Wildlife Resources

# FISHING

## GUIDEBOOK

## 2027

UTAH'S STATEWIDE FISHING REGULATIONS

& RULES FOR SPECIFIC WATERS

# Know the laws

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 this guidebook—such as ***Utah Administrative Rule R657-13-6*** and ***Utah Code § 23A-5-309***—to search online for the detailed statute or rule that underpins the guidebook summary.

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

## Who makes the rules?

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

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

The DWR 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

Gary Nielson, *Chair*
Paula Richmond, *Vice Chair*
Riley Peck, *Division Director & Executive Secretary*
Bob Christensen
Ryan Foutz
Kent Johnson
Justin Oliver
Chris Robinson

# Contact us

### REPORT WILDLIFE CRIMES

**Phone:** 800-662-3337
**Text:** 847411
**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 84116
801-538-4700

### CENTRAL REGION

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

### NORTHEASTERN REGION

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

### NORTHERN REGION

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

**CONNECT WITH US:**

# How to use this guidebook

1. Daily limits may have changed. Be sure to check the chart on page 9 before you go fishing.
2. Review the general rules, starting on page 10. These rules explain the licenses you need, the fishing methods you may use, and when you can transport and possess fish.
3. Look up a specific water in the section that starts on page 35. (If the water you're looking for is not listed there, it is subject to the general rules and daily limits.)

# Contents


**4** What's new?
**6** Important reminders
**8** License and permit fees
**9** Daily limits
**10** General rules: Licenses and permits
**11** Fishing contests
**12** License exemptions for youth groups and organizations
**12** Help conserve native cutthroat trout
**13** General rules: Fishing methods
**14** Discounted licenses for disabled veterans
**15** How to report new fishing records
**17** Watercraft restrictions
**20** Free Fishing Day
**21** Utah's native game fish: A unique sportfish opportunity
**21** How to measure a fish
**22** Bowfishing
**24** Underwater spearfishing
**27** Utah's boating laws and rules
**28** General rules: Possession and transportation
**32** Utah's Walk-in Access program
**32** Utah Hunting and Fishing app
**32** Keep an eye out for updates
**33** Stop the spread of destructive invasive species
**34** Fish consumption advisories
**35** Rules for specific waters
**39** Community fishing waters
**48** Stream access in Utah
**55** Angler feedback, biological data and you
**56** Protect your favorite fisheries
**57** Report fish and wildlife crimes
**57** Utah State Parks Annual Pass
**59** Identifying Utah's native and non-native fish
**76** Definitions


**On the cover:** Yahya Ibrahim holds a cutthroat trout he caught while fly fishing at Strawberry Reservoir over Memorial Day weekend.

# What's new?

**Free Fishing Day:** Free Fishing Day will be held on **June 5, 2027**. This annual event is a great opportunity to share fishing fun with a friend or family member. For more information, see page 20.

**Changes to daily limits and rules for specific waters:** During the 2026 regulatory update of Utah's fishing rules, daily limits for some species were adjusted (see the table on page 9), and rules specific to many waterbodies statewide have changed. Carefully review the ***Rules for specific waters*** (beginning on page 35) before you head out to your favorite waterbodies this season. These and other changes are noted as "**(NEW)**" throughout the guidebook.

**Baitfish rule and definition changes:** The Utah Wildlife Board approved a revision for the definition of baitfish (formerly called "nongame species"). The following species are considered baitfish: common carp, fathead minnow, redside shiner, Utah sucker, Utah chub and white sucker. Also, the rule removed the following species, which may not be used as baitfish: mountain sucker, longnose dace, speckled dace, mottled sculpin, Paiute sculpin and golden shiner. See page 14 for updated bait rules.

**Updated take methods for baitfish:** Angling, traps, underwater spearfishing, bowfishing, liftnets, dipnets, cast nets, seine or spear may be used to take common carp, fathead minnow and redside shiner in any waterbody in Utah that is open to fishing. These methods may now also be used to take Utah chub, Utah sucker and white sucker in any waterbody in Utah that is open to fishing (exceptions: the Weber River, Utah Lake and Utah Lake tributaries). See page 20 for details.

**Prohibited nuisance fish:** Anglers are encouraged to kill and possess prohibited nuisance fish species (page 19) when caught. Please report these potentially harmful fish species to the DWR. For consistency in the rule, burbot, golden shiner and zander were added to the list of prohibited fish, but burbot do not need to be reported. See page 19 for lists of prohibited fish species.

**Bowfishing and underwater spearfishing:** To clarify the regulations specific to the increasingly popular sports of bowfishing and underwater spearfishing, those rules are now outlined in separate sections following ***General rules: Fishing methods*** in this guidebook. While these take methods are now allowed statewide for baitfish in most waterbodies open to fishing, there are important closures and exceptions you should be aware of if you intend to bowfish (page 22) or underwater spearfish (page 24) for baitfish and some allowed sportfish species.

**Status changes for 14 native fish:** Until recently, the DWR did not promote fishing for over a dozen native fish species due to conservation concerns. To increase conservation protection and angler awareness, 14 native fish species now have the status of game fish with a daily limit of zero. This means anglers may target them for catch-and-release fishing (no harvest allowed). For a list of these species and other details, see the information box on page 21.

**Roundtail limit reduced:** To conserve populations of roundtail chub, a game fish species native to the Colorado River drainage, the statewide limit has been reduced to zero.

**White sturgeon at Hobbs Reservoir:** Last year, the board approved the introduction of white sturgeon at Hobbs Reservoir. The daily limit for white sturgeon is zero. Special regulations apply at Hobbs Reservoir, see page 43 for details.

**Largemouth bass limit reduced at some community ponds:** In order to reduce largemouth bass harvest at some heavily fished waterbodies along the Wasatch Front, the limit for largemouth bass at seven community ponds is now zero. Anglers are encouraged to release any largemouth bass caught at community ponds statewide. See page 39 for a list of Utah's community fisheries and the daily limits and rules specific to these popular waterbodies.

**Updated boater requirements for 2027:** Before launching your motorized vessel or sailboat, make sure you are familiar with the rules and requirements of boating in Utah, which are strictly enforced. Beginning Jan. 1, the annual Boater Safety & AIS Course (formerly called the Mussel-aware Boater course) includes boater safety education in partnership with the Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation. Boaters will complete one course, with no additional separate test. See page 33 or visit **STDofTheSea.utah.gov** for details.

**AIS removal equipment at more Utah waterbodies:** The DWR has installed dip tanks at select waterbodies statewide. Find a dip tank or decontamination station near you at **STDoftheSea.utah.gov/ais/stations**.

**Fish consumption advisories:** Enjoy your catch with confidence. Before you keep and cook your catch, visit **fishadvisories.utah.gov** for the latest advisories for your fishing spot. See page 34 for details.

**Harmful algal blooms:** In recent years, Utah has experienced recurring toxic algal blooms. Visit **HABs.utah.gov** to see if the waterbody you are visiting has a known algal bloom and to learn how to recognize harmful algae. For more information, see page 34.

**Regulation changes for 2029-2030:** This guidebook outlines rules and regulations approved for a two-year regulatory cycle (2027-2028), and the next two-year cycle will begin in 2029. Your suggestions can help shape final recommendations for the fishing guidebooks, and can assist biologists in identifying issues that need more scrutiny and discussion. See page 55 of this guidebook to learn more about how public input and scientific data informs management decisions, and how you can get involved.

Find a local license agent at **wildlife.utah.gov/licenses/locator**

# Important reminders

**Possible emergency changes:** Even with proactive measures, the division may need to make emergency fishing changes at some of the state's waterbodies due to drought, construction, dam repairs, fish removals or other factors. Stay up to date on these changes by visiting **wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks** and then selecting "View guidebook updates" next to the current-year ***Utah Fishing Guidebook***.

**Utah Cutthroat Slam:** The Utah Cutthroat Slam has raised more than $150,000 for native trout conservation in Utah since its launch in 2016. See the information box on page 12 or visit **utahcutthroatslam.org** for details about the slam and how you can participate.

**Flaming Gorge Reservoir regulations:** Flaming Gorge anglers should carefully review ***Fishing across state lines and reciprocal fishing permits*** on page 10 and ***Rules for specific waters*** (page 35) for details. For spearfishing at Flaming Gorge, see page 25.

**Download guidebooks and more to your DWR mobile app:** You can download Utah's hunting and fishing guidebooks using your Utah Hunting and Fishing mobile app. The app makes it easy to read, search and navigate this guidebook and others. You can keep your fishing or combo license and any DWR course completion certificates on the app, too. Learn more about the app and download it at **wildlife.utah.gov/mobileapp**.

**Utah Fishing Guidebook available in Spanish:** A digital edition of this guidebook is available in Spanish at **wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks** and in the Utah Hunting and Fishing app.

**Fish throughout the year:** Utah has a year-round fishing season for most waterbodies. It runs from Jan. 1–Dec. 31, 2027.

**Statewide kokanee salmon closure in the fall:** Anglers may **not** possess kokanee salmon at any waterbody statewide from Sept. 10 through Nov. 30 to protect kokanee during the spawning season. See all of the statewide limits in the table on page 9.

**Report transport of live fish:** Text 847411 from your mobile device, call the DWR hotline at 800-662-3337 or use the UTDWR law enforcement app to report wildlife-related crimes. For details about these and other options, visit **wildlife.utah.gov/utip**.

**Fishing outfitters and guides:** Guides and outfitters in Utah are regulated by the DWR (instead of the Department of Professional Licensing) as approved by the Utah Legislature in 2025. If you are a fishing guide or outfitter, visit **wildlife.utah.gov/guides** for application, registration and other operational requirements.

**License purchase options:** Fishing and combination licenses are available at **wildlife.utah.gov** and from license agents and division offices. You can also call your local DWR office to purchase a license by phone.

**Fishing contests and tournaments:** If you would like to hold a fishing contest or tournament, you must apply to do so through the DWR. To apply, please visit **dwrapps.utah.gov/fishingtournament.** To learn more about fishing contests in Utah, see page 12.

**View and submit Utah fishing records:** View all of Utah's fishing records online—or submit a new record—at **wildlife.utah.gov/fishing/records**. Remember, there are specific requirements for measuring and/or weighing your fish that must be met. See page 15 for details.

**Use bait to catch crayfish:** Remember that you may use bait to catch crayfish in waters where bait use is prohibited for fish, as long as none of your lines have hooks attached. See page 14 for details.

**Credit card processing fee:** In order to cover our increasing costs for systems and electronic payment processing, the DWR charges a 2.2% processing fee on all in-person and online credit and debit card transactions.

**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 DWR's guidebooks and proclamations.

**Protection from discrimination:** The DWR 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 facility, program, or activity, or if you need more information, please write to:

Office of Civil Rights
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

**Private lands:** The DWR cannot guarantee access to any private land. Under certain circumstances, you must obtain documented permission from the landowner or the landowner's authorized representative before accessing private lands. For more information, see ***Trespassing*** page 17.

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

**AI content:** Some fish identification descriptions in this guidebook were summarized using the assistance of artificial intelligence tools.

# License and permit fees

Your purchases of hunting and fishing licenses and permits help fund wildlife conservation efforts throughout the state. Thank you for choosing to hunt, trap and fish here in Utah.

## License fees

For a complete list of license and permit fees, visit **wildlife.utah.gov/fees**. A 2.2% transaction fee applies to all online and in-person credit/debit card transactions.

| LICENSE TYPE | AGE | RESIDENT | NONRESIDENT |
|---|---|---|---|
| 365-day fishing license | 11 or younger | not required | not required |
| | 12-13 | $5 | $18 |
| | 14–17 | $16 | $44 |
| | 18–64 | $40 | $120 |
| | 65+ | $31 | $120 |
| 365-day fishing license for disabled veterans (see the box on page 14) | n/a | $12 | n/a |
| 3-day fishing license | all ages | $19 | $44 |
| 7-day fishing license | all ages | $30 | $91 |
| Multi-year fishing license (up to five years) | 18-64 | $39 / year | $119 / year |
| 365-day combination* license | 14-17 | $20 | $58 |
| | 18-64 | $44 | $190 |
| | 65+ | $35 | $190 |
| 365-day combination* license for disabled veterans (see the box on page 14) | n/a | $28.50 | n/a |
| Multi-year combination* license (up to five years) | 18-64 | $43 / year | $189 / year |

** A combination license allows you to fish, hunt small game and apply for hunting permits.*

## Reciprocal fishing permits

| | |
|---|---|
| Wyoming residents: 365-day Flaming Gorge, Utah reciprocal permit** | $59 |

*** See page 11 for details.*

## Other fishing permits

| | |
|---|---|
| Resident setline permit*** | $22 |
| Nonresident setline permit*** | $48 |

**** Must also have a valid fishing license. Learn more about setline permits on page 16.*

# Daily limits

The limits listed below apply to most Utah fisheries, but on some waters, specific bag or size restrictions apply. Please see the ***Rules for specific waters*** section beginning on page 35 for any exceptions.

| SPECIES | DAILY LIMIT |
|---|---|
| **(NEW) Baitfish –** Formerly called "nongame species;" baitfish species are listed on page 20. | No limit |
| **Black crappie** and **white crappie** (a combined total) | 50 |
| **Bluegill** and **green sunfish** (a combined total) | 50 |
| **Bonneville cisco** | 30 |
| **Bullhead** | 24 |
| **Burbot – REMINDER:** Do not release any burbot you catch. All burbot caught must be immediately killed. | No limit |
| **Channel catfish** | 8 |
| **Community fisheries –** The limit includes fish of most species. All tiger muskellunge must be released. **NEW:** There are restrictions for largemouth bass at some waters. See page 39. | 2 |
| **Crayfish – REMINDER:** You may use bait to catch crayfish on waters where bait use is prohibited for fish, as long as none of the lines have hooks attached. See page 16 for details. | No limit |
| **Kokanee salmon* — REMINDER:** Kokanee salmon are part of the total trout limit. | See trout limit |
| **Largemouth** and **smallmouth bass** (a combined total) | 6 |
| **Northern pike** | 20, only 1 over 36 inches |
| **(NEW) Native game fish –** For a list of these catch-and-release-only species, see the information box on page 21. | 0 |
| **Sacramento perch** | 10 |
| **Striped bass** | No limit |
| **Tiger muskellunge** | 1 over 40 inches |
| **Trout, kokanee salmon*** and **Arctic grayling** (a combined total). | 4 |
| **Walleye** | 10, only 1 over 24 inches |
| **Whitefish** | 10 |
| **White bass** | No limit |
| **Wiper** | 3 |
| **Yellow perch** | 50 |

** Anglers may not possess kokanee salmon at any waterbody statewide from Sept. 10 through Nov. 30.*

# General rules: Licenses and permits

*Utah Code §§ 23A-4-201 and 23A-5-309*

Obtaining a fishing license is the first step to fishing in Utah. The type of license you should purchase depends on many variables: how old you are, how often you want to fish, where you want to fish and whether you're a Utah resident. (To determine if you are a resident, see the definition on page 78.) This section provides information about the different licenses and permits that are available.

