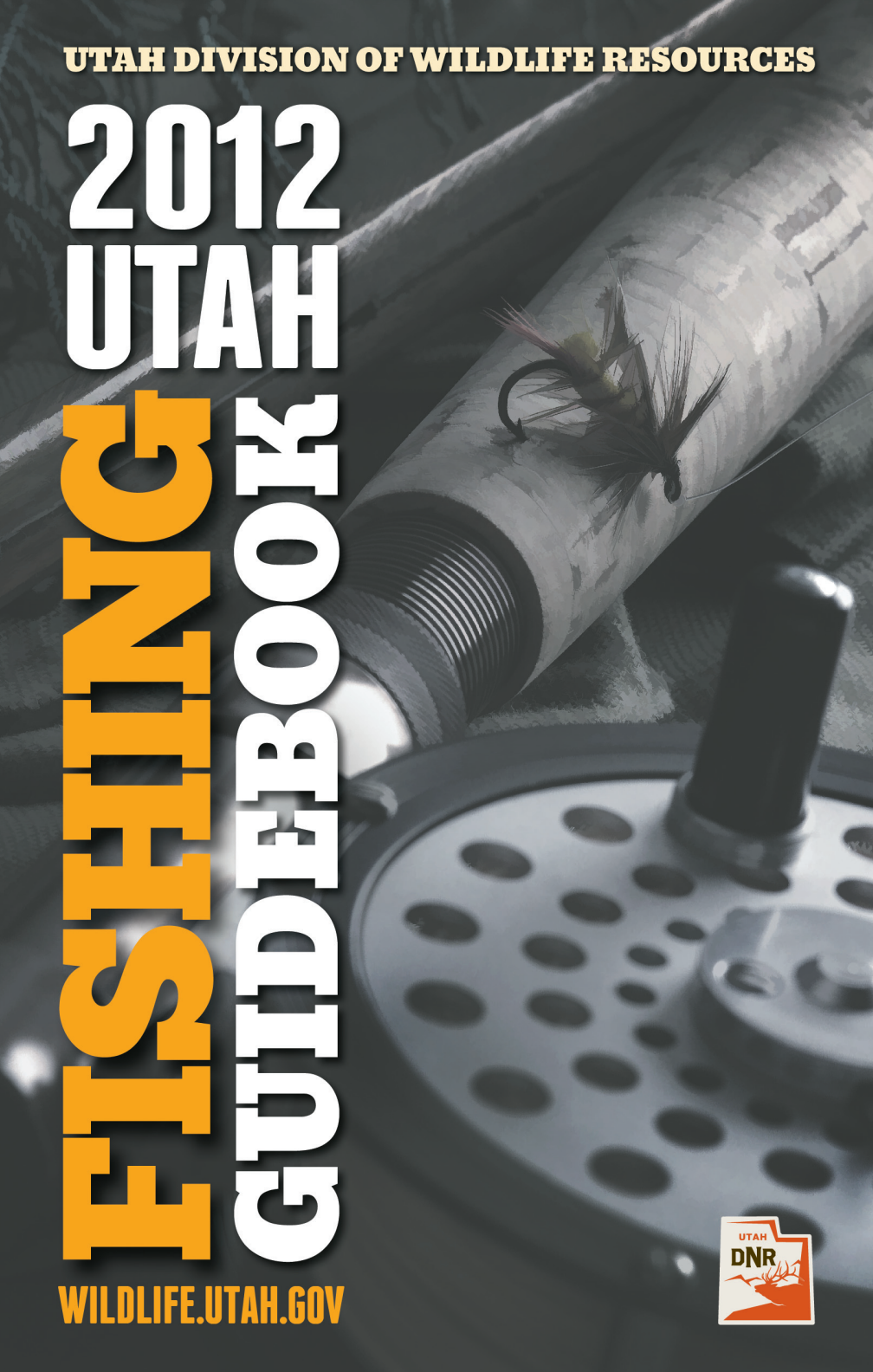
UTAH DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

2012 UTAH FISHING GUIDEBOOK



WILDLIFE.UTAH.GOV

UTAH DNR

CONTACT US

Turn in a poacher

Report a poacher by phone, email or online

Phone: 1-800-662-3337
Email: *turninapoacher@utah.gov*
Online: *wildlife.utah.gov/utip*

Division offices

Offices are open 8 a.m.–5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Salt Lake City
1594 W North Temple
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
152 E 100 N
Vernal, UT 84078
435-781-9453

Northern Region
515 E 5300 S
Ogden, UT 84405
801-476-2740

Southeastern Region
319 N Carbonville Road, Ste A
Price, UT 84501
435-613-3700

Southern Region
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

CONTENTS

3 How to use this guidebook
3 Highlights
3 Who makes the rules?
5 Discounted licenses for disabled veterans
5 Take a closer look at the rules
6 License and permit fees
6 Utah State Parks Annual Pass
7 General rules: Licenses and permits
7 Free Fishing Day
8 Fishing contests
9 License exemptions for youth organizations
9 General rules: Fishing methods
11 How to measure a fish
13 Stream access in Utah
16 General rules: Possession and transportation
18 Bag and possession limits
19 Fish consumption advisories
19 Utah's boating laws and rules
20 Rules for specific waters
20 Watercraft restrictions
23 Community fishing waters
34 Illegal stocking devastates fisheries
35 Battling invasive species and disease
36 Did it get wet? Decontaminate it!
37 Anglers request chance to catch bigger fish
38 More wipers for Utah fisheries
39 Where should I fish in 2012?
40 Where can I bowfish?
41 Angler feedback drives changes
42 A new approach at Hobbs Reservoir
43 Identifying Utah's native and nonnative fish
62 Definitions

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 and bag and possession limits, starting on page 16.
3. Look up a specific water in the section that starts on page 20. (If the water you're looking for is not listed there, it is subject to the general rules.)

HIGHLIGHTS

What's new this season?

Free Fishing Day: This year, Free Fishing Day will be held on June 2. This annual event is a great opportunity to share your passion for fishing with a friend or family member. For more information, see page 7.

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*.

Wildlife Board members

Del Brady, *Chair*
Ernie Perkins, *Vice Chair*
James F. Karpowitz, *Division Director Executive Secretary*
Jake Albrecht
John Bair
Calvin Crandall
Bill Fenimore
Michael King

New community fisheries: Six new community fisheries are scheduled to open to the public in 2012. They will be located in Garden City, Layton, Monroe, Ogden, Washington and Wellington. For a complete list of Utah's community fisheries, see the information box on page 23.

Discounted licenses for disabled veterans: The Division began offering discounted fishing licenses to disabled veterans in July 2011. To see if you are eligible for one of these licenses, see the information box on page 5.

New experimental fishery: Hobbs Reservoir is a new fishery in northern Utah. The Utah Wildlife Board approved some experimental regulations at the reservoir that will hopefully produce larger fish over the next five years. For details, see the article on page 42.

Reduced wiper limit at Willard Bay: The daily wiper limit at Willard Bay Reservoir has changed from six fish to three fish. For details and more information on Utah's wiper program, see the article on page 38.

Changes at Lake Powell: Beginning in 2012, you may fillet fish—and possess filleted fish—at any time while fishing at Lake Powell. There will also be no limit on the number of walleye you can keep. For details, see page 26.

Limits removed for some species and waters: To combat illegal fish stocking, the Wildlife Board removed the daily bag and possession limits for some species at a handful of waters, particularly in central and southern Utah. For more information, see the article on page 34.

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* to see a map of participating states.)

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, 2012.

Community fisheries: You can learn more about Utah's 49 community fisheries by picking up a copy of the Division's Utah Community Fishing booklet. The free booklet is available at *wildlife.utah.gov/cf* or at any Division office.

New option to provide feedback: In 2011, the Division obtained substantial feedback on proposed fishing changes via an online questionnaire. Because this tool was so effective, Division biologists plan to use a similar format to obtain feedback in 2012. To review all of your feedback options, please see page 41.

Corrections: If errors are found in the printed guidebook, the Division will correct them in the online version. Visit *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.

Discounted licenses for disabled veterans

To thank our servicemen and servicewomen, 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 Division offices in Ogden, Salt Lake City, Springville, Vernal, Price and Cedar City.

To purchase a discounted license, you must have a service-connected disability rating of 40 percent or higher. 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 call the nearest Division office.

Take 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*.

You can use the references in the 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.

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 5 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

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 11 of this guide.

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

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, or for $35 to Utah seniors 62 and over. 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*.

To see a list of state parks that offer fishing, visit *go.usa.gov/lig*.

Set up a tent or park an RV in one of 2,000 campsites. Cozy up around a campfire after a day of 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*

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 definitions on page 64.) 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 2, 2012, 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 bag and 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 General rules: Fishing methods on page 9 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* and from license 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* 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

Reciprocal fishing permits for Lake Powell are available to Utah and Arizona residents only. To fish across the state line at Lake Powell, a resident of Utah or Arizona must have a valid fishing license from one state and a reciprocal fishing permit from the other state. For example, to fish the Arizona portion of the reservoir, a Utah resident needs a Utah resident fishing or combination license and a reciprocal fishing permit from Arizona.

Utah residents may obtain an Arizona reciprocal fishing permit at *azgfd.gov*. Arizona residents may obtain a Utah reciprocal fishing permit at *wildlife.utah.gov* and from Division offices and license agents that sell Utah fishing licenses.

If you're not a resident of either state, you must purchase a Utah nonresident fishing license to fish the Utah portion of Lake Powell and an Arizona nonresident license to fish the Arizona portion of the reservoir.

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.
- Only one bag limit may be taken and held in possession, even if you're licensed to fish in both states.

Fishing contests

Utah Admin. Rule R657-58

You can hold a fishing contest in Utah, but you must follow the rules, some of which changed this year. For the current fishing contest rules, please see Utah Admin. Rule R657-58 at *wildlife.utah.gov/rules*, visit *go.usa.gov/axu* 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* or contact your nearest Division office.

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 *go.usa.gov/9vS*.

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 20.

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 (please visit *go.usa.gov/XJP* 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 13 of this guide for more information about fishing for crayfish.
- You have a second-pole or setline permit. Information about fishing with a second pole is available on page 11. Information about fishing with a setline is available on page 11.
- You are ice fishing at Flaming Gorge. Please see page 24 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 11 for more information about fishing with a setline.

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

- No artificial lure may have more than three hooks.
- No line may have attached to it more than two baited hooks, two artificial flies or two artificial lures. The only exceptions to this rule are if you're using a setline or you're fishing at Flaming Gorge Reservoir or Lake Powell. Please see page 11 of this guide for more information about fishing with a setline. Information about fishing at Flaming Gorge is available on page 24, and information about fishing at Lake Powell is available on page 26.

Utah Fishing • 2012

- 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 Rules for specific waters on page 20.

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 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.
  - 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, redside 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/mussels/waters.php*.

Restrictions on taking fish and crayfish

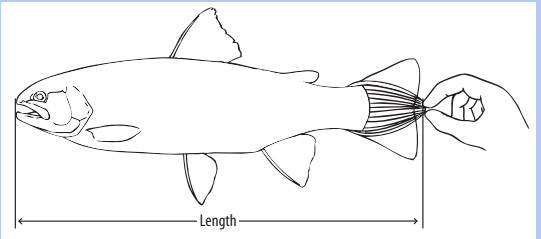
Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-11

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 the Taking Nongame Fish section of this guide (page 14) and Rules for specific waters, Lake Powell on page 26.

