

# Central Fishing District



Central District

**The Central Fishing District includes all waters in Montana east of the Continental Divide, (including the Belly and St Mary’s River drainages) and west of the following described boundary:** Interstate 15 from the Montana-Canada border south to its junction with Hwy 2 at Shelby, then east on Hwy 2 to Chester, then south on Hwy 223 to State Route 80 at Fort Benton, then southeasterly along State Route 80 to its junction with State Route 81, then easterly on State Route 81 to its junction with U.S. Hwy 191, then northeasterly along U.S. Hwy 191 to its junction with State Route 19, then south on State Route 19 to its junction with U.S. Hwy 87 at Grassrange, then south on U.S. Hwy 87 to its junction with U.S. Hwy 12 at Roundup, then west on U.S. Hwy 12 to its junction with State Route 3 at Lavina, then south on State Route 3 to its junction with Interstate 90 at Billings, then easterly and southerly on Interstate 90 to the first crossing of the Little Bighorn River, then southerly along the west bank of the Little Bighorn River to the Montana-Wyoming border.

**Note:** Roadways that are used as boundaries between the Central and Eastern Fishing Districts are interpreted to be in the Central Fishing District.

For additional information regarding the boundaries in this fishing district, please call the following regional headquarters Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.:

- Billings**.....406-247-2940
- Bozeman**.....406-994-4042
- Butte Area Office** .....406-494-1953
- Great Falls** .....406-454-5840
- Helena Area Office**.....406-495-3260
- Lewistown Area Office** .....406-538-4658
- Hearing Impaired (use Montana Relay)**.....7-1-1 or 1-800-253-4091

## Central District Standard Regulations

### Closed Waters

Waters operated as fish hatcheries and rearing ponds by FWP and the US Fish and Wildlife Service shall be closed to fishing at all times. Waters in which FWP operates fish traps and other structures are closed to fishing as posted. Certain water-supply lakes, streams and hazardous areas are also closed as posted.

### Dam Closures and Use Restrictions

In the interest of public health and safety, certain areas above and below most dams are closed to the public. These restrictions include areas where no public access is allowed below the ordinary high-water mark. The restricted areas are identified and delineated by signs and/or boat restraining systems.

The following dams are closed to all boating, sailing, floating, swimming, fishing or other recreational activity as marked by boat restraining systems or as posted to restrict access. Other dams not listed here may also be posted for restricted access. For more information call the FWP Fishing Access Coordinator at 406-444-7885, or contact the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) 406-247-7298 or PPL Montana (PPL) 406-533-3415.

Black Eagle Dam (PPL, Cascade County)	Morony Dam (PPL, Chouteau County)
Canyon Ferry Dam (BOR, Lewis & Clark County)	Rainbow Dam (PPL, Cascade County)
Clark Canyon Dam (BOR, Beaverhead County)	Ruby Dam (PPL, Madison County)
Cochrane Dam (PPL, Cascade County)	Ryan Dam (PPL, Cascade County)
Hauser Dam (PPL, Lewis & Clark County)	Tiber Dam (BOR, Liberty County)
Hebgen Dam (PPL, Gallatin County)	Yellowtail Dam (BOR, Big Horn County)
Holter Dam (PPL, Lewis & Clark County)	Yellowtail Afterbay Dam (BOR, Big Horn County)
Madison Dam (PPL, Madison County)	

### Beaver Ponds

Beaver ponds on streams are governed by the same regulations that govern the streams.

### Irrigation Canals and Ditches

Man-made irrigation canals and ditches are open year round unless stated otherwise in exceptions to standard regulations. The same daily and possession limits apply to them as for rivers/streams. Please refer to "Irrigation Canals and Ditches" on page 22 for more details.

### Reservoirs

Under normal operations, reservoir pool elevation, surface acreage and the mouths of the inlet stream(s) are expected to vary throughout the year. An imaginary line connecting the reservoir shoreline across the mouth of the stream marks the boundary between reservoir and stream/river, and the boundary will move as reservoir levels change. Streams are defined by a sloped streambed that results in a defined current flow between two discernible stream banks. Stream regulations apply upstream from the mouth of the reservoir and often are managed under seasons, limits and special regulations that differ from the reservoir regulations.

### Transporting Live Fish

An import permit is required to bring live fish of any kind into Montana. It is unlawful to possess or transport any live fish away from the body of water in which the fish were taken without authorization from FWP with the following exceptions:

- 1) transportation of fish for authorized commercial purposes (eg. Baitfish Seining Permit, Commercial Fish Ponds, Commercial Fishing, etc.);
- 2) use as live bait subject to restrictions imposed by the F&W Commission for the taking, transport and use of live baitfish (see "Bait Regulations" below); or
- 3) it is unlawful to possess or transport live fish, other than authorized baitfish, on roadways that form the boundary between the Eastern and Central fishing districts.

## Boat and Motor Restrictions

A complete, updated, copy of Montana Boating Laws can be obtained from any FWP office or FWP license providers. All passengers under the age of 12 must wear a PFD at all times when the boat is in motion if the boat is less than 26 feet long. A wearable, U.S. Coast Guard approved PFD must be available for each occupant of any boat.

## Methods of Taking Fish

- A valid fishing license is required for all types of fishing.
- Spears and bows are counted as lines for purposes of determining line limits.
- When multiple lines are allowed on a body of water, the maximum number of lines allowed shall not exceed the greater of either the attended lines or the setlines. For example, if an angler wants to spear for northern pike on Lake Frances in the winter (where the limit is 2 attended lines all year or 6 setlines through the ice), he/she may have a maximum of only 5 setlines in use if he/she is using one spear, for a total of 6 lines.
- All unattended fishing devices (crayfish traps, minnow traps, fish traps, setlines, etc.) must have the angler's name and phone number or name and ALS# attached.

## Hook and Line Limits

### Open Water

#### **Rivers and Streams**

- 1 line with 2 hooks per line, with or without a rod. The rod or line must be attended and in the angler's immediate control.

#### **Lakes and Reservoirs**

- 2 lines with 2 hooks per line. All lines must be attended and in the angler's immediate control.

### Ice Fishing

#### **Lakes and Reservoirs**

- 2 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice on lakes, reservoirs, or ponds open to fishing. When a line is used through the ice, the angler need not be in immediate control, but must be in the vicinity and in visual contact with the line.

#### **Size of Hole**

- In waters not open to spearing, the maximum size hole that may be used for ice fishing is 144 square inches or 12 inches in diameter.
- There is no size limit for a hole used for fishing with a spear.

**Shelters:** It is illegal to use any ice fishing shelter not conforming to the following rules:

**Definition/use:** Any hut or enclosure constructed of any material, except ice or snow, for the purpose of ice fishing.

**Identification:** Identification must be painted on or otherwise affixed to all unattended shelters in legible, 2-inch letters plainly visible at a distance of 100 feet or 9/10-digit ALS number. Attended shelters at Clark Canyon Reservoir, Deadman's Basin, Hauser Reservoir, Lake Francis and Lake Helena must also be identified.

**Inspection:** Each closed shelter shall have a door that an officer may readily open from the outside for inspection when it is occupied.

**Waste and Rubbish Disposal:** Owners and occupants of shelters are required to keep their shelters (and the area immediately around them) free from rubbish. Anglers must remove waste materials before they leave for the day.

**Daily Removal:** Daily removal of shelters is required on:

Fitzpatrick Lake • Deadmans Basin • Helena Valley Regulating Reservoir

**Sunrise-Sunset Removal:** Shelters may not be placed on the ice prior to sunrise and must be removed prior to sunset each day on Hauser Reservoir and Lake Helena.

**Removal After the Season:** The owner of an ice fishing shelter shall remove it from the ice before it becomes irretrievable at the end of the season, or within five days from receipt of notification from FWP to remove the shelter.

