Fishing in Maine
Unmatched beauty
Abundant natural resources
Lifelong memories

An age-old escape from day-to-day stress (and a modern escape from screens), a good day of fishing offers equal parts relaxation, anticipation, and reward. Out on the water, surrounded by mountains and pines, you can make priceless outdoor memories, teach kids lifelong lessons — and if you’re lucky, rehash it all over a fresh-caught dinner.

CHOOSE YOUR ADVENTURE
Maine has over 32,000 miles of rivers and streams and 6,000 lakes and ponds. This wealth of waterways includes the known fishing hot spots in this guide, as well as plenty of pristine, remote waters just waiting to become your favorite get-away-from-it-all spot. Options abound: you can venture deep into the Allagash Wilderness Waterway or Baxter State Park, or stay close to the coast, where many river reaches offer natural, undeveloped shorelines and unsurpassed fishing action, all within the bounds of cities and towns.

SOMETHING FOR EVERY LEVEL OF ANGLER
Every year, serious anglers from New England and beyond flock to their favorite Maine waters, putting their skills to the test against our famous leaping landlocks, fierce-fighting smallmouth bass (found in remote and populated regions alike), and trophy largemouth bass in the coastal region. Maine is the only state in the lower 48 to have native populations of Arctic charr and is the last true stronghold for wild brook trout.

But you don’t have to be an expert angler to enjoy a day of fishing. Beginners can quickly learn how to catch some of Maine’s most beautiful and unique wild fish, including brook trout which are present in many small streams, rivers, large lakes, and even some mountain-top ponds.

And for the kids, Maine offers a special fishing opportunity: over 50 restricted waters throughout the state, all stocked with trout to increase kids’ chances of making a prize-worthy catch.

MAINE’S FISHERIES BIOLOGISTS WELCOME YOU
Whether you’re an experienced angler who’s been hooked on fishing since childhood, or an adventurous newbie just starting out today, we’re so glad you’re here. Because by fishing in Maine, you’re not just making lifelong memories — you’re also helping to preserve these world-class waters for future generations.

Revenue from license fees goes right back into the fisheries, supporting the conservation, preservation, and stocking programs that keep Maine a fishing destination unlike any other in the United States.
HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This book is a compilation of fishing spots recommended by regional fisheries biologists. To make the most of it, it helps to have a few other things on hand:

1. An Internet Connected Computer or Mobile Device
2. The Current Year’s Open Water & Ice Fishing Law Book
3. A DeLorme Maine Atlas & Gazetteer
4. An Idea of the Species You Want to Fish For and What Method or Gear You Want to Use

ALL SET? LET’S GO FISHING.

Here’s how to find your perfect spot:

1. Flip to your management region in this book. If you don’t know your region, consult the Maine regional map and town listings starting on page 4.
   - Find the species you would like to catch, and under it you’ll see a list of nearby water bodies. Each listing includes access details, restrictions, and notes about the water body, as well as its DeLorme Maine Atlas and Gazetteer map and section number. The Gazetteer will show you detailed topography, access roads, established campsites, and the exact locations of launch areas.

2. Buy a fishing license — for Maine residents, they’re $11 for a day or $25 for the 2018 season. Non-resident licenses are also available in 1, 3, 7, or 15-day increments, or for the full year ($64 for 2018). Check mefishwildlife.com to view current rates and purchase yours on demand. While there, you can also check out today’s fish stocking report and browse interactive maps.

3. Once you’ve decided on a water body, consult Maine’s Open Water and Ice Fishing laws for the current and detailed regulations governing it.

4. Get the Maine Fishing Guide Data Layers for Google Earth
   - As an optional companion to this guide, we’ve packaged several data layers including fisheries info, management regions, lake and pond depths, public boat launches and more all into a Google Earth Desktop app for tech-savvy anglers. Download it at mefishwildlife.com/maine-fishing-guide.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Maine Region Map and Town Listings ................................................................. 4
How to Catch Specific Fish ............................................................................... 8
Region A: Sebago Lake Region ........................................................................ 10
Region B: Belgrade Lakes Region .................................................................... 14
Region C: Grand Lake Region ........................................................................... 18
Identify Your Catch: Tips on Identifying Fish .................................................. 22
Region D: Rangeley Lakes Region .................................................................... 24
Region E: Moosehead Region ........................................................................... 28
Region F: Penobscot Region ............................................................................ 32
Region G: Fish River Lakes Region ................................................................. 36
Help us Keep it Maine: Protect our Waters from Invasive Aquatic Species .... 38
Take the Kids Fishing .................................................................................... 39
Fishing Opportunities for Youth & Complimentary License Holders ......... 40
To Keep or To Release? ................................................................................... 41
Bass Weight to Length Chart .......................................................................... 42
How to Bring Home a Quality Catch ............................................................... 43
Regulating The Harvest .................................................................................. 44
MDIFW Contacts ............................................................................................. 45
So, you know what you want to fish for, and you’ve found a water body where they live...here’s a little extra information to help you reel one in:

**HOW TO CATCH SPECIFIC FISH**

**LANDLOCKED SALMON**
A coldwater fish, salmon prefer water temperatures below 65 degrees and rely on smelt to thrive.

During the spring and fall, you might find them feeding near the surface and close to shore, and can catch them by flyfishing, casting, or trolling with lures or bait. Streamer flies and lures resembling smelt are very effective.

In the warmer summer months of June, July, and August, they generally descend to depths of 30 to 60 feet. When salmon are deep, the best method to catch them is trolling with lead core line or downriggers using minnows, or copper jigs.

Ice fishing for salmon in the winter can also be quite productive using smelts or silver lures.

**BROOK TROUT**
Brook trout (also known as squaretails) prefer cold water between 50 and 65 degrees. They’re opportunistic feeders, happy to eat aquatic insects or smaller fish. They thrive in clear, clean, well-oxygenated waters, and their populations are heavily influenced by their environment.

In the spring and fall, brook trout can be caught near shore or on the surface using small dry flies, streamers, copper lures, and worms. During the summer months, you’re more likely to find them in depths of 10 to 35 feet. You can catch them using a variety of methods including spin casting, fly fishing, trolling, or casting using small streamer flies, nymphs, copper lures, or worms.

**TOGUE (LAKE TROUT)**
Lake trout (also known throughout Maine as togue) are deep dwellers that prefer very cold water year-round. Like salmon, they prey upon smelts, but they can also adapt to eat other available forage including aquatic insects and smaller fish. Consequently, these prolific eaters can grow quite large. In the spring and fall, lake trout can be caught closer to shore by casting or trolling using streamer flies, minnows, or lures.

In the summer, the best method of fishing for them is trolling with lead core line or downriggers using minnows or a copper, white, or silver lure. In June, July, and August you’ll typically catch lake trout at depths below 45 feet. Ice fishing for lake trout can be quite productive in water depths between 10 and 100 feet. In this case, you’ll want to use minnows, or silver, white, or copper jigs.

**BROWN TROUT+ RAINBOW TROUT**
Brown and rainbow trout prefer cool water and are found in water temperatures between 55 and 68 degrees — a wider range than most other coldwater fish can handle. Opportunistic and aggressive feeders, they may be found close to bottom or suspended off the bottom depending on where food is located, and are likely to attack a flashy lure, minnows, or worms.

In the spring and fall, brown and rainbow trout can be caught close to shore casting with dry flies, streamers, and bright spinners and spoons. Another successful method in spring time is still fishing with worms or minnows.

In the summer, trolling, casting, and still fishing are all popular and effective ways to catch these species. Successful methods used while ice fishing include using worms or minnows and jigging copper lures.

**SPLAKE**
This hatchery-reared hybrid trout is a cross between a brook trout and a lake trout and can have traits of both species. Splake are easy to catch, particularly in the colder months. Because they prefer water less than 60 degrees, they tend to go deep in the summer.

Splake feed primarily on smelts, white perch, yellow perch, and minnows, rarely feeding on other coldwater gamefish. During the spring and fall, they can be caught with light tackle near the surface, even on flies.

In the winter, splake provide an excellent fishing opportunity and can be found throughout the water column. In fact, over 90% of the total acreage of waters managed for splake is open to ice fishing.

When fishing for bass, you can use spinners, crankbaits, stickbaits, jigs, minnows, and worms. Chain pickerel are best caught using flashy lures and floating stickbaits such as torpedoes, frogs, and mouse imitations. They also can be caught readily using live minnows.

**WARMWATER FISH**
Warmwater fish such as bass, perch, chain pickerel, and sunfish prefer warmer water and can be found throughout the water column. These fish favor areas with lots of cover such as woody debris, weed beds, and rocks.

In the spring and summer months, smallmouth bass are found in shallow rocky areas or off rocky drop offs in 5 to 15 feet of water, while their largemouth cousins prefer more vegetative shallow areas or weedy drop off. Chain pickerel generally reside in shallow, vegetated areas close to shore.

When fishing for bass, you can use spinners, crankbaits, stickbaits, jigs, minnows, and worms. Chain pickerel are best caught using flashy lures and floating stickbaits such as torpedoes, frogs, and mouse imitations. They also can be caught readily using live minnows.

When ice fishing for these warmwater fish, use live bait such as minnows in shallow water of 5 to 20 feet.
The Sebago Lake Region, located in southern Maine, offers a diversity of angling opportunities for both warmwater and coldwater fisheries. The region provides excellent year-round fishing for landlocked salmon, brook trout, splake, lake trout, brown trout, rainbow trout, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, perch, and chain pickerel. Steep mountainous lakes and pond fisheries for salmon and trout. Reclaimed ponds offer a quality open water experience for brook trout, and wild trout streams are common in many small streams. All this variety can be found in the region that is home to Portland, Maine’s largest city.

— James Pelletier, Regional Fisheries Biologist

**SPECIES KEY**

**PRIMARY FISHERY SPECIES**

| Brook Trout | BKT |
| Splake | SPK |
| Togue (Lake Trout) | LKT |
| Landlocked Salmon | LLS |
| Brown Trout | BNT |
| Rainbow Trout | RBT |
| Smallmouth Bass | SMB |
| Largemouth Bass | LMB |
| Lake Whitefish | LWF |
| Arctic Char | CHR |

**STATUS**

- Stocked
- Wild

**Mixture of Stocked & Wild**

— (S&W)
| SPECIES KEY |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| **Primary Fishery Species** | **Primary Fishery Species** |
| Brook Trout | BKT |
| Splake | LKT |
| Togue (Lake Trout) | LPK |
| Landlocked Salmon | LLS |
| Brown Trout | BNT |
| Rainbow Trout | RBT |
| Smallmouth Bass | SMB |
| Largemouth Bass | LMB |
| Lake Whitefish | LWF |
| Arctic Char | CHR |

**STATUS**
- Stocked
- Wild

**Mix of Stocked & Wild**

**RIVERS / STREAMS / BROOKS**

**Androscoggin River Giglou, Oxford County (Giglou to Rte 26), Mechanic Falls (Jordan Rd Xing), Minot (Hackett Mills)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Access</th>
<th>Walk in access</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notes</td>
<td>Fish below hydro projects.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 11 section E-2 & 3

**Mousam River Shapleigh, York County**

| Access | Walk in access |
| Notes | Fish below hydro projects. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 2 section C-2 & 3

**North Branch of Little River & Tributaries Gorham, Cumberland County**

| Access | Walk in access |
| Notes | Fish below hydro projects. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 5 section E-2 & 3

**Pleasant River Windham, Cumberland County**

| Access | Walk in access |
| Notes | Fish below hydro projects. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 5 section D-2 & 3

**Presumpscot River Windham, Cumberland County**

| Access | Walk in access |
| Notes | Fish below hydro projects. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 5 section D-2 & 3

**Stuart Brook Scarborough, York County**

| Access | Walk in access |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 4 section C-2

**Wild River Batchelder’s Grant, Oxford County**

| Access | Walk in access |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 10 section B-1

**BROWN/RAINBOW TROUT FISHING CONT.**

Subbasin Lake New Gloucester, Cumberland County

| Access | Trailered boat access off Road Rite 26. |
| Notes | Improved launch, fee Charged during the open water season. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 5 section B-3

