

## Saskatchewan Anglers' Guide

2017

saskatchewan.ca/fishing





## Minister's Message



Scott Moe Minister of Environment

I would like to welcome you to a new season of sport fishing in Saskatchewan.

Saskatchewan's fishery is a priceless legacy, and it is the ministry's goal to maintain it in a healthy, sustainable state to provide diverse benefits for the province. As part of this commitment, a portion of all angling licence fees are dedicated to enhancing fishing opportunities through the Fish and Wildlife Development Fund (FWDF). One of the activities the FWDF supports is the operation of the Saskatchewan Fish Culture Station, which plays a key role in managing a number of Saskatchewan's sport fisheries. To meet the province's current and future stocking needs, a review of the station's aging infrastructure was recently completed, with a multi-year plan for modernization and refurbishment to begin in 2017.

In response to the ongoing threat of aquatic invasive species, the ministry has increased its prevention efforts on several fronts, including increasing public awareness, conducting watercraft inspections and monitoring highrisk waters. I ask everyone to continue their vigilance against the threat of aquatic invasive species by ensuring that your watercraft and related equipment are cleaned, drained and dried prior to moving from one body of water to another.

Responsible fishing today ensures fishing opportunities for tomorrow. I encourage all anglers to do their part by becoming familiar with this guide and the rules and regulations that pertain to your planned fishing activity.

Have a great fishing year!

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## How To Use This Guide

#### 2017 Saskatchewan Anglers' Guide

The anglers' guide is available each year from the Ministry of Environment to provide an up-to-date synopsis of the limits, season dates, closed waters, regulations, new programs and other relevant information of interest to anglers. This synopsis is neither a legal document nor a complete summary of the current rules and regulations that pertain to sport fishing in Saskatchewan, and is intended to serve as a general reference only. Complete copies of acts and regulations are available in print and electronically from the Saskatchewan Queen's Printer (see page 8).

#### How to Use This Guide

Before your fishing trip, review this guide to understand the rules and regulations that pertain to sport fishing in this province.

- 1. What's new for 2017: Become familiar with all regulatory changes (page 3).
- 2. General regulations (and licensing requirements): These apply to the entire province and must be complied with at all times (pages 6 to 10).
- 3. Special (water-specific) regulations: Refer to pages 14 to 32 for the water you plan to fish, as special or water-specific regulations may apply. If the water you plan to fish is:
  - Listed in the special regulations tables, you must comply with the general regulations and any special regulations that are identified for that water.
  - Not listed in the special regulations tables, it is subject to general regulations only.
- 4. Please note that regulatory changes for 2017 appear in the guide in bolded red print with an asterisk (\*).



See pages 4 and 5 for invasive species information.

CLEAN + DRAIN + DRY

## What's New For 2017

- Fees for all Saskatchewan angling licences will increase effective April 1, 2017 (see page 6). This is the first increase to angling licence fees since 2004.
- The Lac la Ronge Endorsement and Harvest Ledger is no longer required to fish on Lac la Ronge or Hunter Bay. Catch-and-release (CR) CR1 limits for Lac la Ronge and Hunter Bay remain in effect (see page 6).
- Donations to the Fish and Wildlife Development Fund can now be made through HAL, the province's automated hunting, angling and trapping licence system (see page 5).

## Proposed Changes for 2018

- Change the following CR1 water to CR2: Wollaston Lake.
- **Madge Lake:** To better protect spawning-sized walleye and increase potential recruitment, reductions to both the walleye upper size and catch limits are being considered for Madge Lake in 2018. Other considerations include removing the current 38 cm minimum size restriction for walleye, and reviewing the mandatory use of barbless hooks. Any potential changes will be dependent upon the results of a population assessment planned for Madge Lake in 2017.
- **Diefenbaker Lake Tailwaters:** from Gardner Dam to 12.5 km downstream (Enbridge pipeline crossing) at approximately N 51°21' W 106°59' stocked trout limit 1. A reduced stocked trout limit of 1 for this area will help to distribute angler harvest of these fish.

## Whirling Disease

Whirling disease is an infectious fish disease caused by a microscopic parasite that has recently been discovered for the first time in Canada in the province of Alberta. None of Saskatchewan's native fish species are susceptible to this disease, nor is it a health concern for humans, birds or mammals; it can cause mortality in some stocked trout species such as rainbow and brown trout. Regulations are in place to control the movement of fish into and within Saskatchewan. The ministry will continue to work with its federal and provincial partners on preventing the spread of this disease into the province. Remember that it is illegal to move live fish into and within Saskatchewan without proper authorization (see page 10).

## Fish Kills

In most instances, fish kills in Saskatchewan are the result of natural causes such as low dissolved oxygen levels in the water. If you observe a sudden and unexpected mass die-off of fish in any of Saskatchewan's public waters, please report it as quickly as possible to the nearest Ministry of Environment office.

# Stop Aquatic Invasive Species



zebra mussels



# CLEAN + DRAIN + DRY YOUR BOAT

Aquatic invasive species such as zebra mussels and quagga mussels pose a serious threat to our waters and fish resources.

Whether returning home from out of province, coming to visit or moving between waters within the province make sure to:

#### **CLEAN**

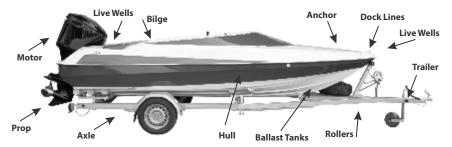
and inspect watercraft and gear. Remove all visible plants, animals and mud. Rinse using high pressure, hot tap water 50°C (120°F).

## DRAIN

all onboard water from watercraft including the motor, livewell, bilge and bait buckets and leave plugs out during transport and storage.

#### DRY

your watercraft and all related gear for at least five days in the hot sun if rinsing is not available. Dispose of unwanted leeches, crayfish and worms in the trash and dump bait bucket water on land.



#### To report suspect invasive species, please contact the nearest Ministry of Environment office or call the TIP Line.

saskatchewan.ca

1-800-667-7561 | #5555 SaskTel Cell saskatchewan.ca/tip



## Automated Hunting, Angling and Trapping Licence (HAL) System

Angling licences are available online anytime at <u>saskatchewan.ca/fishing</u>, through private issuers, Ministry of Environment and select provincial park offices, or by phone using a credit card at 1-855-848-4773 (8 a.m. to 9 p.m.). Please allow 10 business days for delivery.

Licence purchases can be made simply by accessing your existing account using your HAL identification number or your previously registered secondary identification number. Do not create a second account. If you require assistance with your identification, call 1-855-848-4773 (8 a.m. to 9 p.m.).

Donations can now be made to the Fish and Wildlife Development Fund (FWDF) through HAL to help maintain Saskatchewan's fish and wildlife populations and their habitats. Contributions can be directed to the FWDF's fish enhancement and/or wildlife development programs. All monies directed to the fish enhancement program will be used to upgrade aging infrastructure at the province's fish culture station, which is estimated to cost \$14 million over the next eight years.

## Aquatic Invasive Species

An invasive species is a non-native organism that causes environmental or economic harm when introduced into a new ecosystem. Zebra mussels are of particular concern to our province as they have become established in Manitoba and North Dakota, and more recently have been detected in Montana. These small mussels, originally from Europe, cause billions of dollars in damage to North America each year.

Over the past few years, the ministry, along with several partner agencies, has monitored a number of high-risk waters within the province for the presence of adult and juvenile mussels, with no invasive mussels having been detected to date. The ministry also continues to inspect watercraft throughout the province for invasive mussels. Individuals are reminded that watercraft inspections are mandatory when an officer requests one.

Under certain conditions, aquatic invasive species including adult zebra and quagga mussels can survive out of water for days. To prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species, and to help protect Saskatchewan waters – remember to practice **CLEAN**, **DRAIN**, **DRY** on your boats, trailers and other fishing, boating and water sports equipment before returning home from out-of-province, coming to visit or moving between waters within the province.

**DISPOSE** of all unwanted bait in the trash and never release leftover leeches or crayfish, or any aquarium pets, plants or water into our lakes, rivers or wetlands.

## Licensing Fees and Requirements

Saskatchewan Resident (see definition on page 11) All lice	ences include
Age 16 to 64 GST (goods and	services tax)
- Annual	\$37.00
- 3 day (consecutive days - southern and central zones only)	\$19.00
- 1 day (southern and central zones only)	\$13.00
Senior (65 or older) - no licence required	N/A
Youth (under 16) - no licence required	N/A
Canadian Resident (see definition on page 11)	
Age 16 and older	
- Annual	\$75.00
- 3 day (consecutive days - southern and central zones only)	\$40.00
- 1 day (southern and central zones only)	\$20.00
Youth (under 16) - no licence required	N/A
Non-Resident (see definition on page 11)	
Age 16 and older	
- Annual	\$100.00
- 3 day (consecutive days - southern and central zones only)	\$50.00
- 1 day (southern and central zones only)	\$25.00
Youth (under 16) - no licence required	N/A
Competitive Fishing Event Licence (see page 36)	Free

#### **Duplicate Licences**

• Duplicate licences may be printed online, at a Ministry of Environment office (no charge) or at a private licence issuer.

#### Senior Licensing

- Saskatchewan resident seniors 65 years or older who produce proof of age and Saskatchewan residency do not require a licence to angle.
- Seniors from out of province are required to purchase an angling licence.
- Seniors still must meet all other fishing regulations.

#### Lac la Ronge Endorsement and Harvest Ledger

The angling endorsement licence and harvest ledger requirement for all of Lac la Ronge, including Hunter Bay has been removed effective April 1, 2017. The lake trout population in these waters has recovered sufficiently to warrant the removal of this additional licence type and harvest restriction. The ministry surveyed past endorsement licence holders prior to making this change. CR1 limits for Lac la Ronge and Hunter Bay remain in effect.

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## Season Dates and General Limits

#### Season Dates

2017-18	Open	Close
Southern Zone	May 5, 2017	March 31, 2018
Central Zone	May 15, 2017	March 31, 2018
Northern Zone	May 25, 2017	April 15, 2018
*See pages 15 to 32 for alternate s on May 13 in 2017.	eason dates for certain waters. Exam	nple "Lake of the Prairies" opens

#### **Catch Limits**

General limits apply to most Saskatchewan waters. Special limits on specific waters are listed on pages 15 to 32. "Limit" refers to the maximum number of fish you are allowed to retain or have in your possession. Anglers may possess no more than one limit of each fish species at any time. This includes fish that are eaten or given away for that particular day and all fish that are at your camp, being transported by or for you, or fish that are in storage. To determine fish length, measure the fish's total length with its tail pinched (see page 38).

#### **General Limits**

xceed 35 cm
xceed 65 cm
xceed 75 cm
bined
xceed 55 cm

#### **Catch-and-Release Angling Limits**

Catch-and-release (CR) designated water types 1, 2 and 3 are included in the special regulations section on pages 14 to 32 of the guide. These reduced angling limits or CR designations have been implemented on many waters across the province to help protect or sustain a fishery. Barbless hooks are mandatory on all CR waters, as well as on Athapapuskow, Caddis, Madge and Tobin lakes and Lake of the Prairies.

# Summary of Saskatchewan's Fishing REGULATIONS

Sport fishing in Saskatchewan is regulated by *The Fisheries Regulations under The Fisheries Act (Saskatchewan), 1994.* Below is a summary of the major regulations anglers should be aware of. For more information about *The Fisheries Regulations* and *The Fisheries Act*, ask a conservation officer. Complete copies of acts and regulations may be obtained from the Queen's Printer at op.gov.sk.ca or call toll-free (in Saskatchewan) 1-800-226-7302.