## Under 12 years of age

*Utah Code § 23A-4-601 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, use two poles, use a setline and take a full daily limit.

## 12 years of age and older

*Utah Code § 23A-4-601 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 a variety of licenses, which are listed on page 8.

Fishing and combination licenses are available at **wildlife.utah.gov** and from license agents and DWR offices. You can also call your local DWR office to purchase your license by phone. **REMINDER:** When you buy a combination license or a multi-year license, you also get a price break compared to buying your hunting and fishing licenses separately.

**NOTE:** There are restrictions on fishing and hunting license purchasers for non-payment of child support. For additional information—or to arrange a payment schedule—please contact the Office of Recovery Services at 801-536-8500.

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

Keep in mind that you can use the Utah Hunting and Fishing app to legally carry fishing licenses on a phone or tablet for all the members of your family. To download the app, visit **wildlife.utah.gov/mobileapp**.

## Fishing across state lines and reciprocal permits

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-5*

Utah shares Bear Lake, Lake Powell and Flaming Gorge Reservoir with neighboring states. To simplify the process of fishing across state lines, Utah has entered into the following agreements with Idaho, Arizona and Wyoming:

### Bear Lake

If you have a valid Utah or Idaho fishing or combination license—whether you are a resident or nonresident—you may fish both the Utah and Idaho portions of the lake, as long as you follow the angling regulations that apply to the state where you are fishing.

It is your responsibility to know and follow each state's laws and rules for Bear Lake.

**REMINDER:** Even if you are licensed in both states, you may only take one daily limit each day.

## Lake Powell

If you have a valid Utah or Arizona fishing or combination license—whether you are a resident or nonresident—you may fish both the Utah and Arizona portions of the lake, as long as you follow the angling regulations that apply to the state where you are fishing.

It is your responsibility to know and follow each state's laws and rules for Lake Powell.

**REMINDER:** Even if you are licensed in both states, you may only take one daily limit each day.

## Flaming Gorge Reservoir

**Utah and Wyoming resident anglers**: To fish across state lines at Flaming Gorge Reservoir, residents of Utah or Wyoming must have a valid resident fishing license from their state of residence and a reciprocal fishing permit from the other state.

For example, if you buy a Utah resident 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 nonresident fishing license.

**Wyoming residents:** Utah reciprocal fishing permits are available at **wildlife.utah.gov** and from authorized license agents and DWR offices.

**Nonresident anglers:** If you are **not** a resident of either Utah or Wyoming—and you want to fish all of Flaming Gorge Reservoir—you must purchase nonresident fishing licenses from **both states**.

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 or visit **wgfd.wyo.gov**.

**REMINDER:** Even if you are licensed in both states, you may only take one daily limit.

### Fishing the Wyoming side of Flaming Gorge

It is your responsibility to know and follow each state's laws and rules for Flaming Gorge Reservoir, and some of those have changed in recent years. Visit **wgfd.wyo.gov/fishing-boating** or scan the QR code for Wyoming's regulations.

## Fishing contests

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-58*

Fishing contests and tournaments must be approved in advance by the DWR. To apply, please visit **dwrapps.utah.gov/fishingtournament.**

To see fishing contest rules, please review ***Utah Admin. Rule R657-58*** at **wildlife.utah.gov/rules**, visit **wildlife.utah.gov/fishingcontests** or contact the nearest DWR office.

If you plan to hold a fishing contest at a state park or federally-administered waterbody, you should also check with the appropriate land management agency to see if there are any additional rules that apply to the area.

# Licenses for residents with special needs

*Utah Code § 23A-4-305 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-12-3*

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 **wildlife.utah.gov/accessibility** or contact your nearest DWR office.

## License exemptions for youth groups and organizations

Are you a scout leader or a mentor for a youth group? Many groups can hold fishing events that don't require a fishing license for participants age 15 and younger. To determine if you are eligible and to complete the license-exemption form, visit **wildlife.utah.gov/youth-org**.

## Help conserve native cutthroat trout

### Utah Cutthroat Slam

The Utah Cutthroat Slam offers an exciting challenge for conservation-minded anglers. You must catch Utah's four native cutthroat trout subspecies—in their native waters—and provide visual proof of your success.

After you successfully complete the slam, you can choose which of the four species-specific medallions you want to receive to commemorate your achievement. You'll also receive a slam-completion certificate and online recognition at **utahcutthroatslam.org**. Many anglers have completed the slam multiple times!

Your slam participation fee—only $20 for adults and $10 for youth under 18—helps fund cutthroat trout conservation projects in Utah.

The Utah Cutthroat Slam is a partnership between the DWR and Trout Unlimited, and it has successfully raised more than $150,000 for native cutthroat trout conservation since its launch in 2016.

To see a complete list of program requirements, visit **utahcutthroatslam.org**.

### Western Native Trout Initiative

Looking for a fishing challenge while you travel the Western U.S.? Catch at least 6 (and up to 18) native trout and char in 12 participating states through the Western Native Trout Challenge.

See **westernnativetroutchallenge.org** for details and to register for this at-your-own-pace fishing adventure.

# General rules: Fishing methods

*Utah Code § 23A-5-309*

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 the exceptions to these rules in ***Rules for specific waters*** (page 35), ***Bowfishing*** (page 22) and ***Underwater spearfishing*** (page 24) sections.

## Taking game fish

You may take game fish using only the following methods:

### Angling

*Utah Admin. Rules R657-13-6, R657-13-7 and R657-13-11*

If you are under age 12 or have a valid Utah 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 daily limit of fish. Using a second pole does **not** allow you to keep two daily limits of fish. You may use additional lines or hooks when you are:

- Fishing for crayfish. Please see page 18 of this guide for more information about fishing for crayfish.
- Using a setline. See page 16 to learn more about fishing with a setline.
- Ice fishing at Flaming Gorge, Porcupine and Causey reservoirs and Pelican Lake. Please see ***Rules for specific waters*** beginning on page 35 for more information about each of these waterbodies.

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 16 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 three baited hooks, three artificial flies or three artificial lures. (This rule also applies to those who are fishing for crayfish.) This does not apply to setlines; please see page 16 of this guide for more information about fishing with a setline.
- The use of artificial light is allowed when angling statewide. (**IMPORTANT:** See page 22 for ***Bowfishing rules*** and page 24 for ***Underwater spearfishing rules*** regarding artificial light.)
- 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, visit the ***Rules for specific waters*** section that begins on page 35.

Angling is permitted from motorized and nonmotorized watercraft on any water where such use is authorized. There are some waters, however, where you cannot fish from a float tube or a boat (see page 17 for more information).

Keep in mind that other agencies may have placed additional restrictions on the use motorized and nonmotorized watercraft at certain Utah waters.

### Discounted licenses for disabled veterans

The DWR offers discounted fishing licenses to Utah veterans who were disabled in the line of duty.

The discounted license is $12—instead of the $40 full price—and the license is good for 365 days from the day you buy it. Discounted licenses are available online or from all division offices listed on page 2.

To purchase a discounted license, you must be a Utah resident and have a qualifying service-connected disability of at least 20 percent.

To apply for a license online, please visit **wildlife.utah.gov/accessibility/veteran** and complete the online form. If you need assistance, please call the nearest division office.

If you choose to visit a DWR office to purchase your license, simply bring the verification of service-connected disability documentation that the Department of Veterans Affairs issued to you.

You can find additional resources for hunters and anglers with disabilities at **wildlife.utah.gov/accessibility**.

## Bait

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-12*

You may legally use or possess corn while fishing anywhere in Utah where bait is permitted.

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 bait—**without hooks**—to catch crayfish in waters where fishing with bait is prohibited. You may **not**, however, catch fish using bait in waters where bait is prohibited.
- While you are fishing, it is unlawful to:
- Use or possess live fish for bait.
- Use or possess tiger salamanders (live or dead).
- Use or possess any bait—including PowerBait or scented jigs—where prohibited.
- Use or possess artificial baits that are commercially imbedded or covered with fish or fish parts.

You may **not** 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 Big Sand Wash, **(NEW)** Brough, Deer Creek, Echo, Fish Lake, Gunnison, Hyrum, Johnson, Jordanelle, Mantua, Mill Meadow, Newton, Pineview, Red Fleet, 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 burbot and lake trout from Flaming Gorge may be used as bait only in Flaming Gorge.

- 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 striped bass from Lake Powell may be used as bait or chum only in Lake Powell.
- Dead, fresh or frozen saltwater species, including sardines and anchovies, may be used as bait in any water where bait is permitted.
- Dead white sucker, Utah sucker, redside shiner, fathead minnow (all color variants, including rosy red minnows), Utah chub and common carp may be used as bait anywhere bait is permitted.
- The eggs of any species of fish caught in Utah, except prohibited fish, may be used where bait is permitted. You may not, however, take or use eggs from fish that are being released.

**(NEW)** The following native species may **not** be used as baitfish: mountain sucker, longnose dace, speckled dace, mottled sculpin, Paiute sculpin and golden shiner.

### Commercially prepared and manufactured bait

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-12*

You may use commercially prepared and chemically treated fish 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 where bait is prohibited.

Both PowerBait and scented lures are considered to be bait, and they may not be used where bait is prohibited.

### Restrictions on bait from AIS-infested waters

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-12*

If the Utah Wildlife Board has declared that a water is infested with an aquatic invasive species (e.g., quagga or zebra mussels)—or the water is subject to a closure order or control plan—you may not transport dead fish of any species, including baitfish, from that water to use in any other water. To determine whether a water is infested, visit **wildlife.utah.gov/mussels**.

### How to report new fishing records

You can see the current list of fishing records—or download the forms you need to submit a new record—by visiting **wildlife.utah.gov/fishing/records**.

**IMPORTANT:** In order to officially certify a fish record, there are specific requirements for photographing and accurately measuring and/or weighing a fish, depending on whether you are submitting a catch-and-keep or catch-and-release record. Visit **wildlife.utah.gov/fishing/records** to know what important information you'll need to document when you reel in a record-breaking catch.

The list of Utah fishing records is extensive and changes multiple times each year. To ensure accuracy, that list is now available online only.

## Restrictions on taking fish

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-11*

You may not obstruct a waterway or use any chemical, explosive, electricity, poison, firearm or pellet gun to take fish. Check ***Taking baitfish*** (page 20), ***Bowfishing*** (page 22) and ***Underwater spearfishing*** (page 24) for exceptions.

You may not take or land a fish by gaffing, and you may not have a gaff in your possession while fishing. The only exceptions are at Lake Powell (where you may use a gaff to land striped bass). A snagged fish may not be taken and must be released immediately. The only exceptions are Bear Lake (where you may snag Bonneville cisco) and any waterbody where there is a catch-and-kill regulation for the fish you snag.

Chumming is prohibited on all waters except Lake Powell and Flaming Gorge. Please see ***Rules for specific waters*** beginning on page 35 for more information about each of these waters.

## 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 at **wildlife.utah.gov** and from license agents and DWR offices (a 365-day permit is $22 for residents and $48 for nonresidents).

If you are 12 or older, you must also have an unexpired three-day, seven-day, 365-day or multi-year Utah fishing or combination license in order to use 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); **(NEW)** Lake Powell, Little Bear River below Valley View Highway (SR-30); Malad River; Utah Lake; and Yuba Reservoir. These are the **only** waters where use of a setline is allowed.

The following rules apply to setline fishing:

- You may not fish with more than one setline.
- A setline may not contain more than 8 hooks.
- Setlines may not be mechanically retrieved.
- Setlines must be tended at least once every 48 hours.
- Only anglers possessing a setline permit may tend their setline.
- One end of your setline must be attached to a non-moving object that is not attached to a fishing pole.
- Your setline must be permanently marked with the angler's setline permit number.
- While fishing with a setline, you can also fish with up to two fishing poles.

### 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 learn more about boating in Utah and view a list of watercraft restrictions at **recreation.utah.gov/boating/**.

## 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 35 for more information.

You may also use a handheld dipnet to take crayfish and baitfish (common carp, fathead minnow, redside shiner, Utah chub, Utah sucker and white sucker) in any waterbody open to take of these species.

## Closed areas

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-19*

All of the state's fish hatcheries are closed to fishing, including the warmwater fish hatchery at the Lee Kay Public Shooting Range.

All of the state's waterfowl management areas are closed to fishing, unless they're posted open to fishing or they're listed as open to fishing in ***Rules for specific waters*** beginning on page 35.

All national wildlife refuges within Utah are also closed to fishing, unless declared open by the managing authority.

## Trespassing

*Utah Code §§ 23A-5-317 and 23A-5-310*

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

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

In addition, you may not:

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

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

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

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

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

You may not post private property you do not own or legally control or land that is open to the public as provided by ***Utah Code § 23A-6-402***. In addition, it is unlawful to take protected wildlife or its parts while trespassing in violation of ***Utah Code § 23A-5-317***.

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

### 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*

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

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

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

You may not obstruct a waterway or use any chemical, explosive, electricity, poison, firearm, pellet gun or archery equipment to take crayfish.

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 two of those lines can have hooks attached. (See the ***Angling*** section on page 11 for details.) On the lines without hooks, simply tie your bait to the line so the crayfish can grasp the bait with its claw.

- **REMINDER:** You may use bait—**without hooks**—to catch crayfish in waters where fishing with bait is prohibited. (You may **not**, however, catch fish using bait in waters where bait is prohibited.)
- You may not transport live crayfish away from the body of water where you captured them.

For additional information about catching and preparing crayfish, visit **wildlife.utah.gov/crayfishing**.

# Prohibited fish

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-13*

The following is a list of threatened or endangered native species (see pages 74-75 for illustrations). If you catch any of these fish, you must release them (alive) immediately:

- Bonytail
- Colorado pikeminnow
- Humpback chub
- June sucker
- Razorback sucker
- Virgin River chub
- Woundfin

The following is a list of non-native nuisance fish species. If you catch any of these fish, do not release them back into the water. Please keep the fish (dead) and—with the exception of burbot at Flaming Gorge—report your catch to a local DWR official (page 2):

- Alewife
- Asian swamp eel
- Bighead carp
- Black carp
- Bowfin
- Brook stickleback
- Burbot
- Convict cichlid
- Eurasian ruffe
- Flathead catfish
- Gar
- Grass carp (diploid)
- Golden shiner **(NEW)**
- Ide
- Piranhas
- Nile perch
- Northern snakehead
- Red bellied pacu
- Red shiner
- Round goby
- Rudd
- Sand shiner
- Sea lamprey
- Silver carp
- South American parasitic catfish
- Tiger fish
- Tench
- Tilapia
- Walking catfish
- Zander **(NEW)**

### Free Fishing Day

*Utah Code § 23A-4-201 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-3*

The one day you don't need a license to fish in Utah is Saturday, June 5, 2027, 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.