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.



You may not take or land a fish by snagging or gaffing, and you may not have a gaff in your possession while fishing. The only exception is Lake Powell, where you may use a gaff to land striped bass.

Chumming is prohibited on all waters except Lake Powell. (Chumming means to dislodge or deposit into the water any substance, not attached to a hook, line or trap, which may attract fish.) Please see the Rules for specific waters, Lake Powell on page 26 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* 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 7.

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 24 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* 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 20 for more information.

You may also use a handheld dipnet to take crayfish and nongame fish, except prohibited fish. For a list of fish that are prohibited in Utah, please see page 14 of this guide.

Underwater spearfishing

Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-9

You may underwater spearfish—for both game and nongame fish—from 6 a.m. on the first Saturday of June through Nov. 30 at the following waters:

- Causey Reservoir (Weber County)
- Deer Creek Reservoir (Wasatch County)
- Flaming Gorge Reservoir (Daggett County)
- Jordanelle Reservoir (Wasatch County)
- Kens Lake (San Juan County)
- Lake Powell (Garfield, Kane and San Juan counties)
- Lost Creek Reservoir (Morgan County)
- Pineview Reservoir, with the exception of tiger muskie (Weber County)
- Red Fleet Reservoir (Uintah County)
- Starvation Reservoir (Duchesne County)
- Steinaker Reservoir (Uintah County)
- Willard Bay Reservoir (Box Elder County)
- Yuba Reservoir (Juab and Sanpete counties)

At Fish Lake (Sevier County), you may underwater spearfish for all fish species from 6 a.m. on the first Saturday of June through Sept. 15.

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.

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

There are a few exceptions to these regulations:

- 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 24 for rules specific to Flaming Gorge.
- At Lake Powell, you can underwater spearfish for carp and striped bass from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31.
- At Pineview Reservoir, you cannot underwater spearfish for tiger muskie.

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

Trespassing

Utah Code §§ 23-20-14 and 23-20-3.5

While fishing or engaging in any wildlife-related activities, you may not:

- Enter upon privately owned land that is cultivated or properly posted without the permission of the landowner or land manager
- Refuse to immediately leave the private land if requested to do so by the landowner or land manager
- Obstruct any entrance or exit to private land

"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 landowner or land manager
- The name of the person being given permission
- The appropriate dates
- A general description of the land

"Properly posted" means that "No Trespassing" signs—or a minimum of 100 square inches of bright yellow, bright orange or fluorescent paint—are displayed at all corners, on fishing streams crossing property lines, and on roads, gates and rights-of-way entering the land. If metal fence posts are used, the entire exterior side must be painted.

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 their parts while trespassing in violation of Utah Code § 23-20-14.

Stream access in Utah

Utah Code § 73-29

In 2010, the Utah Legislature passed the Public Waters Access Act. The act changes 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.

The Division's summary of the law is available at *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.

Utah Fishing • 2012

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
- 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

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 Carp section below.

To take nonprohibited nongame fish, you may use angling, traps, archery (excluding crossbows), dipnets, cast nets, liftnets, seines or a handheld 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 in Underwater spearfishing on page 12.

Carp

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

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)
- 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)
- White River (Uintah County)

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.

Utah Fishing • 2012

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.

It is unlawful to possess filleted fish, or fish with their heads or tails removed, while you are in the act of fishing. This does not apply to fish processed for immediate consumption or to fish held from a previous 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

There are a few exceptions to the above rule:

- At Strawberry Reservoir, Scofield 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.
- At Jordanelle, you may not fillet smallmouth bass, and you may not remove their heads or tails while in the field or in transit.
- At Lake Powell, you may fillet fish—and possess filleted fish—at any time. You may not keep more fish than allowed by the bag and possession limit.

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

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 17 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.

Wasting

Utah Code § 23-20-8

You may not waste any fish or crayfish or permit 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.

Season dates and bag and possession limits

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 20.

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. 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 20.

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 Underwater spearfishing on page 12 for details.

Bag and possession limits

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

In Utah, the bag and possession limits for fishing are the same. For example, once you've harvested a limit of trout, you cannot harvest any more trout until you've consumed or donated at least some of the trout you've harvested. So, if you eat one trout, you can harvest one more the next day; if you eat a full limit, you can harvest a full limit the next day.

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

- Any trout, salmon or grayling not im-

Utah Fishing • 2012

mediately released is part of your bag and 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, bag 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 bag or size limit if you possess fish in violation of that limit. For example, if the cutthroat trout limit at a river you'd like to fish is two cutthroats, and you harvested three cutthroats earlier that day at another water, you can't fish at that river until you consume at least one of the cutthroats you harvested earlier. You may continue to fish while in possession of a full limit, but you must immediately release any additional fish you catch.
- The following general bag and possession limits apply statewide, except as provided in the rules for specific waters section that begins on page 20.

BAG AND POSSESSION 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 23.)	2
Crappie*	50
Crayfish	No limit
Largemouth and smallmouth bass (a combined total)*	6
Nongame species (except prohibited fish; see page 14 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 20 for variations.*

FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES

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

All 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 populations 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 the Utah Fish Advisories website—*fishadvisories.utah.gov*—before eating the fish you catch. The advisory site 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.

The latest, most accurate data

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* your best resource for accurate, up-to-date fish consumption advisories.

For more information

To learn more about Utah's ongoing battle with mercury, visit *go.usa.gov/Cxw*. For more information about the health effects of mercury, visit *go.usa.gov/Cxf.*

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*.

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*.

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, bag 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 Bag and possession limits on page 18 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.

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.

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 watercraft restrictions at *go.usa.gov/XJP*.

Bear Lake, Rich County
See Fishing across state lines on page 7 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*.

Blue Lake, Tooele County
- No limit for tilapia. Anglers must not release any tilapia they catch. All tilapia must be immediately killed.

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).
- 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, 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.

Utah Fishing • 2012

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.

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

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

Colorado River, Grand and San Juan counties
- Limit 24 channel catfish.
- Limit 12 northern pike.
- No limit for burbot. Anglers must not release any burbot they catch. All burbot 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 14 for a list of prohibited fish.

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 2 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.

Deer Valley Lakes, Wasatch County
- ARTIFICIAL FLIES AND LURES ONLY.
- Jan. 1 through Sept. 30, CATCH AND RELEASE ONLY.
- Oct. 1 through Dec. 31, limit 2 trout under 16 inches.

Community fishing waters

The following rules apply to all the fisheries listed below:
- Limit 2 fish. (Daily bag and possession limit is a combined total of 2 fish for all species. For example, you could catch and keep 1 trout and 1 channel catfish, or 2 trout, or 2 channel catfish, but no more than the limit of 2 fish per day.)
- 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, Gigliotti Pond and Wellington 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: 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, Millrace Park Pond, Riverton Pond, Sandy Urban Fishery, Sunset Pond and Willow Park Pond
Sevier County: Monroe Community Fishery
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.)
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* for specific site recreation rules.

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.

Utah Fishing • 2012

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 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.

Fish Lake, Sevier County
- Limit 4 trout, no more than 2 may be lake trout/mackinaw and only 1 may be a lake trout/mackinaw larger than 20 inches.
- 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 on page 7 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 between official sunset and sunrise, Oct. 15 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of December.
- Limit 6 catfish.
- Limit 10 smallmouth and largemouth bass in the aggregate.
- No limit for burbot. Anglers must not release any burbot they catch. All burbot must be immediately killed.
- No line may have more than 3 baited hooks or artificial flies in series or more than 3 lures.
- 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.

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.

Grandaddy Lake tributaries, Duchesne County
Located in the Uinta Mountains.
- All tributaries to Grandaddy 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 confluence with the Colorado River upstream to the Colorado state line in Dinosaur National Monument:
- Limit 24 channel catfish.
- Limit 12 northern pike.
- No limit for smallmouth bass or burbot. Anglers must not release any bass or burbot they catch. All bass or burbot 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 14 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 smallmouth bass or burbot. Anglers must not release any bass or burbot they catch. All bass or burbot 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.

Gunlock Reservoir, Washington County
- Limit largemouth 6 bass, only 1 bass 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.

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

Utah Fishing • 2012

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 bass may be over 12 inches.

Indian Creek, Wasatch County
See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

Joes Valley Reservoir, Emery County
- Limit 4 trout, only 1 trout may be over 18 inches.
- CLOSED Nov. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of December.

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 bass 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.

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 Fishing across state lines and reciprocal fishing permits on page 7 for license and permit requirements, and 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.
- No line may have more than 3 baited hooks or more than 3 lures.
- Chumming is only allowed for taking striped bass. ONLY commercially prepared anchovies and sardines may be used for chumming.
- Gaffs may be used to land striped bass only.
- Carp and striped bass may be taken by means of underwater spearfishing year round.
- 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.
- CLOSED to fishing 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. daily.

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 and over 15 inches must be immediately released.
- ARTIFICIAL FLIES AND LURES ONLY.

Utah Fishing • 2012

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.

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 43.

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 the detailed descriptions that begin on page 43.
- 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.
- 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.

Utah Fishing • 2012

(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 bass may be over 12 inches.
- No limit on smallmouth bass.

Rainbow 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 Rainbow Reservoir requires an onpost fishing permit. You can obtain one at any of the following locations: the Outdoor Recreation Shop (435-833-3100), TEAD Physical Fitness Center (435-833-2159) or the Southtowne Grill (435-833-4789).
- Shore fishing only.

Red Butte Creek and **Red Butte Reservoir**, Salt Lake County
- CLOSED TO FISHING.

Red Fleet Reservoir, Uintah County
No limit on walleye.

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

Road Hollow, Wasatch County
See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

Sage Creek, Wasatch County
See *Strawberry Reservoir tributaries*.

San Juan River, San Juan County
- Limit 24 channel catfish.

Sand Hollow Reservoir, Washington County
- Limit 6 largemouth bass, only 1 bass 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 the detailed descriptions that begin on page 43.

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*.

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.
- 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 43 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 YEAR ROUND.

(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

Utah Fishing • 2012

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 bass 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.

Virgin River, Washington County
- No limit on smallmouth bass.

Weber River, Summit County
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.

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

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, Box Elder County
- Limit 10 crappie.
- Limit 6 walleye, only 1 walleye may be over 24 inches.
- Limit 3 wiper.
- Possession of gizzard shad, dead or alive, is unlawful.

Willard Bay Reservoir inlet channel, Box Elder County
From the buoyed start of the channel near the South Marina boat ramp up the channel to the second set of baffles. This does not include the South Marina proper or the normal boating channel out of the South Marina into the reservoir.
- Limit 10 crappie.
- Limit 6 walleye, only 1 walleye may be over 24 inches.
- Limit 3 wiper.
- Possession of gizzard shad, dead or alive, is unlawful.
- CLOSED March 1 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of April.

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.

If you want to fish it tomorrow,
help us protect it today.
UTiP
1-800-662-3337
Turn In a Poacher

Utah Fishing • 2012

ILLEGAL STOCKING DEVASTATES FISHERIES

If you dump fish into a lake or river where they don't belong, you can ruin a fishery for many thousands of anglers.

Utah is taking the fight to individuals who illegally move fish from one waterbody to another.

