

SPORT FISHING IN QUÉBEC

VALID EFFECTIVE APRIL 1st, 2009

MAIN RULES



new measure

TO OBTAIN THE UPDATES, EXCEPTIONS TO THE FISHING PERIODS BY ZONE AND MAPS OF THE ZONES: www.mrnf.gouv.qc.ca/en/fishing-rules

Québec 

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Note : In this brochure, the masculine gender designates both women and men according to the context. In addition, to make the text easier to read, the term Department, when used alone, designates the ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune, Faune Québec sector.

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Legal deposit - Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, 2008
Legal deposit - Library and Archives Canada, 2008
ISBN : 978-2-550-55069-3 (print)
ISBN 978-2-550-55067-9 (PDF)
ISBN : 978-2-550-55071-6 (HTML)
Distribution code : 2009-6003
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Credits

Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune

Cover page photo:

Photos 1 and 4 – Linda Roy, MRNF

Photos 2 and 3 – Jean-François Dumont, MRNF

PARTNERS MEMBERS OF THE TABLE NATIONALE DE LA FAUNE



**FÉDÉRATION DES POURVOIRIES
DU QUÉBEC**
5237, boul. Hamel, bureau 270, 2^e étage
Québec (Québec) G2E 2H2
Téléphone : 418 877-5191
Sans frais : 1 800 567-9009
Internet : www.fpq.com



**FONDATION DE LA FAUNE
DU QUÉBEC**
Place Iberville II
1175, rue Lavigerie, bureau 420,
Québec (Québec) G1V 4P1
Téléphone : 1 877 639-0742
Internet : www.fondationdelafaune.qc.ca



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250, Place Michel-Laveau, bureau 101
Wendake (Québec) G0A 4V0
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**FÉDÉRATION QUÉBÉCOISE
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Internet : www.sepaq.com



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Internet : www.saumon-fqsa.qc.ca



Zecs QUÉBEC
1415, rue Frank-Carrel, bureau 275
Québec (Québec) G1N 4N7
Téléphone : 418 527-0235
Sans frais : 1 866 567-0235
Internet : www.zecquebec.com



Sport Fishing in Québec – Main rules April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2011

This publication presents the fishing periods and applicable catch limits for the next two fishing seasons, i.e. until March 31, 2011. It is also available in electronic version (PDF and HTML) on the web site of the Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune at the following address www.mrnf.gouv.qc.ca/fr/regles-peche. This publication deals with sportfishing in Québec waters (with or without tides) for freshwater, anadromous or catadromous species.

Important

This publication does not replace the official texts of the laws and regulations just as the map of the zones that this brochure contains does not replace the regulatory fishing zone maps.

During the season, it is possible that the Department may intervene to put a stop to fishing, where necessary, to avoid over-harvesting certain species or to open some bodies of water to winter fishing in response to an unforeseeable demand. To learn about these changes, consult the News section of the electronic version (HTML) at the following address: (www.mrnf.gouv.qc.ca/fr/regles-peche/) or contact an office of the Department in the region in question.

Moreover, it is also possible that the practice of fishing be modified as a result of an agreement between the Gouvernement du Québec and a native nation, or between the Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife and a native nation or band council. In its resolutions of March 20, 1985 and May 31, 1989, the Québec National Assembly has formally recognized eleven Native Nations in Québec and their particular rights within the existing legislation. The Gouvernement du Québec has chosen to negotiate with these nations in order to reach agreements that would better recognize and specify the exercise of their activities. There is a historical basis for this process and it is considered important for Québec society to establish harmonious relations based on mutual respect and trust. For more details on eventual changes to fishing regulations, contact the Service aux citoyens or an office of the Department in the region in question.

Saltwater species


For sportfishing of saltwater species such as capelin, cod etc., contact the Fisheries and Oceans Canada at **613 993-0999**.

Main new elements

To learn more about the new measures that do not have a reference page, please consult the fishing periods on the web site or contact Customer Services.

- New rules concerning fishing tackle that may be used in a salmon river or in a body of water reserved for fly fishing, see pages 8 and 9 .
- Prohibition on using a hook having more than two points in a salmon river during a salmon fishing period, see page 8.
- Prohibition on using more than two artificial flies in a salmon river or in a body of water reserved for fly fishing, see page 8.
- Possibility for a person to have in his possession, under certain conditions, fishing tackle within 100 metres of a body of water where the use of such tackle is forbidden, see page 8.
- Establishment of a licence to replace a licence that has been lost, stolen or rendered unusable, see page 7.
- Establishment of a length limit for walleye in Zone 4, see page 12.
- Establishment of a length limit for walleye in Zone 6, see page 12.
- Prohibition on fishing for freshwater shellfish, except for zebra and quaggas mussels, see page 11.
- Prohibition on fishing in an ecological reserve, see page 15.
- Establishment of a winter fishing period for some species in Zone 18.
- Prohibition on fishing for redhorse and sucker in certain waters of rivière Des Prairies, rivière Des Milles-îles, rivière Richelieu and the fleuve St-Laurent (Zone 8).
- Prohibition on using or having in one's possession live or dead baitfish in the communal wildlife area of Gouin reservoir (Zone 14), see page 11.
- Possibility of using caplin, herring and mackerel as bait-fish, see page 11.
- Prohibition on using channel darter as baitfish, see page 11.
- Establishment of a length limit of 38 cm for walleye in Zone 25, see page 13.
- Establishment of a length limit of 97 cm for sturgeon in Zone 25, see page 13.
- Establishment of a catch limit for whitefish [12] in Zone 25.
- Establishment of a length limit for walleye in certain sectors of rivière Du Lièvre and rivière Kiamika (Zone 10), see page 13.
- New registration procedure in the salmon rivers of Zone 23, see page 15.
- Possibility of using a lance or a spear to fish for certain species in the interior waters of the Îles-de-la-Madeleine (Zone 21), see page 10.
- New fishing rules in rivière Matapédia and its tributaries (Zones 1 and 2).
- New fishing rules in certain tributaries of Des Escoumins, Godbout and Trinité rivers.
- Establishment of a length limit for brook char in certain tributaries of the Saguenay (Zone 28).
- Establishment of a length limit for walleye in lac Aylmer (Zone 7), see page 12.
- Establishment of a length limit for walleye in Mitchinamecus reservoir (Zone 15), see page 13.
- New fishing rules in certain sectors of rivière Jacques-Cartier (Zone 27).
- New catch limits for char in certain sectors of the Éternité and Saint-Jean rivers (Zone 28).
- New catch limits for arctic char in zecs, wildlife sanctuaries, national parks and outfitting establishments with exclusive rights in Zone 27.
- New fishing rules for rivière Sainte-Marguerite (Zone 28).
- Establishment of a length limit for lake trout and new fishing rules in a sector of rivière Ouareau (Zone 9).
- New fishing rules for the communal wildlife area of lac Saint-Pierre.

- New fishing rules for the communal wildlife area of Gouin reservoir (Zone 14).
- New fishing rules for the communal wildlife area of lac Saint-Jean (zone 28).
- Possibility of using a landing net or a lift net to fish for smelt in lakes Carré, Ouimet, Quenouille, Supérieur (Zone 9) and Chaud (Zone 11), see page 11.
- Possibility of using a landing net or a lift net to fish for smelt in lac Des Écorces as well as its tributaries (Zone 10), see page 11.
- Obligation of injuring as little as possible a fish that is released, under all circumstances, see page 14.
- Establishment of new fishing rules in rivière Malbaie (south shore) in Zone 21.
- Opening of winter fishing in Zec D'Iberville (Zone 18).
- Re-opening of fishing for walleye in lac Saint-Paul, (Zone 11).
- Re-opening of lac Bonin (Zone 28).

In this publication, these new elements are highlighted by highlighted in grey and the addition of an icon .

The rules in brief

Fishing is a fun and exciting activity that is open to everyone. You can fish alone, as part of a group or with your family. You can even try catching different species in lakes or rivers. While this is a renewable resource, it remains fragile. That is why there are **a few basic rules that you need to know before going fishing**. The enjoyment that you will derive from fishing will more than compensate for the few minutes that it will take you to read the applicable rules.

A licence?

Save for a few exceptions, **a licence is required to fish, and you must have it on hand when you take part in this activity**. A licence may be obtained from authorized sales agents. They are generally hunting and fishing supply retailers, convenience stores, etc. Several types of licences are offered at different prices, depending on the species that you wish to fish for and the length of the planned fishing outing.

It may be possible to fish without having to purchase a licence

Indeed, a child who is a minor can always fish under the licence of one of his parents. Moreover, a person may fish under the licence of his spouse provided that he fishes in the company of his spouse or has his spouse's licence in his possession. In addition, a minor or an adult student can fish in the company of an adult who is a licence-holder.

Where may you fish?

Fishing is generally permitted throughout Québec

While **most of the bodies of water of Québec are public**, the properties that border them may be privately owned, particularly in southern Québec. Before entering a private property or crossing over **privately owned land** to gain access to the place where you want to go fishing, you must obtain the **owner's permission** and consider yourself his guest.

Lands that are not private belong to the domain of the State and access to these lands is open to all. However, a portion of the lands of the domain of the State is organized in structured territories which are governed by special access conditions and for which you must generally pay certain fees in order to fish or spend time on these lands. In return, they offer more elaborate infrastructures such as, for example and depending on the location, cabin accommodations and watercraft.

How many fish am I entitled to keep?

There are three types of limits on fish

The **daily catch limit** corresponds to the maximum number of fish that may be caught and kept in a day for a species in one of the 29 fishing zones of the province. The fish eaten on the very day are part of this daily limit. For example, if the catch limit is 15 fish and if, after having caught them, you decide to eat 5, you cannot go back and catch another five fish of this species on that day. You may however continue to fish for another species for which the catch limit has not yet been reached. Daily catch limits are not cumulative.

Moreover, **when a person fishes under another person's licence, he is not entitled to his own catch limit**. The fish that he catches must be included in the licence-holder's limit.

The **possession limit** corresponds to the number of fish of a species which a person may have in his possession **at any given time and in any given place**, whether it be at the fishing site, on the road or at home. This possession limit is generally equal to the daily catch limit. If, for example, the catch limit for a species is 15 fish in a given zone, the possession limit for this species, in this zone, will also be 15 fish. When you go fishing in more than one zone, the authorized possession limit is equal to the higher of the limits permitted for the species in question.

No licence is required to possess fish. **A person may share his fish with another person who does not have a fishing licence**. You must however respect the daily catch limit and the person receiving this fish must also respect the authorized possession limit.

In addition to catch and possession limits, there may be **length limits** for certain species and in certain areas.

What you also need to know!

