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Fishing in Québec

Fishing is an exciting and relaxing activity that everyone can enjoy. Whether you fish alone, as part of a group or with your family, in a lake or a river, in a natural setting or in a city, there are many different fish species waiting to be discovered. Although Québec's diverse range of fish is a renewable natural resource, its balance is nevertheless fragile. As a result, there are a number of rules that you must follow before fishing, to ensure the sustainability of this collective wealth.

The regulation presented covers the period from April 1st, 2020 to March 31, 2022. A new regulation is published every two years, on April 1st, but the periods, limits and exceptions are, for their part, updated annually, from April 1st.

Zone-based regulations

Québec's territory is divided into [29 fishing zones](#) that take species distribution into account.

The regulations may therefore differ from one zone to the next, and also depending on the species and period of the year. Rules may also differ if you are in [certain areas](#).

To fish in Québec, you must:

- hold a valid [fishing licence](#) (unless otherwise stated)
- know your [fishing zon](#)
- comply with the [quotas and fishing period](#) in this zone;
- comply with the [catch and length limits](#) for the species fished and the fishing zone (this requirement also applies to anyone to whom fish are given);
- use [gear \(lures, hooks, bait\)](#) that complies with the regulations governing your type of fishing;
- know the source of and be able to [identify the species](#) of any fish that you transport or have in your possession.

You must also comply with the [other rules and good practices](#) applicable to the area in which you have chosen to fish.

If you fail to comply with any of the rules governing fishing, you may be liable to a fine that will vary according to the type of offence you commit.

Fish caught during sport fishing are not intended to be sold.

Specific areas

Rules may also differ from those of the zone in certain specific territories (ZECs, outfitters, wildlife reserves, etc.). [Learn more about these rules](#).

Access to bodies of water

Most bodies of water in Québec are public, regardless of whether they are in towns, semi-urban areas or rural areas. However, the land bordering the bodies of water may be privately owned. Make sure you have the landowner's permission if you must cross privately-owned land to access the site at which you would like to fish.

Land that is not privately-owned belongs to the domain of the State. You may access it freely, except for [certain places](#) where access fees and special rules may apply.

Main species fished

Some freshwater fish species are of more interest to anglers, because of their combativeness or tasty flesh.

See our [fact sheets on the main species fished in Québec](#) for details of their principal characteristics, and to learn how to recognize them.

Unless otherwise indicated, the major species categories include several subspecies. For more information, see the [glossary](#).

Particular species

Particular rules, in addition to quotas, apply to the following species.

Rainbow smelt: You may fish for rainbow smelt [at night](#) using [authorized fishing gear](#), from December 1st, 2019 to April 23, 2020, from December 1st, 2020 to April 22, 2021 and from December 1st, 2021 to April 21, 2022 in a portion of a salmon river in which rainbow smelt fishing is authorized. To learn more on [fishing for rainbow smelt](#).

Whitefish, rainbow smelt, burbot, mollusks and crustaceans: [Particular types of fishing](#) are authorized for these species, in very specific situations.

Atlantic salmon: [Atlantic salmon fishing](#) is highly sought-after as an activity and is governed by special rules.

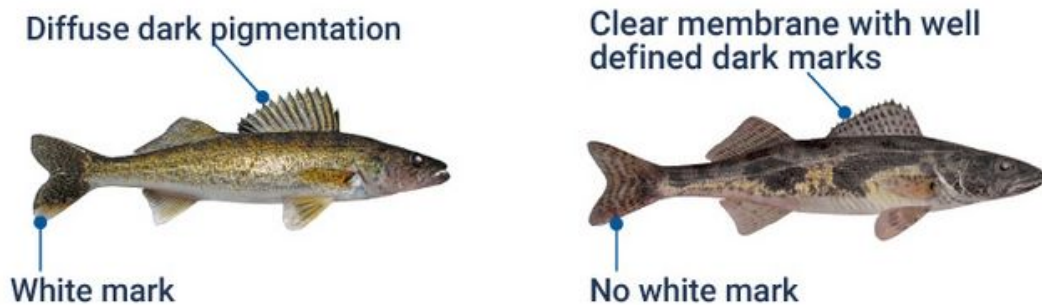
Striped bass, lake sturgeon, muskellunge, lake trout: Like the walleye and Atlantic salmon, these species are also be subject to length limits.

Char: Catch weight limits apply if you fish for char in certain northern zones.

Yellow walleye and sauger: Yellow walleye and sauger are both found in Québec. An initial management plan was tabled in 2011, and since then length limits have been introduced to protect the yellow walleye from overfishing. Since the limits apply only to yellow walleye, it is vital that you are able to differentiate this species from the sauger.

Walleye and sauger must be transported whole or in wallet fillets when length limits are in force for the walleye at the fishing site.

Main differences between walleye and sauger



Understanding the regulatory information

The [Québec Fishing Regulation](#) is based on the federal Fisheries Act and allows the Government to amend some of the conditions applicable to sport fishing for freshwater fish in Québec's waters. Recreational fishing for saltwater species such as capelin, cod and so on, is managed by [Fisheries and Oceans Canada](#).

The new regulation is published on April 1st of each year, but the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (MFFP) may amend it during the year, among other things to:

- close a body of water in order to avoid overfishing of a particular species;
- change catch limits based on a salmon run;
- open local water bodies to winter fishing;
- change fishing practices in a given sector following an agreement with an Aboriginal nation or band council.

Before planning your fishing activity, we invite you to consult our [Latest News page](#) for information on these changes.

Introduction to fishing

If you are new to fishing, we have worked with our partners to create a unique Web platform containing a host of information that will guide you through the discovery of your new hobby.

If you would like to discover fishing, learn the basics or try it out, visit the campaign website [La pêche, c'est simple, c'est pas compliqué](#) (French only).

Notice

The information published on this website has been simplified and provides a summary of the main regulatory provisions. It does not replace the official texts of the laws and regulations. For more detailed information on a specific rule, please refer to the [Québec Fishery Regulations](#) or the [Regulation respecting fishing licences](#).

Latest news on regulation

The general sport fishing rules are published every two years on April 1st. You will find here all the novelties in force since the last publication of these rules.

Brook trout and lake trout management plans

Enforcement of the lake trout and brook trout management plan's new rules. For further information, see the department's [management plans](#).

Zone 1

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Modification of fishing periods for many species in the zone.
- Reduced catch and possession limit for char: 10 in total.
- Modification to the catch and possession limit for char in a sector of rivière Petite Cascapédia and in rivières Petite Cascapédia Est and Ouest: 1 in total, measuring less than 36 cm.
- Modification to the catch and possession limit for Atlantic salmon in rivières Petite Cascapédia, Petite Cascapédia Est and Ouest: 1 small fish caught and retained or 3 caught and released, according to the quota caught first.

See all the [particular rules for zone 1](#).

Zone 2

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Modification of fishing period for many species in the zone.
- Reduction of the catch and possession limit for char in the zone: 10 in total.
- Modification of fishing period for whitefish in rivière Touladi.
- Modification of rivière Patapédia's prohibited fishing sector.
- Modification of the winter fishing period in lacs Beau, Témiscouata, Jerry, de l'Est, Grand lac Squatec, Humqui and Pohénégamook - Winter fishing strictly allowed in waters with a maximum depth of 3 metres.

See all the [particular rules for zone 2](#).

Zone 3

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Modification of fishing period for lake trout in the zone.
- Reduced catch and possession limit for char in the zone: 10 in total.
- Modification of fishing period in ZEC Jaro.

See all the [particular rules for zone 3](#).

Zone 4

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Modification of fishing period for lake trout in the zone.

See all the [particular rules for zone 4](#).

Zone 5

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Modification of fishing period for lake trout in the zone.

See all the [particular rules for zone 5](#).

Zone 6

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Modification of fishing period for lake trout in the zone.

See all the [particular rules for zone 6](#).

Zone 7

The new rules regarding thi fishing zone are as follows:

- Modification of fishing period for lake trout in the zone.
- Modification of fishing period for many species in a sector of rivière Bécancour.

See all the [particular rules for zone 7](#).

Zone 9

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Introduction of a new length limit for lake trout in the zone: 55 cm or more.
- Former length limit for lake trout in lacs Louisa and des Îles maintained: 45 cm or more.

See all the [particular rules for zone 9](#).

Zone 10

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Prohibition of fishing from April 1st to July 15 in one sector of rivière Gatineau.
- Modification of fishing periods for lake trout and bass in lac Marie-Louise (municipality of La Minerve).

- Closure of winter fishing in lacs Moreno and Veillot (municipality of Nominingue), à la Loutre (municipality of Huberdeau), de la Sucrierie (municipality of Amherst), Cameron (municipality of Low), Creux (municipality of Lac-Nigault) and several other lakes in the area.
- Introduction of a new length limit for lake trout in lacs Labelle (municipality of Labelle), Grandes Baies (municipality of Nominingue) and several other lakes in the area: 55 cm or more.
- Modification of fishing periods in lac Rognon (municipality of Amherst).
- Opening of winter fishing for char and trout in lac Ambroise (municipality of Déléage).

See all the [particular rules for zone 10](#).

Zone 11

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Introduction of a new length limit for lake trout in the area: 55 cm or more.
- Maintaining the old length limit for lake trout in lacs Pérodeau, Des Cornes and Major: 45 cm or more.
- Opening of fishing for some species in lac Tapani on the first weekend of March.
- Reduction of catch and possession limit for lake trout in lac Borcoman (municipality of Ferme-Neuve): 0 retained.

See all the [particular rules for zone 11](#)

Zone 12

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Closure of winter fishing on many lakes in the zone.
- Introduction of a new length limit for lake trout in lac Duval: 55 cm or more.

See all the [particular rules for zone 12](#).

Zone 13 East

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- The lacs Cuillère 1 and 2 become the lac Cuillère.
- Modification of fishing periods in lacs Roger, Namego, Wetetnagami, Charrett and Jalobert: same as the zone fishing periods.
- Modification of the daily catch limit for lake trout in lac Wetetnagami: 2 in total (same as the zone limit).

See all the [particular rules for zone 13](#).

Zone 13 West

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Opening of fishing in lacs Florentien and Ab-Rono and surrounding lacs Sans nom for 3 days in August with a daily catch limit of 3 char in total.
- Opening of lacs Laniel 1 and 2 with a daily catch limit of 3 char in total.
- Modification of fishing periods in one sector of rivière La Sarre: no fishing for all species from April 1st to June 14 inclusively.
- Closure of winter fishing in lacs Plasez, Moulin and Black as part of the lake trout management plan.
- Name change: lac Galt becomes lac du Grand Couteau.
- Introduction of a new length limit for lake trout in lacs Aldor, À l'Eau Claire, Guay and Saint-Amand: 55 cm or more.

See all the [particular rules for zone 13](#).

Zone 14

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Modification of fishing periods for char, landlocked salmon, trout and lake trout in the zone.
- Reduction of catch and possession limit for char in the zone: 10 in total;
- Introduction of a new length limit for lake trout in lac Vaillant: 55 cm or more.
- Modification of fishing periods in lac du Tabac (municipality of Baie-Obaoca).

See all the [particular rules for zone 14](#).

Zone 15

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Modification to the fishing periods for char, trout, lake trout and landlocked salmon in the zone.
- Reduced catch and possession limit for char in the zone: 10 in total.
- Introduction of a new length limit for lake trout in the zone: 55 cm or more.

See all the [particular rules for zone 15](#).

Zone 16

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Harmonization with zone 13 of the length limit for walleye in lacs Turgeon and aux Loutres: 32 cm up to and including 47 cm.

See all the [particular rules for zone 16](#).

Zone 17

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Modification of fishing periods in some sectors of rivières de l'Aigle, Opawica and Saint-Cyr as well as in lacs Chevrier and Doda and in ruisseau Germain.
- Reduced catch and possession limit for char in the zone: 15 in total or 4 kg + 1 char.
- Closing of winter fishing in some sectors of lac Chibougamau.
- Modification to the fishing period in rivière Énard of lac Chibougamau.
- Harmonization of fishing periods of many species in several bodies of water.

See all the [particular rules for zone 17](#).

Zone 18

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Closing of winter fishing for all species in rivière Boucher, lacs du Grand Portage, de la Montagne, McKinley and Betsiamites (Bersimis-2) and in réservoirs Outardes-2, Outardes-3 et Outardes-4.
- Introduction of a new length limit for lake trout in lacs Dubuc, Kakuskanus, des Caribous, du Sault-aux-Cochons and Sédillot and in réservoirs Betsiamites (Bersimis-2), Pipmuacan (Bersimis-1), Outardes-2, Outardes-3, Manic-1 et Manic-2: 55 cm or more.
- Introduction of a new length limit for lake trout in lac Fléché: less than 60 cm.
- Harmonization of the fishing period for trout with the fishing period for char in the zone.

See all the [particular rules of zone 18](#).

Zone 19 South, Part A

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Closure of winter fishing for all species in réservoirs Outardes-4 and Manic-3.
- Harmonization with the zone's catch and possession limit for lake trout in réservoir Manic-5: less than 60 cm.
- Introduction of a new length limit for lake trout in réservoirs Manic-3 and Outardes-4: 45 cm or more.

See all the [particular rules for zone 19](#).

Zone 19 South, Part B

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Reduction of catch and possession limit for Atlantic salmon in one sector of rivière Saint-Jean: 0 retained.

See all the [particular rules for zone 19](#).

Zone 21

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Reduction of catch and possession limit for char in the zone: 5 in total (except in bodies of water of zone 21 located eastside of the western tip of île de Kegaska.
- Modification of fishing periods for char in rivière Saguenay, baie des Chaleurs and îles-de-la-Madeleine waters.
- Modification of fishing periods for many species in some sectors of rivière Saguenay.

See all the [particular rules for zone 21](#).

Zone 22

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Modification to the fishing periods for all species in the zone.

See all the [particular rules for zone 22](#).

Zone 23

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Modification of fishing period for all species in the zone and maintenance of an additional mandatory catch and release period for outfitters until September 30.
- Introduction of a new daily catch limit and length limit for landlocked salmon in rivière Caniapiscou, from its confluence with rivière Koksoak to the chute du Calcaire located 27 km upstream.

See all the [particular rules for zone 23](#).

Zone 24

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Modification of fishing period for all species in the zone.

See all the [particular rules for zone 24](#).

Zone 26

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Modification of fishing period for lake trout in the zone.
- Harmonization of fishing period for mukellunge in rivière Saint-Maurice and lac Mékinac with the fishing period of the zone for that species.

- Closure of winter fishing and prohibition to fish for char at all time in the Grande Baie sector of lac Édouard.
- Introduction of a new length limit for lake trout in lacs à l'Eau Claire, aux Sables and du Missionnaire: 55 cm or more.
- Reduction of catch and possession limit for lake trout in Grand lac Long: 0 retained.
- Modification of fishing period for some species in lac des Pins Rouges.

See all the [particular rules for zone 26](#).

Zone 27

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Introduction of a new length limit for lake trout in lacs Long and Montauban: 55 cm or more.
- Modification of fishing period for bass and muskellunge in the zone.
- Modification of fishing period in Portneuf wildlife reserve, in ZECs de la Rivière-Blanche and des Martres.
- Closure of Atlantic tomcod fishing in the zone, except in rivière Sainte-Anne, between the downstream side of autoroute 138 bridge and the upstream side of autoroute 40.
- Introduction of a winter fishing period in lac de la Mine, at Notre-Dame-de-Montauban: from December 20 to March 31.

See all the [particular rules for zone 27](#).

Zone 28

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Introduction of a length limit for walleye and sauger in lac Saint-Jean's Community Wildlife Area, excluding lac à Jim and rivière Micosas: 47 cm maximum.
- Modification of fishing period for all species in lacs des Îles, Méricanane, Neault, Providence, Quémandeur, à la Truite, Yarbo and in Petit lac Monikanan Ouest.
- Modification of fishing rules in rivières Saguenay, Chicoutimi, Shipshaw, Descente des Femmes and aux Vases.
- Introduction of a new length limit for yellow walleye in Ashuapmushuan Wildlife Reserve: 32 cm up to and including 47 cm.
- Introduction of a new length limit for lake trout in many bodies of water in the zone: 55 cm or more.
- Reduction of the catch and possession limit for lake trout in lac Chaumonot: 0 retained.

See all the [particular rules for zone 28](#).

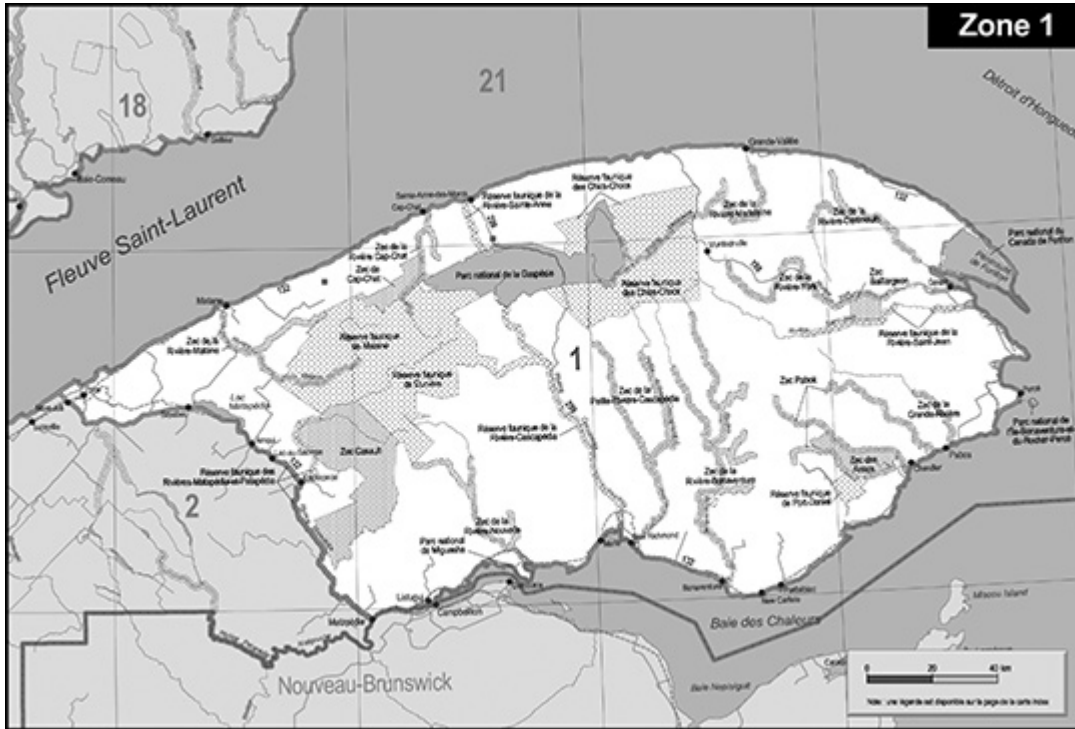
Zone 29

The new rules regarding this fishing zone are as follows:

- Closure of winter fishing for lake trout in lacs à la Croix and Manouane.

