



# Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

## Final Fishing Regulation Changes for 2011 Approved by the FWP Commission, October 7, 2010

The following fishing regulation changes were approved by the FWP Commission on October 7, 2010. A decision on two of the proposed regulations (Flathead Lake lake trout bag limit and Lake Koocanusa bull trout bag limit and line reduction) has been deferred until the November 18 FWP Commission meeting.

**Note: new language is in italics.** Deleted language has a strike through it.

### WESTERN DISTRICT

CHANGE – (page 38)

#### **MIDDLE FORK FLATHEAD RIVER DRAINAGE**

##### **All streams within the wilderness**

- Combined Trout: 3 daily and in possession, none over 12 inches in rivers and streams, no size limit in lakes. Includes rainbow trout, cutthroat trout and grayling.

##### **Non-wilderness portion**

- *Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession*
  - Closed to angling June 1 through August 30 within a 150-yard radius of the Bear Creek stream mouth.
  - Extended whitefish season and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to third Saturday in May with artificial lures and/or maggots only.
  - Catch-and-release for cutthroat trout.
  - Montana/Glacier National Park boundary is the ordinary high water mark on the park side of the river.
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CHANGE – (page 39)

#### **NORTH FORK FLATHEAD RIVER**

- *Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession*
  - Closed to angling June 1 through August 30 within a 150-yard radius of the Big Creek stream mouth.
  - Extended season for whitefish and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to third Saturday in May with artificial lures and/or maggots only.
  - Catch-and-release for cutthroat trout.
  - Montana/Glacier National Park boundary is the middle of the river.
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CHANGE – (page 34)

## **GEORGETOWN LAKE**

(see special season exceptions for the South and East shorelines)

- Open third Saturday in May through March 31.
- ~~Catch and release for brook trout.~~
- Salmon: no daily or possession limit.
- Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession, *only two of which may be brook trout.*

### **South and East shorelines**

- Closed to fishing from the shore or within 100 yards of the shore April 1 through June 30. The closed area extends from a point 200 yards west of Denton's Point Marina (along the shore, including all of Stuart Mill Bay) to a point 200 yards north from the mouth of North Fork Flint Creek.

### **Tributaries to Georgetown Lake (Hardtla, North Fork Flint, and Stuart Mill creeks)**

- Open July 1 through November 30.
  - Catch-and-release for brook trout.
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DELETE – (page 40)

## **ROGERS LAKE**

- ~~Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession, only one may be a grayling.~~

## **CENTRAL DISTRICT**

CHANGE – (page 59)

## **CANYON FERRY RESERVOIR**

- *Catch-and-release for brown trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 brown trout daily and in possession, any size.*
  - Walleye: ~~20~~ 10 daily, *no more than 4 over 16 inches, and 40 in possession, only 1 over 28 inches. Possession limit is twice the daily limit.*
  - Yellow perch: 15 daily and in possession
  - Northern pike: *No limit.*
  - Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice only
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CHANGE – (page 60)

## **EAST GALLATIN RIVER**

### **Entire river**

- Open entire year downstream from the mouth of Bozeman (Sourdough) Creek.
  - Northern pike: *No limit*
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CHANGE – (page 61)

## **GALLATIN RIVER**

### **Entire river**

- Open entire year
  - Northern pike: *No limit*
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CHANGE – (page 62)

## HAUSER RESERVOIR

### Including Canyon Ferry Dam tailwater and Lake Helena

- Combined Trout and Salmon: 5 rainbow trout and salmon daily and in any combination and 10 rainbow trout and salmon in possession in any combination.
  - Catch-and-release for brown trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 brown trout daily and in possession, any size.
  - Walleye: ~~40~~ 20 daily, only 1 over 28 inches. Possession limit is twice the daily limit.
  - Yellow perch: ~~50~~ 25 daily and no possession limit.
  - *Northern pike: No limit.*
  - Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice only.
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CHANGE – (page 62)

## HOLTER RESERVOIR

### Up to American Bar Gulch (approx. 4.6 miles downstream from Hauser Dam)

- ~~Open entire year~~
  - Combined Trout and Salmon: 5 rainbow trout and salmon daily and in any combination and 10 rainbow trout and salmon in possession in any combination.
  - Catch-and-release for brown trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 brown trout daily and in possession, any size.
  - Walleye: ~~6~~ 10 daily, ~~includes 5 under 20 inches and~~ only 1 over 28 inches, *and all fish between 20 and 28 inches must be released.* Possession limit is twice the daily limit.
  - Yellow perch: ~~50~~ 25 daily and no possession limit.
  - *Northern pike: No limit.*
  - Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice only.
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CHANGE – (page 63)

## JEFFERSON RIVER

### Entire river

- Open entire year
  - *Northern pike: No limit*
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CHANGE – (page 63)