- The maximum number of hooks that you can have on your line is generally three.
- Certain bodies of water are reserved for fly fishing.
- You can fish at night, except in salmon rivers.
- Earthworms and leaches are authorized as bait and there is no restriction on their use.
- In most zones, using fish (minnows) as bait is prohibited.
- When you transport fish, it must be possible to identify the species, by leaving a piece of skin on the fish, for example. If a length limit applies, you generally cannot cut the fish into fillets; you must also be able to count them.
- Fish caught during sportfishing is not intended for sale.

Where can you learn more?

There you have the basic rules governing fishing in Québec. Once you have chosen the place where you would like to fish, you will have to determine the fishing zone in question and have a good knowledge of the seasons and limits that apply in the zone, as well as the specific conditions of access, if it is a wildlife sanctuary, a zec or an outfitting operation for example. For this purpose, you can consult the booklet entitled *Sport fishing in Québec* as well as the other booklets and pamphlets that contain all of the applicable rules related to fishing, whereas the fishing periods and the zone maps are accessible on the Department's web site. You can also obtain information by telephone at 1 877 346-6763 or consult a wildlife conservation officer.

General rules

Definitions

In this brochure, the following terms designate:

- **Anadromous:** fish that live in the sea and spawn in fresh water.
- **Angling:** fishing by means of a line or a rod and line to which are attached hooks or artificial lures that may be baited. This definition includes fly fishing, but does not include fishing by means of a night line. 🐟
- **Artificial lure:** a spoon, simulated minnow, artificial fly or any other device made of feathers, fibres, rubber, wood, metal, plastic or similar materials that has one or more hooks. 🐟
- **Bait-trap:** a trap without wing or leaders, made of netting or wire or plastic mesh measuring no more than 60 cm in length and 25 cm in diameter and having funnelshaped openings the smallest of which is no greater than 2.5 cm in diameter.
- **Bass:** smallmouth bass and largemouth bass, unless otherwise indicated.
- **Bullhead:** includes brown bullhead, yellow bullhead and stonecat.
- **Catadromous:** fish that live in fresh water and spawn in the sea.
- **Char:** brook trout and Arctic char, unless otherwise indicated.
- **Dip-net:** a net whose mesh does not exceed 2.5 cm when fully extended on what is generally a square frame, measuring no more than 1.3 m in its greatest dimension, and suspended on a rope.
- **Fish:** a fish or any part thereof, including shellfish (mussels, oysters, etc.) and crustaceans (shrimp, crawfish, etc.).
- **Fishing:** to catch or attempt to catch fish by any means whatsoever.
- **Fly fishing:** fishing by means of a fly line (silk) mounted on a rod designed specifically for that type of fishing and to which artificial flies are attached. ; 🐟
- **Lake trout:** includes lake trout and splake trout.
- **Landing net:** a bag-shaped net mounted on a frame, measuring no more than 90 cm in diameter.
- **Landlocked salmon:** freshwater Atlantic salmon.
- **National park:** designates a Québec national park, unless otherwise mentioned in the text.
- **Other species:** includes, at the end of a list of fish species, the species that are not mentioned in this list. This designation varies according to the case.

EXAMPLE	
Walleye	Fishing prohibited
Other species	April 24 - March 31
The designation Other species refers here to all other species than walleye, such as pike, bass, etc.	

- **Pike:** grass pickerel, chain pickerel, redbfin pickerel and northern pike.
- **Redhorse:** river redhorse, silver redhorse, copper redhorse, greater redhorse and shorthead redhorse, unless otherwise indicated.
- **Resident:** any person domiciled in Québec and having resided there for a period of 183 days during the year previous to their fishing activities or application for a licence.
- **Salmon:** anadromous Atlantic salmon, unless otherwise indicated.
- **Sea trout:** designates anadromous brook trout.
- **Shad:** includes American shad and gizzard shad.
- **Spouse:** designates the de facto spouse who has been living with another person in a marital relationship for at least one year as well as a spouse.
- **Sturgeon:** lake sturgeon and Atlantic sturgeon.
- **Sucker:** includes longnose sucker and white sucker.
- **Sunfish:** includes longear sunfish, bluegill, rock bass and pumpkinseed.
- **Trout:** rainbow trout, brown trout and cutthroat trout.
- **Walleye:** walleye and sauger.
- **Weighted core line:** a fly line that, when folded firmly and then released, remains folded. 🐟
- **Weighted down line :** a fly line to which an external weight is attached. 🐟
- **Whitefish:** includes shallow water cisco, lake whitefish, and round whitefish, unless otherwise indicated.

Right to fish

Every person has the right to engage in fishing lawfully. However, the effect of this right is not to grant an angler priority of use of a public territory in relation to other outdoor enthusiasts, just as it does not give him exclusive right to that territory.

Moreover, no person may knowingly hinder a person who is fishing lawfully and who lawfully entered the property where he is located. Within this context, "hindering" someone may, among other things, include the following elements:

- Preventing access by anglers to fishing sites to which they have lawful access;
- Disturbing or frightening a fish by a human, animal or any other presence, a noise or an odour;
- Rendering ineffectual bait, lure, tackle or gear used for fishing.

In no case may the right to fish limit property rights. A landowner may enjoy his property as he sees fit and may grant or refuse access to an angler who wants to enter his property. The sharing of the territory by users must take place in a spirit of harmonious cohabitation and ethical behaviour.

Fishing licence

This section informs you of what you must know about sportfishing licences.

Do I need a licence to fish?

Yes. The licence is required in most cases. When you fish, you must have the licence in your possession and present it immediately to a wildlife protection officer or a wildlife protection assistant who asks to see it. The categories of licences offered, as well as their availability for residents and non-residents, are presented in the following table:

Availability of licence categories *		
	Résident**	Non-résident
<i>Sport fishing (except for Atlantic salmon)</i>		
- under 65	yes	yes
- 65 and over	yes	yes
- 7 consecutive days	no	yes
- 3 consecutive days	yes	yes
- 1 day	no	yes
- mandatory release***	yes	yes
<i>Fishing for burbot in lac Saint-Jean</i>		
	yes	yes
<i>Sport fishing for Atlantic salmon</i>		
- annual	yes	yes
- 1 day	yes	yes
- mandatory	yes	yes
<i>Replacement licence</i>		
	yes	yes
***** The rate includes a sum of \$2.70 paid to the Fondation de la faune du Québec. Taxes are not included. See <i>Resident, see page 5</i> Licence is only valid when the holder uses the services of an outfitting establishment.		

To obtain the licence rates currently in effect, consult the web site at <http://www.mrnf.gouv.qc.ca/en/wildlife/licence-rates/> or contact the Department's Customer Services at 1 877 346-6763.

What species of fish may I catch under my licence?

The sportfishing licence for species other than Atlantic salmon gives the holder a **general** authorization to fish for most species of sport interest in Québec, except for salmon. It also allows the holder to fish for species other than salmon in certain salmon rivers of zones 1, 2, 3, 18 to 21, 23, 27 and 28 outside salmon fishing periods. To find out these periods, consult the publication *Salmon fishing in Québec* or contact an office of the Department.

To fish for salmon, you must be the holder of an Atlantic salmon sportfishing licence. This licence is required to fish for salmon in salmon rivers and in all bodies of water where you want to fish for this species. For more details on fishing for salmon or fishing in salmon rivers, consult the publication *Salmon fishing in Québec*.

Can I fish in a salmon river with my regular sportfishing licence?

During a salmon fishing period, a salmon fishing licence is required to fish for **every species** of fish in a salmon river. However, exceptionally it is permitted to fish with a sportfishing licence during a salmon fishing period in the western branch of rivière Aux Rochers, downstream from Boulevard des Îles in Port-Cartier bridge up to its mouth (Petit Quai sector, Zone 19).

Do I have to release all fish that I catch under an Atlantic salmon fishing licence with mandatory release?

The holder of this licence may catch and keep the species other than salmon. Every salmon caught under this licence must be released.

What is the purpose of a burbot fishing licence?

This licence authorizes its holder, as well as the persons who can fish under his licence, to fish for this species, without catch limits, using two night lines, between December 1 and April 15, in the waters of lac Saint-Jean encircled by highways 169 and 373. For more details, consult the heading "Burbot fishing" in the section Fishing methods, page 11.

During this period, burbot fishing is also permitted, without catch limits, for the holder of a sportfishing licence. However, anglers must respect the authorized number of lines in winter (5) for this zone as well as the authorized maximum number of hooks (3 per line).

If I am 18 or over, who can fish under my licence?

- your spouse;
- your children (as well as those of your spouse) who are under 18;
- your children (as well as those of your spouse) who are between 18 and 24 and who have a valid student's card in their possession.

These persons, except for your children (or those of your spouse) under 18, must have your licence on hand if you are not accompanying them. Different conditions can apply in the case of an Atlantic salmon sportfishing licence (see publication *Salmon sportfishing in Québec*).

Can other persons fish under my licence?

- any person under 18,
- any student from 18 to 24 who has his valid student's card.

However, these persons must fish under your supervision or that of your spouse.

Moreover, additional restrictions apply in the case of the Atlantic salmon sportfishing licence (see publication *Salmon sportfishing in Québec*).

How many fish may be caught and kept if several persons fish under the same licence?

In all cases, the total quantity of fish caught and kept per day must not exceed the quantity authorized for the licence-holder.

What quantity of gear may be used by the persons fishing under my licence?

In the case of angling or fly fishing, each person who is fishing under another person's licence is entitled to have his own line. In the case of winter fishing or fishing with bait, the quantity of gear authorized for the group must not exceed the number authorized for the holder of the licence under which you are fishing.

Do the preceding measures also apply to non-residents?

Yes. They apply to both residents and non-residents.

Is it possible to fish without any of these licences?

Yes. Sportfishing without a licence is authorized for the following persons:

- a resident who is fishing during the Fishing Festival on June 12, 13 and 14, 2009 or June 11, 12 and 13, 2010 . On that occasion, any species of fish may be fished during the stipulated periods according to the species and at the places where fishing is authorized. Every salmon caught without a licence on this occasion must be released where it was caught. It should also be noted that the permission granted to anglers to fish without a licence on this occasion does not exempt them from having to pay the other fees and tariffs charged for the practice of this activity **in a wildlife territory (zec, national park or wildlife sanctuary), a communal wildlife area or an outfitting establishment with exclusive rights;**
- a resident under 18 who is fishing for species other than salmon, if he has on hand the **Junior Angler** certificate issued following a fishing initiation activity or under the "Relève à la pêche" program;
- a **resident** who is fishing for species other than salmon in Zone 21 and in the portion of the rivers of Zone 1 situated downstream from Highway 132, except for the stretch between Sainte-Flavie and Matapédia;
- a **resident** who is fishing for smelt and Atlantic tomcod in the fleuve Saint-Laurent and its tributaries, downstream from Laviolette bridge (Trois-Rivières);
- a **resident** who fishes for freshwater crustaceans, see Fishing for shellfish and crustaceans, see page 11;
- a **resident** or a **non-resident** who is fishing in a fish pond (see Special rules for certain territories, page 14) or in the waters of a national park of Canada.