In November 2011, the Utah Wildlife Board approved new no-limit and catch-and-kill regulations at several waters in Utah. These changes mean that the Division will no longer manage fish that were illegally placed in those waterbodies.

Drew Cushing, the Division's sport fisheries coordinator, explained the management shift, "We want illegally introduced fish removed as quickly as possible."

These changes are effective Jan. 1, 2012.

Why is illegal stocking a problem?

Illegal fish stocking hurts anglers, including you, in several ways:

- Introducing a fish species that isn't already found in a body of water may affect the fishery's entire ecosystem. Good fishing can deteriorate quickly for fish that lived in the water before the illegal stocking occurred.
- Sometimes, the only way to remove illegally introduced fish is to kill all of the fish in a body of water and start over again with new fish. Treatments to kill fish can be extremely expensive, sometimes costing millions of dollars. The money the Division has to spend on the treatment could be used to improve fishing in other areas and to raise more fish in state hatcheries.
- After a treatment project happens, it takes a few years before fishing is good again at the water that was treated. Anglers who enjoyed fishing at that water will have to go elsewhere for a few years.
- Illegal fish stocking can hurt threatened and endangered fish in the state.
- Those who own businesses near an affected body of water can lose revenue.

What are the new regulations?

The no-limit and catch-and-kill regulations apply to waters where the Division wants to remove species that were illegally stocked. These types of regulations also remove much of the incentive for those who initially dumped the fish.

No-limit regulation

This regulation allows anglers to take an unlimited number of smallmouth bass in Quail Creek, Sand Hollow and Gunlock reservoirs, and in the Virgin and Santa Clara rivers.

Catch-and-kill regulation

This regulation requires anglers to immediately kill any black bullhead catfish they catch in Deer Creek Reservoir and any northern pike they catch in Utah Lake.

What else is the Division considering?

The no-limit and catch-and-kill regulations will help fight illegal fish stocking in Utah. Other penalties are also in place:

- A three-year license revocation for anyone who's caught transporting live fish.
- A $1,000 fine for individuals who move live fish.
- A $2,500 fine for individuals who illegally stock fish.

Fisheries managers are also considering the following measures:

- Possibly closing waters to the harvest of certain illegally introduced species.
- Possibly adding more waters to the no-limit or catch-and-kill list.

In 2011, Montana wildlife officials confirmed that they have had more than 500 illegal fish introductions. Utah's fisheries biologists want to avoid a situation like Montana's and need your help to treat this problem as aggressively as possible.

How can you help?

As anglers, you don't want to lose your best fisheries to someone else's selfishness. You are truly the best line of defense against illegal fish stocking.

If you know that someone has dumped fish into a water illegally, please call the Utah Turn in a Poacher (UTiP) hotline at 1-800-662-3337. The line is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

If you want to remain anonymous, wildlife officers will honor your request. You can also report illegal fish stocking online at *go.usa.gov/CV0*.

BATTLING INVASIVE SPECIES AND DISEASE

Make it a habit to clean, drain and dry your boat and all equipment.

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.

That's why the state of Utah is committed to protecting our waters from invasive mussels, other invasive species and whirling disease.

Invasive mussel damage

Invasive quagga and zebra mussels are thumbnail-sized clams that have been found in neighboring states' waterways. Test results indicate they are in Utah as well.

Currently, Sand Hollow Reservoir (quagga) in Washington County, Red Fleet Reservoir (quagga) in Uintah County and Electric Lake (zebra) in Emery County are known to be affected. **IMPORTANT:** Restrictive boating regulations have been implemented at these waters. All arriving boaters are inspected before they are allowed to launch, and all departing boaters must decontaminate. Boats that return to these waters can do so without decontamination, but they must be cleaned and drained.

Invasive mussels reproduce rapidly and pose a huge threat to Utah's water resources. How serious is this problem? In other states, the mussels have:

- Cost billions of dollars to control
- Jeopardized essential power and water infrastructures
- Destroyed recreation areas and boating equipment
- Severely damaged ecosystems, displacing native and sport species

To combat the threat of quagga and zebra mussels, the Utah State Legislature and the Utah Wildlife Board made it unlawful to possess or transport them.

In their larval stage, the mussels are microscopic. They have hitchhiked across the country, stowing away on damp boats and equipment. An adult mussel can live out of water for as long as 30 days when temperature and humidity are ideal.

If you have been in a mussel-affected water in Utah, you must decontaminate your boat and equipment before leaving the recreational area. If you have been in a mussel-affected water in another state or country, you must decontaminate before entering or traveling in Utah.

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.

If you realize, while completing the form, that you need to decontaminate your boat, please do

Utah Fishing • 2012

your part to keep Utah's waters free of quagga and zebra mussels.

You can also choose to take a free, online Mussel-aware Boater course that provides a certification form good for the rest of the calendar year. To learn more about your certification options, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/SelfCertification*.

For more information on invasive mussels and decontamination, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/mussels*.

Other aquatic invasive species

Many other aquatic invasive species—such as the New Zealand mudsnail and Eurasian watermilfoil—either already inhabit Utah or threaten to arrive.

These species can crowd or outcompete our existing aquatic resources and have a profound, negative impact on our outdoor experience.

By routinely decontaminating your boat, wetted fishing gear and other recreational equipment, you can help limit the spread of all aquatic invasive species.

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.

The good news is that you can help 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. Their discarded organs and tissues could spread disease, so they should be placed in appropriate garbage containers, burned or buried deep in the ground. Please note that whirling disease does not affect humans, and fish from affected waters are safe for human consumption.
- Waders, boots and wetted fishing gear or recreational equipment must be decontaminated before you enter any water. For example, if you spend the morning fishing one river, and then you move upstream or to another river, you could transport whirling disease spores (or aquatic invasive species) that are attached to your equipment. **Important tip:** Before you leave a fishing area and step into another water, rinse all the mud and other debris off of your waders, boots and wetted fishing gear or equipment. Then, generously spray all of it—especially the felt soles of waders—with Formula 409 (a popular household cleaner). This treatment will kill any whirling disease spores. Thorough drying and sunlight will also help destroy the parasite.
- Change your habits to protect our waters. After every outing, thoroughly decontaminate anything that entered the water or mud. 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.

Did it get wet? Decontaminate it!

When you go boating or fishing, some of your gear inevitably gets wet or muddy.

There are the obvious things: your boat, trailer, float tube, waders and fishing tackle. And there are the items you don't often think about: your anchor, tie and tow ropes, shoes, net, knife, stringer and recreational toys.

All of these items provide good hiding places for microscopic invasive species or whirling disease spores.

Please make it routine to clean, drain and dry anything that got wet during your boating or fishing trip. If you make a habit of it, you will avoid spreading aquatic invasive species and whirling disease.

If you fish or boat multiple times per week, you should have your boat, trailer and equipment professionally decontaminated. The Division has decontamination units stationed at many local waters. These units deliver a high-pressure, scalding (140°F) wash—free of charge—that will leave your boat and gear safe for Utah waters. To find a nearby decontamination unit, visit *go.usa.gov/Czz*.

Decontaminate every time

Decontamination kills invasive mussels, other invasive species and whirling disease, and it needs to become routine among anglers and boaters. Whenever you leave a water body, you should decontaminate your boat, wetted fishing gear and recreational equipment by taking the following steps:

- Clean mud, plants, animals or other debris from your boat and 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. If it is 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 (see *go.usa.gov/Czz*). At these units, certified personnel will decontaminate boats, trailers, wetted fishing gear and recreational equipment. Even your ballast tanks, bilge, live wells and motors will be thoroughly flushed with the high-pressure, scalding (140°F) water.

No matter which decontamination method you prefer, you should make a habit of completing the decontamination process after every fishing or boating trip. Your decontamination efforts are essential in protecting Utah waters and preserving our critical resources.

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

Anglers request chance to catch bigger fish

In the 2011 online survey, anglers made it clear that they wanted more opportunities to catch trophy-sized fish in northern Utah. After considering a handful of fisheries, the Division recommended a regulation change that will eventually produce larger fish at Lost Creek Reservoir.

The Wildlife Board approved the change in November 2011.

There's still a four-fish daily limit at the reservoir, but you need to be careful about what you keep:

- No more than 3 trout may be under 15 inches.
- No more than 1 trout may be over 22 inches
- You must immediately release any fish between 15 and 22 inches.

Fisheries biologists hope that the released fish—typically the reservoir's larger rainbow, cutthroat and tiger trout—will eat the Utah chubs that are starting to overpopulate the fishery.

As long as anglers comply with the new size restriction, the Division feels that this change should eventually produce more trophy opportunities and limit the growth of the reservoir's chub population.

Utah Fishing • 2012

MORE WIPERS FOR UTAH FISHERIES

In 2011, the state launched its first wiper-production program.

Wipers are large, sterile, hard-fighting fish that live in six Utah reservoirs. They have become an increasingly popular game fish, thrilling the anglers who battle to catch them.

The Division has stocked wipers since 1992, purchasing one million per year from KEO Fish Farms in Arkansas. In 2011, Division biologists decided it was time for Utah to make its own wipers.

How do you make a wiper?

Wipers cannot reproduce on their own. They are a cross between a white bass and a striped bass.

The most common cross is to use female white bass and male striped bass. The are two main advantages to this approach: male striped bass are easier to keep alive in captivity, and they provide generous amounts of milt that make it easy to fertilize eggs.

The other cross—using female striped bass and male white bass—also has some advantages. The eggs are much larger, which results in larger fry (young fish). These fry have larger mouths and transition more easily to food after they hatch. Their larger size also contributes to a higher survival rate. Unfortunately, female striped bass aren't easy to catch, and they don't do well in captivity.

When and where are wipers stocked?

In past years, the Division has stocked a substantial portion of the wiper fry directly into Utah reservoirs. Willard Bay, Huntington North, Newcastle, Piute, Otter Creek and Millsite reservoirs have all received wipers.

The direct-stocking approach has a survival rate of about one percent. This isn't as dismal as it sounds. Thousands of fish reach maturity, and the Division does not have to pay to feed them. Because they are so small when stocked, transportation costs are minimal.

Division biologists then send the remaining wiper fry to the state hatchery at Wahweap, where they are grown to a length ranging from one to three inches. When these fish are stocked, they have an estimated survival rate of 10–20 percent.

What happened in 2011?

In 2011, the Division launched its own wiper-production efforts. Utah has striped bass in Lake Powell and white bass in Utah Lake. So, after completing initial research and disease inspections, the Division sent crews to collect fish from both Utah Lake and Lake Powell.

Timing the fertilization process was the biggest challenge. The procedure had to be followed precisely, down to the minute and the ounce.

At Lake Powell, ripe female striped bass were collected and injected with hormones to accelerate the egg-maturation process. Biologists also collected male striped bass, extracted their milt and mixed it into a solution designed to extend the life of the milt for up to a week.

At Utah Lake, the process was similar. Biologists extracted milt from white bass males and put it into the extender solution. White bass females were also injected and stored in cages at the lake.

Then, the biologists made three attempts to produce wipers:

1. The white bass milt made the trip to Lake Powell alive, but the female striped bass eggs did not mature within the prescribed timeline.

2. Then, the striped bass milt made the trip to Utah Lake where white bass females were waiting with perfectly ripe eggs. Unfortunately, the milt was dead on arrival.