Stanley Pond Hiram, Oxford County

| Access | Trailered boat access off Tripp Rd. |
| Notes | Improved launch for small boats. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 4 section C-2

Steam Pond Sweden, Oxford County

| Access | Trailered boat access on Town Landing Rd off Wint Rd. |
| Notes | Improved launch. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 10 section E-3

**TOQUE LAKE TROUT FISHING**

Auburn Lake Aubum, Androscoggin County

| Access | Access off Heath Rd adjacent marina, limited off rd parking. |
| Notes | Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB (S) |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 4 section A & B-1

**Great East Lake Acton, York County**

| Access | Access off Heath Rd. |
| Notes | Improved launch. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 2 section A & B-1

Kear Lake Lovell, Oxford County

| Access | Trailered boat access off Robertson Rd. |
| Notes | Improved launch. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 2 section A & B-1

**Middle Range Pond Poland, Androscoggin County**

| Access | Access off Range Hill Rd. |
| Notes | Improved launch. Limited head clearance under bridge. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 5 section A-3

**Little Sebago Lake Windham, Cumberland County**

| Notes | Improved launch, access on Rte 35 (Harrison) and off Power House Rd (Bridgton). |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 5 section C-2 & 3

**Long Lake Naples, Cumberland County**

| Access | Access off Rte 340, Rte 4, & Rte 219 or Center Bridge Rd. |
| Notes | Improved launch on Center Bridge Rd. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 19 section E-5, map 11 section C-5

**Big Ossipee River Hiram, Oxford County (Downstream of Kezar Falls Dam)**

| Access | Access off Rte 302. |
| Notes | Improved launch. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 4 section A & B-1

**Moose Pond Bridgton, Oxford County**

| Access | Access off Rte 302. |
| Notes | Improved launch. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 4 section A-2

**Sekokis Lake Limerick, York County**

| Access | Access off Rte 11. |
| Notes | Improved launch. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 4 section E-3

**Square Pond Acton, York County**

| Access | Access off Rte 910. |
| Notes | Improved launch off Shoie Rd. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 4 section B-3 & 4

**Lake Arrowhead Waterboro, York County**

| Access | Access off Rte 11. |
| Notes | Improved launch. Limited head clearance under bridge. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 2 section A-4

**Thompson Lake Oxford, Oxford County**

| Access | Access off Rte 35. |
| Notes | Improved launch. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 11 section E-1 & 2

**BASS FISHING**

**Auburn Lake Aubum, Androscoggin County**

| Access | Access off Center Bridge Rd. |
| Notes | Improved launch. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 11 section E-4 & 5

**Hancock Pond Denmark, Oxford County**

| Access | Access off Rte 910. |
| Notes | Improved launch off Shoie Rd. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 4 section B-3 & 4

**Little Sebago Lake Waterboro, York County**

| Access | Access off Rte 11. |
| Notes | Improved launch adjacent dam. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 2 section A-4

**Little Ossipee Lake Waterboro, York County**

| Notes | Improved launch. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 2 section A-4

**RIVERS / STREAMS / BROOKS**

**Androscoggin River Giglou, Oxford County (Giglou to Rte 26), Mechanic Falls (Jordan Rd Xing), Minot (Hackett Mills)**

| Access | Access in/walk in access |
| Notes | Notes: Nice Boat trip, multiple take outs. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 10 section D-3

**Androscoggin River Jay, Franklin County (Jay to Brunswick)**

| Access | Access in/walk in access |
| Notes | Access: Carry in/walk in access. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 4 section D-2 & 3

**Blacksmith Brook Wells, York County**

| Access | Access in/walk in access |
| Notes | Access: Carry in/walk in access. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 5 section D-2 & 3

**Branch Brook Sanford, York County**

| Access | Access in/walk in access |
| Notes | Access: Carry in/walk in access. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 2 section D-4 & 5

**Brandy Brook New Gloucester, Cumberland County**

| Access | Walk-in access. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 5 section B & C-4

**Cold River Stow, Oxford County**

| Access | Access in/walk in access |
| Notes | Access: Carry in/walk in access. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 10 section D-3

**Collins Brook Gray, Cumberland County**

| Access | Access in/walk in access |
| Notes | Access: Carry in/walk in access. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 5 section C-4

**Kear River Lovell, Oxford County**

| Access | Access in/walk in access |
| Notes | Access: Carry in/walk in access. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 5 section B-1

**Shepards River Brownfield, Oxford County**

| Access | Access in/walk in access |
| Notes | Access: Carry in/walk in access. |

**Delorme Atlas**
- Map 4 section E-5
The Belgrade Lakes Region extends from central to south-central Maine and provides a variety of fishing opportunities. Landlocked salmon and lake trout fisheries exist throughout the interior of the region. Stocked brook trout and brown trout can be found virtually region-wide and many lakes offer fly-fishing opportunities. This area supports many robust populations of largemouth and smallmouth bass that attract anglers from throughout the state and the country.

— Jason Seiders, Regional Fisheries Biologist

### Special fishing laws may apply to these water bodies. Always check the current Maine Open Water & Ice Fishing Laws first!

### BROOK TROUT FISHING

#### Bowler Pond

- **Max Depth:** 40 feet, **Area:** 34 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** BCT (S), SMB
- **Access:** Carry in access off Liver Hill Rd.
- **Notes:** Unimproved launch.
- **Delorme Atlas:** Map 13 section A-5

#### Kimball Pond

- **Max Depth:** 19 feet, **Area:** 55 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** BKT (S)
- **Access:** Carry in access from Tyler Pond Rd.
- **Notes:** Unimproved launch.
- **Delorme Atlas:** Map 13 section B-1

#### Spectacle Pond

- **Max Depth:** 70 feet, **Area:** 22 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** BCT (S)
- **Access:** Carry in access from Tyler Pond WMA.
- **Notes:** Unimproved launch.
- **Delorme Atlas:** Map 12 section B-5

#### Parker Pond

- **Max Depth:** 76 feet, **Area:** 3,610 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** BCT (S), LMB
- **Access:** Carry in access from Alamo H. Garcelon WMA.
- **Notes:** No developed launch.
- **Delorme Atlas:** Map 12 section A-2

#### Swan Lake

- **Max Depth:** 87 feet, **Area:** 1,370 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** LLS (S), BKT (W), BNT (S), LMB
- **Access:** Trailered boat access on Rte 141.
- **Notes:** Improved launch.
- **Delorme Atlas:** Map 22 section E-5

#### Upper Narrows Pond

- **Max Depth:** 54 feet, **Area:** 279 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** LLS (S), BKT (W), BNT (S), SMB
- **Access:** Carry in access on Narrows Pond Rd.
- **Notes:** No developed launch.
- **Delorme Atlas:** Map 12 section C-3

### LANDINGLOCKED SALMON FISHING

#### Echo Lake

- **Max Depth:** 117 feet, **Area:** 1,185 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** BKT (S), LMB
- **Access:** Carry in access off privately owned road off Belfast Rd.
- **Notes:** No developed launch.
- **Delorme Atlas:** Map 14 section A-3

### LAKE ECOLOGY

- **Max Depth:** 29 feet, **Area:** 49 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** BCT (S)
- **Access:** Carry in access off privately owned road off Belfast Rd.
- **Notes:** No developed launch.
- **Delorme Atlas:** Map 14 section A-3

### BELGRADE LAKE FISHING

- **Max Depth:** 335 feet, **Area:** 335 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** RBT (S), SPK (S), BKT (S)
- **Access:** Trailered boat access on Rte 202 or from Narrows Pond Rd.
- **Notes:** Unimproved launch on Rte 202. No developed launch on Narrows Pond Rd.
- **Delorme Atlas:** Map 12 section C-3

### TROUPE LAKE FISHING

- **Max Depth:** 60 feet, **Area:** 635 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** BKT (S), BNT (S), SMB
- **Access:** Trailered boat access on Rte 41.
- **Notes:** Improved launch.
- **Delorme Atlas:** Map 20 section E-4

### TOGUE LAKE TROUT FISHING

- **Max Depth:** 117 feet, **Area:** 1,185 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** LLS (S), LKT (SW), BKT (S), SMB
- **Access:** Trailered boat access on Rte 41.
- **Notes:** Improved launch.
- **Delorme Atlas:** Map 12 section A-2

### DEER LAKE TROUT FISHING

- **Max Depth:** 106 feet, **Area:** 255 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** LKT (S), LLS (S), SMB
- **Access:** Trailered boat access on Rte 41.
- **Notes:** Improved launch.
- **Delorme Atlas:** Map 12 section C-3

### RESTAURANT

- **Max Depth:** 106 feet, **Area:** 1,673 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** BKT (S), BNT (S), SMB
- **Access:** Trailered boat access on Rte 41 and in the town of Winthrop.
- **Notes:** Improved launches.
- **Delorme Atlas:** Map 12 section B & C-3
**REGION B BELGRADE LAKES REGION**

**SPECIES KEY**

**PRIMARY FISHERY SPECIES**
- Brook Trout — BKT
- Splake — SPT
- Togue (Lake Trout) — LKT
- Landlocked Salmon — LLS
- Brown Trout — BNT
- Rainbow Trout — RBT
- Smallmouth Bass — SMB
- Largemouth Bass — LMB
- Lake Whitefish — LWF
- Arctic Char — CHR

**RIVERS / STREAMS / BROOKS**
- Belgrade Stream
- Knox County
- Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BKT
- Access: Canoe access from Waterville Rd, Sidney, Augusta, Hallowell, Gardiner, and Richmond.
- Notes: Improved launches.
- Delorme Atlas: Map 12 section A-E

- Kennebec River
- Augusta, Kennebec County
- Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BKT
- Access: Trailered boat access from Waterville Rd and Rte 27.
- Notes: Unimproved launch.
- Delorme Atlas: Map 12 section A-E

- Messalonskee Stream
- Oakland, Somerset County
- Primary Fishery: BNT (S), SMB
- Access: Trailered boat access from Messalonskee Stream Access Point.
- Notes: Improved launch.
- Delorme Atlas: Map 13 section D-E

- St. George River
- St. George, Lincoln County
- Primary Fishery: BNT (S), SMB
- Access: Walk in access.
- Delorme Atlas: Map 13 section D-E

- Twenty-five Mile Stream
- Unity, Waldo County
- Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BKT
- Access: Walk in access.
- Delorme Atlas: Map 14 section B-E

- Webber Pond
- Vassalboro, Kennebec County
- Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BNT
- Access: Trailered boat access on Dam Rd.
- Notes: Improved launch.
- Delorme Atlas: Map 13 section D-E

**TOUGE LAKE TROUT FISHING CONT.**

- Sheepscot Lake
  - Palermo, Waldo County
  - Max Depth: 132 feet, Area: 1,153 acres
  - Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BKT
  - Access: Trailered boat access on Rte 3.
  - Notes: Improved launch.
  - Delorme Atlas: Map 13 section B-4

- Swan Lake
  - Swanville, Waldo County
  - Max Depth: 87 feet, Area: 1,370 acres
  - Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BNT
  - Access: Trailered boat access on Rte 141.
  - Notes: Improved launch.
  - Delorme Atlas: Map 22 section E-5

- Wassookeag Lake
  - Dexter, Penobscot County
  - Max Depth: 86 feet, Area: 1,062 acres
  - Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BNT
  - Access: Trailered boat access on Rte 23.
  - Notes: Improved launch.
  - Delorme Atlas: Map 32 section D-3

**BASS FISHING**

- Androscoggin Lake
  - Wayne, Kennebec County
  - Max Depth: 38 feet, Area: 3,826 acres
  - Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BNT
  - Access: Trailered boat access on Rte 133.
  - Notes: Improved launch.
  - Delorme Atlas: Map 12 section C-1 & 2

- Annabesook Lake
  - Monmouth, Kennebec County
  - Max Depth: 49 feet, Area: 1,420 acres
  - Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BNT
  - Access: Carry in access from Waugan Rd.
  - Notes: Unimproved launch.
  - Delorme Atlas: Map 12 section B & C-3