## Taking baitfish

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

**NEW:** The Utah Wildlife Board approved a significant revision of the definition of baitfish (formerly called "nongame species"). The following species are considered baitfish:

- Common carp
- Fathead minnow
- Redside shiner
- Utah sucker
- Utah chub
- White sucker

If you have a valid Utah fishing or combination license, you may take baitfish for personal, noncommercial purposes, as long as you're fishing at a body of water during its open fishing season.

To take baitfish, you may use angling, traps, underwater spearfishing, archery, 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 5-foot radius).
- Baitfish that are legal to take must either be immediately released or killed after you remove them from the water. You may not leave them on the shoreline.
- You may use artificial light while bowfishing or spearfishing for common carp.
- You may take common carp, fathead minnow or redside shiner at any waterbody in Utah during its open fishing season.

Additional rules and some waterbody exceptions may apply for taking baitfish by bowfishing (page 22) and underwater spearfishing (page 24).

**NEW:** You may not take baitfish—**except common carp, redside shiner and fathead minnow**—in the following waters:

- Utah Lake and its tributaries
- Weber River

## 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 7-day period.

## Utah's native game fish: A unique sportfish opportunity

Until recently, the DWR did not promote fishing for over a dozen native fish species due to conservation concerns, and some species have protected status in Utah and other Western states. However, many areas of Utah maintain healthy populations of these fish that can provide angling opportunities without impacting their numbers.

**NEW:** To increase conservation protection and angler awareness, 14 native fish species now have the status of game fish. This means anglers may target them for catch-and-release fishing (no harvest allowed), unless otherwise specified in the ***Rules for specific waters*** beginning on page 35. The reclassified species are:

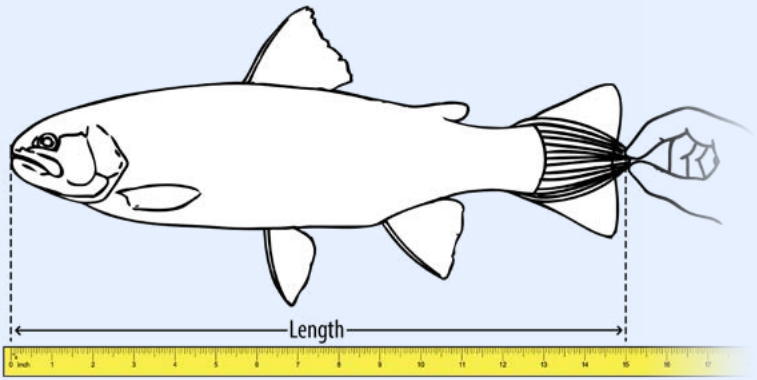
- Bear Lake sculpin
- Bluehead sucker
- Desert sucker
- Flannelmouth sucker
- Green sucker
- Least chub
- Longnose dace
- Mottled sculpin
- Mountain sucker
- Northern leatherside
- Paiute sculpin
- Southern leatherside
- Speckled dace
- Virgin spinedace

**NEW:** To conserve populations of roundtail chub, a fish species native to the Colorado River drainage, the statewide limit has been reduced to zero.

Utah's native game fish can be found in some of the state's most beautiful and remote areas, giving anglers an appreciation both for these seldom-seen fish and the remarkable habitats they occupy.

## How to measure a fish

1. Place the fish on its side with the jaw closed.
2. Squeeze the tail (caudal) 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.



# Bowfishing

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-14*

Using archery tackle to take and retrieve fish—commonly called bowfishing—is allowed for baitfish species in most Utah waters. (See exceptions and closures, below.) When bowfishing, you are subject to all of Utah's fishing rules, regulations, daily limits and licensing requirements. Some sportfish opportunities are available for bowfishers which can be found on page 23.

In addition to the following information, please refer to the statewide ***Daily limits*** table on page 9, and carefully review the ***Rules for specific waters*** section that begins on page 35.

## Using archery tackle

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-14*

### Approved tackle

You may use arrows or bolts discharged from a bow, crossbow or airgun—from above the surface of the water—to take allowable fish species in areas open to bowfishing.

**IMPORTANT:** See ***Definitions*** (page 76) for a description of allowable equipment.

**NEW:** The Utah Wildlife Board clarified that arrows or bolts discharged when bowfishing must have a barbed arrow point, and must be attached to the bow, airgun or crossbow with a retrieval line.

### Spotlighting

In most areas, bowfishing is allowed at night with the use of spotlights. There are a few notable exceptions: The tributaries of Utah Lake (including the Provo River Delta) are closed to bowfishing at night (sunset to sunrise) from May 8 until 6 a.m. on July 10.

### Follow local ordinances

Remember that archery tackle is considered a weapon. Local communities or land management agencies may have ordinances against the discharge of weapons within city limits, managed areas or within 600 feet of a structure. Check with the applicable management authority to make sure you are following all the rules.

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

## Closures and exceptions

The seasons, limits and other restrictions in this section apply only to the following waters listed while bowfishing. Remember, unless otherwise noted, you may only take the following baitfish species by bowfishing:

- Common carp
- Fathead minnow
- Redside shiner
- Utah sucker
- Utah chub
- White sucker

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

- May take striped bass.
- Bowfishing is 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 bowfishing activity has commenced.

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

- **CLOSED** to Utah chub and all suckers.

From Lakeview Parkway Bridge to I-15:

- **CLOSED** to bowfishing at night (sunset to sunrise) from May 8 until 6 a.m. on July 10.
- See the map on page 49 for important boundary information.

**Provo River Delta,** *Utah County*

- **CLOSED** to Utah chub and all suckers.
- **CLOSED** to bowfishing at night (sunset to sunrise) from May 8 until 6 a.m. on July 10.
- See the map on page 49 for important boundary information.

**Redmond Lake,** *Sevier County*

- May take northern pike.

**Starvation Reservoir**, *Duchesne County*

- May take any fish species with a limit of 1 or greater.
- **CLOSED** to bowfishing for walleye over 15 inches, largemouth bass and smallmouth bass from April 1 through 6 a.m. on June 26, 2027 (the fourth Saturday in June).

**Utah Lake,** *Utah County*

- May take northern pike.
- **CLOSED** to Utah chub and all suckers.

**Utah Lake tributaries,** *Utah County*

Including but not limited to tributaries west of I-15: American Fork Creek, Beer Creek, Dry Creek, Hobble Creek, Spanish Fork River, Spring Creek and Spring Run Creek:

- **CLOSED** to Utah chub and all suckers.
- **CLOSED** to bowfishing at night (sunset to sunrise) from May 8 until 6 a.m. on July 10.
- See ***Provo River*** and ***Provo River Delta*** (above) for bowfishing rules specific to those waters.

**Weber River**, *Utah County*

- **CLOSED** to Utah chub and all suckers.

# Underwater spearfishing

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-9*

The challenging sport of underwater spearfishing has become very popular in Utah. When spearfishing, you are subject to all of Utah's fishing rules, regulations, daily limits and licensing requirements. In addition to the following information, refer to the statewide ***Daily limits*** table on page 9, and carefully review ***Rules for specific waters*** beginning on page 35.

## Taking game fish

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-9*

See ***General rules: fishing methods*** beginning on page 13 and ***Definitions*** beginning on page 76 for allowable equipment and methods.

Underwater spearfishing may take place 24 hours a day where allowed.

Free shafting is prohibited.

**IMPORTANT:** It is illegal to use artificial light while underwater spearfishing with the following two exceptions:

- If you're underwater spearfishing for burbot or lake trout at Flaming Gorge.
- If you're underwater spearfishing for baitfish anywhere in the state where spearfishing is allowed.

**NEW ALLOWED SPECIES:** At all waters open to fishing—during their open seasons—you can underwater spearfish for common carp, **(NEW)** fathead minnow, **(NEW)** redside shiner, Utah chub, **(NEW)** Utah sucker and **(NEW)** white sucker, except in areas excluded (see Closures and exceptions).

**REMEMBER:** All possession limits and seasonal closures apply, regardless of the fishing technique you use. This includes the statewide seasonal closure on kokanee salmon from Sept. 10 to Nov. 30.

## Waterbodies open to spearfishing

Only the following waters are open to underwater spearfishing year-round for game species with a daily limit of 1 or more. Unless otherwise noted, you may underwater spearfish to take any legal species within the daily limits, length limits and seasonal closures that apply to each waterbody.

**Big Sand Wash Reservoir**, *Duchesne County*

**Browns Draw Reservoir**, *Duchesne County*

**Causey Reservoir**, *Weber County*

**Electric Lake**, *Emery County*

**Grantsville Reservoir**, *Tooele County*

**Porcupine Reservoir**, *Cache County*

**Uinta Mountains,** *Daggett, Duchesne, Summit and Uintah counties*

- At the following high-elevation lakes: Alexander Lake, Chepeta Lake, China Lake, Fish Lake (Weber River drainage), Hacking Lake, Hoop Lake, Hoover Lake, Moccasin Lake, Papoose Lake, Paradise Park Lake, Sand Lake, Smith and Morehouse Reservoir, Spirit Lake, Upper Stillwater Reservoir, Wall Lake, Whitney Reservoir and Wigwam Lake.

**Willard Bay Reservoir**, *Box Elder County*

**Yuba Reservoir,** *Juab and Sanpete counties*

## Closures and exceptions

Where noted below, waters have a seasonal closure to the possession of certain species from April 1 through 6 a.m. on June 26, 2027 (the fourth Saturday in June) while underwater spearfishing. Other year-round exceptions for underwater spearfishing may take precedence over the general rules and are noted here. When you are spearfishing at these waterbodies, all daily limits and length limits apply.

**Blue Lake**, *Tooele County*

- Pacu and tilapia only.

**Deer Creek Reservoir**, *Wasatch County*

- **SEASONAL CLOSURE**, largemouth and smallmouth bass.

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

- **SEASONAL CLOSURE**, smallmouth bass.

**Echo Reservoir**, *Summit County*

- **SEASONAL CLOSURE**, smallmouth bass.

**Fish Lake**, *Sevier County*

- Underwater spearfishing allowed for all fish species from 6 a.m. on the first Saturday in June until official sunset on Sept. 9.

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

- **SEASONAL CLOSURE**, largemouth and smallmouth bass.
- Underwater spearfishing for burbot and lake trout is allowed year-round, 24 hours per day.
- Artificial light is allowed while spearfishing for burbot and lake trout. Artificial light may not be used to take any other game fish species with spearfishing techniques.
- The length of shooting lines used when spearfishing is restricted to 20 feet.

**Jordan River**, *Salt Lake and Utah counties*

- Northern pike only.

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

- **SEASONAL CLOSURE**, largemouth bass.
- Underwater spearfishing is 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 spearfishing activity has commenced.

**Newcastle Reservoir**, *Iron County*

- Wipers and rainbow trout only.

**Pineview Reservoir**, *Weber County*
- **SEASONAL CLOSURE**, largemouth and smallmouth bass.
- **CLOSED** year-round to the take of tiger muskie.

**Provo River**, *Summit, Utah and Wasatch counties*
- **CLOSED** to spearfishing for all fish species.
- See the map on page 49 for important boundary information.

**Provo River Delta**, *Utah County*
- May take northern pike and white bass.
- **CLOSED** to Utah chub and all suckers.
- **CLOSED** to spearfishing at night (sunset to sunrise) from May 8 until 6 a.m. on July 10.
- See the map on page 49 for important boundary information.

**Quail Creek Reservoir**, *Washington County*
- Smallmouth bass only.

**Recapture Reservoir**, *San Juan County*
- **SEASONAL CLOSURE**, largemouth and smallmouth bass.

**Red Fleet Reservoir**, *Uintah County*
- **SEASONAL CLOSURE**, largemouth and smallmouth bass.

**Redmond Lake**, *Sevier County*
- Northern pike only.

**Rockport Reservoir**, *Summit County*
- **SEASONAL CLOSURE**, smallmouth bass.

**Starvation Reservoir**, *Duchesne County*
- **SEASONAL CLOSURE**, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass and **(NEW)** walleye over 15 inches.

**Steinaker Reservoir**, *Uintah County*
- **SEASONAL CLOSURE**, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass.

**Utah Lake**, *Utah County*
- May take northern pike and white bass.
- **CLOSED** to Utah chub and all suckers.

**Utah Lake tributaries**, *Utah County*

Including but not limited to tributaries west of I-15: American Fork Creek, Beer Creek, Dry Creek, Hobble Creek, Spanish Fork River, Spring Creek and Spring Run Creek:
- May take northern pike and white bass.
- **CLOSED** to Utah chub and all suckers.
- **CLOSED** to underwater spearfishing at night (sunset to sunrise) from May 8 until 6 a.m. on July 10.
- See ***Provo River*** and ***Provo River Delta*** (above) for underwater spearfishing rules specific to those waters.

**Weber River**, *Utah County*
- **CLOSED** to Utah chub and all suckers.

## 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.
- Carry the required boating safety equipment. For a detailed list of safety equipment, visit recreation.utah.gov/boating.
- Be courteous. Keep your boat at least 150 feet away from other boats, people in the water, shoreline anglers, launch ramps, docks and designated swimming areas.

**Diving, snorkeling and underwater spearfishing**

SCUBA divers are required to deploy the **diver flag** from the highest point of their boat, or from a buoy if not diving from a boat.

For safety purposes, it is highly recommended that anyone snorkeling, spearfishing or swimming in deeper waters should deploy a diver flag and use caution to stay within 150 feet of the flag.

Boaters are required to stay 150 feet away from this flag when it is deployed. It also signals to boaters that they should slow down and steer clear of the area to avoid people in the water.

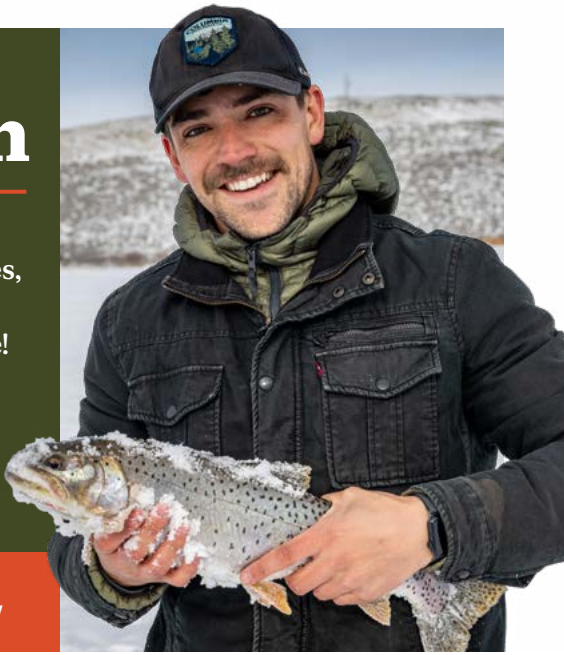
For more information about boating in Utah, visit recreation.utah.gov/boating.