See all the [particular rules for zone 29](#).

Zone 1



[Fishing periods and quotas in zone 1](#)

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 0.96 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits for some species

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Striped bass

May keep

Striped bass measuring between 50 cm and 65 cm inclusively where fishing for this species is permitted.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (from 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Lake trout (and splake)

May keep

Lake trout 60 cm or more

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs).

Dead bait fish allowed

Dead shrimp as the only bait fish allowed:

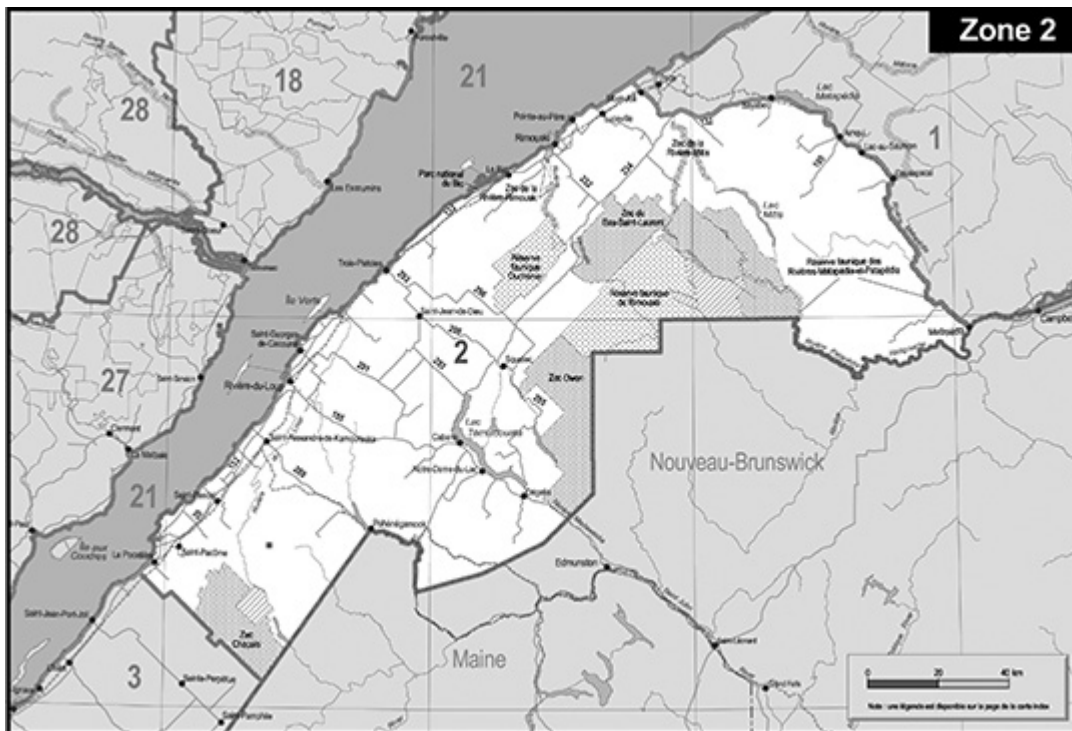
From December 20 to March 31 (for smelt fishing only)

For possession, and only in the waters of rivières Bonaventure and York for use.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 20 to March 31

Zone 2



[Fishing periods and quotas in zone 2](#)

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 0.97 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits for some species

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Striped bass

May keep

Striped bass measuring between 50 cm and 65 cm inclusive where fishing for this species is permitted.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 60 cm or more

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs).

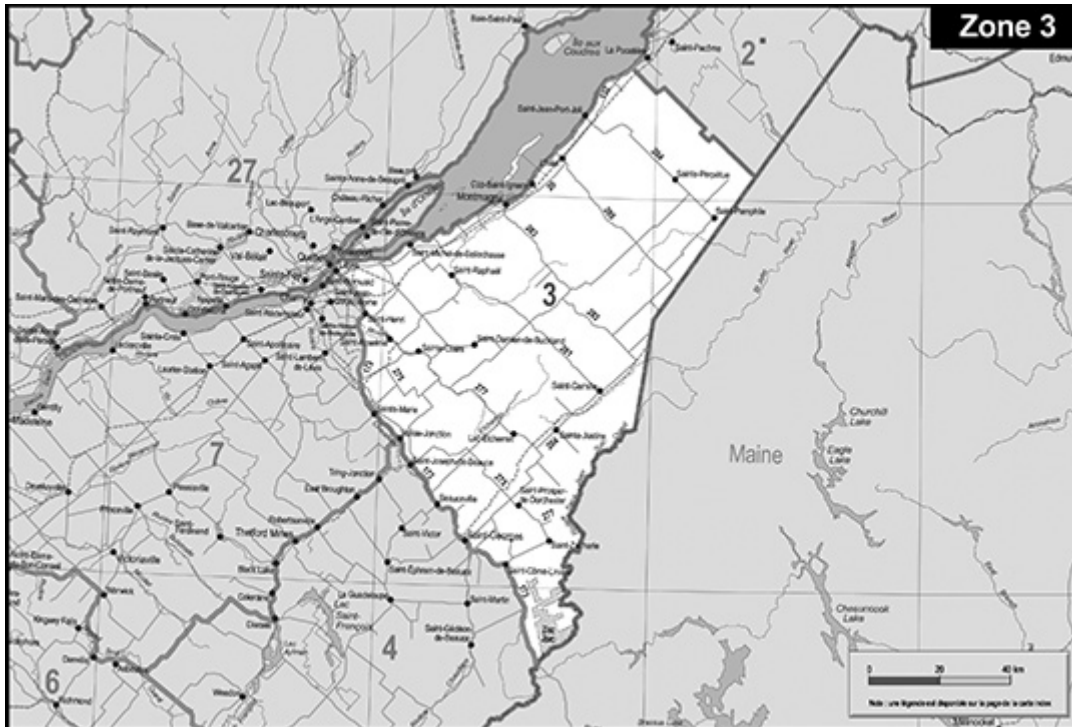
Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of dead bait fish is prohibited in this zone.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 20 to March 31

Zone 3



Fishing periods and quotas in zone 3

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 0.94 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits for some species

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Walleye

May keep

Walleye between 37 cm and 53 cm inclusively

No length limit for sauger.

State of fish

Whole, gutted or [wallet filleted](#)

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 60 cm or more

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs).

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

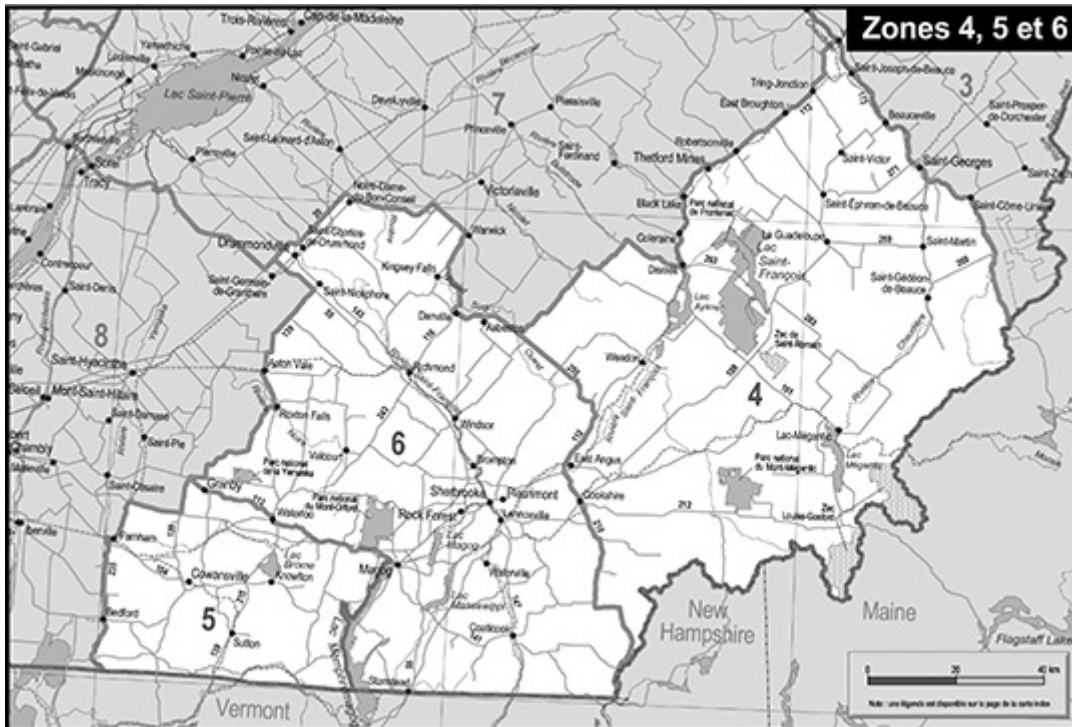
Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of dead bait fish is prohibited in this zone.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 20 to March 31

Zone 4



Fishing periods and quotas in zone 4

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 1.11 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits for some species

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Walleye

May keep

Walleye between 37 cm and 53 cm inclusively

No length limit for sauger.

State of fish

Whole, gutted or [wallet filleted](#)

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Landlocked salmon

May keep

Landlocked salmon 42 cm or more

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 60 cm or more

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs).

Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of all dead bait fish species, EXCEPT [prohibited species](#), whether whole or cut up, are allowed:

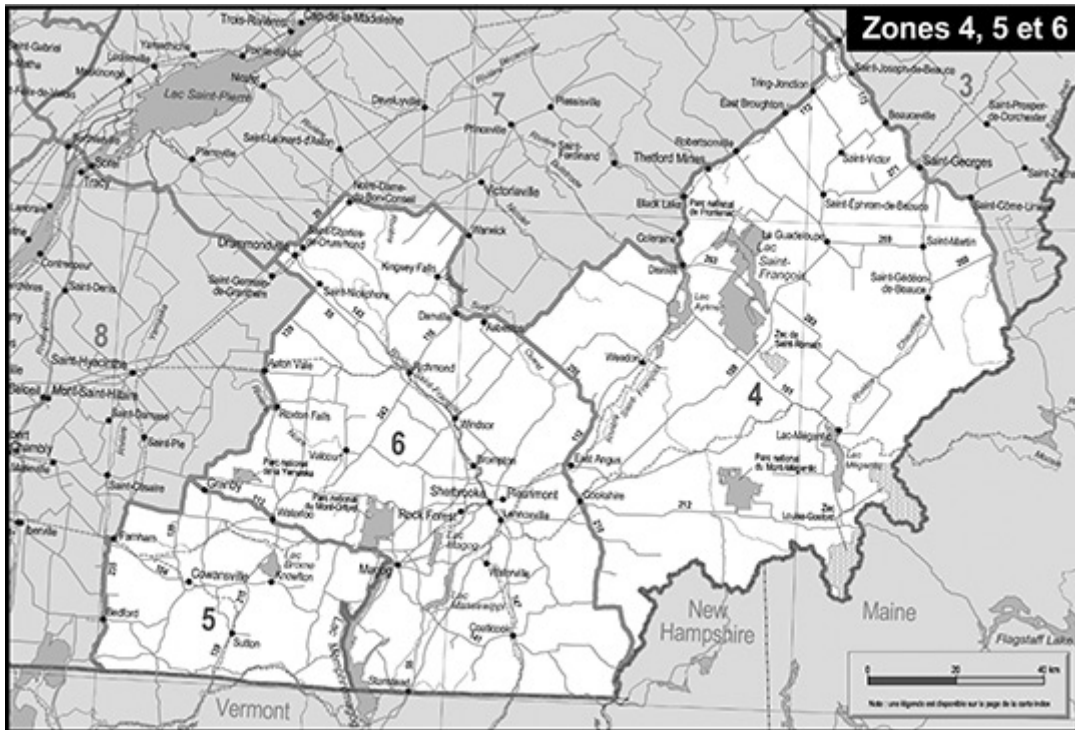
From December 20 to March 31

Except in lac à la Truite (Ham Sud) where the possession and use of dead bait fish is prohibited.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 20 to March 31

Zone 5



Fishing periods and quotas in zone 5

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 1.11 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits for some species

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Walleye

May keep

Walleye between 37 cm and 53 cm inclusively

No length limit for sauger.

State of fish

Whole, gutted or [wallet filleted](#)

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 60 cm or more

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs).

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Dead bait fish allowed

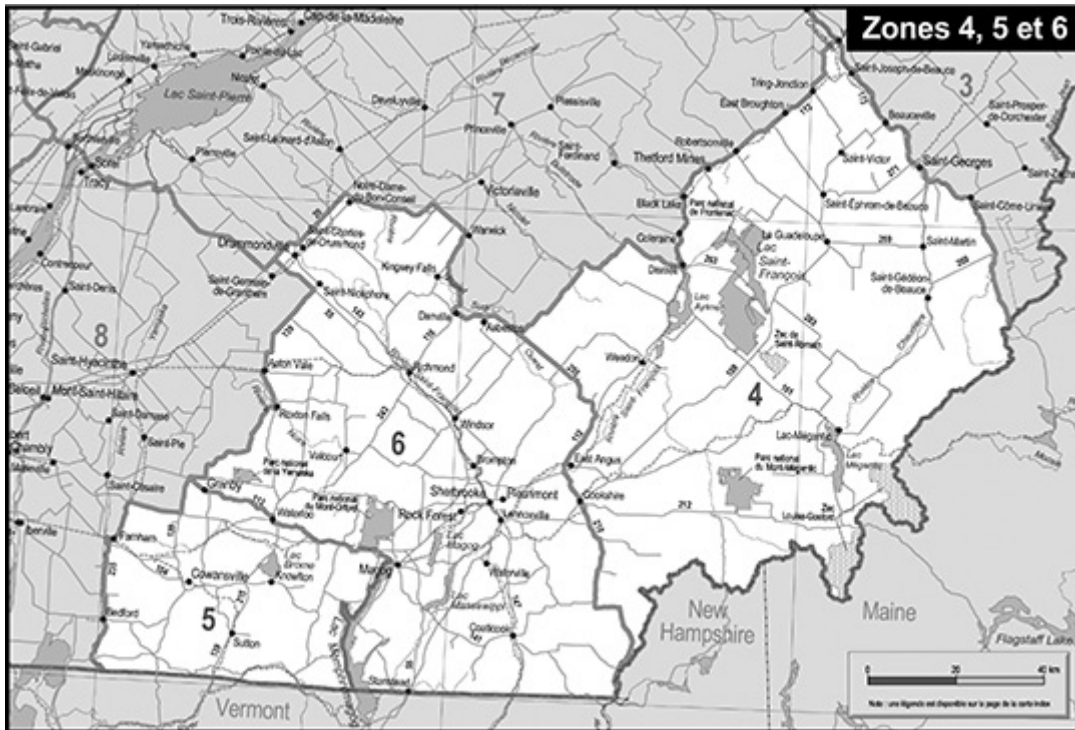
Possession and use of all dead bait fish species, EXCEPT [prohibited species](#), whether whole or cut up, are allowed:

From December 20 to March 31

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 20 to March 31

Zone 6



Fishing periods and quotas in zone 6

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 1.11 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits for some species

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Walleye

May keep

Walleye between 37 cm and 53 cm inclusively

No length limit for sauger.

State of fish

Whole, gutted or [wallet filleted](#)

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Landlocked salmon

May keep

Landlocked salmon of any size

Exception

May keep landlocked salmon of 42 cm or more in lac Memphrémagog

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 60 cm or more

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs).

Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of all dead bait fish species, EXCEPT [prohibited species](#), whether whole or cut up, are allowed:

From December 20 to March 31

Except in lacs Cristal, Hatley and Petit lac Baldwin where the possession and use of dead bait fish is prohibited.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 20 to March 31

5 lines are allowed from December 20 to March 31 in lac Memphrémagog if fishing through ice. Under other circumstances, fishing is only allowed with one line.

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 60 cm or more in length

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs).

Lake sturgeon

May keep

Lake sturgeon between 80 cm and 130 cm inclusively

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Muskellunge

May keep

Muskellunge 111 cm or more

This length limit applies in the portion of the St. Lawrence River located in zone 7.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of all dead bait fish species, EXCEPT [prohibited species](#), whether whole or cut up, are allowed:

From December 20 to March 31

Number of lines authorized in winter

10 lines, from December 20 to March 31

Muskellunge

May keep

Muskellunge all length

Exceptions

May keep muskellunge 111 cm or more in the portion of the St. Lawrence River located in zone 8, including the following water bodies: lac Saint-Louis, rapides de Lachine, bassin La Prairie, rivière des Mille Îles, rivière des Prairies, lac des Deux Montagnes, and the part of the rivière Outaouais located in zone 8.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 60 cm or more

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs).

Lake sturgeon

May keep

Lake sturgeon between 80 cm and 130 cm inclusively

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of all dead bait fish species, EXCEPT [prohibited species](#), whether whole or cut up, are allowed:

From December 20 to March 31

Number of lines authorized in winter

10 lines, from December 20 to March 31

Only 5 lines are authorized in the portion of lac Saint-François (zone 8) located west of a line drawn from pointe Beaudette on the north shore to pointe Saint-Louis on the south shore.

Zone 9



[Fishing periods and quotas in zone 9](#)

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 1.28 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits for some species

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Walleye

May keep

Walleye between 37 cm and 53 cm inclusively

No length limit for sauger.

State of fish

Whole, gutted or [wallet filleted](#)

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 55 cm or more

Exception

May keep lake trout 45 cm or more in lacs Louisa and des Îles.

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs).