- China Lake
  - China, Kennebec County
  - Max Depth: 85 feet, Area: 3,845 acres
  - Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BNT
  - Access: Trailered boat access on Rte 32 and Rte 9.
  - Notes: Improved launches.
  - Delorme Atlas: Map 13 section A-3

- Cobbessequone Lake
  - Winthrop, Kennebec County
  - Max Depth: 100 feet, Area: 5,543 acres
  - Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BNT
  - Access: Trailered boat access on Launch Drive and Turtle Run Rd.
  - Notes: Improved launch.
  - Delorme Atlas: Map 12 section C-3 & 4

- Damariscotta Lake
  - Damariscotta, Lincoln County
  - Max Depth: 114 feet, Area: 4,375 acres
  - Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BNT
  - Access: Carry in access on Bryant Rd off Rte 3.
  - Notes: Unimproved launch.
  - Delorme Atlas: Map 14 section A-B

- Quantaback Lake
  - Searsmont, Knox County
  - Max Depth: 51 feet, Area: 693 acres
  - Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BNT
  - Access: Carry in access on Bryant Rd off Rte 3.
  - Notes: Unimproved launch.
  - Delorme Atlas: Map 14 section B-E

- Unity Pond
  - Unity, Waldo County
  - Max Depth: 41 feet, Area: 2,528 acres
  - Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BNT
  - Access: Trailered boat access on Kanasokou Rd.
  - Notes: Improved launch.
  - Delorme Atlas: Map 22 section D-3

- Vassalboro Pond
  - Vassalboro, Kennebec County
  - Max Depth: 50 feet, Area: 3,584 acres
  - Primary Fishery: SMB, BNT, LLS
  - Access: Trailered boat access on Great Moose Dr.
  - Notes: Improved launch.
  - Delorme Atlas: Map 31 section B-3 & 4

- North Pond
  - Smithfield, Somerset County
  - Max Depth: 20 feet, Area: 2,225 acres
  - Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BNT
  - Access: Trailered boat access on North Shore Dr. onto Bog Stream. Boat down to lake.
  - Notes: Improved launch.
  - Delorme Atlas: Map 20 section D-4

- Megunticook Lake
  - Lincolndale, Knox County
  - Max Depth: 65 feet, Area: 1,305 acres
  - Primary Fishery: BNT (S), SMB
  - Access: Trailered boat access on Rte 105 and Rte 52.
  - Notes: Improved launch.
  - Delorme Atlas: Map 14 section C-D-3

- Pleasant (Stetson) Pond
  - Stetson, Penobscot County
  - Max Depth: 16 feet, Area: 1,245 acres
  - Primary Fishery: SMB
  - Access: Trailered boat access off Route 143.
  - Notes: Unimproved launch.
  - Delorme Atlas: Map 22 section A-3

- Plymouth Pond
  - Plymouth, Penobscot County
  - Max Depth: 10 feet, Area: 480 acres
  - Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB
  - Access: Trailered boat access on Moosehead Trail.
  - Notes: Improved launch.
  - Delorme Atlas: Map 22 section A-B

- Quantaback Lake
  - Searsmont, Knox County
  - Max Depth: 51 feet, Area: 693 acres
  - Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BNT
  - Access: Carry in access on Bryant Rd off Rte 3.
  - Notes: Unimproved launch.
  - Delorme Atlas: Map 14 section B-E

- Unity Pond
  - Unity, Waldo County
  - Max Depth: 41 feet, Area: 2,528 acres
  - Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BNT
  - Access: Trailered boat access on Kanasokou Rd.
  - Notes: Improved launch.
  - Delorme Atlas: Map 22 section D-3

- Webber Pond
  - Vassalboro, Kennebec County
  - Max Depth: 41 feet, Area: 3,201 acres
  - Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BNT
  - Access: Trailered boat access on Dam Rd.
  - Notes: Improved launch.
  - Delorme Atlas: Map 13 section B-2

- RIVERS / STREAMS / BROOKS
- Belgrade Stream
- Belgrade, Kennebec County
- Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BKT
- Access: Canoe access from Waterville Rd, Sidney, Augusta, Hallowell, Gardiner, and Richmond.
- Notes: Improved launches.
- Delorme Atlas: Map 12 section C-D

- Medomak River
- Waldoboro, Lincoln County
- Primary Fishery: BNT (S), SMB
- Access: Walk in access.
- Delorme Atlas: Map 13 section D-E

- Massalamosahee Stream
- Oakland, Kennebec County
- Primary Fishery: BNT (S), SMB
- Access: Walk in access.
- Delorme Atlas: Map 21 section E

- Pemaquid River
- Bristol, Lincoln County
- Primary Fishery: BNT (S), SMB
- Access: Carry in access and walk in access.
- Notes: No developed launches.
- Delorme Atlas: Map 7 section C-3

**STATUS**

- Stocked
  - (S)
- Winter
  - (W)
- Mixture of Stocked & Wild
  - (SAW)

- Sabattus River
- Farmington, Oxford County
- Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BNT
- Access: Trailered boat access from Sabattus Rd. on West Farmington Rd.
- Notes: Improved launch.
- Delorme Atlas: Map 21 section D-3

- St. George River
- St. George, Lincoln County
- Primary Fishery: BNT (S), SMB
- Access: Walk in access.
- Delorme Atlas: Map 13 section D-E

- Sebasco River
- Phippsburg, Lincoln County
- Primary Fishery: BNT (S), SMB
- Access: Trailered boat access from Sebasco River Rd.
- Notes: Improved launch.
- Delorme Atlas: Map 21 section E

- Sebasticook River
- Benton, Kennebec County
- Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BNT
- Access: Trailered boat access from Sebasticook River Rd.
- Notes: Improved launch.
- Delorme Atlas: Map 21 section D-3 & 4

- St. George River
- St. George, Lincoln County
- Primary Fishery: BNT (S), SMB
- Access: Walk in access.
- Delorme Atlas: Map 14 section B-2

- Twenty-five Mile Stream
- Unity, Waldo County
- Primary Fishery: SMB
- Access: Walk in access.
- Delorme Atlas: Map 21 section D-5

- Twenty-five Mile Stream
- Unity, Waldo County
- Primary Fishery: SMB, BNT (S)
- Access: Trailered boat access.
- Notes: Unimproved launch.
- Delorme Atlas: Map 21 section C-3

- Twenty-five Mile Stream
- Unity, Waldo County
- Primary Fishery: SMB, BNT (S)
- Access: Walk in access.
- Delorme Atlas: Map 21 section D-5
 REGION C GRAND LAKE REGION

Special fishing laws may apply to these water bodies. Always check the current Maine Open Water & Ice Fishing Laws first!

BROOK TROUT FISHING

Echo Lake Mount Desert, Hancock County Max Depth: 66 feet, Area: 237 acres Primary Fishery: BTK (S&W), LLS (S) Access: Trailered boat access off Rte 102. Notes: Improved launch.

Delorme Atlas: Map 16 section C-2

Long Pond Great Pond Flt., Hancock County Max Depth: 36 feet, Area: 271 acres Primary Fishery: BTK (S) Access: Carry in access 27000 Rd off Stout Mill Rd. Notes: Unimproved launch.

Delorme Atlas: Map 34 section E-3

Moose Lake T 43 MD, Washington County Max Depth: 33 feet, Area: 45 acres Primary Fishery: BTK (S) Access: Small boat access via dirt road off Stout Mill Rd. Notes: Unimproved launch. 4WD vehicle recommended.

Delorme Atlas: Map 35 section C-4

Pineon Pond Deblois, Washington County Max Depth: 52 feet, Area: 7 acres Primary Fishery: BTK (S) Access: Carry in access via gravel road off Schoodic Pond Rd. Notes: 4WD vehicle recommended.

Delorme Atlas: Map 25 section C-2

Simmons Pond Hancock, Hancock County Max Depth: 27 feet, Area: 7 acres Primary Fishery: BTK (S) Access: Carry in access on Salem Rd off Wyman Rd. Notes: No developed launch.

Delorme Atlas: Map 24 section E-2

Simpson Pond Roque Bluffs, Washington County Max Depth: 5 feet, Area: 21 acres Primary Fishery: BTK (S), BNT (S) Access: Carry in access off Schoeppe Point Rd. Notes: No developed launch.

Delorme Atlas: Map 26 section D-3

West Pike Brook Pond T 18 MD, Washington City Max Depth: 32 feet, Area: 32 acres Primary Fishery: BTK (S) Access: Carry in access via gravel road off Schoodic Pond Rd. Notes: 4WD vehicle recommended.

Delorme Atlas: Map 25 section C-3

Brewer Lake Drivington, Penobscot County Max Depth: 48 feet, Area: 883 acres Primary Fishery: LLS (S), SMB Access: Trailered boat access on Brewer Lake Rd. Notes: Improved launch.

Delorme Atlas: Map 23 section C-3

Cathance Lake Cooper, Washington County Max Depth: 75 feet, Area: 2,905 acres Primary Fishery: LLS (S), BTK (W) Access: Trailered boat access on Rte 191. Notes: Improved launch.

Delorme Atlas: Map 36 section E-3 & 4

Donnell Pond Franklin, Hancock County Max Depth: 119 feet, Area: 1.120 acres Primary Fishery: LLS (S&W) Access: Trailered boat access on Moose Rd off Donnell Pond Rd. Notes: Improved launch.

Delorme Atlas: Map 24 section D-4 & 5


Delorme Atlas: Map 26 section B-4 (Delorme lists this lake as Gardner Lake)

Green Lake Ellsworth, Hancock County Max Depth: 108 feet, Area: 1,613 acres Primary Fishery: LLS (S&W), LKT (S) Access: Trailered boat access on Nicklyn Rd. Notes: Improved launch.

Delorme Atlas: Map 24 section D-3

Long Pond Mount Desert, Hancock County Max Depth: 113 feet, Area: 897 acres Primary Fishery: LLS (S&W), BTK (S) Access: Carry in access on 27000 Rd off Stud Mill Rd. Notes: This road is gated.

Delorme Atlas: Map 37 section D-1

Round Lake Charlotte, Washington County Max Depth: 22 feet, Area: 148 acres Primary Fishery: BNT (S) Access: Carry in access on 27000 Rd off Stud Mill Rd. Notes: This road is gated.

Delorme Atlas: Map 34 section E-3

Status: Improved launch.

Delorme Atlas: Map 35 section B-3 & 4

Tunk Lake T 10 SD, Hancock County Max Depth: 222 feet, Area: 2,010 acres Primary Fishery: LLS (S&W), LKT (W), BTK (S) Access: Trailered boat access on Rte 182. Notes: Improved launch.

Delorme Atlas: Map 25 section D & E-1


Delorme Atlas: Map 35 section B-3 & 4

BROWN TROUT FISHING

Flanders Pond Sullivan, Hancock County Max Depth: 32 feet, Area: 537 acres Primary Fishery: BNT (S) Access: Trailered boat access on Flanders Pond Rd off Rte 183. Notes: Improved launch.

Delorme Atlas: Map 24 section E-5

Great Pond Great Pond Plt., Hancock County Max Depth: 34 feet, Area: 679 acres Primary Fishery: BNT (S) Access: Trailered boat access on Great Pond Rd. Notes: Improved launch. This road is gated.

Delorme Atlas: Map 34 section E-3

Hancock Pond Bucksport, Hancock County Max Depth: 25 feet, Area: 59 acres Primary Fishery: BNT (S) Access: Carry in access on Rte 46. Notes: No developed launch.

Delorme Atlas: Map 23 section D-3

King Pond Great Pond Plt., Hancock County Max Depth: 22 feet, Area: 148 acres Primary Fishery: BNT (S) Access: Carry in access on 27000 Rd off Stud Mill Rd. Notes: This road is gated.

Delorme Atlas: Map 34 section E-3

Lower Patten Pond Surry, Hancock County Max Depth: 87 feet, Area: 741 acres Primary Fishery: BNT (S&W), LLS (S) Access: Trailered boat access on N. Bend Rd. Notes: Improved launch.