GO FISHING WITH

**Fish Utah**

Use the interactive map to find your favorite species, view waterbody ratings, stocking details and more!

FISH.UTAH.GOV



# General rules: Possession and transportation

*Utah Code § 23A-5-309*

Before you start catching fish or crayfish, it's important to know how many you're allowed to keep, take home or donate to someone else. Be sure to read this section carefully—and then double check the ***Rules for specific waters*** section that begins on page 35—so you don't miss any special regulations that may apply to the waterbody you're fishing.

## Season dates

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-19*

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.

## Daily 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*** beginning on page 35.

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

You may possess a legal daily limit of dead game fish or crayfish as long as you have a valid fishing or combination license. Those who are under 12 years of age may fish without a license and take a full daily limit.

If you fish multiple waters in one day, you cannot have any fish in your possession that violate the rules of the waterbody where you're fishing.

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

- Any trout, salmon or grayling not immediately released is part of your daily limit.
- **NOTE:** Kokanee salmon are considered to be part of the total trout limit. Anglers may not possess kokanee salmon at any waterbody statewide from Sept. 10 through Nov. 30.
- 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.
- Any fish that doesn't meet the size or species rules for the water you're fishing must be returned to the water immediately.

See page 9 for a list of daily limits that apply statewide, except as provided in ***Rules for specific waters*** beginning on page 35.

### Additional limit in the field

You may possess up to two daily limits of fish as you travel within Utah—or if you leave the state—as long as you meet **all** of the following conditions:

- You are on an overnight or multiday fishing trip at any Utah waterbody, excluding Flaming Gorge Reservoir. (**IMPORTANT:** At Flaming Gorge Reservoir, you may have only one daily limit in your possession at any time.)

- At least one of the limits in your possession was caught at a Utah water on a previous day, and the fish were a legal species and limit for the waterbody where you caught them.
- The fish from the previous day have been cleaned and gutted (entrails removed).

If you fish at a different waterbody on the second day of your trip, you may not have any fish in your possession—from either day—that violate the rules of the waterbody where you're currently fishing. You must always comply with the size and species regulations for the waterbody where you're fishing and not have more than two daily limits in your possession.

For example, if you have been fishing at Joes Valley Reservoir, (which has a 4 trout limit, with only 1 fish over 18 inches), you may not stop at Scofield Reservoir (which has more restrictive size regulations) if you have fish from Joes Valley that violate the rules at Scofield.

You may continue to fish while in possession of a full daily limit, but you must immediately release any additional fish you catch.

### Keeping fish at home

Any fish species stored at your permanent residence do not count as part of your limit. Please keep in mind that this does **NOT** allow you to take home multiple daily limits of fish in one day. You may take home only one daily limit per day.

## Dead fish and crayfish

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

The following sections provide important information about when you can possess filleted fish and fish donated by other anglers.

### Possession of filleted fish

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

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

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

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

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

### Possession of fish obtained from other sources

You may possess or transport a legal limit of game fish or crayfish caught by another person if you have a donation letter from that person. Please see ***Donating*** on page 31 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, fish and crayfish may **not** be moved between waters, except as listed in the ***Bait*** section on page 14.

## Live fish and crayfish

*Utah Code § 23A-5-305 and Utah Admin. Rules R657-13-17 and R657-13-19*

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 illegally stocks fish in Utah waters may be criminally prosecuted and could face license suspension and thousands of dollars in fines and restitution.

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 where they were caught.

### Release of tagged or marked fish

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-18*

You may **not** tag, mark or fin-clip a fish and then return it to the water without prior authorization from the DWR.

## Checkpoints and officer contacts

*Utah Code §§ 23A-5-207 and 77-23-104*

The DWR is the trustee and guardian of Utah's fish and wildlife. State conservation officers monitor the taking and possession of fish, check your catch to assess species and size, and make sure you have 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 they ask 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 DWR to collect valuable information about fish populations in Utah.

Keep in mind that you can use the Utah Hunting and Fishing app to legally carry fishing licenses on a mobile device for all the members of your family. To download the app, visit **wildlife.utah.gov/mobileapp**.

# Disposal of harvested aquatic wildlife

## Donating

*Utah Code § 23A-1-205*

You may donate, or give, a harvested protected aquatic wildlife or its parts to another person, as long as proper documentation of the donation is kept with the protected aquatic wildlife parts.

The documentation of the donation must include:

- The number and species of the protected aquatic wildlife or parts donated
- The date of donation
- The license number of the donor
- An image or picture of the wildlife or wildlife parts donated

## Purchasing or selling

*Utah Code § 23A-5-309*

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

## Disposal of fish

*Utah Code § 23A-5-314*

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

You may legally dispose of the following fish at the following waterbodies without violating the state's wasting laws:

- **All waters statewide:** common carp
- **Blue Lake:** pacu and tilapia
- **Colorado River and Colorado River tributaries:** burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass and walleye (see page 38 for a list of applicable tributaries)
- **Deer Creek Reservoir:** black bullhead
- **Fish Lake:** yellow perch
- **Flaming Gorge:** burbot and lake trout
- **Grantsville Reservoir:** smallmouth bass
- **Green River and Green River tributaries:** burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass and walleye (see page 42 for a list of applicable tributaries)
- **Gunlock Reservoir:** smallmouth bass
- **Lake Powell:** striped bass
- **Quail Creek Reservoir:** smallmouth bass
- **Sand Hollow Reservoir:** smallmouth bass

- **San Juan River and San Juan River tributaries:** burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass and walleye (see page 50 for a list of applicable tributaries)
- **Utah Lake and Utah Lake tributaries:** northern pike

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

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

## Utah's Walk-in Access program

*Utah Admin. Rule R657-56-13*

The Walk-in Access program provides hunters, anglers and trappers access to privately owned land, streams, rivers, ponds or reservoirs.

If you use Utah's WIA properties, remember to obtain your annual WIA authorization number.

The DWR issues authorization numbers to track the use of WIA properties throughout the year and to assess the program's value to the public.

To obtain your authorization number, visit **wildlife.utah.gov/walkinaccess** and click "Authorization numbers". Follow the instructions and obtain your number. You can also request a number by calling your local DWR office (see page 2).

Also, remember that WIA properties are private land and may have special restrictions on season dates, species and allowable activities. Visit **wildlife.utah.gov/walkinaccess** for details.

## Utah Hunting and Fishing app

With our convenient Utah Hunting and Fishing app, you can download your license to a mobile device.

If a conservation officer asks to see your license, you can produce the digital copy, which is just as valid as a paper license.

You can also download Utah's hunting and fishing guidebooks to the app, making it easy to read, search and navigate this guidebook and others.

Learn more and download the app at **wildlife.utah.gov/mobileapp**.

## Keep an eye out for updates

Legislative decisions, policy updates and emergency orders may take precedence over information printed in this guidebook. When corrections or changes are required, we update the digital edition of the guidebook available at **wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks** and in the ***Utah Hunting and Fishing app***.

## Stop the spread of destructive invasive species

We need your help to prevent aquatic invasive species from spreading in Utah. Quagga mussels are present at Lake Powell and at many waterbodies outside the state.

Quagga mussels—along with several other non-native mollusks and plants—spread rapidly, and can cause lasting and often irreversible damage.

They are easily transferred to other waters without boat owners even knowing that these destructive invaders have hitched a ride.

**Requirements for motorized vessels and sailboats**

All boaters (residents and nonresidents) operating a motorized vessel or sailboat must go to **STDofTheSea.utah.gov** to:

1. Complete the Boater Safety & AIS Course.
2. Pay an annual AIS vessel enrollment program fee.
3. Learn about clean, drain and dry protocols.

AIS program funds are used to help prevent the spread of quagga mussels and other aquatic invasive species in Utah's waters.

**If it floats, it's a boat**

Do you have a canoe, kayak or stand-up paddleboard? Nonmotorized vessels are not subject to the AIS vessel enrollment fee or course requirements. Inflatable motorboats that meet the definition in ***Utah Code 23A-10-101*** are also exempt. However, you should still make sure that you've effectively cleaned, drained (if applicable) and dried your vessel before launching in a Utah waterbody.

See **STDofTheSea.utah.gov** for details.

**Why are invasive species bad?**

- Aquatic invasive species can clog water delivery infrastructure and impair power production, resulting in higher utility costs.
- They can irreparably damage your boat's engine and other systems.
- Once established, they harm ecosystems and impact the health of fish populations.
- It costs millions of dollars each year for the DWR and our partners to remove and prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.

**Learn more**

Help stop the spread of aquatic invasive species in Utah! Learn more about what you can do to keep your boat free of "skiff-transmitted disease" at **STDofTheSea.utah.gov**.

# Fish consumption advisories

Visit **fishadvisories.utah.gov** for updated advisories and information.

## Enjoy your catch with confidence

Fish consumption advisories are designed to protect your health while you enjoy Utah's extensive fishing opportunities. Utah's wildlife, environmental and health agencies work together to test fish from lakes and rivers across the state for the presence of chemicals that may pose health risks. If contaminant levels are found to be high, the Utah Department of Health and Human Services issues advisories for that species and waterbody. These advisories offer guidance on whether your catch is safe to eat and how often you can eat it.

Many lakes, streams and rivers in Utah do not have advisories, and even when an advisory exists, it usually applies to one or two specific species—not all fish in that waterbody. Even if a species has a fish advisory, you can still enjoy catch-and-release fishing.

**Get the latest safety facts for your catch:** Before you keep and cook your catch, visit **fishadvisories.utah.gov** for the latest advisories for your fishing spot.

## Harmful algal blooms

Some lakes and rivers in Utah are impacted by toxin-producing harmful algae, usually during the summer and fall. Visit **HABs.utah.gov** to see if the waterbody you are visiting has a known algal bloom and to learn how to recognize harmful algae.

If you fish in a waterbody where an algal bloom is occurring, be sure to avoid areas of visible scum. Wear gloves while cleaning fish, and wash your hands with clean water. Discard all entrails and eat only the fillets. Before cooking, rinse the fillets thoroughly with clean water.

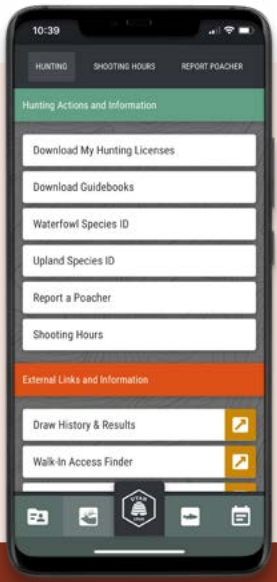

*Do more with the*

## Utah Hunting and Fishing mobile app

**In the app you can download and save:**

- Your fishing, hunting or combo license, and licenses for family members
- Utah's fishing and hunting guidebooks
- Any DWR course completion certificates
- Your Walk-in Access authorization number

Learn more and download the app at **wildlife.utah.gov/mobileapp**.



# Rules for specific waters

*Utah Code § 23A-5-309 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-20*

The rules below take precedence over the general rules listed earlier in this guidebook. The seasons, limits and other restrictions in this section apply only to the following waters listed.

- **General rules apply** to all of the waters **NOT** listed in this section.
- See ***Daily limits*** on page 9 to learn more about catching and harvesting fish at waters that are **NOT** listed in this section.

Make sure that you are following the rules for the fishing method you are using, such as setlines (page 16), dipnetting (page 17), bowfishing (page 22) or underwater spearfishing (page 24).

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

See ***Utah Lake tributaries***.

**Anderson Meadow Reservoir**, *Beaver County*

- Fishing from a boat with a motor is unlawful.

**Annabella Lake**, *Sevier County*

- Limit of 8 trout from Aug. 15–Dec. 31.

**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*

- Fishing from a boat or float tube is unlawful.

**Badger Hollow**, *Wasatch County*

See ***Strawberry Reservoir tributaries***.

**Barney Lake**, *Piute County*

- Fishing from a boat with a motor is unlawful.

**Bear Lake**, *Rich County* *(continued on next page)*

See ***Fishing across state lines and reciprocal fishing permits*** on page 10 for license and permit requirements.

- Limit 2 trout.
- Anglers may keep snagged Bonneville cisco that are taken through normal, legal fishing activities.
- 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 who possesses a valid Utah or Idaho fishing or combination license may fish within both the Utah and Idaho boundaries of Bear Lake. An angler may fish with up to two poles on all areas of the Utah portion of Bear Lake that are open to fishing. Anglers must comply with Idaho regulations if they want to use more than one pole when fishing on the Idaho portion of Bear Lake. Visit **idfg.idaho.gov/rules/fish** or scan the QR code.

- 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–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–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 Dam Reservoir**, *Wayne County*

- **(NEW) CLOSED** Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on April 1 and Dec. 1–31.

**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*

See ***Utah Lake tributaries***.

**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 Lake**, *Sevier County*

- Limit 8 trout from Aug. 15–Dec. 31.

**Big Sand Wash Reservoir**, *Duchesne County*

- Limit 10 yellow perch and 20 walleye (no size restrictions).

**Big Spring Creek**, *Rich County*

See ***Bear Lake tributaries***.

**Blacksmith Fork River**, *Cache County*

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

- Limit 1 fish over 15 inches.
- Bonus limit of 4 brown trout (total limit of no more than 8 trout if at least 4 are brown trout).

**Blue Lake**, *Tooele County*

- No limit for pacu or tilapia. Anglers must not release any pacu or tilapia they catch. All pacu and tilapia must be immediately killed.

**Boulder Mountain lakes and reservoirs**, *Garfield and Wayne counties*

- See specific water restrictions for individual waters. Statewide regulations apply to those waters not specifically identified.
- Fishing from a boat with a motor is unlawful, **EXCEPT** at Wide Hollow Reservoir, Pine Lake and Lower Bowns Reservoir.

**Broad Hollow**, *Wasatch County*

See ***Strawberry Reservoir tributaries.***

**Bryants Fork**, *Wasatch County*

See ***Strawberry Reservoir tributaries.***

**Bulberry Lakes**, *Wayne County*

- **(NEW) CLOSED** Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on April 1 and Dec. 1–31.

**Burraston Ponds**, *Juab County*

- Fishing from a boat with a motor of any kind is prohibited.

**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*

- Limit 4 trout, and no more than 1 may be a lake trout over 22 inches.
- All lake trout under 22 inches must be immediately released.
- **(NEW)** Limit 8 kokanee salmon (in addition to the daily limit of 4 trout).
- An angler may use up to six lines when fishing through the ice. If the angler is using more than two lines, the angler's name must be attached to each line, pole or tip-up, and the angler may check only their lines.

**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.***

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

See ***Strawberry Reservoir tributaries.***

**Coal Canyon**, *Wasatch County*

See ***Strawberry Reservoir tributaries.***

**Colorado River**, *Garfield, Grand, San Juan and Wayne counties*

From the Colorado state line downriver to the Hite bridge on SR-95.