What happens if I lose my licence?

In the event of loss or theft of a fishing licence, or when the licence is altered to the point of becoming unusable, obtain a **replacement licence** for a nominal fee to continue fishing. These replacement licences are available from the Department's licence sales agents.

Is a fishing licence transferable?

A fishing licence is non-transferable. Moreover, to be valid, it must be **signed** by the person who issues it and by the holder and must contain the required information in the appropriate spaces on the licence.

Is a fishing licence with mandatory release valid everywhere?

No. The sportfishing licence with mandatory release (except Atlantic salmon) is only valid if the holder uses the services of an outfitting operation.

Where can I obtain a licence?


The **sportfishing** licence is available from authorized sales agents. They are generally sports stores, hardware stores or convenience stores. Certain outfitting establishments as well as certain wildlife sanctuaries or zecs also sell this licence.

The **anadromous Atlantic salmon sportfishing** licence is available from salmon fishing zecs or wildlife sanctuaries, outfitting operations that offer services related to salmon fishing and certain sales agents.

The **burbot fishing** licence in lac Saint-Jean is available from all authorized sales agents of the Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean region.

To obtain the fishing licence rates that are currently in effect, consult the web site at the following address <http://www.mrnf.gouv.qc.ca/en/wildlife/licence-rates/> or get in touch with the Department's Customer Services at 1 877 346-6763.



Fishing methods

Sportfishing is usually practiced **using a line**. It is however permitted to use a **bow**, **crossbow**, or a **spear while swimming** in certain areas and for certain species (see Bow, Crossbow and Spear Fishing while swimming further on). A dip-net, a bait-net, a spear, lance or a landing net may also be used under certain conditions (see Bait-fish, as well as Smelt fishing and Fishing for whitefish further on). 

Note: Except for mollusks and crustaceans, every other fishing method is prohibited for sportfishing, see Fishing for mollusks and crustaceans, page 11.

Angling






For angling, the line may be equipped with artificial lures, hooks or flies, baited or not. Hooks may be simple or multiple. An artificial lure or fly counts as a hook. A line must not have more than three hooks. Special conditions apply in the following cases:

- In Zone 25 and in that part of lac Saint-François west of a line drawn from Beaudette point on the north shore to Saint-Louis point on the south shore (Zone 8), four hooks may be used.
- In Zone 21, there is no limit to the number of hooks for smelt fishing.
- when angling is authorized in a salmon river **during a period when salmon fishing is permitted**, a line cannot have more than one hook having one or two points. 
- when angling is authorized in a salmon river **during a period when salmon fishing is forbidden**, one or two hooks may be used. In this latter case, the combination of hooks used cannot total more than three points. 

When angling, only one line at a time may be used, and it must be watched closely and constantly. When fishing in winter, the number of authorized lines varies (see Number of lines authorized in winter and further on).

Fly fishing areas

Some bodies of water, generally located in zecs, are reserved for fly fishing. These bodies of water are identified as such at the registration post or near the fishing site. In these cases, when fly fishing, you must abide by the following rules:

- fly fishing must be practiced by means of an unweighted fly line, mounted on a rod designed specifically for that type of fishing and to which a maximum of **two** artificial flies are attached. The two hooks combined can have a total of three points (see Weighted down line); 
- the artificial fly may be composed of a combination of hooks that must take into account the **maximum authorized size of the hooks** illustrated below; such a fly must never have more than three points; 
- the artificial fly must not be attached to a weighted core line (see Weighted core line); 
- flies may have attachments made of silk, metal wire, wool, fabric, fur, feathers or other similar materials. Brass, copper, aluminum or plastic tubes may be part of the fly, as well as a straight pin. **Waddington shafts are authorized. Metal heads and eyes are forbidden;** 
- flies must not have spinning or waving parts or be equipped with weights to facilitate sinking;
- flies must not be baited, unless otherwise indicated in this publication;
- the possession of any other fishing tackle is strictly forbidden on a body of water reserved for fly fishing or within 100 m of such a body of water, except:
 - when such tackle is found in a vehicle (except a boat) or a building;
 - when a person is only crossing or walking alongside waters reserved for fly fishing in order to fish in other waters where the use of that tackle is permitted. In this case, when the forbidden tackle is a hook other than an artificial fly, the latter must not be attached to the line and if this person is also in possession of a rod, it must be rendered inoperative in one of the following ways:
 - disassembled in sections;
 - assembled without a reel being attached to it;
 - stored in a closed case. 

These conditions also apply in salmon rivers in fly fishing areas. In such areas, during a salmon fishing period, a single fly totaling a maximum of two points must be used when fishing for any species. Outside this period, **up to two artificial flies** totaling a maximum of three points may be used if fishing is authorized for species other than salmon.

The following table summarizes the information concerning the maximum number of authorized hooks and points:

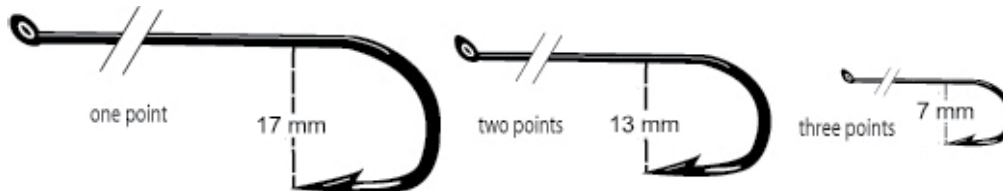
When every type of **angling** is permitted:

Place and/or period concerned:	Maximum number of hooks or artificial lures	Maximum number of points that the hook or combination of hooks may have
All bodies of water, with the exception of the following:	3	unlimited
In Zone 25 and in the part of lac Saint-François located to the west of a line drawn from Beaudette point on the north shore to Saint-Louis point on the south shore (Zone 8)	4	unlimited
In Zone 21, for smelt fishing	unlimited	unlimited
In a salmon river during a period when salmon fishing is permitted 🐟	1	2
In a salmon river when salmon fishing is forbidden 🐟	3	3

When only **fly fishing** is permitted:

Place and/or period concerned:	Maximum number of artificial flies	Maximum number of points that the hook or combination of hooks may have
In the bodies of water reserved for fly fishing (elsewhere than in a salmon river)	2	3
In a salmon river during a period when salmon fishing is permitted 🐟	1	2
In a salmon river when salmon fishing is forbidden 🐟	2	3

The following table indicates the maximum size of artificial flies:



Note : There is no restriction on shank length.

Number of lines authorized in winter

For winter fishing, anglers are entitled to use, depending on the zone, up to 5 or 10 lines during the periods mentioned in the following table. The lines used must be closely watched by the angler. Moreover, when one or more persons are fishing under the authority of the holder of a sportfishing licence (see page 7), the number of lines used by the group must not exceed the number of lines that the holder is authorized to have. In this case, the total quantity of fish caught and kept per day must not exceed the quantity that the licence holder is authorized to have.

It should be noted that the dates mentioned in this table are not fishing seasons. To find out the fishing seasons applicable in the zones, please consult the section entitled Exceptions to the fishing periods on the web site or contact the Department's Customer Services. The stipulated catch and possession limits apply.

Zones	Number of lines authorized in winter
1 to 6 ^a , 9 to 11, 15, 21 ^b , 25 ^c to 27 ^d	5 lines, from December 20 to March 31
7 ^e , 8 ^f	10 lines, from December 20 to March 31
12, 13 ^g , 14, 16, 18, 19 south, 20, 28 and 29	5 lines, from December 1 to April 15
17	5 lines, from December 1 to April 24
22 to 24	5 lines, from December 1 to April 30

- a) 5 lines are authorized in lac Memphrémagog, between December 20 and March 31, if fishing is practiced through the ice. Under other circumstances, fishing may only be practiced with one line.
- b) For the waters of Zone 21 east of the Saguenay and within 1 km of Zones 18, 19, and 20 and the islands and islets within these zones, the period extends from December 1 to April 15.
- c) 2 lines only are authorized in lac Témiscamingue.
- d) 10 lines are authorized in the Sainte-Anne river, between the upstream side of the Highway 363 bridge, at Saint-Casimir, and the downstream side of the Highway 138 bridge, at La Pérade.
- e) 5 lines only are authorized in the rivière Batiscan, between the Saint-Narcisse dam and a point situated 1.2 km downstream of the Highway 138 bridge.

- f) 5 lines only are authorized in the portion of lac Saint-François west of a line drawn from Beaudette point on the north shore to Saint-Louis point on the south shore.
- g) 2 lines only are authorized in lakes Clarice and Raven.

Bow, crossbow or spearfishing while swimming

Fishing with a bow or a crossbow is permitted. It is also permitted to use a spear while swimming (snorkeling, or diving with or without scuba equipment) is permitted. However, these devices are **prohibited** when fishing for salmon, landlocked salmon, lake trout, muskellunge and sturgeon as well as for any species **in the following areas**:

- in Zones 17 and 22 to 24;
- in bodies of water reserved for fly fishing;
- in salmon rivers;
- within 500 m of the downstream limit of a salmon river in Zones 18 to 20, 27 and 28 or of a salmon river in Zone 21 on the north shore of the fleuve Saint-Laurent.

Moreover, fishing with a spear while swimming is **prohibited** in certain stretches of the **Saint-François** (Zone 4) and **Du Lièvre** (Zone 10) rivers. For more details, consult the section Exceptions to the fishing seasons of the zones 4 and 10.

Fishing with a lance or a spear

Fishing with a lance or a spear is allowed for species other than smelt in the interior waters of the Îles-de-la-Madeleine all year round. 

Fishing for whitefish

Special conditions apply to fishing for whitefish at certain places. **Holders of a sportfishing licence** may fish for whitefish, using a landing net or dip-net, under the following conditions:


- from October 10 to 23, 2009 and from October 9 to 22, 2010, 72 whitefish a day, in the rivière **Touladi** between the downstream side of À Mac brook and lac Témiscouata (Zone 2);
- from October 25 to November 7, 2009, and 2010, 10 whitefish a day, in the rivière **Saint-François** between lac Aylmer and the second bridge upstream (Zone 4).

Smelt fishing

Special conditions apply to fishing for smelt at certain places. The dip-net, landing net or spear are permitted under the following conditions.

It should be noted that in a stretch of a salmon river where smelt fishing is authorized, this species may be fished at **night**, from December 1 to April 24 in 2009 and to April 23 in 2010.