3. So, the biologists made a final attempt. They collected additional striped bass milt at Lake Powell and made a modification to the milt life extender. That milt was alive upon arrival at Utah Lake. Unfortunately, someone had tampered with the holding cage and removed the female fish.

Despite their frustration, the biologists learned a lot in 2011. They learned about the importance of timing in wiper production, and they learned how to successfully extend the life of milt.

What's planned for 2012?

Spring 2012 will be the Division's next attempt at wiper production. The lessons the biologists learned last year should ensure a more successful effort in 2012. If all goes well, it won't be long before the Division can produce millions of wipers here in Utah.

Until that day, the biologists will continue to purchase wipers from KEO Fish Farms and work to expand the wiper program.

WHERE SHOULD I FISH IN 2012?

Try one of these popular fisheries near the Wasatch Front.

More than 70 percent of Utahns live in the heavily populated corridor that stretches from Ogden to Provo. If you're one of these individuals—and you love to fish—you may want to try one or more of the following fisheries in 2012. These waters offer great fishing for a variety of species, and they're all relatively easy to reach. You can get to most of them in about one to two hours if you live in Salt Lake City.

Mantua Reservoir

Mantua (pronounced man-uh-way) is a 500-acre reservoir located 15 miles east of Brigham City. This is a place where you can catch fish easily, whether you're in a boat or on shore. Onsite restrooms and a boat ramp make it a convenient recreation spot, and shoreline access around the entire reservoir draws many float-tubing anglers.

Mantua has two fishing opportunities that are hard to beat. The bluegill in Mantua are very plentiful and can grow to record-breaking sizes. The current Utah state record bluegill was caught in Mantua (2 pounds 7 ounces). In the spring, bluegill are very catchable on flies, jigs and poppers. Just wait for the water temperature to reach 60 degrees in May or June and go have a blast.

The other opportunity you shouldn't miss is Mantua's topwater largemouth bass fishing. It's second to none throughout the spring, summer and fall. Throw any topwater bass bait along the shoreline and just hang on to your pole.

In the winter, the yellow perch and rainbow trout also make Mantua a great place to fish through the ice.

Willard Bay Reservoir

Willard Bay is about 10 miles north of Ogden, just west of I-15. Roughly 10,000 acres in size, Willard has two marinas, restrooms, fish-cleaning stations, picnic areas and campgrounds. It is home to several game fish species, including wipers, walleye, yellow perch, black crappie, smallmouth bass and channel catfish.

The most exciting species in Willard Bay is the wiper. These fish can grow very large, as evidenced by Utah's state record wiper, which weighed in at 9 pounds 12 ounces. Wipers are a sterile hybrid between a white bass and striped bass. They have all the aggressiveness of both parents, resulting in a fighting ability that's unbelievable.

You can catch wipers on flies throughout the year, from shore using jigs and while trolling during the spring, summer and fall. You may have the most fun fishing for wipers in mid to late summer when they are "boiling." Wipers chase shad schools to the surface, which results in many shad and the pursuing wipers jumping out of the water in localized areas. Sometimes a boil can be acres in size and last for an hour or more. During a boil, you can catch a limit of wipers within minutes, using any spoons or topwater lures. Wiper fishing

Utah Fishing • 2012

can sometimes wear out your rods, reels, line and lures.

Deer Creek Reservoir

Deer Creek is a 3,000-acre reservoir located at the upper end of Provo Canyon. It offers many amenities, including camping, boat ramps, fish-cleaning stations and picnic areas. The reservoir is home to rainbow trout, brown trout, walleye and yellow perch.

The rainbow trout in Deer Creek are some of the largest along the Wasatch Front, and anglers catch many 18- to 20-inch fish there each year. If you're trying for rainbows, use pop gear, spinners, crankbaits and jigs. You can have great success whether you're on the shore or in a float tube or boat.

The other fish that deserves mention is the walleye. Utah's current walleye spearfishing record is out of Deer Creek. That fish was 31 inches long and weighed 11 pounds 6 ounces. The reservoir has many quality walleye, and they are fairly simple to fish. Just visit the reservoir in June or July and use jigs or worm harnesses tipped with nightcrawlers. The technique is to very slowly work the jigs or worm harnesses on the bottom in 12 to 20 feet of water. Remember that walleye are generally lazy, so you need to provide the fish with every opportunity to get the bait in its mouth before you set the hook.

Utah Lake

Utah Lake is a shallow 95,000-acre lake just west of Provo and Orem. It has multiple marinas as well as restrooms, campsites and picnic areas. The lake is home to many game fish, but it is famous for two in particular: white bass and channel catfish.

Utah Lake has the best white bass population in the state, and it's where an angler caught the current state record (4 pounds 1 ounce). These fish are very susceptible to white jigs and small spinners tipped with fish or nightcrawlers. White bass school in large numbers in April and May. They gather at the mouths of the rivers and streams that feed Utah Lake as they begin their spawning activities.

If you want to catch channel catfish, try the warmer months of the year. The current state record catfish was caught in Utah Lake. It was almost 40 inches long and weighed 32 pounds 8 ounces. You can catch these fish on the bottom of the lake, using fish pieces or nightcrawlers. You'll just need a hook with a weight to get the bait down to the lakebed.

Where can I bowfish?

In recent years, the Division has received phone calls from anglers who want to know where they can use archery equipment to fish. They also want to know which species they can fish for.

One thing to keep in mind is that no matter where you use archery equipment to fish, you may **not** use a crossbow.

Fishing with archery equipment is permitted at Lake Powell but not in all areas. For details, see the specific rules for Lake Powell on page 26.

You may also use archery equipment at other bodies of water—during their open seasons—to fish for carp and other fish that are not categorized as sportfish (also called game fish) or prohibited fish.

For a complete list of prohibited fish, see page 14. For illustrations of Utah's sportfish, see the Identification section that begins on page 43. For a list of waters where you can use bowfishing to take only carp, see page 14.

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

ANGLER FEEDBACK DRIVES CHANGES

Many of the 2012 regulation changes came directly from anglers.

For years, the Division's fisheries managers have been asking the same questions: Are we doing what the majority of Utah anglers really want? What can we do—within a sound biological framework—to better serve our customers?

Historically low attendance at public meetings and limited input from anglers prompted a new approach in the spring of 2011. Instead of taking the agency's 2012 fishing recommendations to Regional Advisory Council (RAC) meetings across the state, the biologists opted to place their recommendations online and let the public submit comments via an informal survey.

At the end of the survey, anglers could write in their suggestions and recommendations for additional changes. After a six-week survey period, there were more than 1,000 completed surveys and just under 1,000 anglers who wrote in about a variety of topics. Many of the anglers' suggestions shaped this year's final recommendations and helped biologists identify issues that needed more scrutiny and discussion.

Utah Wildlife in Need

Help protect Utah wildlife

Protecting and preserving Utah's threatened wildlife is up to each of us, and together we can make a difference. Please join Utah Wildlife In Need as we work together to help ensure Utah's wildlife treasures are part of the legacy we leave for our children and grandchildren.

Visit *www.uwin.org* to learn more about Utah's threatened species and about how you can help sustain Utah wildlife for all to enjoy!

What changes were angler-driven?

Anglers made the case for a number of regulation changes that the Wildlife Board approved in November 2011:

- Reducing the wiper limit at Willard Bay
- Instituting the slot limit at Lost Creek Reservoir
- Eliminating the walleye limit at Lake Powell
- Trying an experimental fishery (Hobbs Reservoir) that could eventually produce trophy-sized fish
- 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' suggestions in the 2011 survey may become key proposals in the 2012 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.

For example, in the 2011 survey, more than 20 anglers recommended changes for Panguitch Lake. The Division recognizes that thousands of anglers—both residents and nonresidents—have strong feelings about Panguitch and how it's managed. In order to get a better grasp on what the majority of Panguitch users want, biologists are planning to conduct additional surveys of the lake's anglers.

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 2013, you should contact the Division before June 15, 2012. There are three easy ways to share your suggestions:

1. E-mail your idea to: *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. 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 *go.usa.gov/3cL* by May 2012.

Division biologists will finalize their recommendations for the 2013 fishing season in early summer.

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

The Utah Wildlife Board will consider public input when it meets in early November to approve Utah's 2013 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 November meeting, you can find their contact information at *go.usa.gov/x7l*.

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

A NEW APPROACH AT HOBBS RESERVOIR

Experimental regulations may produce trophy fish in the next few years.

Beginning in 2012, you can fish at Hobbs Reservoir, a new, experimental fishery in Layton.

How is Hobbs Reservoir different?

Although it looks like many of Utah's community fisheries, Hobbs has different rules and opportunities. The Division is launching an experiment at Hobbs, attempting to create a trophy fishery in a community setting. To achieve this goal, the rules are strict:

- The daily limit is two trout under 15 inches.
- If you catch a trout longer than 15 inches, you must release it immediately.
- You may only use artificial flies and lures at the reservoir. No bait is allowed.

If you're an angler who prefers to use bait or has a hard time releasing fish, you might want to try Adams Reservoir, a traditional community fishery that's also opening in Layton in 2012. For more information on Adams Reservoir, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/cf*.

Why try this approach?

Two factors influenced the decision to try something new at Hobbs:

- The public has asked the Division to provide more trophy fishing opportunities
- The new regulations will likely allow fish to be caught more than once, which should reduce stocking costs.

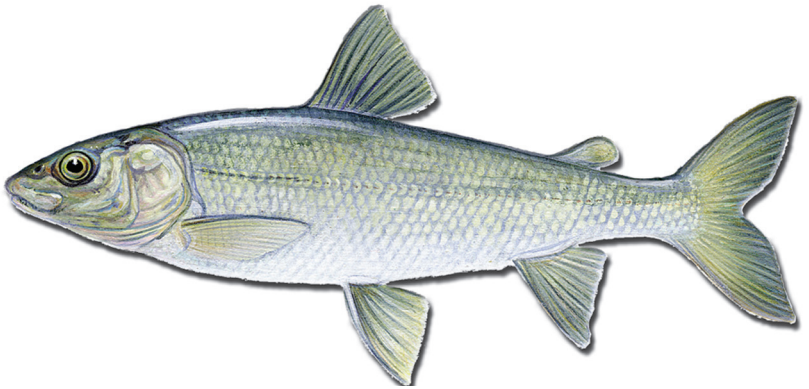
Fisheries biologists are excited to see how this approach works. Hopefully, anglers will catch the excitement. It may take a couple of years for the fish in Hobbs to reach trophy size, but as soon as they do, anglers will be able to catch some huge fish close to home.

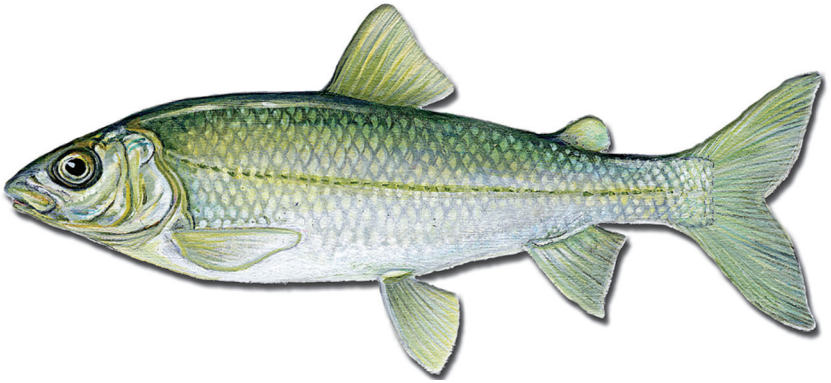
IDENTIFYING UTAH'S NATIVE AND NONNATIVE FISH

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/fishing/recfish.php*.