#### **General Prohibitions**

It is unlawful to:

- sport fish without possessing a valid Saskatchewan angling licence unless the angler is under 16 years of age or a Saskatchewan resident senior;
- use another person's licence to fish;
- falsify information on a licence;
- backdate or otherwise alter a licence;
- fail to produce a licence upon request of a conservation officer or an RCMP officer;
- assist or fish with individuals who are fishing for food pursuant to their Treaty or Aboriginal rights, unless the rights bearing person(s) do not exceed the maximum number or size of fish permitted by angling under these regulations; or the accompanying person has a recognized Treaty or Aboriginal right to fish for food in Saskatchewan; or is a member of their immediate family;
- possess fish taken for food by an individual under their Treaty or Aboriginal fishing rights, unless you are a member of their immediate family or have a Treaty or Aboriginal right to fish for food in Saskatchewan;
- fish in closed waters or during a closed season;
- take more fish than the limit

specifies (limit includes fish stored
or eaten for shore lunch);

- take more than the Saskatchewan limit of fish on boundary waters with Alberta, Manitoba, the Northwest Territories and Prince Albert National Park, unless otherwise specified;
- transport fish taken by angling that are skinless, cut or packaged so that the species, number and length cannot be determined;
- fish with more than one line during open water season;
- use more than four hooks on one line (a lure with a gang of hooks is considered one hook);
- be more than 25 m (27.3 yds) from your fishing line;
- be in any place where your fishing line(s) are not visible at all times;
- possess or use any spring-loaded gaff or spring-loaded hook;
- use a dipnet except to land fish taken by angling;
- use lights, firearms, chemicals, electric shockers or explosives to catch or kill fish;
- take fish by snaring or snagging;
- grapple or use hands alone to take or attempt to take fish;
- use fish traps or nets to take fish, unless specifically licensed to do so;
- fish within 23 m (25 yds) downstream from any constructed

dam or obstacle except where there is a ministry sign allowing fishing;

- angle on the Saskatchewan portion of boundary waters without a valid Saskatchewan angling licence, unless otherwise specified;
- sell, waste or barter fish taken by angling;
- fail to stop a vehicle or boat when requested or signaled by a conservation officer or an RCMP officer;
- tamper with or take fish from a net, trap or holding device without the owner's permission; and
- import into Saskatchewan or transport within Saskatchewan any live fish or live fish eggs.

#### **Fishing With Bait**

- live fish may not be used as bait. Only baitfish that are dead and have been commercially frozen or preserved may be used;
- all frozen fish to be used as bait in Saskatchewan (including smelt), that originate from Ontario, Quebec,
   Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania or Wisconsin, jurisdictions known to harbour viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS), require proof that the fish are certified free of VHS;
- live leeches or crayfish may not be imported into Saskatchewan. Only leeches and crayfish originating within Saskatchewan may be used as live bait. Canadian and nonresident anglers must provide proof to an officer (upon request) that their live bait was purchased in Saskatchewan;
- frogs and salamanders may not be used as bait;
- the non-edible parts of a fish legally taken by angling, such as the eye, belly skin or internal organs can be used as bait and the fish from which the parts were taken must be dead and included in your limit;
- earthworms or night crawlers may

be imported and used as live bait. However, they must be shipped in a soil-free medium such as peat moss or shredded paper.

#### **Ice Fishing**

- two lines may be used when ice fishing but they must at all times remain within 25 m (27.3 yds) and in sight of the person who has set or is using them;
- only gaffs with a J-hook end may be used to land fish while ice fishing but they cannot exceed 1.5 m (1.6 yds) in length;
- ice fishing shelters south of Highway 16 must be removed from the ice no later than March 15 and ice fishing shelters north of Highway 16 must be removed no later than March 31;
- storing or leaving ice fishing shelters on Crown land or on private land without the landowner's consent is not permitted; and
- ice fishing shacks must have the owner's complete name, address and phone number in legible letters that are at least 2.5 cm (1 in) high on the outside of the shack.

#### **Bow Fishing**

- bow fishing season is open from April 20 to March 31;
- a valid Saskatchewan angling licence is required;
- bow fishing is permitted for carp and suckers only – the taking of game fish and bigmouth buffalo by bow and arrow is prohibited;
- no fish taken by bow fishing may be released, wasted or abandoned on Crown or private land without the landowner's consent;
- fish arrows must be attached to the bow or archer with a line strong enough to retrieve impaled fish; and
- a bow and arrow is defined as a firearm and cannot be used or possessed in:

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- provincial and regional parks or provincial recreation sites; or
- > a federal migratory bird sanctuary (call Environment and Climate Change Canada at 306-836-2022 for further information).

#### **Underwater Spear Fishing**

- anyone possessing a valid Saskatchewan angling licence may underwater spear fish in Saskatchewan waters;
- species limits are the same as those for hook and line angling;
- no fish taken by spear fishing may be released;
- pneumatic guns may be used for spear fishing in Saskatchewan;
- no fish may be taken by underwater spear fishing unless the diver is submerged or swimming in the water;
- spears shall be secured to the gun or to the diver by a line not exceeding five m (5.5 yds) in length and of sufficient strength to withstand the operating tension of the spear gun;
- the use of explosive charges or any gas other than air as a spear gun propellant is not permitted;
- all underwater spear fishers must display a scuba diver's flag while fishing; and

no underwater spear fishing is allowed within 100 m (109 yds) of a buoyed swimming area.

#### Don't Transfer Live Fish

It is illegal to transfer live fish. Introduced fish species can harm the ecological balance of established fish communities. Only ministry fisheries biologists may authorize the movement of live fish within Saskatchewan. Anglers can help safeguard provincial fisheries by reporting anyone relocating fish or using live fish for bait. To prevent the spread of undesired fish species and fish disease:

- do not move live fish or their eggs;
- do not use live fish as bait; and
- do not import live fish.

#### **Angling Infractions**

Penalties under *The Fisheries Act* are fines to a maximum of \$100,000, imprisonment up to 12 months, or both. For certain offences, violators may be issued a summary offence ticket with a voluntary payment option, while other more serious offences may require a court appearance. Automatic licence suspensions of one to five years for serious offences were implemented in 2014 and fines for these offences increased.

#### How to Make a Barbless Hook

Barbless hooks, mandatory on all catch-and-release waters in Saskatchewan, are easier to remove and may help to minimize fish mortalities. Crimp barbs with pliers.



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#### Definitions

Angler: a person who angles or fishes.

**Angling:** fishing with a line and hook or a rod, line and hook; bow fishing; or underwater spear fishing.

**Bait:** any substance used to attract fish by scent or flavour.

**Barbless hook:** a hook without barbs or one that has its barbs completely compressed against the shaft of the hook so that the barbs are not functional, not including those barbs on the shank of the hook that are intended for holding bait.

**Canadian resident:** a person who has their principal residence in Canada and who is a Canadian citizen or who has lived in Canada for 12 months immediately preceding the date of licence purchase.

**Competitive fishing event:** an angling competition, including a tournament or derby, where there are 25 or more entrants, and prizes are awarded on the basis of fish caught.

**Derby:** a competitive fishing event where fish are caught and killed.

**Fish:** fin fish, shellfish and crustaceans in any life stage, including eggs.

**Hook:** a single or multi-pointed hook on a common shaft or an artificial lure that has one or more single or multipointed hooks attached as part of it.

**Immediate family member:** one's father, mother, grandfather, grandmother, brother, sister, child, spouse or common-law spouse.

**Length:** the distance from the tip of a fish's nose to the end of the tail, with the lobes of the tail compressed or pinched together.

**Limit:** the maximum number of fish you are allowed to retain or have in your possession.

**Non-resident:** a person who is not a Saskatchewan or a Canadian resident.

**Retained:** a fish that is not immediately released to the body of water from which it was taken, and includes fish given away or eaten for shore lunch.

Saskatchewan resident: a person who is a Canadian resident, has their principal residence in Saskatchewan and has lived in Saskatchewan for three months immediately preceding the date of licence purchase, or is a regular member of the Canadian Armed Forces who was a Saskatchewan resident when recruited or deployed from the province.

**Shore lunch:** fish consumed on the day it was caught.

**Snagging:** fishing with a hook or hooks so manipulated as to intentionally pierce and hook a fish in any part of the body other than the mouth.

**Tournament:** a competitive fishing event where fish are caught and released.

**Waste:** taking improper care of fish that results in spoilage or deterioration so that the fish are unfit for human consumption.

## Packaging Your Catch for Transport

Species limits are a vital part of fisheries management. In order to enforce these limits, conservation officers must be able to count and measure your fish. Approved methods of transporting fish include: (1) whole (round); (2) headless dressed; and (3) fillets.

- Anglers must package their fish for transport in such a way that it can be readily unwrapped, separated, identified, measured and counted.
- It is illegal to can or block freeze fish outside of the home.
- All dressed fish and fillets must have, at least, a 2.5 cm (1 in) square patch of skin with scales intact from a portion of the body other than the belly. Fish packaged in this manner can be easily identified.
- Fillets must remain intact or whole for transport and cannot be cut into pieces.



#### Transport and Storage of Fish

Fish in cold storage count towards your limit. Frozen fish in cold storage should be packaged in such a way that they can be counted and identified. A person who stores and/or transports fish for another must clearly identify on the package in ink, the name, address and fishing licence number of the owner and the number of fish in the package. For best quality, fish should be packed in ice when caught.

#### **Export of Fish**

Anyone transporting fish, taken by angling, out of Saskatchewan must possess a valid Saskatchewan angling licence. The only exceptions are First Nations or Métis people who have an existing Aboriginal right to fish for food in Saskatchewan waters or children under the age of 16 and Saskatchewan resident seniors. If fish are shipped before or after you leave the country, your name, address, angling licence number and a list of contents must be attached, in plain view, on the outside of the container. Fish transported from Saskatchewan must be easily identified according to species and number and length, as specified in the section "Packaging Your Catch for Transport" on page 12.

Non-resident anglers returning to the U.S. from Saskatchewan should note that U.S. federal law prohibits the importation of fish taken, possessed, purchased, sold or transported in violation of Canadian or American laws. Non-resident U.S. anglers should check with U.S. Customs officials or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for information on regulations governing the importation and transportation of fish into the United States. Non-resident anglers from other countries must obey the import laws of their country when returning home.

#### **Purchase of Fish**

Fish may be purchased for personal consumption from a licensed commercial fisher or a licensed fish processor and be accompanied by proof of purchase (invoice, sales slip), which includes:

- seller's name, address and licence number;
- name of the water where the fish were caught;
- fish species and form in which purchased, e.g. round, dressed, filleted;
- quantity and sale price of fish; and
- date of purchase provided by the fisher or processor.

## Management Zones and Special Regulations

#### **Using Zone Regulation Information**

Saskatchewan is divided into three management zones for angling regulation purposes. All lakes intersected by the zone borders fall into the zone immediately north of the border. Look for the name of the water body you intend to fish on pages 15 through 32. If the water body is listed, you must follow general regulations and special regulations listed. General regulations apply to all unlisted provincial waters. New regulations for a specific waterbody have the waterbody's name in **bolded red and an asterisk (\*)** beside the waterbody's name. Finally, a number-letter combination found after the water body name is the location of the waterbody on the map provided on the zone page, e.g. Bell Pond – 4A.

<b>Catch-and-Release</b>	(CR)	Waters
--------------------------	------	--------

CR1	arctic grayling						
	lake trout	2	only one may exceed 65 cm - 25.4"				
	northern pike	3	only one may exceed 75 cm - 29.3"				
	walleye/sauger/saugeye	2	only one may exceed 55 cm - 21.5"				
	For all other fish species l	imits	, see pages 7 and 15 to 32.				
CR2	arctic grayling	1	which cannot exceed 35 cm - 13.7"				
	lake trout		none may exceed 65 cm - 25.4"				
	northern pike		none may exceed 75 cm - 29.3"				
	walleye/sauger/saugeye	2	none may exceed 55 cm - 21.5"				
	For all other fish species	limit	s, see pages 7 and 15 to 32.				
CR3	Limit of one fish only per	day	which can be either an:				
	arctic grayling	1	which cannot exceed 35 cm - 13.7"				
or	lake trout		which cannot exceed 65 cm - 25.4"				
or	northern pike	1	1 which cannot exceed 75 cm - 29.3"				
or	walleye/sauger/saugeye 1 which c		which cannot exceed 55 cm - 21.5"				
	For all other fish species limits, see pages 7 and 15 to 32.						

