

Northwest Territories Sport Fishing Regulations Guide

April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026



TABLE OF CONTENTS

What's New.....	1
Barbless Hooks	1
On-line Fishing Licences	1
Reporting Fishing Violations.....	1
Residency and Age Descriptions.....	2
Your Sport Fishing Licence	2
General Regulations.....	3
Waste Disposal.....	4
Catch and Release Fishing.....	4
Waters Closed to Sport Fishing.....	5
Fork Length.....	5
Additional Validations and Special Management Areas	6
Great Slave Lake	7
Great Bear Lake Special Management Areas.....	7
Land Claim Settlement Areas.....	7
Edézhíe National Wildlife Area	12
Territorial Protected Areas	12
Attention All Anglers.....	14
Fish Species of the NWT.....	15
Be Bear Aware.....	27
For More Information.....	28

This pamphlet is not an official statement of the law and is provided for guidance only. The regulations summarized here apply to anglers who are Northwest Territories (NWT) residents, Canadian residents and non-residents. The fishing rights of Indigenous people in the NWT are different from other fishers and are not described in this pamphlet. *The Northwest Territories Fishery Regulations* are made under the federal *Fisheries Act*. Information regarding closures, fishing quotas and size limits for fishing in the NWT can be viewed at: www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/recreational-recreative/arctic-arctique/index-eng.html. If you are in doubt about any regulation, contact a Fishery Officer or Renewable Resource Officer before fishing.

What's New

- Go to www.ecc.gov.nt.ca for information on:
 - Issues and Concerns
 - Angler Survey Program
 - General Fish Consumption Guidelines for the NWT
 - Reward for Salmon
 - Reward for Tagged Fish
 - Important Safety Information
- Want to find out more about arsenic in lake water around Yellowknife? Go to: www.hss.gov.nt.ca/en/newsroom/arsenic-lake-water-around-yellowknife for the most up to date information.
- Hypothermia is always a risk in the North. For information on the effects and how to treat hypothermia, go to <https://csbc.ca/en/cold-water-awareness>.

Barbless Hooks

- Only barbless hooks are permitted** for angling in the Northwest Territories. The use of any unusual or special sports fishing gimmick hooks is often illegal and best avoided. Hooks or lures must not be spring-loaded. You may not use lights to fish.



On-line Fishing Licences

Fishing licences are available on-line at: www.ecc.gov.nt.ca. Always carry a copy of your licence with you when fishing.

Any persons intending to fish lakes or rivers on Inuvialuit private lands must first register with either the local Hunters and Trappers Committee or the Fisheries Joint Management Committee. (See page 8 for more information.)

Reporting Fishing Violations

Violations of renewable resource legislation are serious offences. If you see something suspicious or illegal, please report as much detail as possible, including time, location, vehicle licence plate, air registration letters or boat registration number, and the nature of the incident.

The toll-free line is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Call 1-866-762-2437. Information provided on the line is passed on to a Renewable Resource Officer and Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Residency and Age Descriptions

NWT RESIDENT – NWT resident for 3 months prior to issuance of licence.

RESIDENT CANADIAN – Canadian citizen or permanent resident.

Season | 3-Day | 1-Day

NON-RESIDENT – Not a Canadian or NWT resident (16 years of age or younger must be accompanied by a person holding a valid Sport Fishing Licence). **Season | 3-Day | 1-Day**

UNDER 16 – NWT or Canadian Resident AND be 16 years of age or younger.

OVER 65 – NWT or Canadian Resident AND be 65 years of age or older.

Your Sport Fishing Licence

A Sport Fishing Licence is required by everyone except:

- 🐟 NWT and Canadian residents under the age of 16 or 65 years of age and over, unless fishing in an area that requires an additional validation.
- 🐟 Non-resident anglers under the age of 16 who are accompanied by a person holding a valid sport fishing licence, unless they are fishing in an area that requires an additional validation.
- 🐟 An NWT Sport Fishing Licence is not valid in national parks, national park reserves or national historic sites. A separate Parks Canada sport fishing licence is required for each site.
- 🐟 An NWT Sport Fishing Licence AND a separate National Wildlife Area Permit are required for sport fishing inside the boundary of Edézhíé National Wildlife Area.
- 🐟 The federal Goods and Services Tax (5% GST) will be added to all fees. Due to the federal *Service Fees Act*, an increase based on the Consumer Price Index will now be applied to all licence fees, and adjusted yearly.
- 🐟 Great Bear Lake Special Management Area validation may be obtained from any licence vendor at the time of purchase.
- 🐟 The number of days available on a licence and related fees are subject to change. Please contact vendors for current licence details.
- 🐟 All licences are subject to conditions noted in the “Additional Validations” section.
- 🐟 Annual sport fishing licences expire on **March 31**.


* *A 3-day licence is valid for three consecutive days commencing the date stated on the licence.*

General Regulations

Should you be convicted for a first offence under the *Fisheries Act*, you may be liable to a fine up to \$100,000. If you are uncertain about any of the following items, contact a Fishery Officer or Renewable Resource Officer BEFORE fishing.

