

PROVINCIAL REGULATIONS

QUOTAS

For all game fish (see page 13 in this section), there is a quota or limit on the number of fish you may keep. For other species of fish (which are not protected), there is no quota (any number may be kept).

Refer to the Regional Chapters for Regional Daily Catch Quotas and to the Regional Water-Specific Tables for special quotas on some individual waters.

Daily catch quota ... the maximum number of fish of a given species, group of species, or size class that you may keep in one calendar day.

Possession quota ... no more than twice the daily quota unless otherwise specified (see definition, page 13 in this section).

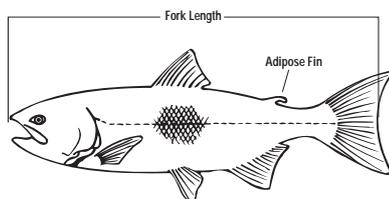
Monthly catch quota ... the maximum number of fish that you are allowed to keep in one calendar month.

Annual catch quota ... the maximum number of fish that you are allowed to keep in one licence year (April 1 to March 31).

Quotas are not cumulative: you cannot take a quota from each region that you fish. A good rule of thumb is this: never have in your possession while at or near any lake or stream, more fish than the allowable quota for that lake or stream. Check the Regional Regulations and Tables for daily catch quotas for B.C. sport fish.

SIZE LIMITS

Size limits protect fish of certain sizes.



Measure your fish from the tip of the nose to the fork of the tail to determine its legal length.

Size limits are listed with quotas in the Regional Regulations and in the Regional Water-Specific Tables. If you catch a fish protected by a min. or max. size limit, release it as quickly and carefully as possible (see "Releasing Fish," page 11 in this section).

Minimum size limits allow fish to spawn at least once before they can be caught and kept. **There is no general minimum size limits for trout/char in B.C. waters, EXCEPT** where specifically indicated in the Regional Daily Catch Quotas or for waters listed in the Regional Water-Specific Tables.

Maximum size limits allow larger fish to be released to provide future fishing opportunities.

PROTECTED SPECIES

It is illegal to fish for, catch and retain, or have in your possession any of the fish listed below. If you accidentally catch one, you must release it right away where you captured it. The fish on this list are considered to be at risk in Canada and are legally protected by federal statutes.

Cultus Pygmy Sculpin	Shorthead Sculpin
Giant Stickleback	Nooksack Dace
Umatilla Dace	Speckled Dace
Salish Sucker	Green Sturgeon

Vananda Creek Stickleback

Vancouver Lamprey

Paxton Lake Stickleback

Enos Lake Stickleback

Morrison Creek Lamprey

Charlotte Unarmoured Stickleback

White Sturgeon (Nechako, Upper Fraser, Kootenay and Columbia populations)

For more information on protected species, please visit Environment Canada's website at www.sararegistry.gc.ca.

MOST WATERS ARE OPEN

Most waters in B.C. are open to fishing for some species 24 hours of the day, every day of the year.

"NO FISHING" AREAS

There are five basic exceptions:

- ▶ "No fishing" areas (see Regional Tables);
- ▶ Within Ecological Reserves (this page);
- ▶ Within 23 m below the lower entrance to any fishway, canal, obstacle or leap;
- ▶ Within a 100 m radius of any government facility operated for counting, passing or rearing fish (e.g., fishway, fish hatchery, aeration system) unless otherwise designated; and
- ▶ Within National Parks unless a specific location is identified as being open (see "National Parks" on this page).

Not all "no fishing" areas are posted with signs. Make sure you read the Regional Regulations for the area in which you will be fishing. If you have any questions, call or write the local Fish and Wildlife Regional Office.

ECOLOGICAL RESERVES

Fishing is prohibited in Ecological Reserves in B.C. A complete list of ecological reserves is available from BC Parks headquarters at: PO Box 9398, STN PROV GOVT, Victoria, B.C. V8W 9M9, or on the BC Parks website: www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/eco_reserve/ecoresrv/ecoresrv.html.

BC PARKS

Individuals visiting BC Parks, either a Park, Conservancy, Recreation Area or Protected Area should be aware that the *Park Act* and its regulations apply, as do the sport fishing regulations in this Synopsis.

NOTE: the use of horses, motor vehicles, motorcycles, snowmobiles, other self-propelled vehicles or bicycles is generally prohibited in BC Parks except where specifically authorized by a sign or Park Officer. All motor vehicles on BC Park roads must be licensed. Use of aircraft to arrive at or depart from some parks is restricted.

NATIONAL PARKS

The seven National Parks within British Columbia are: Kootenay, Yoho, Glacier, Revelstoke, Pacific Rim, Gwaii Haanas and Gulf Islands.

Freshwater fishing is prohibited in National Parks unless opened under the National Parks Fishing Regulations. Where open, anglers require a National Park Fishing Permit to fish in park waters.

A provincial angling licence is not valid unless otherwise stated for any fresh water within National Parks or National Park Reserves.

National Park Fishing Permits and Regulations are available at park visitor centres and at some local commercial outlets. The National Parks Fishing Regulations may also be viewed at www.pc.gc.ca by selecting a park and clicking on "Activities," then "Fishing," or by contacting Parks Canada at 1-888-773-8888.

For the 2010-2011 fishing season only, the provincial freshwater regulations in this Synopsis will be in effect for the non-tidal waters in **Pacific Rim National Park Reserve** and a provincial angling licence will be required.

All fresh waters within **Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve** and **Gulf Islands National Park Reserve** are closed to fishing throughout the 2010-2011 season.