Native coldwater sportfish

Bonneville whitefish and Bear Lake whitefish





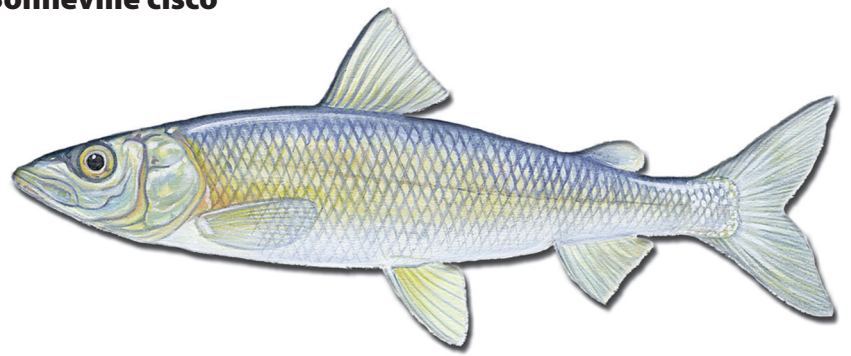
These two fish are indistinguishable below 10 inches in length. Bonneville whitefish have gray-blue spots along their sides. These whitefish are elongated, relatively cylindrical fish. They are silvery-white along their sides, grading into a charcoal gray to black on their backs. They have small delicate 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: 13-¾ in.; Deon Sparks; Bear Lake.

Catch-and-release record: 2008; L: 20 in.; Eldon Robinson; Bear Lake.

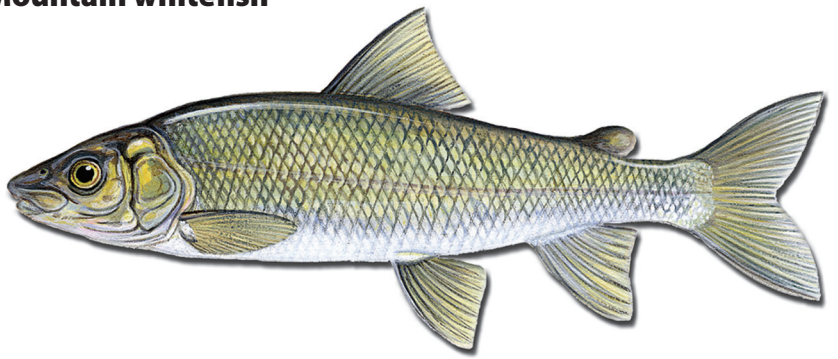
Utah Fishing • 2012

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

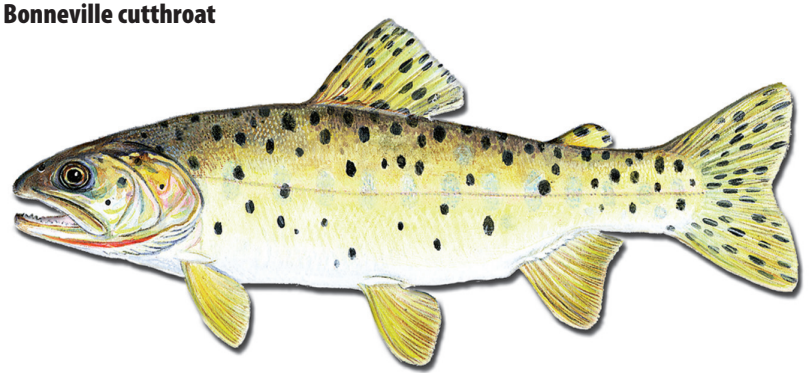


This fish is light brown on its back and fins and silver to white on its belly and sides. The lower jaw and snout are short and blunt, with a flap on each nostril.
Angling record: 1997; 4 lbs. 12 oz.; L: 21-1/2 in.; G: 14 in.; Roy L. Montoya, Deer Creek Reservoir.
Catch-and-release record: 2004; L: 24 in.; Craig Shriner; Weber River.

Cutthroat trout

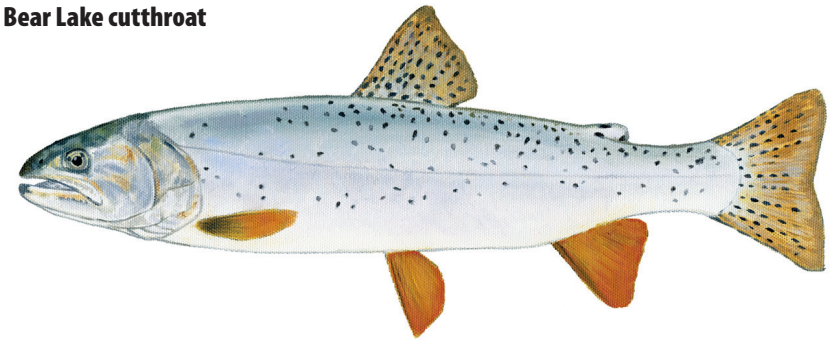
Three primary subspecies (strains) of native cutthroat trout are found in Utah, including Bonneville cutthroat trout, Colorado River cutthroat trout and Yellowstone cutthroat trout. The Bear Lake cutthroat trout is a lake-dwelling form of the Bonneville cutthroat trout. Except for Bear Lake cutthroat 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



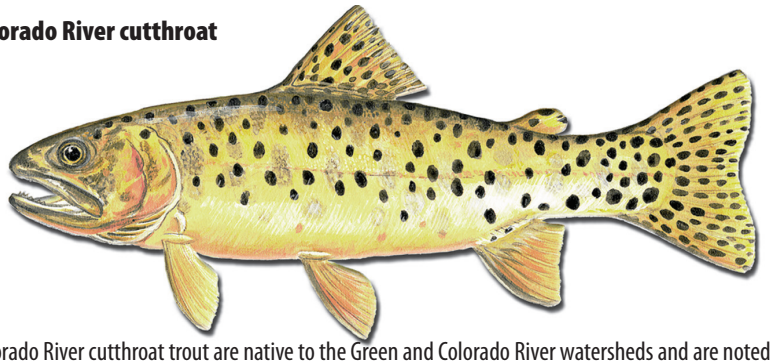
Bonneville cutthroat trout originally inhabited the Bonneville Basin. They have sparsely scattered, large and very distinctive round spots over the upper body, with few spots on or near the head. Bonneville cutthroat trout are a subdued silver-gray to charcoal color on the upper body, with shades of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

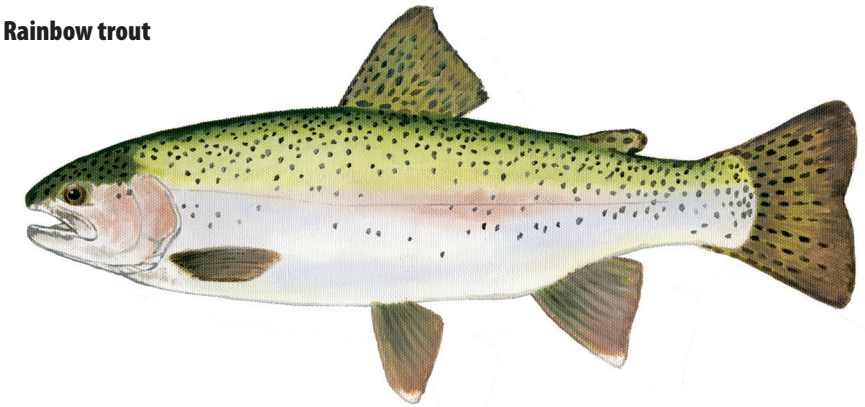
Yellowstone cutthroat (not pictured)

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

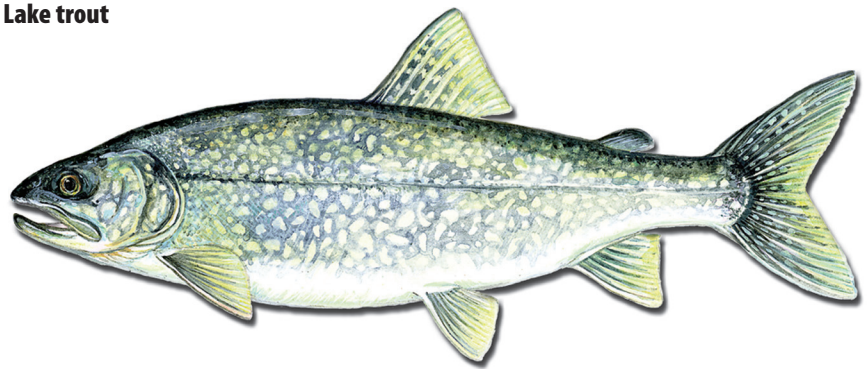
Rainbow trout



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.

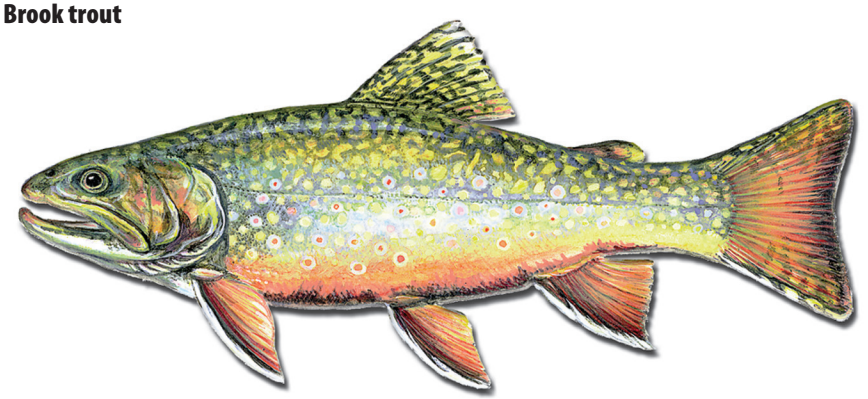
Lake trout



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: 31-¾ 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.

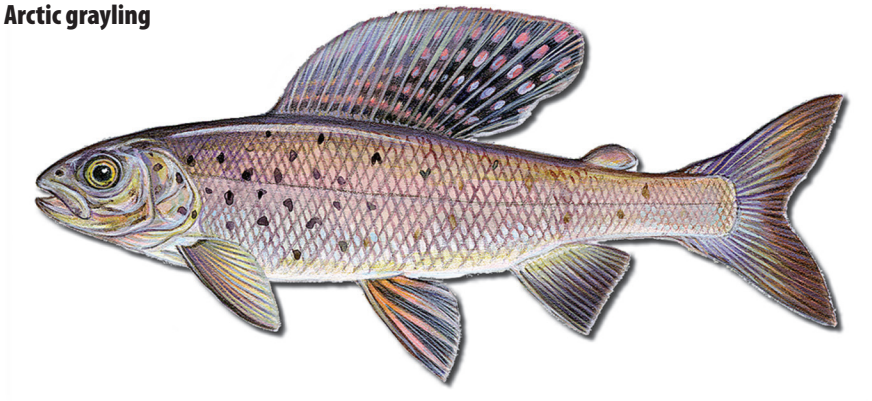
Brook trout



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.