Regulations under the *Fisheries Act* state that:

- 🐟 You must carry your valid licence while fishing and be able to produce it at the request of an officer. NWT sport fishing licences expire March 31 of every year.
- 🐟 “Sport fishing” means fishing for pleasure and not for sale or barter and may include angling, spear fishing and dip netting.
- 🐟 It is an offence to waste any fish that is suitable for food.
- 🐟 Live fish cannot be used for bait. Live fish or live fish eggs cannot be put into NWT waters.
- 🐟 A hand net may only be used for landing fish caught by angling.
- 🐟 You may not use or possess a gaff while sport fishing.
- 🐟 No person shall engage in spear fishing except while swimming.
- 🐟 You may not dispose of fish or fish remains in the water or on the ice. At public sites, place fish remains and refuse in the provided containers.
- 🐟 Dip nets may be used to catch ciscoes and suckers. The diameter of the dip net hoop cannot exceed one metre, and all other species of fish caught must immediately be returned to the water.
- 🐟 Snagging of fish is prohibited.
- 🐟 Except when preparing your fish for immediate consumption, where size limits are in place, fish are not to be cut, packed or otherwise dealt with in a manner where the length cannot be determined. Head and tail must be attached to Arctic grayling in the Mackenzie Management Zone.
- 🐟 You must leave the skin on the fish to help in determining the species. The number of fish must also be identifiable. Fillets must be separated before freezing them. Two fillets are regarded as one fish.
- 🐟 When stored in an area other than your permanent residence, fish must be marked with the name and Sport Fishing Licence number of the person who caught them. If you are transporting fish, this information must also be marked on the outside of the package.
- 🐟 Fishing is prohibited within 23 metres downstream of any obstruction, fish way or leap.

 Angling is fishing with a hook and line. During open water season, you may fish with only a single line or rod. No more than two hooks can be attached to the line. You must attend to your line at all times. While fishing through the ice, you may fish with a maximum of two lines. No more than two hooks can be attached to any line. You must remain within 50 metres of your line or lines.

Waste Disposal

Please do not litter! Litter can be hazardous to fish, wildlife and other anglers. Discarding bait containers, fishing line and other types of litter on land, on the ice or in the water is illegal and perpetrators may face significant fines. When possible, show your respect for the environment by cleaning up after others.

Catch and Release Fishing

To minimize the impact of sport fishing please release your fish using best fishing practices such as avoiding fighting the fish for longer than necessary, minimizing handling and holding time, keeping the fish in the water if possible, using the correct tackle for the targeted fish species, taking care not to squeeze the fish, and avoiding contact with the gills and eyes. Barbless hooks are mandatory for sport fishing in the NWT.

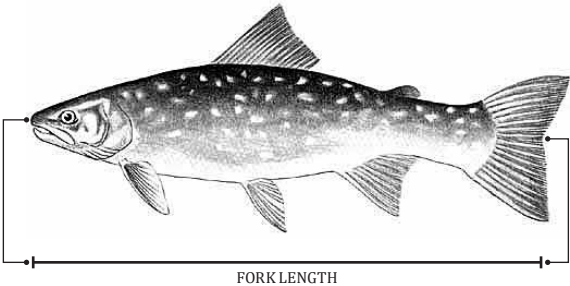
Waters Closed to Sport Fishing

The following waters are closed to sport fishing for all species during the times noted for conservation reasons. All dates are inclusive.

Waters	Coordinates / Closure Dates
BIG FISH RIVER <i>and its Tributaries</i>	68°39'N, 135°52'W Closed year round
MOSQUITO CREEK <i>and the waters of Great Slave Lake within 1 km of the mouth of Mosquito Creek</i>	62°42'N, 116°04'W May 1 - June 30
PROVIDENCE CREEK <i>and the waters of the Mackenzie River within 100 m of the mouth of Providence Creek</i>	61°15'N, 117°34'W April 15 - May 30
YELLOWKNIFE RIVER <i>between Prosperous Lake and Bluefish Lake</i>	62°39'N, 114°15'W September 1 - October 31
BAKER CREEK	62°29'10"N, 114°21'36"W April 15 - June 15
RAT RIVER	67°43'35"N, 113°15'39"W August 7 - September 15
HUSKY CHANNEL	67°36'52"N, 134°51'30"W and 68°08'03"N, 135°16'14"W August 7 - September 15
PEEL CHANNEL	68°07'51"N, 135°16'9"W and 68°13'2"N, 135°05'35"W August 7 - September 15
FISH CREEK <i>and its Tributaries</i>	67°43'42"N, 136°15'44"W Closed year round

Fork Length

The measurement from the tip of the snout to the fork of the tail.