- No limit for channel catfish.
- No limit for burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass or walleye. Anglers may not release any of these fish, which must be immediately killed.
- Species of threatened and endangered fish occur in the Colorado. If you catch one of these fish, you must release it immediately. See page 19 for a list of prohibited fish.

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

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

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

**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.

- Artificial flies and lures only.

**Cutler Reservoir**, *Box Elder and Cache counties*

- Limit 4 channel catfish.
- Limit 15 black crappie.

**Cutler Reservoir tributaries**, *Cache County*

Little Bear River and all tributaries to Little Bear River upstream to Mendon Road (600 S); Logan River and all tributaries to Logan River upstream to Mendon Road (600 S); Bear River and all tributaries to Bear River upstream to Highway 218.

- Limit 4 channel catfish.

**Deep Lake**, *Sevier County*

- Limit of 8 trout from Aug. 15–Dec. 31.

**Deer Creek Reservoir**, *Wasatch County*

- No limit on black bullhead catfish. Anglers must not release any black bullhead catfish they catch. All black bullhead catfish must be immediately killed.

**Deseret Reservoir**, *Tooele County* *(continued on page 40)*

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. (Gate will be **CLOSED** and locked from dusk to dawn.)
- Facility **CLOSED** Nov. 1–Dec. 31 and Jan. 1–April 30.

# Community fishing waters

**The following rules apply to all the fisheries listed below.** See **wildlife.utah.gov/fishing/communityponds** for details.

- The daily limit is 2 fish. (Common carp do not count toward the daily limit.)
- **CLOSED** to the possession of tiger muskie. All tiger muskie must be immediately released. (Learn to catch and release them at **wildlife.utah.gov/tigermuskies**.)
- Anglers are encouraged to voluntarily release all largemouth bass.
- **(NEW)** Anglers **must release** any largemouth bass caught at seven community fisheries (noted in **blue**, below).
- Waters are open to fishing only when the 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 Knight-Ideal Community Fishing Pond

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

**Duchesne County:** Roosevelt Nature Park Pond

**Emery County:** Huntington Game Farm Ponds

**Iron County:** Bristlecone Pond (Brian Head Pond), Lake at the Hills (formerly called Leigh Hill Reservoir), Parowan Pond and Wood Ranch Pond (Kid's Pond)

**Juab County:** Burraston Ponds

**Rich County:** Garden City Community Fishery, Laketown Reservoir

**Salt Lake County:** Big Bend-West Jordan, Cove Pond, Fairmont Park Pond, Kidney Pond, Midas Pond, Millrace Park Pond, Riverfront Pond, Riverton City Pond, Sandy Community Fishery, **Sunset Pond** and Willow Park Pond**.**

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

**Summit County:** Deer Valley Lakes

**Uintah County:** Old Fort Ponds

**Utah County:** Bartholomew Pond, Canyon View Park Pond, **Highland Glen Park Pond**, Jordan River Reservoir, Manila Creek Pond, Penny Springs Park Pond, Pole Canyon Pond, **Old Provo Channel Community Pond** (formerly called the **Provo River Delta Gateway Park Pond**), **Salem Lake**, Spanish Oaks Reservoir, **Spring Lake** and Vivian Park Pond. (**NOTE:** Spanish Oaks Reservoir and Manila Creek Pond are closed Dec. 1 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of February.)

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

**Washington County:** Grandpa's Pond (Stratton Pond), Razor Ridge Pond, Skyline Drive Pond, Sullivan Virgin River Park Pond, Tawa Ponds (Upper and Lower) and Willow Spring Pond in Enterprise.

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

- Fishing at Deseret Reservoir requires an on-post fishing permit. You can obtain one at the following locations: the Outdoor Recreation Shop (Building 1011, 435-833-3100) or the TEAD Physical Fitness Center (Building 1002, 435-833-2159).
- Shore fishing only.

**DMAD Reservoir**, *Millard County*
- **(NEW)** Limit 40 northern pike, only two may be over 36 inches.

**Donkey Lake**, *Wayne County*
- **(NEW)** Limit 8 brook trout.

**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*

See ***Utah Lake tributaries***.

**Duck Creek Springs Lake**, *Kane County*
- Fishing from a boat or float tube is unlawful.

**Duck Fork Creek and other tributaries to Duck Fork Reservoir**, *Sanpete County*
- Limit 2 tiger trout.
- **CLOSED** to the possession of cutthroat trout or trout with cutthroat markings.
- Artificial flies and lures only.
- **CLOSED** Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Duck Fork Reservoir**, *Sanpete County*
- Limit 2 tiger trout.
- **CLOSED** to the possession of cutthroat trout or trout with cutthroat markings.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

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

From the confluence with West Fork Boulder Creek upstream to the headwaters.
- No limit for brook trout.

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

From Porcupine Reservoir upstream to the headwaters.
- **CLOSED** Aug. 15 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of September.

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

From Porcupine Dam downstream to the Avon-Paradise road (SR-165), second stream crossing below reservoir.
- Limit 2 trout or salmon (a combined total, regardless of species).
- 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:
- Artificial flies and lures only.

**Escalante River**, *Garfield and Kane counties*

From the confluence of Pine Creek downriver to the confluence of Lake Powell.

- All roundtail chub must be immediately released.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

**Fish Creek Reservoir**, *Wayne County*

- **(NEW) CLOSED** Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on April 1 and Dec. 1–31.

**Fish Lake**, *Sevier County*

- No limit on yellow perch
- Limit 1 trout or salmon over 24 inches, regardless of species (goes toward the statewide trout limit).
- When ice fishing, the size of the hole may not exceed 18 inches.

**Fish Lake tributary**, *Sevier County*

See ***Twin Creek***.

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

See ***Fishing across state lines and reciprocal fishing permits*** on page 10 for license and permit requirements.

- Excluding lake trout, a limit of 4 trout or kokanee salmon (a combined total); no more than 3 of these may be kokanee salmon.
- No limit for lake trout 28 inches or less; only 1 lake trout may exceed 28 inches.
- Anglers may use dead lake trout that are part of their daily bag limit as bait.
- Linwood Bay, west of a line from the easternmost point of the south shore of Linwood Bay (mouth of canyon) to easternmost point of the north shore of Linwood Bay (Lucerne Point), **CLOSED** to nighttime angling (sunset to sunrise) from Oct. 15 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of December.
- Limit 6 catfish.
- Limit 3 smallmouth and largemouth bass (a combined total).
- No limit for burbot. Anglers must not release any burbot they catch. All burbot must be immediately killed.
- Anglers may use dead burbot as bait.
- An angler may use up to six lines when fishing through the ice. If the angler is using more than two lines, the angler's name must be attached to each line, pole or tip-up, and the angler may check only their lines. (There is no restriction on ice hole size.)
- Anglers are only allowed one daily limit in their possession at Flaming Gorge.
- Chumming is allowed, but you may chum only with legal baits, dead burbot or lake trout, as specified in ***Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-12***.

**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 are **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.
- **(NEW)** Any white sturgeon caught must be immediately released (limit is zero).

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

- **CLOSED** TO FISHING.

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

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

- No limit for channel catfish.
- No limit for burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass or walleye. Anglers may not release any of these fish, which must be immediately killed.
- Species of threatened and endangered fish occur in the Green River. If you catch one of these fish, you must release it immediately. See page 19 for a list of prohibited fish.

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

- Limit 3 trout (2 under 15 inches and 1 over 22 inches).
- All trout from 15 to 22 inches must be immediately released.
- No limit for burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass or walleye. Anglers may not release any of these fish, which must be immediately killed.
- Artificial flies and lures only.
- **CLOSED** to fishing from a boat with a motor between the Utah-Colorado state line and Flaming Gorge Dam.
- 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 19 for a list of prohibited fish.

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

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

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

**Gunlock Reservoir**, *Washington County*

- Limit 100 black crappie.
- No limit on smallmouth bass. Anglers must not release any smallmouth bass they catch. All smallmouth bass must be immediately killed.
- Limit 6 largemouth bass of any size.

**Gunnison Bend Reservoir**, *Millard County*

- **(NEW)** Limit 40 northern pike, only two may be over 36 inches.

**Hobble Creek**, *Utah County*

See ***Utah Lake tributaries***.

**Hobbs Reservoir**, *Davis County*

- Limit 2 trout under 15 inches.
- All trout over 15 inches must be immediately released.
- Limit zero white sturgeon. Any white sturgeon caught must be immediately released. It is unlawful to take any trout species using bait.
- **(NEW)** Artificial flies and lures only **EXCEPT** when fishing using a single hook no smaller than size 4/0 with the intent to catch white sturgeon.

**Holmes Creek Reservoir**, *Davis County*

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

**Honeymoon Lake**, *Wayne County*

- **(NEW) CLOSED** Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on April 1 and Dec. 1–31.

**Horse Creek**, *Wasatch County*

See ***Strawberry Reservoir tributaries.***

**Huntington Creek**, *Emery County*

Below Electric Lake.

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

- Limit 2 trout.
- Artificial flies only.

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

- Artificial flies and lures only.

**Huntington Reservoir**, *Sanpete County*

Near the top of Huntington Canyon.

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

**Huntington Reservoir tributaries**, *Sanpete County*

Near the top of Huntington Canyon.

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

**Huntington North Reservoir**, *Emery County*

Near the city of Huntington.

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

**Indian Creek**, *Wasatch County*

See ***Strawberry Reservoir tributaries.***

**Joes Valley Reservoir**, *Emery County*

- Limit 1 trout over 18 inches (goes toward the statewide trout limit).

**Jones Hole Creek**, *Uintah County*

- Artificial flies and lures only.

**Jordanelle Reservoir**, *Wasatch County*

- Limit 6 bass.

**Kolob Reservoir**, *Washington County*

- Limit 2 trout (must be 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. To learn how to identify cutthroat trout in this water, see the description of Colorado River cutthroat trout on page 32.
- 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 10 for license and permit requirements. See ***Bait*** on page 33 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.
- Anglers may use dead striped bass as bait.
- Chumming is allowed, but you may chum only with legal baits or dead striped bass, as specified in ***Utah Admin. Rule R657-13-12***.
- Gaffs may be used to land striped bass only.
- See page 22 for ***Bowfishing*** regulations.
- See page 24 for ***Underwater spearfishing*** regulations.

**LeBaron Reservoir,** *Beaver County*

- Fishing from a boat with a motor is unlawful.

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

See ***Strawberry Reservoir tributaries.***

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

- Limit 8 trout from Aug. 1–Oct. 31 (all other times of the year, statewide trout limits apply).

**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.

**Little Reservoir**, *Beaver County*

- Fishing from a boat with a motor is unlawful.

**Logan River**, *Cache County*

**(a)** From Card Canyon Bridge upstream to the highway bridge at Red Banks Campground, including all tributary streams in between, but not including Tony Grove Lake:

- Limit 2 trout and whitefish (a combined total).
- Artificial flies and lures only.

**(b)** From the highway bridge at Red Banks Campground upstream to the Idaho state line, including all tributaries, but not including White Pine Lake:

- Limit 2 trout and whitefish (a combined total).
- **CLOSED** Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Long Willow Bottom Reservoir**, *Garfield County*

- **(NEW) CLOSED** Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on April 1 and Dec. 1–31.

**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 or kokanee salmon (a combined total). Kokanee salmon of any size may be harvested as part of the limit.
- No more than 3 trout may be under 15 inches.
- No more than 1 trout may be over 22 inches.
- All trout between 15 and 22 inches must be immediately released.
- Trout and salmon may not be filleted, and their heads or tails may not be removed in the field or in transit.

**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.

**Lower Stillwater Ponds**, *Duchesne County*

All ponds in the complex.

- **(NEW)** Limit 2 trout.

**Mammoth Creek**, *Garfield County*

From the canal diversion (about three miles upstream from the Mammoth Creek Fish Hatchery), upstream 7.5 miles to the end of Hatch Meadow and the beginning of summer home sites.

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

**Mantua Reservoir**, *Box Elder County*

- **(NEW)** Limit 15 bluegill.
- **(NEW)** No limit for walleye. Anglers must not release any walleye they catch. All walleye must be immediately killed.

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

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

**McGath Lake**, *Garfield County*

- **(NEW) CLOSED** Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on April 1 and Dec. 1–31.

**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**.

**Mona Reservoir**, *Juab County*

- Limits for all species are double the statewide limits listed on page 9.

**Moon Lake**, *Duchesne County*

- Limit 2 splake (goes toward the statewide trout limit).

**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.***

**Navajo Lake**, *Kane County*

- Limit 1 trout or Arctic grayling over 22 inches, regardless of species (goes toward the statewide trout limit).
- **(NEW)** Limit 1 tiger muskie, any size.

**Newcastle Reservoir**, *Iron County*

- Limit 2 wiper.

**Newton Reservoir**, *Cache County*

- **(NEW)** Limit 1 tiger muskie over 40 inches.
- Unlawful to use whole fish for bait. Cut bait must not be larger than one inch in any dimension and no more than one piece per hook.

**Oak Creek Reservoir (Upper Bowns Reservoir)**, *Garfield County*

- Limit 16 brook trout.

**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.

**Pacer Lake**, *Garfield County*

- **(NEW) CLOSED** Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on April 1 and Dec. 1–31.

**Panguitch Lake**, *Garfield County*

- Limit 4 trout (a combined total).
- 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 cutthroat trout in this water, see the graphic on page 58 and the description of a Bear Lake cutthroat trout on page 63.

**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 2 cutthroat or tiger trout (a combined total); no more than 2 may be under 15 inches, and no more than 1 may be a cutthroat or tiger trout over 22 inches (goes toward the statewide trout limit). 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 cutthroat trout in this water, see the description of a Bonneville cutthroat trout on page 63.
- **CLOSED** Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**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*

- **(NEW)** No limit for bullhead.
- Anglers must **not** release any common carp they catch. All common carp must be immediately killed.
- An angler may use up to six lines when fishing through the ice. If the angler is using more than two lines, the angler's name must be attached to each line, pole or tip-up, and the angler may check only their lines.

**Pine Creek Reservoir**, *Wayne County*

- **(NEW) CLOSED** Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on April 1 and Dec. 1–31.

**Pine Hollow**, *Wasatch County*

See ***Strawberry Reservoir tributaries.***

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

Inflow, including the spawning channel.

- **CLOSED** TO FISHING.

**Pine Valley Reservoir**, *Washington County*

- Fishing from a boat or float tube is unlawful.

**Pineview Reservoir**, *Weber County*

- Limit 20 crappie.
- **CLOSED** to the possession of tiger muskie. All tiger muskie must be immediately released.
- Unlawful to use whole fish for bait. Cut bait must not be larger than one inch in any dimension and no more than one piece per hook.

**Pond at Poulter Preserve**, *Weber County*

- Artificial flies and lures only and catch-and-release only fishing is allowed from 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of Sept. through the third Saturday in May.
- At all other times of the year, there is a 2-fish limit.