A **resident without a licence** or a **non-resident who holds a sportfishing licence** can fish up to 120 smelts per day*:

- Using a **spear**, from December 20 to March 31, in the following rivers: **Bonaventure**, between the downstream side of the Highway 132 bridge and the downstream side of the old bridges on Highway 132; **Malbaie, du Grand Pabos** and **du Grand Pabos Ouest**, downstream of Highway 132; **Port-Daniel**, downstream of a line joining the marker situated on Lot 237-1 of the Rang north of the harbour to the marker situated on Lot 709 of the Rang west of the harbour; **Petit Pabos**, downstream of the Giroux bridge; **York**, downstream of the Wakeham bridge (Zone 1).
- Using a **spear**, from December 1 to March 31, in the **Petite rivière Port-Daniel** river downstream of the CN bridge (Zone 1).
- Using a **landing net** or **dip-net**, from April 1 to May 31, in Zone 21, **except in the following waters**:
 - The interior waters of the **Îles-de-la-Madeleine**; rivière **Ouelle**, the stretch comprised between the downstream side of the Highway 132 bridge and a straight line joining the point of the rivière Ouelle and the mouth of the Gagnon brook;
 - **De l'Église** brook, in the municipality of Beaumont, (see Exceptions to the fishing periods of the Zone 21, on the Department's web site);
 - The waters of Zone 21 where the daily catch limit is 60 smelts, and which are described in the section Exceptions to the fishing seasons of the zone 21, page on the Department's web site. 

The **holder of a sportfishing licence** may fish, using a **landing net** or a **dip-net**, up to 120 smelts per day* :

- From May 1 to 31, in lakes **Archambault, Corbeau** and **Croche** and their tributaries (Zone 9), in the following rivers: **Bonaventure**, between the downstream side of the old Highway 132 bridges and the Malin rapids; **Ristigouche**, from Broadlands to Silarsville (Zone 1).
- From April 1 to May 15, in the rivière **Mastigouche**, between its mouth and the first upstream bridge (Zone 15); in the waters of **Zones 4, 5** and **6, except for the following waters**:
 - **Zone 4** – The rivers: **Ashberham** (Noire), from Petit lac Saint-François to Grand lac Saint-François; **Coulombe**, from the Highway 161 bridge to its mouth in lac Aylmer, including the small bay facing its mouth; **Aux Bluets, Aux Indiens, De l'Or** and **Aux Rats Musqués**, from Grand lac Saint-François to the second bridge upstream of this lake (see Fishing periods and catch limits, on the Department's web site); **Saint-François**, from Grand lac Saint-François to lac Aylmer; from the Saint-Gérard bridge to the first narrows downstream; and from the Westbury hydroelectric dam at the first narrows downstream of the Cascades Co. dam in East Angus to the railway bridge downstream; **Victoria** and its tributaries; as well as lakes **Mégantic** and **Elgin** and their tributaries.
 - **Zone 5** – **Castle** and **Perkins** brooks, from their source to lac Memphrémagog.
 - **Zone 6** – The rivers: **Magog**, from the Dominion Textile dam at Magog to the first bridge downstream, and from the Magog hydroelectric dam to the Highway 55 bridge; **Massawippi**, from the dam 1.6 km from lac Massawippi to the first bend downstream; **Niger**, from its outlet to Highway 143; **Saint-François**, from the Kruger dam in Bromptonville to the eastern tip of the island situated downstream, and from the Domtar dam in Windsor to the first bridge downstream; **Tomifobia**, from its outlet to Highway 141; **Taylor** brook (a tributary of lac Memphrémagog);
 - and lakes **D'Argent** and **Massawippi** and their tributaries.

The **holder of a sportfishing licence** may fish, using a **landing net** or a **dip-net**, up to 500 smelts per day*:

- from May 1st to May 31st, in the following lakes as well as their tributaries: **Carré, Ouimet, Quenouille, Supérieur** (Zone 9), **Des Écorces** (Zone 10) and **Chaud** (Zone 11). 🐟
- From April 15 to May 20, in the rivière **Aux Rats** between lac **Aux Rats** and latitude 49°30' N (Zone 28).

* For the authorized possession limit, see the section , page 12.

Burbot fishing

Particular fishing conditions apply to burbot fishing in the lake Saint-Jean waters encircled by highways 169 and 373. At this location, a **burbot fishing permit holder** may fish for this species from December 1 to April 15, without catch limit, using two night lines, each supplied with a maximum of 10 pieces of bait, the entirety lying at the bottom in a continuous manner. In addition, the holder must affix a tag, issued with the permit, to each night lines marker post.

Fishing for mollusks and crustaceans

Fishing for freshwater shellfish, with the exception of zebra and quaggas mussels, is forbidden. Fishing for freshwater mollusks and crustaceans by hand, landing net, bait-trap, dip-net or any other similar means is permitted, without any catch limit, during the fishing periods specified under **Other species** in this publication, except in zones 17 and 22 to 24 where only angling is permitted for all species.



Bait-fish

Generally, the use, including the possession and transportation, of fish as bait is **prohibited**. It is however permitted to use dead or live bait-fish, depending on the situation, in the following places.

Dead bait-fish

In Zones: **4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14** and **16**, dead bait-fish is authorized, except at the following places:

- Lac À la Truite (Ham Sud, Zone 4);
- Lakes Hatley, Cristal and Petit lac Baldwin (Zone 6);
- The Papineau-Labelle Wildlife sanctuary (Zone 10);
- The Aiguebelle national park and in zecs Dumoine and Maganasipi. In zec Restigo, bait-fish is authorized from April 1 to 15 and December 1 to March 31 (Zone 13);
- Communal wildlife area of Gouin reservoir (zone 14); 🐟

At the following places, **shrimp** only is authorized:

- In **Zone 1**, from December 20 to March 31, for fishing smelt in certain salmon rivers;
- In **Zone 27**, from December 26 to March 31 when fishing for Atlantic tomcod in the rivière Sainte-Anne, between the downstream sides of the bridges on Highways 138 and 363.

At the following places, **smelt** only is authorized:

- In **Zone 17**, from December 1 to April 24;
- In **Zone 28**, from December 1 to April 15 in the following lakes: **Bouchette** (Dablon township), **à la Croix** (Caron township), **des Commissaires, des Coudes, Gronick, des Habitants, à Jim** (Ramezay township), **Kénogami, Kénogamichiche, Labonté, Labrecque** (Labrecque township), **La Mothe, Montréal, Ouiatchouan, aux Rats** (zec de la Rivière-aux-Rats), **Rond** (48°23'N 72° 20' W), **Saint-Jean**, the waters encircled by Highways 169 and 373, **Sébastien** (Falardeau township), **Tchitogama, Vert** (Mézy township) and in the rivers: **Mistassibi** between Highway 169 and the southern limits of the La Trappe and Hudon townships, **Péribonka** between the Highway 169 bridge near Sainte-Monique and latitude 49° N **Saguenay** between the Highway 169 bridges in Alma and the Dubuc bridge in Saguenay. 🐟

Note: The **possession of dead bait-fish is authorized** in the portions of Zones 1, 2, 3, 18, 19 and 27 comprised on or between Highways 20, 40, 132 (except between Sainte-Flavie and Matapédia), or Highway 138, and on the waters of Zone 7 or 21 for use as bait in these waters. Moreover, in Zone 28 the possession of dead smelt intended for use as bait-fish in this zone's waters is authorized where their use as bait is authorized.

Dead or live bait-fish

- In Zones **7** (between Highways 132 and 138), **8, 21** and **25**, as well as in the rivière **des Outaouais** between lac Témiscamingue and the dam on the first upstream falls at point 47°36' N 79°27' W (Zone 13), dead or live bait-fish are authorized.

Bait-fish prohibited

In waters where bait-fish may be used, it is **prohibited** to use or to have in ones possession, for use as bait-fish (whether dead or alive, whole or cut up): bass, bowfin, bullhead, burbot, carp, channel catfish, channel darter, char, freshwater drum, goldeye, goldfish, lake trout, lampreys, longnose gar (garpike), mooneye, muskellunge, pike, redhorse, round goby, salmon (Atlantic, coho, chinook, kokanee, landlocked), sturgeon, sunfish (longear, bluegill, rock bass, pumpkinseed), tench, trout, walleye, yellow perch and every fish species with fins (freshwater or saltwater) that is not indigenous to Québec, except for capelin, herring or mackerel, which are authorized. 🐟

Bait-fish tackle

In zones where bait-fish is permitted, a sportfishing **licence holder** is allowed to use to capture bait-fish, one dip-net or up to three bait-traps, except in Zone 17 and 22 to 24 where such gear is prohibited for fishing. Bait-traps left unattended must be identified with the name, address and licence number of their owners. When one or more persons fish under the licence of another person, the number of tackle used by the group must not exceed that authorized for the licence-holder.

Frogs as bait

The use of frogs as bait is allowed; however, the regulations concerning the capture of amphibians must be observed. The holder of a frog hunting licence may capture northern leopard frogs, green frogs or bullfrogs from July 15 to November 15, without any restriction on the number caught. Frogs may not be taken in Zones 17, 19 north and 22 to 24, or in wildlife sanctuaries and areas where all hunting is prohibited. The taking of frogs in order to keep them in captivity is subject to specific regulations. For more information, contact an office of the Department (Faune Québec sector).

Other bait

Crustaceans, in particular **crawfish** and **shrimp**, mollusks, marine animals and their parts, as well as fish eggs are considered fish within the meaning of the law. Their use as bait is subject to the same regulations, see Fishing for mollusks and crustaceans, page 11.

Moreover, **leeches**, whether dead or alive, are permitted everywhere.

See also

Catch, possession and length limits

Daily fishing quotas

Daily fishing quotas include only those fish caught and kept and do not include fish that are thrown back. The licence-holder must include in his quota the fish caught and kept by **all** of the persons fishing under the authority of his licence. This also includes fish caught and eaten the same day. To find out the maximum number of fish that you are allowed to harvest on a daily basis, including in national parks, wildlife sanctuaries and zecs, consult the section Fishing periods and catch limits, on the Department's web site.

The catch limit for char in zones 17 and 22 to 24 is also expressed in weight. This weight limit is calculated in the following manner in the case of fish that are not whole:

- the weight of eviscerated fish X 1.25 must not exceed the authorized weight limit;
- the weight of eviscerated fish with the head removed X 1.66 must not exceed the authorized weight limit;
- the weight of fish in fillets X 3.5 must not exceed the authorized weight limit.

Note: It is prohibited to continue fishing for a fish species during a day once you have caught and kept on that day, in a body of water, the catch limit stipulated for this species in this body of water, unless the fishing is being continued in another body of water where the catch limit for this species is higher.