**Setlines**

- Setlines may be used only on waters specified in District Exceptions.
- Setlines must be checked by the fisherman at least once every 24 hours.
- The angler's name and phone number or name and 9/10-digit ALS# must be attached to each setline.
- Setlines shall not be attached to jugs or other floating devices.

**Bow and Arrow**

- Waters open to angling are open to taking non-game fish with bow and arrow unless otherwise noted in the exceptions to the standard regulations.

**Crossbows**

- Illegal.

**Nets and Traps**

- Landing nets may be used for landing hooked fish. See Bait Regulations for use of nets to harvest bait fish.

**Snagging**

- Snagging of fish is allowed only on waters specified in District Exceptions.

**Spearing**

- In all waters open to fishing, non-game fish may be taken with rubber or spring-propelled spears by persons swimming or submerged. Rubber or spring-propelled spears may be used only by persons swimming or submerged in the water and may be used only for designated species in designated waters.

**Bait Regulations**

- Game fish, including yellow perch, may not be used as bait (live or dead) except as authorized below under Dead Bait.
- Possession of live non-game fish is prohibited on waters closed to using live fish as bait.
- It is illegal to release live bait of any kind into Montana waters; do not empty any live bait containers at your fishing site.
- Where live fish may be used as bait (see list below under Live Bait), legal non-game fish may be taken for use as bait in the following manner:
  - with hook and line; or
  - with seines no larger than 12 feet by 4 feet; or
  - with minnow traps (the dimensions shall not exceed 24 inches x 12 inches x 12 inches); or
  - with cast nets (maximum 6-foot radius) and dip nets (no larger than 3 feet x 3 feet).
- Legal non-game fish, except sculpins (genus *Cottus*) which must be killed prior to transport, may only be transported live to or from:
  - waters where live non-game fish may be used as bait in the Central Fishing District, or
  - anywhere within the boundaries of the Eastern Fishing District.
- On waters within the Central Fishing District that do not allow the use of live bait and are not restricted to artificial flies and lures, sculpins (genus *Cottus*) may be collected and used as dead bait. Collection screens or nets may not exceed four (4) feet in length on any side. Sculpins must be killed immediately upon collection and may not be used as live bait. [Note: Sculpins (genus *Cottus*) may not be used for bait in the Western Fishing District.]
- See Commercial Fishing License requirements for information on commercial harvest permits.
- All unattended fishing devices (crayfish traps, minnow traps, fish traps, setlines, etc.) must have the angler's name and phone number or name and ALS# attached.
- Areas within the Central Fishing District that have been identified as contaminated with Eurasian watermilfoil have additional bait restrictions as described on the next page.

## Dead Bait

- Non-game fish that are freshly killed or have been preserved by freezing, salting or pickling may be used as bait on all waters not restricted to artificial lures only. Heads and entrails of non-game fish may also be used as bait.
- Whole game fish may not be used as bait.
- Parts/pieces of bass, burbot (ling), channel catfish, crappie, northern pike, paddlefish, sauger, shovelnose sturgeon, tiger muskellunge, walleye, or yellow perch may be used as bait if edible portions are not wasted.
- The eggs of char, cisco, grayling, salmon or trout may be used as bait. Parts/pieces of salmonids may not be used as bait.

## Live Bait

- Live bait fish may not be imported into Montana, except by permit for use in Bighorn Lake and Afterbay Reservoir. Bait fish collected in the Bighorn River drainage of Wyoming may be imported under a permit issued by FWP. For a permit, contact the FWP Fisheries Division at 2300 Lake Elmo Drive, Billings MT 59105 or call (406)247-2940.
- Live animals such as meal worms, red worms, night crawlers, leeches, maggots, crayfish, reptiles, amphibians and insects may be used as bait on all waters not restricted to artificial flies and lures. Leeches may only be imported into Montana from FWP-approved leech dealers. Anglers who import leeches must have in their possession a bill-of-sale from the approved out-of-state leech dealer when fishing with leeches in Montana. A list of approved out-of-state leech dealers may be obtained from FWP by calling 406-452-6181.
- Non-game fish that may be used as live bait in the Central Fishing District include all non-game species except black bullheads, bluegill, carp, goldfish, green sunfish, pumpkinseed, rainbow smelt, sculpins, stonecats and yellow bullheads.
- Live non-game fish may be used as bait only in the following waters:
  - Bighorn Lake and Afterbay Reservoir
  - Bighorn River—Afterbay Dam to the cable 600 feet downstream, and downstream from the Bighorn FAS
  - Clarks Fork Yellowstone River—downstream from the bridge at Bridger
  - Marias River and tributaries downstream from I-15
  - Missouri River downstream from Morony Dam
  - Muddy Creek Drainage near Vaughn, including all streams and drainage canals
  - Teton River and tributaries downstream from I-15
  - Tiber Reservoir (Lake Elwell), Toole and Liberty counties
  - Yellowstone River and all streams and ditches in the drainage downstream from the mouth of the Clarks Fork (except the section of the Bighorn River between the cable 600 feet downstream from Afterbay Dam and the Bighorn FAS).

## Bait restrictions in Eurasian watermilfoil contaminated areas

Eurasian watermilfoil is an invasive aquatic plant that has become established in some Montana waters. This water weed is easily spread from one body of water to another primarily by plant fragments. Areas within the Central Fishing District that have been identified as contaminated with Eurasian watermilfoil are:

- Jefferson River
- Toston Reservoir
- Missouri River from the confluence of the three forks to the headwaters of Canyon Ferry Reservoir.

The additional bait restrictions within the contaminated areas are:

- The collection of bait animals, including commercial seining is not permitted.
- Transport of live aquatic bait animals to and from these contaminated areas is allowed only in clean water (e.g. transport minnows and leeches in well water).

Anglers are asked to inspect all bait buckets and live wells to ensure that **NO PLANT FRAGMENTS** are present when leaving a body of water. It takes only a small fragment of Eurasian watermilfoil (less than 2 inches) to start a new plant and infest a body of water.

## General Regulations

**Possession limit** means the number of fish that you may possess at any time in any form: fresh, stored in freezers or lockers, salted, smoked, dried, canned or otherwise preserved. It is illegal to preserve fish (salted, smoked, dried, canned, or otherwise preserved) before taking them to your permanent residence (the physical abode or structure you maintain as your principal, legal residence) unless those fish can be counted. Mobile recreational vehicles, travel trailers, tents or storage/freezer lockers do not qualify as permanent residences. No person may sell or take for the purpose of sale any fish except as authorized in commercial fishing regulations.

**Daily limit** means the number of fish you may legally take during a calendar day. It is unlawful to exceed the standard daily limit unless the regulations for the water body where you are fishing specify a different limit. "Legally taken" means fish caught and not immediately released alive. Where catch and release is allowed, fish immediately released alive are considered not taken. A fish when landed and not immediately released becomes part of the daily limit of the person originally hooking the fish, even if the fish is donated to another person. If you receive fish from another angler, those fish also become part of your daily limit. You may possess the daily limit allowed only for the body of water on which you are fishing.

### Handling and Transporting Legally Taken Fish

While a person is fishing, or while on the water, or on the ice:

- All fish in possession must be visibly identifiable to species.
- All fish in possession must be whole with head, skin, fins and tail attached. Gills and entrails may be removed.

Fish may be dressed and filleted for transport to your permanent residence, unless size limits apply, under the following conditions:

- All fish can be counted and identified. Two fillets will be counted as one fish. If the catch is frozen prior to transport, each fish or fillet must be packaged so it can be counted.
- Salmonids (trout, salmon, grayling, char and whitefish): the entire skin must be attached to the fillet for identification.

### General Fishing Seasons and Hours

#### Fishing Hours

Fishing is allowed at all hours during open fishing seasons unless otherwise specified in District Exceptions to Standard Regulations.