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Dead bait fish allowed

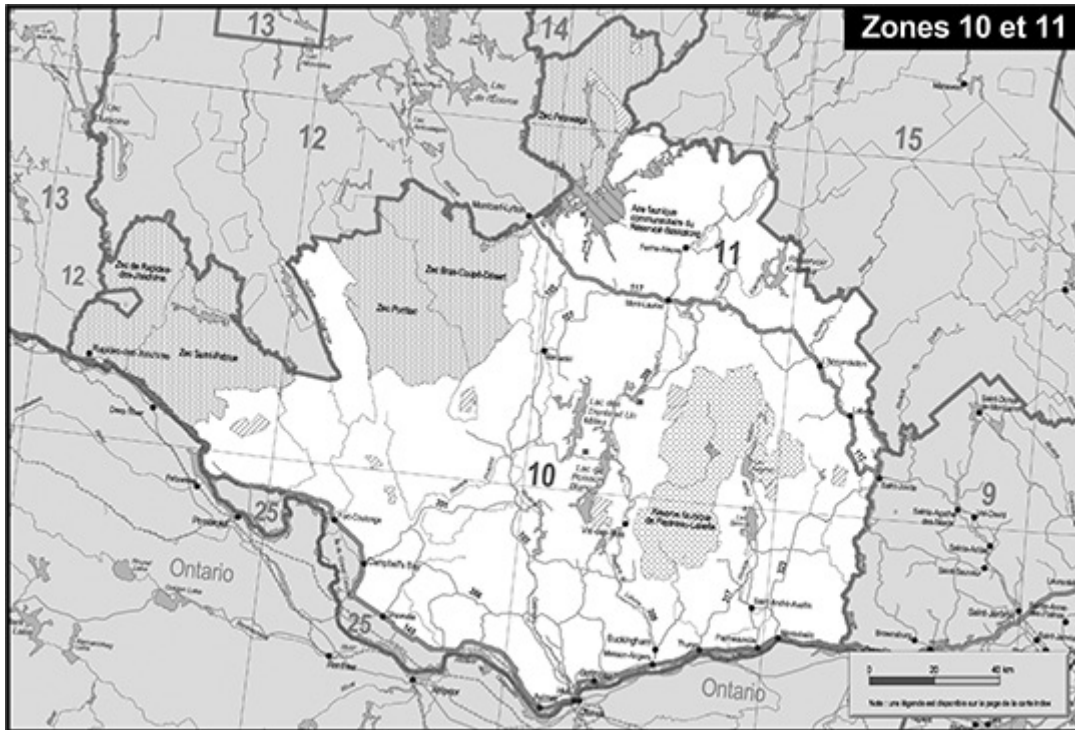
Possession and use of all dead bait fish species, EXCEPT [prohibited species](#), whether whole or cut up, are allowed:

From December 20 to March 31

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 20 to March 31

Zone 10



Fishing periods and quotas in zone 10

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 1.22 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits for some species

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Walleye

May keep

Walleye between 37 cm and 53 cm inclusively

No length limit for sauger.

Exception

No length limit in the réserve faunique Papineau-Labelle.

State of fish

Whole, gutted or [wallet filleted](#). Walleye and sauger don't have to be wallet filleted in the

réserve faunique Papineau-Labelle, but it must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 45 cm or more

Exceptions

May keep lake trout 55 cm or more in lacs de l'Achigan, de l'Argile, Blue Sea, Boisseau, Cameron, du Cardinal, Castors, Cayamant, du Cerf, du Corbeau (46° 12' N., 75° 28' W.), de la Décharge (46° 07' 06" N., 74° 48' 12" W.), Dumont (including the rivière Dumont from the outlet of the lake to the end of the first rapid, located approximately 1.6 km downstream), Earhart, Gagnon, Galarneau, Gatineau, Grand lac des Cèdres (46° 18' 14" N., 76° 06' 47" W.), Grand lac Rond, des Grandes Baies, Kensington, à la Loutre (45° 59' N., 74° 39' W.), Marie-Louise, Moreno, Labelle, La Minerve (46° 13' 18" N., 75° 01' 46" W.), Papineau, Patterson, Pemichangan, Petit lac des Cèdres (46° 16' 30" N., 76° 04' 30" W.), Petit lac du Cerf (46° 17' 20" N., 75° 31' 51" W.), Petit Preston, Pimodan, Quinn, Rognon, Saint-Germain (46° 14' N., 75° 30' W.), Serpent, Simon, de la Sucrierie, des Trente et Un Milles, Trois Montagnes, Vert (45° 59' 55" N., 75° 47' 58" W.) (municipality of Lac-Sainte-Marie), Veuillot, Viceroy, Xavier and the Poisson Blanc reservoir, including lacs Cuillèrier, du Brochet and Doré.

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves, controlled harvesting zones (ZECs) and on certain water bodies located in the territories of a number of outfitting operation with exclusive rights.

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of all dead bait fish species, EXCEPT [prohibited species](#), whether whole or cut up, are allowed:

From December 20 to March 31

Except in the réserve faunique Papineau-Labelle where they are all prohibited.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 20 to March 31

ZEC Petawaga, but it must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 55 cm or more

Exceptions

May keep lake trout 45 cm or more in lacs des Cornes, Pérodeau and Major.

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the fillet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves, controlled harvesting zones (ZECs) and on certain water bodies located in the territories of a number of outfitting operation with exclusive rights.

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (from 30 to 63 cm in length) and big salmon (63 cm or more in length).

Dead bait fish allowed

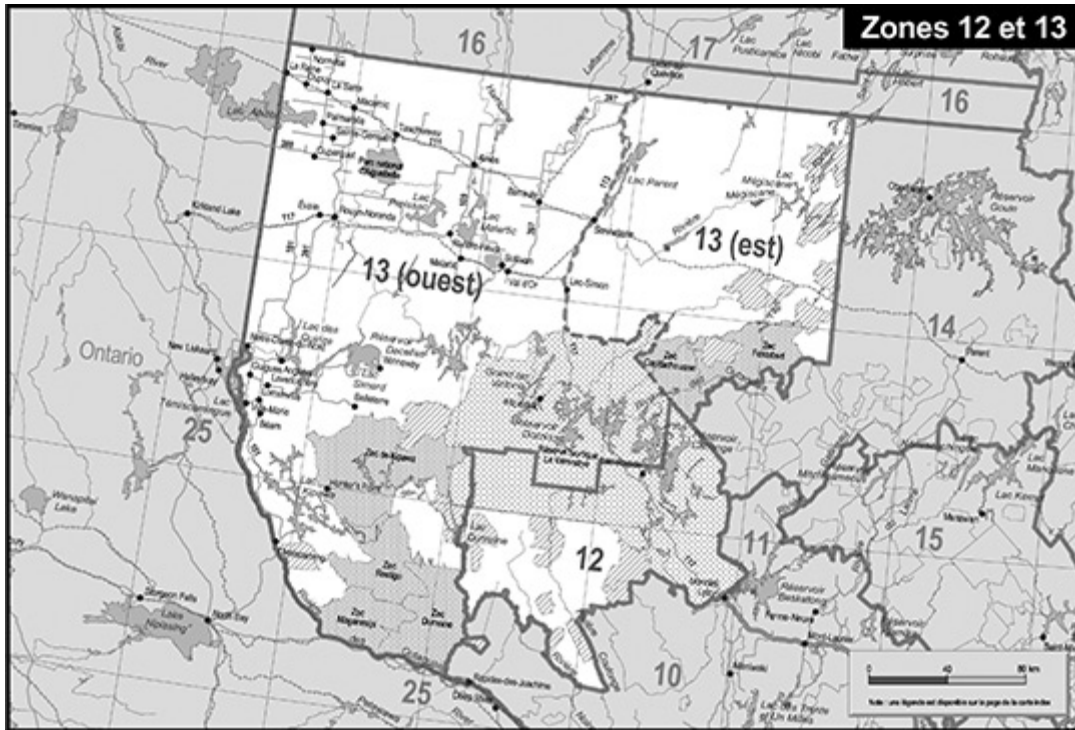
Possession and use of all dead bait fish species, EXCEPT [prohibited species](#), whether whole or cut up, are allowed:

From December 20 to March 31

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 20 to March 31

Zone 12



Fishing periods and quotas in zone 12

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 1.34 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits for some species

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Walleye

May keep

Walleye between 37 cm and 53 cm inclusively

No length limit for sauger.

Exceptions

May keep walleye 32 cm or more and no length limit for sauger in the réserve faunique La Vérendrye.

Exceptions in réserve faunique La Vérendrye

May keep walleye between 37 cm and 53 cm inclusively, no length limit for sauger, in the following waters: lacs au Barrage, Byrd, Embarras, Giroux (including lacs Nichcotea, Nicolas, Desty, Darcy and lac des Neuf Milles), Grand, Jean-Péré, Joncas, Larive, Larouche (including lac Louis), Orignal, Petit Poigan et Poigan (including the part of rivière Gens de Terre between these two lakes), Portage, Poulter, Savary, Tomasine et le réservoir Cabonga (including lacs de L'Écorce, L'Heureux and Andou as well as rivière Cabonga).

May keep walleye between 32 cm up to and including 47 cm in length in lacs Anwatan, Carrière, Canimina, Camatose, Grand lac de la Vieille, Kôkomi, Obikickikak (Kakontis), Padoue, Rodin, du Vieillard and the réservoir Dozois.

State of fish

Whole, gutted or [wallet filleted](#). Walleye and sauger don't have to be wallet filleted in the réserve faunique La Vérendrye when there is only a lower length limit. In these cases, walleye fillets must still be 20 cm or more in length. The skin must adhere to the entire fillet.

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 45 cm or more

Exception

May keep lake trout 55 cm or more in lacs Branssat, Duval and Lynch,

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves, controlled harvesting zones (ZECs) and on certain water bodies located in the territories of a number of outfitting operation with exclusive rights.

Dead bait fish allowed

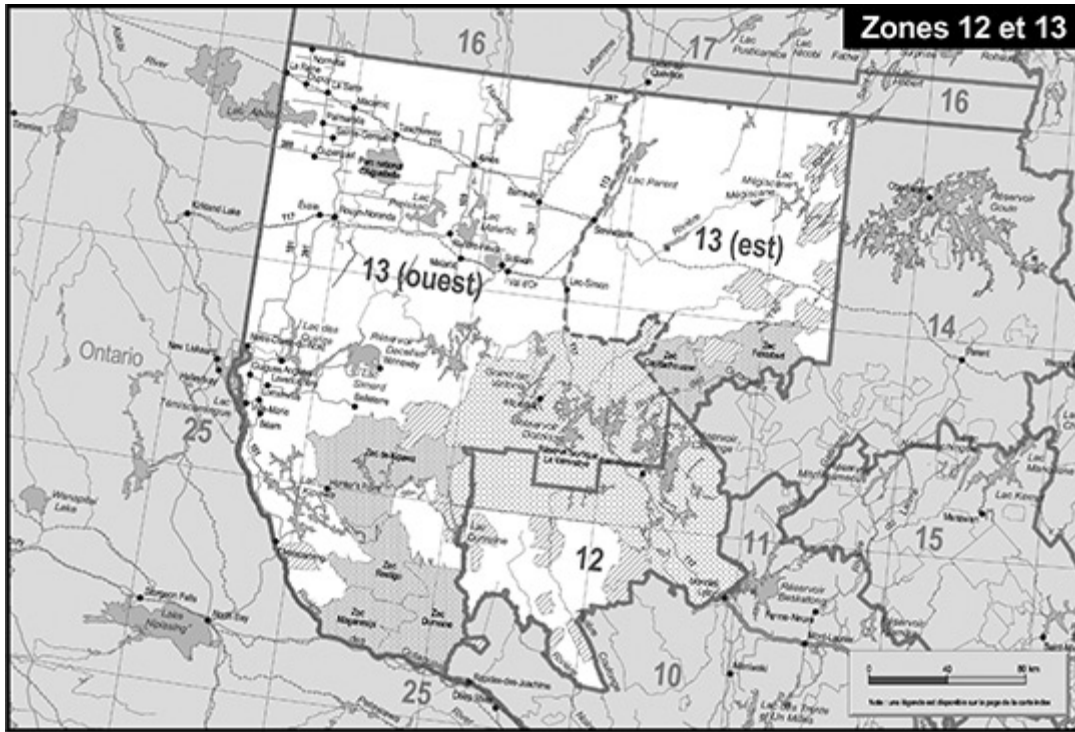
Possession and use of all dead bait fish species, EXCEPT [prohibited species](#), whether whole or cut up, are allowed:

From December 1st to April 15

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 1st to April 15

Zone 13



[Fishing periods and quotas in zone 13](#)

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 1.34 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits for some species

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Walleye

May keep

Walleye between 32 cm and 47 cm inclusively

No length limit for sauger.

Exceptions

May keep walleye between 37 cm and 53 cm inclusively, no length limit for sauger, in réservoir Kipawa, in lacs Kipawa, Audoin, Desquerac, Grindstone, Hunter, McLachlin, Hunter's Point and in the river located between lac Audoin et lac Hunter's Point as well as in the ZECs Dumoine, Restigo, Kipawa and Maganasipi.

May keep walleye 32 cm or more, no length limit for sauger, in réserve faunique La Vérendrye.

Exceptions in réserve faunique La Vérendrye

May keep walleye between 37 cm and 53 cm inclusively, no length limit for sauger, in the following waters : lacs au Barrage, Byrd, Embarras, Giroux (including lacs Nichcotea, Nicolas, Desty, Darcy and lac des Neuf Milles), Grand, Jean-Péré, Joncas, Larive, Larouche (including lac Louis), Orignal, Petit Poigan et Poigan (including the part of rivière Gens de Terre between these two lakes), Portage, Poulter, Savary, Tomasine et le réservoir Cabonga (including lacs de L'Écorce, L'Heureux and Andou as well as rivière Cabonga).

May keep walleye between 32 cm and 47 cm inclusively, no length limit for sauger, in the lacs Anwatan, Carrière, Mayimina, Camatose, Grand lac de la Vieille, Kôkomi, Obikickikak (Kakontis), Padoue, Rodin, Vieillard and réservoir Dozois.

State of fish

Whole, gutted or [wallet filleted](#). Walleye and sauger don't have to be wallet filleted in the réserve faunique La Vérendrye when there is only a lower length limit. In these cases, walleye fillets must still be 20 cm or more in length. The skin must adhere to the entire fillet.

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 45 cm or more

Exception

May keep one lake trout over 65 cm in réservoir Kipawa, either in lacs Kipawa, Audoin, Desquerac, Grindstone, Hunter, McLachlin, Hunter's Point and the river located between lac Audoin and lac Hunter's Point.

May keep lake trout 55 cm and more in lacs Terrasse, en Coeur, Marin, Memewin, Tee, Aldor, à l'Eau Claire, Guay and Saint-Amand.

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or

filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves, controlled harvesting zones (ZECs) and on certain water bodies located in the territories of a number of outfitting operation with exclusive rights.

Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of all dead bait fish species, EXCEPT [prohibited species](#), whether whole or cut up, are allowed:

From December 1st to April 15

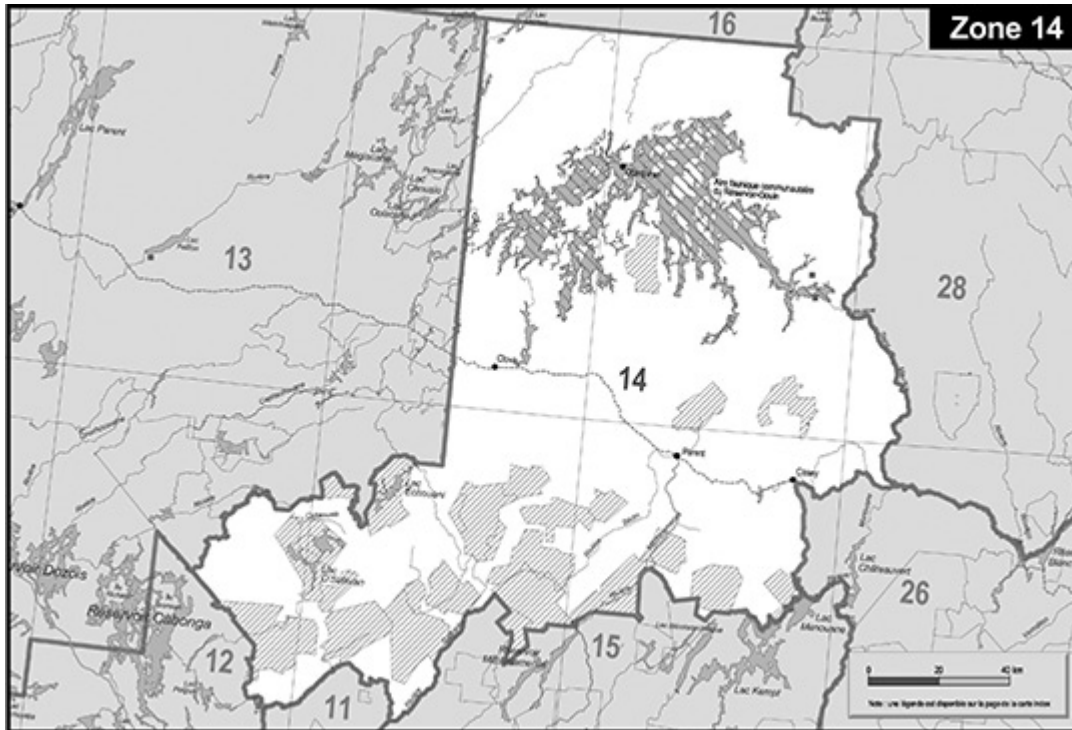
Except in parc national d'Aiguebelle, Zec Dumoine, Zec Maganasipi, lac Ab-Rono, lac Florentien, lac sans nom (47° 53' 14" N., 78° 10' 21" W.), lac sans nom (47° 52' 58" N., 78° 10' 52" W.), lac sans nom (47° 54' 18" N., 78° 09' 59" W.), lac sans nom (47° 54' 08" N., 78° 09' 37" W.), lac sans nom (47° 53' 16" N., 78° 09' 57" W.), lac sans nom (47° 52' 51" N., 78° 10' 41" W.), lac sans nom (47° 53' 16" N., 78° 10' 41" W.) and lac sans nom (47° 53' 26" N., 78° 10' 31" W.), where it is prohibited.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 1st to April 15

2 lines only, from December 1st to April 15, in lacs Clarice and Raven.

Zone 14



Fishing periods and quotas in zone 14

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 0.96 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits for some species

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Walleye

May keep

Walleye between 32 cm and 47 cm inclusively

No length limit for sauger.

State of fish

Whole, gutted or [wallet filleted](#)

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves, controlled harvesting

zones (ZECs) and on certain water bodies located in the territories of a number of outfitting operation with exclusive rights.

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 45 cm or more

Exception

May keep lake trout 55 cm or more in lacs Foie (48° 19' 00" N., 74° 17' 07" W.), des Dix-Milles (47° 53' 57" N., 74° 48' 23" W.), Peter (48° 14' 21" N., 74° 12' 19" W.) and Vaillant (48° 09' 38" N., 74° 13' 32" W.).

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves, controlled harvesting zones (ZECs) and on certain water bodies located in the territories of a number of outfitting operation with exclusive rights.

Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of all dead bait fish species, EXCEPT [prohibited species](#), whether whole or cut up, are allowed:

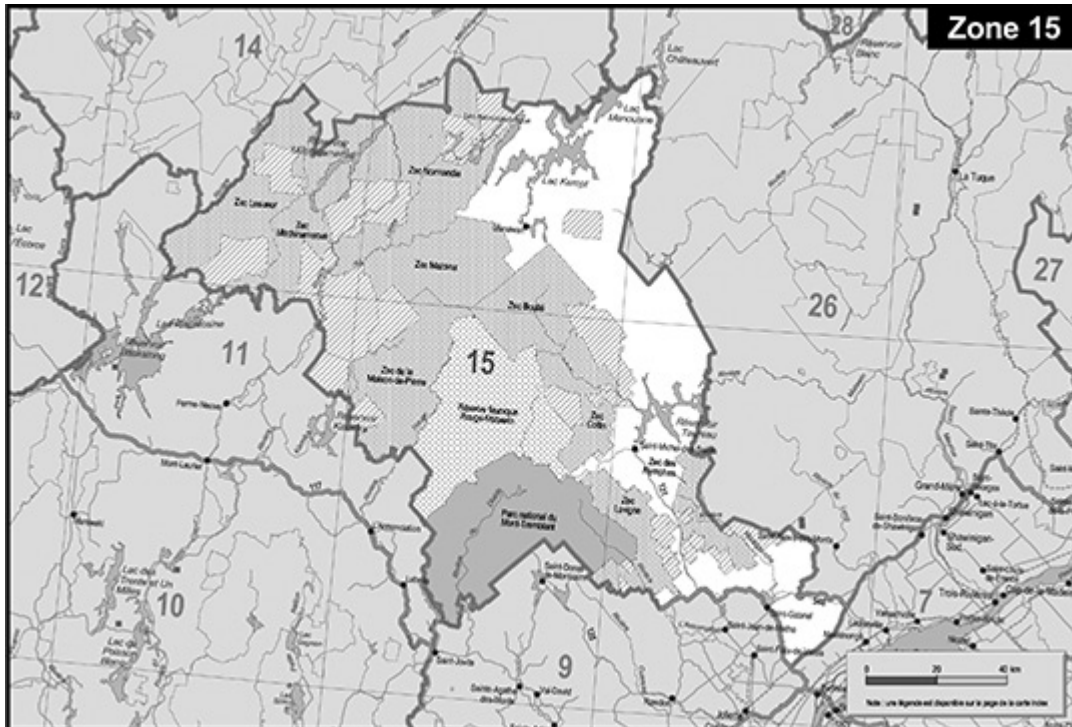
From December 1st to April 15

Except in réservoir Gouin where it is prohibited.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 1st to April 15

Zone 15



Fishing periods and quotas in zone 15

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 1.28 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits for some species

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Walleye

May keep

Walleye between 32 cm and 47 cm inclusively

No length limit for sauger.

Exceptions

No length limit applies for walleye and sauger in the parc national du Mont-Tremblant and the ZECs Lesueur, Normandie, Mazana and de la Maison-de-Pierre.

May keep walleye between 32 cm and 47 cm inclusively in the lacs à la Culotte, Kantoskekamak and Némiscachingu in the ZEC Normandie.

State of fish

Whole, gutted or [wallet filleted](#). Walleye and sauger don't have to be wallet filleted in the bodies of water where no length limit applies to these species. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the fillet).

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 55 cm or more

Exception

May keep lake trout 45 cm or more in lac Devenyns.

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the fillet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves, controlled harvesting zones (ZECs) and on certain water bodies located in the territories of a number of outfitting operation with exclusive rights.

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

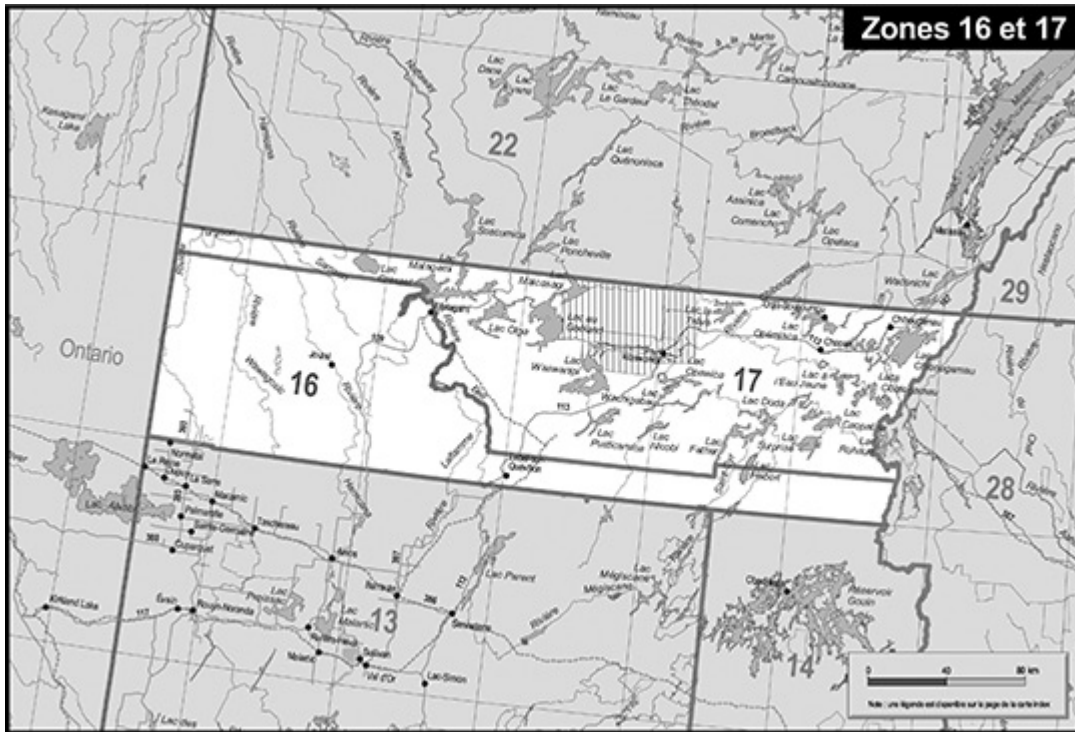
Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of dead bait fish is prohibited in this zone.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 20 to March 31

Zone 16



Fishing periods and quotas in zone 16

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 1.07 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits for some species

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Walleye

May keep

Walleye between 37 cm and 53 cm inclusively, one of which may be more than 53 cm
No length limit for sauger.

Exception

May keep walleye between 32 cm and 47 cm inclusively in lacs Turgeon and aux Loutres.

State of fish

Whole, gutted or [wallet filleted](#)

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 45 cm or more

Exception

May keep lake trout 55 cm or more in lakes Long et des Montagnes.

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet)

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs).

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of all dead bait fish species, EXCEPT [prohibited species](#), whether whole or cut up, are allowed from:

- December 1st, 2019, to April 23, 2020;
- December 1st, 2020, to April 22, 2021;
- December 1st, 2021, to April 21, 2022.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from:

- December 1st, 2019, to April 23, 2020
- December 1st, 2020, to April 22, 2021
- December 1st, 2021, to April 21, 2022

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 45 cm or more

Exception

May keep lake trout 55 cm or more in lacs Antoinette, Armitage, Barlow, Caché, Chevrier, Claude, David, Doda, aux Dorés (49° 51' 09" N., 74° 21' 05" W.), Dufresne, Dulieux, Gilman, Gwillim, Lefebvre (49° 58' 17" N., 79° 23' 43" W.), Lymburner, Nicole, Pusticamica, Sauvage (49° 53' 36" N., 74° 23' 07" W.), Scott and Simon.

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs).

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of dead smelt are allowed from:

- December 1st, 2019, to April 23, 2020;
- December 1st, 2020, to April 22, 2021;
- December 1st, 2021, to April 21, 2022.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from:

- December 1st, 2019, to April 23, 2020;
- December 1st, 2020, to April 22, 2021;
- December 1st, 2021, to April 22, 2022.

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Striped bass

May keep

Striped bass measuring between 50 cm and 65 cm inclusively where fishing for this species is permitted

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 45 cm or more

Exception

May keep lake trout 55 cm or more in lacs Dubuc, Kakuskanus, des Caribous, du Sault-aux-Cochons, Sédillot and in réservoirs Betsiamites (Bersimis-2), Pipmuacan (Bersimis-1), Outardes-2, Outardes-3, Manic-1 and Manic-2.

May keep lake trout less than 60 cm in lac Fléché.

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves, controlled harvesting zones (ZECs) and on certain water bodies located in the territories of a number of outfitting operation with exclusive rights.

Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of dead bait fish is prohibited in this zone.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 1st to April 15

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Striped bass

May keep

Striped bass measuring between 50 cm and 65 cm inclusively where fishing for this species is permitted.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout less than 60 cm (catch and possession limit of 3) in portion A of zone 19 south.

Lake trout less than 60 cm (catch and possession limit of 3, one of which may be 60 cm or more) in portion B of zone 19 south.

Exception

May keep lake trout 45 cm or more in réservoirs Manic-3 and Outardes-4 (catch and possession limit of 2 in total).

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs).

See also [Tshitassinu-La Romaine sector](#).

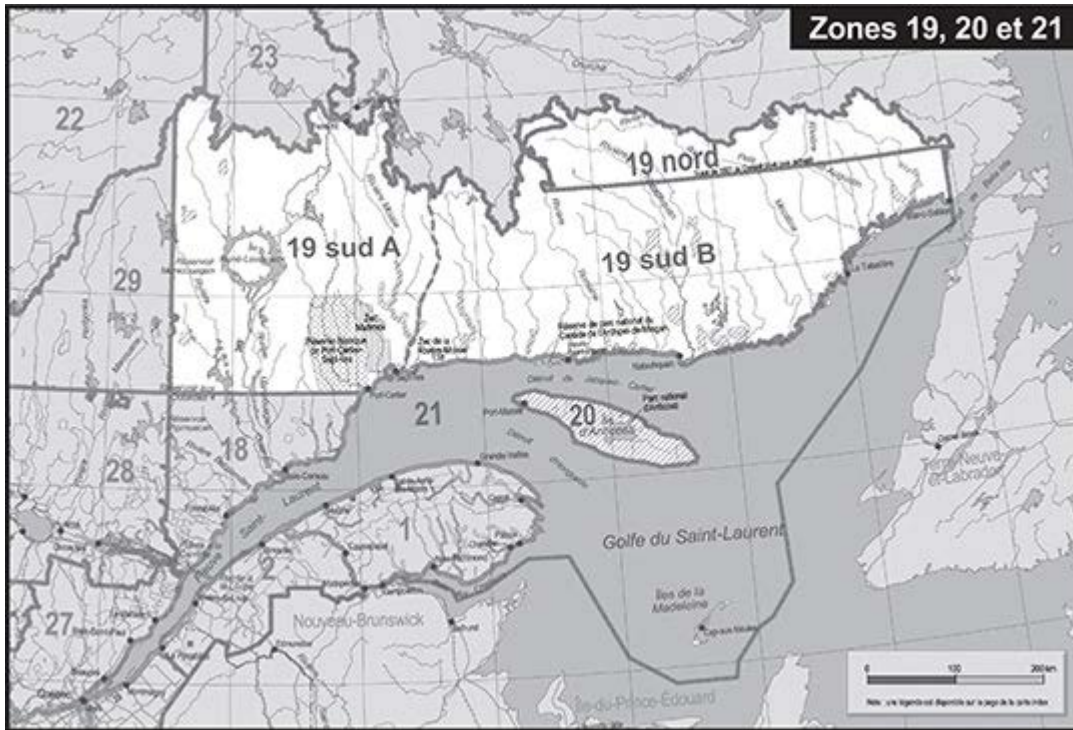
Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of dead bait fish is prohibited in this zone.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 1st to April 15 in zone 19 south

Zone 20



Fishing periods and quotas in zone 20

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 5.37 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits for some species

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Striped bass

May keep

Striped bass measuring between 50 cm and 65 cm inclusively where fishing for this species is permitted.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 45 cm or more

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs).

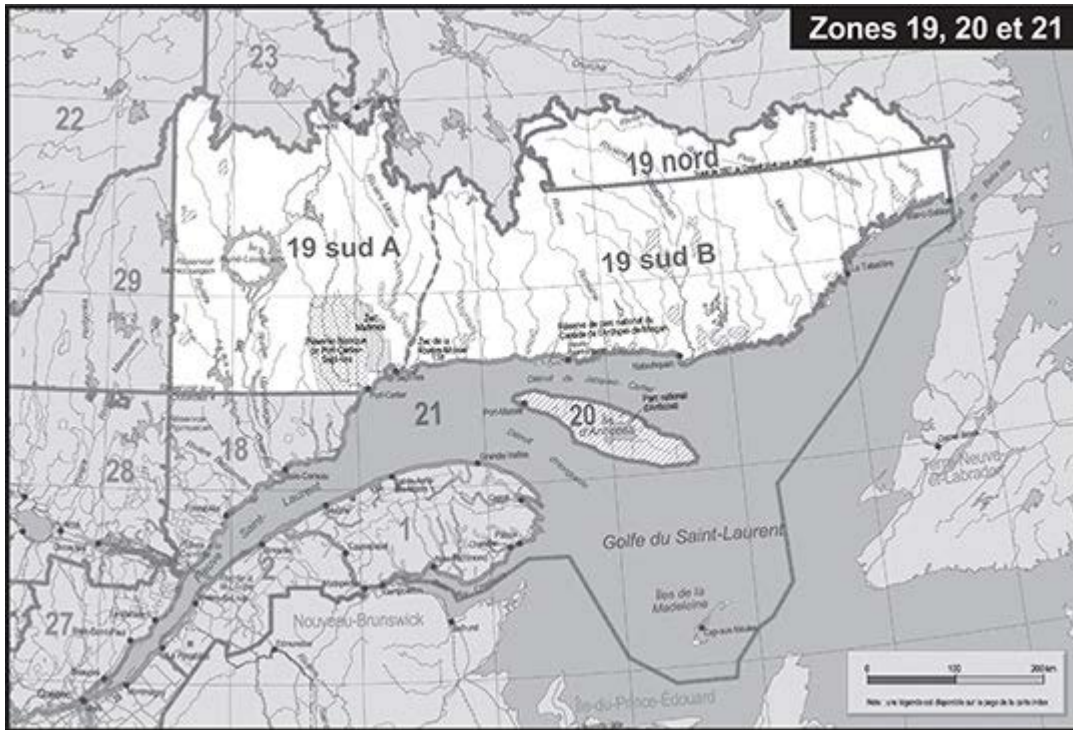
Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of dead bait fish is prohibited in this zone.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 1st to April 30

Zone 21



[Fishing periods and quotas in zone 21](#)

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 5.37 Mb\)](#) (including a description of the zone)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits for some species

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Striped bass

May keep

Striped bass measuring between 50 cm and 65 cm inclusively where fishing for this species is permitted

[View Striped Bass Fishing Zone Map in Zone 21 \(PDF 1.64 Mb\)](#)

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Lake sturgeon

May keep

Lake sturgeons between 80 cm and 130 cm inclusively

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Walleye

May keep

Walleye between 37 cm and 53 cm inclusively

No length limit for sauger.

State of fish

Whole, gutted or [wallet filleted](#)

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 45 cm or more

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs).

Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of all dead bait fish species, EXCEPT [prohibited species](#), whether whole or cut up, are allowed:

From December 1st to April 15

Zone 21 for possession, and the portion located east of rivière Saguenay and less than 1 km from zones 18, 19 and 20, and the islands and islets located in these zones, for use.

From December 20 from March 31

Zone 21 for possession, and the portion located east of rivière Saguenay and situated 1 km or more from zones 18, 19 and 20, and the islands and islets situated in these three zones, as well as the portion of zone 21 located west of rivière Saguenay, including the portion up to the Dubuc bridge, for use.

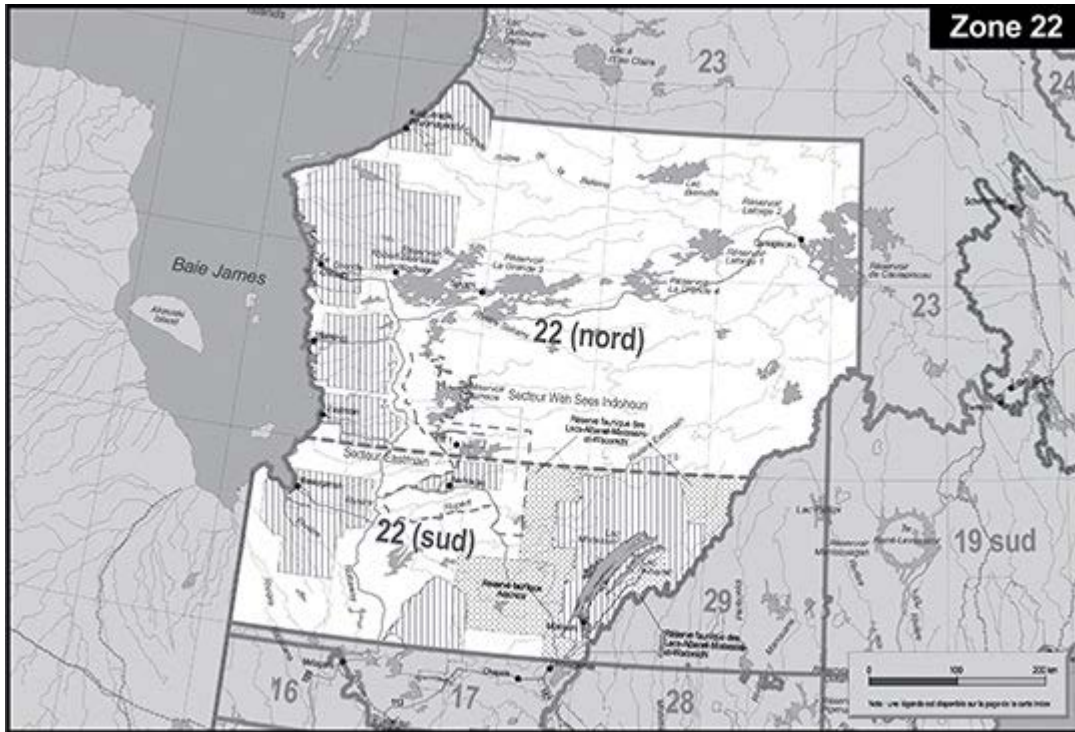
During these periods, you may have dead bait fish in your possession between the portions of highways 20 and 40, route 132 (except for the stretch located between Sainte-Flavie and Matapédia) and route 138, located in zones 1, 2, 3, 18, 19 and 27, with a view to using them in zones 7 and 21.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 20 to March 31

The period extends from December 1st to April 15 for waters in zone 21 located east of the rivière Saguenay and within 1 km of zones 18, 19 and 20 and islands and islets located in these zones.

Zone 22



Fishing periods and quotas in zone 22

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 1.44 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Walleye

May keep

Walleye between 37 cm and 53 cm inclusively, one of which may be more than 53 cm

No length limit for sauger.