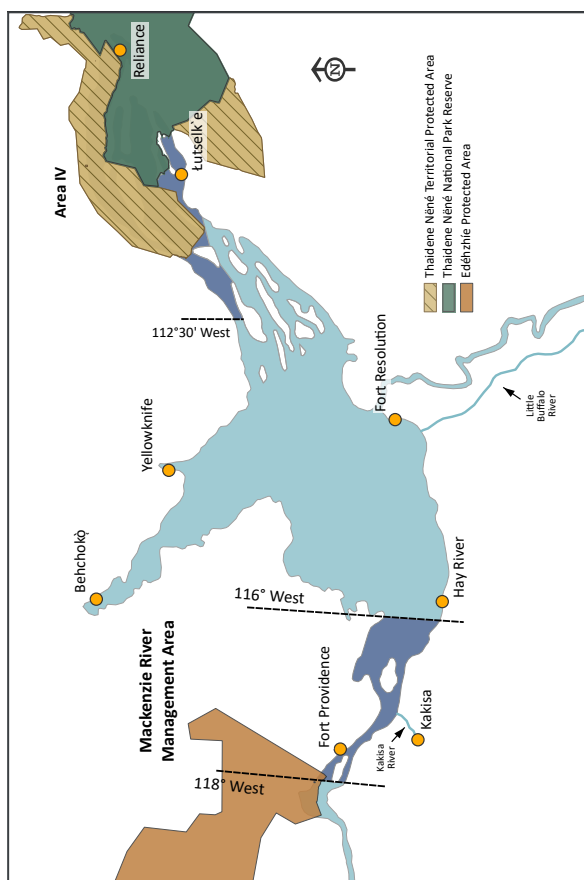


Additional Validations and Special Management Areas

Area VI

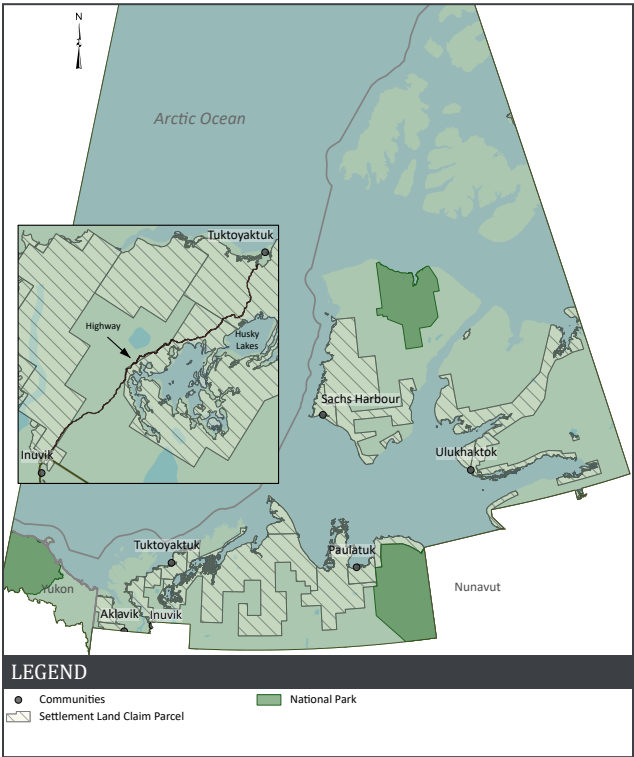
(See map for more details)

Area VI of Great Slave Lake is the area east of a line on 112°30'00"W from the north shore of Great Slave Lake to the north shore of Blanchette Island; and north of a line from the most easterly point of Blanchette Island to the most westerly point of Etthen Island, along the south shore of Etthen Island then from the most easterly point of Etthen Island due east to the mainland.



Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR)

Any person, including those under 16 or 65 years of age and older, must have a valid Sport Fishing Licence and validation to fish in the ISR. This free validation may be obtained from a vendor of fishing licences or any Environment and Climate Change Wildlife and Forestry office. Any person intending to fish lakes or rivers on Inuvialuit private lands must first register with either the local Hunters and Trappers Committee or the Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC). If you are not able to register during regular office hours, visit www.fjmc.ca. Persons fishing within the ISR may be contacted at a later date by the FJMC and asked to report their catch. For further information, see the Fishing in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region brochure, available from all licence vendors in the ISR, or www.fjmc.ca, to learn more about why this information is important to fisheries management in the ISR.



Website: fjmc.ca/sport-fishing/

Gwich'in Settlement Area (GSA)

Sport fishing in the GSA is subject to the terms and conditions of the Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement (GCLCA). Permission is required to access Gwich'in private lands. In general, most popular fishing areas in the GSA are located on private lands. Permission may be granted by the local Renewable Resources Council (RRC). Contacts are:

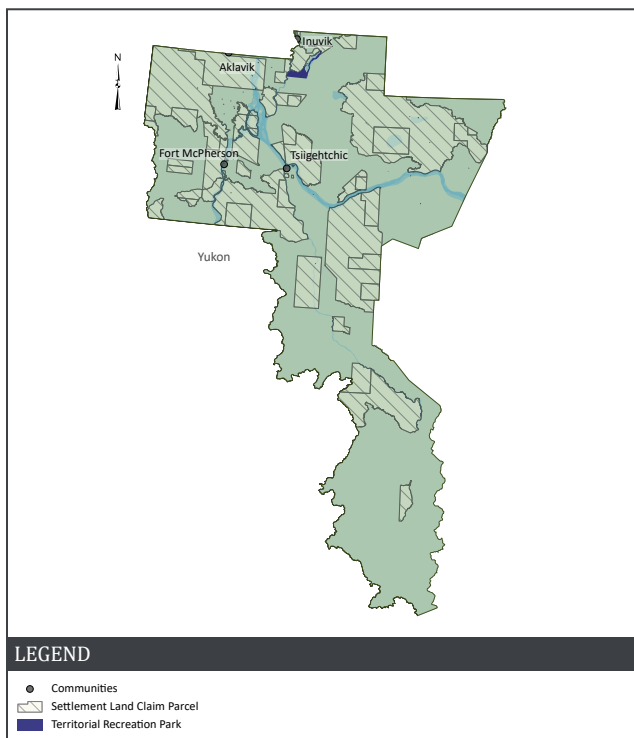
Nihtat RRC (Inuvik): 867-777-6650

Ehdiitat RRC (Aklavik): 867-978-2336

Tetlit RRC (Fort McPherson): 867-952-2330

Gwichya Gwich'in RRC (Tsiigehtchic): 867-953-3011

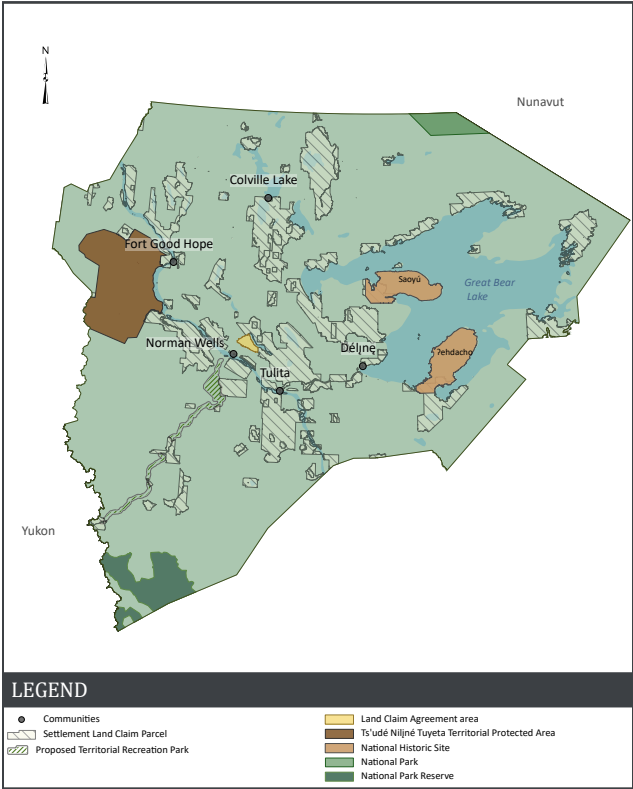
In addition to Gwich'in private lands, sport fishers should also be aware and respectful of the Gwich'in Special Harvesting Areas identified in Volume II – Schedule VI of the GCLCA. Subject to legislation (these regulations), sport fishing is allowed in Special Harvesting Areas. Please contact the GRRB at 867-777-6600 or visit their website: www.grrb.nt.ca/resource-management/fisheries.



Sahtú Settlement Area (SSA)

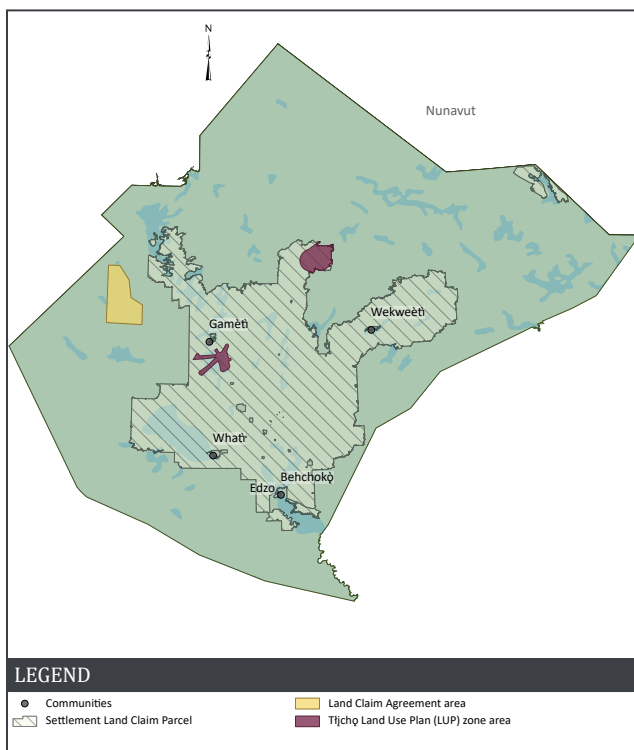
Sport fishing in the SSA may be subject to terms and conditions in accordance with the Sahtú Dene and Métis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement. Persons wishing to fish in the Special Harvesting Area are advised to contact the local Renewable Resources Council (RRC). Permission may be required to access Sahtú Dene and Métis private lands. For further information on sport fishing in the SSA or to access Sahtú private lands, contact the applicable RRC or Land Corporation(s) at:

- Norman Wells: 867-587-2455
- Déline: 867-589-4224
- Fort Good Hope: 867-598-2193
- Colville Lake: 867-709-2200
- Tulit'a: 867-588-4724



Tłıchǫ Settlement Area

For information on sport fishing terms and conditions within Tłıchǫ lands, please contact the Director, Lands Section, Department of Culture and Lands Protection at 867-392-6381 or visit www.tlcho.ca.



National Parks, National Park Reserves and National Historic Sites

National Parks, National Park Reserves and National Historic Sites each have their own site specific fishing licences, regulations including daily catch limits and areas closures. A separate fishing licence is required to fish in each National Park, National Park Reserve or National Historic site, including Thaidene Nënë National Park Reserve. Territorial fishing licences are not valid in National Parks. To prevent the introduction of invasive species, possession and use of natural or live bait is not permitted. See map on page 7. For more information on fishing regulations for each site please contact one of the regional offices, see page 28, or visit www.pc.gc.ca for more information.