Possession limit

In a given zone, the authorized possession limit for fish species is equal to the daily quota prescribed for that species **in that zone**.

In that zone, the number of fish in an individual's possession caught while sportfishing could exceed the quota authorized for the zone as long as the additional number of fish were caught in other zones and do not exceed the quotas applicable to those zones. However, at no time may an individual possess a number of fish exceeding the highest daily fishing quota set for a species in Québec.

At no time, may an individual in a **national park**, **wildlife sanctuary**, **communal wildlife area** or **zec**, or in a **body of water** possess a number of fish exceeding the highest daily fishing quota for that park, wildlife sanctuary, communal wildlife areas or zec, or that body of water.




In the case of **lake trout** and **smelt**, these same regulations apply. However, as there are water bodies where the fishing quota is higher than that established for the zone, individuals may have in their possession fish that come from one of these water bodies, even if this quota exceeds that stipulated for the zone.

Length limit

It is not permitted to catch and keep or have in your possession :

- a **walleye under 30 cm in length** caught in the following waters:
 - The waters of La Vérendrye Wildlife sanctuary (Zones 12 and 13), except in lakes Jean-Péré, Grand lac de la Vieille, Kokomis, Obikickikak (Kakontis) and Du Vieillard (see further on for the applicable length limit for these bodies of water);
 - The waters of the Communal Wildlife Area of Baskatong reservoir (Zone 11);
 - The waters of zone 13 east, with the exclusion of outfitters with exclusive rights, except the Camachigama outfitting operation;
 - The waters of zone 13 west, with the exclusion of outfitters with exclusive rights (see below for the applicable length limit to zecs Dumoine, Kipawa, Maganasipi and Restigo);
 - The waters of zone 16, with the exclusion of the Mistaouac outfitting operation and lakes unnamed: (48°59'57" N 75°00'33" W), (49°09'00" N 76°08'50" W), (49°09'04" N 76°22'41" W), (49°09'11" N 76°32'54" W), (49°09'14" N 76°35'15" W), (49°09'18" N 75°42'44" W), (49°12'31" N 74°56'31" W), (49°12'35" N 74°53'47" W), à l'Eau Rouge, Fauvel, Feuquières, Hébert, Mista Atikamekwranan, Nelson, Némégousse, Podeur, Robert, Valreville (Chambalon township) and Ventadour.

Note: It is permitted to have in one's possession **the equivalent in fillets of one walleye measuring 30 cm or more in length** if the fillets measure 20 cm or more with the skin fully attached to the flesh of the fillets over their entire length.

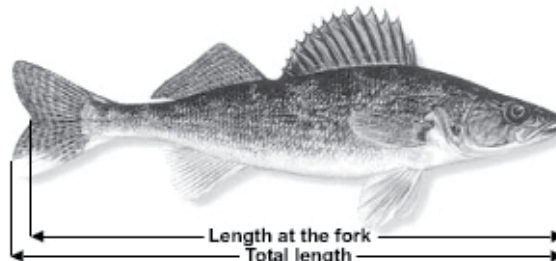
- a **walleye under 35 cm in length** from the following waters:
 - the waters of Zone 4; 
 - the waters of Zone 6; 
 - Zone 7: lac Aylmer; 

- Zone 10: Grand lac Nominigüe; Rivière du Lièvre, between Des Cèdres dam at Notre-Dame-du-Laus (46°05'14" N 75°37'26" W) upstream to Highway 117 bridge at Mont-Laurier (46°32'57" N 75°30'50" W) as well as lakes Rouge (46°22'59" N 75°26'33" W), Du Camp (46°05'14" N 75°37'06" W), Valiquet (46°21'47"N; 75°26'01"W), Tomkin (46°20'52"N; 75°27'35"W), Campion (46°07'34" N; 75°38'59"W), Au Foin (46°11'09"N; 75°42'51"W), Des Sables reservoir (46°08'50"N; 75°40'46"W) and Poisson Blanc reservoir (45°58'19"N; 75°44'24"W); 🐟
- Zone 11: Rivière du Lièvre, from the Highway 117 bridge at Mont-Laurier (46°32'57"N; 75°30'50"W) upstream to Gareau bridge (46°56'04"N; 75°07'43"W) in the municipality of lac Douaire (TNO); Rivière Kiamika, from the Kiamika reservoir dam (46°37'46"N; 75°07'36"W) downstream to the Highway 117 bridge, including lakes Petit Kiamika (46°39'03"N; 75°14'08"W) and Marquis (46°40'00"N; 75°14'08"W); 🐟
- Zone 15: the waters of the Mitchinamecus reservoir; 🐟
- Lac Jean-Péré, Grand lac de la Vieille, Kokomis, Obikickikak (Kakontis) and Du Vieillard (La Vérendrye Wildlife Sanctuary);
- The waters of these zecs: Boullé, Dumoine, Kipawa, Maganasipi, Mitchinamecus and Restigo.

Note: It is permitted to have in one's possession **the equivalent in fillets of one walleye measuring 35 cm or more in length** if the fillets measure 23 cm or more with the skin fully attached to the flesh of the fillets over their entire length.

- a **walleye** measuring more than **38 cm** in Zone 25 between March 1 and March 31, and between May 15 in 2009 (May 14 in 2010) and June 15; 🐟
- a **walleye under 45 cm in length** from the following waters:
 - Rivière Nicolet Sud-Ouest, between the first bridge downstream of lac Les Trois Lacs, at Shipton, and the downstream side of the Highway 255 bridge, at Wotton, including lac Les Trois Lacs (Zone 7);
 - Rivière Nicolet Centre, between its mouth and the downstream side of the Highway 216 bridge at Wotton (Zone 7).
- a **sturgeon** measuring more than **97 cm** in Zone 25. 🐟
- a **muskellunge under 104 cm in length** from the following waters:
 - the fleuve Saint-Laurent (zones 7, 8, 21);
 - lac Saint-François (Zone 8);
 - lac Saint-Louis (Zone 8);
 - Lachine rapids (Zone 8);
 - La Prairie watershed (Zone 8);
 - La Prairie watershed (Zone 8);
 - Rivière Mille îles (Zone 8);
 - Rivière Des Prairies (Zone 8);
 - lac Deux Montagnes (Zone 8);
 - the stretch of rivière des Outaouais located in Zone 8
- a **muskellunge under 127 cm in length** from the portion of rivière Des Outaouais situated in Zone 25.
- a **landlocked salmon under 40 cm in length** from the waters of lac Memphrémagog (Zone 6).
- a **yellow perch under 19 cm in length** from the waters of fleuve Saint-Laurent between the downstream side of the power lines of the hydroelectric station of Hydro Québec in Tracy and the downstream side of Laviolette bridge (zones 7 and 8), including lac Saint-Pierre.
- a **lake trout measuring from 35 to 50 cm** inclusively from the waters of zones 1 to 6.
- an **salmon under 30 cm in length**.
- a **lake trout** less than **40 cm** in length caught in the zones 9 to 15, 18, 26 to 28.
- a **lake trout** less than **50 cm** in length caught in the following waters:
 - Zone 9 : lakes Blanc (46°19'52" N 74°12'51" W) and Ouareau. Rivière Ouareau, between lakes Blanc and Ouareau (46°18'54" N 74°11'20" W) as well as between the Route 125 bridge and lac Blanc; 🐟
 - Zone 10 : lakes De l'Argile, Blue Sea, Du Cerf, Dumont, Gagnon (Preston and Gagnon townships), Heney, Nominigüe, Pemichangan, Petit lac du Cerf, Saint-Germain (46°14' N 75°30' W), des Trente and Un Milles, and Poisson Blanc reservoir;
 - Zone 11: lac Tremblant;
 - Zone 12: lakes Branssat (Forant and Rochefort townships), Duval (Anjou and Brie townships), and Lynch (Forant and Rochefort townships);
 - Zone 13: lakes Audouin, Grindstone, Hunter, Kipawa, Matchi-Manitou and MacLachlin;
 - Zone 15: lakes Cousineau (47°01' N 73°59' W), Culotte (47°09' N 74°02' W), Kempt (47°26' N 74°16' W), Légaré (46°58' N 73°57' W), muskellunge (Saint-Gabriel-de-Brandon), Opwaiak, Saint-Joseph, Troyes and Villiers (47°08' N 74°02' W);
 - Zone 27: lac Saint-Joseph.

These measures concerning lake trout do not apply to national parks, wildlife sanctuaries and zecs, and to certain water bodies situated in those areas where outfitters have exclusive fishing rights of Zones 10 to 15, 18, 26 to 28.



Fish length is measured from the tip of the snout to the fork in the caudal fin. In the case of the yellow perch, however, the total length of the fish is measured.

Releasing fish to water

Every person must return immediately, whether dead or alive, to the waters from which it was taken, and being sure to avoid needless injury if it is still alive, every fish:

- of a size which it is prohibited to keep;
- caught during a period when or at a place where it is prohibited to fish for this species*;
- captured by means of a forbidden method or forbidden tackle or when the catch limit has been reached;
- caught under a sportfishing licence with mandatory release.

* It is forbidden to fish with a view to **intentionally catching** a fish species during a period when fishing for this species is prohibited.

Moreover, to contribute to the reintroduction of striped bass in the waters of the fleuve Saint-Laurent, every angler must release this species in the water. As the catching of striped bass is prohibited, this species must be released in the water.

The angler may also return to the water, alive, the fish that he has just caught and that he is entitled to keep. He must do so, being careful to injure the fish as little as possible. 🐟 In all cases, to ensure that the fish has the best chances of surviving, **the following method** must be used:

- if you regularly return fish to the water, use a barbless hook; this makes it easier to remove the hook without injuring the fish;



- gently remove the hook with your hands or pliers. If the hook is deeply imbedded, cut the fishing line. The hook will eventually disintegrate and thus do less harm to the fish;
- do not tire the fish. A prolonged struggle will decrease its chance of survival;
- hold the fish gently under water and avoid touching its eyes or gills. A fish out of water quickly begins to lack oxygen. Keep your hands moistened. Do not use a tailer. Use a small mesh cotton net;
- revive the fish by holding it horizontally under water. If it is floating on its side, move it gently back and forth under water so that the water enters its gills. Let the fish go, when it begins to struggle.

Transportation, possession and identification of fish

Individuals who transport fish or have fish in their possession must, upon the request of a wildlife protection officer or assistant, identify themselves and state where the fish were caught.

Live fish

Anglers may keep alive, **on site**, for the **length of their stay**, fish taken at a given fishing site depending on the fishing season, daily fishing quotas and possession limits authorized for the area. Transportation of live bait-fish is allowed in certain zones (see Bait-fish, page 11).