Exception

No length limit applies to walleye and sauger in réserves fauniques des lacs Albanel-Mistassini-et-Waconichi and Assinica.

State of fish

Whole, gutted or [wallet filleted](#). Walleye and sauger don't have to be wallet filleted in the bodies Whole, gutted or [wallet filleted](#). Walleye and sauger don't have to be wallet filleted in the bodies of water where no length limit applies to these species. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the fillet).

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout less than 60 cm (catch and possession limit of 3, one of which may be 60 cm and more in zone 22 north)

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the fillet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves, controlled harvesting zones (ZECs) and on certain water bodies located in the territories of a number of outfitting operation with exclusive rights.

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

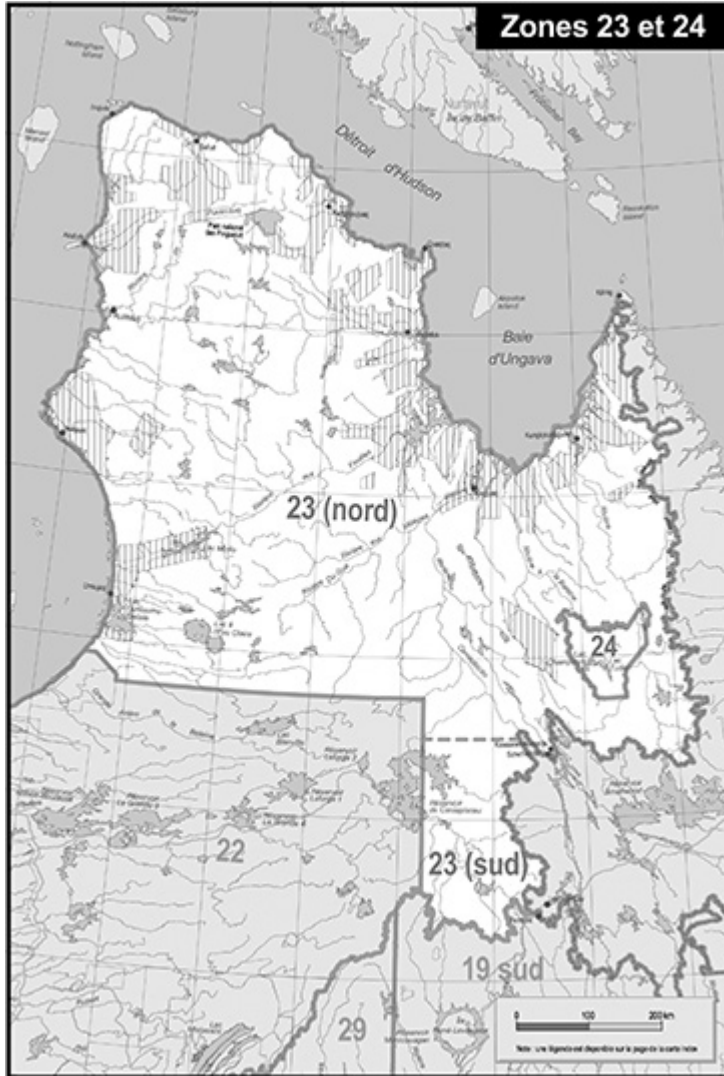
Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of dead bait fish is prohibited in this zone.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 1st to April 30

Zone 23



[Fishing periods and quotas in zone 23](#)

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 1.14 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

You must use the service of an outfitter to fish for salmon in this zone, where you are allowed to keep four salmon, small or big.

The use of the [Angler's Logbook](#) is recommended for this zone to register with an outfitter, register the kept salmon and get the instruction to collaborate to the data collection useful to the management of this species.

Landlocked salmon

May keep

Landlocked salmon of all length

Exceptions

May keep landlocked salmon more than 30 cm and less than 63 cm in the sector of Chute du Calcaire in rivière Caniapiscau.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout less than 60 cm (catch and possession limit of 3, one of which may be 60 cm and more)

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the fillet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs).

See also the [Nord-du-Québec section](#).

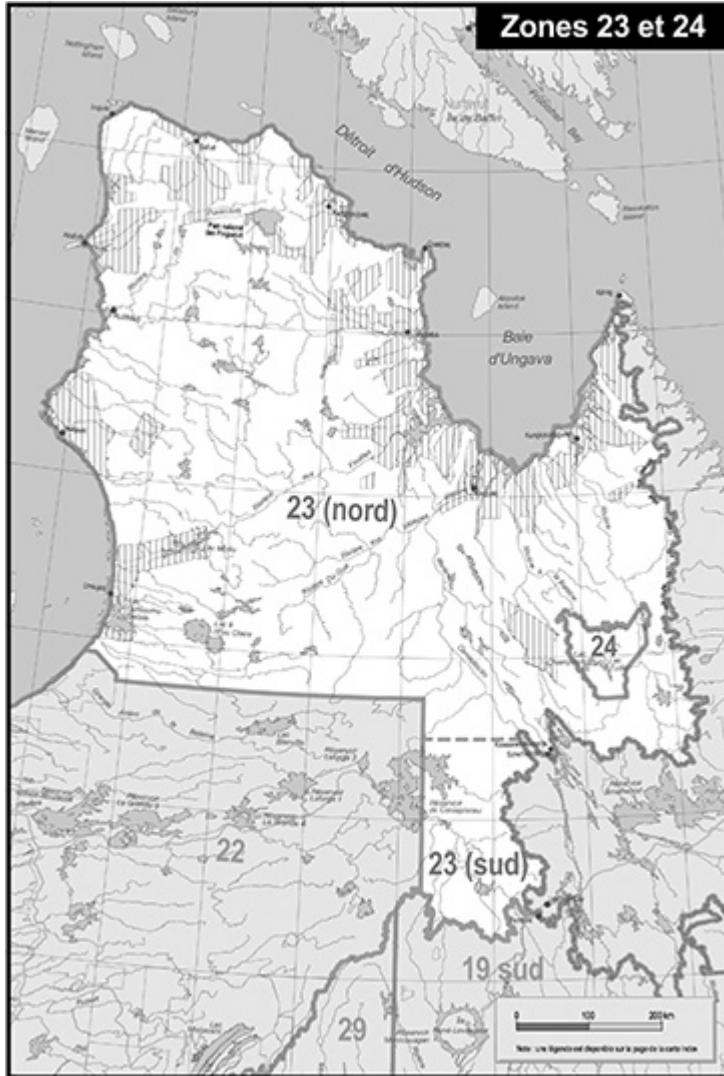
Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of dead bait fish is prohibited in this zone.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 1st to April 30

Zone 24



Fishing periods and quotas in zone 24

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 1.14 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits for some species

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm in) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

The use of the [Angler's Logbook](#) is recommended for this zone to register with an outfitter, register the kept salmon and get the instruction to collaborate to the data collection useful to the management of this species.

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout less than 60 cm (catch and possession limit of 3, one of which may be 60 cm and more)

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the fillet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs).

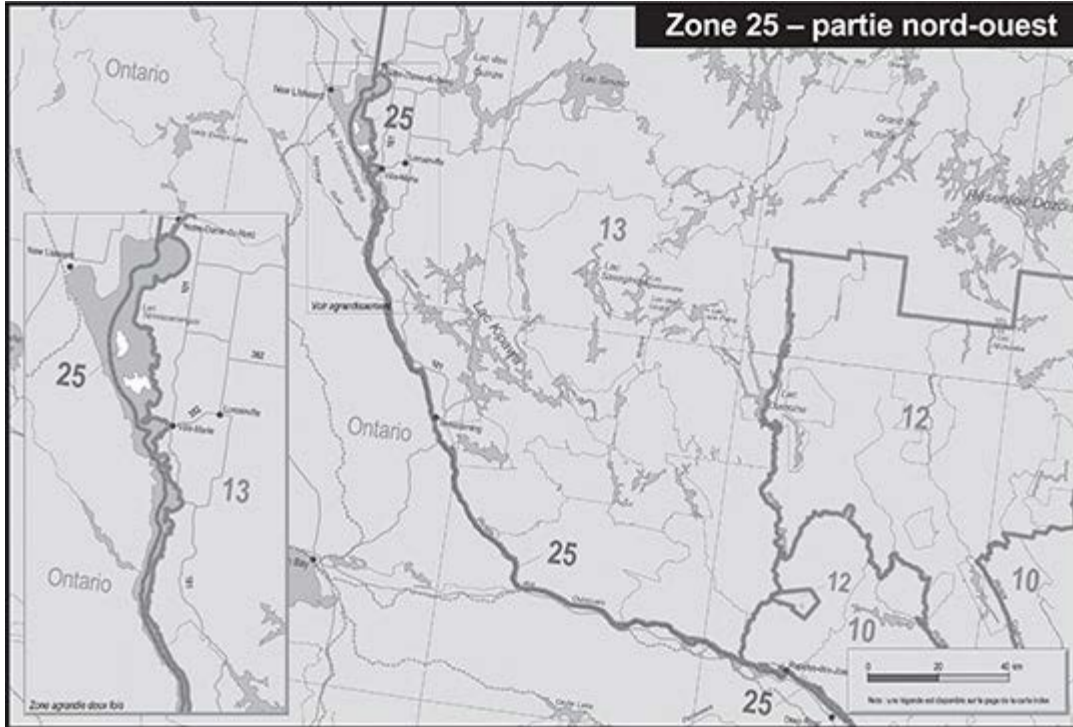
Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of dead bait fish is prohibited in this zone.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 1st to April 30

Zone 25



[Fishing periods and quotas in zone 25](#)

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 2.16 Mb\)](#) (including a description of the zone)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Walleye

May keep

Walleye and sauger 40 cm or less between March 1st and March 31 of each year, between May 15, 2020, and June 15, 2020, inclusively and between May 14, 2021, and June 15, 2021, inclusively.

No size limit applies to walleye and sauger outside of these periods.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Muskellunge

May keep

Muskellunge 137 cm or more

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 45 cm or more

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the fillet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs).

Lake sturgeon

May keep

Lake sturgeons 106 cm or less

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector.

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of all dead bait fish species, EXCEPT [prohibited species](#), whether whole or cut up, are allowed:

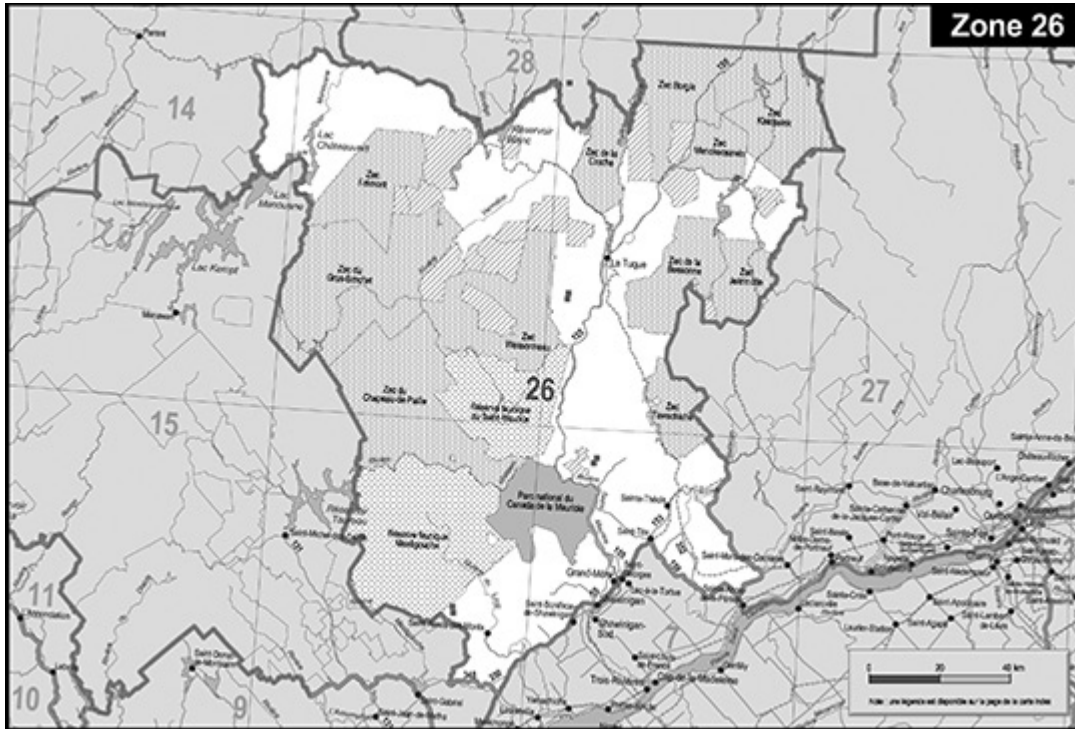
From December 20 to March 31

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 20 to March 31

Except in lac Témiscamingue where 2 lines only are authorized.

Zone 26



Fishing periods and quotas in zone 26

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 1.34 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits for some species

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Walleye

May keep

Walleye between 32 cm up to and including 47 cm in length (respecting the daily fishing quotas)

No length limit for sauger.

State of fish

Whole, gutted or [wallet filleted](#). Walleye and sauger don't have to be wallet filleted in the bodies of water where no length limit applies to these species. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the fillet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves, controlled harvesting zones (ZECs) and in certain bodies of water located on some outfitters with exclusive rights areas.

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 45 cm or more

Exceptions

May keep lake trout 55 cm or more in lacs à l'Eau Claire (46° 32' 37" N., 73° 03' 35" W.), aux Sables (46° 52' 56" N., 72° 21' 57" W.), Châteauvert (47° 39' 24" N., 73° 55' 15" W.), du Missionnaire (46° 55' 00" N., 72° 33' 37" W.), des Pins rouges (46° 36' 17" N., 73° 07' 07" W.), des Souris (46° 35' 00" N., 72° 59' 39" W.) and Touridi.

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the filet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves, controlled harvesting zones (ZECs) and on certain water bodies located in the territories of a number of outfitting operation with exclusive rights.

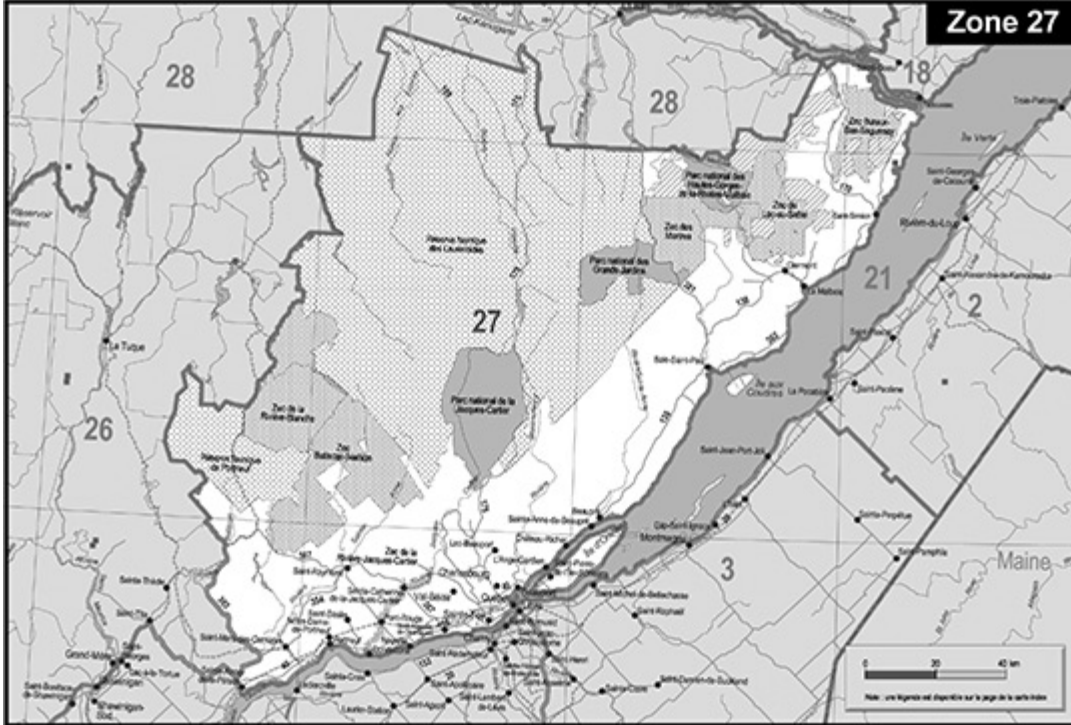
Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of dead bait fish is prohibited in this zone.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 20 to March 31

Zone 27



Fishing periods and quotas in zone 27

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 1.34 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

Walleye

May keep

Walleye between 37 cm and 53 cm inclusively

No length limit for sauger.

State of fish

Whole, gutted or [wallet filleted](#)

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 45 cm or more in length (respecting the daily fishing quotas)

Exception

May keep lake trout 55 cm or more in lacs Saint-Joseph (46° 54' 50" N., 71° 38' 03" W.), Long (46° 50' 21" N., 72° 08' 24" W.) and Montauban (46° 52' 58" N., 72° 10' 04" W.).

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the fillet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves, controlled harvesting zones (ZECs) and on certain water bodies located in the territories of a number of outfitting operation with exclusive rights.

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Dead bait fish allowed

Dead shrimp as the only bait fish allowed for possession and the portion of rivière Sainte-Anne between the upstream side of the route 363 bridge and the downstream side of the route 138 bridge, for use:

From December 26 to March 31

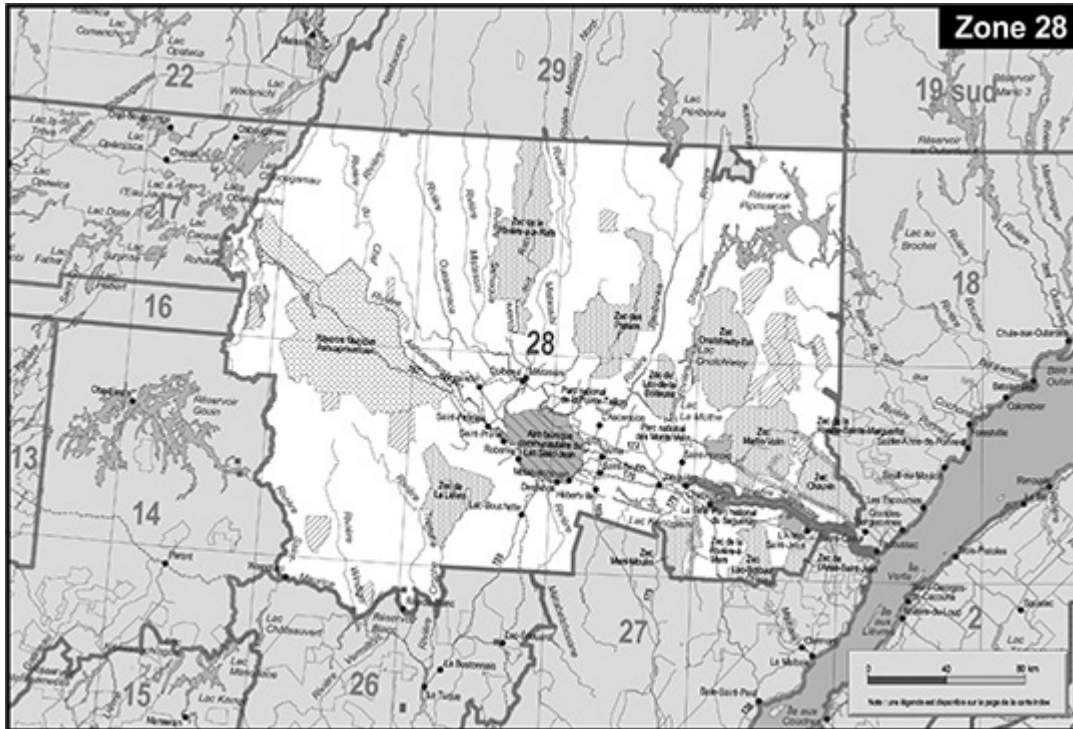
For Atlantic tomcod fishing only in one part of the rivière Sainte-Anne, the part included between the downstream side of route 138 bridge and the upstream side of autoroute 40.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 20 to March 31

10 lines are authorized in the rivière Sainte-Anne, upstream of the route 138 bridge, at Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pérade, and the upstream side of the autoroute 40 bridge.