**Porcupine Reservoir**, *Cache County*

- Limit 12 trout and kokanee salmon, only 4 may be rainbow, cutthroat or brown trout (a combined total). To take 12 fish, you must possess at least 8 kokanee.
- See East Fork Little Bear River.
- Operating a boat above wakeless speed is prohibited.
- An angler may use up to six lines when fishing through the ice. If the angler is using more than two lines, the angler's name must be attached to each line, pole or tip-up, and the angler may check only their lines.

## Stream access in Utah

In recent years, Utah's stream access laws have changed multiple times as a result of legislation, litigation and judicial rulings. That may continue to be the case in the years to come.

The DWR is committed to upholding the laws—however they change—and wants to help anglers understand them. For more information and answers to common questions about stream access in Utah, please visit **wildlife.utah.gov/streamaccess.**

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

**(a)** From Lakeview Parkway Bridge upstream to I-15 (*Utah County*):

- All suckers must be immediately released.
- **CLOSED** to walleye possession from March 1 through 6 a.m. on the first Saturday of May.
- No limit on northern pike. Anglers must **not** release any northern pike they catch. All northern pike must be immediately killed.

**(b)** From I-15 upstream to Olmstead Diversion Dam (*Utah County*):

- Statewide regulations apply.

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

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

**(d)** From Deer Creek Dam to Legacy Bridge (*Wasatch County*):

- Statewide regulations apply.

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

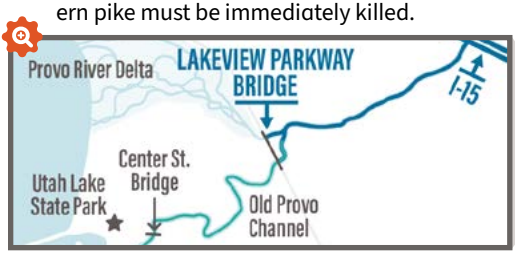
- Limit 2 trout under 15 inches.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

**(f)** From Jordanelle Reservoir upstream to the confluence of the north and south forks of the 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.

**Provo River Delta**, *Utah County*

- All suckers must be immediately released.
- **CLOSED** to walleye possession from March 1 through 6 a.m. on the first Saturday of May.
- No limit on northern pike. Anglers must **not** release any northern pike they catch. All northern pike must be immediately killed.




# Special regulations

Rules vary on the Provo River from Jordanelle Dam to Utah Lake:

## MIDDLE PROVO RIVER

- Jordanelle Dam to Legacy Bridge (SR-113)
- Legacy Bridge (SR-113) to Deer Creek Res.

## LOWER PROVO RIVER

- Deer Creek Dam to Olmstead Diversion
- Olmstead Diversion to I-15
- I-15 to Lakeview Parkway Bridge

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

- No limit on smallmouth bass. Anglers must **not** release any smallmouth bass they catch. All smallmouth bass must be immediately killed.
- Limit 6 largemouth bass of any size

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

- Upstream of entrance to Red Butte Canyon Research Natural Area to the headwaters: **CLOSED** TO FISHING.

**Red Fleet Reservoir**, *Uintah County*

- Limit 50 bluegill, green sunfish, black crappie and yellow perch (a combined total) and no more than 20 of those fish may be black crappie.

**Redmond Lake**, *Sevier County*

- **(NEW)** Limit 40 northern pike, only two may be over 36 inches.

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

See ***Logan River***.

**Road Hollow**, *Wasatch County*

See ***Strawberry Reservoir tributaries.***

**Round Willow Bottom Reservoir**, *Garfield County*

- **(NEW) CLOSED** Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on April 1 and Dec. 1–31.

**Sage Creek**, *Wasatch County*

See ***Strawberry Reservoir tributaries.***

**Sand Hollow Reservoir**, *Washington County*

- Limit 8 largemouth bass of any size.
- No limit on smallmouth bass. Anglers must **not** release any smallmouth bass they catch. All smallmouth bass must be immediately killed.

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

From Lake Powell to the Utah-Colorado state line.

- No limit for channel catfish.
- No limit for burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass or walleye. Anglers may **not** release any of these fish, which must be immediately killed.
- Species of threatened and endangered fish occur in the San Juan River. If you catch one of these fish, you must release it immediately. See page 19 for a list of prohibited fish.

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

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

- No limit for channel catfish.
- No limit for burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass or walleye. Anglers may **not** release any of these fish, which must be immediately killed.
- Species of threatened and endangered fish occur in the San Juan River tributaries. If you catch one of these fish, you must release it immediately. See page 19 for a list of prohibited fish.

**Santa Clara River**, *Washington County*

- No limit on smallmouth bass.

**Scofield Reservoir**, *Carbon and Utah counties*

- Limit 4 trout (a combined total).
- 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 cutthroat trout in this water, see the graphic on page 58.

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

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

**Scout Lake**, *Garfield County*

- **(NEW) CLOSED** Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on April 1 and Dec. 1–31.

**Sevier River**, *Garfield, Kane, Piute, Sevier, Sanpete, Juab and Millard counties*

- **(NEW)** Limit 40 northern pike, only two may be over 36 inches.

**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. To learn how to identify cutthroat trout in this water, see the description of Colorado River cutthroat trout on page 50.
- 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.***

**Solitaire Lake**, *Garfield County*

- **(NEW) CLOSED** Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on April 1 and Dec. 1–31.

**Spanish Fork River**, *Utah County*
See ***Utah Lake tributaries***.

**Spring Creek**, *Utah County*
See ***Utah Lake tributaries***.

**Spring Run Creek** , *Utah County*
See ***Utah Lake tributaries***.

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

**Stansbury Lake,** *Tooele County*

- **CLOSED** to the possession of largemouth bass.
- Limit 10 bluegill, green sunfish and black crappie (a combined total).
- Limit 2 channel catfish.

**Starvation Reservoir**, *Duchesne County*

- Limit 10 bluegill, green sunfish, black crappie and yellow perch (a combined total).
- **(NEW)** Limit 20 walleye under 15 inches, and no more than 1 walleye over 20 inches. All walleye 15–20 inches must be immediately released.

**Stateline Reservoir**, *Summit County*

- Limit 4 trout, and no more than 1 may be a lake trout over 22 inches.
- All lake trout under 22 inches must be immediately released.
- **(NEW)** Limit 8 kokanee salmon (in addition to the daily limit of 4 trout).

**Strawberry Reservoir**, *Wasatch County*

- Limit 4 trout or kokanee salmon (a combined total).
- 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. To learn how to identify cutthroat trout in this water, see the graphic on page 58 and the description of Bear Lake cutthroat trout on page 63.

**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 the fenced-in upper concrete step structure upstream to the tunnel at US-40.

- **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***, ***Sage Creek***, ***Chicken Creek***, ***Little Co-op Creek***, ***Clyde Creek***, ***Mud Creek***, ***Bryants Fork***, ***Horse Creek***, ***Chipman Creek***, ***Trail Hollow***, ***Broad Hollow***, ***Pine Hollow***, ***Badger Hollow*** and ***Road Hollow***.

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

**(c)** ***Trout Creek***

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

**Strawberry River**, *Duchesne and Wasatch counties*

From the confluence with Red Creek, near Pinnacles, upstream to Soldier Creek Dam, including all flowing water, standing water, and instream lakes and ponds.

- 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***.

**Tony Grove Lake**, *Cache County*
- Limit of 8 trout from Aug. 15–Dec. 31.

**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**, *Summit County*
Beaver Lake, Bridger Lake, Marsh Lake, Quarter Corner Lake and Teapot Lake:
- Limit 8 trout from Aug.15–Dec. 31.

**UM Creek**, *Sevier and Wayne counties*
From Forsyth Reservoir upstream to the headwaters, including the right and left forks.
- Artificial flies and lures only.

**Upper Bowns Reservoir (Oak Creek Reservoir)**, *Garfield County*
- Limit 16 brook trout.

**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 largemouth or smallmouth bass (a combined total), only 1 may be over 12 inches.
- No limit on northern pike. Anglers must not release any northern pike they catch. All northern pike must be immediately killed.
- All suckers must be immediately released.

**Utah Lake tributaries**, *Utah County*
**(a)** Including but not limited to tributaries west of I-15: ***American Fork Creek***, ***Beer Creek***, ***Dry Creek***, ***Hobble Creek***, ***Spanish Fork River***, ***Spring Creek*** and ***Spring Run Creek***:
- All suckers must be immediately released.
- **CLOSED** to the possession of walleye from March 1 through 6 a.m. on the first Saturday of May.
- No limit on northern pike. Anglers must not release any northern pike they catch. All northern pike must be immediately killed.

**(b)** ***Provo River***: See ***Provo River,*** *Summit, Utah and Wasatch counties*.

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

**Weber River**, *Summit County*

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

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

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

- All cutthroat trout—or trout with cutthroat markings—must be immediately released. To learn how to identify cutthroat trout in this water, see the description of Bonneville cutthroat trout on page 63.
- Common carp are the only baitfish allowed to be taken.

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

From the confluence with Wolf Creek upstream to the headwaters, excluding Wolf Creek.

- Limit 2 cutthroat trout or trout with cutthroat markings (included in statewide limit). To learn how to identify cutthroat trout in this water, see the description of Colorado River cutthroat trout on page 64.
- Artificial flies and lures only.
- **CLOSED** May 15 through 6 a.m. on the second Saturday of July.

**Wheeler Creek**, *Weber County*

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

- **CLOSED** TO FISHING.

**White River**, *Uintah County*

See **Green River tributaries.**

**Whitney Reservoir tributaries**, *Summit County*

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

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

- Limit 10 crappie.
- Limit 15 yellow perch.
- **(NEW)** Limit 6 walleye over 18 inches. Only 1 walleye may be over 24 inches.
- Possession and use of commercially sold and preserved gizzard shad is allowed. Otherwise, possession of gizzard shad, dead or alive, is unlawful.

**Willard Peak Pond** (formerly called The Pond at Willard Bay), *Box Elder County*

- Limit 5 bluegill.
- Limit 1 channel catfish.
- Limit 1 largemouth bass.

**Yankee Meadow Reservoir inlet**, *Iron County*

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

**Yuba Reservoir**, *Juab and Sanpete counties*

- Limits for all species (except for tiger muskellunge) are double the statewide limits listed on page 9.
- Limit 1 tiger muskellunge over 40 inches.
- All tiger muskellunge under 40 inches must be immediately released.
- Setline fishing is allowed.

# Angler feedback, biological data and you

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

Your information, input and involvement is critical to the success of our fisheries management programs. We strive to meet the needs of anglers, while not exceeding the production goals of our hatcheries or taxing the health of our waters. We continually consider shifts in stocking, habitat, access and/or regulation changes to provide Utah's anglers with opportunities for great fishing now and into the future.

## How to get involved

By sharing information about your fishing trips and contributing ideas for improvement, you help fisheries managers determine whether they need to change regulations, stocking, habitat or angler access to improve a fishing opportunity.

### Fish Utah reporting

In just a few minutes, you can rate your fishing trip and provide valuable feedback in the ***Fish Utah*** interactive map (**fish.utah.gov**). When you enter your information into ***Fish Utah***, it is combined with data provided by other anglers to complete a fishery assessment of a waterbody over the year.

After your next fishing trip, we encourage you to enter your trip information into ***Fish Utah***. Simply click on the map to access the water you fished, and tap the "rate" button at the top of the screen. The trip data you provide to DWR today will help us make your next outing the best fishing adventure possible!

### Angler opinion surveys

Every year, we survey anglers at waterbodies throughout the state during onsite creel surveys. This is a great opportunity for you to share your fishing trip experience, opinions and observations with our biologists.

Even if you aren't interviewed onsite during a creel survey, you can share your opinion with us. Every year, the DWR surveys thousands of anglers about their fishing experiences and priorities in email requests. We strongly encourage you to participate in emailed surveys and share your thoughts.

### Share your feedback and ideas

Your suggestions can help shape final recommendations for the fishing guidebook, and can assist biologists in identifying issues that need more scrutiny and discussion. Your feedback lets us know which topics are your highest priorities.

There are several easy ways to get in touch:

- **Mail your idea to:** Sport Fisheries Coordinator, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, P.O. Box 146301, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6301
- Contact fisheries biologists in your region (see page 2).
- Visit **wildlife.utah.gov/meetings** for public meeting dates, agenda items and to give feedback on proposals in person.

# Protect your favorite fisheries

Everyone enjoys fishing close to home. It's a big problem, though, when anglers illegally move fish from one waterbody to another, attempting to introduce a preferred species into a nearby lake or reservoir. Don't ditch or dump fish where they don't belong—you could destroy a place you love!

## Catastrophic impacts

Over the past decade, several Utah fisheries have been damaged by anglers who selfishly stocked their favorite species. The movement of fish—no matter how well-intentioned—can have catastrophic impacts on a fishery. To learn about these consequences, visit **wildlife.utah.gov/dontditch**.

The illegal movement of walleye, northern pike, yellow perch, smallmouth bass and even unwanted pet goldfish have all caused the collapse of fisheries in Utah.

Additionally, the use of live baitfish (such as Utah chub) has caused other fisheries—once renowned for their quality sportfishing—to decline as invasive nuisance fish species outcompeted the sportfish.

## Leave it to the professionals

It takes careful planning and years of training to understand how to successfully maintain the balance of fish species in a lake or reservoir.

If there's a species you want to see in one of your favorite public waterways, please contact your local fisheries biologist to share your suggestion. (See the list of DWR offices on page 2.)

We are striving to meet the wants and needs of Utah's anglers, and we are eager to consider—whenever possible—managing with new species and expanding the diversity of our fisheries.

We are listening and hope you'll let us know what you want to see in your favorite ponds, lakes and reservoirs.

Don't intentionally move a species or ditch your unwanted pet fish in Utah's public waterways. When it comes to moving fish, please leave it to the professionals.

## Resetting for success

In recent years, we've used the following tactics to remove unwanted fish populations that anglers illegally introduced:

- Chemical treatment of fish populations in reservoirs and streams
- Removal of unwanted fish using electricity, nets and seines
- The introduction of predatory fish species to provide biological control

Millions of dollars and thousands of hours have been spent to reclaim once-great Utah fisheries. For example, at places like Scofield and Strawberry reservoirs, we stock and use large predatory fish to keep nuisance baitfish at bay.

All of these efforts are paying off. Larger predators not only control nuisance fish, they provide trophy fishing opportunities for anglers.

Fish populations reestablished after chemical treatments are giving anglers the diversity of fishing opportunities they desire.

# How you can help

With your input, our fisheries managers are working to create satisfying fishing opportunities and to examine whether Utah's fisheries are meeting your needs.

We are adapting our management approaches, whenever possible, to make fishing better and ensure that anglers don't feel the need to move fish illegally.

You don't want to see a chemical treatment at your favorite fishery—especially because of someone else's selfishness. You are truly the best line of defense against illegal fish stocking.