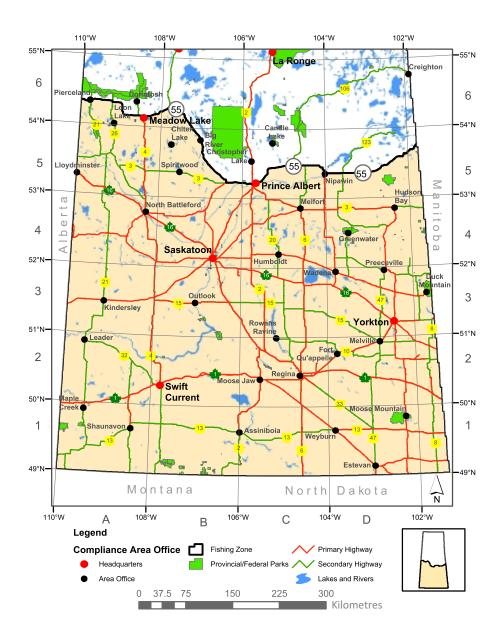
## **Barbless Hooks are Mandatory**

Barbless hooks are mandatory on all catch-and-release waters in Saskatchewan, as well as Athapapuskow, Caddis, Madge and Tobin lakes and Lake of the Prairies. Contact your local conservation officer for clarification of all regulations.

## Southern Zone - Special Regulations

#### 2017-18 Season Dates: May 5, 2017 - March 31, 2018

See page 14 for catch-and-release (CR) water species limits. Contact your local conservation officer for clarification of all regulations.



## Southern Zone

Indicates CR Water

Indicates Stocked Trout Water - Open all year Please note: all dates are inclusive.

Water	Мар	Special Regulation	Water	Мар	Special Regulation
Bauman Reservoir	2B	stocked trout; open all year	Cowan River	6B	river section between Cowan
Bell Pond	4A	stocked trout limit 2; open all year			Dam and highway 55
Biggar Pond	4B	stocked trout limit 2; open all year			centerline : closed April1 - May 14
Birch Lake	1D	electric boat motors only	Cutknife Pond	4A	stocked trout limit 2; open all year
Blackstrap Reservoir	3B	CR1 limits. Perch limit 10, burbot	David Laird Pond	4A	stocked trout limit 2; open all year
		limit 4, whitefish limit 4. Central	Deer Lake	5B	stocked trout; open all year
		causeway and 100m on either side	Dellwood Reservoir	3C	CR1 limits. Perch limit 10
		<ul> <li>closed to angling all year</li> </ul>	Denzil Pond	4A	stocked trout limit 2; open all year
Boiler Creek	1A	stocked trout limit 2	Dr. Mainprize Pond	1D	stocked trout limit 2; open all year
Bradwell Reservoir	3B	CR1 limits. Perch limit 10	Eagle Creek Pond	4B	stocked trout limit 2; open all year
Brightwater Creek	3B	section of creek upstream of the	Exner Lake	6A	stocked trout; open all year
		west boundary of Sec. 21, Twp. 30 -	Fishing Lake	3D	CR1 limits
		closed March 1 to May 14	Five Mile Dam	2A	stocked trout limit 2; open all year
Brightwater Reservoir	3B	CR1 limits. Perch limit 10	Hay Meadow Creek	1C	stocked trout limit 2
Broderick Reservoir	3B	CR1 limits. Perch limit 10	Hudson Bay Pond	4D	stocked trout limit 2; open all year
Buffalo Pound Lake	2C	perch limit 10	Iroquois Lake	5B	whitefish limit 4
Buffalo Pound Pond	2C	stocked trout limit 2; open all year.	Kerrobert Reservoir	3A	stocked trout; open all year
		Boat motors prohibited	Kipling Reservoir	2D	stocked trout; open all year
Burton Lake	4C	electric boat motors only	Lac Eauclaire	5B	lake trout limit 0 from September
Chitek Lake	5B	walleye limit 3. Indian Bay closed			10 to November 10
		to all fishing all year	Lady Lake	4D	stocked trout; open all year
Chris Johnson Lake	3D	CR1 limits. Perch limit 10	Lake Diefenbaker	3B	Irrigation Bay, within Coteau Bay :
(Miracle Lake)					closed March 1 to May 14
Coal Pit - SPC - C	1D	stocked trout; open all year	Lake of the Prairies	3D	on Lake of the Prairies upstream
Condie Reservoir	2C	perch limit 10. Boat motors			from Shellmouth Dam, including
		prohibited			the Assiniboine River to 1.6 km
Constance Lake	5B	stocked trout; closed April 1 to May 4			south of Highway 357 (next page)

Indicates CR Water

Indicates Stocked Trout Water - Open all year Please note: all dates are inclusive.

Water	Мар	Special Regulation	Water	Мар	Special Regulation
Lake of the Prairies	3D	walleye / sauger limit 4 (in	Loch Leven	1A	closed to angling April 1 to May 31
(continued)		combination), only one may	(continued)		and October 1 to November 30
		exceed 70 cm and none may be	Luseland Pond	4A	stocked trout limit 2; open all year
		between 45 and 70	Macklin Borrow Pit	4A	stocked trout limit 2; open all year
		cm; pike limit 6, none of which	Macklin Pond	4A	stocked trout limit 2; open all year
		may exceed 75 cm; perch limit 25.	Madge Lake	3D	mandatory use of barbless hooks.
		Sizes are total length without tail			No walleye 38 cm or less can be
		pinched. Mandatory use of			retained
		barbless hooks. Either a	Maidstone Pond	5A	stocked trout limit 2; open all year
		Saskatchewan or Manitoba	Mantario Pond	2A	stocked trout limit 2; open all year
		angling licence is valid on lake.	McLaren Lake	2A	stocked trout limit 2; open all year
		Season opens May 13.	Melfort Pond	4C	stocked trout limit 2
Last Mountain Lake	3C	on Big Arm Bay and its tributaries	Melville Reservoir	2D	perch limit 10. Electric boat
		lying west of 105°18'9" and Last			motors only
		Mountain Creek between main	Ministikwin Lake	5A	whitefish limit 4, walleye limit 3.
		PFRA control structure and Last			Waters around Bear Island: closed
		Mountain Lake and including all			April 1 to June 30
		waters of Lewis creek lying west	Moose Mountain	1D	creek from Moose Mountain Lake
		of 105°17' 20" - closed March 1 to	Creek		downstream to #361 grid road
		May 14			bridge: closed April 1 to May 14
Lisieux Pond	1C	stocked trout limit 2; open all year	Moose Mountain Pond	1D	stocked trout; open all year
Little Fishing Lake	5A	whitefish limit 4	Moosomin Reservoir	2D	CR1 limits. Perch limit 10
Little Jackfish Lake	3D	electric boat motors only	Nesland Lake	5B	stocked trout limit 3; open all year
Lloydminster Pond	5A	stocked trout limit 2; open all year	Olson Lake	5B	stocked trout; open all year
Loch Leven	1A	stocked trout limit 2; open all year	Oscar Creek	4B	stocked trout limit 2
		Boat motors over 5 hp prohibited	Oyama Reservoir	2C	perch limit 10
		Southern 50 m of lake(cont.)			

## Southern Zone

Indicates CR Water		Indicates Stocked Trout Water - Open all year Please note: all dates are inclusive.					
Water	Мар	Special Regulation	Water	Мар	Special Regulation		
Peck Lake	5A	whitefish limit 4. Southwest Bay -	Steep Creek Pond	5C	stocked trout; open all year		
		closed December 15 to January 15	Steistol Lake	4D	stocked trout; open all year. Boat		
Pike Lake	3B	boat motors over 10hp prohibited			motors prohibited		
Poplar Ridge Lake	5B	stocked trout; open all year	Suffern Lake	4A	stocked trout; open all year		
Rafferty Reservoir	1D	walleye limit 3. Perch limit 10	Swift Current Pond	2B	stocked trout limit 2; open all year		
Redberry Pond	4B	stocked trout limit 2; open all year	Tisdale Borrow Pit	4D	stocked trout limit 2; open all year		
Reid Lake	2A	Perch limit 10. On Reid Lake and its	Tisdale Trout Pond	4C	stocked trout limit 2; open all year		
		tributaries and Swift Current Creek	Waldheim Pond	4B	stocked trout limit 2; open all year		
		upstream to Highway 37 - closed	White Bear Reservoir	2A	stocked trout; open all year		
		March 15 to May 4	Wilson Lake	3D	stocked trout; open all year		
Round Lake	5A	stocked trout; closed April 1 to May 4	Wynard Reservoir	3C	stocked trout; open all year		
Saskatoon Trout Pond	4B	stocked trout limit 1	Yonker Lake	4A	stocked trout; open all year		
Scott Reservoir	4A	stocked trout; open all year	Zelma Reservoir	3C	CR1 limits. Perch limit 10		
Smuts Lake	4B	maximum boat speed 25 km/hr					

#### Indicates CR Water Indicates Stocked Trout Water - Open all year Please note: all dates are inclusive.

## Why Size-based Limits?

Size-based limits are used in Saskatchewan to regulate fishing pressure and harvest of fish. The appropriate use of a specific size limit depends on factors such as: fish reproduction, growth, mortality rates, habitat and fishing pressure.

Upper (maximum) size limit: (reduced or zero harvest of fish over a certain length)

- Protects spawning-sized fish to increase potential recruitment and abundance.
- Widely applied to Saskatchewan's waters for walleye, northern pike, lake trout and grayling. **Minimum size limit:** (fish under a certain length must be released)
- Allows small fish in populations with poor reproduction to reach maturity before being subjected to harvest.
- Applied to Saskatchewan's waters on a limited basis.

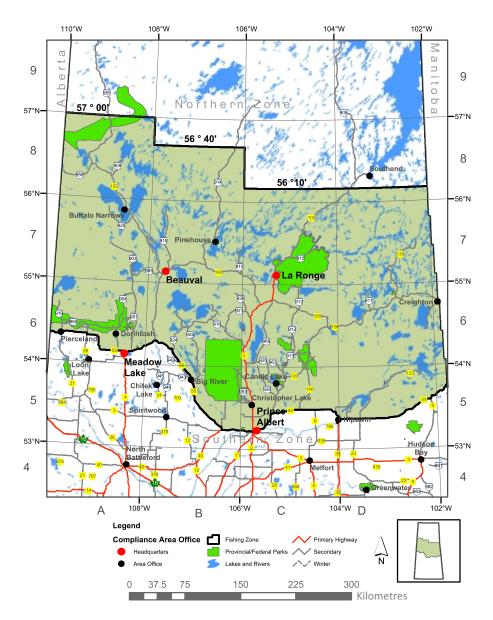
**Protected slot limit:** (fish within a designated length range must be released)

- Typically used in populations with good natural reproduction where growth of small, densely populated fish is slow.
- Applied to Saskatchewan's waters on a limited basis.

## Central Zone - Special Regulations

#### 2017-18 Season Dates: May 15, 2017 - March 31, 2018

See page 14 for catch-and-release (CR) water species limits. Contact your local conservation officer for clarification of all regulations.



## Central Zone

Water	Мар	Special Regulation	Water	Мар	Special Regulation
Amisk Lake	6D	see Sturgeon Weir River	Big Sandy Lake	6C	walleye limit 1
Atchison Lake	6A	stocked trout, open all year	Bittern Lake	5C	walleye limit 3
Athapapuskow Lake	6D	walleye/sauger limit 4 (combined)	Blair Lake	8C	(56°08' 104°26') CR1 limits
		none may exceed 55 cm; northern pike limit 6, none may exceed 75	Broad Creek	6A	from Keeley Lake to Highway 903 : walleye limit 3
		cm; lake trout limit 2, none may exceed 65 cm. A Saskatchewan or	Burtlein Lake	6C	stocked trout; open all year. Boat motors over 5 hp prohibited
Attree Lake	6D	Manitoba angling licence is valid on the Saskatchewan part of the lake. Mandatory barbless hooks. see Sturgeon Weir River	Caddis Lake	6C	stocked trout limit 2, only one may exceed 55 cm; open all year. Use of barbless hooks is mandatory
Bad Carrot Lake	6D	Bad Carrot Lake and River and part	Camp Ten Lake	6B	stocked trout; open all year
	00	of Bertrum Bay of Hanson Lake within 1 km of Bad Carrot River mouth: closed March 1 to May 31	Candle Lake	5C 7A	walleye limit 3, only one may exceed 50 cm (see Fisher creek) walleye limit 1. Closed March 1
Ballantyne River	6D	river and part of Ballantyne Bay of Deschambault Lake extending approximately 1.5 km north and 1			to May 14. Jans Bay, Wepooskow Bay and Narrows – closed to all fishing all year
		km east of the river mouth and then south to the shore – closed March 1 to June 15	Caribou Creek	6C	Between Upper and Lower Fishing Lakes – closed April 1 to May 31
Baptiste Lake	8B	(56°11' 106°25') CR3 limits	Carl Creek	6A	walleye limit 3
Beatty Lake	6B	stocked trout, open all year	Chachukew Lake	7D	Medicine Rapids – closed March 1
Berna Lake	7C	stocked trout, open all year			to May 31
Besnard Lake	7B	200 m on each side of the narrows bridge and all of Mercer Bay – closed to angling all year	Chopper Lake Churchill Lake	6C 7A	closed to all fishing all year walleye limit 3

Indicates CR Water

Indicates Stocked Trout Water - Open all year Please note: all dates are inclusive.