Dead fish

Individuals who have in their possession, **other than in their place of permanent residence**, fish caught when sportfishing, must keep them in a condition to enable determination of the species (enough skin must be left in place to enable identification), length and number. Where a length limit applies, the fish must be transported so as to be able to measure their length.

For the application of the length limit for walleye in zones 4, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 16 when the fish is in fillets, the skin must be fully attached to the flesh over the entire length of the fillet, as indicated in the section Catch, possession and length limits, page 12. For the application of the length limit for walleye/sauger in rivière Des Outaouais (Zone 25), the fish must remain whole.

It is forbidden to export outside Québec fish taken while sportfishing and whose sale is prohibited. However, when leaving Québec, you can take with you a quantity of fish, that you have caught or been given, equal to the possession limit allowed for each species.

Special rules for certain territories

Fishing in Québec is generally practiced on the lands of the State domain. Special wildlife management conditions apply to some parts of this territory. This section briefly presents these areas as well as their characteristics.

Communal wildlife areas

A Communal Wildlife Area (CWA) is a public body of water (lake or river) that is the subject of a lease for exclusive fishing rights other than an outfitting operation. These rights are granted to a non-profit corporation which then assumes responsibility for the development of fishing in the bodies of water in question. This is the case for the CWA of Baskatong reservoir (**819 438-1177**), Gouin reservoir (**819 523-5255**), lac Saint-Jean (**1 888 866-2527**) and lac Saint-Pierre, 🐟 (**819 228-1385**). To fish in a CWA, you must obtain an authorization from the corporation. For more information, contact the corporation in charge of the CWA that you wish to visit or consult its web site:

- Communal wildlife area of Baskatong reservoir (http://www.afcbaskatong.com/afc_roles.html);
- Communal wildlife area of lac Saint-Jean (<http://www.claplacsainjean.com>);
- Communal wildlife area of lac Saint-Pierre (<http://www.afclacst-pierre.org/>);

Fish ponds

A fish pond is a body of water of not more than 20 ha containing exclusively farm-raised fish, closed on all sides to keep the fish impounded, and used for angling. Fishing without a licence is authorized in such a fish pond. Moreover, there are no quotas, and fishing is allowed year-round. However, the owner of a fish pond who wants to sell to a person the fish that he catches in his pond must hold a fish pond operating licence issued by the ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation.


Nord-du-Québec

To fish in **Zones 17 and 22 to 24**, anglers must comply with the Act respecting hunting and fishing rights in the Baie James and Nouveau-Québec territories. These territories are subdivided into three categories. To fish on Category I and II lands, it is necessary to obtain authorization and to respect the conditions imposed by the Cree, Inuit or Naskapi authorities.


Any person who wishes to fish **lake trout** in **Zone 23** during the period between September 8 and 30 must use the services of an outfitter operating on this territory.

Angling only is permitted in **Zones 17 and 22 to 24**. The use of a bow, crossbow or spear is therefore prohibited. Moreover, in **Zones 22 to 24, certain fish species** are reserved for **the exclusive use of the natives peoples**.

To fish in the **Eastmain and Weh Sees Indohoun sectors** in **Zone 22**, a fishing permit holder must obtain a pass (free) and respect the dates and times mentioned thereon. At the end of his daily fishing or his stay, he must report on his fishing, indicating his daily catches. If there is no registration officer, the holder must fill in the form available at the reception station and deposit it at the place specified for that purpose. For more information, please contact the Nord-du-Québec regional and local offices.

In addition, to fish in salmon rivers located on Category III lands **of Zone 23**, the holder of a fishing licence for residents must first register by indicating the fishing dates and the planned locations for his fishing stay with an outfitter who operates an outfitting establishment on these rivers or with one of the following landholding corporations 

- the Qiniqtiq Landholding Corporation located in Kangiqsualujjuaq;
- the Nayumivik Landholding Corporation located in Kuujjuaq;
- the Arqivik Landholding Corporation located in Tasiujaq;
- the Naskapi Landholding Corporation located in Kawawachikamach

At the end of his stay, this holder must register the salmon taken and caught at the aforementioned locations or at one of the hydroplane bases of lac Margane, lac Pau, lac Squaw, lac Louise (Manic 5) or lac Stewart (Kuujjuaq); he must also report the fishing dates and actual fishing locations. 

National parks and wildlife sanctuaries

To fish in wildlife sanctuaries or a national park, you generally must make a reservation. You must also acquire a right of access or an authorization to fish, as the case may be, and comply with the date, time and location specified. When you are done fishing or at the end of your stay, you must report all fish caught on a daily basis. Moreover, you must hold a right of access or an authorization to fish to carry fishing tackle with you in these locations. For more information concerning the national parks and wildlife sanctuaries managed by SEPAQ, get in touch with this organization at 418 890-6527 or at 1 800 665-6527 or consult its web site at www.sepaq.com.

You can obtain information concerning the Duchénier wildlife sanctuary at 418 735-5222.

Note: This section does not apply to parks managed by Parks Canada.

Outfitting operations

Outfitting operations are businesses that offer anglers a variety of services including accommodation and equipment. Some hold exclusive fishing rights over specific areas. In a few outfitting operations of certain zones, the fishing period is limited and the catch limit for salmonidae may be different from that of the zone. Moreover, the length limits for lake trout may not apply to all of the bodies of waters on these territories. Some outfitting operations may also hold exclusive rights on small lakes under 20 ha in size in order to develop fishing on these lakes for their clientele. Certain outfitting operations also offer fishing opportunities year round for brook trout or rainbow trout. For more information, contact the outfitting operation that you wish to frequent or visit the web site of the Fédération des pourvoiries du Québec at the following address: www.fpq.com.

Note: A special regime applies in the Nord-du-Québec (zones 17 and 22 to 24) region. Consult the regional or local offices of this region to learn more.

Wildlife preserves

In a wildlife preserve, the conditions for using resources are determined with a view to preserving the habitat of wildlife or of a wildlife species. Fishing may be subject to certain conditions governing access to and circulation on the territory.

In the Pierre-Étienne-Fortin Wildlife Preserve all fishing is **prohibited** during the period from June 20 to July 20 in sectors B and C of the preserve (Zone 8).

For more information on these territories, contact the appropriate office of the Department.

Ecological reserves

Ecological reserves are protected areas dedicated to conservation, education and research. Fishing is prohibited on this type of territory and access is generally very limited. To learn more, consult the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs, or visit this department's web site at the following address: www.mddep.gouv.qc.ca/.

Salmon rivers

Québec has 115 salmon rivers managed by various organizations. Incidentally, a salmon river may be administered by several organizations simultaneously so that some sections of the river may have zec status, others – that of **wildlife sanctuaries**, and still others – exclusive rights outfitter. Some sectors may also be on private property. Before fishing for salmon or fishing in a salmon river, be sure to learn more and to consult the brochure entitled Salmon Fishing in Québec.

Private property

To fish on private property you must obtain permission from the owner and consider yourself as a guest of the owner. Fishing regulations apply on private property. Some landowners of the Bas-Saint-Laurent, Estrie, Chaudière-Appalaches, Mauricie, Centre-du-Québec, Montérégie and Capitale-Nationale regions have entered into an agreement with the authorities of the Department concerning wildlife management and access to their property. On these properties, those persons who fish without the consent of the owners are prosecuted by the Department. Now this approach shall apply to fishing on a private property whose owner is party to an agreement with an association or organization, whose vocation is to promote access for anglers to private grounds, **and who is recognized to this effect by the Department, in order to gain access to wildlife**. For further information, contact the regional office concerned.

Zecs

A controlled zone (zec) is a hunting and fishing territory whose management has been delegated to a non-profit organization which you can join by becoming a member. To fish in controlled zones (zecs), anglers must register and comply with the date, time, location or sector specified on the proof of registration. The proof of registration must be carried and presented upon request to wildlife protection officers or their assistants, or to land wardens. The registration may also be placed on the dashboard of the vehicle so as to be read from the outside of the vehicle. Finally, the proof of registration must be returned when the stay is over and all fish catches must be reported. For more information, contact the organization in charge of managing the zec that you wish to visit or visit the site of the Zecs Québec at the following address: www.fqgz.com.

Non-residents

Non-residents must hold a Québec sportfishing licence to fish anywhere in Québec. However, this licence is not required when fishing in a park managed by Parks Canada or in a fish pond (see Special rules for certain territories, page 14). The spouse and the children of a non-resident may in certain cases fish without a licence (see the section Fishing licence, page 6).

Holders of an Ontario sportfishing licence are treated the same as holders of a Québec sportfishing licence for the purposes of sportfishing in Zone 25 and in lakes Clarice, Labyrinthe and Raven (Zone 13) as well as in that part of lac Saint-François (Zone 8) west of a line drawn from Beaudette point on the northern shore to Saint-Louis point on the southern shore. The same applies to holders of a New Brunswick sportfishing licence for the purpose of angling in the Patapédia (Zone 2) and Ristigouche (Zones 1 and 2) salmon rivers. Fish caught in these waters and kept are considered caught in Québec and must be included in the daily fishing quota and possession limits.

Non-residents who wish to fish north of the 52nd parallel (Zones 19 south, 22 north, 23, 24 and 29), or east of the rivière Saint-Augustin (Zone 19 south), must use the services of an outfitter. For more information, contact the Nord-du-Québec or the Côte-Nord regional office.

Note: To export sturgeon, lake or Atlantic, outside Canada, you must first obtain a CITES export licence from Fisheries and Oceans Canada at (418) 648-5890.

Prohibited practices

- It is forbidden to fish with a view to **intentionally catching** a fish species during a period when fishing for that species is prohibited.
- It is prohibited to sell, purchase, trade or offer to purchase shad, American eel, bullhead, channel catfish, bass, carp, copper redhorse and river redhorse, sunfish, sturgeon, black crappie, northern pike, chain pickerel, walleye, white bass, striped bass, smelt, burbot, muskellunge, yellow perch, char, landlocked salmon, Atlantic salmon, tench, lake trout, rainbow trout and brown trout caught while sportfishing in Québec or under a sportfishing licence elsewhere. Moreover, it is prohibited to sell baitfish caught while sportfishing.
- It is prohibited to buy, sell or have in one's possession fish caught illegally.
- It is prohibited for a non-beneficiary to accept from a beneficiary of the harvesting right stipulated in the Act respecting hunting and fishing rights in the Baie James and Nouveau-Québec territories, any fish caught under this right for the purposes of personal or communal use, unless it comes from an authorized commercial fishery.
- It is prohibited to fish using one or more hooks handled in such a way as to catch the fish by a part of the body other than the mouth. As a result, it is prohibited to keep fish caught intentionally by a part of the body other than the mouth.
- It is prohibited to fish from any bridge which crosses a salmon river or its estuary.
- It is prohibited to fish in a salmon river between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise. To find out what time the sun rises or sets, consult a local newspaper or the web site Sunrise/Sunset Calculator (<http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/services/hia/sunrise-sunset.html>). Please note that the data mentioned on that site are expressed according to Eastern Standard Time.
- It is prohibited to remove fish from the water using:
 - a net other than a landing net;
 - a tailer whose full length exceeds 2 m;
 - a spring-loaded gaff;
 - any type of gaff for salmon.
- It is prohibited to have in one's possession, within 100 m of a fishing site or waterway, any tackle the use of which is prohibited on the fishing site, except under the conditions stipulated in the section Fly fishing areas, page 8.
- It is prohibited to fish less than 25 yards (22.9 metres) downstream of the lower entrance to any fish ladder or migratory pass in operation, or of any obstacle or area which must be jumped.
- It is forbidden to allow a caught fish, fit for human consumption, to rot.