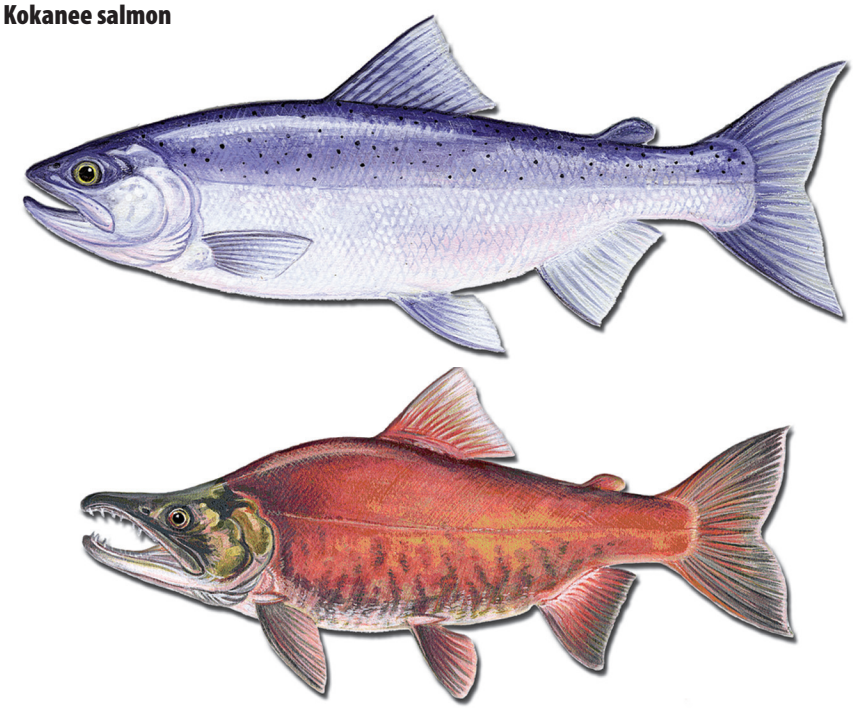
Angling record: 1971; 7 lbs. 8 oz.; Milton Taft; Boulder Mountain.
Catch-and-release record: 1997; L: 23 in.; Travis L. Clark; Boulder Mountain.

Arctic grayling



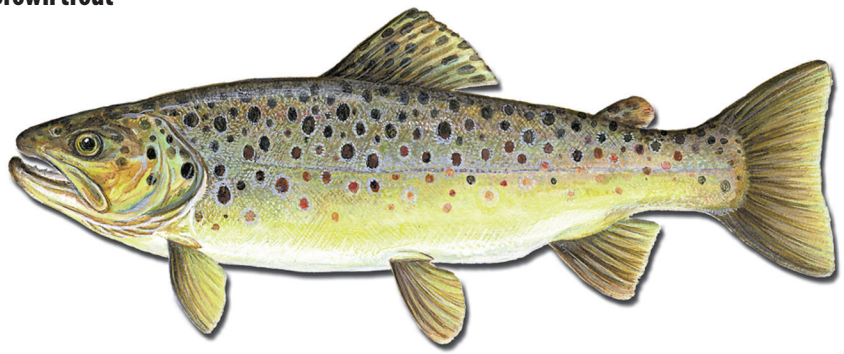
Arctic grayling are silvery to light purple on the sides and bluish-white on the belly. They are relatively slender and are most easily distinguished by their long, high, sail-like dorsal fin. The dorsal fin is brilliantly colored with shades of pink, green and purple.
Angling record: 1998; 1 lb. 12 oz.; L: 17-1/4 in.; G: 8-¾ 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.

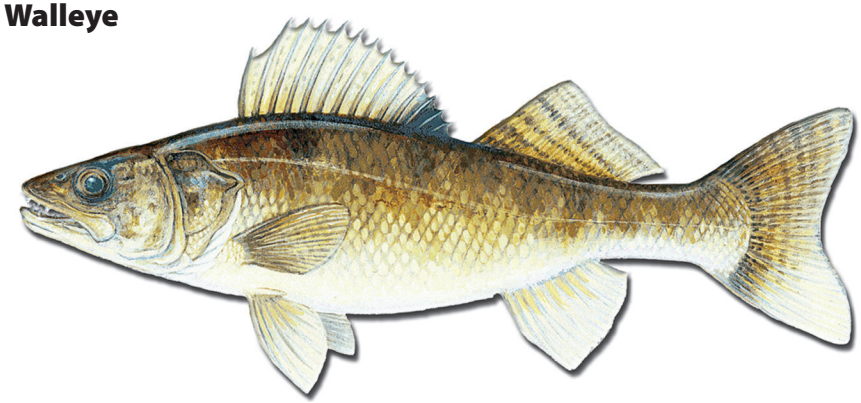
Brown trout



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

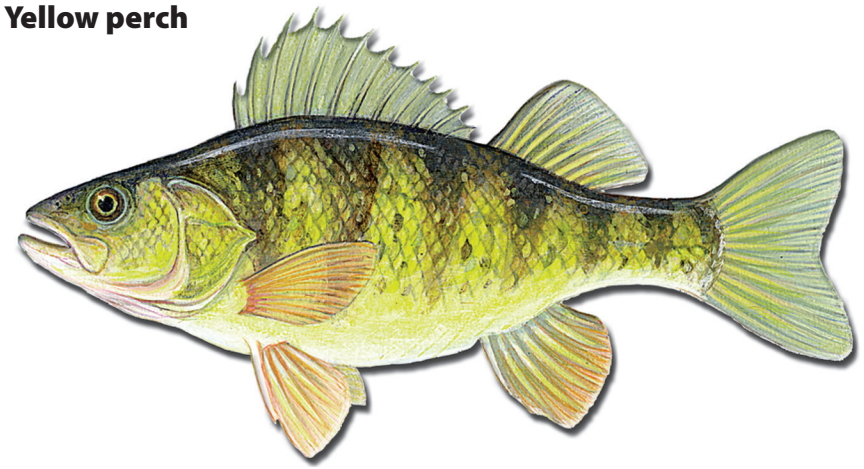
Walleye



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: 31-¾ in.; G: 20-¾ 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.

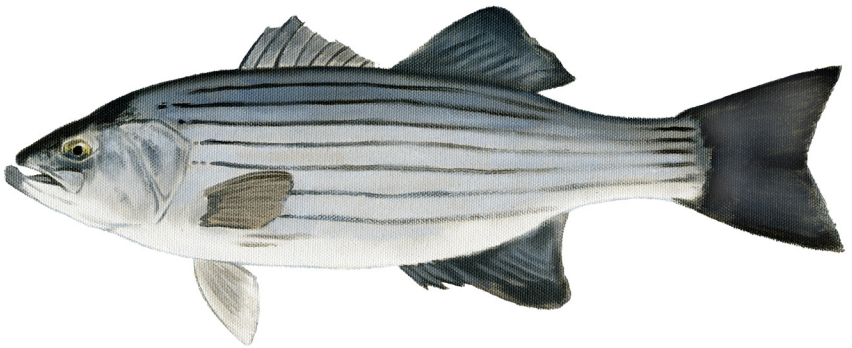
Utah Fishing • 2012

Yellow perch



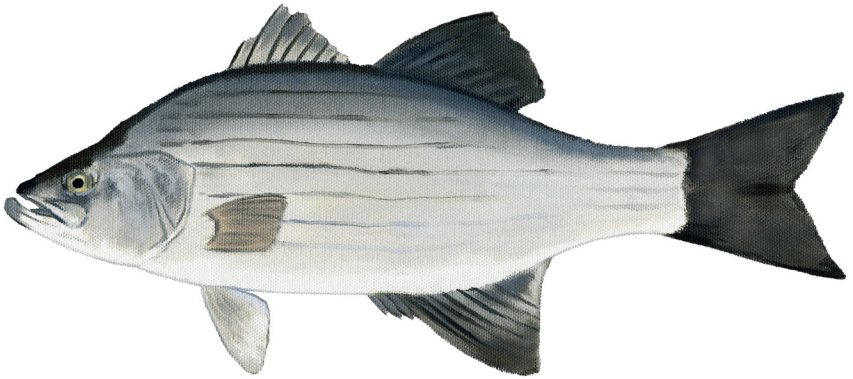
Yellow perch are yellowish with dark vertical bars. The caudal fin is forked, and the dorsal fin is divided.
Angling record: 1984; 2 lbs. 11 oz.; L: 15-1/8 in.; G: 9-3/4 in.; Ray Johnson; Yuba Reservoir.
Catch-and-release record: 2000; L: 15-1/4 in.; Brad Cutler; Yuba Reservoir.
Spearfishing record: 2011; 1 lb. 2 oz.; L: 11-3/8 in.; G: 9-3/4 in.; Stephen Phair; Starvation Reservoir.

Striped bass



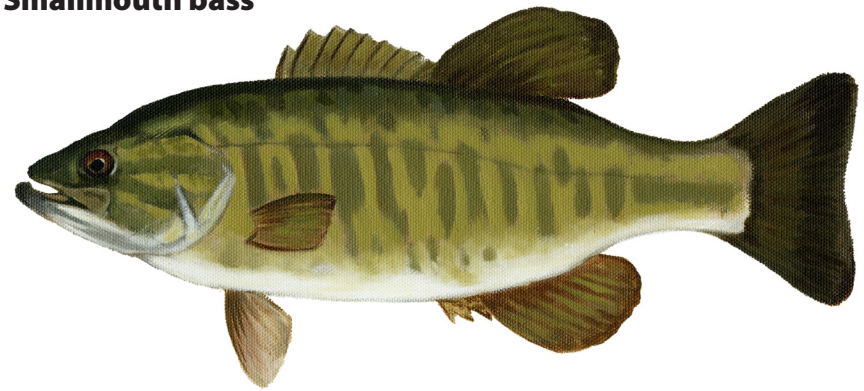
Striped bass coloration ranges from bluish-black to either dark grey or olive-green above. Their sides are silvery and their bellies white. Striped bass have seven to nine unbroken stripes along each side. The body is somewhat streamlined. The mouth is oblique, and the lower jaw longer than the upper.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



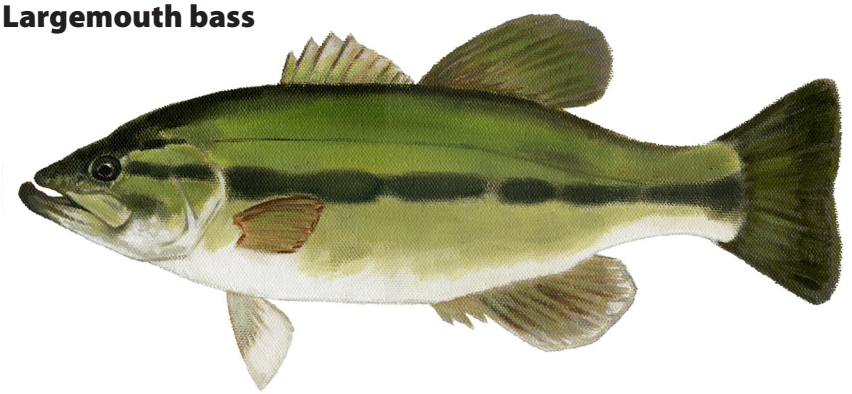
The back of a white bass is usually grey, charcoal or green. It typically has silvery sides and a white belly. It also has five to seven longitudinal stripes on each side. The body of a white bass is deeper and less streamlined than that of the striped bass.
Angling record: 1970; 4 lbs. 1 oz.; John R. Welcker; Utah Lake.
Catch-and-release record: 2005; L: 19 in.; Clint Lance; Salem Pond.