Water	Мар	Special Regulation	Water	Мар	Special Regulation
Cold Lake	6A	walleye limit 3, none may be less	Dingwall Lake	7C	(55°29' 104°36') CR3 limits
		than 50 cm; northern pike limit 1,	Dog Lake	6B	stocked trout; open all year
		which must be over 63 cm; lake	Dore Lake	6B	walleye limit 1, which must be 55 cm
		trout limit 1, which must be over			or greater. All waters of Bazill Bay
		75 cm – lake trout limit 0 from			(54°42' 107°32') lying south of a
		September 15 to November 15;			straight line joining a point of land on
		whitefish limit 10; perch limit 15.			the west bank of Bazill Bay at
		No use or possession of any gaff.			54°44'32'' 107°33'10'' to the northern
		Either a Saskatchewan or Alberta			tip of Smith Island in Bazill Bay and the
		angling licence is valid on the lake			northern tip of a point of land on the
Cold River	6A	between Cold and Pierce Lakes –			east bank of Bazill Bay at 54°43'42"
		walleye limit 3; lake trout limit 1,			107°27'14'' – closed to all fishing all
		which must be over 75 cm. Closed			year
		September 15 to November 15	Dorothy Lake	6C	stocked trout; closed April 1 to May 14
Cora Lake	6C	stocked trout; open all year	Douglas Lake	6D	boat motors prohibited
Corneille Lake	6D	Carter Bay – closed March 1 to	Downton Lake	7C	stocked trout; open all year
		May 31	Dunajski Lake	7C	(55°00' 104°37') CR3 limits
Cub Creek	6C	between Dupueis and Little Bear	East Trout Lake	6C	northern pike limit 4; lake trout limit 0
		Lakes – closed April 1 to May 31			from September 10 to November 10
De Balinhard Lake	6A	walleye limit 3			
Delaronde Lake	6B	walleye limit 3	Easterby Lake	7C	(55°34' 105°28') CR3 limits
Deschambault Lake	6D	see Ballantyne, Oskikebuk and	Eldridge Lake	7D	(55°12' 103°57') CR1 limits
		Puskwakau rivers and Fisher and	Emmeline Lake	7B	(55°00' 106°22') CR3 limits
		Palf creeks	Eyahpaise Lake	7D	(55°35' 105°35') CR3 limits
Diamond Lake	6C	stocked trout; open all year.	Feldspar Lake	7C	stocked trout; open all year
		Electric boat motors only	Fern Lake	6A	stocked trout limit 5, only one may
Dillon River	7A	walleye limit 3			exceed 55 cm; open all year

## Central Zone

Water	Мар	Special Regulation	Water	Мар	Special Regulation
Fifth Lake	6A	walleye limit 3	Iskwatam Lake	7D	southwest bay of Iskwatam Lake
First Mustus Lake	6A	walleye limit 3			at 55°33'30'' 103°08'30'', including
Fisher Creek	5C	creek and part of Candle Lake			small river entering from Pow
		near creek mouth – closed March			Lake – closed March 1 to May 31
		15 to May 14. Boat motors	Iskwatikan Lake	7C	CR1 limits
		prohibited between Candle Lake	Jackson Lake	7C	(55°28' 105°38') CR3 limits
		and Highway 265. Walleye limit 3,	Jade Lake	6C	stocked trout; open all year.
		only one may exceed 50 cm	(Big and Little)		Electric boat motors only
Fisher Creek	6D	creek and all of Fisher Bay east of	Jan Lake	6D	unnamed long narrow bay on the
		103°29' on Deschambault Lake –			northeast shore of the main part
		closed March 1 to June 15			of Jan Lake, northeast of Busteed
Flotten Lake	6A	walleye limit 3			Island, at 54°58' 102°52'45'' –
Flotten River	6A	walleye limit 3			closed March 1 to May 31
Fourth Mustus Lake	6A	walleye limit 3	Jean Lake	8B	(56°11' 106°28') CR3 limits
Frobisher Lake	8A	including Simonds Channel;	Jeannette Lake	6A	walleye limit 3
		walleye limit 3	Jet Lake	6B	stocked trout; open all year
George Lake	8B	(56°14' 106°20') CR1 limits	Johannsen Lake	7D	(55°38' 103°47') CR3 limits
Gordon Lake	7B	(55°50' 106°28') CR2 limits	Johnston Lake	6A	walleye limit 3
Greig Lake	6A	walleye limit 3	Junction Lake	6C	stocked trout; open all year
Gross Lake	7C	(55°29' 104°36') CR3 limits	Keeley Lake	6A	walleye limit 3
Hackett Lake	6B	walleye limit 3	Keeley River	7A	between Jans Bay of Canoe Lake
Hanson Lake	6D	see Bad Carrot Lake			and 55°N – closed to all fishing all
Head Lake	7C	(55°16' 105°34') CR1 limits			year
Hildred Lake	6A	walleye limit 3	Kimball Lake	6A	walleye limit 3
Hirtz Lake	6A	walleye limit 3	Kit Lake	6C	stocked trout; open all year
Houlding Lake	7C	(55°04' 104°04') CR3 limits	Konuto Lake	6D	CR1 limits; closed April 1 to June 30
Humphrey Lake	6A	walleye limit 3	Lac des lles	6A	walleye limit 3

Indicates CR Water

Indicates Stocked Trout Water - Open all year Please note: all dates are inclusive.

Water	Мар	Special Regulation	Water	Мар	Special Regulation
Lac la Ronge	7C	CR1 limits; barbless hooks are	Mistohay Creek	6A	walleye limit 3
		mandatory. See Montreal and	Mistohay Lake	6A	walleye limit 3
		Potato rivers	Mitchell Lake	7C	(55°04' 104°21') CR3 limits
Lac lle a la Crosse	7B	walleye limit 3	Moise Lake	7D	stocked trout; open all year
Land Lake	7C	(55°25' 104°42') CR3 limits	Montreal Lake	6C	walleye limit 1
Lepine Lake	6A	walleye limit 3	Montreal River	7C	from Highway 2 bridge centerline
Lepp Lake	7D	(55°13' 103°58') CR1 limits			to Lac la Ronge and part of Lac la
Lewis Lake	8C	(56°09' 104°55') CR3 limits			Ronge – closed to angling all year
Little Lake	6A	walleye limit 3	Mountain Lake	7C	see Twin Falls
Little Raspberry Lake	6A	stocked trout; open all year	Mullock Lake	7C	stocked trout; open all year
Lussier Lake	7C	stocked trout; open all year	Musker Pond	5C	stocked trout limit 2; open all
Mackie Lake	5C	stocked trout; open all year. Boat			year. Boat motors prohibited
		motors over 5 hp prohibited	Muskike Lake	7D	closed March 1 to May 31
McCall Lake	7D	(55°09' 102°23') CR3 limits	Negan Lake	7D	stocked trout; open all year
McCulloch Lake	7D	(55°34' 103°41') CR3 limits	Nemeiben Lake	7C	(55°20' 105°20') CR1 limits
McCusker River	7A	closed March 1 to June 30	Nesootao (Twin) Lake	6A	walleye limit 3
McEwen Lake	8C	(56°09' 104°51') CR1 limits	Nipawin Lake	5C	stocked trout; open all year. Boat
McRobbie Lake	6E	stocked trout; open all year			motors over 5 hp prohibited
Meadow Lake	6A	reduced walleye/ lake trout limits;	Nipekamew Lake	6C	northern pike limit 4
Provincial Park		see table for specific waters	Nisbet Pond	5C	stocked trout limit 2; open all
Mekawap Lake	7C	stocked trout; open all year			year. Boat motors prohibited
Mercer River	7B	from Mercer Lake to Besnard Lake	Niska Lake & Channel	7A	closed March 1 to June 30
		including Mercer Bay of Besnard	Nistum Lake	6D	stocked trout; open all year
		Lake – closed to angling all year	Niven Lake	6A	walleye limit 3
Merritt Lake	6D	see Oskikebuk River	Nunn Lake	7C	(55°16' 105°34') CR1 limits
Mid Lake	6D	stocked trout; open all year. Boat	Opal Lake	6C	stocked trout; open all year.
		motors prohibited			Electric boat motors only

## Central Zone

Indicates CR Water

Indicates Stocked Trout Water - Open all year Please note: all dates are inclusive.

Water	Мар	Special Regulation	Water	Мар	Special Regulation
Oskikebuk River	6D	east side of narrows in West Arm of	Pine Lake (continued)	6C	boat motors over 5 hp prohibited
		Deschambault Lake to south bay of	Pinehouse Lake	7B	all waters of an unnamed bay
		Oskikebuk Lake, including Merritt			lying south of a straight line
		Lake – closed March 1 to June 15			joining a point of land at
Otter Creek	6A	walleye limit 3			55°21'28'' 106°44'05'' to the
Otter Lake	7C	Rattler Bay of Otter Lake and			northwest point on an island at
		Stewart River south of Ducker Lake:			55°21'10" 106°42'00" and from
		closed April 1 to June 15			the southern tip of that island to a
Palf Creek	6D	creek and Hidden Bay of			point of land at 55°20'24". Also,
		Deschambault Lake extending 1 km			all waters of the Massinahigan
		south and 2 km west of narrows:			River from Pinehouse Lake to 1
		closed March 1 to June 15			km west of the Highway 914 bridge
Park Lake	7D	(55°07' 103°49') CR3 limits			and all waters of the Tippo River
Paull Lake	8C	(56°08' 104°48') CR3 limits			from the confluence of the
Pear Lake	5C	stocked trout; open all year			Massinahigan River to 55°18'50"
Peitahigan Lake	6A	walleye limit 3			106°43'40'' – closed April 1 to
Peltier Lake	7D	(55°34' 105°04') CR3 limits			June 20
Peter Pond Lake	7A	walleye limit 3. Narrows from Fleury	Piprell Lake	6C	stocked trout; open all year
(Big and Little)		Point to Sandy Point, including Vee	Pointer Lake	7D	(55°38' 103°45') CR3 limits
		Bay, Kisis Channel from Peter Pond	Potato Lake	6C	Including lower Potato Lake;
		Lake to Churchill Lake and southern			closed April 1 to May 31
		part of Peter Pond Lake adjacent to	Potato River	7C	river section at approximate
		Niska Channel – closed to all fishing			55°01' 105°15' closed April 1 to
		March 1 to June 30			May 31. Lower part of Potato
Pierce Lake	6A	walleye limit 3, lake trout limit 2			River and part of Lac La Ronge
Pilling Lake	7D	(55°36' 103°44') CR3 limits			within 1 km of river mouth:
Pine Lake	6C	stocked trout; open all year (cont.)			closed to angling all year