Delorme Atlas: Map 23 section E-5

Molasses Pond Eastbrook, Hancock County Max Depth: 47 feet, Area: 1,252 acres Primary Fishery: BNT (S), LLS (S) Access: Trailered boat access on Molasses Pond Rd. Notes: Improved launch.

Delorme Atlas: Map 24 section C-4

SPECIES KEY

Primary Fishery Species

Brook Trout — BTK

Slate — S

Togue (Lake Trout) — LKT

Landlocked Salmon — LLS

Brown Trout — BNT

Rainbow Trout — RBT

Smallmouth Bass — SMB

Largemouth Bass — LMB

Lake Whitefish — LWF

Arctic Char — CHR

Status

Stocked — (S)

Wild — (W)

Mixture of Stocked & Wild — (S&W)


Delorme Atlas: Map 37 section D-1

Walkers Pond Sedgwick, Hancock County Max Depth: 47 feet, Area: 617 acres Primary Fishery: BNT (S) Access: Trailered boat access on gravel road off Cooper Farms Rd off Rte 176. Notes: Improved launch.

Delorme Atlas: Map 35 section B-3 & C-3

REGION C GRAND LAKE REGION

Doorstep Maine is home to The Grand Lake Region, which has an exciting mixture of both coldwater and warmwater fishing opportunities. From its scenic coastal plain to its undeveloped, tranquil interior, anglers visiting eastern Maine will have no trouble finding the fish that suit them. From silvery colored brook trout and iconic landlocked salmon to hard-fighting smallmouth bass and the eager biting schools of coastal plain to its undeveloped, tranquil interior, anglers visiting eastern Maine will have no trouble finding the fish that suit them. From silvery colored brook trout and iconic landlocked salmon to hard-fighting smallmouth bass and the eager biting schools of

—— Greg Barr, Regional Fisheries Biologist
BASS FISHING

Big Lake Greenlo Chopping Terep, Washington County
Max Depth: 70 feet, Area: 10,305 acres
Primary Fishery: LLS (S&W), SMB
Access: Carry in access on Big Lake Rd and off West St.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 23 section D-E-1

Tunk Lake T 10 SD, Hancock County
Max Depth: 98 feet, Area: 420 acres
Primary Fishery: LKT (W), BKT (S&W)
Access: Traveled boat access on Rte 191.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 36 section D-E-2

Mollys Lake Llesha, Washington County
Max Depth: 58 feet, Area: 6,765 acres
Primary Fishery: SMB
Access: Traveled boat access on Rte 191.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 36 section D-E-2

Delorme Atlas: Map 24 section D-3

An Exciting Mixture of Both Coldwater and Warmwater Fishing Opportunities

TOGUE (LACEY TROUT) FISHING

Beech Hill Pond Otis, Hancock County
Max Depth: 104 feet, Area: 1.251 acres
Primary Fishery: LKT (W), LLS (S)
Access: Traveled boat access on West Shore Rd. off Gary Moore Rd off Rte 180.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 24 section C-1

Branch Lake Ellsworth, Hancock County
Max Depth: 123 feet, Area: 2.703 acres
Primary Fishery: LLS (S&W), LKT (W), LLS (S)
Access: Traveled boat access on Park Loop Rd.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 16 section C-3

Ellsworth, Hancock County
Max Depth: 108 feet, Area: 1.613 acres
Primary Fishery: LKT (W), LLS (S&W), BKT (S)
Access: Traveled boat access on Nicklyn Rd.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 24 section D-3

Hollys Pond Mariaville, Hancock County
Max Depth: 65 feet, Area: 4.42 acres
Primary Fishery: LKT (W), BKT (S&W)
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 24 section B-3

Ellsworth, Hancock County
Max Depth: 222 feet, Area: 2.010 acres
Primary Fishery: LLS (S&W), LKT (W), BKT (S)
Access: Traveled boat access on Rte 182.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 25 section D-E-1

West Grand Lake Grand Lake Stream, Washington County
Max Depth: 128 feet, Area: 14,340 acres
Primary Fishery: LLS (S&W), LKT (W), LLS (S&W), SMB
Access: Traveled boat access at West Grand Dam.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 35 section B-C & 5

Brewer Lake Orangeville, Penobscot County
Max Depth: 46 feet, Area: 861 acres
Primary Fishery: LLS (S), SMB
Access: Traveled boat access on Brewer Lake Rd.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 25 section C-3

Crawford Lake Crawford, Washington County
Max Depth: 27 feet, Area: 1,677 acres
Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB
Access: Traveled boat access on International Dr. off Rte 9.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 36 section D-E-3

Lovet Lake Alexander, Washington County
Max Depth: 40 feet, Area: 672 acres
Primary Fishery: SMB, LLS (S&W), BKT (S&W)
Access: Carry in access on Lovet Lake Rd.
Notes: Unimproved launch. 4WD recommended.
Delorme Atlas: Map 36 section D-E-3

Mollys Lake Llesha, Washington County
Max Depth: 58 feet, Area: 6,765 acres
Primary Fishery: SMB
Access: Traveled boat access on Rte 191.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 36 section D-E-2

Pleasant Lake Alexander, Washington County
Max Depth: 36 feet, Area: 339 acres
Primary Fishery: SMB, LLS (S&W)
Access: Traveled boat access from campground off Davis Rd.
Notes: Improved launch. Fee to launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 36 section D-3

West Branch Union River Amberst, Washington County
Primary Fishery: BKT (S)
Access: Walk in access on Rte 9.
Delorme Atlas: Map 24 section A-3

\(\text{SPECIES KEY}\)

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
\hline
\textbf{REGION C GRAND LAKE REGION} & \textbf{TOGUE (LACEY TROUT) FISHING} \\
\hline
\textbf{Bass} & \textbf{Bass} \\
\hline
\textbf{Brook Trout} & \textbf{Brook Trout} \\
\hline
\textbf{Splake} & \textbf{Splake} \\
\hline
\textbf{Togue (Lace Trout)} & \textbf{Togue (Lace Trout)} \\
\hline
\textbf{Landlocked Salmon} & \textbf{Landlocked Salmon} \\
\hline
\textbf{Brown Trout} & \textbf{Brown Trout} \\
\hline
\textbf{Rainbow Trout} & \textbf{Rainbow Trout} \\
\hline
\textbf{Smallmouth Bass} & \textbf{Smallmouth Bass} \\
\hline
\textbf{Largemouth Bass} & \textbf{Largemouth Bass} \\
\hline
\textbf{Lake Whitefish} & \textbf{Lake Whitefish} \\
\hline
\textbf{Arctic Char} & \textbf{Arctic Char} \\
\hline
\textbf{Improved launch.} & \textbf{Improved launch.} \\
\hline
\textbf{Unimproved launches.} & \textbf{Unimproved launches.} \\
\hline
\textbf{Notes:} & \textbf{Notes:} \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
IDENTIFY YOUR CATCH

TIPS ON IDENTIFYING FISH
For rules and regulations purposes, it’s vital to identify your catch. Here’s a quick guide to the telltale characteristics of Maine’s most prevalent game fish.

BROOK TROUT (BKT)
• Red spots, each surrounded by a blue halo
• White leading edges on the fins and a worm-like vermiculation pattern on their backs

SPLAKE (SPK)
• Red spots (lacking the brook trout’s signature blue halo), white leading edges on the fins, and a worm-like vermiculation pattern on their backs
• This hybrid cross between lake trout and brook trout can have features that more closely resemble one parent species or the other, and can easily be mistaken for either one

RAINBOW TROUT (RBT)
• Light background with tiny dark spots on their sides and a faint to bright pinkish coloration on their operculum (gill plate cover) and down their sides
• Caudal and dorsal fins have small dark spots

BROWN TROUT (BNT)
• Red and black spots
• Square tails
• A large spotted adipose fin

SMALLMOUTH BASS (SMB)
• Shallow notch between a spiny dorsal fin and a soft-rayed dorsal fin
• Upper part of mouth that doesn’t reach past the center of their eye
• May have red eyes
• Sometimes have vertical dark stripes

LARGEMOUTH BASS (LMB)
• Upper part of mouth that extends past the eye
• Dark mottled lateral band running down the center of their sides
• Defined notch between a spiny dorsal fin and soft-rayed dorsal fin

LAKE WHITEFISH (LWF)
• Overall silvery coloration with dark brown to black on the back
• Black or black tipped fins
• Deeply forked tail
• Scales are large

TOGUE (LAKE TROUT) (LKT)
• Deeply forked tail and white leading edges on their fins
• Distinguished from salmon by their gold to green dorsal and lateral sides with creamy white spots, compared with salmon’s silver sides and black spots

LANDlocked SALMON (LLS)
• Slightly forked tail and silvery scales with small dark spots on the dorsal and lateral sides
• They may also appear to have a bluish coloration on their operculum (gill plate cover)

ARCTIC CHARR (CHR)
• Slender member of the salmon and trout family
• Moderately forked tail
• Dark coloring on back, lighter on belly, with light spots on the sides
**REGION D RANGLEY LAKES REGION**

Special fishing laws may apply to these water bodies. Always check the current Maine Open Water & Ice Fishing Laws first!

**LANDLOCKED SALMON FISHING**

**SPECIES KEY**

**PRIMARY FISHERY SPECIES**

- Brook Trout — BKT
- Splake — SKP
- Togue (Lake Trout) — LKT
- Landlocked Salmon — LLS
- Brown Trout — BNT
- Rainbow Trout — RBT
- Smallmouth Bass — SMB
- Largemouth Bass — LMB
- Lake Whitefish — LWF
- Arctic Char — CHR

**STATUS**

- Stocked — (S)
- Mixed Stocked & Wild — (S&W)

Related to the eastern part of the state, the Rangeley Lakes Region encompasses Maine’s western mountains area. Landlocked salmon, lake trout, and smallmouth bass are all popular and plentiful fish species that are regularly caught by anglers, but brook trout are by far the most targeted. Many of the region’s lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, and brooks provide excellent habitat for brook trout and offer a variety of fishing opportunities. Regardless of what you fish for, this region provides wonderful fishing adventures in a picturesque setting.

— Dave Howatt, Regional Fisheries Biologist

**REGION D RANGLEY LAKES REGION**
TOQUE LAKE TROUT FISHING

Clearwater Pond  
Industry, Franklin County  
Max Depth: 129 feet, Area: 756 acres  
Primary Fishery: LKT (W), BKT (S&W), LLS (S), SMB  
Access: Trailered boat access on Rte 43. 
Notes: Improved launch. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 20 section C-1 & 2

Embden Pond  
Embden, Somerset County  
Max Depth: 180 feet, Area: 1.568 acres 
Primary Fishery: LKT (W), LLS (S&W), BKT (S), SMB  
Access: Trailered boat access on Mill Rd off Embden Pond Rd. 
Notes: Improved launch. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 20 section A-3 & map 30 section E-3

Jim Pond  
Jim Pond Top, Franklin County  
Max Depth: 95 feet, Area: 340 acres  
Primary Fishery: LKT (W), BKT (S)  
Access: Carry in access on Big Buck Mtn Rd off Alca Rd. 
Notes: 4WD vehicles only. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 28 section D-1

Porter Lake  
New Vineyard, Franklin County  
Max Depth: 86 feet, Area: 527 acres  
Primary Fishery: LLS (S), LKT (W), BKT (S)  
Access: Trailered boat access off Beanes Beach Rd. 
Notes: Improved launch. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 20 section B-1

Richardson Lakes  
Richardsontown, Twp, Oxford County  
Max Depth: 108 feet, Area: 5.100 acres  
Primary Fishery: LLS (S&W), BKT (S&W), LKT (W)  
Access: Trailered boat access on South Arm Rd and Mill Brook Rd. 
Notes: Improved launches. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 18 section A & B-2

Spencer Lake  
Hobbsfort, Somerset County  
Max Depth: 135 feet, Area: 1.819 acres  
Primary Fishery: LLS (S), LKT (W), BKT (W)  
Access: Trailered boat access via launch on Fish Pond on gravel road off Spencer Rd. Boat down to Spencer Lake. 
Notes: Improved launch. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 39 section D & E-4