Protection of wildlife habitats

It is important to remind anglers that the law protects wildlife habitats. No person may engage, without authorization, in an activity liable to modify a biological, physical or chemical element of the habitat of an animal or a fish. In the case of an angler or vacationer, this may include, for example:

- dumping oil, gasoline or any other toxic substance or waste material at any place, but in particular, in the case of a fish habitat, in a lake, marsh, swamp, flood plain or a watercourse in the case of the fish habitat;
- crossing with a motorized vehicle such bodies of water or circulating along a bank or a shore;
- building in such bodies of water a dam which, in addition to preventing the free movement of fish, can alter the fish habitat;
- removing or placing gravel or rocks from the bed of such a watercourse or doing fill work there.

Remember that even minor work can cause damages to the fish habitat.

If you witness such acts, report them to a wildlife conservation officer via **S.O.S Poaching at 1 800 463-2191**, or a wildlife protection office. Remember that any environment where there is water, even periodically (in spring, for example), may be vital for fish. To find out more about the applicable regulations, contact an office of the ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune.

Circulation in fragile environments

The circulation of motorized vehicles in certain fragile environments is also regulated. It is important to keep in mind that it is forbidden to circulate:

- in motorized vehicles on the dunes of the lands of the domain of the States.
- in motorized vehicles, other than snowmobiles:
 - on beaches and barrier beaches, in marshes or swamps located along the shoreline (flat) of the fleuve Saint-Laurent downstream from Pont Laviolette, of the estuary and golfe du Saint-Laurent, of Baie des Chaleurs and the islands located there. However, the effect of this restriction is not to prevent the exercise of activities related to fishing practiced legally, the circulation on trails identified for this purpose and laid out in accordance with the law, as well as to permit access to private property.
 - In peatlands of the lands of the domain of the States, south of the fleuve Saint-laurent, of the estuary and the golfe du Saint-Laurent.

To find out all of the regulations applicable to circulating in a vehicle in fragile environments, consult the ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs du Québec, which is responsible for the application of this regulation, at 1 800 561-1616 or visit the Department's web site <http://www.mddep.gouv.qc.ca>.




Table 1 - Catch, possession and length limits



Québec is divided into 29 fishing zones which take the distribution of species into account. Anglers must respect the fishing rules that apply in these zones as well as the requirements pertaining to the territory that they wish to frequent. It should be noted that there are several exceptions to these fishing periods. To obtain more information, please consult the web site.

Species [Catch limits] Note A	Periods 2009-2010
Zone 1	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Char [15 in all], landlocked salmon [3], lake trout and splake [2 in all]	from May 8, 2009 to September 7, 2009
Atlantic salmon [1] (Elsewhere than in salmon rivers) Note B	from June 1 st , 2009 to August 31, 2009
Smelt [120], yellow perch [50], other species [no limit]	from May 8, 2009 to September 7, 2009
Zone 2	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Pike [6 in all]	from May 15, 2009 to September 7, 2009
Char [15 in all], landlocked salmon [3], lake trout and splake [2 in all]	from May 1 st , 2009 to September 7, 2009
Atlantic salmon [1] (Elsewhere than in salmon rivers) Note B	from June 1 st , 2009 to August 31, 2009
Smelt [120] yellow perch [50] other species [no limit]	from May 1 st , 2009 to September 7, 2009
Zone 3	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Bass [6 in all], muskellunge [2]	from June 19, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Pike [6 in all], walleye [6 in all]	from May 15, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Smelt	Fishing prohibited
Sturgeon [1 in all]	from June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
Char [15 in all], landlocked salmon [3], trout [5 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009
Atlantic salmon [1] (Elsewhere than in salmon rivers) Note B	from June 1 st , 2009 to August 31, 2009
Lake trout and splake [2 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 7, 2009
Yellow perch [50], other species [no limit]	from April 24, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Zone 4	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Bass [6 in all], muskellunge [2]	from June 19, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Pike [6 in all], walleye [6 in all]	from May 15, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Sturgeon [1 in all]	from June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
Char [10 in all], landlocked salmon [3], trout [5 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009
Lake trout and splake [2 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 7, 2009
Smelt [120], yellow perch [50], other species [no limit]	from April 24, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Zone 5	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Bass [6 in all], muskellunge [2]	from June 19, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Pike [6 in all], walleye [6 in all]	from May 15, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Sturgeon [1 in all]	from June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
Char [10 in all], landlocked salmon [3] trout [5 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009
Lake trout and splake [2 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 7, 2009
Smelt [120], black crappie [30], yellow perch [50], other species [no limit]	from April 24, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Zone 6	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Bass [6 in all], sturgeon [1 in all] muskellunge [2]	from June 19, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Pike [6 in all], walleye [6 in all]	from May 15, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Char [10 in all], landlocked salmon [3] trout [5 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009
Lake trout and splake [2 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 7, 2009
Smelt [120], black crappie [30], yellow perch [50], other species [no limit]	from April 24, 2009 to November 30, 2009

Zone 7 <i>Note C1</i>	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Bass [6 in all], muskellunge [2]	from June 19, 2009 to November 30, 2009 and from December 20, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Pike [6 in all], walleye [6 in all]	from May 15, 2009 to November 30, 2009 and from December 20, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Sturgeon [1 in all]	from June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
Char [10 in all], landlocked salmon [3], trout [5 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009
Atlantic tomcod [no limit]	from December 26, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Atlantic salmon [1] <i>Note B</i>	from June 1 st , 2009 to August 31, 2009
Lake trout and splake [2 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 7, 2009
Smelt [120], black crappie [30], yellow perch [50] other species [no limit]	from April 24, 2009 to November 30, 2009 and from December 20, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Zone 8 <i>Note C1</i>	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Bass [6 in all], muskellunge [1]	from June 19, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Pike [6 in all], yellow perch [50]	from May 1 st , 2009 to March 31, 2010
Walleye [6 in all]	from May 8, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Sturgeon [1 in all]	from June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
American shad [5], char [10 in all], landlocked salmon [3], atlantic salmon [1] <i>Note B</i> , lake trout and splake [2 in all], trout [5 in all], black crappie [30], other species [no limit]	Year-round
Zone 9	
Bass [6 in all], muskellunge [2]	from June 19, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Pike [6 in all], walleye [6 in all]	from May 15, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Sturgeon [1 in all]	from June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
Char [10 in all], landlocked salmon [3] trout [5 in all], lake trout and splake [2 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009
Smelt [120], black crappie [30], yellow perch [50], other species [no limit]	from April 24, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Zone 10	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Bass [6 in all]	from June 23, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Pike [6 in all], walleye [6 in all]	from May 15, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Sturgeon [1 in all]	from June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
Muskellunge [2]	from June 19, 2009 to March 31, 2010
char [10 in all], landlocked salmon [3], trout [5 in all], lake trout and splake [2 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009
Smelt [120], grand Lake whitefish [5], black crappie [30], yellow perch [50], other species [no limit]	Year-round
Zone 11 <i>Note C2</i>	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Bass [6 in all], muskellunge [2]	from June 19, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Pike [6 in all], walleye [6 in all]	from May 15, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Sturgeon [1 in all]	from June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
Char [10 in all], landlocked salmon [3], trout [5 in all], lake trout and splake [2 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009
Smelt [120], grand Lake whitefish [5], black crappie [30], yellow perch [50], Other species [no limit]	from April 24, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Zone 12	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Bass [6 in all]	from April 1 st 2011 to April 15, 2009 and from June 26, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Muskellunge [2]	from June 19, 2009 to March 31, 2010

Pike [6 in all], walleye [6 in all]	from April 1 st 2011 to April 15, 2009 and from May 15, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Sturgeon [1 in all]	from June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
Char [10 in all], landlocked salmon [3], trout [5 in all], lake trout and splake [2 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009
Smelt [120], black crappie [30], yellow perch [50], other species [no limit]	Year-round
Zone 13 (east)	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Bass [6 in all]	from April 1 st , 2009 to April 15, 2009 and from June 15, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Pike [10 in all]	from April 1 st , 2009 to April 15, 2009 and from May 15, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Walleye [8 in all]	from May 15, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Sturgeon [1 in all]	from June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
char [15 in all], trout [5 in all], lake trout and splake [2 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 7, 2009
Yellow perch [50], other species [no limit]	Year-round
Zone 13 (west)	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Bass [6 in all]	from April 1 st , 2009 to April 15, 2009 and from June 26, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Pike [6 in all]	from April 1 st , 2009 to April 15, 2009 and from May 15, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Walleye [6 in all]	from May 15, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Sturgeon [1 in all]	from June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
char [10 in all], trout [5 in all], lake trout and splake [2 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009
Yellow perch [50], other species [no limit]	Year-round
Zone 14 <small>Note C3</small>	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Bass [6 in all]	from April 1 st , 2009 to April 15, 2009 and from June 15, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Pike [10 in all], walleye [8 in all]	from April 1 st , 2009 to April 15, 2009 and from May 15, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Sturgeon [1 in all]	from June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
Char [15 in all], landlocked salmon [3], trout [5 in all], lake trout and splake [2 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 7, 2009
Smelt [120], yellow perch [50], other species [no limit]	Year-round
Zone 15	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Bass [6 in all], muskellunge [2]	from June 19, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Pike [6 in all], walleye [6 in all]	from May 15, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Sturgeon [1 in all]	from June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
Char [15 in all], landlocked salmon [3], trout [5 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009
Lake trout and splake [2 in all]	from June 26, 2009 to September 7, 2009
Smelt [120], yellow perch [50], other species [no limit]	from April 24, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Zone 16	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Bass [6 in all]	from April 1 st , 2009 to April 15, 2009 and from June 15, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Pike [10 in all]	from April 1 st , 2009 to April 15, 2009 and from May 22, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Walleye [8 in all]	from April 1 st , 2009 to April 15, 2009 and from June 1 st , 2009 to March 31, 2010
Sturgeon [1 in all]	from June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
Char [15 in all], trout [5 in all], lake trout and splake [2 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 7, 2009