Indicates CR Water Indicates Stocked Trout Water - Open all year Please note: all dates are inclusive.							
Water	Мар	Special Regulation	Water	Мар	Special Regulation		
Pow Lake	7D	closed March 1 to May 31	Smoothstone River	7B	river section from 55°18'30"		
Primrose Lake	6A	closed to angling all year			106°37'30" to Pinehouse Lake and		
Propp Lake	7C	(55°42' 104°09') CR3 limits			the portion of Pinehouse Lake		
Puskwakau River	6D	river and part of Ballantyne Bay of			within a 2 km radius of the		
		Deschambault Lake – closed			Smoothstone River mouth – closed		
		March 1 to June 15			April 1 to June 20		
Ranger Lake	5C	stocked trout; open all year	Snell Lake	6B	stocked trout; open all year		
Redmond Lake	6A	walleye limit 3.	Stanley Lake	6A	walleye limit 3		
Ridge Lake	6C	stocked trout; open all year	Stapleford Lake	7C	(55°31' 105°08') CR3 limits		
Road Lake	6C	stocked trout; open all year	Stewart Lake	7C	(55°34' 105°33') CR3 limits		
Round Lake	B5	perch limit 25, only 10 may	Stewart River	7C	see Otter Lake		
(53°20' 106°01'02")		exceed 25 cm	Stratton Lake	7C	(55°31' 105°05') CR3 limits		
Rush Lake	6A	walleye limit 3	Sturgeon Weir River	6D	river south of Highway 106 including		
Rusty Creek	6A	walleye limit 3			Attree Lake and part of Amisk Lake		
Rusty Lake	6A	walleye limit 3			near river mouth: closed October 1		
Sapphire Lake	6C	stocked trout; open all year.			to May 31		
		Electric boat motors only	Swanson Lake	8B	(56°10' 106°20') CR3 limits		
Sand Lake	6C	stocked trout; open all year	Tatukose Creek	6A	walleye limit 3		
Sandy Lake	7B	stocked trout; open all year	Ted's Lake	6B	stocked trout; open all year		
Sealey Lake	6C	stocked trout; open all year	Terra Lake	6B	stocked trout; open all year		
Second Mustus Lake	6A	walleye limit 3	Third Mustus Lake	6A	walleye limit 3		
Sedge Lake	6B	stocked trout; open all year	Tobin Lake	5D	from E.B. Campbell to Francois		
Sergent Lake	6A	walleye limit 3			Finley dams including the Petaigan		
Shannon Lake	6C	stocked trout; open all year			River - walleye/sauger limit 3		
Shirley Lake	6B	stocked trout; open all year			(combined), none may be between		
Singh Lake	6C	stocked trout; open all year			55 - 86 cm; pike limit 4, none may		
Smoothstone Lake	6B	walleye limit 1			be between 75 - 115 cm(next page		

## Central Zone

Water	Мар	Special Regulation	Water	Мар	Special Regulation
Tobin Lake	5D	Mandatory use of barbless hooks	Unnamed Lake	6C	(55°25' 105°28') CR3 limits
(continued)		Closed April 1 to May 14	(Woody)		
Torch Lake	5C	walleye limit 3; only one may	Unnamed Lake	6A	(54°27' 108°35') walleye limit 3
		exceed 50 cm. Closed April 1 to	Unnamed Lake	6A	(54°28' 108°39') walleye limit 3
		June 15	Unnamed Lake	7D	(55°08' 102°23') CR3 limits
Turvey Lake	6A	walleye limit 3	Unnamed Lake	7D	(55°10' 102°21') CR3 limits
Twin Falls	7C	From the westerly tip of the island	Unnamed Lake	7D	(55°13'54" 103°03'48") – closed
		upstream and the bay located			April 1 to May 31
		downstream of twin Falls	Unnamed Lake	7D	(55°13'57" 103°04'03") closed April
		extending to the southwest tip of			1 to May 31
		Eyinew Island including Early Bay;	Unnamed Lake	7D	(55°19'30'' 102°35') CR3 limits
		closed April 1 to June 15	Unnamed Lake	7C	(55°46' 105°26') CR3 limits
Unnamed Lake (Eva)	7C	(55°31' 105°31') CR3 limits	Unnamed Lake	7C	(55°46' 105°34') CR3 limits
Unnamed Lake (Heika)	7C	(55°32' 105°29') CR3 limits	Unnamed Lake	7B	(56°11' 106°21') CR3 limits
Unnamed Lake	7C	(55°32' 105°30') CR3 limits.	Vivian Lake	6A	stocked trout; open all year
(Luttge)			Wapawekka Lake	6C	walleye limit 2. All creeks and
Unnamed Lake	7C	(55°32' 105°30') CR3 limits			associated lakes flowing into Horn
(Leuzinger)					Bay (54°55' 104°07') of Wapawekka
Unnamed Lake (Nice)	6A	(54°33' 108°35') walleye limit 3			Lake and Horn Bay from 54°55'26"
Unnamed Lake	7C	(55°28' 105°13') CR3 limits			east to the western tip of an island
(Two Williams)					at 54°55'27" 104°7'13" and from
Unnamed Lake	7C	(55°27' 105°32') CR3 limits			the eastern tip of that island south
(Vertmont)					to the mainland at 54°55'17"
Unnamed Lake	6C	(55°29' 105°25') CR3 limits			104°06'56", and the creek that
(Wildgoose)					flows into Radar Bay (54°56'
Unnamed Lake	6C	(55°30' 105°28') CR3 limits			104°24') of Wapawekka Lake and
(Wood Duck)					the portion of Radar(next page)

Indicates CR Water Indicates Stocked Trout Water - Open all year Please note: all dates are inclusive.

Water	Мар	Special Regulation	Water	Мар	Special Regulation
Wapawekka Lake	6C	Bay east of 104°20'25" – closed	Whiteswan Lakes	6C	lake trout limit 1. Whelan Bay
(continued)		March 1 to June 15			closed to angling September 10
Waterhen Lake	6A	walleye limit 3			to November 10
Waterhen River	6A	walleye limit 3, lake trout limit 2	Wood Lake	7D	Grassy Narrows – closed March 1
Wells Lake	7C	(55°33' 105°37') CR3 limits			to May 31
Weyakwin Lake	6C	walleye limit 3	Wye Lake	6A	walleye limit 3
			Wykes Lake	7D	(55°32' 103°33') CR3 limits
			Zander Lake	8A	(56°39' 108°05') CR3 limits

#### Same Fish, Different Saskatchewan Waters

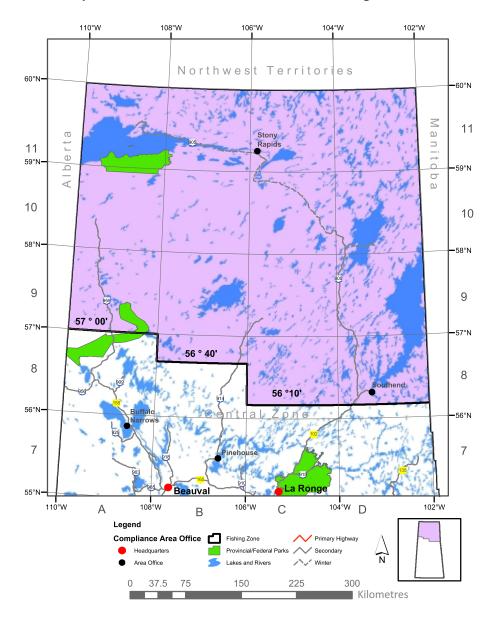
There is a vast difference between growth rates in fish from northern and southern waters. Fish grow slowly in our cold northern waters as this comparison of 10-year old walleye, northern pike and lake trout shows. This results in an extremely low replacement of fish in northern waters. For this reason, anglers are encouraged to practice catch-and-release fishing for large fish, especially in the north.

Walleye	Northern Pike	Lake Trout
Reindeer Lake	Reindeer Lake	Reindeer Lake
52.2 cm (20.6 in)	64.0 cm (25.2 in)	54.2 cm (21.3 in)
Lac la Ronge	Lac la Ronge	Lac la Ronge
56.6 cm (22.3 in)	85.3 cm (33.8 in)	67.4 cm (26.5 in)
Tobin Lake	Tobin Lake	Whelan Bay
69.3 cm (27.3 in)	101.3 cm (39.9 in)	78.0 cm (30.7 in)

## Northern Zone - Special Regulations

#### 2017-18 Season Dates: May 25, 2017 - April 15, 2018

See page 14 for catch-and-release (CR) water species limits. Contact your local conservation officer for clarification of all regulations.



## Northern Zone

Water	Мар	Special Regulation	Water	Мар	Special Regulation
Ahenakew Lake	10D	(58°02' 103°55') CR3 limits	Cree River	10C	CR1 limits: Giles Lake to Wapata
Alces Lake	11A	(59°41' 108°21') CR3 limits	(58°57' 105°47')		Lake
Amber Lake	9A	stocked trout; open all year	Crooked Lake	10D	(58°43' 103°56') CR3 limits
Anderson Lake	8C	(56°32' 105°22') CR3 limits	Dodge Lake	11C	(59°50' 105°36') CR3 limits
Babiche Lake	10D	(58°56' 103°34') CR3 limits	Dube Lake	10C	(58°35' 105°04') CR3 limits
Bannock Lake	10D	(58°51' 102°42') CR3 limits	Duncan Lake	9C	CR1 limits: on Duncan Lake at the
Bentley Lake	10D	(58°51' 103°22') CR3 limits	(57°34' 104°15')		junction of the Geikie and
Bird Lake	9C	(57°52' 104°21') CR3 limits			Wheeler Rivers
Boland Lake	9D	(57°52' 103°50') CR1 limits	Dunnet Lake	9D	(57°28' 103°32') CR3 limits
Brakewell Lake	9D	(57°30' 103°43') CR3 limits	Durrant Lake	10C	(58°34' 104°25') CR3 limits
Briggs Lake	9C	(57°53' 104°38') CR3 limits	Ed's Lake	9A	stocked trout; open all year
Cairns Lake	9D	(57°39' 103°19') CR3 limits	Engler Lake	11B	(59°08' 106°52') CR2 limits
Carlson Creek	9C	CR3 limits: 57°47'15'' 104°47' to	Eynard Lake	11C	(59°58' 105°47') CR3 limits
(57°47' 104°47')		57°52' 104°48'	Fond du Lac River	10D	CR1 limits: Wollaston Lake to the
Causier Lake	9D	(57°31' 103°49') CR3 limits	(59°17' 106°00')		south end of Redwillow Rapids at
Charcoal Lake	10D	(58°49' 102°22') CR3 limits			58°31' 103°34'; CR3 limits:
Charles Lake	9D	(57°23' 103°36') CR3 limits			Kosdaw Lake to Crooked Lake
Cochrane River	10D	CR1 limits: Wollaston Lake to	Fontaine Lake	11B	(59°42' 106°27') CR2 limits
(58°45' 103°00')		Bigstone Rapids at 58°49' 102°45'	Fontaine Lake	9A	stocked trout; open all year
Collins Creek	10D	CR1 limits: Kewen Lake to	Forsyth Lake	10C	(58°37' 104°42') CR3 limits.
(58°10' 103°45')		Wollaston Lake	Geikie River	9C	CR1 limits: Wollaston Lake to the
<b>Compulsion River</b>	9D	CR1 limits: Wollaston Lake to	(57°18' 104°40')		north end of Duncan Lake at
(57°40' 103°24')		point on river at 57°33' 103°37'			57°33' 104°12'
Conacher Lake	9D	(57°20' 103°01') CR2 limits	Ghana Lake	8D	(56°40' 103°28') CR3 limits
Corson Lake	10D	(58°44' 103°45') CR3 limits	Gillespie Lake	9D	(57°06' 103°28') CR3 limits
Costigan Lake	8B	(56°11' 106°21') CR2 limits	Gow Lake	8C	(56°28' 104°29') CR1 limits
Crampean Lake	10D	(58°15' 102°54') CR3 limits	Grandin Lake	11C	(59°46' 105°58') CR3 limits