#### Fishing Season: Lakes and Reservoirs

Open entire year unless otherwise specified in District Exceptions to Standard Regulations.

#### Fishing Season: Rivers and Streams

Open third Saturday in May through November 30 unless otherwise specified in District Exceptions to Standard Regulations.

## Central District Standard Daily and Possession Limits

Each angler may take all of the limits listed in the chart, unless otherwise noted in the Central District Exceptions. For species not listed, there are no limits on the number of fish that may be taken or possessed.

Anglers who move from one fishing water to another may possess the limit of fish allowed only for the water on which they are currently fishing.

Species		Daily and Possession Limits
T R O U T	Brook trout	20 daily and in possession.
	Combined Trout includes brown trout, rainbow trout, golden trout and grayling	<b>Lakes/Reservoirs:</b> 5 daily and 10 in possession, includes cutthroat trout.  <b>Rivers/Streams:</b> 5 daily and in possession, only 1 over 18 inches. All grayling must be released immediately.
	Cutthroat trout	<b>Lakes/Reservoirs:</b> included in Combined Trout daily and possession limit.  <b>Rivers/Streams:</b> all cutthroat trout must be released immediately.
	Lake trout	3 daily and in possession.
Bass		5 daily and in possession.
Burbot (ling)		5 daily and in possession.
Catfish		10 daily and 20 in possession.
Northern pike		10 daily and in possession.
Pallid sturgeon		0 - this is an endangered species and all fish must be released immediately. All waters are closed to fishing for pallid sturgeon.
Salmon (Kokanee & Chinook)		10 daily and in possession.
Sauger/Walleye		5 daily and 10 in possession.
Shovelnose sturgeon		5 daily and in possession, none over 40 inches.
Tiger muskellunge		1 daily and in possession, must be over 40 inches.
Whitefish		20 daily and 40 in possession.

Central District

2015 GENERAL FISHING SEASON		
Central District	Rivers and Streams	Lakes and Reservoirs
	Open third Saturday in May through November 30, unless otherwise specified in Exceptions to Standard Regulations.	Open all year
If you don't find the water you are looking for listed in the district exceptions, use the standard regulations for the district you are fishing in.		

## Central District Exceptions To Standard Regulations

Check the following list of waters for the body of water you intend to fish in the Central District. If the body of water is not found in the listing of Exceptions, all of the Central District standard seasons, daily/possession limits, and standard regulations apply. Standard regulations apply for species not listed in the Exceptions.

Waterbody/Section	Exceptions to Standard Regulations
<b>ABSAROKA-BEARTOOTH WILDERNESS LAKES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Combined Trout: 10 daily and in possession.</li> </ul>
<b>ALDER GULCH CREEK AND DREDGE PONDS</b>	<p style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;"><b>Virginia City to mouth</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open entire year.</li> </ul>
<b>ANTELOPE BUTTE LAKE aka Ostle Reservoir (Teton County)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open May 15 at 12:00 noon through November 30.</li> </ul>
<b>ARMSTRONG SPRING CREEK</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open entire year.</li> <li>• Catch-and-release only.</li> <li>• Artificial lures only.</li> </ul>
<b>AROD LAKES aka Eyraud Lakes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice.</li> <li>• Spearing: open for northern pike and non-game fish through the ice only.</li> </ul>
<b>AXOLOTL LAKES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catch-and-release for grayling.</li> </ul>
<b>BAD CANYON CREEK</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catch-and-release for cutthroat trout.</li> </ul>
<b>BADGER CREEK DRAINAGE (near Heart Butte)</b>	<p style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;"><b>Downstream from confluence of North Badger and South Badger creeks within National Forest</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Combined Trout: 3 daily and in possession, none over 12 inches, includes cutthroat trout.</li> </ul>
<b>BEAN LAKE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Combined Trout: 3 daily and in possession, only 1 over 18 inches.</li> </ul>
<b>BEAVER CREEK (tributary to Canyon Ferry Reservoir)</b>	<p style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;"><b>Mouth to US Highway 12</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open June 15 through September 30.</li> </ul>
<b>BEAVER CREEK (tributary to Missouri River below Hauser Dam)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open June 15 through November 30.</li> </ul>



**BEAVERHEAD RIVER****Entire River**

- Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession, 1 over 18 inches, only 1 may be a rainbow trout.

**Clark Canyon Dam to Pipe Organ Bridge**

- Open third Saturday in May through November 30.

**High Bridge FAS to Henneberry FAS**

- Closed to float fishing by nonresidents and float outfitting on each Saturday from the third Saturday in May through Labor Day.

**Henneberry FAS to Pipe Organ Bridge**

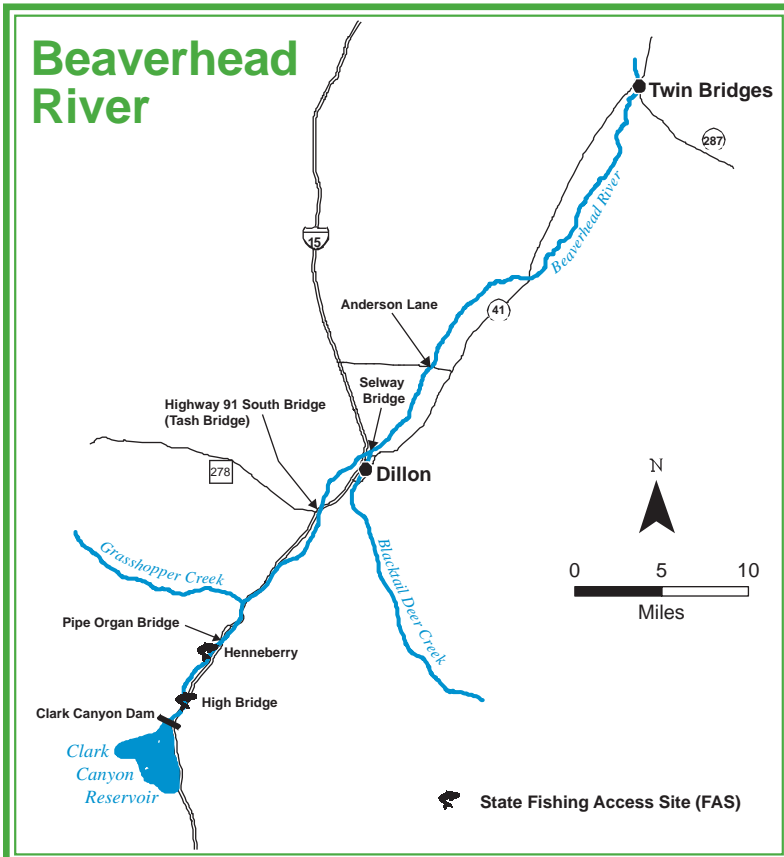
- Closed to float fishing by nonresidents and float outfitting on each Sunday from the third Sunday in May through Labor Day.

**Downstream from Pipe Organ Bridge**

- Open entire year.

**Highway 91 South Bridge (Tash Bridge) to Selway Bridge**

- Closed to float outfitting from the third Saturday in May through Labor Day.



**BELT CREEK** **Downstream from the Riceville Bridge**

- Open entire year.

**BIG COULEE CREEK (tributary to Highwood Creek, near Great Falls)**

- Closed entire year.

**BIG HOLE RIVER****Entire river**

- Extended season for whitefish and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to the third Saturday in May with artificial lures and/or maggots only.
- All float users are limited to a total of 2 launches at or near each official access site each day. See Big Hole River map for official access sites.

**Headwaters to North Fork Big Hole River**

- Brook trout: open entire year.

**Headwaters to Mudd Creek FAS**

- Closed to float outfitting from the third Saturday in May through Labor Day.

**Headwaters to Dickie Bridge**

- Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession, no size restriction.