Edézhíe Protected Area

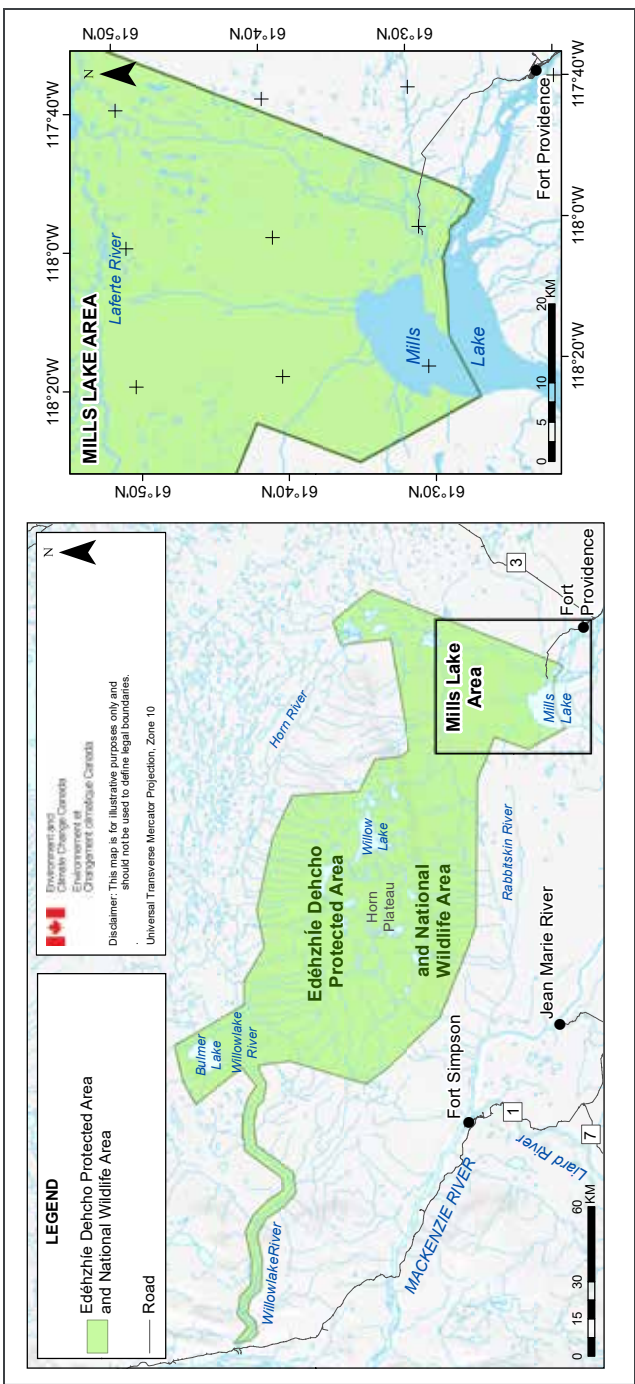
The purpose of the Edézhíe National Wildlife Area is primarily for Dene land-based cultural activities, and for wildlife and habitat conservation. Activities in National Wildlife Areas are regulated under the *Canada Wildlife Act*.

Traditional activities, including Dene Ahthít'e (the relationship between Dene and the land, their way of life, language, culture, history and laws) within Edézhíe for resource harvesting and other cultural activities practiced by Treaty and section 35 rights holders in a manner consistent with Dehcho Law. All other activities within the Edézhíe National Wildlife Area now require a National Wildlife Area permit, including access/entry, recreation, hunting, fishing, and research.

Request a permit by emailing CWSPermitNorth@ec.gc.ca. It is recommended to apply early to allow time for review, as permits are not guaranteed. For more information, visit www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/national-wildlife-areas/locations/edehzhie.html.

Territorial Protected Areas

Fishing is allowed in Territorial Protected Areas for all licenced fishers and people who are exercising an aboriginal or treaty right. Visitor access permits will be required to enter the Territorial protected area. More information on visitor entry requirements is available on the Department of Environment and Climate Change, Conservation Network Planning website at: www.ecc.gov.nt.ca/en/services/conservation-network-planning.



Attention All Anglers

Help us keep Aquatic Invasive Species out of the NWT

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are non-native species whose introduction will likely cause harm to habitats and local species. It is prohibited for any person to import, possess, transport, release or introduce any species listed under the Federal Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations Schedule II.

AIS thrive in the absence of their natural predators and have the potential to drastically alter ecosystems. AIS have already been responsible for significant devastation of some fisheries in Canada.

The *Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations* came into force on May 29, 2015; these regulations are enforceable by Fishery Officers.

When transporting your equipment between waterways always clean, drain and dry.

Clean – clean off plants, animals and mud from gear and equipment, including waders, footwear, ropes, anchors, bait traps, dip nets, downrigger cables, fishing lines and field gear, *before leaving water access.*

Drain – Drain water from boat, motor, bilge, bladder tanks, livewell and portable bait containers *away from ramp.*

Dry – Dry everything for at least *five days* when moving between waters to kill small species not easily seen.

NEVER dump live fish or other organisms from one water body into another.

Watch for these and other aquatic invasive species!

- Zebra and quagga mussels
- New Zealand mud snail
- Eurasian watermilfoil



Zebra Mussels

Photo: US Geological Survey



Zebra Mussels

Photo: US National Park Service

Fish Species of the NWT

1. **Daily Catch Limit** is the number of fish of each species that a person may catch and retain in a 24 hour period from one midnight to the next midnight.
2. **Possession Limit** is the total number of fish of each species that a person is entitled to possess at any time. This includes fish kept at a person's residence as well.
3. These limits apply to individuals only. Group fishing is **NOT** permitted.
4. Unless otherwise specified, a tributary includes the entire stream or river which flows into a larger body of water.
5. Refer to page 5 for waters closed to sport fishing, seasonally or year-round.

- **Daily Catch Limits (DCL)**
- **Possession Limits (PL)**

Arctic Char *Salvelinus alpinus*



Photo: Ellen Lea, DFO

Arctic char have a dark green back that shades to silvery sides with eye-sized pale white/pink spots without halos. There are no spots on the tail. At spawning time the colours of both sexes become more brilliant, particularly in the male, which turns a vivid orange-red. The males also develop a protruding, hooked lower jaw.