Spring Lake  
T3 R4 BKP WKR, Somerset County  
Max Depth: 78 feet, Area: 762 acres  
Primary Fishery: LKT (W), BKT (S), LLS (S)  
Access: Trailered boat access on Spring Lake Rd. 
Notes: Improved launch. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 29 section B-4

Varvun Pond  
Temple, Franklin County  
Max Depth: 75 feet, Area: 370 acres  
Primary Fishery: LLS (S), LKT (W), BKT (S)  
Access: Trailered boat access off of Varvun Pond Rd. 
Notes: Improved launch. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 19 section D-5

Wilson Pond  
Wilton, Franklin County  
Max Depth: 88 feet, Area: 563 acres  
Primary Fishery: LKT (W), LLS (S&W), BKT (S&W)  
Access: Trailered boat access off Pond Rd and carry in access on Rte 2. 
Notes: Improved launch at Canal Street off Rte. 2. Unimproved launch off Pond Rd. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 19 section D-4 & 5

BASS FISHING

Clearwater Pond  
Industry, Franklin County  
Max Depth: 129 feet, Area: 751 acres  
Primary Fishery: SMB, LKT (W), LLS (S&W), BKT (S&W)  
Access: Trailered boat access on Rte 43. 
Notes: Improved launch. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 20 section C-1 & 2

Crownell Pond  
New Sharon, Franklin County  
Max Depth: 11 feet, Area: 211 acres  
Primary Fishery: LMB, BKT (S)  
Access: Carry in access on Rte 41. 
Notes: Unimproved launch. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 20 section D-2

Embden Pond  
Embden, Somerset County  
Max Depth: 180 feet, Area: 1.568 acres  
Primary Fishery: LKT (W), LLS (S&W), BKT (S), SMB  
Access: Trailered boat access on Mill Rd off Embden Pond Rd. 
Notes: Improved launch. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 20 section A-3 & map 30 section E-3

Mount Blue Pond  
Aroon, Franklin County  
Max Depth: 38 feet, Area: 134 acres  
Primary Fishery: BKT (W), BNT (S), SMB  
Access: Carry in access off Mount Blue Rd. 
Notes: No developed launch. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 19 section B-3 & 4

Moxie Pond  
East Moxie Top, Somerset County  
Max Depth: 53 feet, Area: 2.370 acres  
Primary Fishery: SMB, LLS (S&W), BKT (S&W)  
Access: Trailered boat access on Indian Pond Rd. 
Notes: Improved launch. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 40 section E-4

Norcross Pond  
Chesterfield, Franklin County  
Max Depth: 24 feet, Area: 122 acres 
Primary Fishery: LMB, BKT (S)  
Access: Trailered boat access on Ridge Rd. 
Notes: Improved launch. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 20 section E-1

North Pond  
Chesterfield, Franklin County  
Max Depth: 23 feet, Area: 170 acres  
Primary Fishery: LMB  
Access: Carry in access via gravel road off Borough Rd. 
Notes: No developed launch. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 20 section E-1

Ellis Pond  
Roundout, Oxford County  
Max Depth: 43 feet, Area: 520 acres  
Primary Fishery: SMB, BKT (S)  
Access: Trailered boat access off South Shore Rd. 
Notes: Improved launch. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 18 section D-3 & 4

Wentworth Pond  
Solon, Somerset County  
Max Depth: 48 feet, Area: 211 acres 
Primary Fishery: SMB, BKT (S), BNT (S)  
Access: Carry in access off Westshore Rd. 
Notes: Unimproved launch. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 33 section E-1

Wesserunsett Lake  
Madison, Somerset County  
Max Depth: 22 feet, Area: 1.446 acres 
Primary Fishery: LMB, BKT (S)  
Access: Carry in access on Rte 41. 
Notes: Unimproved launch. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 20 section D-2

Swift River  
Byron, Oxford County  
Primary Fishery: BKT (S), BNT (S), SMB (S&W)  
Access: Walk in access. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 18 section C & D-5

Wilson Stream Wilton, Franklin County  
Primary Fishery: BKT (S&W)  
Access: Main St. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 19 section D-4 & 5

Carrabassett River  
Anson, Somerset County  
Carrabassett Valley to Anson  
Primary Fishery: BKT (S), BKT (S&W)  
Access: Walk in access on Rte 27 and Rte 146. 
Notes: Parts (Kingfield) are Youth Only fishing. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 20 section A-3

Dead River  
The Forks Plt, Somerset County  
From T03 R04 BKP WKR to The Forks Plt.  
Primary Fishery: BKT (S&W), LLS (S&W)  
Access: Walk in access. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 20 section B-5

Orbeton Stream  
Madrid, Franklin County  
Primary Fishery: BKT (S&W), LLS (S&W)  
Access: Walk in access. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 27 section E-5

Keenebago River  
Rangley, Franklin County  
Stanton Town to Rangley  
Primary Fishery: BKT (W), LLS (W)  
Access: Walk in access. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 18 section C-4

Magalloway River  
Lincoln Plt, Oxford County  
Lincoln Plt to Magalloway Plt  
Primary Fishery: BKT (W), LLS (W), SMB (S&W)  
Access: Walk in access off Rte. 16 & Bennett Rd. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 27 section E-5

Phelps Brook  
Byron, Oxford County  
Primary Fishery: BKT (W)  
Access: Walk in access. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 19 section A-2 & 3

Rapid River  
Upton, Oxford County  
Primary Fishery: BKT (W), LLS (W), SMB (S&W)  
Access: Walk in access. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 18 section B-1

Map 18 section B-1

REGION D RANGLEY LAKES REGION

REGION D RANGLEY LAKES REGION

STATUS
Stocked ........................................... ($)
Wild ................................................. (W)
Mixture of Stocked & Wild .................. (S&W)

SPECIES KEY

Primary Fishery Species

Brook Trout .................. BKT
Splake ......................... SPK
Lake Trout .................... LKT
Landlocked Salmon ...... LLS
Brown Trout .................. BNT
Rainbow Trout ............... RBT
Smallmouth Bass .......... SMB
Largemouth Bass .......... LMB
Lake Whitefish ............ LWF
Arctic Char ................. CHR

FISHING ADVENTURES IN A PICTURESQUE SETTING

Sandy River  
Farmington, Franklin County  
(Sandy River Plt to Norridgewock) 
Primary Fishery: BKT (S&W), BNT (S), SMB  
Access: Walk in access. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 19 section B-4 & 5

Swift River  
Byron, Oxford County  
(Byron to Rumford) 
Primary Fishery: BKT (S), BNT (S), SMB  
Access: Walk in access. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 18 section C & D-5

Wilson Stream  
Wilton, Franklin County  
Primary Fishery: BKT (S&W)  
Access: Main St. 
Delorme Atlas: Map 19 section D-4 & 5

Map 19 section D-4 & 5
**REGION E MOOSEHEAD REGION**

The Moosehead Lake Region is situated in northwestern Maine in the largely undeveloped North Woods. The region contains hundreds of lakes, ponds, and streams that support self-sustaining brook trout populations and many have never been stocked. Anglers enjoy this unique experience of fishing in remote areas for native brook trout, landlocked salmon, and lake trout. The centerpieces of the region is Maine's largest lake: Moosehead Lake, which at 40 miles long, offers a big lake fishing experience. If you’re looking for moving-water, there are numerous large rivers that provide great fishing for wild brook trout and landlocked salmon, including some year-round opportunities. If you are in search of native brook trout, then the Moosehead Lake Region is the place to be.

— Tim Obrey, Regional Fisheries Biologist

**Special fishing laws may apply to these water bodies. Always check the current Maine Open Water & Ice Fishing Laws first.**

**BROOK TROUT FISHING**

**Long Pond**
- **Location:** Long Pond Twp, Somerset County
- **Primary Fishery:** BKT (W), LLS (W), LWF (W)
- **Max Depth:** 44 feet, Area: 3,053 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** BCT (S&W), LLS (S&W)
- **Access:** Carry in off Rte 6. Notes: No developed launch.

**Chocookcook Lake & Caribou Lake**
- **Location:** T3 R12 WELS, Piscataquis County
- **Max Depth:** 150 feet, Area: 26,200 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** LLS (W), BKT (W)
- **Access:** Trailered boat access on Chocookcook Lake Rd (Chocookcook Lake) and Guy Allen Rd (Umb hairstone Stream). Carry in access on Golden Rd (Caribou Lake). Notes: Improved launches on Chocookcook Lake Rd and Guy Allen Rd and unimproved launch on Golden Rd.

**Rum Pond**
- **Location:** Greenville, Piscataquis County
- **Max Depth:** 77 feet, Area: 245 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** BKT (W)
- **Access:** Carry in access via gravel road off KI Rd. Notes: Unimproved launches.

**Chosen Lake**
- **Location:** Maine’s largest lake: Moosehead Lake, which at 40 miles long, offers a big lake fishing experience. If you’re looking for moving-water, there are numerous large rivers that provide great fishing for wild brook trout and landlocked salmon, including some year-round opportunities. If you are in search of native brook trout, then the Moosehead Lake Region is the place to be.

**REGION E MOOSEHEAD REGION**

**SPECIES KEY**

** PRIMARY FISHERY SPECIES**

 **Brook Trout**
- BKT

 **Splatke**
- SPK

 **Togue (Lake Trout)**
- LKT

 **Landlocked Salmon**
- LLS

 **Brown Trout**
- BNT

 **Rainbow Trout**
- RBT

 **Smallmouth Bass**
- SMB

 **Largemouth Bass**
- LMB

 **Lake Whitefish**
- LWF

 **Arctic Char**
- CHR

 **STATUS**

 **Stocked**
- (S)

 **Wild**
- (W)

 **Mixture of Stocked & Wild**
- (S&W)

 **TOGUE (LAKE TROUT) FISHING**

**Allagash Lake**
- **Location:** T8 R14 WELS, Piscataquis County
- **Max Depth:** 89 feet, Area: 4,260 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** BKT (W), LKT (W), LWF (W)
- **Access:** Carry in via camp sites or via Allagash Stream.

**Lower Wilson Pond**
- **Location:** Greenville, Piscataquis County
- **Max Depth:** 106 feet, Area: 1,380 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** LLS (S&W), BKT (W), LKT (W)
- **Access:** Trailered boat launches on North Shore Rd and Wilson Pond Rd.

**Delorme Atlas:** Map 55 section C & D-3

**Moosehead Lake**
- **Location:** Greenville, Piscataquis County
- **Max Depth:** 246 feet, Area: 74,890 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** BKT (W), LLS (S&W), LKT (W)
- **Access:** Trailered boat access on Lily Bay Rd (Greenville), Rte 6 (Greenville and Rockwood), Seboomook Dam Rd (Seboomook), Ross Farm Rd (Northeast Carry), and in Lily Bay State Park (Greenville). Carry in boat access on Northeast Carry Rd (Northeast Carry), Hardwood Valley Rd (Spencer Bay Twp), and in Lily Bay State Park (Greenville).

**Notes:** Improved launches. Unimproved launches.

**Delorme Atlas:** Map 41 section C-3 & 5

**BROWN TROUT FISHING**

**Sebec Lake**
- **Location:** Greenville, Piscataquis County
- **Max Depth:** 155 feet, Area: 6,603 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** LLL (W), LKT (S), SMB
- **Access:** Trailered boat access on Sebec Village Rd and Greely’s Landing Rd.

**Delorme Atlas:** Map 32 section A-1 & 2

**LANDLOCKED SALMON FISHING**

**Attean Lake**
- **Location:** Attean Twp, Somerset County
- **Max Depth:** 55 feet, Area: 2,745 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** LLS (S), BKT (W), LKT (W), SMB
- **Access:** Trailered boat access on Rte 16. Notes: Improved launch.

**Delorme Atlas:** Map 31 section C-1 & 2

**Attean Lake**
- **Location:** Attean Twp, Somerset County
- **Max Depth:** 62 feet, Area: 390 acres
- **Primary Fishery:** LLS (S), SPRK (S), BKT (S)
- **Access:** Trailered boat access on Attean Rd.