## LAKE HELENA

- Combined Trout and Salmon: 5 rainbow trout and salmon daily and in any combination and 10 rainbow trout and salmon in possession in any combination.
  - Catch-and-release for brown trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 brown trout daily and in possession, any size.
  - Walleye: ~~40~~ 20 daily, only 1 over 28 inches. Possession limit is twice the daily limit.
  - Yellow perch: ~~50~~ 25 daily and no possession limit.
  - *Northern pike: No limit.*
  - Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice only.
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CHANGE – (page 64)

## **MADISON RIVER**

### **Ennis Dam to the mouth**

- Open entire year
  - *Northern pike: No limit*
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CHANGE – (page 66)

## **MISSOURI RIVER**

### **Entire river**

- Open entire year
- Catch-and-release for cutthroat trout

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

- *Northern pike: No limit*

### **Toston Dam to Canyon Ferry Reservoir**

- ~~Combined Trout: catch and release for brown trout between 18 and 24 inches.~~
- *Catch-and-release for brown trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 brown trout daily and in possession, any size.*
- *Walleye: 20 10 daily, no more than 4 over 16 inches, and 40 in possession, only 1 over 28 inches. Possession limit is twice the daily limit.*
- *Northern pike: No limit.*
- Localized spawning areas closed as posted from March 1 through June 15.

### **Canyon Ferry Reservoir**

- *Catch-and-release for brown trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 brown trout daily and in possession, any size.*
- *Walleye: 20 10 daily, no more than 4 over 16 inches, and 40 in possession, only 1 over 28 inches. Possession limit is twice the daily limit.*
- *Yellow perch: 15 daily and in possession*
- *Northern pike: No limit.*
- *Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice only.*

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

- *Combined Trout and Salmon: 5 rainbow trout and salmon daily and in any combination and 10 rainbow trout and salmon in possession in any combination.*
- *Catch-and-release for brown trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 brown trout daily and in possession, any size.*
- *Walleye: 40 20 daily, only 1 over 28 inches. Possession limit is twice the daily limit.*
- *Yellow perch: 50 25 daily and no possession limit.*
- *Northern pike: No limit.*
- *Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice only.*

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

- *Combined Trout: Standard river/stream limits apply, except catch-and-release for brown trout.*
- *Walleye: 6 10 daily, includes 5 under 20 inches and only 1 over 28 inches, and all fish between 20 and 28 inches must be released. Possession limit is twice the daily limit.*

- *Northern pike: No limit.*

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

- ~~Open entire year~~
- Combined Trout and Salmon: 5 rainbow trout and salmon daily and in any combination and 10 rainbow trout and salmon in possession in any combination.
- Catch-and-release for brown trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 brown trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Walleye: ~~6~~ 10 daily, ~~includes 5 under 20 inches and~~ only 1 over 28 inches, *and all fish between 20 and 28 inches must be released.* Possession limit is twice the daily limit.
- Yellow perch: ~~50~~ 25 daily and no possession limit.
- *Northern pike: No limit.*
- Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice only.

**Holter Dam to mouth of Dearborn River**

- Combined Trout: 1 rainbow trout (any size) daily and in possession and 1 brown trout (22-inch minimum) daily and in possession.
- *Walleye: No limit.*

**Craig Bridge to Sheep Creek Bridge**

- Spearing: open for up to 5 whitefish daily with rubber or spring-propelled spears by persons swimming or submerged.

**Mouth of Dearborn River to Cascade Bridge**

- Combined Trout: 3 rainbow trout daily and in possession, only 1 over 16 inches and 1 brown trout daily and in possession, 22-inch minimum.
- *Walleye: No limit.*

**Cascade Bridge to Black Eagle Dam**

- *Walleye: 20 daily and 40 in possession.*

**Morony Dam to Fort Benton**

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

CHANGE – (page 74)

**YELLOWSTONE RIVER**

**Yellowstone National park Boundary to I-90 Bridge at Billings**

- Open entire year
- Combined Trout: 4 brown and/or rainbow trout daily and in possession, ~~only 1 over 18 inches.~~ *3 of which may be under 18 inches and 1 over 26 inches. All fish between 18 and 26 inches must be released.* Catch-and-release for cutthroat trout.
- Hook and Line: 2 lines with 2 hooks per line all year from the mouth of the Clarks Fork River to the I-90 Bridge at Billings.

**EASTERN DISTRICT**

CHANGE – (page 87)

**YELLOWSTONE RIVER**

**I-90 Bridge at Billings to the mouth of the Bighorn River**

- Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession, only 1 over 18 inches, includes cutthroat trout

~~**I-90 Bridge at Billings to Huntley Diversion Dam**~~

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

**I-90 Bridge at Billings to Cartersville Diversion Dam at Forsyth**

- Sauger/Walleye: 5 daily, only 1 may be a sauger. Possession limit is 10, only 2 may be sauger.