WATERS	DCL	PL	SIZE LIMITS/ OTHER RESTRICTIONS
Hornaday River and its tributaries	0	0	Catch and release only
All other NWT waters	4	7	None

Arctic Grayling *Thymallus arcticus*



Photo: Rob Coolen

The Arctic grayling, also known as the bluefish, is a beautiful game fish with dark blue, pink and purple tones that have an iridescent sheen. A striking feature is the sail-like dorsal fin, which is especially pronounced in males.

WATERS	DCL	PL	SIZE LIMITS/ OTHER RESTRICTIONS
All waters within the Gwich'in Settlement Area and Sahtú Settlement Area, excluding Great Bear Lake Special Management Area	5	10	None
Waters of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region within 500 meters of the centerline of the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk highway between points 68°26'2.51"N, 133°45'53"W and 69°24'46.14"N, 133°01'26.50"W	0	0	Catch and release only
All other waters within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region	3	5	None
Mackenzie River Management Area on Great Slave Lake, including Kakisa River and its tributaries (see Special Management Areas section pg. 6)	1	1	Fork length may not be less than 36 cm
Baker Creek (near Yellowknife) and within 100 m of the mouth. 62°29'10"N, 114°21'36"W	0	0	Catch and release only. Note: sport fishing in Baker Creek is prohibited for all species from April 15 - June 15
All other NWT waters, including Great Bear Lake Special Management Area	3	5	None

Bull Trout *Salvelinus confluentus*



Photo: Mike Bryant

The back and upper sides of the bull trout range from dark blue to olive green, with the lower sides being paler in colour. Small yellow, orange or red spots mark the back and sides. Some spawning males develop bright red bellies and hooked lower jaws. Bull trout and dolly varden are very similar in colouration and are difficult to tell apart, especially smaller individuals. Bull trout, however, have a larger, broader, flatter head with eyes close to the top of the head and a more rounded body. Western Arctic populations of Bull Trout are listed as a Species of Special Concern under Canada's *Species at Risk Act*.

WATERS	DCL	PL	SIZE LIMITS/ OTHER RESTRICTIONS
All NWT waters	2	3	None

Dolly Varden *Salvelinus malma malma*



Photo: Ellen Lea, DFO

Anadromous (sea run) populations of Northern form, Dolly Varden, a species in the char family, can be found in small number of northern river systems in the NWT, Yukon and Alaska. In their non-spawning form they are silver with small pale pink/orange spots, and have an oval body with heads that do not dominate their profile. In their spawning form the males develop a kype (hooked lower jaw), bright red-orange spots, with a brown-black dorsal surface and bright orange-red ventral colouration. Females develop similar colouration but to a lesser extent. Western Arctic populations of Dolly Varden are listed as a Species of Special Concern under Canada's *Species at Risk Act*.

WATERS	DCL	PL	SIZE LIMITS/ OTHER RESTRICTIONS
Waters within the Gwich'in Settlement Area, Inuvialuit Settlement Region	0	0	Catch and release only
All other NWT waters	4	7	None

Burbot *Lota lota*



Photo: Mike Bryant

Burbot, commonly known as loche, cod or mariah in the NWT, have distinctive features, including an oval shaped tail and a barbel under the chin. A master of camouflage, their colour can range from yellow, light brown, tan or olive to a medium/dark brown-green shade to almost black depending on the clarity of the water.

WATERS	DCL	PL	SIZE LIMITS/ OTHER RESTRICTIONS
Dolomite Lake (Airport Lake), 68°18'N, 133°33'W	5 / 0 / 5	5 / 0 / 5	April 1 - Aug 14 / Aug 15 - Oct 31 / Nov 1 - March 31
Waters of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region within 500 m of the centerline of the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk highway between points 68°26'2.51"N, 133°45' 53"W and 69°24'46.14"N, 133°01'26.50"W	0	0	Catch and release only
All other NWT waters	5	10	None



Photo: Jeremy Steward DFO

Inconnu *Stenodus leucichthys*



Photo: Mike Bryant

Inconnu, commonly called coney in the NWT, somewhat resembles a very large herring with dark back, silvery sides and large scales. A mature coney can range from a half meter to over a meter in length. Inconnu is a member of the whitefish family.

WATERS	DCL	PL	SIZE LIMITS/ OTHER RESTRICTIONS
Great Slave Lake and its tributaries	1	2	None
Waters of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region within 500 m of the centerline of the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk highway between points 68°26'2.51"N, 133°45'53"W and 69°24'46.14"N, 133°01'26.50"W	0	0	Catch and release only
Dolomite Lake (Airport Lake), 68°18'N, 133°33'W	5 / 0 / 5	10 / 0 / 10	April 1 - Aug 14 / Aug 15 - Oct 31 / Nov 1 - March 31
La Martre River from Whati Falls at a point 63°8'8.9"N, 116°54'6.3"W to approx. 8.9 km downstream to a line drawn between points 63°10'18.53"N, 116°47'41.90"W and 63°10'14.78"N, 116°47'34.12"W	0	0	Catch and release only
All other NWT waters	5	10	None

Lake Trout *Salvelinus namaycush*



Photo: Mike Bryant

Lake trout range from light green or gray to dark green, brown or almost black with a light coloured belly. Their whole body, including the dorsal, adipose and tail fins are covered with many light coloured spots.