If you know that someone has placed fish in a waterbody illegally, please text DNR law enforcement at 847411, call the Utah Turn-in-a-Poacher (UTiP) hotline at 800-662-3337 or use the UTDWR law enforcement app.

## Report fish and wildlife crimes

As an angler, you're the first line of defense for your favorite fisheries. If you witness an in-progress wildlife violation—or you're aware of a previously committed wildlife crime—report it as soon as possible.

**TEXT 847411 | CALL 800-662-3337 | USE THE APP** ('Utah DNRLE')

Please contact our conservation officers if you see someone who:

- Keeps more fish than the daily limit allows
- Moves live fish or crayfish into a waterbody
- Leaves a waterbody with live fish or crayfish
- Is towing or transporting a boat with attached mussels

All of these activities are illegal and could result in an angler:

- Losing the right to fish in Utah and other states
- Being held financially liable for the damage to a fishery

We appreciate your efforts to help protect the places you love to boat and fish.

## Utah State Parks Annual Pass

Are you a Utah resident? Consider purchasing a Utah State Parks Annual Day-Use Pass to access some of Utah's best fisheries.

Utah State Parks also offers a discounted annual pass for eligible seniors, and a Veterans with Disabilities Honor Pass for qualified veterans with a service-related disability.

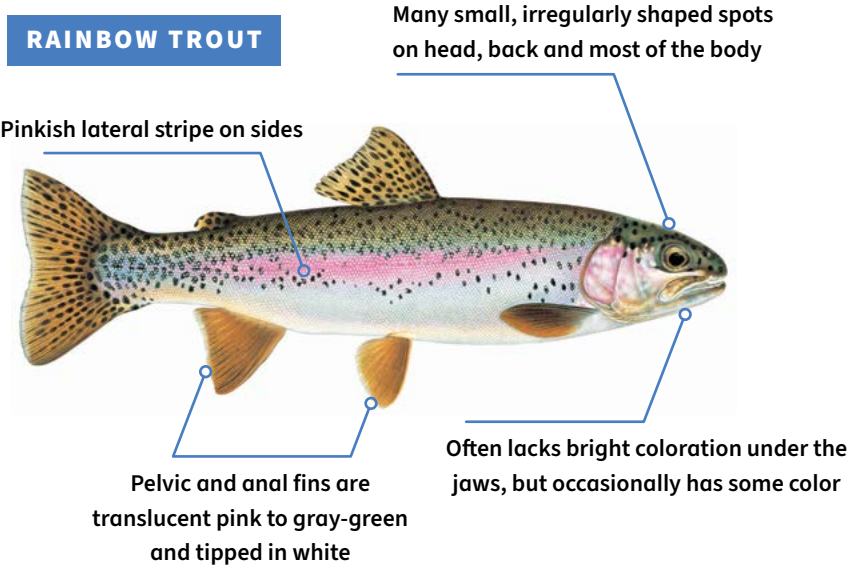
Passes cover day-use entrance to Utah State Parks for the cardholder and up to seven guests traveling together in the same private vehicle. Find more information at **stateparks.utah.gov/park-passes/**.

Buy an annual pass at all staffed Utah State Parks, in the Utah Department of Natural Resources bookstore in Salt Lake City or online at **stateparks.utah.gov**.

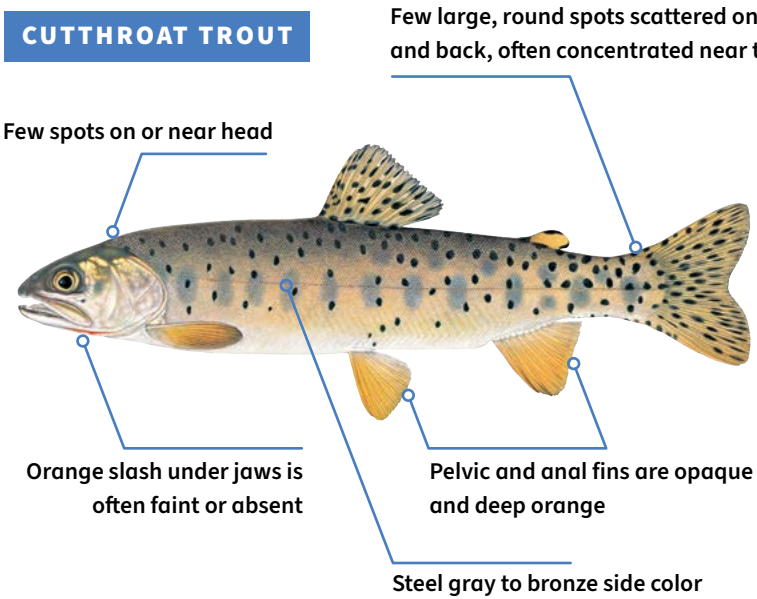
See a map of all the state parks that offer fishing at **stateparks.utah.gov/parks**.

# Rainbow trout vs cutthroat trout

## RAINBOW TROUT




## CUTTHROAT TROUT




*Fish illustrations © Joseph R. Tomelleri*

# Identifying Utah's native and non-native 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. All illustrations in this section are the copyrighted work of artist **Joe Tomelleri**.

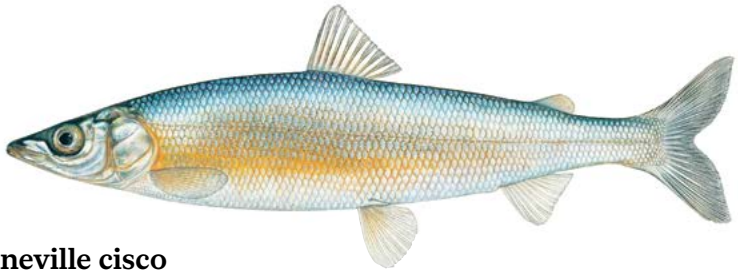
## Native coldwater sportfish

### Bear Lake sculpin (not illustrated)

The Bear Lake sculpin has a small, stout body with a broad, flattened head, large fan-shaped pectoral fins, and mottled brown, gray, and tan coloration that helps it blend into the lake bottom. It has a tapered body, large mouth and spiny dorsal fin.

### Bonneville whitefish and Bear Lake whitefish

These two fish are indistinguishable at sizes of less than 10 inches in length. Both species may have gray-blue spots along their sides. These whitefish are elongated, relatively cylindrical fish. They are typically silvery-white along their sides, grading into charcoal gray to black on their backs. Bonneville whitefish may reach four pounds and grow to a length of 20 inches, but Bear Lake whitefish do not grow larger than 10 inches. Both species occur only in Bear Lake.



## Bonneville cisco

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

## Longnose dace (not illustrated)

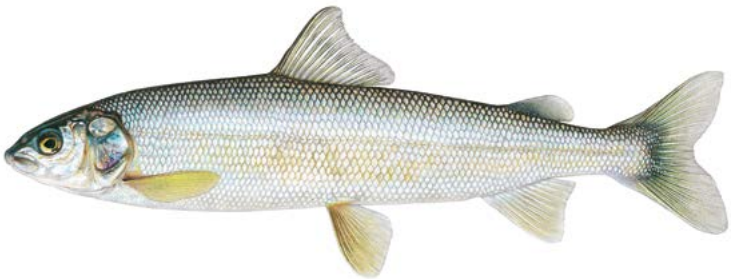
The longnose dace is a small, slender fish with an olive-brown back and pale underside, often accompanied by subtle mottling or dark lateral markings. It has an elongated, rounded snout that extends well beyond its small mouth, which is positioned on the underside of its head, and a streamlined body adapted for life in flowing streams and rivers.

## Mottled sculpin (not illustrated)

Similar to the Bear Lake sculpin, the mottled sculpin is a small, bottom-dwelling fish with a broad, flattened head, large fan-shaped pectoral fins, and mottled brown, olive, and gray coloration that provides camouflage on the stream bottom. It has a wide mouth and prominent eyes positioned near the top of its head.

## Mountain sucker (not illustrated)

The mountain sucker is a small to medium-sized sucker with an elongated, cylindrical body, an olive-brown back and pale underside, sometimes with a faint stripe and vertical bars along its sides. It has a short, blunt snout and a small, downward-facing mouth with thick, fleshy lips adapted for scraping algae and other food from rocks and streambed surfaces.



## 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.

### Paiute sculpin (not illustrated)

Similar to the mottled sculpin, this small fish can be distinguished by a lighter colored patch near the back base of the second dorsal fin and distinct vertical banding along its body.

### Speckled dace (not illustrated)

Similar to the longnose dace in appearance but with a shorter, more pointed snout and more of a speckled patterning along its body.

## Native warmwater sportfish

### Bluehead and green suckers

Bluehead suckers are native to the Green and Colorado River watersheds. As a result of genetic studies, the Bonneville Basin populations were recently split into a separate species called the green sucker. While they are genetically distinct, both species look very similar: They have dusky blue heads, a streamlined body and the scales near their tails are much larger than those near their heads. Both species feed on algae and bugs that they scrape off the rocks and, for this reason, they prefer swift rocky waters. Adults can grow to be 16 inches long.

### Desert sucker (not illustrated)

Similar to the mountain sucker in appearance, but better adapted to warmwater streams and rivers. In Utah, it is only found in the Virgin River drainage.

## Flannelmouth sucker

Flannelmouth suckers are native to the Green, Colorado and Virgin River watersheds. Individuals can live up to 30 years, reach lengths up to 30 inches and sometimes migrate more than 150 miles to spawn. Their lips are large and fleshy, and their backs can range in color from light olive to dark brown. Flannelmouth suckers live in a variety of habitats. You could find them in the depths of the Colorado River in Cataract Canyon or in a small tributary like the Strawberry River.

## Northern and southern leatherside least chub (not illustrated)

The northern and southern leatherside chubs are small fish with a streamlined body. They are typically bluish along the back with silvery undersides. Their bodies are covered in very small scales that give the skin a leathery texture, and males display distinctive orange-red patches near the bases of paired fins and the tail fin. The southern leatherside chub has a more sharply pointed snout than the northern species.

## Roundtail chub

Roundtail chubs are native to the Green and Colorado River watersheds. They prefer turbulent streams and rivers, where they feed on drifting bugs and small fish. Their feeding patterns are very similar to those of trout. Their bodies are streamlined, and they have olive-colored backs and silver sides. Like other chubs, they are true minnows and do not have teeth. Individuals typically live for 10-15 years and can grow to be 20 inches long.

## Virgin spinedace (not illustrated)

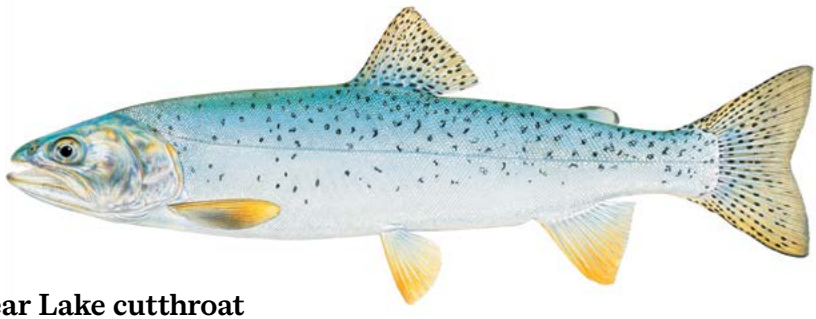
Virgin Spinedace look, feed and act like miniature trout. This silvery minnow gets its name from the sharp, spiny rays in its dorsal fin. It prefers deep pools and easily adapts to both clear and turbid water. They feed on a wide range of insects and sometimes plant material and organic debris. This species is found throughout the Virgin River Basin.

# Native trout

There are three primary subspecies (strains) of native cutthroat trout in Utah: the 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 the Bear Lake cutthroat trout, cutthroat 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.

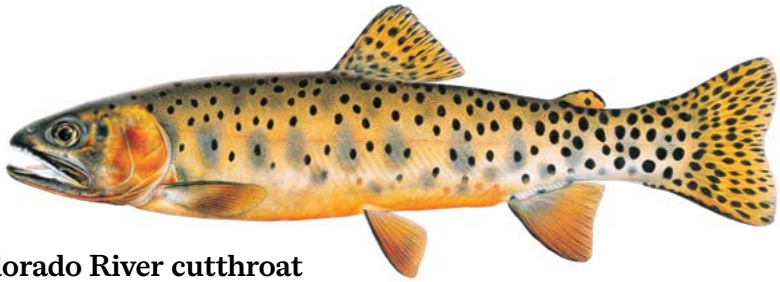
## Bonneville cutthroat

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.



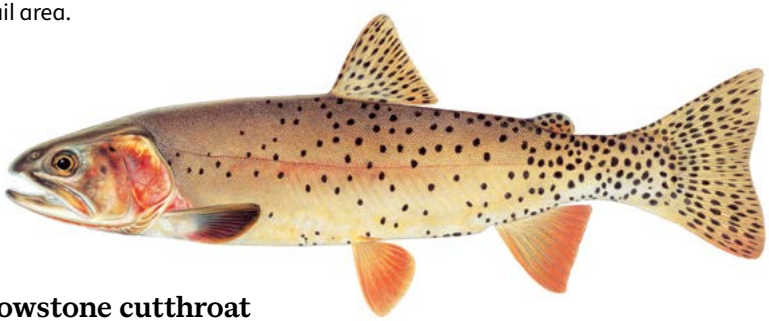
## Bear Lake cutthroat

Bear Lake cutthroat trout often lack the bright crimson jaw slash, which may at times be yellow, gray or nonexistent. 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 page 58). 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

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.

## Non-native coldwater sportfish

### 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.

## 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 tail fin is deeply forked. The mouth is large and features strong teeth on both jaws.

## 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 tail fin is squared or lightly forked.

## 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.

## Golden trout (not illustrated)

The golden trout has a golden belly with red, horizontal bands along the lateral lines on its sides. Golden trout also have about 10 dark, vertical, oval-shaped marks (called parr marks) on each side.

## Tiger trout

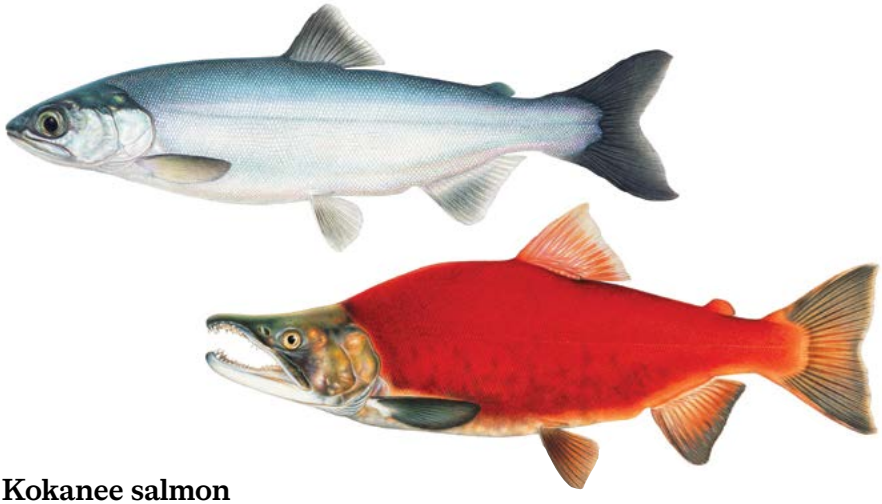
The tiger trout, a brown trout and a brook trout hybrid cross, has a unique, dark maze-like pattern all over its brownish, gray body. The belly is yellowish-orange as are the pectoral, pelvic and anal fins. The tail fin is square.