Smallmouth bass



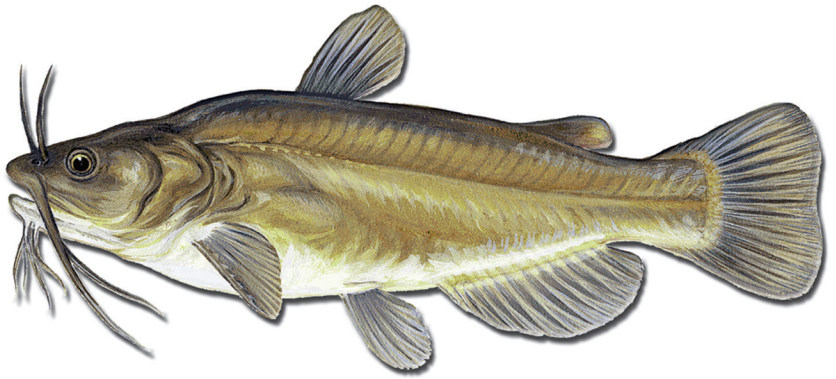
The snout is long and bluntly pointed, with the lower jaw slightly longer than the upper jaw. Smallmouth bass vary in color, depending on their habitat, but are normally dark olive/brown on the back. Their sides and belly are lighter and yellowish. There are 8 to 15 (average 9) dark vertical bars on 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



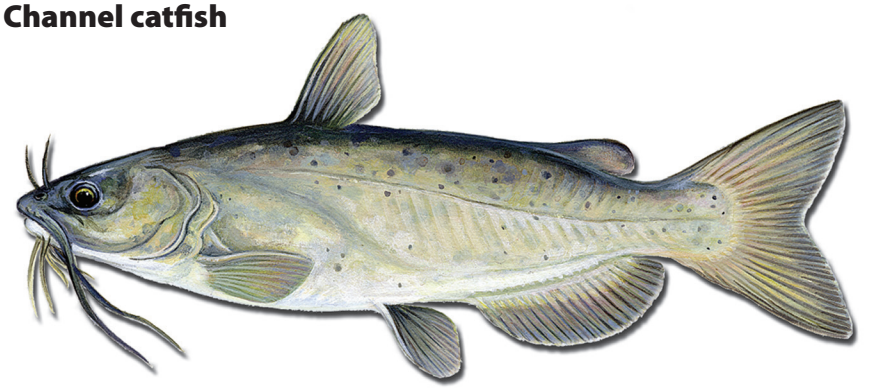
The head of a largemouth bass is large and long. Its mouth is also large, with an upper jaw that reaches past the center of the eye in adults. The upper parts of the body and head are greenish, with a silvery or brassy shine. The belly is white to yellow, and there is an irregular dark stripe along the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



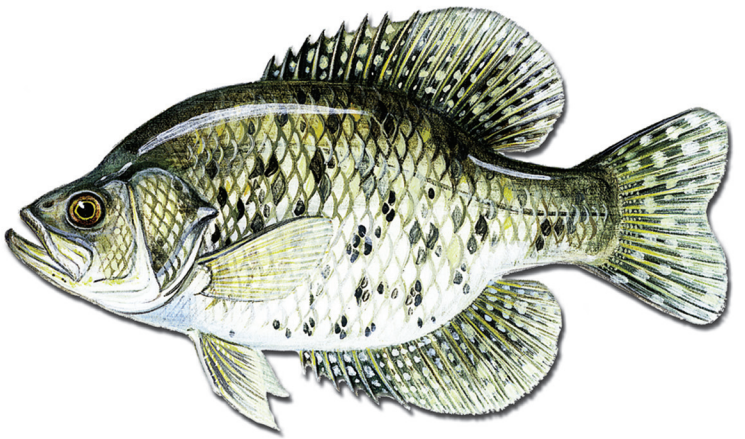
Adults are blackish, dark olive or dark brown on the back. The belly is greenish-white or bright yellow. The tail is not forked.
Angling record: 1999; 3 lbs. 4 oz.; L: 16 in.; G: 13 in.; Jack Gilgen; Cutler Reservoir.
Catch-and-release record: 2009; L: 14 in.; Roman Chase; Pineview Reservoir.
Spearfishing record: 2009; 1 lb. 3 oz.; L: 12-3/8 in.; G: 8-1/4 in.; Russell Sexton; Pineview Reservoir.

Channel catfish



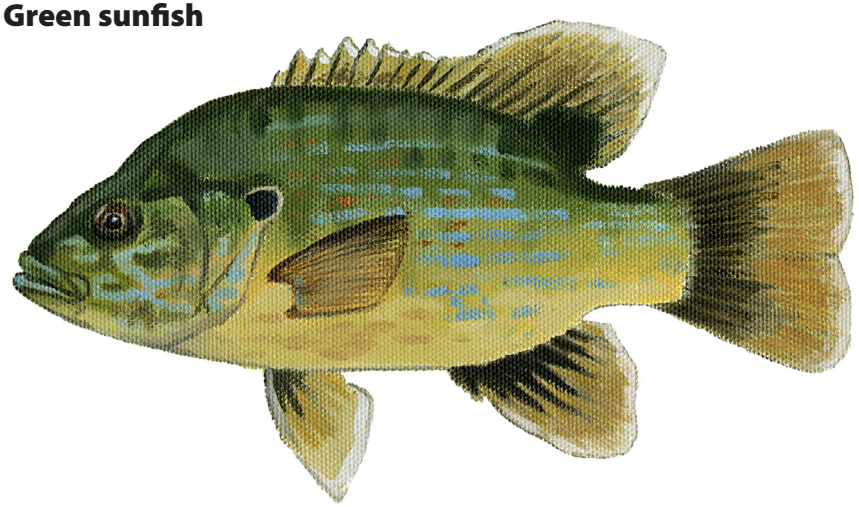
Channel catfish have a long anal fin and deeply forked tail that distinguish them from other catfish. The body is pale bluish-olive above and bluish-white below. They usually have spots but lose them with age. Both the dorsal and pectoral fins have strong, sharp spines. The mouth is short, wide and horizontal with chin and snout barbels.
Angling record: 1978; 32 lbs. 8 oz.; L: 39-¾ in.; G: 22 in.; LeRoy Mortenson; Utah Lake.
Catch-and-release record: 2003; 34 in.; Blair Peterson; Davis Community Pond.
Setline record: 1975; 31 lbs.; L: 39 in.; Dorothy Lorenzen; Utah Lake.

Crappie



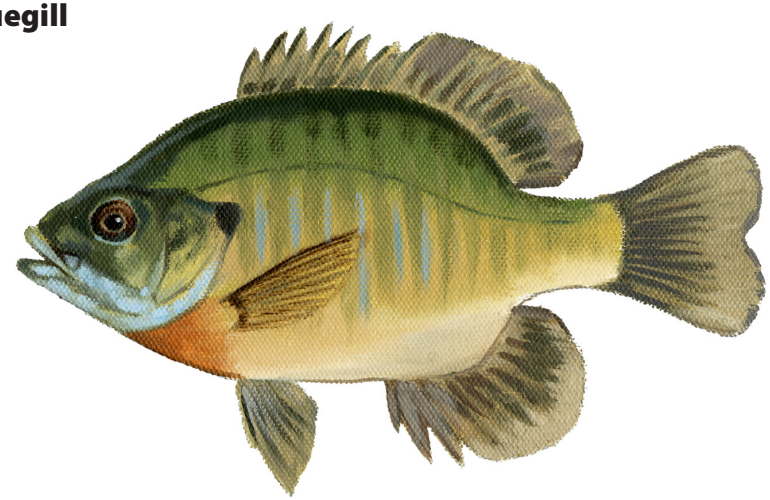
The crappie has two closely-joined dorsal fins. Crappie are silver-olive with numerous black or green splotches on the sides. Vertical bars, prominent in the young, are absent in adults. Their sides are light, iridescent green to silvery. The belly is silvery to white. Pelvic fins are opaque with some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

Green sunfish



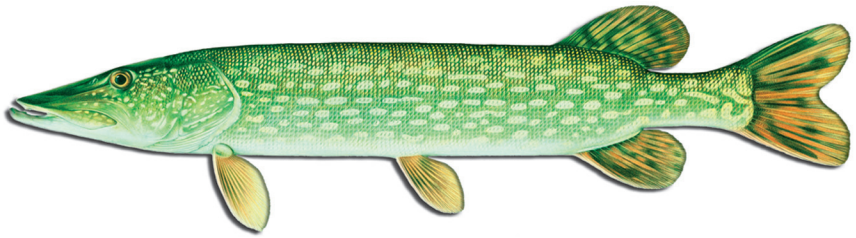
Green sunfish are brassy-green or blue-green on the back, sometimes with metallic-green flecks and dusky bars on the sides. The flap over the gills is a dark color.
Angling record: 2003; 15.5 oz.; L: 10-1/4 in.; G: 10 in.; Sean Buchanan; Glassman Pond.
Catch-and-release record: 2000; L: 10-1/2 in.; Jack 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: 9-¾ in.; G: 10 in.; Tony Arbaney; Steinaker Reservoir.

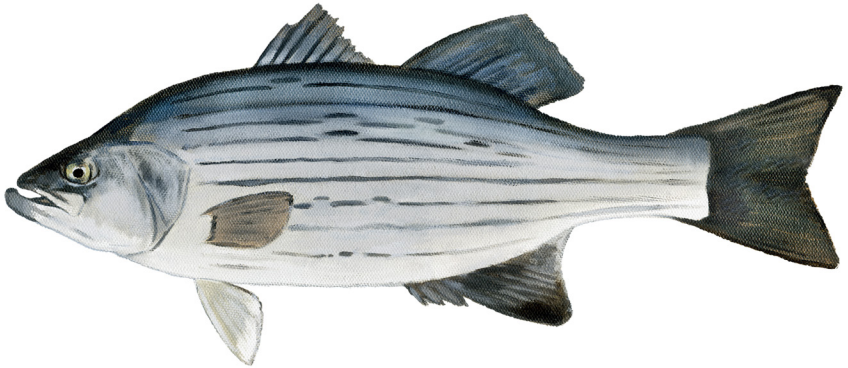
Northern pike



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: 2002; 25 lbs.; L: 43-1/2 in.; G: 19-1/2 in.; Henry Fenning; Yuba Reservoir.
Catch-and-release record: 1998; L: 49-¾ in.; Logan Hacking; Lake Powell.

