



Attention

2017 Changes to Fishing Regulations

Mandatory Catch and Release in Banff, Yoho and Kootenay National Parks, Except Lake Minnewanka Lake Trout

Whirling disease was detected in Johnson Lake and the Bow River in 2016. The movement of fish is the leading cause of spread for whirling disease. As a result, Parks Canada now requires anglers to release all fish in these three national parks in the same place they were caught. The exception is lake trout, which are less susceptible to whirling disease.

The possession limit for all fish caught in Banff, Yoho or Kootenay National Parks is now zero. There is one exception: the daily possession limit for lake trout caught in the Lake Minnewanka Reservoir remains at two (2) fish per licensed angler.

Felt-Soled Wading Boots Prohibited in all Mountain National Parks

Although they provide a good grip on slimy substrates, felt-soled wading boots are more porous than modern rubber-soled wading boots and are extremely difficult to decontaminate. As a result they create a perfect environment to hold invasive species such as whirling disease spores. The scientific literature has shown that felt-soled wading boots hold more potential to transmit organisms between waterbodies than any other piece of angling equipment.

Felt-soled boots are not permitted in any waterbody in Banff, Yoho, Kootenay, Waterton Lakes, Jasper, Mount Revelstoke and Glacier national parks.

These changes will be re-evaluated next year. We ask for your cooperation in managing the integrity of our native fish populations.



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