**Mudd Creek FAS to Fishtrap FAS**

- Closed to float outfitting on each Tuesday from the third Saturday in May through Labor Day.

**Fishtrap FAS to East Bank BLM FAS**

- Closed to float outfitting on each Thursday from the third Saturday in May through Labor Day.

**East Bank BLM FAS to Jerry Creek FAS**

- Closed to float outfitting on each Wednesday from the third Saturday in May through Labor Day.

**Dickie Bridge to Divide Bridge (Divide FAS)**

- Artificial lures only.

**Jerry Creek FAS to Divide FAS**

- Closed to float fishing by nonresidents and float outfitting on each Saturday from the third Saturday in May through Labor Day.

**Divide Bridge (Divide FAS) to Melrose Bridges (Salmon Fly FAS)**

- Closed to float fishing by nonresidents and float outfitting on each Sunday from the third Saturday in May through Labor Day.
- Artificial lures only.

**Melrose Bridges (Salmon Fly FAS) to Glen FAS (bridges)**

- Closed to float outfitting on each Monday from the third Saturday in May through Labor Day.

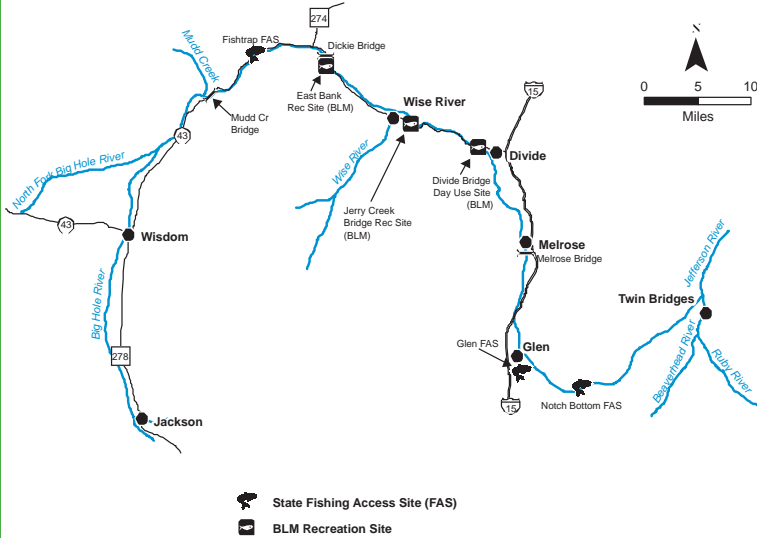
**Glen FAS (bridges) to Notch Bottom FAS**

- Closed to float outfitting on each Friday from the third Saturday in May through Labor Day.

**BIG HOLE RIVER TRIBUTARIES****Tributaries upstream from Divide Bridge (Divide FAS)**

- Brook trout: open entire year.
- Catch-and-release for grayling and cutthroat trout.

## Big Hole River



### BIG SHEEP CREEK (Beaverhead River drainage)

- Combined Trout: includes cutthroat trout.

### BIG SPRING CREEK (near Lewistown)

#### Entire creek

- Open entire year.

#### Upstream of the US Highway 191 bridge, including East Fork Big Spring Creek downstream from the Reservoir

- Catch-and-release only for all fish species.

### BIGHORN LAKE AND AFTERBAY RESERVOIR

- Bass: 6 daily and 12 in possession.
- Shovelnose sturgeon: 2 daily and in possession.
- Sauger/Walleye: 6 daily (only 3 may be sauger) and 12 in possession (only 3 may be sauger).
- Catfish: 6 daily and in possession.
- Burbot (ling): 3 daily and in possession.
- Hook and Line: 2 lines with 2 hooks per line on open water and 6 lines with 1 hook per line through the ice.
- Anglers obtaining live bait fish in Montana may use them only in the Montana portion of the lake.

**BIGHORN RIVER****Entire river**

- Open entire year
- Sauger/Walleye: 5 daily, only 1 may be a sauger. Possession limit is 10, only 2 may be sauger.
- A State of Montana fishing license is required for all anglers to fish on the Bighorn River within the boundaries of the Crow Reservation. A tribal permit is not required.

**Afterbay Dam to cable 600 feet downstream and downstream from Bighorn FAS**

- May use live non-game bait fish (as identified in standard district regulations).

**Cable 600 feet below Afterbay Dam to Bighorn FAS**

- Artificial lures only.

**BLACKTAIL DEER CREEK (Beaverhead River drainage)**

- Combined Trout: includes cutthroat trout.

**BLACKTAIL MEADOWS POND (Dillon)**

- Open to fishing for anglers 14 years of age and younger only. One rod per child.

**BLUEWATER CREEK**

- Open entire year.

**BOULDER RIVER (tributary to Jefferson River, near Cardwell)****Mouth upstream to the bridge on Boulder Cut-Off Road (mile 14.4)**

- Open third Saturday in May through September 30.

**BOULDER RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES (near Big Timber)****Entire river and tributaries**

- Open entire year.
- Combined Trout: 2 daily and in possession, only 1 over 13 inches, includes cutthroat trout.

**BYNUM RESERVOIR**

- Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice.

**CANYON FERRY RESERVOIR**

- Catch-and-release for brown trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 brown trout daily and in possession any size.
- Yellow perch: **10** daily and in possession.
- Walleye: **12 daily, only 1 over 25 inches**. Possession limit is twice the daily limit.
- Northern pike: No limit
- Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice.

**Magpie Bay**

- Closed (as posted) March 1 through June 14.

**CHESSMAN RESERVOIR (Tenmile Creek drainage, near Helena)**

- Closed to fishing (City of Helena water supply).

**CLARK CANYON RESERVOIR**

- Burbot (ling): 3 daily and in possession, only 1 over 28 inches.
- Combined Trout: 3 daily and in possession.



### CLARKS FORK YELLOWSTONE RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES

#### Entire river and tributaries

- Open entire year.
- Combined Trout: Includes cutthroat trout.

#### Mainstem downstream from the bridge at Bridger

- Hook and Line: 2 lines with 2 hooks per line all year.

### CONFEDERATE GULCH (tributary to Canyon Ferry Reservoir)

#### Mouth to Highway 284

- Open June 15 through September 30.

### COTTONWOOD CREEK (10 miles SW of Martinsdale)

- Combined Trout: limit includes 2 cutthroat trout daily and in possession.

### CROOKED CREEK (Pryor Mountains)

- Catch-and-release for cutthroat trout.

### CUT BANK CREEK

- Open entire year downstream of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation boundary in T33N, R6W, S2.

**DARLINGTON SPRING CREEK aka Darlington Ditch (near Three Forks)** —

**On Cobblestone FAS**

- Open entire year.
- Catch-and-release for trout.
- Artificial lures only.

**Outside of Cobblestone FAS boundaries**

- Open entire year.
- Standard limits apply.

**DEADMANS BASIN RESERVOIR** —

- Combined Trout: 10 daily and in possession.
- Snagging: open for salmon through the ice only, 35 daily and 70 in possession.

**DEARBORN RIVER** —

- Open third Saturday in May through November 30.

**Upstream from Highway 434 Bridge in T18N R6W, Section 29**

- Combined Trout: 3 daily and in possession, only 1 over 12 inches, includes cutthroat trout.

**DEEP CREEK (tributary to Missouri River, near Townsend)** —

**Mouth to North Fork of Deep Creek**

- Open June 15 through November 30.

**DICKENS LAKE (Sun River Wildlife Management Area)** —

- Open May 15 at 12:00 noon through November 30.

**DIVERSION LAKE (Sun River drainage)** —

- Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession.
- Catch-and-release for grayling.

**DRY CREEK (tributary to Missouri River, near Townsend)** —

**Mouth to Flynn Lane**

- Open June 15 through September 30.