## Northern Zone

Water	Мар	Special Regulation	Water	Мар	Special Regulation
Granger Lake	10C	(58°33' 105°12') CR2 limits	Kirkpatrick Lake	9C	(57°54' 104°39') CR3 limits
Grayson Lake	8C	(56°17' 104°37') CR1 limits	Kirsch Lake	9C	(57°56' 105°16') CR1 limits
Hannah Lake	11D	(59°06' 102°34') CR3 limits	Klemmer Lake	10D	(58°21' 102°45') CR3 limits
Haresign Lake	8C	(56°52' 105°56') CR2 limits	Kosdaw Lake	10C	(58°55' 104°01') CR3 limits
Hasbala Lake	11D	(59°57' 102°00') CR3 limits	Kroeker Lake	10D	(58°17' 102°56') CR3 limits
Hastings Lake	8C	(56°54' 105°27') CR3 limits	Lampin Lake	10D	(58°09' 103°54') CR3 limits
Hatchet Lake	10D	(58°38' 103°40') CR3 limits	Le Drew Lake	10D	(58°34' 103°55') CR3 limits
Hawkrock River	11C	CR1 limits: Forsyth Lake to	Little Yalowega Lake	9C	(57°48' 104°53') CR2 limits
(58°55' 104°47')		Umfreville Lake	Lloyd Lake	9A	(57°22' 108°57') CR2 limits
Hedman Lake	9D	(57°09' 103°05') CR3 limits	Lower Foster Lake	8C	(56°33' 105°23') CR2 limits
Hobson Lake	8B	(56°49' 106°11') CR2 limits	Lucie Lake	9D	(57°40' 103°52') CR3 limits
Hodges Lake	9C	(57°20' 104°50') CR1 limits	MacFarlane River	11B	CR2 limits: river mouth on
Holmesa-Court Lake	8C	(56°15' 105°02') CR3 limits	(59°12' 107°58')		Athabasca Lake at 59°12' 107°58'
Hooker Lake	10D	(58°13' 102°45') CR3 limits			to midpoint of first rapids 10 km
Horvath Lake	8D	(56°51' 103°27') CR3 limits			upstream at 59°08' 107°53'
Hull Lake	10D	(58°09' 102°28') CR3 limits	MacKenzie Lake	9D	(57°50' 102°43') CR2 limits
Hydichuk Lake	10D	(58°03' 102°46') CR3 limits	Manson Lake	10D	(58°39' 103°16') CR3 limits
Jackson Lakes	9D	(57°46' 103°34') CR1 limits	Many Islands Lake	11D	(59°42' 102°10') CR1 limits
Johnson Lake	9C	(57°26' 104°11') CR3 limits	Mathison Lake	10C	(58°29' 104°54') CR2 limits
Johnston Lake	10C	(58°16' 104°46') CR2 limits	Mawdsley Lake	8B	(56°47' 106°07') CR2 limits
Kalheim Lake	10D	(58°52' 102°01') CR3 limits	McConnell Lake	9D	(57°50' 103°35') CR3 limits
Kane Lake	8D	(56°54' 103°32') CR3 limits	McDonald Creek	10C	CR1 limits: McDonald Creek to
Kernaghan Lake	10C	(58°40' 104°10') CR3 limits	(58°48' 105°08')		Pattyson Lake
Kerslake Lake	10D	(58°16' 102°41') CR3 limits	McDonald Lake	8C	(56°15' 104°41') CR1 limits
Kewen Lake	10D	(58°11' 103°51') CR3 limits	McDonald River	9D	(57°39' 104°39') CR3 limits
Kidd Lake	10D	(58°00' 103°52') CR3 limits	McIntyre River	11C	CR1 limits: from rapids to Pinkham
Kimiwan Lake	11C	(59°56' 105°54') CR3 limits	(59°18' 104°09')		Lake (59°18' 104°04') (next page)

Water	Мар	Special Regulation	Water	Мар	Special Regulation
McIntyre River	11C	and to rapids 17 km upstream	Otherside River	11B	point of river 1 km upstream of
(59°18' 104°09')		(59°22' 104°02'), including a	(continued)		Richards Lake (59°12' 107°14')
(continued)		southwest bay at 59°18' 104°12'	Patterson Lake	11D	(59°56' 102°18') CR1 limits
Michael Lake	9D	(57°51' 104°00') CR3 limits	Paull Lake	8C	(56°08' 104°48') CR3 limits
Middle Foster Lake	8C	(56°38' 105°25') CR3 limits	Pawliuk Lake	9C	(57°50' 104°41') CR3 limits
Misaw Lake	11D	(59°52' 102°30') CR1 limits	Pearce Lake	9D	(57°45' 102°44') CR2 limits
Moffatt Lake	10D	(58°17' 103°47') CR3 limits	Pipestone Lake	9B	(57°54' 106°35') CR1 limits
Moore Lakes	9C	(57°27' 105°03') CR3 limits	Poulton Lake	9C	(57°50' 104°27') CR3 limits
Morell Lake	9D	(57°37' 103°46') CR3 limits	Premier Lake	11B	(59°53' 106°05') CR3 limits
Morwick Lake	9D	(57°30' 103°19') CR3 limits	Pritchard Lake	8D	(56°45' 103°33') CR3 limits
Mullin Lake	9D	(57°37' 103°17') CR3 limits	Reilly Lake	9D	(57°12' 103°10') CR2 limits
Mullins Lake	10C	(58°09' 104°51') CR3 limits	Reindeer Lake	9D	(57°30' 102°15') CR1 limits
Murphy Lake	10C	(58°26' 104°21') CR3 limits	Reindeer River	8D	Reindeer River south of 56°10'
Myers Lake	9C	(57°24' 105°27') CR3 limits			103°11': closed March 31 to May 14
Nokomis Lake	9D	(57°00' 103°00') CR3 limits	Reisner Lake	9D	(57°47' 103°35') CR3 limits
Nordbye Lake	11D	(59°04' 103°30') CR3 limits	Reynolds Lake	9D	(57°56' 102°45') CR3 limits
Obst River	10C	CR3 limits: Waterfound Bay to river	Richards Lake	11B	(59°10' 107°10') CR2 limits
(58°51' 103°35')		narrows 15 km upstream at 58°49'	Riou River	11B	CR2 limits: Richards Lake to point on
		103°52'	(59°08' 106°44')		river 1 km upstream of Engler Lake
Oliver Lake	8D	(56°56' 103°22') CR3 limits	Rupert Lake	8C	(56°54' 105°03') CR3 limits
Oman Lake	11C	(59°42' 106°45') CR3 limits	Rutherford Lake	9D	(57°21' 103°17') CR3 limits
Oriordan Lake	9D	(57°40' 103°47') CR3 limits	Salaba Lake	9D	(57°45' 103°41') CR3 limits
Otherside River	11B	CR2 limits: river mouth at Otherside	Scott Lake	11B	(59°55' 106°18') CR3 limits
(59°16' 106°55')		Bay on Athabasca Lake defined by a	Scrimes Lake	10D	(58°34' 103°26') CR3 limits
		small point of land on the	Scutt Lake	9D	(57°38' 103°37') CR1 limits
		northwest shore of Otherside Bay	Selwyn Lake	11C	(60°00' 104°30') CR3 limits
		(59°16' 106°55') to the <i>(cont.)</i>	Shagory Lake	11C	(59°53' 104°58') CR3 limits

## Northern Zone

Water	Мар	Special Regulation	Water	Мар	Special Regulation
Simpson Lake	9D	(57°41' 103°37') CR3 limits	Unnamed Lake	9D	(57°42' 103°08') CR3 limits
Sovereign Lake	11C	(59°57' 105°39') CR3 limits	Unnamed Lake	9C	(57°43' 104°56') CR3 limits
Spence Lake	9D	(57°33' 103°34') CR3 limits	Unnamed Lake	10D	(58°33' 104°03') CR3 limits
Swan Lake	9D	(57°33' 103°03') CR3 limits	Virgin River	9A	CR1 limits: all rapids outflowing
Tadei Lake	8B	(56°48' 106°01') CR2 limits	(57°02' 108°17')		from Careen Lake (57°00' 108°17')
Thrift Lake	10D	(58°44' 103°24') CR3 limits			including 100 m upstream and
Torwalt Lake	10D	(58°18' 103°53') CR3 limits			downstream of rapids
Townsend Lake	9C	(57°38' 104°44') CR3 limits	Vollhoffer Lake	9C	(57°35' 104°54') CR3 limits
Tremblay Lake	8C	(56°28' 104°42') CR1 limits	Wapata Lake	10C	(58°51' 105°43') CR1 limits
Umpherville Lake	9C	(57°53' 104°19') CR3 limits	Ward Creek	10C	CR2 limits between mouth of
Umpherville River	10D	CR1 limits: Wollaston Lake to the	(58°37' 104°40')		Forsyth Lake at 58°37' 104°40'
(58°05' 103°48')		north end of Ahenakew Lake at			and unnamed lake 50 km
		58°05' 103°50'			upstream at 58°23' 104°51'
Unnamed Lake	10D	(58°19'30'' 103°48'30'') CR3 limits	Ward Lake	10C	(58°35' 104°35') CR3 limits
Unnamed Lake	8C	(56°16' 104°45') CR2 limits	Waterbury Lake	10C	(58°10' 104°22') CR2 limits
Unnamed Lake	10D	(58°20' 103°51'30'') CR3 limits	Waterfound Bay	10C	(58°48' 104°03') CR3 limits
Unnamed Lake	9C	(57°36' 104°18') CR3 limits	Waterfound River	10C	CR1 limits: Durrant Lake to
Unnamed Lake	10D	(58°01' 103°46') CR3 limits	(58°28' 104°35')		Theriau Lake; CR3 limits:
Unnamed Lake	9D	(57°02'57'' 103°17'00'') CR3 limits			Waterfound Bay to Durrant Lake
Unnamed Lake	9D	(57°03'21" 103°17'37") CR3 limits	Wayo Lake	11B	(59°56' 106°21') CR3 limits
Unnamed Lake	9C	(57°25'26" 104°56'39") CR3 limits	West Lake	8D	(56°51' 103°20') CR3 limits
Unnamed Lake	9C	(57°26'50'' 104°57'14'') CR3 limits	Whigham Lake	10C	(58°48' 104°25') CR3 limits
Unnamed Lake	9C	(57°27'20" 104°57'11") CR3 limits	Wollaston Lake	10D	(58°15' 103°15') CR1 limits
Unnamed Lake	9C	(57°27'25" 104°58'06") CR3 limits	Yalowega Lake	9C	(57°48' 104°53') CR2 limits
Unnamed Lake	9C	(57°27'27'' 104°57'23'') CR3 limits	Zengle Lake	9D	(57°55' 102°33') CR2 limits
Unnamed Lake	9C	(57°27'36" 104°56'24") CR3 limits	Zimmer Lake	9C	(57°09' 105°33') CR2 limits

## Be An Ethical Angler

Ethical anglers learn to fish responsibly because they consider the rights of others and the need to protect and conserve our natural heritage.

#### Ethical anglers:

- know and obey fishing regulations, which serve to protect the resource and to spread the harvest among all anglers;
- understand the need for a personal code of 'unwritten laws' since laws cannot cover all situations;
- know that fish are a valuable resource and do not waste them;
- learn techniques to handle fish to ensure their survival, if released;
- co-operate and are courteous with all resource users, including other anglers, swimmers, boaters and landowners;
- appreciate the environment and keep it clean, leaving fishing sites in good condition; and
- ensure good fishing for future generations by limiting their overall catch.

#### Limiting Your Overall Catch

When large numbers of fish are caught and released, anglers should voluntarily limit their overall catch. If catch is not limited, an angler can kill in excess of their daily limit. Research has shown that fish may die after being released for a variety of reasons. Most fish experience physiological stress when caught and even though the fish may appear healthy or swim away upon release, delayed mortality may occur due to stress or injury. Even with careful handling, up to 10 per cent of released fish die afterwards. To estimate delayed mortality, count one fish killed for every 10 fish released. This mortality, combined with the number of fish kept, will provide an estimate of total fish kill. When the total fish kill equals the daily limit for a particular species, anglers should consider stopping their fishing activity, or effort should be diverted to another species.



## Catch-and-Release Fishing



Catch-and-release (CR) fishing has increased in popularity in Saskatchewan over the past number of years. Results from the most recent survey of recreational fishing in Canada indicate that 98 per cent of anglers in Saskatchewan practice some form of catch and release. Therefore, it is important that CR techniques follow scientifically-based best practices and result in limited delayed mortality to the fish.

Factors such as handling, hook placement and environmental conditions are variables that can influence post-release mortality. In order to minimize fish mortality, follow these suggestions for effective CR fishing.

#### Proper Tools for Effective Catch-and-Release

- Have the proper tools close at hand. This includes needle nose pliers, hemostats, or special hook-removing devices, line cutters for deeply hooked fish, landing net or cradle, wet cloth glove and camera (if taking a picture).
- Landing nets or cradles should be constructed with non-abrasive, knotless materials such as rubber or tangle-free coated nylon. Cradles are recommended for larger fish such as pike.

#### Angling Techniques for Effective Catch-and-Release

- Land the fish as quickly as possible to avoid fish exhaustion. The tackle used should match the size of the fish targeted; avoid using intentionally light tackle to prolong a fight.
- CR fishing in depths greater than 9 m (30 ft) should be avoided, as most Saskatchewan fish species, other than lake trout, are unable to rapidly adjust to the changes in water pressure as they are pulled towards the surface, resulting in greater mortality of released fish.
- Venting of distended swim bladders, or "fizzing", is discouraged as it can cause stress and has the potential to harm other internal organs.
- Use unscented artificial lures rather than live/dead bait or other organic materials (e.g. dough balls, corn, etc.) when CR fishing to minimize deep hooking of fish.
- Limit your angling during periods of extreme heat or cold, as extreme temperatures can contribute to post-release mortality.