**Delorme Atlas:** Map 39 section C-4
MOOSEHEAD REGION

TOGUE (LAKE TROUT) FISHING CONT.

Harrington Lake T1 R1 NBKP, Piscataquis County
Max Depth: 134 feet, Area: 1,332 acres
Primary Fishery: LLS (W), LKT (W), BKT (W)
Access: Trailered boat access on Telos Rd.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 50 section C-2 & 3

Lobster Lake Lobster Twp Piscataquis County
Max Depth: 106 feet, Area: 3,475 acres
Primary Fishery: LLS (W), LKT (W), BKT (W)
Access: Trailered boat access on Lobster Trip Rd, boat up stream to lake.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 49 section D-3

Lower Wilson Pond Greenville, Piscataquis County
Max Depth: 106 feet, Area: 1,380 acres
Primary Fishery: LLS (S&W), BKT (W)
Access: Trailered boat launches on North Shore Rd and Wilson Pond Rd.
Notes: Improved launches.
Delorme Atlas: Map 55 section C & D-3

Meosehead Lake Greenville, Piscataquis County
Max Depth: 246 feet, Area: 74,890 acres
Primary Fishery: BKT (W), LLS (S&W), LKT (W)
Access: Trailered boat access on Lily Bay Rd (Greenville), Rte 6 (Greenville and Rockwood), Sebomook Dam Rd (Sebomook), Ross Farm Rd (Northeast Carry), and in Lily Bay State Park (Greenville). Carry in boat access on Northeast Carry Rd (Northeast Carry), Hardwood Valley Rd (Spencer Bay Twp), and in Lily Bay State Park (Greenville).
Notes: Improved launches. Unimproved launches.
Delorme Atlas: Map 41 and map 49

Nahmakanta Lake T1 R1 WELS, Piscataquis County
Max Depth: 110 feet, Area: 1,024 acres
Primary Fishery: LKT (W), BKT (W), LLS (W)
Access: Carry in access on AT trail off Nahmakanta Stream Rd.
Notes: Unimproved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 50 section E-3

Sebec Lake Dover-Foxcroft, Piscataquis County
Max Depth: 155 feet, Area: 6,803 acres
Primary Fishery: LLS (W), LKT (S), SMB
Access: Trailered boat access on Sebec Village Rd and Greely’s Landing Rd.
Notes: Improved launches.
Delorme Atlas: Map 32 section A-1 & 2

BASS FISHING

Bear’s Mill Pond Dover-Foxcroft, Piscataquis County
Max Depth: 15 feet, Area: 271 acres
Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BKT (S)
Access: Trailered boat access off Rte 23.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 32 section C-2 & 3

First Buttermilk Pond Bowerbank Twp, Piscataquis County
Max Depth: 119 feet, Area: 384 acres
Primary Fishery: SMB, LLS (W), BKT (W), LKT (W)
Access: Walk in access from Ledge Cut Rd.
Notes: No developed launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 32 section A-1

Delorme Atlas: Map 40 section C-5

Manhanock Pond Sangerville Twp., Piscataquis County
Max Depth: 36 feet, Area: 595 acres
Primary Fishery: SMB, LMB, BKT (S&W)
Access: Trailered boat access off Rte 23.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 33 section C-5

Sebec Lake Dover-Foxcroft, Piscataquis County
Max Depth: 155 feet, Area: 6,803 acres
Primary Fishery: LLS (W), LKT (S), SMB
Access: Trailered boat access on Sebec Village Rd and Greely’s Landing Rd.
Notes: Improved launches.
Delorme Atlas: Map 32 section A-1 & 2

RIVERS / STREAMS / BROOKS

Cascmognoc Stream T6 R14 WELS, Piscataquis County
Primary Fishery: LLS (W), BKT (W)
Access: Walk in access.
Delorme Atlas: Map 55 section E-3

East Outlet, Moosehead Lake Singing Twp, Piscataquis County
Primary Fishery: LLS (S&W), BKT (S&W)
Access: Walk in access.
Delorme Atlas: Map 41 section C-1

FOR NATIVE BROOK TROUT, THE MOOSEHEAD LAKE REGION IS THE PLACE TO BE

MOOSEHEAD LAKE REGION

Moose River T1 R1 NRKP, Somerset County
(Brewer Lake to Moosehead Lake)
Primary Fishery: LLS (S&W), BKT (W), LKT (W)
Access: Walk in access.
Delorme Atlas: Map 40 section A & B-5

Penobscot River, North Branch Comstock Twp, Somerset County
Primary Fishery: BKT (W)
Access: Walk in access.
Delorme Atlas: Map 48 section C-2

Penobscot River, South Branch Hammond Twp, Somerset County
Primary Fishery: LLS (W), BKT (W)
Access: Walk in access.
Delorme Atlas: Map 49 section B-4

Piscataquis River Blankard Twp, Piscataquis County
Primary Fishery: BKT (S)
Access: Walk in access.
Delorme Atlas: Map 41 section A-3 & 4

Roch River Spencer Bay Twp, Piscataquis County
Primary Fishery: LLS (W), BKT (W)
Access: Walk in access.
Delorme Atlas: Map 41 section A-3 & 4

Sebec River Sebec Twp, Piscataquis County
Primary Fishery: LLS (S&W), BKT (S&W)
Access: Walk in access.
Delorme Atlas: Map 32 section A-4

Upper Moose River Jackman, Somerset County (north of Jackman)
Primary Fishery: BKT (W)
Access: Walk in access.
Delorme Atlas: Map 39 section B-4

SHARE YOUR MAINE FISHING ADVENTURE

#FishME

@emilymaccabe
@benson
@christiholmes
@dilonius6
@DirigoDiaz
@firwave
@jonahpariss
@codyrubner
@bardcore86
### REGION F: PENOBSCOT REGION

#### From the highlands and trout ponds of Baxter State Park to the lowlands and huss fisheries of the lower Penobscot River, the Penobscot Region is one of the most diverse in the state in terms of both land terrain and fisheries. The region offers a myriad of fishing opportunities for high quality landlocked salmon, lake trout, brook trout, and smallmouth bass. The variety of lakes, ponds, rivers and streams, nestled in a stunningly beautiful setting, are sure to create a memorable fishing experience.

---

**Special fishing laws may apply to these water bodies. Always check the current Maine Open Water & Ice Fishing Laws first!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water Body</th>
<th>Access</th>
<th>Primary Fishery</th>
<th>Max Depth</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Brook Trout</strong></td>
<td>BKT</td>
<td>Stocked &amp; Wild</td>
<td>95 feet, Area: 4,165 acres</td>
<td>Primary Fishery: BKT (W), LLS (W), LKT (S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Splake</strong></td>
<td>S&amp;W</td>
<td></td>
<td>Max Depth: 7 feet, Area: 30 acres</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REGION F</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maine Open Water &amp; Ice Fishing Laws first!</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Delorme Atlas:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Notes:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### SPECIES KEY

#### PRIMARY FISHERY SPECIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>PRIMARY FISHERY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brook Trout</td>
<td>BKT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Splake</td>
<td>S&amp;W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Togue (Lake Trout)</td>
<td>LKT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landlocked Salmon</td>
<td>LLS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Trout</td>
<td>BNT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainbow Trout</td>
<td>RBT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smallmouth Bass</td>
<td>SMB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>LMB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Whitefish</td>
<td>LWF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arctic Char</td>
<td>CHR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

#### Status

- Stocked ———— ($)
- Wild ———— (W)
- Mixture of Stocked & Wild ———— (SAW)

---

**Penobscook Chain T1 R9 WELS, Penobscot County**

Max Depth: 101 feet, Area: 18,380 acres
Primary Fishery: LLS (S), LKT (W)

---

**Deering Lake West, Aroostook County**

Max Depth: 69 feet, Area: 474 acres
Primary Fishery: LLS (S), BKT (S) | Access: Carry in access on Rte 1. Notes: Launch from campground. Delorme Atlas: Map 53 section E-3

---

**Schoodic Lake Brownville, Piscataquis County**

Max Depth: 188 feet, Area: 7,184 acres
Primary Fishery: LLS (S), LKT (W), BKT (S) | Access: Carry in access on Knights Landing Rd or trailered boat access on Lakeview Rd. Notes: Unimproved launches. Delorme Atlas: Map 45 section E-2 & 3

---

**Schoodic Lake Brownville, Piscataquis County**

Max Depth: 188 feet, Area: 7,184 acres
Primary Fishery: LLS (S), LKT (W), BKT (S) | Access: Carry in access on Knights Landing Rd or trailered boat access on Lakeview Rd. Notes: Unimproved launches. Delorme Atlas: Map 45 section E-2 & 3

---

**Millecoteck Lake T1 R8 WELS, Penobscot County**

Max Depth: 86 feet, Area: 8,960 acres

---

**LANDLOCKED SALMON FISHING**

#### Cold Stream Pond

- **Enfield, Penobscot County**
  - Max Depth: 112 feet, Area: 3,268 acres
  - Primary Fishery: LLS (S), LKT (W), BKT (S)
  - Access: Trailered boat access on Old Hatchery Rd off Rte 388

---

**Millinocket Lake**

- **T1 R8 WELS, Penobscot County**
  - Max Depth: 86 feet, Area: 8,960 acres
  - Primary Fishery: LLS (S), LKT (W), BKT (S)
  - Access: Trailered boat access on Baxter State Park Rd.
  - Notes: Improved launch. Delorme Atlas: Map 43 section A-2

---

**REGION F: PENOBSCOT REGION**

---

**REGION F: PENOBSCOT REGION**

---

**REGION F: PENOBSCOT REGION**
**Togue (Lake Trout) Fishing**

1st Debsconeag Lake T1 R10 WELS, Piscataquis County
Max Depth: 126 feet, Area: 1,970 acres
Primary Fishery: LL(S), BKT (W), TKT (W)
Access: Carry in on Cedar Brook Rd
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 44 section E-3

2nd Debsconeag Lake T1 R8 WELS, Piscataquis County
Max Depth: 132 feet, Area: 3,240 acres
Primary Fishery: LL(S), BKT (W), TKT (W)
Access: Carry in on Pond Rd
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 45 section A-3

3rd Debsconeag Lake T1 R10 WELS, Piscataquis County
Max Depth: 162 feet, Area: 1,970 acres
Primary Fishery: LL(S), BKT (W), TKT (W)
Access: Carry in on Grand Lake Rd
Notes: Unimproved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 51 section A-2

Millinocket Lake T1 R8 WELS, Penobscot County
Max Depth: 86 feet, Area: 9,960 acres
Primary Fishery: LL(S), LKT (S), LKT (W)
Access: Trailered boat access on Baxter State Park Rd
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 43 section A-2

Mattawamkeag River Winn, Penobscot County
(Winn to Haynesville)
Primary Fishery: SMB
Access: Walk in access from River Rd or Rte 170.
Delorme Atlas: Map 44 section C-3

Nicatous Stream T3 ND, Hancock County
Primary Fishery: RCT (W), SMB
Access: Walk in access from Nicatous Stream Rd
Delorme Atlas: Map 34 section C-4

Passadumkeag River Lowell, Penobscot County (Lowell to Passadumkeag)
Primary Fishery: SMB
Access: Walk in access.
Delorme Atlas: Map 34 section B & C-1

Penobscot River Milled, Penobscot County
Primary Fishery: SMB
Access: Trailered boat access off Rte 2.
Notes: Milliked to Medway. Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 53 section D & E-5

Pleasant Lake Island Falls, Aroostook County
Max Depth: 63 feet, Area: 11.382 acres
Primary Fishery: LL(S), BKT (S), SMB
Access: Trailered boat access on Pond Rd.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 52 section B-4 & 5

Pushaw Lake Old Town, Penobscot County
Max Depth: 28 feet, Area: 5,056 acres
Primary Fishery: SMB
Access: Trailered boat access off Pushaw Rd.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 44 section E-1 & 2

East Branch Togue T2 R9 WELS, Piscataquis County
Max Depth: 23 feet, Area: 1,100 acres
Primary Fishery: SMB
Access: Trailered boat access on Cedar Lake Rd.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 43 section C-3