## 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.

## Brown trout

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



### 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.

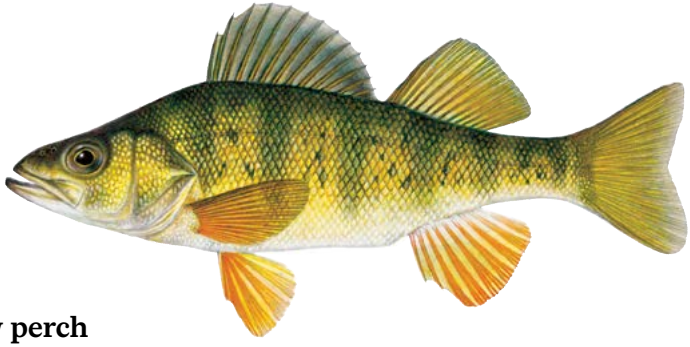
## Non-native cool and warmwater sportfish

### 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.

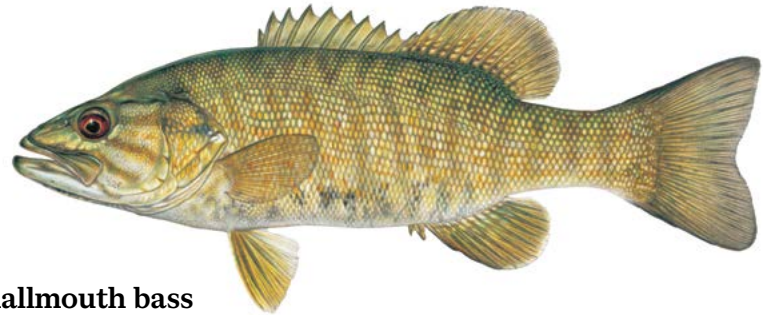
### White sturgeon (not illustrated)

The white sturgeon is a large, elongated fish with a gray back, pale gray or whitish underside, and five rows of bony plates called scutes along its body instead of typical scales. It has a pointed, upturned snout, four sensory barbels in front of its extendable-jawed, toothless mouth, and a shark-like tail with the upper lobe longer than the lower lobe.



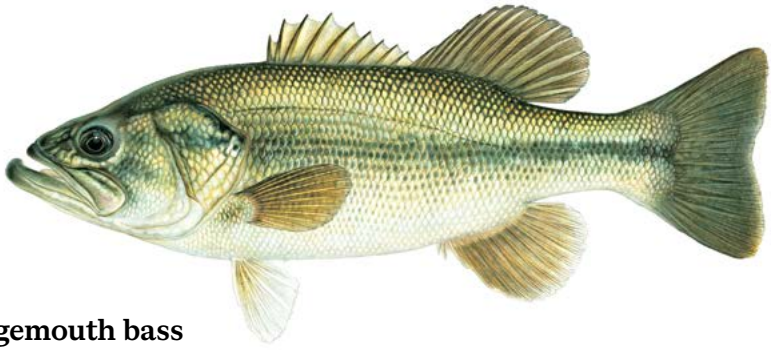
## Yellow perch

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



## 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.

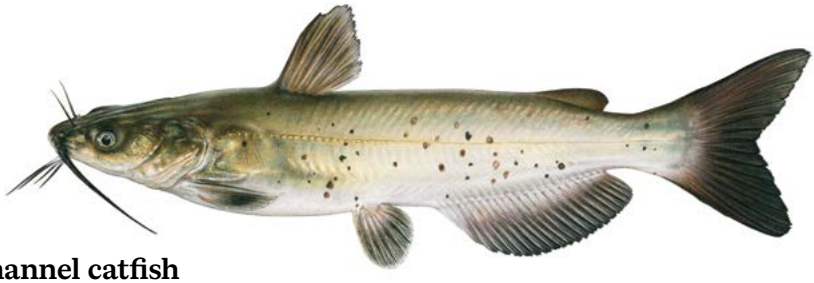


## Largemouth bass

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.

## 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.



## 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.

## Black crappie

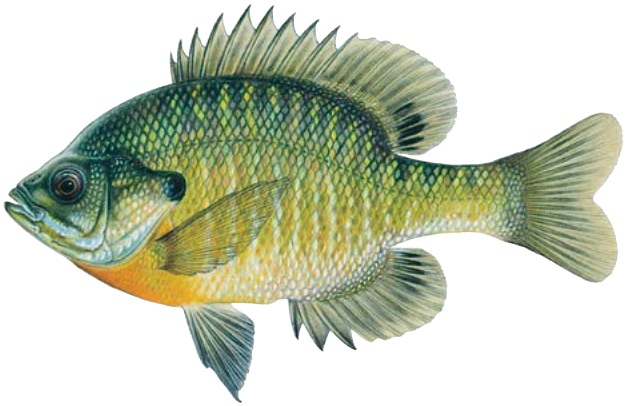
The black crappie has two closely joined dorsal fins, with seven or eight dorsal fin spines. Black crappie are silver-olive with numerous, random black or green splotches on their sides. Vertical bars—more prominent in young black crappie or white crappie—are absent in adult black crappie. Their sides 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.

## White crappie

The white crappie has two closely joined dorsal fins, with only six dorsal fin spines. White crappie are silver-olive with numerous black or green splotches on their sides, often arranged in vertical bars. 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. Utah only has a few populations of white crappie.

## 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.



## 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.

## 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.

## Tiger muskellunge

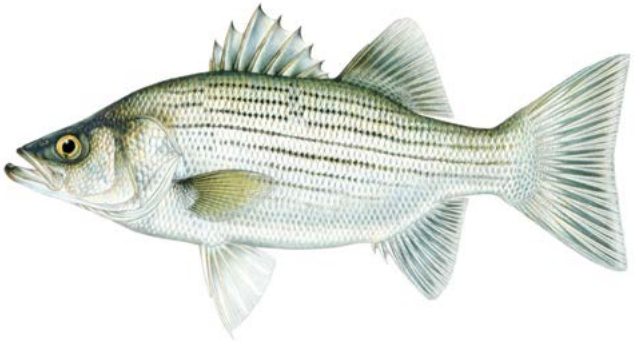
The tiger muskie is a hybrid cross between a muskellunge and northern pike. It features characteristics from both parents. It has a very elongated torpedo-like body. Its most notable features are the grey-green vertical bars along its sides. It can reach lengths of more than 50 inches and weigh more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

## 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 tail fin is forked.

### White bass

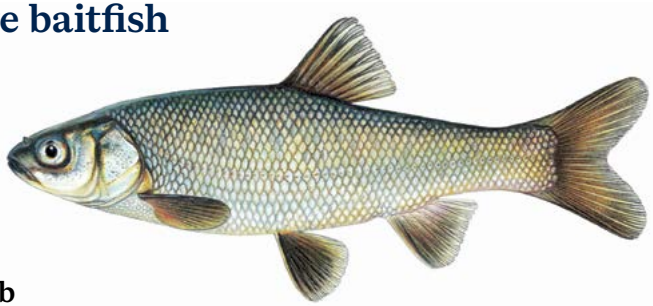
The back of a white bass is usually grey, charcoal or green. It typically has silvery sides and a white belly. It also has five to seven longitudinal stripes on each side. The body of a white bass is deeper and less streamlined than that of the striped bass.



### 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.

## Native baitfish



### 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.

### Redside shiner (not illustrated)

A redside shiner is a small, flat-sided minnow with a pointed snout, a deeply forked tail, and a prominent dark stripe running down its side. During breeding season, it develops a brilliant crimson-red or orange wash along its lower sides and belly.

### Utah sucker

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

## Non-native baitfish

### Common 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.

### White sucker (not illustrated)

White sucker were likely introduced in the upper Colorado drainage by anglers releasing live bait, and are problematic because they can hybridize with native sucker species. Their backs are mottled olive or gray, with dark horizontal streaks on the side and a white underbelly. White suckers have longer and wider heads, larger scales, and a wider tail base than bluehead suckers (page 61) and flannelmouth suckers (page 62).

### Fathead minnow (not illustrated)

The fathead minnow is a small, stout fish with a blunt snout, flat head, and a dark horizontal stripe along its silver-olive body. It typically grows to just 2 to 3 inches long.

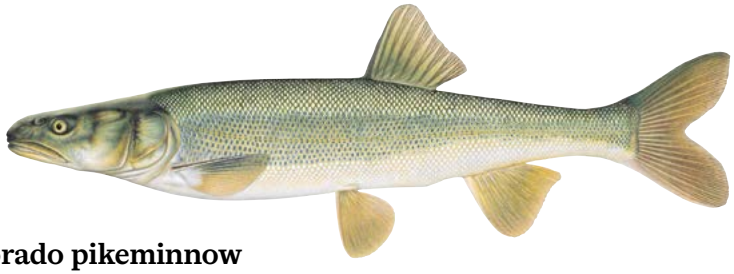
# Utah's sensitive and endangered fish

## Bonytail

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

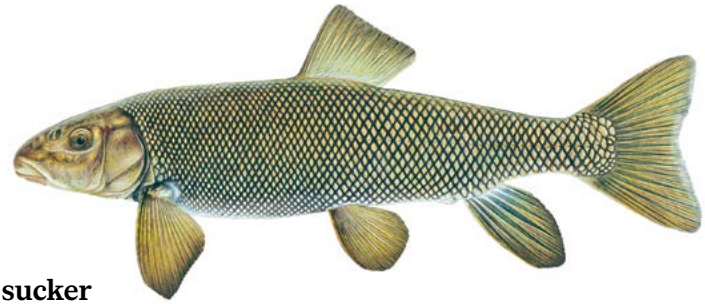
## Humpback chub

The humpback chub is threatened and is found in canyon-bound habitats of the Green and Colorado rivers. The humpback chub has a dark, olive-gray back and silver sides. The head is small. Their distinct fatty hump is thought to stabilize the fish in fast, flowing waters.



## Colorado pikeminnow

The predacious Colorado pikeminnow is found in the Green, Colorado and San Juan rivers and their tributaries. The pikeminnow is an endangered species, and should be returned to the water immediately if caught. Their body is long and slender, with a gray-green back and silver sides. The head is long and conical and the tail fin is large and deeply forked. The pikeminnow can reach lengths up to six feet and can weigh 80 pounds.



### 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 threatened, 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.

### Razorback sucker

The razorback sucker is found in the mainstem Green, Colorado and San Juan rivers and spawn in off-channel habitats in the spring. The razorback sucker is endangered should be returned to the water immediately if caught. The species normally has an olive-colored back, brown to pinkish sides, and a yellow belly. The mouth faces downward and the lower lip is widely separated into two lobes by a deep groove. Adults have a sharp-edged keel.

## Invasive non-native fish (prohibited)

### Burbot

Burbot, or ling cod, were illegally introduced into Flaming Gorge, and all burbot caught must be immediately killed (see page 41). Burbot are a slender, smooth-skinned fish with a large barbel in the middle of the chin, and a second dorsal fin and anal fin that are half the length of the body. Burbot are yellow to light brown with a dark, wavy pattern. They may look odd, but the flaky white fish is delicious.

See page 19 for a full list of non-native nuisance fish species.

# Definitions

*Utah Code § 23A-1-101 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).

**Airgun** means any archery tackle that is capable of firing arrows or bolts, is pneumatically powered, and pressurized solely through a separate charging device.

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

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

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

**Bait** means a digestible substance, including corn, 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.

**Baitfish** means common carp, fathead minnow, redside shiner, Utah sucker, Utah chub and white sucker. These species of fish may be caught from the wild, killed and prepared by the angler to be used as bait.

**Bowfishing** means taking or attempting to take fish with barbed arrows or bolts discharged from a bow, crossbow, or airgun, from above the surface of the water, and must be attached to the bow, airgun or crossbow with a retrieval line.

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

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

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

**Domicile** means the place:

- where an individual has a fixed permanent home and principal establishment;
- to which the individual if absent, intends to return and has an actual plan, method, and means to return to the individual's domicile within six months;
- in which the individual and the individual's family voluntarily reside, not for a special or temporary purpose, but with the intention of making a permanent home; and
- is a place where the individual resides for the majority of the individual's time.

To create a new domicile an individual must:

- abandon the old domicile; and
- be able to prove that a new domicile has been established.

**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 Bear Lake sculpin; bluehead sucker; Bonneville cisco; bluegill; bullhead; channel catfish; crappie; desert sucker; flannelmouth sucker; green sucker; green sunfish; largemouth bass; least chub; longnose dace; mottled sculpin; mountain sucker; northern leatherside; northern pike; Paiute sculpin; roundtail chub; Sacramento perch; smallmouth bass; southern leatherside; speckled dace; striped bass, trout (rainbow, albino, cutthroat, brown, golden, brook, lake/mackinaw, kokanee salmon, and grayling or any hybrid of the foregoing); tiger muskellunge; Virgin spinedace; walleye; white bass; white sturgeon; 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 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.

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

**Permanent residence** means, for purposes of this guidebook only, the domicile an individual claims pursuant to ***Utah Code § 23A-1-101***.

**Possession** means actual or constructive possession.

**Possession limit** means, for purposes of this rule only, two daily limits, including fish in a cooler, camper, tent, freezer, livewell or any other place of storage, excluding fish stored in an individual's permanent residence.

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

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

**Resident** means a person who has a domicile (fixed permanent home and principal establishment) in Utah for six consecutive months immediately preceding the purchase of a license—or application of a license, permit or tag—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 is 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.

**Shooting line** means the line used to connect a speargun to spearshaft and does not include float line and reel line.

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

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

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

**Spearfishing (underwater)** means fishing by a person swimming, snorkeling, or SCUBA 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, gather, 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.

# Wildlife Resources

1. Check the **DWR wildlife calendar** for upcoming meeting dates and agenda topics.
2. **Review proposals** on the division website or our YouTube channel.
3. **Attend a public meeting** in your region to share comments or **submit feedback online** during the public comment period.

The **Utah Wildlife Board** creates wildlife-related rules for the state. The board considers recommendations from the **Division of Wildlife Resources** and five **Regional Advisory Councils (RAC)**. Each council meeting depends on **public feedback** to guide recommendations for the board.

**Visit wildlife.utah.gov/meetings to learn more and get involved!**