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#### Fish Handling Techniques for Effective Catch-and-Release

- Minimizing air exposure may be one of the single most important factors in limiting post-release mortality. Ideally, fish should be released without removing them from the water.
- Single, barbless and/or circle hooks can help reduce handling time and air exposure.



- Handle the fish as quickly (under 30 seconds) and as little as possible. Use a wet cloth glove or wet hand to prevent damage to the fish's protective mucus coating.
- Once a fish is landed, be careful not to let it flop around as this can lead to bruising and other injuries.
- Do not hold or support a fish's weight by the gills, gill cover or the eyes. If a fish must be held, hold it in a horizontal position, with one hand placed under the forward belly area and the other hand gently around the tail area. This will help minimize damage to the fish's spine and internal organs.
- If a fish is hooked in a vital area such as the gullet, gill or eye, consider keeping the fish if regulations allow it, as post-release survival of these fish is greatly reduced.
- If you must release a deeply hooked fish, consider cutting the line close to the hook and follow proper release techniques.
- Hold a fish horizontal in the water until it is fully revived and swims away on its own. Move the fish in an S-shaped pattern to run water through its gills.
- If you must release fish that have been retained in a livewell, proper livewell management is crucial to ensure good fish survival. Stress from prolonged confinement and low dissolved oxygen levels from overcrowding and/or warm water can result in higher mortality rates. Limit the number of fish in a well-aerated livewell to 0.1 kg of fish per litre of water or roughly one pound of fish per gallon of water. Limiting retention time of fish in a livewell can also help to reduce stress and improve post-release mortality.
- Use common sense when releasing fish. If a fish is bleeding or cannot be revived, count that fish towards your limit, if regulations allow it.

# **Fisheries Information**

# 2015 Survey of Recreational Fishing in Canada

Preliminary results from the Recreational Fishing Survey will be available some time in 2017. Statistics collected from the survey provide managers with valuable information for making fisheries management decisions. The ministry would like to thank all anglers who participated in the survey.

## Fish Population Monitoring

Fisheries management in Saskatchewan largely depends on indirect measurements to assess population status. Standardized capture techniques are used, which allow for comparisons of general abundance, growth and survival of fish populations over time. Gill nets and trap nets are the most common sampling gear used in the province.

In 2016, the Ministry of Environment conducted fish population surveys on a number of waters in the province. A summary of the survey results (Fish Facts 2016) is available on our website at <u>saskatchewan.ca/fishing</u>.

Yellow or orange coloured markers identify the location of test nets. When fishing or boating, stay clear of nets and refrain from tampering with the markers or nets.

# **Fish Stocking**

Fish stocking is a management tool available for biologists to manage or manipulate fish populations, with the success of any fish stocking program being variable and influenced by a variety of factors. Stocking cannot be used to sustain a fishery above the productive capability of the lake or the species.

In 2016, the Saskatchewan Fish Culture Station in Fort Qu'Appelle stocked approximately 14.5 million fish into 150 waters. A detailed stocking summary for 2016 that includes the numbers and species of fish stocked along with the receiving waters is available on our website at <u>saskatchewan.ca/fishing</u>.

# **Competitive Fishing Events**

A Competitive Fishing Event (CFE) is a fishing event with 25 or more participants who angle for the purpose of winning prizes or money. All CFEs require ministry approval.

Organizers can seek approval for their event by either:

- a) Providing the ministry with a completed notification form of their pending event if the event meets the ministry's CFE standard operating requirements; or:
- b) Applying for a CFE licence if the event does not meet the ministry's CFE standard operating requirements.

CFE forms and documents, including the ministry's CFE standard operating requirements are available at Ministry of Environment offices and at <u>saskatchewan.ca/fishing</u> or may be requested by email at <u>cfe@gov.sk.ca</u>. All completed notification and application forms are to be submitted to the

ministry 30 days prior to the event. In addition, a completed summary form of the event's operations is due to the ministry within 30 days following the event.

## Mercury in Fish

Mercury is a naturally occurring element found in the earth's bedrock and soils and may enter the environment through industrial and human activities. Mercury can accumulate in the muscle of fish, with large predatory species such as pike and walleye tending to accumulate the highest amounts. Frequent consumption of fish with elevated mercury is a potential human health concern, especially for infants and unborn children who may be exposed to mercury through their mothers.

Guidelines for the consumption of game fish that contain mercury can be obtained by visiting <u>saskatchewan.ca/fishing</u> or by contacting Ministry of Environment offices.

#### Free Fishing Weekends (July 8 and 9, 2017 and February 17 to 19, 2018)

To encourage more people to experience one of the province's premier outdoor activities, each year Saskatchewan offers free fishing weekends where anyone may fish without an angling licence in any of Saskatchewan's public waters that are open to sport fishing. Free fishing weekends will take place on July 8 and 9, 2017 and on February 17, 18 and 19, 2018.

Please note that regular angling limits and sport fishing laws are in effect and you must purchase an angling licence if you plan to export any fish from Saskatchewan. Free fishing weekends do not apply in national parks.

### Fish and Wildlife Development Fund

The fish enhancement component of the Fish and Wildlife Development Fund (FWDF) is funded by 30 per cent of the revenue generated from the sale of angling licences, with a primary focus on habitat management and population enhancement.

Over the past decade, the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation (SWF) has operated under agreement with the FWDF to deliver the provincial fish enhancement program which more recently has included operation of the Saskatchewan Fish Culture Station in Fort Qu'Appelle. FWDF program oversight, policy development, fish stocking plans and ownership of the Fish Culture Station remains with the ministry.

In 2015, the SWF commissioned an independent review of the Fish Culture Station to assess its current state and develop a plan for modernization, refurbishment and replacement of aging infrastructure. Recommendations include an eight-year capital improvement plan with an estimated total cost of \$14 million. These proposed improvements will lead to operating efficiencies and cost savings for the Fish Culture Station and help the ministry meet its fish stocking requirements.

Several FWDF aeration projects are operated each winter to help maintain fish populations. These systems may result in areas of open water or thin, unsafe ice conditions. Please exercise caution and observe all warnings. For more information contact the SWF at 306-692-8812.

# Weigh Your Fish With a Ruler

Fish can sometimes be harmed when weighed. To protect your fish, take a length measurement. With this chart you can quickly determine the approximate weight of your fish using a ruler or tape measure.

If you measure your fish by length, use the table below to convert to an equivalent weight. For example, a walleye 66 cm in length would weigh approximately 3 kg. If you measure your fish in inches, use the conversion chart below. For example, a walleye 33 inches in length would be  $(33 \times 2.54 = 83.8 \text{ cm})$  which is roughly 6.44 kg or  $(6.44 \times 2.21) = 14.2 \text{ lbs}$ .

TOTAL LENGTH		APPROXIMATE WEIGHT, KG						
cm	in	Perch	Grayling	Walleye	Lake Trout	Pike		
20	7.80	0.11	0.08	0.06	0.06	0.07		
28	10.9	0.31	0.22	0.18	0.17	0.18		
36	14.0	0.67	0.46	0.41	0.37	0.36		
44	17.2	1.25	0.85	0.79	0.72	0.64		
52	20.3		1.41	1.36	1.24	1.04		
60	23.4		2.18	2.16	1.98	1.56		
68	26.5			3.24	2.98	2.23		
76	30.0			4.65	4.29	3.06		
84	32.8			6.44	5.94	4.07		
92	35.9				8.00	5.28		
100	39.0				10.50	6.70		
120	46.8				19.03	11.28		
140	54.6					17.51		

# How to Measure a Fish

Lay the fish on its side, with the mouth closed and the tail lobes pressed together. Measure the length in a straight line along a flat surface from the tip of the nose to the end of the tail.



#### To Convert:

Centimetres to Inches Inches to Centimetres Kilograms to Pounds Pounds to Kilograms multiply by 0.39 multiply by 2.54 multiply by 2.21 multiply by 0.45

# Saskatchewan Angler Awards

#### Saskatchewan Angling Registry

The registry is a program delivered by the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation (SWF) that recognizes anglers for catching trophy-size fish in Saskatchewan's public waters. Eligible species meeting the minimum size requirements may be entered in the Catch and Release or Catch and Keep categories. All qualifying entries will receive a certificate and will be entered into a prize draw. For more information or to enter a fish, contact the SWF at 306-692-8812 or go to swf.sk.ca.

#### Saskatchewan Catch-and-Release Certificates

These certificates recognize the conservation efforts of anglers who catch and release large fish.

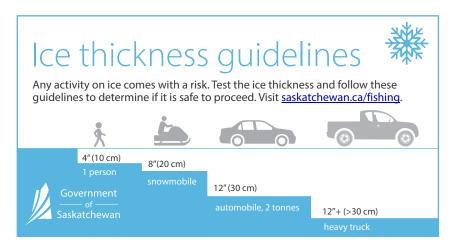
- All fish must be legally angled within Saskatchewan. Fish that do not survive when released are not eligible.
- Application forms are available at <u>saskatchewan.ca/fishing</u>. Anglers may submit one application per species. Application forms must be received within 30 days of the catch.
- Ministry representatives will be the final judge of all applications, and reserve the right to publish names and addresses of certificate recipients.

(Approximate)	Length		Wei	ght
	(cm)	(in)	(kg)	(lb)
Arctic grayling	35	13.7	0.5	1.1
Brook trout	45	17.6	1.1	2.4
Brown trout	45	17.6	1.1	2.4
Burbot	55	21.5	1.6	3.5
Channel catfish	65	25.4	2.5	5.5
Goldeye	40	15.6	0.7	1.5
Lake trout	65	25.4	2.6	5.7
Largemouth bass	40	15.6	1.2	2.7
Northern pike	75	29.3	2.9	6.4
Perch	30	11.7	0.4	0.9
Rainbow trout	50	19.5	1.8	4.0
Splake	45	17.6	1.1	2.4
Walleye	55	21.5	1.6	3.5
Whitefish	55	21.5	1.8	4.0

# Winter Ice Safety

Apply the following guidelines, and use caution and common sense:

- before you leave, always tell someone where you will be fishing and when you plan to return;
- try to fish with other anglers rather than alone;
- test the ice thickness before you travel on it and check with other local anglers for information about the water body;
- ice does not freeze at a uniform thickness and ice strength can vary considerably from one area to another due to air temperature, water currents (especially around the mouths of streams and rivers), pressure cracks, springs, old holes and heavy snow insulation;
- particularly in the early part of the winter season, ice near shore is often much thicker and safer than ice further out onto the lake;
- heavy snow cover can insulate the ice below and cause the ice to form much more slowly;
- if driving on the ice, drive slowly, keep the windows down and apply brakes gradually; and
- wear proper cold weather apparel and layer clothing to stay warm. Assemble some safety gear for emergencies such as a cell phone, ice picks, a throw rope, flares and a life jacket or flotation suit.



# Boat safety - are you prepared for a day on the water?

Before heading out on the water, be prepared and keep these simple safety tips in mind:

- Always wear a Canadian-approved lifejacket while boating. It could save your life. Make sure it fits properly and that all buckles, straps, zippers and fabric are in good condition.
- Be prepared. Ensure all required safety equipment is onboard, works well and is within easy reach. If you find missing or broken equipment, fix or replace it before you go.
- Take a boating safety course. Learn basic boating safety knowledge and understand the "rules of the road." If operating a motorized boat, get a Pleasure Craft Operator Card or another approved form of operator competency. It's the law. Also, remember to have your proof of competency onboard the boat while underway.
- Check local weather forecasts and be ready to change your plans if the weather turns bad.
- Know the waterway. Reefs, stumps, rocks, changing water levels and sandbars are examples of hazards you need to know about. Carry local marine charts, if available, or ask someone who knows the waterway well about any hidden hazards.
- Does your boat need a pleasure craft licence? In Canada, all boats powered by motors 7.5 kW (10 hp) or more, must be licensed. This licence is free and is good for 10 years. In an emergency, search and rescue personnel can access information about your boat using the licence number, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- File a sail plan. Tell someone you trust where you are going and when you will be back.
- Check your fuel supply. Remember the rule: 1/3 to go, 1/3 to return and 1/3 in reserve.
- Respect the limits of your boat. Follow the guidelines on the boat's compliance label. Don't overload or carry more weight or people than listed.
- Boat sober. Operating a boat while impaired is dangerous and an offence under the Criminal Code of Canada.