Zone 28



Fishing periods and quotas in zone 28

Maps

[Zone map \(PDF 1.37 Mb\)](#)

[Fishing zones map](#)

Length limits

It is prohibited to catch and keep or have in your possession a fish from the waters specified that does not comply with the length limits indicated for your zone. If a fish species or a zone is not mentioned in the table, no length limit applies to the species in this zone.

The fish must be kept in a state allowing its [identification](#).

This measure also applies to the Ashuapmushuan wildlife reserve.

Walleye

May keep

Walleye between 32 cm and 47 cm inclusively

No length limit for sauger.

Exceptions

Establishment of a maximum length limit of 47 cm for walleye and sauger in the lac Saint-Jean Community Wildlife Area, excluding lac à Jim Lake and rivière Micosas.

State of fish

Whole, gutted or [wallet filleted](#). Walleye and sauger don't have to be wallet filleted in the bodies of water where no length limit applies to these species. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the fillet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves, controlled harvesting zones (ZECs) and in certain bodies of water located on some outfitters with exclusive rights areas.

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout 45 cm or more in length (respecting the daily fishing quotas)

Exception

May keep lake trout 55 cm or more in lacs à la Truite (49° 29' 52'' N., 72° 48' 10'' W.), Augustin (48° 27' 26'' N., 73° 21' 34'' W.), Cécile (48° 21' 02'' N., 73° 06' 20'' W.), Connelly (49° 19' 01'' N., 71° 57' 54'' W.), Du Nylon, Dulain, Gaston (48° 30' 25'' N., 73° 24' 15'' W.), Gilbert (48° 28' 58'' N., 73° 24' 36'' W.), Gouin (49° 32' 30'' N., 70° 14' 22'' W.), Kapahkueshikanapishkatsh, Malfait (49° 19' 03'' N., 72° 02' 46'' W.), Méricanane, Onatchiway, Petit lac Onatchiway, Pamouscachiou, Poisson blanc (49° 04' 56'' N., 71° 04' 56'' W.), Rond (49° 25' 12'' N., 72° 58' 47'' W.) and Vermont as well as in réservoir Pipmuacan.

May keep lake trout 60 cm or less in length in lac aux Hirondelles (50° 00' 54'' N., 70° 23' 29'' W.)

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the fillet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves, controlled harvesting zones (ZECs) and on certain water bodies located in the territories of a number of outfitting operation with exclusive rights.

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Dead bait fish allowed

Possession of dead smelt as the only bait fish allowed in the zone.

From December 20 to March 31, for possession, and only in the following waters for use:

- lac Bilodeau (48° 43' 46" N., 71° 12' 50" W.)
- lac Bouchette (48° 14' 32" N., 72° 12' 21" W.)
- lac Creux (48° 42' 59" N., 71° 12' 55" W.)
- lac à la Croix (48° 23' 48" N., 71° 46' 35" W.)
- lac des Commissaires (48° 11' 14" N., 72° 15' 51" W.)
- lac des Coudes (49° 03' 35" N., 72° 37' 45" W.)
- lac Gronick (49° 06' 24" N., 72° 59' 17" W.)
- lac des Habitants (48° 47' 50" N., 72° 24' 50" W.)
- lac à Jim (49° 01' 29" N., 72° 53' 02" W.)
- lac Kénogami (48° 19' 36" N., 71° 22' 36" W.)
- lac Kénogamichiche (48° 22' 05" N., 71° 36' 05" W.)
- lac Labonté (48° 35' 28" N., 71° 26' 44" W.)
- lac Labrecque (48° 40' 52" N., 71° 29' 39" W.)
- lac La Mothe (48° 47' 03" N., 71° 09' 17" W.)
- lac Montréal (49° 04' 22" N., 72° 54' 44" W.)
- lac Ouiatchouan (48° 16' 22" N., 72° 11' 02" W.)
- lac aux Rats (zec de la Rivière-aux-Rats)
- lac Rond (48° 22' 35" N., 72° 20' 00" W.)
- lac Saint-Jean, the waters surrounded by routes 169, 170 and 373, but excluding, in Alma, the portions of La Grande Décharge (downstream the Isle Maligne dam and the lac Saint-Jean water retention structures) and rivière Petite Décharge (the portion situated between its mouth in the Saguenay and the lac Saint-Jean water retention structures)
- lac Sébastien (48° 39' 29" N., 71° 10' 03" W.)
- lac Tchitogama (48° 49' 58" N., 71° 24' 00" W.)
- lac Vert (48° 21' 57" N., 71° 38' 42" W.)
- rivière Mistassibi, between route 169 and the lac au Foin
- rivière Péribonka, between the Chute-à-la-Savane and latitude 49° N.
- rivière Saguenay, between the portion downstream of the Isle Maligne dam and the lac Saint-Jean water retention structures (Grande Décharge and rivière Petite Décharge), in Alma, and a line perpendicular at the rivière Saguenay passing through the most upstream end of the Chute-à-Caron dam on the south shore of the rivière Saguenay (48° 27' N., 71° 15' W.)

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 20 to March 31

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves, controlled harvesting zones (ZECs) and in certain bodies of water located on some outfitters with exclusive rights areas.

[Learn how to distinguish walleye from sauger.](#)

Lake trout (including splake trout)

May keep

Lake trout less than 60 cm (catch and possession limit of 3)

State of fish

Whole or gutted, only where a length limit applies. Elsewhere, lake trout may be whole or filleted. It must be possible to count and identify the fish (a piece of skin must adhere to the fillet).

Note

These measurements do not apply in national parks, wildlife reserves and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs) and in some bodies of water located in some outfitters with exclusive rights.

Fish ponds

A fish pond is a body of water covering an area of no more than 20 ha maximum.

Possession of fish without a licence

A wildlife protection officer or an wildlife protection assistant may stop you and check these elements.

Atlantic salmon

May keep

Atlantic salmon 30 cm and over, respecting any other applicable length limit and daily fishing quotas established for each river or river sector

State of fish

Whole or gutted

Note

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in terms of small salmon (minimum 30 to 63 cm) and big salmon (63 cm or more).

Dead bait fish allowed

Possession and use of dead bait fish is prohibited in this zone.

Number of lines authorized in winter

5 lines, from December 1st to April 15

Limits, possession and identification

About [118 freshwater fish species](#) are found in Québec's lakes and rivers, among which more than thirty being coveted by fishermen. Although this diverse range of fish is a renewable natural resource, its balance is nevertheless fragile, hence the need to apply some rules.

What are the applicable quotas in your zone?

For details of the maximum number of fish that may be caught daily, including in provincial parks, wildlife reserves and ZECs, please see the [Fishing periods, limits and exceptions page](#). You do not know your fishing zone? [Use the interactive map](#) to locate it.

Definition of limits

When you fish in Québec, you must comply with four different types of limits or quotas, depending on the species of interest and the location of your fishing site.

Daily catch limit

The daily catch limit is the maximum number of fish of the same species caught and kept in a given day by you and by all the other people fishing under your licence. It also includes fish caught and consumed on that day. Fish that are released are not included in the catch limit, except in the case of salmon, which are also subject to a catch-and-release limit.

You must stop fishing once you have reached the daily catch limit applicable to the body of water and species concerned. However, you may continue to fish for the same species for the rest of the day, provided you move to another body of water where the catch limit is higher.

Example: In the lake where you are fishing, the daily catch limit is 15 trout. You catch 8 trout in the morning and eat 5 for lunch. Although you now have only 3 trout in your possession, you cannot catch and keep more than 7 additional trout on that day. However, you may continue to fish for another species for which you have not yet reached the daily catch limit.

Daily catch limits are not cumulative.

For details of the maximum number of fish that may be caught daily, including in provincial parks, wildlife reserves and ZECs, please see the [Fishing periods, limits and exceptions page](#).

You do not know your fishing zone? Use the [interactive map](#) to locate it.

Catch weight limit — Char

The catch limit for char in zones 17 and 22 to 24, located in the Nord-du-Québec region, is expressed by weight.

For fish that are not whole, the weight limit is calculated as shown below:

- Gutted fish weight \times 1.25
- Gutted and headed fish weight \times 1.66

- Filleted fish weight × 3.5

The product must not exceed the authorized weight limit.

Possession limit

The possession limit is the number of fish of the same species that you may have in your possession **at any time** and **at any place**, whether it be at the fishing site, on the road or at your home. The possession limit is usually the same as the daily catch limit.

You may have, in your possession, a number of fish caught while sport fishing that exceeds the quantity stipulated for the zone, provided the surplus fish:

- come from other zones;
- were caught in compliance with the catch limits for those zones.

In no case may you exceed the highest catch limit established in Québec for a given species.

Example: The daily catch limit for a given species in a particular zone is 15 fish. The possession limit for that species, at that site, is therefore also 15 fish. If you fish in more than one zone, the authorized possession limit for the species in question is equivalent to the highest zone limit.

Daily catch limits are not cumulative.

Notwithstanding the above, if you are in a national park, a wildlife reserve, a communal wildlife area, a controlled harvesting zone (ZEC) or on a body of water, you cannot possess, at any time, an amount of fish greater than the catch limit set for this park, wildlife reserve, wildlife area, controlled harvesting zone or body of water.

However, since there are some bodies of water where the catch limit set for these species is greater than the limit set for the zone, you may possess the fish from one of those bodies of water even if this limit exceeds the one set for the zone. These rules apply to rainbow smelt as well.

Possession of fish without a licence

A licence is not required to have fish in your possession. You may therefore share your fish with someone who does not have a fishing licence. However, you must still comply with the daily catch limit, and the person to whom you give the fish must also comply with the authorized possession limit. Upon request of a wildlife protection officer or assistant, you must indicate where your fish has been caught.

Limits applicable to Atlantic salmon only

On top of the [size notion](#) applicable to Atlantic salmon catch limits, this species is regulated with other particular limits.

Catch-and-release limit

This quota, when it exists, applies only to Atlantic salmon, and corresponds to the number of salmon that you may catch and release in any given day, on the body of water concerned.

Annual possession limit

You cannot keep more than four salmon during a given season (full details are available in the section on [Salmon fishing](#)).

Length limit

In addition to catch and possession limits, length limits may also apply to certain species and certain places.

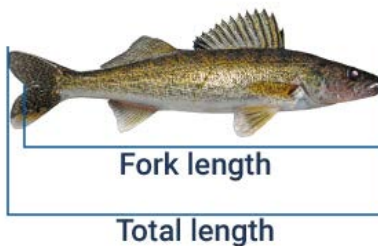
To check whether the species of interest to you is subject to a length limit in your fishing zone, see the section entitled [Particular rules for each zone](#).

How to measure and fillet fish

Fish measure and fillet

The length of a fish is measured in "total" length, from the tip of the mouth to the tip of the tail. However, in the case of Atlantic salmon, the length is measured in "fork length", from the tip of the mouth to the fork of the tail.

Fish length



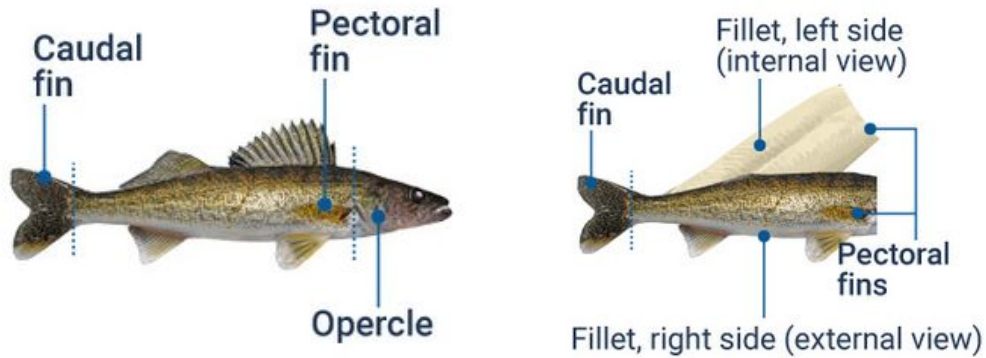
Wallet fillets

To comply with the length limit applicable to walleye, the fish must be transported whole or in "wallet fillets" if filleted.

How to wallet fillet

You must make sure the skin is left on the flesh, and cut the fish as shown below:

- Make an incision at the front of the pectoral fin (at the opercle).
- Run the knife along the spine towards the tail.
- Stop the cut just before the caudal fin.
- Repeat the operation the other side.
- Cut the spine keeping the two fillets attached to the caudal fin.



To learn more about this technique, have a look at our video [Comment couper le doré en filets portefeuille](#) (french only)

Length of the fillets

Wallet fillets are compulsory, so that the species can be identified and the length determined where necessary. The accepted length of the fillets depends on the authorized length range (see how to measure fish).

For yellow walleye between 32 cm and 47 cm inclusively

The 2 fillets must measure between 28 cm and 40 cm inclusively, measured from the tip of the caudal fin to the rear point at which the pectoral fin attaches to the fillet. These fins must remain attached to the fillets.

For yellow walleye between 37 cm and 53 cm inclusively

The 2 fillets must measure between 28 cm and 40 cm inclusively, measured from the tip of the caudal fin to the rear point at which the pectoral fin attaches to the fillet. These fins must remain attached to the fillets.

For walleye of a maximal length of 47 cm inclusively

The two fillets must measure 35 cm maximum, measured from the tip of the caudal fin to the rear point at which the pectoral fin attaches to the fillet. These fins must remain attached to the fillets.

Note that it is prohibited to transport or possess elsewhere than the permanent residence filleted walleye from [zone 25](#).

To check whether the species of interest to you is subject to a length limit in your fishing zone, see the section entitled [Particular rules for each zone](#).

Possession and identification of fish

When you transport fish caught during sport fishing, or have them in your possession elsewhere than at your permanent place of residence, the fish must be in a state that allows you to determine:

- the source;
- the species (for example, by leaving enough skin on the flesh to be able to identify the species);
- the length (when a length limit applies);
- the number.

A wildlife protection officer or an assistant may stop you and check these elements.

Live fish

Provided you respect the quotas and limits applicable to your fishing site, you may have the fish you have caught in your possession, at the fishing site, while you are fishing.

This does not apply to salmon; in this case, you must comply with the [tagging and registration conditions for the species](#).

Leaving Québec with fish caught here

You cannot send fish caught here to a destination outside Québec, because the sale of fish caught by anglers is prohibited.

However, you can carry with you the number of fish caught by you or given to you (up to the authorized possession limit for each species) and any tagged salmon caught by you or another angler, or given to you.

Licence

To fish in Québec's waters, you must have a valid fishing licence (with [some exceptions](#)). You must carry the licence with you when you fish, and be able to show it immediately when asked to do so by a wildlife protection officer or assistant.

Categories of licences and prices

There are different categories of licences, depending on where you live. The fees may therefore differ, depending on whether you are a [resident](#) or [non-resident](#) of Québec.

Please also note that:

- Annual licences are valid from April 1 to March 31 of the following year.
- One-day, three-day and seven-day licences are valid for the dates entered on them at the time they are purchased.
- The fees include all taxes and a contribution to the Fondation de la Faune du Québec.

Sport fishing (except for Atlantic salmon)

Categories	Residents	Non-residents
Annual, person under 65 years of age	\$23.24	\$83.17
Annual, person 65 years of age or over	\$18.43	Not available
7 consecutive days	Not available	\$50.12
3 consecutive days	\$13.29	\$33.33
1 day	Not available	\$19.42
Mandatory release*	\$13.29	\$32.60

*Valid in an outfitting establishment only

Other fishing licences

Categories	Residents	Non-residents
Fishing for burbot in lac Saint-Jean *	\$23.250	\$74.89
Replacement licence	\$6.21	\$6.21

*Licence sold only in the Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean

Salmon fishing licence

To [fish for Atlantic salmon](#), you must hold an Atlantic salmon sport fishing licence. This licence is mandatory to fish salmon anywhere in Quebec and to fish for any species of fish during a salmon fishing season in a salmon river.

A resident holding and carrying a "Pêche en herbe" or a "Relève de la pêche" licence may fish for salmon, but with mandatory release.

Restrictions apply to the use of an Atlantic salmon fishing licence. You may combine more than one licence, but only on the conditions shown on the licences. Whatever combination you use, **you cannot catch and keep more than four Atlantic salmon during a given year** (from April 1 to the following March 31).

Sport fishing for Atlantic salmon

Categories	Residents	Non-residents
Annual	\$51.93	\$166.66
3 consecutive days*	\$22.64	\$44.39
Mandatory release	\$22.64	\$44.39

* small salmon only

Annual licence

This licence is issued with four tags. [All salmon caught and kept must be tagged.](#)

You cannot purchase or hold more than one Atlantic salmon annual licence.

You may purchase this licence even if you have already purchased an Atlantic salmon fishing licence with mandatory release or one or more three-day licences, provided your annual catch and keep limit of four salmon has not been reached. For example, if you have already caught one salmon on a three-day licence, you can only use three of the four tags issued with your annual licence.

Three consecutive day licence

This licence is issued with one tag for small salmon only. It is only valid during the period indicated on the licence.

You may not purchase or hold:

- more than one three-day licence for overlapping periods;
- a three-day licence if you have already purchased or already hold an annual licence;
- a three-day licence if you have already caught and kept four salmon during a given year (from April 1st to the following March 31).