WATERS	DCL	PL	SIZE LIMITS/ OTHER RESTRICTIONS
Great Bear Lake Special Management Area	1	2	Only 1 lake trout may be removed during any trip.
Waters of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region within 500 m of the centerline of the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk highway between points 68°26'2.51"N, 133°45'53"W and 69°24'46.14"N, 133°01'26.50"W	0	0	Catch and release only
Dolomite Lake (Airport Lake), 68°18'N, 133°33'W	1 / 0 / 1	1 / 0 / 1	April 1 - Aug 14 / Aug 15 - Oct 31 / Nov 1 - March 31
Great Slave Lake (GSL) and its tributaries from their mouth to 1 km upstream	2	3	DCL – Only 1 from Area VI of GSL. PL – Only 2 from Area VI of GSL. Only 1 in possession in all areas of GSL may be more than 70 cm fork length.
Trout Lake, 60°35'N, 121°19'W, and its tributaries	1	1	None
Stark Lake	3	5	Only one Lake trout in possession may be more than 70 cm fork length.
Prelude Lake, Prosperous Lake, Walsh Lake, River Lake, Banting Lake and Vee Lake	1 / 0 / 1	1 / 0 / 1	DCL/PL – apply to all of these lakes combined April 1 - Aug 31 / Sept 1 - Oct 31 / Nov 1 - March 31
Alexie and Chitty Lake	0	0	Catch and release only
All other waters within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region	1 / 0 / 1	1 / 0 / 1	April 1 - Aug 14 / Aug 15 - Oct 31 / Nov 1 - March 31
All other NWT waters	3	5	None

Northern Pike *Esox lucius*



Photo: Piotr Wawrzyniuk

Also known as jackfish, pike have long bodies with dark green to brown colouration along their back. The sides are lighter with irregular rows of yellow to whitish bean-shaped spots which run lengthwise on the body. The dorsal or back fin is near the tail end of the body.

WATERS	DCL	PL	SIZE LIMITS/ OTHER RESTRICTIONS
Waters within the Gwich'in Settlement Area, Sahtú Settlement Area, excluding Great Bear Lake Special Management Area and Dolomite Lake (Airport Lake)	5	10	None
Waters of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region within 500 m of the centerline of the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk highway between points 68°26'2.51"N, 133°45'53"W and 69°24'46.14"N, 133°01'26.50"W	0	0	Catch and release only
All other waters within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region	3	5	None
Horn River, Mills Lake and the Mackenzie River between 118°W and 118°25'W	1	1	Included in the total DCL/PL for the Mackenzie River Management Area. Please see Edézhíe National Wildlife Area for permit info (p. 13).
Mackenzie River Management Area on Great Slave Lake and its tributaries (see Special Management Areas section pg. 6)	1	1	Included in the total DCL/PL for the Great Slave Lake and its tributaries.
Hay River	1	2	Included in total DCL/PL for Great Slave Lake and its tributaries

Northern Pike *(continued)*

WATERS	DCL	PL	SIZE LIMITS/ OTHER RESTRICTIONS
Little Buffalo River, 61°00'N, 113°46'W and that part of Resolution Bay which lies south of a straight line drawn from 61°00'45"N, 114°15'W at Pine Point to 61°10'N, 113°46'17"W at Mission Island	1	2	Included in total DCL/PL for Great Slave Lake and its tributaries
Great Slave Lake and its tributaries	3	5	None
Sandy Lake, 60°31'N, 114°35'W	1	1	None
Trout Lake, 60°35'N, 121°19'W and its tributaries	2	3	None
Dolomite Lake (Airport Lake), 68°18'N, 133°33'W	5 / 0 / 5	10 / 0 / 10	April 1 - Aug 14 / Aug 15 - Oct 31 / Nov 1 - March 31
Great Bear Lake Special Management Area	3	5	None
All other NWT waters	3	5	None



Walleye *Sander vitreus*



Photo: AndreyGV

Also known as pickerel or doré, the walleye is a member of the perch family. They have sharp teeth and two dorsal fins on their back, the front one supported by large, sharp spines. They vary in colour from olive-brown to golden brown to yellow with golden flecks on the scales and a white belly. Their large, silvery eyes are very distinctive. The dorsal or back fin is near the tail end of the body.

WATERS	DCL	PL	SIZE LIMITS/ OTHER RESTRICTIONS
Waters of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region within 500 m of the centerline of the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk highway between points 68°26'2.51"N, 133°45'53"W and 69°24'46.14"N, 133°01'26.50"W	0	0	Catch and release only
All other waters within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region	1 / 4	1 / 7	April 1 - June 6 / June 7 - March 31
Mosquito Creek and the waters of Great Slave Lake within 1 km of the mouth of Mosquito Creek at 62°42'N, 116°04'W	0 / 3	0 / 5	Closed May 1 - June 30 / Open July 1 - April 30
Horn River, Mills Lake and the Mackenzie River between 118° W and 118°25'W longitude.	1 / 2	1 / 3	April 1 - June 6 / June 7 - March 31 Included in the total DCL/PL for the Mackenzie River Management Area. Please see Edézhíe National Wildlife Area for permit info (p. 13).
All waters within the Sahtú Settlement Area and Gwich'in Settlement Area	5	10	None
Sandy Lake, 60°31'N, 114°35'W	1	1	None

