

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK
FISHING INFORMATION

Fishing is permitted in Rocky Mountain National Park only by those having in their possession a valid fishing license from the State of Colorado. The following Special Regulations apply to waters within the boundaries of the National Park, and vary from Colorado State regulations.

1. POSSESSION LIMIT means the numbers, sizes, or species of fish that may be in the possession of a person regardless if fresh or preserved. All fish a person does not elect to keep, or which do not meet the possession requirements, shall be carefully and immediately returned to the waters from which they were taken.

The total aggregate possession limit shall be 8 fish of any species. Except that 10 brook trout 8" or less in length may be possessed in addition to the 8 fish limit. These provisions have parkwide application except as provided in paragraph 3.

2. METHOD OF CAPTURE. Each person shall use only one hand-held rod or line. Only artificial lures or flies with one (single, double, or treble) hook with a common shank may be used. No bait, except that children 12 years of age or under may use fish bait in all Park waters except those closed to fishing. When in possession of any fishing equipment, the possession of fish bait, including worms, insects, minnows, fish eggs, or parts thereof, is prohibited, except for children 12 years of age or under.

3. CLOSED WATERS. No greenback cutthroat trout (endangered species) may be taken or possessed. Their habitat waters are closed to all fishing--

1. Big Thompson River in Forest Canyon above Spruce Creek,
2. Fay Lake drainage above 10,200' elevation,
3. Hidden Valley drainage above Fall River,
4. Bear Lake,
5. Lake Nanita outlet for 100 yards

STATE OF COLORADO LICENSE INFORMATION

LICENSE FEES:

- A. Resident combined fishing and small game hunting license - \$10.00
- B. Resident fishing license - \$7.50
- C. Nonresident annual fishing license - \$25.00
- D. Nonresident 5-day fishing license - \$10.00 (A new 5-day license may be purchased at the end of the 5-day period for the same fee)
- E. Lifetime resident combination small game & fishing license - \$2.00
(Any State resident sixty-four years of age or older)

JUVENILE FISHING:

No juvenile under 15 years of age is required to purchase a fishing license. However, he or she will be permitted to take and have in possession only one-half the daily bag and possession limit.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE REGULATIONS IS A VIOLATION OF THE CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS: VIOLATORS WILL BE CITED AND SUBJECT TO PROSECUTION.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK
Estes Park, Colorado 80517

PARK FISHERIES

Policy: Sport fishing is encouraged in natural areas when consistent with the restoration and perpetuation of the natural aquatic environment and natural aquatic life.

History: Fishing has been a part of the historic use of the Rocky Mountains as long as man has been in this area. Many of the lower park streams contained populations of the native cutthroat trout. Man, by his nature, tries to improve on things he finds and decided to add other species of trout to these waters and to move native trout to lakes and other streams that originally lacked them. Even the Park Service contributed to this change by stocking Yellowstone cutthroat in some areas--a practice no longer accepted.

Today's Fisheries: Throughout the park today we find populations of at least four species of trout - German brown, brook, rainbow, and cutthroat. In addition, some "minnows" and suckers are found in the streams and lakes.

The trout populations are maintained by natural reproduction, and no stocking is practiced today. The objective is to provide the quality experience of fishing for wild trout in a natural setting.

The park is open to fishing all year. The following lakes contain trout populations as do most of the streams below them. In general, the results from high altitude fishing are spotty, even from waters known to contain good populations.

Bench	Mills
Black	Mirror
Box	Nanita (outlet closed)
Caddis	Nokoni
Chasm	Odessa
Crystal	Ouzel
Crystal, Little	Peacock Pool
Dream	Pear Reservoir
Emerald	Poudre
Fern	Rock
Fourth	Rock, Little
Glass	Sandbeach
Haiyaha	Sky Pond
Husted	Solitude
Jewel	Spirit
Lake of the Clouds	Sprague
Lawn	Spruce
Loch Vale	Thunder
Lone Pine	Timber
Loomis	Verna
Lost	Ypsilon