However, you may purchase a new three-day licence if your annual catch and keep limit of four salmon has not been reached and you can relate to one of the following situations:

- You have placed the tag from your three-day licence on a small salmon, but your annual catch and keep limit of four salmon has not been reached;
- The period indicated on your licence has expired, but your annual catch and keep limit of four salmon has not been reached.

Mandatory release licence

This licence can be purchased at any time, even if you already have a three-day licence or an annual licence.

It is valid throughout Québec to fish for salmon and to fish for and keep any other authorized species in a salmon river only.

It does not allow you to fish in a body of water for which you have already reached the daily release limit.

Additional information

To fish in a salmon river, you must comply to the following rules:

If salmon fishing is open, you must possess an Atlantic salmon sport fishing licence to fish for any species. Under exceptional cases you may use the general sport fishing licence during a salmon fishing period on the western portion of rivière aux Rochers, downstream of the boulevard des Îles bridge in Port-Cartier, to the mouth of the river (Petit Quai sector, part A of zone 19 south).

Outside salmon fishing periods, you may use a general sport fishing licence to fish for other species than salmon in certain salmon rivers (see the rules for zones 1, 2, 3, 18 to 21, 23, 27 and 28 on the [map of fishing zones and fishing periods](#)).

Other species of salmon can be fished in Quebec with the general sport fishing licence.

Purchasing and replacing a licence

To purchase a fishing licence, you must visit one of [our sales outlets](#) (please note that the online purchase is not available).

When purchasing the licence, you must:

- Present your hunter's or trapper's certificate or **complete an identification card** if you do not have one. You will then be given a client card with your licence;
- **Pay the required fees;**
- **Sign the back of the licence**, to confirm its validity. If your first name, surname, address or date of birth is not shown on the back of the licence, or if the information shown is inaccurate, you must add or correct it by hand.

Buying a licence for someone else

The sport fishing licence is not transferable. However, it is possible to buy it for someone else. In this case, this person, the owner, must sign it upon receipt from the buyer and ensure that the information on the back is accurate for this permit to be valid.

Replacing a licence

If a fishing licence is lost, stolen or damaged to the point that it is unusable, you must obtain a replacement licence if you wish to continue to fish.

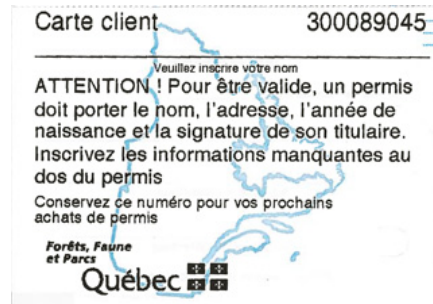
To be entitled to the [replacement fee](#), you must:

- present the hunter's or trapper's certificate that you used to purchase the original licence;
- or provide the client number of the lost, stolen or damaged licence. This is the number shown in the upper right-hand corner of the client card given to you when you purchased your licence.

You do not need to go back to the place at which you purchased your original licence.

Tip

The client card not only entitles you to pay the replacement fee, it also avoids the need for you to complete an identification card every time you buy a fishing licence. You can simply use the client number shown on the card.



Conditions for use

Before taking advantage of your licence, please note the following conditions:

- Your licence is not transferable.
- Your licence is not valid until it has been signed by both you and the sales agent who sold it to you.
- The information shown on the front of the licence must be accurate, otherwise it must be updated on the back of the licence.

Who can fish under my licence?

If you are 18 years of age or older, certain other people may be able to fish under your licence.

Except in certain particular situations, each person benefiting from your licence is entitled to his or her own line. For exceptions, refer to the [Number of lines](#) section.

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

Anglers wishing to take advantage of the licence	Sport fishing licence (for species other than Atlantic salmon) and burbot fishing licence	Atlantic salmon sport fishing licence
Your spouse	Yes, if he or she is in your presence or in possession of your licence	No
Your children (and those of your spouse) who are under 18 years of age	Yes, if they are in your presence or in possession of your licence	Yes, if they are fishing under your supervision or under your spouse's, who is in possession of your licence
Your children (and those of your spouse) who are between 18 and 24 years of age and who have a valid student card in their possession	Yes, if they are in possession of your licence AND a valid student card	Yes, if they are in possession of your licence AND a valid student card
Any person under 18 years of age	Yes, if they are fishing under the supervision of the licence holder or his or her spouse	Yes, if they are fishing under the supervision of the licence holder or his or her spouse
Any student between 18 and 24 years of age who has a valid student card in his or her possession	Yes, if they are fishing under the supervision of the licence holder or his or her spouse	Yes, if they are fishing under the supervision of the licence holder or his or her spouse

Is it possible to fish without a licence?

If you are a [resident](#) of Québec, you do not need a licence:

- During the [Fête de la pêche](#). However, you must still respect the fishing periods and authorized quotas for the chosen body of water. Besides, all salmon caught without a licence during the Fête de la pêche must be released where it was caught. Fees may also apply if you fish in a wildlife territory (ZEC, provincial park or wildlife reserve), a communal wildlife area or an outfitting operation with exclusive rights.
- If you are under 18 years of age and have in your possession a [Pêche en herbe](#) or Relève à la pêche certificate issued after an introduction to fishing activity. However, you must release any salmon you catch.
- If you fish for any species other than salmon in [zone 21](#) (St. Lawrence River) and in the river portion of [zone 1](#) located downstream from route 132, except for the section between Sainte-Flavie and Matapédia.

- If you fish for rainbow smelt and Atlantic tomcod in the St. Lawrence River and its tributaries downstream from the Laviolette bridge (Trois-Rivières).
- To fish for [freshwater crustaceans](#).
- To fish in a [fish pond](#) or in the waters of a national park of Canada (also valid for non-residents).

Non-resident's licence

A non-resident may also hold a Québec sport fishing licence ([non-resident category](#)) even when fishing for species targeted by Québec's sport fishing rules in zone 21.

Anglers from Ontario

The holder of an Ontario sport fishing licence is considered to be the holder of a Québec sport fishing licence for the purpose of fishing:

- in [zone 25](#);
- in lac Clarice, lac Labyrinthe and lac Raven in [zone 13](#);
- in a portion of lac Saint François ([zone 8](#)) located west of a line drawn from Beaudette point on the north shore to Saint-Louis point on the south shore.

Anglers from New Brunswick

The holder of a New Brunswick sport fishing licence is considered to be the holder of a Québec sport fishing licence when line fishing in the Patapédia ([zone 2](#)) and Ristigouche ([zones 1 and 2](#)) salmon rivers. Fish caught in these waters and kept are considered to have been caught and kept in Québec. They must therefore be counted when calculating the catch and possession limits.

Requirement to use the services of an outfitting establishment

A non-resident who wishes to fish north of the 52nd parallel (zones [19 south](#), [22 north](#), [23](#), [24](#) and [29](#)) or east of rivière Saint-Augustin ([zone 19 south](#)) must use the services of an outfitter. For additional information, please [contact the Nord-du-Québec or Côte-Nord regional offices](#).

Exporting sturgeon

To export lake sturgeon or Atlantic sturgeon outside Canada, you must first obtain a CITES export permit by contacting Fisheries and Oceans Canada at [1 855 869-8670](#).

Types of fishing and bait

Sport fishing usually involves line fishing or fly fishing. However, fishing with bows, crossbows or harpoons is permitted at certain sites and to fish for certain species. The use of [lift nets](#), [bait traps](#), harpoons and [landing nets](#) is also permitted on certain conditions. Specific rules apply, depending on the gear used.

Line fishing and fly fishing

For these types of fishing, your line may be equipped with [artificial lures](#), hooks or flies, and may be baited or unbaited. A hook may be single or multiple. An artificial lure or a fly counts as a hook.

Maximum number of hooks and points

Generally, in all bodies of water, where all kinds of line fishing (angling) is permitted (including fly fishing), your line must not have more than three fish hooks. However, the number of points for a hook or combination of hooks is unlimited.

Special conditions may apply as shown in the table below.

Maximum number of hooks and points (when all types of line fishing are allowed)

Place or fishing period	Hooks	Points
In zone 25 and the portion of lac Saint-François located 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 rainbow smelt fishing	Unlimited	Unlimited
In zones 1 , 18 , 19 and 21 , for striped bass fishing	3	1 per hook
In salmon rivers, where salmon fishing is permitted	1	2
In salmon rivers, where salmon fishing is prohibited	3	3 in total

Number of lines

You must use only one line at a time ([except in winter](#)) and you must monitor it constantly. You must not use a rod and line and a fly fishing rod at the same time.

As a general rule, if one or more people [fish under the same licence](#), everyone is entitled to his or her own line. However, in the case of [winter fishing](#), [baitfish fishing](#) or [burbot fishing in Lac Saint-Jean](#), the total number of lines used for the group must not exceed the number authorized for a licence.

You cannot have a fishing gear in your possession on or within 100 m of a body of water on which the use of this gear is prohibited. Special conditions may apply if you are fishing on a body of water reserved for fly fishing.

Sites reserved for fly fishing

Most salmon rivers and some bodies of water, usually located in controlled harvesting zones (ZECs), are reserved for fly fishing and are posted as such at the information centre or near the fishing site.

When fishing in these reserved areas, the number of authorized hooks and points may vary according to the place and the fishing period, as indicated in the table below.

Place or fishing period	Artificial flies	Points*
In bodies of water reserved for fly fishing (elsewhere than salmon rivers) In salmon rivers, where salmon fishing is permitted	2	3
In salmon rivers, where salmon fishing is permitted	1	2
In salmon rivers, where salmon fishing is prohibited	3	3

*Valid for a hook or a combination of hooks

If you fish at a reserved site, you must also comply with the following rules:

- The fly line (silk) must be unweighted and mounted on a fishing rod designed for that purpose.
- A maximum of 2 flies can be attached to this line, which must not be a metal-core line.
- Unless otherwise indicated, the fly must not be baited.

Composition of the fly

The composition of the fly is very specific as indicated below:

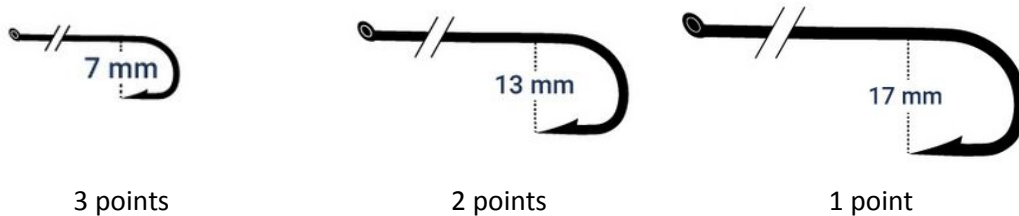
- It may be dressed with silk, tinsel, wool, fabric, fur, feathers or other similar materials.
- Metal (brass, copper or aluminium) and plastic tubing may form part of the fly, along with the straight pin.
- Waddington shafts are authorized but metal heads and eyes are prohibited.
- The fly must not have spinning or undulating parts or be equipped with weights that cause it to sink.

Maximum authorized hook size

An artificial fly may comprise a combination of fish hooks and must comply with the maximum authorized hook size as shown in the figure below. It must never have more than three points (two points maximum when fishing in a salmon river during the salmon fishing period). There is no restriction on shank length.

The figure above shows the maximum distance (distance between the tip and hook) of the artificial flies based on the number of points.

Note: There is no restriction on the length of the hamp.



Additional information

You cannot have, in your possession, any fishing gear other than that required for fly fishing, on or within 100 metres of a body of water reserved for fly fishing, except:

- When the gear is in a vehicle (other than a boat) or a building.
- You are only crossing or travelling along waters reserved for fly fishing in order to fish in other waters where the use of the gear in question is permitted.

In this case, when you are in the area reserved for fly fishing, you must take the hook (other than an artificial fly) off the line, render your rod unusable by taking it apart into sections, removing the reel or storing it in a closed case.

Other types of fishing

Winter fishing

Depending on the zone, you may use up to 5 or 10 lines for winter fishing. You must monitor the lines continuously.

For information on the number of lines to which you are entitled, [please select your fishing zone](#).

Night fishing

Fishing at night is permitted except in a salmon river, where fishing from one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise is prohibited. See the special conditions to [fish for rainbow smelt with a lift net or a landing net](#).

Fishing with bows or crossbows or spearfishing while swimming

This type of fishing is permitted in most fishing zones. You may spearfish while snorkelling or diving (with or without diving apparatus).

However, these methods are prohibited when fishing for:

- salmon;
- striped bass;
- landlocked salmon;
- muskellunge;
- lake trout;
- sturgeon;
- walleye in zones 3 to 16 and 26 to 28 (with some exceptions).

These methods are also prohibited when fishing for all fish species:

- in zones 17 and 22 to 24;
- in [bodies of water reserved for fly fishing](#);
- in [salmon rivers](#);
- within 500 m downstream from any point at the mouth of a salmon river in zones 18 to 20, 27 and 28, or from a salmon river in zone 21 located on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River.

Spear and harpoon fishing

The use of a spear or a harpoon is allowed to fish for American eel (without swimming) in the waters of îles de la Madeleine all year long.

Specific methods for certain species

Fishing for rainbow smelt

Special conditions apply to rainbow smelt fishing at certain sites. You may use a [lift net](#) and [landing net](#) in the following situations:

In zone 21 (St. Lawrence River)

[Residents](#) with no licence and non-residents with a valid sport fishing licence may fish up to **120 rainbow smelt** per day, using a [lift net](#) or [landing net](#), **from April 1st to May 31.**

These methods are prohibited at the following locations:

- In the **waters of the îles de la Madeleine** and in the rivière Ouelle, between the downstream side of the route 132 bridge and a straight line linking the point of rivière Ouelle and the mouth of ruisseau Gagnon;
- In **ruisseau de l'Église**, in the municipality of Beaumont;
- In the **waters of zone 21** where the daily catch limit is 60 rainbow smelt and which are described among the exceptions for [zone 21](#);
- In **rivière Saguenay**, between a line perpendicular to the current running from the upstream side of the split (48° 26' 23" N., 70° 54' 08" W.) located near the municipality of Saint-Fulgence, and the downstream side of the Dubuc bridge in Saguenay.

In some bodies of water in zones 1, 4, 5, 6, 9 and 15

A sport fishing licence holder may use a [lift net](#) or [landing net](#) to catch up to **120 rainbow smelt per day**:

- **from May 1st to May 31**, in rivière **Bonaventure**, between the downstream side of the former route 132 bridges and the rapide Malin;
- **from April 1st to May 31**, in [zones 9](#) and [15](#), except for the waters of lac Archambault, including bays and tributaries, and lac Tire ([zone 9](#));
- **from April 1st to May 15**, in the waters of **zones 4, 5 and 6**. These methods are prohibited at the following sites:
 - [Zone 4](#) — rivière Ashberham (Noire), from Petit lac Saint-François to Grand lac Saint-François; rivière Coulombe, from the route 161 bridge to its mouth in lac Aylmer, including the small bay facing its mouth; rivière aux Bluets, rivière aux Indiens, rivière de l'Or and rivière aux Rats Musqués, from Grand lac Saint-François to the second bridge upstream from the lake; rivière Saint-François, from Grand lac Saint-François to lac Aylmer; rivière Victoria and its tributaries; lac Mégantic and lac Elgin and their tributaries;
 - [Zone 5](#) — ruisseaux Castle and Perkins, from their source to lac Memphrémagog;
 - [Zone 6](#) — rivière Magog, from the Dominion Textile dam in Magog to the highway 55 bridge; rivière Massawippi, the part between the dam located 1.6 km from lac Massawippi and the first curve downstream; rivière Niger, from its mouth to route 143; ruisseau Taylor (tributary of lac Memphrémagog); lac Memphrémagog, lac Massawippi and its tributaries; and ruisseau Castle

In some bodies of water in zones 10, 11 and 28

A sport fishing licence holder may use a [lift net](#) or [landing net](#) to catch up to **500 rainbow smelt per day**:

- **from May 1st to May 31**, in lac des **Écorces** ([zone 10](#)) and lac **Chaud** ([zone 11](#)) and in their tributaries;
- **from April 15 to May 20**, in rivière aux **Rats**, between lac aux Rats and latitude 49° 30' N. ([zone 28](#));
- in a portion of a salmon river where smelt fishing is authorized, this species may be fished **at night**, from:
 - **December 1st, 2019 to April 23, 2020;**
 - **December 1st, 2020 to April 22, 2021;**
 - **December 1st, 2021 to April, 28, 2022.**

The possession limit for rainbow smelt may not be the same as the zone's daily quota. Where this is the case, the relevant information will appear on the [interactive map](#).

Fishing for whitefish

If you have a valid sport fishing licence, you may use a [lift net](#) or [landing net](#) to fish for whitefish in certain places and on certain conditions as indicated below:

Rivière Touladi (zone 2)

The sector located between the downstream side of ruisseau à Mac and lac Témiscouata.

Periods: October 15 to October 28

Quota: 50 whitefish per day

Rivière Saint-François (zone 4)

The sector located between lac Aylmer and the second bridge upstream.

Period: October 25 to November 7

Quotas: 10 whitefish per day

Fishing for burbot fishing in Lac Saint-Jean

Specific conditions apply to burbot fishing in the waters of lac Saint-Jean encircled by routes 169, 170 and 373, excluding the portions of La Grande Décharge (downstream of the Maligne dam and the lac Saint-Jean water retention structures) and rivière Petite Décharge (the portion situated between its mouth in the Saguenay and the lac Saint-Jean water retention structures).

At this specific location, you may, if you have a [burbot fishing licence](#), fish:

- from December 20 to March 31, with no catch limit;
- using two night lines with no more than 10 fishhooks each, lying continuously on the bottom. In addition, each [night line](#) must be identified with one of the tags issued with your licence, affixed to the identification marker.

Fishing for striped bass

In waters where permitted, anglers may fish for striped bass with a single hook only, without natural bait, for a maximum of 3 hooks on the line.

Fishing for American eel

The use of spears or harpoons while not swimming is permitted year-round to fish for American eel in the waters of the îles de la Madeleine.

Mollusks and crustaceans

Fishing for freshwater mollusks, except for zebra mussels and quagga mussels, is prohibited. Fishing for freshwater crustaceans is permitted by hand, using a landing net, a [baittrap](#), a [lift net](#) or other common means, with no catch limit, during the fishing periods stipulated for “Other Species”, except in zones 17 and 22 to 24, where only line fishing (angling) is permitted for all species.

Salmon fishing

Québec has roughly one hundred salmon rivers containing very large fish, and offers an outstanding fishing experience for enthusiasts from home and abroad. To ensure the conservation of this much sought-after species, populations are monitored rigorously and stringent rules apply to salmon fishing.