Walleye *(continued)*

WATERS	DCL	PL	SIZE LIMITS/ OTHER RESTRICTIONS
Hay River and the Mackenzie River Management Area on Great Slave Lake, including Kakisa River and its tributaries (see Special Management Areas section, pg. 6)	1 / 2	1 / 3	April 1 - June 6 / June 7 - March 31
Little Buffalo River, 61°00'N, 113°46'W and that part of Resolution Bay which lies south of a straight line drawn from 61°00'45"N, 114°15'W at Pine Point to 61°10'N, 113°46'17"W at Mission Island	1 / 1	1 / 2	April 1 - June 6 / June 7 - March 31 Included in total DCL/PL for Great Slave Lake and its tributaries
Trout Lake, 60°35'N, 121°19'W, and its tributaries excluding the Moose River.	1 / 2	1 / 3	April 1 - June 6 / June 7 - March 31
Moose River, 60°45'57"N, 121°20'49"W	0 / 1	0 / 2	April 1 - June 6 / June 7 - March 31 Included in total DCL/PL for Trout Lake and its tributaries
Johnston Lake, 62°59'N, 114°12'W	1 / 2	1 / 3	April 1 - June 6 / June 7 - March 31
Kam and Grace Lakes and the connector stream	0 / 4	0 / 7	April 1 - June 6 / June 7 - March 31
All other NWT waters	1 / 4	1 / 7	April 1 - June 6 / June 7 - March 31



Lake, Broad and Round Whitefish



Photo: Bonnie Fournier

Coregonus clupeaformis

Lake whitefish have narrow silvery bodies which may shade to olive-brown or to almost black along the back depending on water clarity. The snout overhangs the lower jaw; the head may appear small in larger fish which may develop a distinct hump behind the head.

Traits vary slightly among different species of whitefish.

WATERS	DCL	PL	SIZE LIMITS/ OTHER RESTRICTIONS
Waters within the Sahtú Settlement Area and Gwich'in Settlement Area, excluding Dolomite Lake (Airport Lake)	10	20	None
Waters of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region within 500 m of the centerline of the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk highway between points 68°26'2.51"N, 133°45'53"W and 69°24'46.14"N, 133°01'26.50"W	0	0	Catch and release only
All other waters within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region	5	10	None
Dolomite Lake (Airport Lake), 68°18'N, 133°33'W	10 / 0 / 10	20 / 0 / 20	April 1 - Aug 14 / Aug 15 - Oct 31 / Nov 1 - March 31
All other NWT waters	5	10	None

Other Species

SPECIES	WATERS	DCL	PL	SIZE LIMITS/ OTHER RESTRICTIONS
Brook Trout	All NWT waters	3	5	None
Ciscoes	Dolomite Lake (Airport Lake), 68°18'N,133°33'W	175 / 0 / 175	175 / 0 / 175	April 1 - Aug 14 / Aug 15 - Oct 31 / Nov 1 - March 31
	Waters of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region within 500 m of the centerline of the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk highway between points 68°26'2.51"N, 133°45'53"W and 69°24'46.14"N, 133°01'26.50"W	0	0	Catch and release only
	All other NWT waters	175	175	None
Goldeye	All NWT waters	5	10	None
Rainbow Trout	All NWT waters	1	2	None
Suckers	All NWT waters	No Limit	No Limit	None



Be Bear Aware

- 🐟 Stay alert and aware of your surroundings, regularly stopping to scan for bears.
- 🐟 Make noise, especially when your visibility is limited.
- 🐟 If you are fishing along the shoreline, keep your fish on a stringer and closely attended.
- 🐟 Clean your catch at the shoreline, not in camp.
- 🐟 Place fish remains in tightly sealed plastic bags and pack them back to town.
- 🐟 Wash your hands, knives and cutting board after cleaning the fish.
- 🐟 Store your fish in a cool place and in a bear-resistant or odour-proof container.
- 🐟 Before you make a camp, check for signs of recent bear activity (tracks and droppings) or bear feeding activity (digging, animal remains or garbage). If you find any of these choose another place to camp.
- 🐟 Locate the food storage and cooking area separate from sleeping areas. Clothes that may contain fish or cooking odours should not be brought into your tent, rather store them in the food and cooking area.
- 🐟 Keep a clean camp. Elimination of odour is essential.



For More Information

Government of the Northwest Territories Environment and Climate Change	
Regional Offices	
Fort Simpson	867-695-7450
Fort Smith	867-872-6400
Inuvik	867-678-8091 ext. 53661
Norman Wells	867-587-3506
Yellowknife	867-767-9238 ext. 53247
Visit our website: www.ecc.gov.nt.ca	
Government of Canada	
Office Locations	
Fisheries and Oceans Canada	
Hay River	867-875-5300
Inuvik	867-777-7500
Yellowknife	867-669-4900
Parks Canada	
Wood Buffalo National Park	867-872-7960
Thaidene Nene National Park Reserve	867-766-8460
Nahanni National Park Reserve	867-695-7750
Nááts'ı́hch'oh National Park Reserve	867-588-4884
Saoyú-ᑭehdacho National Historic Site, Tukut Nogait National Park and Aulavik National Park	867-777-8800
Co-Management Boards	
Fisheries Joint Management Committee (Inuvialuit) – Inuvik	867-777-2828
Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board – Inuvik	867-777-6600
Sahtú Renewable Resources Board – Tulít'a	867-588-4040
Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board – Yellowknife	867-873-5740
Forest Fires	1-877-698-3473
Spill Report Line (collect calls accepted)	867-920-8130
Marine and Air Search and Rescue	1-800-267-7270
Boating Safety Infoline	1-800-267-6687
Marine Radio Distress Call	Channel 16
For sport fishing management e-mail: XCA-NWTSportFishing@dfo-mpo.gc.ca	
For public health advisories e-mail: environmental_health@gov.nt.ca	
Report-A-Poacher	1-866-762-2437

**Call 9-1-1 for assistance from
RCMP, Fire or Ambulance**