Seboeis Lake T4 R9 NWF, Piscataquis County
Max Depth: 69 feet, Area: 4,201 acres
Primary Fishery: SP(S), LCT (S), SMB
Access: Trailered boat access on West Seboeis Rd.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 50 section E-3 & 4

Webster Brook Trout Brook Twp, Piscataquis County
Primary Fishery: BKT (W)
Access: Walk in access.
Delorme Atlas: Map 56 section E-4 & 5

West Branch Penobscot River T1 R9 WELS, Penobscot County (T1 R9 WELS to T2 R10 WELS)
Primary Fishery: RCT (W), LLS (W)
Access: Walk in access. Carry in access off gravel road on Golden Rd.
Notes: Unimproved launch off gravel road on Golden Rd.
Delorme Atlas: Map 50 section E-3

**RIVERS / STREAMS / BROOKS**

East Branch Penobscot River
Grindstone, Penobscot County
Primary Fishery: RCT (W), LLS (W)
Access: Walk in access.
Delorme Atlas: Map 51 section C-3

**LANDLOCKED SALMON FISHING CONT.**

**SPECIES KEY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brook Trout</td>
<td>BKT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Splake</td>
<td>SPK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landlocked Salmon</td>
<td>LLS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Trout</td>
<td>BNT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainbow Trout</td>
<td>RBT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smallmouth Bass</td>
<td>SMB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Whitefish</td>
<td>LWF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arctic Char</td>
<td>CHR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**THE MOST DIVERSE REGION IN THE STATE FOR BOTH LAND TERRAIN AND FISHERIES**

**STATUS**

- Stocked...........................................(S)
- Wild..................................................(W)
- Mixture of Stocked & Wild...........(SAW)

**REGION P PENOBSCOT REGION**

**LANDLOCKED SALMON FISHING CONT.**

**REGION P PENOBSCOT REGION**

**SPLAKE FISHING**

Cedar Lake T3 R9 NWF, Penobscot County
Max Depth: 24 feet, Area: 685 acres
Primary Fishery: SP(S), LLS (S), SMB
Access: Carry in access on Fire Rd 2.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 43 section C-2

Endless Lake T2R3 WELS, Penobscot County
Max Depth: 36 feet, Area: 1,459 acres
Primary Fishery: SP(S), LLS (S), SMB
Access: Carry in access on Hardy Brook Rd.
Notes: Unimproved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 43 section D-2

Lower Togue Pond T7 R9 WELS, Piscataquis County
Max Depth: 53 feet, Area: 384 acres
Primary Fishery: SP(S), LLS (W), BKT (W)
Access: Carry in access on Baxter Park Rd.
Notes: No developed launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 51 section B-3

Nicute Lake T40 MD WELS, Hancock County
Max Depth: 56 feet, Area: 5,165 acres
Primary Fishery: SP(S), LLS (S)
Access: Nicutus Stream Rd or 32-32-0 Rd.
Notes: Improved launches. Trailered boat access.
Delorme Atlas: Map 54 section C B & D-5

Schoesis Lake T4 R9 NWI, Piscataquis County
Max Depth: 69 feet, Area: 4,201 acres
Primary Fishery: SP(S), LLS (S), SMB
Access: Trailered boat access on West Schoesis Rd.
Notes: Improved launch.
Delorme Atlas: Map 43 section D-3
Located in northernmost Maine, the Fish River Lakes Region boasts some of the most robust populations of brook trout in the eastern United States. Anglers visiting here will find excellent fishing for brookies whether they prefer small streams, small ponds, large lakes, or large rivers. One of the most unique features is the opportunity to fish for trout on large rivers. A high-quality experience can be found in the Aroostook River, the namesake for Maine’s northernmost County, that flows from the remote woodlands of the North Maine Woods to the east. For anglers seeking a trophy salmon fish, there are several larger lakes, especially on the Fish River Chain of Lakes, that support unreared landlocked salmon and lake trout fishing.

— Frank Frost, Regional Fisheries Biologist

**Fish River Lake***

**St. Froid Lake**

**St. Croix Stream**

**Mixture of Stocked & Wild (SAW)**

**FOR FISHERIES**

**Largemouth Bass**

**Rainbow Trout**

**Brown Trout**

**Smallmouth Bass**

**Largemouth Bass**

**Lake Whitefish**

**Arctic Char**

**STATUS**

Stocked: **(S)**

Wild: **(W)**

Mixture of Stocked & Wild: **(SAW)**

**SPECIES KEY**

**PRIMARY FISHERY SPECIES**

**Brook Trout**

**Spawning**

**Togue (Lake Trout)**

**Landlocked Salmon**

**Brown Trout**

**Rainbow Trout**

**SOME OF THE MOST ROBUST POPULATIONS OF BROOK TROUT IN THE EASTERN US**

**Glacier Lake**

**T18R10 WELS, Aroostook County**

Max Depth: 136 feet, Area: 5,581 acres

Primary Fishery: BKT (W), LLS (S&W)

Access: Trailered boat access on Outlet.

Notes: No developed launch.

Delorme Atlas: Map 55 section C-5

**RIVERS / STREAMS / BROOKS**

**Aroostook River**

**Fort Fairfield, Aroostook County**

Max Depth: 116 feet, Area: 2,480 acres

Primary Fishery: BKT (W), LLS (W), LKT (S&W)

Access: Trailered boat access on Red River Rd.

Notes: Improved launches.

Delorme Atlas: Map 63 section A-4

**St. Croix Stream**

**Mattawamkeag River, West Branch**

**Moenkhauskeeg River, Houlton, Aroostook County**

Primary Fishery: BKT (W), LLS (W), LB (S&W)

Access: Walk in access.

Delorme Atlas: Map 52 section A-3

**Moderneagle River Sauveur, Aroostook County**

Primary Fishery: BKT (W), LLS (W), LB (S&W)

Access: Trailered boat access on private land.

Delorme Atlas: Map 53 section E-1

**Pocumtuck Stream**

**T16 R12 WELS, Aroostook County**

Primary Fishery: BKT (W)

Access: Walk in access.

Delorme Atlas: Map 66 section E-1

**St. Croix Stream**

**Moor Flt, Aroostook County**

Primary Fishery: BKT (W)

Access: Walk in access.

Delorme Atlas: Map 58 section B-2

**St. John River Allagash, Aroostook County**

(Hamlin to Big 10 Top.)

Primary Fishery: BKT (W), LLS(W), SMB (W)

Access: Carry in access.

Notes: Unimproved launches.

Delorme Atlas: Map 66 section D-4
Maine is lucky to have some of the country’s most pristine, healthy waters, full of aquatic diversity and trophy fish. These waters provide endless outdoor recreation opportunities for anglers and others, but they are also threatened each year by invasive species.

WHAT IS AN INVASIVE AQUATIC SPECIES?
An invasive aquatic species is one that has been moved from its native aquatic habitat to a new location, even nearby, and causes significant harm to that new environment.

WHAT ARE THE DANGERS?
Invasive fish compete for food and habitat with native fish, may prey on smaller native fish, and can forever change the natural balance of an aquatic ecosystem. Some invasive plants are more than able to strangle a body of water. These plants are fast-growing and can quickly multiply and spread into a thick blanket that keeps sunlight from penetrating deep into the water. This inhibits the natural growth of algae and plankton, which small fish need for food. Once an invasive plant kills plankton, small fish are likely to starve—a situation that detrimentally impacts larger fish and the entire body of water.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?
Once an invasive fish or plant has established itself in a body of water, it is extremely difficult to eradicate them. Eradication efforts are costly, can carry their own risks, and are not always successful. Therefore, prevention is key. It’s our duty as those who enjoy using Maine’s waters to protect them against invasive species.

WHAT ARE MY RESPONSIBILITIES?
• By Maine law, you must immediately kill any sport fish that you decide to keep, and never move any live fish (other than legal baitfish). Illegally introducing any fish into Maine waters can alter the ecosystem forever. Don’t do it!
• Make sure you’re using legal baitfish. You can find a quick guide to identifying legal baitfish species in the most current Maine Open Water and Ice Fishing Laws.
• Don’t dump your bait! Properly dispose of unused baitfish on land or in the trash. Do not release any live baitfish into a water body.
• Before leaving the launch, check your boat, motor, trailer, and any other gear that touches the water, removing any bits and pieces of plants.
• Don’t assume a dry plant is dead—some invasive plants can dry out while on equipment, re-saturate when exposed again to water, and survive to spread in the next body of water they enter.

HELP US KEEP IT MAINE
Protect our Waters from Invasive Aquatic Species

HELP BY REPORTING
The illegal introduction of any fish into any Maine water is a Class E crime, punishable by fines up to $10,000! The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is offering a minimum reward of $2,000 for information leading to the apprehension of persons responsible for the illegal introduction of fish.

If you see or suspect someone is moving live fish, contact the Maine Warden Service immediately at 1-800-Alert-U or report the offense at Maineogt.org.

Jot down as much information as you can, such as description of the individual(s), boat, date, time, and location.

TAKE THE KIDS FISHING
Fishing can be very rewarding and educational for children. Here are some tips for taking them along.

• Be relaxed: As you head out the door, leave behind the tension and take along a smile, an open mind, and a lot of patience.
• Make it fun: Above all else, make the fishing trip fun and safe. Don’t measure the success of the trip by the number or size of fish caught, but rather by having a fun, safe time outdoors. Praise children for their patience and cooperation.
• Make it a shore thing: Try giving a child their first few lessons at a local park, farm pond, or a lake with a dock or gentle shoreline where they can run and play when their attention span runs short. Knowing how to fish from shore will allow them to go on their own or with friends when they are old enough. If and when you progress to a boat, be sure to have the proper safety equipment for you and your youngster.
• Fish for little fish: Most kids prefer to catch lots of fish versus big fish. Start new anglers off on species that are plentiful and more easily caught, like sunfish or perch. Once the child has developed basic fishing skills, you can move on to larger pursuits.
• Start with the basics: Begin with simple equipment and bait. Use simple spincasting equipment, a bobber, and a hook with live bait, as it will work well for a variety of fish species. And be sure the equipment your child uses is in good working order to avoid any unnecessary frustration.
• Teach skills: People, regardless of their age, enjoy fishing more when they are in control and can do it themselves. Resist the temptation to do things for your children. If you are using live bait, teach them how to put it on the hook themselves. Teach them how to tie their hook onto their line and how to cast. On future trips, watch their skills, and their confidence, grow.
FISHING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH & COMPLIMENTARY LICENSE HOLDERS

These waters are restricted to persons under 16 years of age and complimentary license holders. Please review the current open water and ice fishing laws at mefishwildlife.com.

SEBAGO LAKE REGION
- Alden's Pond, Gorham
- Billy Brook, Brownfield
- Coffin Pond, Brunswick
- Leavitt Brook, Limrick
- Lower Hinkley Pond, South Portland
- Pennesseewasee (Norway) Lake Outlet, Norway
- Pettigill Park Pond, Auburn
- Round Pond, Lyman
- Stevens (Cemetery) Brook, New Gloucester
- Wilcox Pond, Biddeford

BELGRADE LAKES REGION
- Big Pond on Swan Island, Richmond
- Fairfield Recreation (PAL) Ponds, Fairfield
- Kirby Lake (The Muck), Belfast
- Quarry Pond, Waldoboro
- Rocky Pond, Rockport
- Sebastianook River, East Branch, Dexter to Detroit
- Thompson Ice Pond, South Bristol
- Wiley Pond, Boothbay

GRAND LAKE REGION
- Foxhole Pond, Debsos
- Grand Lake Stream Canal, Grand Lake Stream Plt.
- Middle River, Marshfield and Machias
- Myers Pond, North and South, Columbia
- Penobscot County Conservation Assn Pond, Brewer

RANGELLE LAKES REGION
- Abbott Brook, Mexico
- Aunt Hannah Brook, Dixfield
- Haley Pond Outlet, Rangeley

RANGELLE LAKES REGION CONT.
- Harvey Pond, Madrid
- Hight Pond, Skowhegan
- MacDougall Pond, Caratunk
- Mill Pond on Muddy Brook, Industry
- Mill Stream, Embden
- Pinnacle Pond, Kingfield
- Tibbetts Pond, Concord Twp.
- Toothaker Pond, Phillips
- Wilson Stream, Wilton

MOOSEHEAD REGION
- Drummond Pond, Abbot
- Dunham Brook (Including Kiwanis Park Pond), Guilford

PENOBSCOT REGION
- Burlington Fire Pond, Burlington
- Cold Stream, Einfield
- Edwards Family Kids Fishing Pond, Lincoln
- Giles Pond, Patten
- Hannington Pond, Reed Plt.
- Harris Pond (Milo Farm Pond), Milo
- Jerry Pond, Millinocket
- Johnny Mack Brook, Onono
- Mattagudus Stream, Carroll Plt.
- Pickerel Pond, T32 MD
- Rock Crusher Pond, Island Falls
- Rocky Brook, Lincoln
- Round Pond, Little, Lincoln

FISH RIVER LAKES REGION
- Church On The Hill Pond, Houlton
- Mantle Lake, Presque Isle
- Pearce Brook, Hodgdon and Houlton

*Open to fishing only for persons under 16 years of age

TO KEEP OR TO RELEASE?