Tagging of salmon

If you want to fish for salmon in Québec, you must hold one of the [Atlantic salmon fishing licences](#). The licences that allow you to fish for and keep salmon are issued with tags for registration purposes.

Validity of the tag: Only during the period shown on the licence, provided the annual limit of four salmon has not been reached.

When to attach the tag: As soon as you catch and keep a salmon, you must detach the tag from your licence and attach it to the fish (the three-day licence solely allows the tagging of one small salmon).

Tagging order: (annual licence only) You cannot keep more than 4 salmon in any given season. For the first 3 small salmon, the tags must be used in the order in which they are attached to the licence. If a fourth small salmon is kept, or when one big salmon is kept (where the rules so allow), you must use the tag located at the top of the licence, marked “Grand saumon” (63 cm or longer) or “Petit saumon” (at least 30 cm and less than 63 cm).

When to remove the tag: It is prohibited to have a salmon caught by sport fishing in your possession if it has not been tagged. You must not remove the tag from the fish until you prepare the salmon for consumption.

Origin of the tag: Anywhere in Québec where salmon can be caught and kept, the tag must be taken from the licence of the angler who struck the fish, even if someone else handled the fishing rod when the fish was recovered.

Where to place the tag: Below are some examples of where the tag may be placed.

Salmon tagged correctly



Mandatory registration of catches

You must personally register any salmon you catch and keep within 48 hours of leaving the fishing site. A wildlife protection officer may also ask you to register your catch immediately.

How to register your catch

The following options are available to you:

Authorized partner

- Take your licence and your tagged salmon (whole or gutted) to an individual or association authorized by the Department, i.e. an outfitting operation offering salmon fishing, or a wildlife reserve or a salmon fishing controlled harvesting zone (ZEC). In the case of a wildlife reserve, the salmon must be presented whole.
- The tag from your licence is punched.
- Your fish is weighed and measured, and samples or other scientific specimens may be taken.

Self-registration at a control point

If this option is available at your fishing site, simply follow the procedure indicated to register your salmon.

By telephone

This option is available for some salmon rivers or river systems. If there is no provision to register your salmon, you must contact the [regional office](#).

Salmon registration logbook

We recommend that you use the [Angler's Logbook](#) if you fish for salmon in zones 23 and 24, located in the Nord-du-Québec region.

The logbook can be used to register your catch, and also:

- to register with an outfitter;
- to obtain instructions for taking part in the collection of information used to manage the species in the zones in question.

Please note that other special rules may apply if you [fish in the Nord-du-Québec region](#).

Fishing in a salmon river

Because salmon rivers are usually managed by an organization of some kind, different sectors of the same river may have status as a ZEC, a wildlife reserve, a provincial park, an outfitter with exclusive rights or a private property. Special conditions may therefore apply, depending on the specific location of the watercourse. In addition to the general rules (fishing periods, quotas and limits, authorized gear), you must therefore make sure you comply with the requirements of the fishing territory concerned.

You have free access to salmon rivers or sectors of salmon rivers that are not managed by an organization or located on private property.

In a salmon river, you are not allowed to fish:

- for salmon using a harpoon, bow or crossbow;
- from a bridge crossing a salmon river or its estuary;
- during the period beginning one hour after sunset and ending one hour before sunrise (see the [Sunrise/Sunset Calculator of the National Research Council Canada](#));
- other than with a fishing rod less than 500 m downstream of any point of the mouth in zones 18, 19, 20 and 27 and on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River in zone 21.

Fishing for salmon elsewhere than in salmon rivers

You may fish for salmon by means of angling or fly fishing elsewhere than in a salmon river. You will still need a [salmon fishing licence](#) and must also comply with the tagging and registration requirements.

For information on the maximum number of salmon that may be caught daily, see the [Fishing periods and quotas](#).

Catch size limit

The catch limit for salmon is expressed in size (“large” or “small” salmon).

Large salmon: salmon measuring 63 cm or longer

Small salmon: salmon measuring at least 30 cm and less than 63 cm

To learn about other limits applicable to Atlantic salmon, [select your fishing zone](#).

Use of bait

In Québec, different types of bait can be placed on a hook and used to attempt to catch fish. However, there are some restrictions on the use and possession of certain types of bait.

Earthworms, leeches and frogs as bait

Earthworms, leeches and frogs are not considered to be bait fish, and their use as bait is therefore permitted unless otherwise indicated. When capturing frogs, you must comply with the applicable [rules governing frog hunting](#).

Mainly:

- You must hold a frog hunting licence that allows the holder to hunt Northern leopard frogs, green frogs and bullfrogs from July 15 to November 15, with no bag limit.
- Frog hunting is prohibited in zones 17, 19 north and 22 to 24, as well as in wildlife reserves and territories in which all hunting is prohibited.
- Special rules apply to the keeping of frogs in captivity.

Prohibited bait fish

The term “bait fish” includes fish, mollusks, crustaceans (e.g. shrimp, crayfish), marine animals and the parts (eggs, sperm, roe, spawn, larvae, spat or offspring) of these animals intended for use as fishing bait.

Since April 1, 2017, the use and possession of **live bait fish**, regardless of species, is **prohibited** throughout Québec, including during [winter fishing periods](#).

The possession and use of other freshwater fish species from Québec as (**dead**) bait fish is permitted where fishing is authorized. **However, the species listed below cannot be used as dead bait fish.**

- Bass
- Blueback herring
- Bowfin
- Brown bullhead
- Burbot
- Channel catfish
- Char
- Chinese mitten crab
- Crucian carp
- Freshwater drum
- Goldeye
- Lake trout
- Lamprey
- Longnose gar
- Malachigan
- Mooneye
- Muskellunge
- Sunfish
- Pike
- Redhorse
- Round goby
- Rudd
- Rusty crayfish
- Salmon
- Sturgeon
- Stone moroko
- Tench
- Trout
- Walleye
- White perch
- Yabby
- Yellow perch

Use of the following **as bait fish is also prohibited**:

- all saltwater species EXCEPT capelin, herring, mackerel, mollusks and crustaceans;
- all fish species designated by the [Species at Risk Act](#) or the [Act respecting threatened or vulnerable species](#).

Possession and use of dead bait fish

The possession and use of dead bait fish (including shrimp) is permitted, but only in certain zones during winter fishing periods.

See the section entitled [Fishing zones](#) to see, in your zone:

- whether or not you may possess or use dead bait fish;
- which species are authorized for use as dead bait fish;
- the periods during which this practice is permitted.

Fishing for bait fish

If you wish to fish for bait fish, you must:

- have a valid sport fishing licence;
- fish in the zones and during the periods in which the use of bait fish is permitted;
- use a [lift net](#) or no more than 3 [bait traps](#), except in zones 17 and 22 to 24 as well as in bodies of water reserved for fly fishing;
- write your name, address and licence number on bait traps left without immediate supervision;
- comply with the special possession rules applicable to bait fish.

If one or more other people fish under your licence, the number of lift nets and bait traps used by your group must not exceed the authorized limit for your licence.

Importing bait fish

Importing of live or dead bait fish is prohibited.

Good practices and prohibited practices

Fishing is a wonderful outdoor activity. It allows you to discover different fish species while enjoying a connection with nature. Regardless of where you fish, however, you should always use good practices to help preserve the fish and their environment.

Releasing fish

You must immediately return any fish to the water where it was caught, making sure you do not injure it needlessly if it is still alive:

- if it does not fall within the length limit (where one exists);
- if it is caught during a period or at a site where fishing for the species is prohibited (it is prohibited to fish intentionally in order to catch a species during a period when fishing for that species is prohibited);
- if it is caught after you have reached the catch limit;
- if it is caught using a prohibited fishing method or fishing gear;
- if it is caught under a sport fishing licence with mandatory catch-and-release rules.

Redhorse and sucker

In some bodies of water, it is prohibited to catch and keep [redhorse](#) and [sucker](#), so you must release them if you catch them. However, you may catch and keep carp, which is often confused with these two species. To help avoid confusion, see the [fish identification documentation on the Department's website](#).

Voluntary release of fish

You may also release, alive, a fish that you have just caught and are entitled to keep. If you do this, you must do everything you can to avoid injuring the fish.

Atlantic salmon

For the sake of preservation of the species and sportsmanship, a daily limit of 3 released salmon is applicable in salmon rivers, with the exception of the Nord-du-Québec rivers and rivers eastside from Natashquan.

In all cases, to make sure your actions count and ensure that the fish have the best possible chances of survival, please follow the method described in [Saines pratiques de la remise à l'eau](#) (in French only).

Other good practices

Sharing space

Although fishing is your legal right, you do not, as an angler, have exclusivity or priority [for the use of public land](#) over other outdoor enthusiasts, nor can you access private land without permission from the landowner.

As a user of public land, you are expected to share the space and behave ethically towards other users.

Waste management

Sport fishing is an excellent way of enjoying nature, but if nature is to maintain its charm, it must be kept clean and intact. Please therefore make sure you do not leave litter behind.

If you clean and gut your catch directly at the fishing site, please be aware that you may throw the guts into the water, provided you do not do so with the specific aim of attracting other fish.

You must not:

- leave or deposit fish or marine animal waste on the shore, beach or banks of a body of water, or on the beach between the low and high water marks;
- leave spoiled or rotting fish in a net or other fishing gear.

Protection of wildlife habitats

Wildlife habitats are protected by legislation that prohibits all activities likely to modify a biological, physical or chemical element specific to the habitat of an animal or fish. As an angler, you are therefore responsible for leaving your fishing site in exactly the same condition as you found it.

In real terms, this means that, for all bodies of water (including marshland, flood plains and swamps), you must not:

- dump oil, gasoline or other waste or toxic substance;
- drive through shallow water with a motor vehicle (also applies along shores and coastlines);
- build a dam that, in addition to preventing the free circulation of fish, may alter its habitat;
- remove or deposit gravel or rocks on the watercourse bed.

If you witness any of these actions, you must report them to a wildlife protection officer by contacting [SOS Poaching](#).

Travelling through fragile environments

Québec has many lakes, rivers and watercourses, but they are not always easily accessible. It is important to remember that fragile environments are also protected, and that circulation around the body of water in which you want to fish may also be regulated. When travelling to your fishing site, make sure you do not drive a motor vehicle (other than a snowmobile):

- on sand dunes, beaches or barrier beaches;
- in peatlands on lands in the domain of the State, south of the St. Lawrence River, the estuary and the St. Lawrence gulf;
- in marshlands and swamps located on the flats of the St. Lawrence River downstream from the Laviolette bridge, the St. Lawrence estuary and gulf, the Baie des Chaleurs and the islands located in it (except to access private property or on trails designed and developed for vacation activities).

Cleaning of boats

If you use your own boat to fish, please be aware that simply cleaning it properly can prevent the introduction and propagation of invasive aquatic species.

To learn how to do this, see the [Guide to best practices in aquatic environments to prevent the introduction and propagation of invasive aquatic species](#).

Boating safety

When you are on the water, safety must be a priority. In addition to wearing a lifejacket (which is compulsory), you may also need a pleasure craft licence.

For additional information, see the website of [Transports Canada](#).

Prohibited practices

When you fish in Québec, you must comply with the general rules (licences, fishing periods, quotas, etc.); if not, you may have to pay a fine that will vary according to the nature of your offence.

In addition to the rules set out in the Sport Fishing section, the following practices are prohibited:

- Angling and fly fishing at the same time: you may use only one line at once.
- Fishing or attempting to catch a fish when fishing is prohibited, even if you plan to release the fish afterwards.
- Accepting, from a beneficiary of the right to harvest provided for in the , [Act respecting hunting and fishing rights in the James Bay and New Québec territories \(CQLR, chapter D-13.1](#), any fish caught as a result of that right, for personal or communal use, unless it was caught during an authorized commercial fishing activity (or unless you are also a beneficiary of the right to harvest).
- Fishing using fish hooks or other hooks handled intentionally to catch or pierce any part of the fish, except in cases where the fish takes the hook in its mouth. It is also forbidden to keep any fish caught in this way.
- Fishing from a bridge that crosses a salmon river or its estuary.

- Fishing in a salmon river from one hour after sundown to one hour before sunrise;
- Using the following to remove a fish caught while sport fishing from the water: a net other than a landing net, a [tailer](#) more than 2 metres in length, a spring gaff or a gaff of any kind for salmon.
- Fishing less than 23 metres downstream from the lower entrance of a fish ladder, an operating fishway, an obstacle or a leaping space designed to facilitate the movement of fish;
- Catching and keeping a fish fit for human consumption and then allowing it to spoil.

Fish caught during sport fishing are not intended to be sold

It is strictly prohibited to sell, buy or possess fish harvested illegally.

It is also prohibited to sell, buy, trade or offer to buy the following fish, when they are caught by means of sport fishing in Québec or elsewhere under a sport fishing licence.

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| • Bass | • Rainbow smelt |
| • Allis shad | • Burbot |
| • American eel | • Black crappie |
| • Striped bass | • Muskellunge |
| • White bass | • Yellow perch |
| • Brown bullhead | • Char |
| • Channel catfish | • Landlocked salmon |
| • Carp | • Atlantic salmon |
| • Copper redhorse | • Tench |
| • River redhorse | • Lake trout |
| • Sunfish | • Rainbow trout |
| • Sturgeon | • Brown trout |
| • Northern pike | • Bait fish caught in sport fishing |
| • Chain pickerel | • Atlantic salmon from a natural environment |
| • Walleye | |

Special rules for certain areas

Special rules may apply, or the general zone rules may differ in certain fishing areas. When you visit one of these areas, it is up to you to obtain the necessary information from the staff at the information office.

Controlled harvesting zones (ZECs)

To fish in one of these areas, which are managed by non-profit organizations, you must:

- register at the information office;
- pay the access and fishing fees and abide by the dates, times and sites indicated;
- register your catch when you leave.

You must carry the registration document with you or place it in view on your vehicle dashboard, so that it is readable from outside. A wildlife protection officer may ask to see it.

To find a ZEC, click on [Network of ZECs](#).

Outfitting operations

Outfitting operations are businesses that offer accommodation and a variety of services and equipment for anglers. Some outfitting operations have exclusive fishing rights in specific areas, and in this case they may be subject to different rules than the rest of the zone (e.g. fishing periods, catch limits for salmonids, length limits).

Particular rules also apply to outfitting operations in [Northern Québec](#). Regardless of the area in which your chosen outfitter is located, the applicable rules will be explained to you at the beginning of your stay.

To find an outfitter, visit the website of the [Fédération des pourvoires du Québec](#).

Québec provincial parks and wildlife reserves

These areas are for the majority managed by the Société des établissements de plein air du Québec (SEPAQ). To fish in one of these, you must:

- pay the access fees and abide by the dates, times and sites indicated;
- report your daily catches at the end of your stay (any salmon you catch must be presented whole, so that they can be measured and recorded).

We recommend that you make a reservation.

Please note that the rules for these areas may differ from those applicable to the zone. For information on the rules, or to identify a park or reserve, visit the [SEPAQ](#) website or the websites of the following wildlife reserves: [Duchénier](#), [Dunière](#) and [Lacs-Albanel-Mistassini-et-Waconichi](#).

Communal wildlife areas (CWAs)

A communal wildlife area (CWA) is a public body of water (river or lake) on which a non-profit organization is responsible for developing fishing. To fish there, you must obtain both a provincial licence AND a permission from the organization responsible for the CWA you wish to visit:

[Baskatong Reservoir communal wildlife area](#)

[Gouin Reservoir communal wildlife area](#)

[Lac Saint-Jean communal wildlife area](#)

[Lac Saint-Pierre communal wildlife area](#)

Wildlife sanctuaries

The purpose of a wildlife sanctuary is to preserve wildlife habitats, and special conditions respecting access to and travel within the sanctuary may apply. Contact the [local or regional wildlife protection office](#) of the sanctuary you wish to visit, to make sure you understand and comply with the rules.

In the Pierre-Étienne-Fortin wildlife sanctuary, fishing is prohibited between June 20 and July 20 in sectors B and C of the sanctuary ([zone 8](#)).

Learn more about [Québec's nine wildlife sanctuaries](#).

Ecological reserves

Ecological reserves are protected areas devoted to conservation, education and research. Fishing is prohibited in all ecological reserves. [Discover Québec's ecological reserves](#).

Fish ponds

A fish pond is a body of water covering an area of no more than 20 ha, containing only farmed fish. Fishing is allowed year-round, with no catch limit and without the need to obtain a licence. However, the owner of the fish pond must have a fish pond operating licence in order to sell you the fish you catch. To check whether or not the sale of fish is authorized, contact the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec.

Salmon rivers

Québec has 111 salmon rivers that are managed by a variety of different organizations. Special conditions apply to them, including daily quotas (catch or catch-and-release), fishing periods and authorized gear. These conditions may vary from one river to the next, and sometimes between sectors of the same river. For detailed information, please see the page on [Salmon Fishing](#).

Sites reserved for fly fishing

On some salmon rivers or bodies of water, usually located in ZECS, only fly fishing is allowed. These areas are identified by signs posted at the information office or near the fishing site. In these locations, special rules apply to this particular type of fishing.

Nord-du-Québec

To fish in zones 17 and 22 to 24, you must comply with the [Act respecting hunting and fishing rights in the James Bay and New Québec territories \(CQLR, chapter D-13.1\)](#).

Land in this vast territory is subdivided into three categories, and the rules may vary according to the site or species fished. Category III lands are public areas located north of the 55th parallel. To fish on category I or category II lands, you must first obtain authorization from the Cree, Inuit or Naskapi authorities concerned, and must abide by their conditions.

In all the zones in Nord-du-Québec, you may only fish with a line or a rod equipped with a line. Fishing with bows, crossbows or harpoons is prohibited.

You must use the services of an [active outfitter](#) (French only) to fish for:

- lake trout in zone 23, from September 8 to September 30;
- salmon in zones 23 and 24 (we recommend that you use the [Angler's Logbook](#) (French only) to register with an outfitter).

Please note that some fish species are reserved for exclusive use of the Aboriginal people in zones 22 to 24:

- Sucker
- Non-anadromous whitefish
- Sturgeon
- Mooneye
- Goldeye
- Burbot

For additional information on this area, please contact the [local or regional Nord-du-Québec wildlife protection office](#).

Tshitassinu-La Romaine Sector

To fish in the Tshitassinu-La Romaine sector, you must hold a valid fishing licence and:

- obtain a right of access and a catch register (free of charge from information offices);
- abide by the dates, times and locations indicated on your right of access;
- hand in a fishing report at the end of your day or stay.

If no-one is on duty at the information office, you must complete the forms and leave them at the registration booth identified for this purpose. For additional information, [contact the Société Tshitassinu](#).