**EAST BOULDER RIVER (Yellowstone River drainage)** —

- Open entire year.
- Combined Trout: 2 daily and in possession, only 1 over 13 inches, includes cutthroat trout.

**EAST FORK BIG SPRING CREEK (near Lewistown)**  —

**Downstream from the Reservoir**

- Catch-and-release only for all fish species.

**EAST FORK BOULDER RIVER (near Big Timber)** —

- Open entire year.
- Combined Trout: 2 daily and in possession, only 1 over 13 inches, includes cutthroat trout.

**EAST FORK HYALITE CREEK** —

**Above Hyalite Reservoir**

- Open July 15 through November 30.
- Combined Trout: includes cutthroat trout.

**EAST GALLATIN RIVER** —

- Open entire year downstream from the mouth of Bozeman (Sourdough) Creek.
- Northern pike: No limit

**EAST ROSEBUD CREEK**

- Open entire year.
- Combined Trout: 2 daily and in possession, only 1 over 13 inches, includes cutthroat trout.

**ELK LAKE (Beaverhead County)**

- The Narrows Creek spawning channel is closed to angling.
- Catch-and-release for lake trout and grayling.

**ELKS CLUB POND (Lewistown)**

- Open to fishing for anglers 14 years of age and younger only. One rod per child.

**ENNIS RESERVOIR aka Ennis Lake**

- Catch-and-release for grayling.

**EYRAUD LAKES aka Arod Lakes**

- Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through ice.
- Spearing: open for northern pike and non-game fish through the ice only.

**FAIRGROUNDS POND (Helena)**

- Open to fishing for anglers 14 years of age and younger only.

**FERGUSON LAKE (Big Hole River drainage)**

- Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession.

**FISHTAIL CREEK**

- Open entire year.
- Combined Trout: 2 daily and in possession, only 1 over 13 inches, includes cutthroat trout.

**FOOLHEN LAKE (Big Hole River drainage)**

- Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession.

**GALLATIN RIVER****Entire river**

- Open entire year.
- Northern pike: No limit

**Yellowstone National Park to East Gallatin River**

- Closed to fishing from boats/vessels.

**GHENY POND (near Twin Bridges)**

- Open to fishing for anglers 14 years of age and younger only. One rod per child.

**GIANT SPRINGS (near Great Falls)**

- Closed entire year where enclosed by concrete walks and masonry work.

**GIBSON RESERVOIR****Gibson Dam upstream to the point where the North and South forks of the Sun River meet, regardless of reservoir level**

- Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession. Catch-and-release for grayling.

**GOOSE LAKE (Madison County)**

- Open June 15 through November 30.

**HARRISON LAKE AND TRIBUTARIES**

- See Willow Creek Reservoir and Tributaries.

**HAUSER RESERVOIR** **Including Canyon Ferry Dam tailwater and Lake Helena**

- Combined Trout and Salmon: 5 trout and salmon daily and in combination and 10 trout and salmon in possession in any combination.
- Northern pike: No limit
- Walleye: 20 daily, only 1 over 25 inches. Possession limit is twice the daily limit.
- Yellow perch: 10 daily and in possession, except from April 1 through June 30, only 1 fish daily and in possession, 14 inch minimum.
- Catch-and-release for brown trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 brown trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice only.

**HAYMAKER CREEK**

- Cutthroat trout: 2 daily and in possession.

**HELENA VALLEY REGULATING RESERVOIR****Including irrigation canal in the area from the discharge outlet to 400 yards downstream**

- Snagging: open for salmon September 1 through October 31, 35 salmon daily and 70 in possession.

**HELLROARING CREEK (Yellowstone River drainage)**

- Cutthroat trout: 3 daily and in possession, none over 12 inches.

**HELLS CANYON CREEK (Jefferson River drainage)**

- Catch-and-release for rainbow trout.

**HIDDEN LAKE aka Our Lake (Teton County)**

- Combined Trout: 3 daily and in possession.

**HIDDEN LAKE AND TRIBUTARIES (Madison County)**

- Open June 15 through November 30.

**HOLTER RESERVOIR** **Up to American Bar Gulch (approx. 4.6 miles downstream from Hauser Dam)**

- Catch-and-release for brown trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 brown trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Combined Trout and Salmon: 5 rainbow trout and salmon daily in any combination and 10 rainbow trout and salmon in possession in any combination.
- Northern pike: No limit
- Walleye: 10 daily, only 1 over 25 inches. Possession limit is twice the daily limit.
- Yellow perch: **50 daily** and no possession limit.
- Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice only.

**HYALITE CREEK AND TRIBUTARIES****Above Hyalite Reservoir including East Fork Hyalite Creek and West Fork Hyalite Creek**

- Open July 15 through November 30.
- Combined Trout: includes cutthroat trout.

**Below Hyalite Reservoir**

- Open third Saturday in May through November 30.
- Catch-and-release for cutthroat trout.

**HYALITE RESERVOIR**

- Catch-and-release for grayling.



**INDIAN ROAD POND (Townsend)**

- Open to fishing for anglers 14 years of age and younger, holders of a "Resident Person with a Disability Conservation License" and holders of a "Permit to Hunt From a Vehicle" with the proper prerequisite fishing license. One rod per angler.

**JEFFERSON RIVER****Entire river**

- Open entire year.
- Northern pike: No limit

**Confluence of Beaverhead and Big Hole rivers to Williams Bridge FAS**

- Catch-and-release for rainbow trout.
- Combined Trout: 3 brown trout daily and in possession, only 1 over 18 inches.

**Williams Bridge FAS to confluence with Missouri River**

- Catch-and-release for rainbow trout.
- Combined Trout: 5 brown trout daily and in possession, only 1 over 18 inches.

**Seasonal spawning closure at tributary mouths: Hells Canyon Creek and Willow Springs Creek**

- Closed to fishing 100 yards upstream and downstream from the creek mouths from April 1 through April 30 and from October 15 through November 30.

**LAKE ELWELL aka Tiber Reservoir**

- Cisco and Whitefish: all fish must be released immediately or killed and counted as part of your limit. It is unlawful to possess live cisco or whitefish for any reason.
- Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice.
- Spearing: open for non-game fish, northern pike, walleye, sauger and burbot (ling) through the ice and by persons swimming or submerged.

**LAKE FRANCES**

- Closed entire year around the water supply outlet as posted.
- Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice.
- Spearing: open for non-game fish, northern pike, walleye, sauger and burbot (ling) through the ice.

**LAKE HELENA**

- Catch-and-release for brown trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 brown trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Combined Trout and Salmon: 5 trout and salmon daily and in combination and 10 trout and salmon in possession in any combination.
- Northern pike: No limit
- Walleye: 20 daily, only 1 over 25 inches. Possession limit is twice the daily limit.
- Yellow perch: 10 daily and in possession, except from April 1 through June 30, only 1 fish daily and in possession, 14 inch minimum.
- Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice only.

**LIGHTNING CREEK (Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness)**

- Open August 1 through November 30.

**LITTLE PRICKLY PEAR CREEK (tributary to Missouri River)****Downstream from the most southerly I-15 Bridge over Little Prickly Pear Creek (1.9 miles north of Sieben Interchange, Exit 216)**

- Open third Saturday in May through Labor Day.

**LYMAN CREEK (near Bozeman)****From the City water supply intake to a point 1,000 feet upstream**

- Closed entire year as posted.

**MADISON RIVER** 

**Yellowstone National Park boundary to Hebgen Reservoir**

- Catch-and-release for rainbow trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 rainbow trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Combined Trout: 5 brown trout daily and in possession, only 1 over 18 inches.

**Hebgen Dam to Quake Lake**

- Open entire year.

**Quake Lake outlet to Lyons Bridge**

- Open third Saturday in May through the end of February.
- Catch-and-release for trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Artificial lures only.
- Closed to fishing from boats/vessels.