A variety of regulations exist regarding the harvest of fish within Maine’s water bodies. Before going out on the water, reference the current Maine Open Water and Ice Fishing Laws to confirm your daily bag limit and any other restrictions.

If you’re fishing in a catch-and-release-only water body, the decision has been made for you; but otherwise, you can decide which legally harvestable fish to keep for consumption, which to release, and how to conduct either activity.

Many fishing regulations are designed to improve fish growth and size quality, and they are only successful if fish are harvested by anglers. A lack of harvest can cause fish to stunt and not grow. Either way, it’s your job to bring a humane approach to the table. If you decide to release your catch, the following tips will help result in a successful release.

HOW TO SAFELY CATCH AND RELEASE

By carefully following these simple instructions, you can release your fish unharmed. If you enjoyed catching your fish, so will the next angler!

1. Time is of the essence. Play and release the fish as quickly as possible. An exhausted fish may be too weak to recover. Please, do not overplay your fish!
2. Keep the fish in the water. Minimize or eliminate the time your fish is out of the water. As little as 30 seconds of air exposure can cause delayed mortality of released trout, and in the winter months the fish may be subject to a quick freeze.
3. Wet your hands when handling the fish. Dry hands can remove the layer of slime that protects the fish from fungi, bacteria, and parasites.
4. Photograph responsibly. Photo sessions can be stressful for a fish. Prepare for the photo with your fish safely under the water surface, and only lift the fish out of the water for 5 second intervals or less. Try to get the shot (within reason), but return your fish to the water for a rest between attempts.
5. Be gentle. Keep your fingers away from the gills, don’t squeeze the fish, and please, never drag a fish onto the bank!
6. Choose the right landing net. Rubber nets are easier on fish than traditional twine nets.
7. Safely remove the hook with small pliers or a similar tool. If the hook is deeply embedded or in a sensitive area such as the gills or stomach, cut the leader close to the snout. Make an effort to use regular steel (bronzed) hooks to promote early disintegration. Avoid the use of stainless or gold-plated hooks. One way to release your fish quickly is to use barbless hooks. If barbed hooks are all you have, you can bend the barbs over or simply file them off.
8. Neutralize the pressure. The air bladders of togu (lake trout) often expand after being pulled up rapidly from deep water. If a togu’s belly appears expanded, release it from the hook first, then gently press your thumb along the stomach near the paired belly fins and move it forward a few times to release the air before releasing the fish.
9. Revive the fish. Hold the fish underwater in a swimming position until it can swim away (note: do not use this method if surface water temperatures are unusually warm).
### BASS WEIGHT TO LENGTH CHART

#### WEIGHTS OF MAINE SMALLMOUTH BASS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LENGTH (in)</th>
<th>WEIGHT (lb - oz)</th>
<th>LENGTH (in)</th>
<th>WEIGHT (lb - oz)</th>
<th>LENGTH (in)</th>
<th>WEIGHT (lb - oz)</th>
<th>LENGTH (in)</th>
<th>WEIGHT (lb - oz)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>0-13</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>2-6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 ¼</td>
<td>0-14</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>2-7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 ½</td>
<td>0-14</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>2-8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 ¾</td>
<td>0-14</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>2-9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>0-15</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>2-10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 ¼</td>
<td>0-15</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>2-11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 ½</td>
<td>0-15</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>2-12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 ¾</td>
<td>0-15</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>2-13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### WEIGHTS OF MAINE LARGEMOUTH BASS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LENGTH (in)</th>
<th>WEIGHT (lb - oz)</th>
<th>LENGTH (in)</th>
<th>WEIGHT (lb - oz)</th>
<th>LENGTH (in)</th>
<th>WEIGHT (lb - oz)</th>
<th>LENGTH (in)</th>
<th>WEIGHT (lb - oz)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>0-15</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>2-13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 ¼</td>
<td>0-15</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>2-14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 ½</td>
<td>0-15</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>2-15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 ¾</td>
<td>0-15</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>2-16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>1-0</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>2-17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 ¼</td>
<td>1-0</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>2-18</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 ½</td>
<td>1-0</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>2-19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 ¾</td>
<td>1-0</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>2-20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HOW TO BRING HOME A QUALITY CATCH

One of the greatest benefits of fishing is being able to cook and consume fish that rivals and surpasses the quality and freshness of what you'd find in the finest dining establishments. However, catching and keeping a prize fish is no guarantee of such experience, as quality is highly dependent upon post-catch care. The following steps can help ensure the quality of your catch.

1. **Make sure it’s legal and safe.** Before making the decision to keep your catch, reference the Open Water and Ice Fishing Laws and safe eating guidelines in Maine for the area you're fishing to determine if the fish there are legal to keep and safe to eat. A few bodies of water are polluted with mercury and other pollutants such as PCBs, and may carry recommendations for less frequent consumption and/or avoidance by certain groups such as pregnant women or small children.

2. **Keep it cool.** Degradation is a function of time and temperature, so make sure you are rapidly cool or keep your catch cold. For most of the year, a cooler with ice works best. When water temperature is about 40°F or less, a stringer to hold your fish in the water can also work well. Even though the water may feel cold to the touch, it may not be cold enough to preserve your catch for lengthy periods of time. If using a stringer, be sure your catch is not still alive.

3. **Kill quickly and humanely.** Quick dispatch is as much about quality as it is about being humane, and it’s also the law! Allowing your catch to have a prolonged, stressful death will result in lactic acid production and a lower resting pH of the fish flesh. The low pH results in gaping and softer, rather than firm, flesh. Fish can be dispatched quickly with a blow to the head or with bleeding by cutting the gill arches with a knife or scissors. Although bleeding can improve the taste of some species, the main benefit of this practice is that it kills fish quickly.

4. **Clean your fish.** Enzymatic activity of organs and bacteria of the GI tract can spoil your catch if these parts are not quickly removed. If you’re planning to cook your fish whole (good for smaller, tastier fish such as brook trout), cleaning it is a must. For larger fish, you may choose to fillet for cooking. Filleting is a fast method of cleaning fish that maximizes meat and minimizes bones. To do it properly, you’ll need a fillet knife with a long, slender, flexible blade.

Helpful tutorials for cleaning and filleting fish can both be found online; but sometimes the best way to learn how to clean a fish is to just try it. Don’t let the technicalities discourage you—just follow the steps below:

1. To begin, rest the fish on the table or cutting board. Insert the knife tip into the fish’s belly near the anal opening and move the blade up along the belly, cutting to the head. Keep the knife blade shallow so you don’t puncture the intestines.

2. Spread the body open and remove all of the entrails and rinse and clean promptly if intestinal contents are accidentally cut and spilled within the body cavity.

3. Dark flesh near the back bone is the kidney. Remove it by scraping it out with a spoon or your thumbnail.

4. Rinse the cavity out with a good stream of water and wash the skin. Some fish have a dark tissue lining the abdominal cavity that can be scraped off to prevent a strong, oily flavor.

5. Remove the head if you like, though trout are often cooked with the head on. Note: It is unlawful to alter the length of landlocked salmon, trout, toge, lake whitefish, and bass unless the fish is being prepared for immediate cooking, so do not remove the head until then.

6. Clean up, cook, and enjoy: Clean your fish-cleaning table, collect the guts, heads, and scales, and discard them properly. Your clean fish is now ready to be cooked.
REGULATING THE HARVEST

The rationale behind bag limits, bait restrictions, and other fishing regulations

Fishing laws vary by location, so any time you fish in a new spot, it’s crucial that you double-check to see which ones apply. You can pick up a fishing law book at your local town hall or visit mefishwildlife.com to download a digital copy for quick reference. Curious why certain regulations exist? Read on for a little background.

A BRIEF HISTORY

In North America, fishing regulations have been implemented for centuries, with season closures for some fisheries in place as early as the 1600s, and numerous fish harvest statutes enacted during the 1700s. By 1900, season closures and creel limits were common, though often these were the only regulations in place. However, since the 1960s, regulations have increased, with a broad trend toward restricting both the number and the length of fish that can be harvested. In Maine, water- and species-specific regulations are common, as are slot length limits and length-based creel limits.

WHY ARE THERE SO MANY REGULATIONS?

In Maine, fishing regulations are implemented for many reasons, including:

• To protect native resources
• To enhance fishing quality
• To maintain healthy ecosystems
• To control exotic species in certain waters
• For public safety reasons (e.g., lead, mercury, PCB consumption advisories)
• For social reasons (to accommodate the desires of individual user groups)

WHY DO CERTAIN RULES, SUCH AS CATCH AND RELEASE, EXIST?

We’re scientists, so we don’t mind questions! Here are some of the fisheries management techniques behind the regulations:

General Law: This regulation provides a baseline level of protection to all waters. In Maine, the general law is essentially the default regulation, and from these exceptions to the general law are applied to individual waters.

Low Bag Limits: Lower bag limits are intended to distribute the catch over a longer time period and among more anglers. Low bag limits usually coincide with restrictive regulations such as high minimum lengths.

Slot Limits: These regulations are bound by the upper and lower length limits, with the intent of directing harvest to specific parts of a fish population while protecting others. A slot limit may be used to “thin out” smaller fish to allow remaining fish to grow faster, and enable larger fish to be caught and released or kept (depending on how the slot is applied). The protected size slot protects fish and allows them to continue to grow and reach a larger size class. This regulation’s success depends on anglers — unless they harvest fish of a given size, the regulation does little for resource management.

Catch and Release: This regulation is intended to return fish to the water alive, giving them the chance to grow larger and be caught again. This regulation can be effective on waters where natural recruitment and population size is very low and growth rates are excellent, or on waters where there is a strict need for conservation (e.g., among populations of imperiled or endangered species).

Fly Fishing or Artificial Lures Only: These “terminal tackle” regulations are applied to reduce mortalities in released fish, and are often an effective and necessary companion to restrictive bag and length limits.

No Live Fish as Bait: This regulation is typically applied to prevent establishment of unwanted bait species in waters where they currently do not exist (often brook trout or Arctic char waters), while still allowing the use of dead baitfish or artificial lures.

If you’ve fished in different locations around Maine, then you may have noticed that the fishing regulations can vary widely. That’s partially because, when implementing or altering fishing regulations and policies, our Fisheries Division uses both biological data and social considerations.

For example, whether you are in the northern or southern half of the state, there are different general law season dates, brook trout bag limits, and bass bag, and length limits for fishing in lakes and ponds. These two regions of Maine vary when it comes to the fish species present, quality of habitat, and human population density; therefore, they also vary in management focus.

When designing a regulation, we carefully consider the water body, location, water quality, species composition, and the desires of anglers. Then we regularly monitor for effectiveness. This ongoing process of developing, maintaining, and adjusting fishing regulations statewide is no easy task, but it’s essential to the effective management of our fisheries — no two of which are exactly alike.