For more information, please visit the Transport Canada Office of Boating Safety website at <u>tc.gc.ca/boatingsafety</u>.

# Fish of Saskatchewan



Arctic grayling (*Thymallus arcticus*) Purple iridescence on sides, large dorsal fin. Average weight: 0.5 kg (1.1 lb). Record Size: Kept: 1.96 kg (4.32 lb), Fond du Lac River, 1966; Released: 55 cm (21.65 in), Grease River, Lake Athabasca, 2002.



**Bigmouth Buffalo** (*Ictiobus cyprinellus*) Large mouth at tip of snout with no barbels present. Large scales on body with soft-rayed fins. Average weight: 3 to 6 kg (6.6 to 13.23 lb).



**Brook trout** (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) Sides have white and red spots surrounded by blue haloes. Average weight: 0.5 to 1 kg (1.1 to 2.2 lb). Record Size: Kept: 3.4 kg (7.5 lb), Loch Leven, 2004; Released: No record.



Brown trout (Salmo trutta)

Tail square, not forked, light brown with black and rusty spots. Average weight: 1 to 2.5 kg (2.2 to 5.5 lb). Record Size: Kept: 11.79 kg (26.0 lb), Lake Diefenbaker, 2015; Released: 74.3 cm (29.25 in), Shannon Lake, 2001.



Bullhead (brown & black) (Ictalurus nebulosus & melas)

Tail square, not forked, four pairs of barbels (whiskers) present. Average weight: Less than 1 kg (2.2 lb). Record Size: Kept: 1.63 kg (3.6 lb), Round Lake, 1994; Released: No record.



Burbot (Lota lota)

Head flattened, single barbel below mouth. Average weight: 1 to 1.5 kg (2.2 to 3.3 lb). Record Size: Kept: 11.4 kg (25.1 lb), Lake Diefenbaker, 2010. All tackle world record. Released: No record.



**Carp** (Cyprinus carpio)

Large heavy scales on body, two pairs of barbels at edge of mouth. Average weight: 1 to 5 kg (2.2 to 11 lb). Record Size: Kept: 18.2 kg (40.1 lb), Last Mountain Lake, 1986; Released: No record.



**Cutthroat trout** (*Oncorhynchus clarki*) Bright red/orange streak found on throat. Average weight: 0.5 to 1.5 kg (1.1 to 3.3 lb). Record Size: Kept: 3.94 kg (8.69 lb), Loch Leven, 2004; Released: No record.



Lake trout (Salvelinus namaycush) Deeply forked tail fin, colour is dark grey-green with light spots. Average weight: 1 to 2.5 kg (2.2 to 5.5 lb). Record Size: Kept: 24.6 kg (54.23 lb), Wollaston Lake, 1995. Released: 132 cm (51.97 in), Lake Athabasca, 2000.



**Channel catfish** (*lctalurus punctatus*) Tail deeply forked, four pairs of barbels (whiskers) present. Average weight: 1 to 2 kg (2.2 to 4.4 lb). Record Size: Kept: 8.85 kg (19.5 lb), Qu'Appelle River, 2005; Released: 91.44 cm (36 in), Qu'Appelle River, 2009.



**Goldeye** (*Hiodon alosoides*) Silver to dark blue in colour with large, bright yellow eyes. Leading edge of dorsal fin above anal fin. Average weight: Less than 0.5 kg (1.1 lb). Record Size: Kept: 1.54 kg (3.4 lb), Blackstrap Reservoir, 1989; Released: 49.5 cm (19.5 in), North Saskatchewan River, 2015.



# **Largemouth bass** (*Micropterus* salmoides)

Large head and mouth, spiny dorsal fin. Average weight: 0.5 to 1.5 kg (1.1 to 3.3 lb). Record Size: Released: 61 cm (24 in), Boundary Reservoir, 1990.



**Mooneye** (*Hiodon tergisus*) Similar in appearance to goldeye, but with leading edge of dorsal fin ahead of anal fin. Average weight: less than 0.5 kg (1.1 lb).



**Northern pike** (*Esox lucius*) Body long and torpedo shaped, large mouth with many sharp teeth. Average weight: 1 to 2.5 kg (2.2 to 5.5 lb). Record Size: Kept: 19.41 kg (42.8 lb), Lake Athabasca, 1954; Released: 141 cm (55.5 in), Mirond Lake, 2008.



**Rainbow trout** (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) Mature fish have a pink/red band on each side. Average weight: 0.5 to 2 kg (1.1 to 4.4 lb). Record Size: Kept: 21.8 kg (48 lb), Lake Diefenbaker, 2009. All tackle world record. Released: 68.58 cm (27 in), Lake Diefenbaker, 1999.



#### **Sauger** (Sander canadense)

No white lobe on lower tail fin, dorsal fin with black spots. Average weight: Less than 0.5 kg (1.1 lb). Record Size: Kept: 3.55 kg (7.83 lb), South Saskatchewan River, 1990; Released: 58 cm (22.83 in), Tobin Lake, 2002.



**Rock bass** (*Ambloplites rupestris*) Body is deep and narrow, eyes are red/orange in colour. Average weight: less than 0.5 kg (1.1 lb). Record Size: Kept: 0.99 kg (2.18 lb), Round Lake, 1995; Released: No record.



**Splake** (Brook trout/Lake trout hybrid) Body greenish in colour, with yellowish spots and heavy body. Average weight: 1 to 2 kg (2.2 to 4.4 lb). Record Size: Kept: 6.0 kg (13.23 lb), Fern Lake, 1988; Released: No record.



Smallmouth bass (*Micropterus* dolomieui) Colour may vary from green to olive with dark vertical bars along the side. Spiny dorsal fin. Average weight: 1.35 kg (2.98 lb). Record size: Released: 50 cm (19.75 in), Konuto Lake, 2012.



**Lake Sturgeon** (*Acipenser fulvescens*) Shark-like tail fin, five rows of heavy sharp plates under skin. Four barbels found in front of extendable sucker-like mouth. Average weight: 3 to 10 kg (6.6 to 22 lb).



**Tiger trout** (Brook trout/Brown trout hybrid)

Yellow/brown in colour, worm-shaped vermiculations on sides. Average weight: 0.5 to 1 kg (1.1 to 2.2 lb). Record Size: Kept: 5.0 kg (11 lb), Nesland Lake, 2009; Released: 65.4 cm (25.75 in), Piprell Lake, 2009.



# **Lake whitefish** (Coregonus clupeaformis)

Small head, nose overhangs lower jaw, silvery in colour. Average weight: 0.5 to 1.5 kg (1.1 to 3.3 lb) Record Size: Kept: 5.96 kg (13.15 lb), Lake Diefenbaker, 2015; Released: No record.



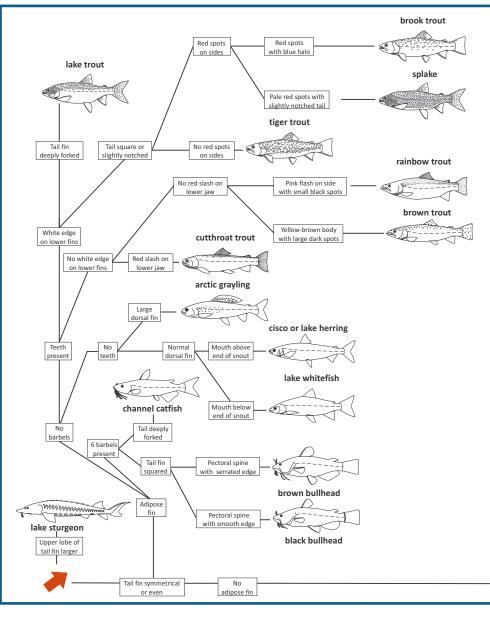
**Walleye** (*Sander vitreus*) White mark on lower lobe of tail fin,

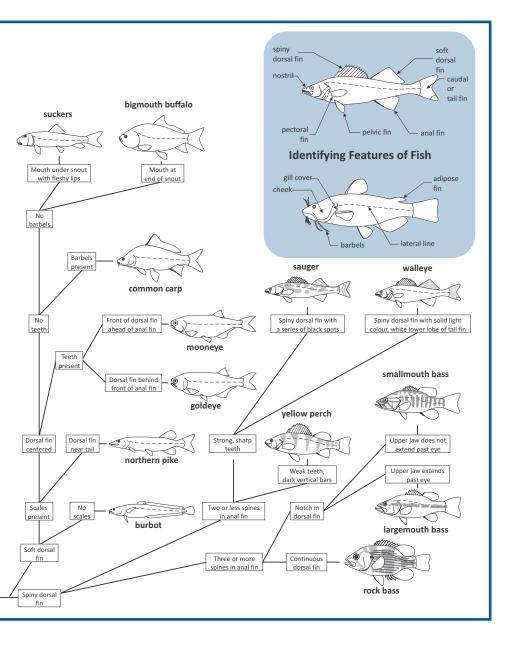
spiny dorsal fin. Average weight: 0.5 to 1.5 kg (1.1 to 3.3 lb). Record Size: Kept 8.3 kg (18.3 lb), Tobin Lake, 2005, World ice fishing record; Released: 96.5 cm (38 in), Tobin Lake, 1997.



Yellow perch (*Perca tlavescens*) Golden colour with black bars, spiny dorsal fin. Average weight: 0.2 to 0.5 kg (0.44 to 1.1 lb). Record Size: Kept: 1.26 kg (2.77 lb) St. Brieux Lake, 2012; Released: No record.

# Fish Identification Guide







# Are you putting your campfire out safely?



# Did you know that in Saskatchewan last year, 46 wildfires were linked to campfires?

Why? Because many people don't follow all the steps to safely extinguish their campfires.

Pour water on the coals until they float. Stir. Add more water.

If you spot a fire, call the toll-free number immediately.



saskatchewan.ca/fire | 1-800-667-9660 | 911

# Have a question? Call **1-800-567-4224** (in North America) or email **centre.inquiry@gov.sk.ca**

#### **Ministry of Environment Offices**

If you need fishing information or wish to report a fishing violation, contact the nearest Ministry of Environment office listed below. The area code for all numbers is 306.

Assiniboia	642-7242	Melville	728-7480
Beauval	288-4710	Moose Jaw	694-3659
Big River	469-2520	Moose Mountain	577-2600
Buffalo Narrows	235-1740	Nipawin	862-1790
Candle Lake	929-8400	North Battleford	446-7416
Christopher Lake	982-6250	Outlook	867-5560
Creighton	688-8812	Pierceland	839-6250
Dorintosh	236-7680	Pinehouse	884-2060
Duck Mountain	542-5500	Preeceville	547-5660
Estevan	637-4600	Prince Albert	953-2322
Fort Qu'Appelle	332-3215	Regina	787-2080
Greenwater Lake	278-3515	Rowan's Ravine	725-5200
Hudson Bay	865-4400	Saskatoon	933-6240
Humboldt	682-6726	Shaunavon	297-5433
Kindersley	463-5458	Southend	758-6255
La Ronge	425-4234	Spiritwood	883-8501
Leader	628-3100	Stony Rapids	439-2062
Lloydminster	825-6430	Swift Current	778-8205
Loon Lake	837-2410	Wadena	338-6254
Maple Creek	662-5434	Weyburn	848-2344
Meadow Lake	236-7557	Yorkton	786-1463
Melfort	752-6214		

#### **Services to Anglers**

Invironment Inquiry Line
ourism Saskatchewan
- Regina area
- Toll-free North America
nformation Services Corporation
- Regina area
Boating Safety1-800-267-6687
askatchewan Outfitters Association
askatchewan Wildlife Federation



# Going fishing? Remember your licence.

Did you know that 30 per cent of all angling licence revenue goes into the Fish and Wildlife Development Fund to help manage our fisheries resources?

Remember: contact our confidential, 24-hour Turn In Poachers (TIP) service if you notice someone fishing in closed spawning areas, exceeding the limit, or using illegal gear. All reports are investigated.

Call the toll-free number or submit a report online.