**Lyons Bridge to McAtee Bridge**

- Open third Saturday in May through the end of February.
- Catch-and-release for trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Artificial lures only.

**McAtee Bridge to Varney Bridge**

- Open entire year.
- Catch-and-release for trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Artificial lures only.

**Varney Bridge to Ennis Bridge**

- Open entire year.
- Catch-and-release for rainbow trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 rainbow trout daily and in possession, any size.

**Ennis Bridge to Ennis Lake**

- Open third Saturday in May through the end of February.
- Catch-and-release for rainbow trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 rainbow trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Closed to fishing from boats/vessels.

**Ennis Dam to the mouth**

- Open entire year.
- Northern pike: No Limit

**MAGPIE CREEK (tributary to Canyon Ferry Reservoir)**

- Open June 15 through September 30.

**MARIAS RIVER**

- Open entire year downstream from the I-15 Bridge.
- Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession, only 1 over 18 inches.
- Sauger/Walleye: 5 daily only 1 may be a sauger. Possession limit is 10, only 2 may be sauger.
- Whitefish: 35 daily and in possession.
- Hook and Line/Setlines: 2 lines with up to 2 hooks per line all year.

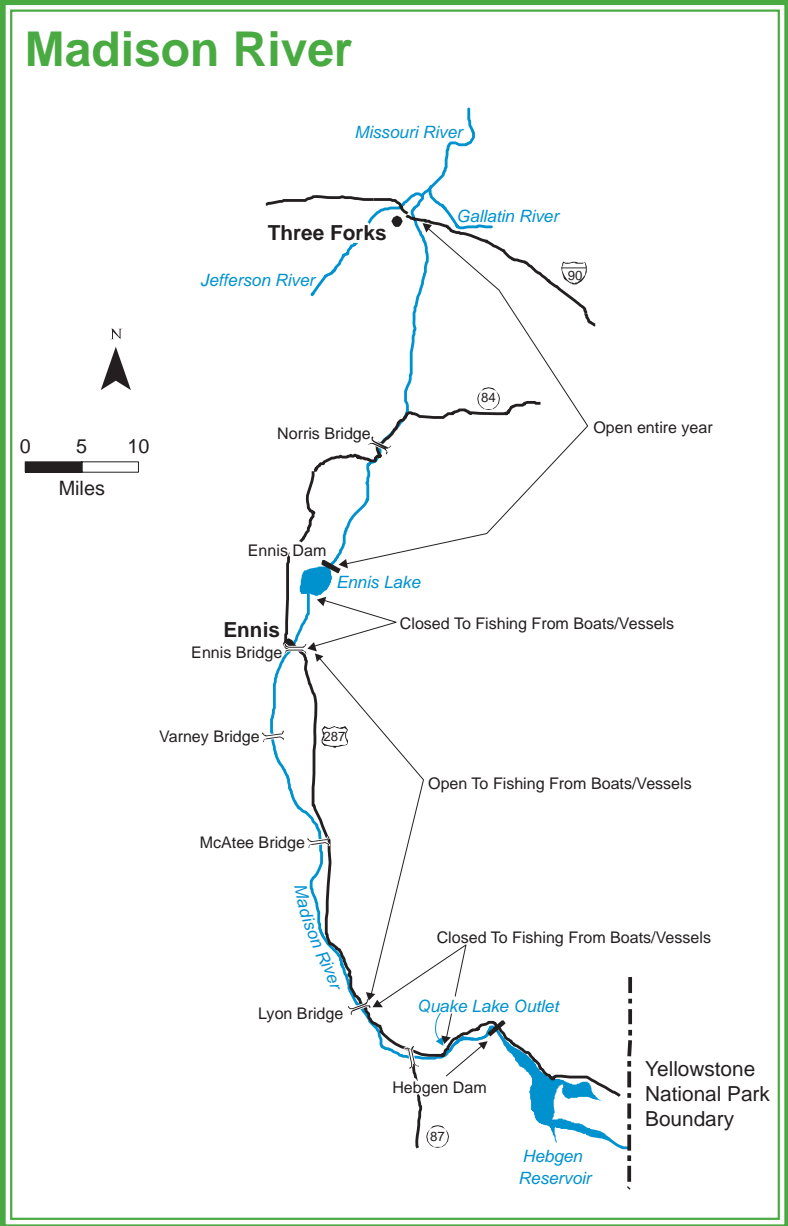
**MIDVALE CREEK (Blackfeet Reservation)**

- Closed entire year from intake of Glacier Park Hotel Company water supply to the park boundary.

**MILL CREEK (near Sheridan)**

- Open entire year.

# Madison River



Central District

MISSOURI RIVER **Entire river**

- Open entire year.

**Confluence of Madison and Jefferson Rivers to Toston Dam**

- Northern pike: No limit.

**Toston Dam to Canyon Ferry Reservoir**

- Localized spawning areas closed as posted from March 1 through June 15.
- Catch-and-release for brown trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 brown trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Northern pike: No limit
- Walleye: **12 daily, only 1 over 25 inches.** Possession limit is twice the daily limit.

**Canyon Ferry Reservoir**

- Catch-and-release for brown trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 brown trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Northern pike: No limit.
- Walleye: 12 daily, only 1 over 25 inches. Possession limit is twice the daily limit.
- Yellow perch: 10 daily and in possession.
- Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice.

**Canyon Ferry Dam to Hauser Dam (includes Hauser Reservoir, Lake Helena and Canyon Ferry Tailwaters)**

- Catch-and-release for brown trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 brown trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Combined Trout and Salmon: 5 trout and salmon daily and in combination and 10 trout and salmon in possession in any combination.
- Northern pike: No limit.
- Walleye: 20 daily, only 1 over 25 inches. Possession limit is twice the daily limit.
- Yellow perch: 10 daily and in possession, except from April 1 through June 30, only 1 fish daily and in possession, 14 inch minimum.
- Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice only.

**Hauser Dam to Holter Reservoir (Hauser Dam downstream to American Bar Gulch approx. 4.6 miles)**

- Combined Trout: Standard river/stream limits apply, except catch-and-release for brown trout.
- Northern pike: No limit.
- Walleye: 10 daily, only 1 over 25 inches. Possession limit is twice the daily limit.

**Holter Reservoir (American Bar Gulch downstream to Holter Dam)**

- Catch-and-release for brown trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 brown trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Combined Trout and Salmon: 5 rainbow trout and salmon daily in any combination and 10 rainbow trout and salmon in possession in any combination.
- Northern pike: No limit.
- Walleye: 10 daily, only 1 over 25 inches. Possession limit is twice the daily limit.
- Yellow perch: **50 daily** and no possession limit.
- Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice only.