Hybrid sportfish

Wiper

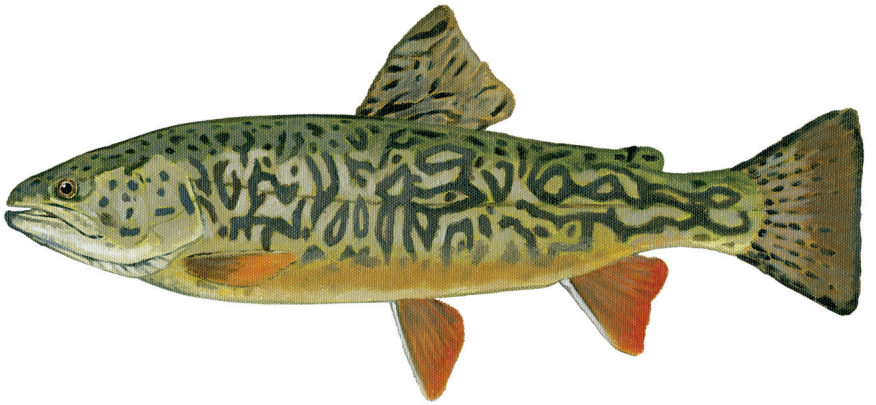


The wiper is a hybrid cross between a female striped bass and a male white bass. Its appearance reflects both parents. It has six to eight dark, horizontal broken stripes over a silver-white background, with a dark charcoal to black back. It has two dorsal fins, the anterior with eight to ten sharp spines. It is slightly heavier bodied than the striped bass and grows up to 12 pounds in weight and 24 inches in length.
Angling record: 2007; 9 lbs. 12 oz.; L: 26-1/8 in.; G: 19-1/4 in.; Rob Valdez; Willard Bay.
Catch-and-release record: 2005; L: 25 in.; Dale P. Tracy; Willard Bay.

Tiger muskellunge

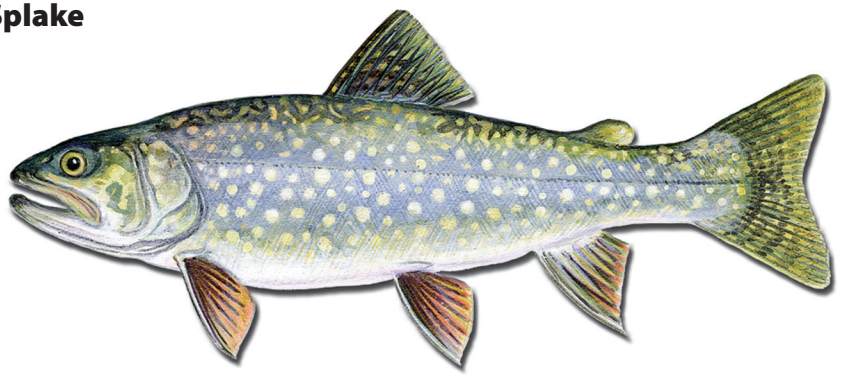
The tiger muskie is a hybrid cross between a muskellunge and northern pike. It features characteristics from both parents. It has a very elongated torpedo-like body. Its most notable features are the grey-green vertical bars along its sides. It can reach lengths of more than 50 inches and weigh more 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: 2010; 19 lbs. 5 oz.; L: 40-1/2 in.; G: 19 in.; Darrin Heinz; 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: 2007; 10 lbs. 12 oz.; L: 29-1/2 in.; G: 17-1/8 in.; Michael David Moon; Palisades Reservoir.
Catch-and-release record: 2009; L: 26 in.; Ryan Hunter; Panguitch Lake.

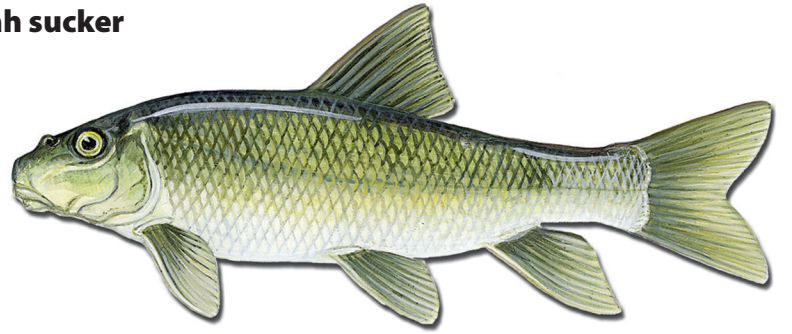
Splake



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: 2005; 13 lbs. 5 oz.; L: 30-¾ in.; G: 20-1/2 in.; Stacy S. Wilden; Fish Lake.

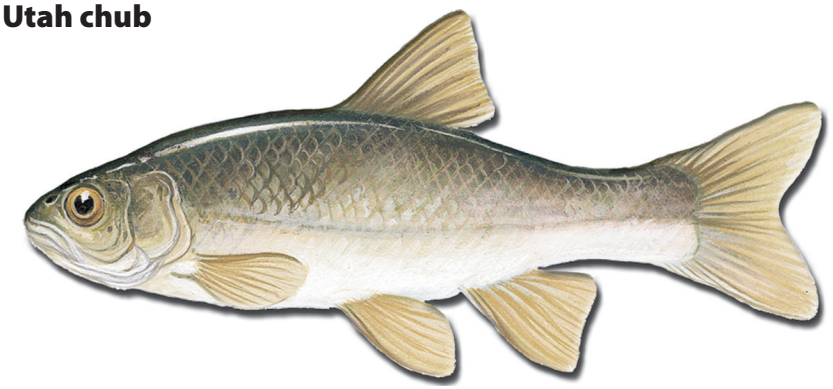
Native nongame fish

Utah sucker



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

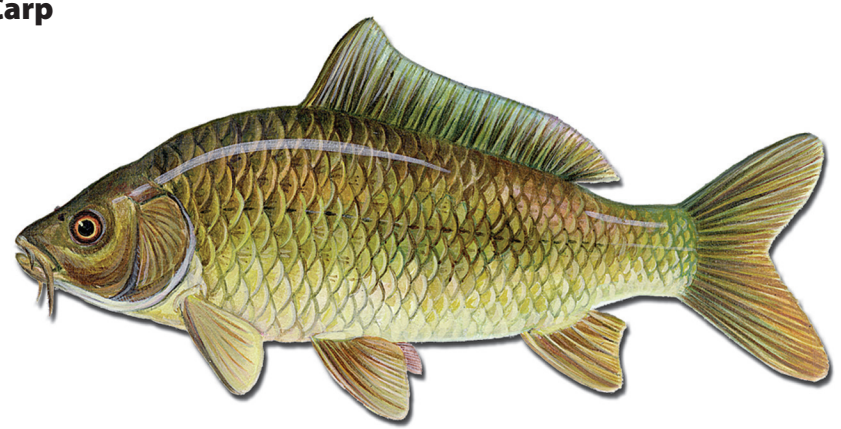
Utah chub



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.

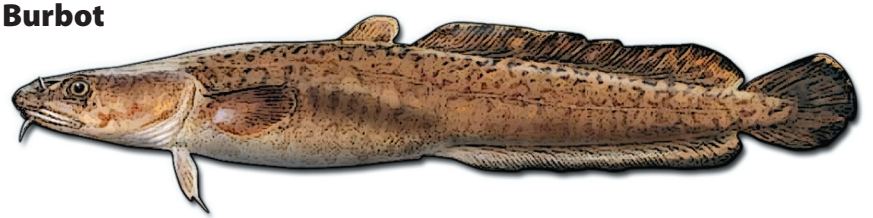
Nonnative nongame fish

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.; Couger Elfervig; Lake Powell.
Catch-and-release record: 2003; L: 35-1/2 in.; Lance Egan; Starvation Reservoir.
Spearfishing record: 2009; 29 lbs. 4 oz.; L: 37 in.; G: 24-1/4 in.; Daylen Lemmon; Starvation Reservoir.
Archery record: 2008; 29 lbs. 2 oz.; L: 40-1/4 in.; G: 23 in.; Zach Pierson; Bountiful Lake.

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 24).

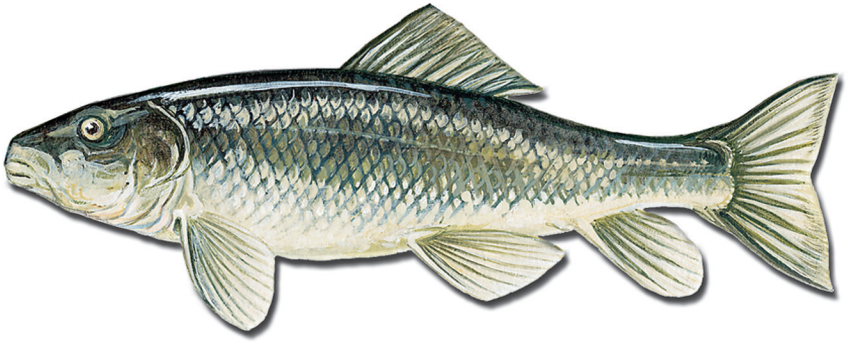
Species not illustrated

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.

Utah Fishing • 2012

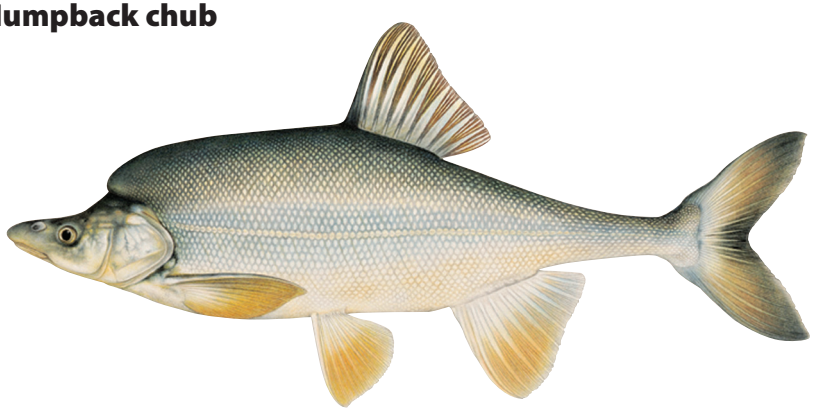
Bonytail

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 exremely narrow. Bonytail can reach lengths of 22 inches and weigh more than two pounds in the wild.

Colorado pikeminnow

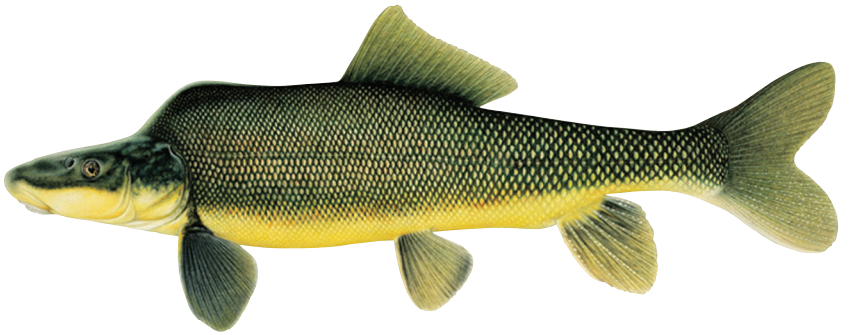
The Colorado pikeminnow is found predominantly in the Green, Colorado and San Juan rivers. The highly predacious pikeminnow has also been found in tributaries to these mainstem rivers, likely in an effort to spawn. The pikeminnow is an endangered species, and efforts are underway to protect the fish 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 species is probably the strangest-looking of the big-river, endangered fish, due to the fatty hump that is thought to keep the fish on the stream bottom and to stabilize it in fast, flowing waters. 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 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.

Utah Fishing • 2012

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.

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

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.

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 on page 14 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, one bag limit, 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.

Utah Fishing • 2012

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.

Snagging or **gaffing** means to take a fish in a manner that the fish does not take the hook voluntarily into 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.