Yellow perch [50], other species [no limit]	Year-round
Zone 17	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Pike [8 in all], walleye [8 in all], yellow perch [50]	from April 1 st , 2009 to April 24, 2009 and from May 22, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Sturgeon [1 in all]	from June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
char [20 in all ou 5 kg + 1 char] <small>Note C3</small> , lake trout and splake [3 in all]	from April 25, 2009 to September 7, 2009
Lake whitefish [no limit]	from May 22, 2009 to September 7, 2009
Other species [no limit]	from April 1 st , 2009 to April 24, 2009 and from May 22, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Zone 18	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Pike [10 in all], walleye [6 in all]	from April 1 st , 2009 to April 15, 2009 and from May 22, 2009 to March 31 2010 
Char [20 in all]	from April 1 st , 2009 to April 15, 2009 and from April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009 and from December 1 ^{er} , 2009 to March 31 2010 
Lake trout and splake [2 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009
landlocked salmon [2], trout [5 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 7, 2009
Atlantic salmon [1] (Elsewhere than in salmon rivers) <small>Note B</small>	from June 1 st , 2009 to August 31, 2009
Smelt [60] , yellow perch [50], other species [no limit]	from April 1 st , 2009 to April 15, 2009 and from April 24, 2009 to March 31, 2010 
Zone 19 (North)	
All species	Fishing prohibited
Zone 19 (South)	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Pike [10 in all], walleye [8 in all]	from April 1 st , 2009 to April 15, 2009 and from May 22, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Char [20 in all], landlocked salmon [6], lake trout and splake [3 in all]	from April 1 st , 2009 to April 15, 2009 and from April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009 and from December 1 st , 2009 to March 31, 2010
Atlantic salmon [1] <small>Note B</small> (Elsewhere than in salmon rivers)	from June 1 st , 2009 to August 31, 2009
Smelt [120], yellow perch [50], other species [no limit]	from April 1 st , 2009 to April 15, 2009 and from April 24, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Zone 20	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Atlantic salmon [1] <small>Note B</small> (Elsewhere than in salmon rivers)	from June 15, 2009 to August 31, 2009
Smelt [120], char [20 in all], other species [no limit]	from April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009
Zone 21	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Bass [6 in all], muskellunge [2]	from June 19, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Atlantic salmon [1] <small>Note B</small> (Elsewhere than in salmon rivers)	from June 1 st , 2009 to August 31, 2009
Sturgeon [1 in all]	from June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
Pike [6 in all], walleye [6 in all], smelt [120], char [15 in all], landlocked salmon [3], trout [5 in all], lake trout and splake [2 in all], yellow perch [50], black crappie [30], other species [no limit]	Year-round
Zone 22 (North)	
Pike [10 in all], walleye [8 in all], brook trout [15 ou 5 kg + 1 char] <small>Note D</small> , landlocked salmon [2], yellow perch [50], lake trout and splake [3 in all]	from June 1 st , 2009 to September 7, 2009
Other species	Fishing prohibited

Zone 22 (South)	
Pike [8 in all], walleye [8 in all], brook trout [15 ou 2,5 kg + 1 char] ^{Note D} , yellow perch [50], lake trout and splake [3 in all]	from June 1 st , 2009 to September 7, 2009
Other species	Fishing prohibited
Zone 23 (North)	
Pike [10 in all], artic char [5], brook trout [15 ou 8 kg +1 char] ^{Note D} , landlocked salmon [4], atlantic salmon [1] ^{Note B} (Elsewhere than in salmon rivers)	from June 1 st , 2009 to September 7, 2009
Lake trout and splake [4 in all]	from June 1 st , 2009 to September 7, 2009
Lake trout and splake [0 gardé]	from September 8, 2009 to September 30, 2009 ^{Note E}
Other species	Fishing prohibited
Zone 23 (South)	
Pike [10 in all], brook trout [15 ou 5 kg +1 char] ^{Note D} , landlocked salmon [2], lake trout and splake [3 in all]	from June 1 st , 2009 to September 7, 2009
Lake trout and splake [0 gardé]	from September 8, 2009 to September 30, 2009 ^{Note E}
Other species	Fishing prohibited
Zone 24	
Pike [10 in all], artic char [5], brook trout [15 ou 8 kg +1 char] ^{Note D} , landlocked salmon [4], lake trout and splake [4 in all], atlantic salmon [1] ^{Note B} (Elsewhere than in salmon rivers)	from June 1 st , 2009 to September 7, 2009
Other species	Fishing prohibited
Zone 25	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Bass [6 in all]	from June 26, 2009 to November 30, 2009 
Pike [6 in all], walleye [5 in all]	from May 15, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Sturgeon [1 in all]	from June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
Muskellunge [1 in all]	from June 19, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Char [5 in all], landlocked salmon [1], trout [5 in all], lake trout and splake [2 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 30, 2009
Lake whitefish [12], Yellow perch [50], black crappie [30], other species [no limit] 	Year-round
Zone 26	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Bass [6 in all], muskellunge [2]	From June 19, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Pike [6 in all], walleye [6 in all]	From May 15, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Sturgeon [1 in all]	From June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
Char [15 in all], landlocked salmon [3], trout [5 in all]	From April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009
Atlantic tomcod [no limit]	From December 26, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Atlantic salmon [1] (Elsewhere than in salmon rivers) ^{Note B}	From June 1 st , 2009 to August 31, 2009
Lake trout and splake [2 in all]	From July 1 st , 2009 to September 7, 2009
yellow perch [50], Black crappie [30] and other species [no limit]	From April 24, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Zone 27	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Bass [6 in all], and muskellunge [2]	From June 26, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Pike [6 in all], and walleye [6 in all]	From May 15, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Sturgeon [1 in all]	From June 15, 2009 to October 31, 2009
Char [15 in all] ^{Note 28} , landlocked salmon [3], and trout [5 in all]	From April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009
Atlantic salmon [1] ^{Note B} (Else than in salmon rivers)	From June 1 st , 2009 to August 31, 2009
Atlantic tomcod [no limit]	From December 26, 2009 to March 31, 2010
Lake trout and splake [2 in all]	From July 1 st , 2009 to September 13, 2009
Smelt [120], black crappie [30], yellow perch [50] and Other species [no limit]	From April 24, 2009 to November 30, 2009

Zone 28 <small>Note C4</small>	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Pike [10 in all], and walleye [6 in all]	From May 22, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Char [20 in all], lake trout and splake [2 in all]	From April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009
Landlocked salmon [2], and trout [5 in all]	From April 24, 2009 to September 7, 2009
Atlantic salmon [1] <small>Note B</small> (Elsewhere than in salmon rivers)	From June 1 st , 2009 to August 31, 2009
Smelt [120], yellow perch [50], and Other species [no limit]	From April 24, 2009 to November 30, 2009

Zone 29	
Stripped bass	Fishing prohibited
Pike [10 in all], and walleye [8 in all]	from May 22, 2009 to November 30, 2009
Char [20 in all], landlocked salmon [6 in all], lake trout and splake [3 in all]	from April 24, 2009 to September 13, 2009
Smelt [120], yellow perch [50], Other species [no limit]	from April 24, 2009 to November 30, 2009

Note A : See Maps of the zones, fishing periods and catch limits.

Note B : Salmon fishing licence mandatory.

Note C : Special rules apply to fishing in the Communal wildlife areas of lac Saint-Pierre.

Note C : Special rules apply to fishing in the Communal wildlife areas of Baskatong.

Note C : Special rules apply to fishing in the Communal wildlife areas of Gouin reservoir.

Note C : Special rules apply to fishing in the Communal wildlife areas of lac Saint-Jean.

Note D : The catch limit for char in zones 17 and 22 to 24 is also expressed in weight. This weight limit is calculated in the following way in the case of fish that are not whole:

- the weight of eviscerated fish X 1.25 must not exceed the authorized weight limit;
- the weight of eviscerated fish with their head removed X 1.66 must not exceed the authorized weight limit;
- the weight of fish in fillets X 3.5 must not exceed the authorized weight limit.

Note E : Any person who wishes to fish for lake trout during this period must use the services of an outfitter operating on the territory.

INVASIVE AQUATIC SPECIES

Don't give a lift to pest species!

Each time that you travel from one body of water to another, invasive aquatic species such as the Eurasian watermilfoil, the zebra mussel and the round goby may hitch a ride. In addition, parasites or pathogens such as the viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS) virus may also catch a lift.

You can make a difference

When you travel from one body of water to another, **take** a few simple preventive measures:

- **Examine, clean and completely dry** your equipment, boat and clothes. Pay special attention to the felt insoles of your boots and all other absorbent material as intruders can survive in this environment for a very long time.
- **Empty out** the water from your boat and your fish well.
- **Do not release** live or dead fish from another body of water. Dispose of them in the garbage instead.
- **Act** as if the watercourse that you are leaving is contaminated and the next one that you will visit is not. Bear in mind that intruders, even those invisible to the naked eye, can be present and threaten the integrity of your favourite body of water.

Be vigilant!

Further information:

<http://www.mddep.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/eae/intrus.pdf>

Information on invasive plant species:

<http://www.mddep.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/eae/didymo.htm>

Telephone number: 1 800 561-1616

Information on fish diseases or invasive animal species:

<http://www.mrnf.gouv.qc.ca/faune/sante-maladies/index.jsp>

Telephone number: 1 866 248-6936.

Index map of the fishing zones






Legend of the zone maps

Territorial Divisions

-  Wildlife Sanctuary
-  Outfitter with exclusive rights
-  Zec (Controlled Zone)
-  Communal wildlife area
-  Category I and II lands
-  Small lake improvement
-  Québec National Park and Federal National Park
-  Boundary of fishing zones
-  Boundary of zone parts

Borders

-  International border
-  Interprovincial or interstate border
-  Québec – Newfoundland-and-Labrador border (this border is not final)

Metadata

- Map Projection: Lambert Conic Projection with two standard parallels (46th and 60th)
- Scale: 0 100 200 km

Sources

- Data**
- Fishing zone, wildlife territory
- Conservation and protection territory

Organization, year

- Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune, 2006
- Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs, 2006

Realization

- Production**
- Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune, Direction générale de l'information géographique en collaboration with the Direction générale du développement et de l'aménagement de la faune

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Have any questions?

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TO REACH OUR TELEPHONE SERVICE DEVOTED TO REGULATIONS!
 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, from 8h30 to 16h30
 Wednesday, from 10h to 16h30

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www.mrnf.gouv.qc.ca/en/fishing-rules