**Holter Dam to Cascade Bridge**

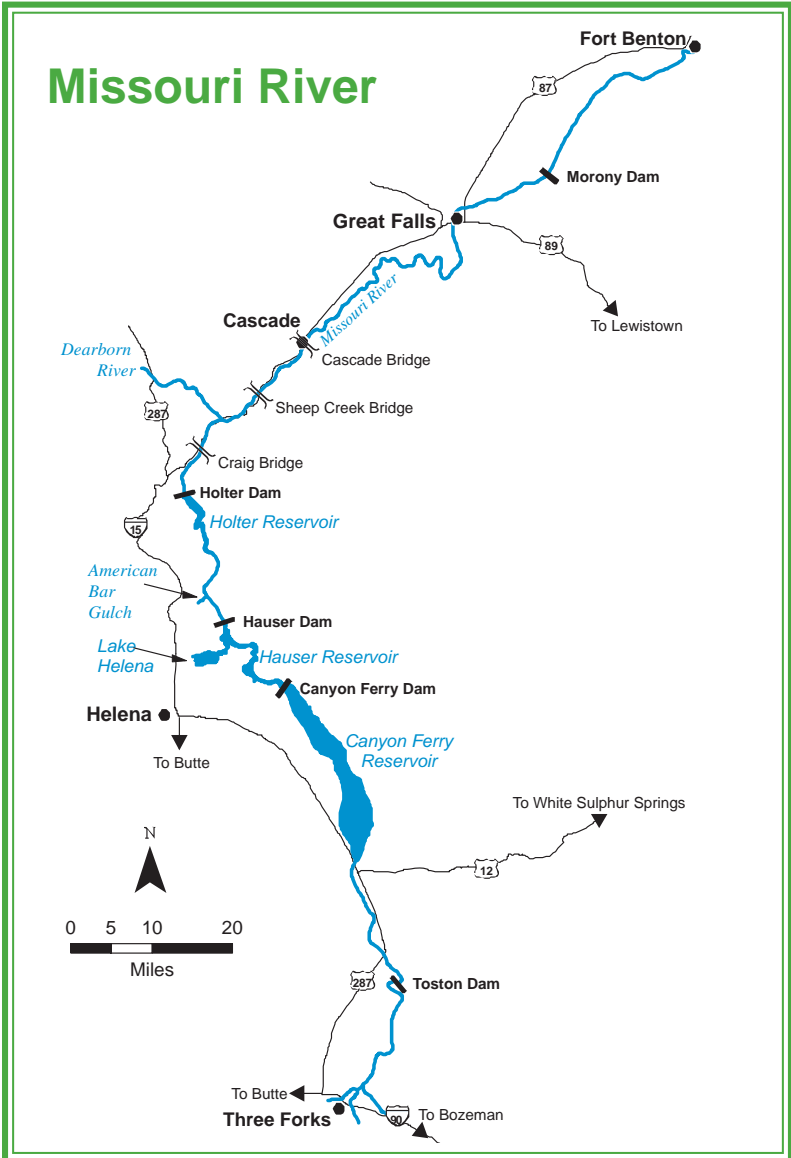
- Combined Trout: 3 daily and in possession, only 1 over 18 inches, and only 1 may be a brown trout.
- Walleye: No limit.

**Cascade Bridge to Black Eagle Dam**

- Walleye: 20 daily and 40 in possession.

**Morony Dam to Fort Benton**

- Sauger/Walleye: 5 daily, only 1 may be a sauger. Possession limit is 10, only 2 may be sauger.
- Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 6 hooks per line all year.



**MUSSELSHELL RIVER**

**Downstream from where North and South forks meet**

- Open entire year.

**NELSON SPRING CREEK**

- Open entire year.
- Catch-and-release only.
- Artificial lures only.

**NORTH FORK SUN RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES**

**Upstream from the point where the North and South forks of the Sun River meet, regardless of reservoir level**

- Combined Trout: 3 daily and in possession, only 1 over 12 inches, includes cutthroat trout.

**NORTH FORK TETON RIVER DRAINAGE (near Choteau)**

**Within the National Forest**

- Combined Trout: 3 daily and in possession, none over 12 inches.

**NORTH WILLOW CREEK (near Harrison)**

**Highway 287 Bridge to Harrison Reservoir**

- Open June 15 through November 30.

**NORWEGIAN CREEK (near Harrison)**

**Highway 287 Bridge to Harrison Reservoir**

- Open June 15 through November 30.

**O'BRIEN CREEK (near Neihart)**

**Above intake to the Neihart public water supply**

- Closed entire year.

**ODELL CREEK (Red Rock River drainage)**

- Combined Trout: includes cutthroat trout.

**OSTLE RESERVOIR aka Antelope Butte Lake (Teton County)**

- Open May 15 at 12:00 noon through November 30.

**OTTER LAKE (Madison County)**

- Open June 15 through November 30.
- Combined Trout: 1 rainbow trout daily and in possession.

**OUR LAKE aka Hidden Lake (Teton County)**

- Combined Trout: 3 daily and in possession.

**PELICAN POINT POND #1 (largest pond on Pelican Point FAS – near Cascade)**

- Northern Pike: No limit

**PINEY CREEK (Pryor Mountains)**

- Catch-and-release for cutthroat trout.

**PISHKUN RESERVOIR** 

- Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice.
- Spearing: open for northern pike through the ice only.
- Snagging: open for salmon September 1 through December 31, 35 daily and 70 in possession.

**POINDEXTER SLOUGH**

- Open entire year.
- Catch-and-release: December 1 to third Saturday in May with artificial lures only.

**PRIEST BUTTE LAKE**

- Open June 15 through September 15.
- Open December 1 through the end of February.

**PRYOR CREEK****Downstream from the Reservation line**

- Open entire year.

**RAT LAKE (Gallatin River drainage)**

- The unnamed tributary to the lake, inlet and outlet, is closed all year.

**RATTLESNAKE CREEK AND TRIBUTARIES (near Dillon, Beaverhead County)**

- Closed entire year from city water supply intake to a point 1,000 feet upstream as posted.
- Combined Trout: includes cutthroat trout, except catch-and-release for cutthroat trout on Cat Creek.

**RED ROCK CREEK (Beaverhead River drainage)**

- Open entire year except May 15 through June 14.
- Cutthroat trout: 20 daily and in possession.

**RED ROCK RIVER****Lima Dam to Clark Canyon Reservoir**

- Combined Trout: 3 daily and in possession, only 1 over 18 inches.

**ROCK CREEK AND TRIBUTARIES (tributary to Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone River)**

- West Fork Rock Creek is closed to fishing from the Red Lodge water intake to 1,000 feet upstream.
- Open entire year.

**ROCK CREEK RESERVOIRS (Robb-Ledford Game Range)**

- Catch-and-release for cutthroat trout.

**RUBY RIVER****Upstream from Ruby Reservoir**

- Combined Trout: includes cutthroat trout.

**Downstream from Ruby Dam**

- Closed entire year just below Ruby Dam (that portion of the Ruby River from its confluence with the Ruby Dam outlet channel upstream to the dam, including the outlet channel).
- Extended season for whitefish and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to third Saturday in May with artificial lures and/or maggots only.

**SAGE CREEK (Pryor Mountains)**

- Open entire year.
- Combined Trout: includes cutthroat trout.

**SAWTOOTH LAKE (Beaverhead River drainage)**

- Combined Trout: 1 golden trout daily and in possession.

**SCOTT LAKE (Beaverhead River drainage)**

- Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession.

**SCOTT RESERVOIR**

- Closed to fishing (City of Helena water supply).

**SHIELDS RIVER**

- Extended season for whitefish and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to third Saturday in May with artificial lures and/or maggots only.
- Catch-and-release for cutthroat trout.

**SILVER CREEK aka D2 Ditch (tributary to Prickly Pear Creek)** **Downstream from I-15 bridge near Helena**

- Open third Saturday in May through Labor Day.

**SLOUGH CREEK (Yellowstone River drainage)**

- Cutthroat trout: 3 daily and in possession, none over 12 inches.

**SMITH RIVER**

- Floating on the Smith River between Camp Baker and Eden Bridge is strictly limited. Mandatory registration, floater's fee and other regulations apply. A drawing for launch dates is held in February with remaining launches filled on a first-come basis. Contact the Great Falls FWP office at 406-454-5840 for more information.

**Downstream from confluence of North and South forks**

- Open entire year.

**Camp Baker Bridge to Eden Bridge (Huntsberger Bridge)**

- Combined Trout: 3 under 13 inches daily and in possession and only 1 over 22 inches daily and in possession.
- Artificial lures only, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may use bait.

**SODA BUTTE CREEK (Yellowstone River drainage)**

- Cutthroat trout: 3 daily and in possession, none over 12 inches.

**SOUTH FORK SUN RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES****Upstream from the point where the North and South forks of the Sun River meet, regardless of reservoir level**

- Combined Trout: 3 daily and in possession only 1 over 12 inches, includes cutthroat trout.

**SOUTH FORK TWO MEDICINE RIVER DRAINAGE****Within National Forest**

- Combined Trout: 3 daily and in possession, none over 12 inches.

**SOUTH WILLOW CREEK (near Harrison)****Highway 287 Bridge to Harrison Reservoir**

- Open June 15 through November 30.

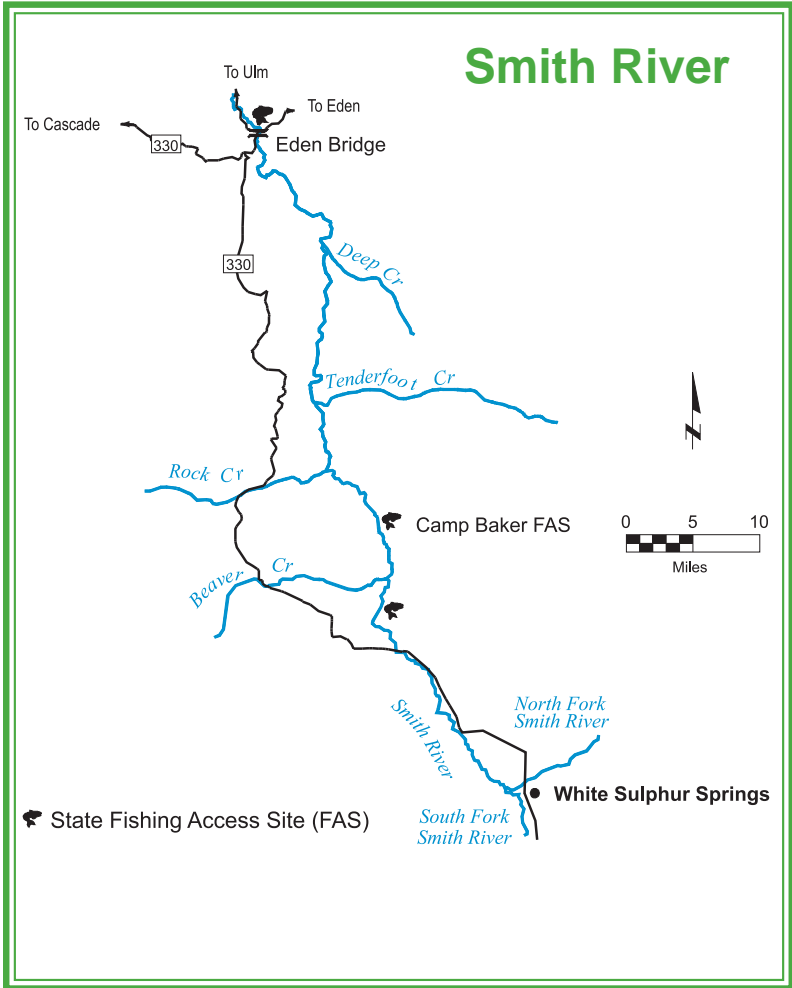
**SPLIT ROCK LAKE**

- Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice.
- Spearing: open for northern pike through the ice only.

**SPRING MEADOW LAKE**

- Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession.
- Bass: 3 daily and in possession, none over 10 inches.
- No spear fishing or bow fishing allowed.





**STILLWATER RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES (Yellowstone River drainage)** \_\_\_\_\_**Entire River and tributaries**

- Open entire year.
- Combined Trout: 2 daily and in possession, only 1 over 13 inches, includes cutthroat trout.

**SUN RIVER** \_\_\_\_\_

- Open entire year downstream from Gibson Dam.

**SUNNY SLOPE CANAL** \_\_\_\_\_**Downstream from Pishkun Reservoir**

- Catch-and-release for grayling.
- Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession.

**SWAZEE LAKE (Sun River Wildlife Management Area)** \_\_\_\_\_

- Open May 15 at 12:00 noon through November 30.

**TAHEPIA LAKE (Wise River drainage)** \_\_\_\_\_

- Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession.

**TETON RIVER** \_\_\_\_\_**Downstream from Highway 89 Bridge**

- Open entire year.

**TIBER RESERVOIR aka Lake Elwell**  \_\_\_\_\_

- Cisco and Whitefish: all fish must be released immediately or killed and counted as part of your limit. It is unlawful to possess live cisco or whitefish for any reason.
- Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice.
- Spearing: open for non-game fish, northern pike, walleye, sauger and burbot (ling) through the ice and by persons swimming or submerged.

**TRAIL CREEK (Beaverhead River drainage)** \_\_\_\_\_

- Combined Trout: includes cutthroat trout.

**TUNNEL LAKE (Teton County)** \_\_\_\_\_

- Combined Trout: includes 1 grayling.

**TWIN LAKES (Big Hole River drainage)** \_\_\_\_\_

- Catch-and-release for lake trout.
- Combined Trout: 3 daily and in possession.

**VIGILANTE POND (near Virginia City)** \_\_\_\_\_

- Open to fishing for anglers 14 years of age and younger only. One rod per child.

**WADE LAKE (Madison County)** \_\_\_\_\_

- Spawning channel and channel inlet closed as posted.

**WARM SPRINGS CREEK (near Lewistown)** \_\_\_\_\_

- Open entire year.

**WARM SPRINGS CREEK (tributary to Missouri River, near Townsend)** \_\_\_\_\_

- Open June 15 through September 30.

**Waterbody/Section****Exceptions to Standard Regulations****WAUKENA LAKE (Big Hole River drainage)**

- Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession.

**WEST BOULDER RIVER (near Big Timber)**

- Open entire year.
- Combined Trout: 2 daily and in possession, only 1 over 13 inches, includes cutthroat trout.

**WEST FORK HYALITE CREEK aka Hyalite Creek****Above Hyalite Reservoir**

- Open July 15 through November 30.
- Combined Trout: includes cutthroat trout.

**WEST FORK MADISON RIVER**

- Catch-and-release for rainbow trout.

**WEST FORK ROCK CREEK****Red Lodge water intake to 1,000 feet upstream**

- Closed entire year.

**WEST FORK STILLWATER RIVER**

- Open entire year.
- Combined Trout: 2 daily and in possession, only 1 over 13 inches, includes cutthroat trout.

**WEST ROSEBUD CREEK**

- Open entire year.
- Combined Trout: 2 daily and in possession, only 1 over 13 inches, includes cutthroat trout.

**WILLOW CREEK (Meagher County, near White Sulphur Springs)****White Sulphur Springs water intake to its source**

- Closed entire year.

**WILLOW CREEK RESERVOIR AND TRIBUTARIES (near Harrison)****Willow Creek arm, as posted**

- Open third Saturday in May through the end of February.

**Tributaries to Reservoir - North Willow, South Willow and Norwegian Creeks - from the Highway 287 Bridges to Reservoir**

- Open June 15 through November 30.

**WILLOW SPRINGS CREEK (tributary to Jefferson River)**

- Catch-and-release for rainbow trout.

**YELLOWSTONE RIVER** **Yellowstone National Park (YNP) Boundary to I-90 Bridge at Billings**

- Open entire year.
- Combined Trout: 4 brown trout and/or rainbow trout daily and in possession, only 1 over 18 inches. Catch-and-release for cutthroat trout.

**YELLOWSTONE RIVER TRIBUTARIES****Buffalo Fork, Hellowroing, Slough and Soda Butte creeks upstream from YNP Boundary**

- Cutthroat trout: 3 daily and in possession, none over 12 inches.

**All tributaries between YNP Boundary and Springdale**

- Catch-and-release for cutthroat trout.

**All tributaries downstream from Springdale**

- Open entire year.
- Combined Trout: includes cutthroat trout (unless indicated otherwise in tributary exceptions).

