

Angling Summary



*Prince
Edward
Island*

CANADA

Environment,
Energy and Forestry

2010

Accessing Public Lands

While most of Prince Edward Island is privately owned, there are areas of forest and wetland which are available for public use - the Island's 33,000 hectares of public land. In general terms, these properties are classified as Natural Areas, Ponds and Wetlands, Provincial Forests, and Wildlife Management Areas. They are managed for a variety of public values and benefits such as recreation, wildlife habitat, protection of unique or rare species, high-value timber and non-timber forest products, forest/wildlife research, and outdoor education.

The signs listed below identify public lands which are open to the public for uses such as hunting, fishing, hiking, bicycling, bird watching, tours and outdoor education. However, some uses such as off road vehicle (ATVs, snowmobiles, etc.) are only permitted on certain properties and open fires are not permitted at all. Prohibited uses are listed on the signs. Please do not litter or smoke on these properties.

Many of these properties are working forests, so as conditions dictate, forest harvest and management operations may occur. In all cases, harvest sites on public land are quickly renewed to forest cover.

You can access more information on the location of public lands on-line at www.gov.pe.ca/gis or by purchasing a Public Land Atlas at any Forests, Fish and Wildlife office.





For many Islanders, the official start of spring is the opening day of the angling season. Call it a sport or a hobby, angling is a wonderful way to enjoy the natural beauty of our province and spend time with family and friends.

The recreational fishery on Prince Edward Island involves about 7,000 Islanders and close to 1,000 non-residents each year. The Department of Environment, Energy and Forestry is committed to improving the sport fishery and increasing the opportunities available for anglers to enjoy their sport. Funds are provided to watershed groups to support habitat restoration efforts across the province. Government staff provide technical assistance to these groups as they work diligently to improve the health of their watersheds. We are pleased to offer funding support for fish stocking, recognizing that stocking plays an important role in fisheries management in PEI.

A reminder that there is now a five-day, family fish licence allowing a spouse and dependents to fish over a five day period. I encourage families to take advantage of this economical way to spend quality time together in the outdoors. We will once again be hosting a Family Fishing Weekend (May 21-24th inclusive). During this time, no angling licence is required.

Have a safe and enjoyable 2010 angling season.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard Brown".

Richard E. Brown, Minister
Environment, Energy and Forestry



Public Land Atlas

The Angler's Guide to Better Fishing

The Department of Environment, Energy and Forestry produces a Public Land Atlas which identifies the locations of approximately 1500 public properties across the Island including Provincial Forests and Wildlife Management Areas. Most of these properties are open to anglers, hunters and recreational users.

The Atlas is available at all Forests, Fish, and Wildlife Division offices and at Island Information Services for \$30 +GST or on line at www.gov.pe.ca/gis



CANADA

Environment,
Energy and Forestry
Richard E. Brown
Minister

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This booklet contains a summary of the fishing regulations and other information for persons who plan to fish in Prince Edward Island.

Because this is a summary, not all of the laws contained in the Wildlife Conservation Act or regulations are included. For additional information contact the Department of Environment, Energy and Forestry or any of the Conservation Officers listed in this book.

This is a summary prepared for the information and convenience of persons who plan to fish in Prince Edward Island. The original act and regulations should be consulted for all purposes of interpreting and applying the law. The rules contained in this angling summary are in compliance with the Maritime Provinces Fisheries Regulations in respect to close times, limits and quotas subject to variation under the authority of The Fishery General Regulations.

The laws are subject to change at any time.

What's New for 2010

Conservation Measures on Souris River

The angling season on Souris River will open on May 15th, 2010 with the exception of Harmony Pond which will open on April 15. As part of a research project, 4,000 Atlantic salmon parr were stocked into Souris River in 2009 and the delayed opening will offer protection as these fish migrate to sea.

The section of the east branch, Souris River, upstream from the Souris Line Road will be closed to all angling for the period April 15th to October 15th. This closure is in effect as a conservation measure to protect a restored brook trout nursery area.

Conservation Closure Lifted on Tryon River

The east branch, Tryon River, will be open to angling in 2010.

Dunk River - Open with Restrictions

The Dunk River has been restricted to catch and release fishing to allow stocks to recover from an extensive fish kill in 2007. In 2010, anglers will be allowed to retain rainbow trout (up to eight per day). All brook trout must be released. See page 34 for details on gear restrictions.

Extended Angling Season

The Department of Environment, Energy and Forestry is committed to providing new opportunities for anglers. A number of watercourses (page 27) currently have an extended season to allow catch and release salmon angling into October. Please note that the extended season for these rivers will now end on October 15th, as opposed to October 31st to reduce interference with trout spawning activity. In 2010, Souris River (page 35) will also have an extended season until October 15th, with artificial fly or lure - single barbless hook. A list of rivers with extended season is found on page 27. The extended season in Leards Pond, Morell River, and Marchbank's Pond, Wilmot River, will close on October 31st.

2009 Changes - Reminder

Trout

Daily catch limit

The daily catch limit of trout is eight (8) trout (either brook or rainbow).

Possession limit

In your possession, in the field and elsewhere in storage, you may have no more than eight (8) trout in total.

Atlantic Salmon

There will be no retention of Atlantic salmon. No tags will be issued. All angling for Atlantic salmon will be by barbless fly, catch and release only.

Licences

Family Fishing Licence

A new 5 day family fishing licence is available after May 1st. This licence allows the spouse and dependants to fish for a period of five days. The fee is \$5 plus a \$5 Wildlife Conservation Fund fee.

Angling Licence

Resident and non-resident licences have been combined into one angling licence. The fee is \$10 plus the applicable Wildlife Conservation Fund Fee.

Courtesy Angling Licence

The courtesy resident licence option has been extended to persons age 16-18. In addition, persons age 60 and over are also eligible for this licence. The spouse of the licence holder is no longer included with this licence. The Licence holder is required to purchase a Wildlife Conservation Fund Licence.

Are you interested in becoming a certified angling guide?

Guiding is an excellent way to meet people and make some money while enjoying a day on one of PEI's beautiful streams. In recent years, requests for angling guides from visitors have been increasing. *Emerit*, the training program of the Canadian Tourism Human Resource Council, can provide a course leading to national certification as an angling guide. On PEI, the Tourism Industry Association of PEI (TIAPEI) provides course materials and administers the exam. If you are interested, please contact TIAPEI at 566-5008 or via email: tiapei@tiapei.pe.ca

The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation

The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation (ASCF) is an independent, federally incorporated, non-profit organization, which was established through a one-time grant of \$30 million from the Government of Canada. The interest generated from investment of the grant will be used to support activities related to the conservation of the wild Atlantic salmon and its habitat.

The goal of the Foundation is to help achieve healthy and sustainable wild Atlantic salmon stocks in Atlantic Canada and Quebec through active working partnerships among volunteer conservation groups, Aboriginal organizations, governments, and others.

Every year between November 1st and mid-December the Foundation calls for funding proposals for innovative, on-the-ground conservation projects focused on wild Atlantic salmon and its habitat carried-out by community groups. For 2010, a total of \$300,000 will be available for consisting of \$50,000 for each of province, plus \$50,000 for inter-provincial projects. To learn about the Foundation and how to apply for funding please go to our website:

www.salmonconservation.ca

Prince Edward Island Projects funded by the ASCF: Over **\$85,800** has been awarded to conservation partners in Prince Edward Island in 2008-2009.



Photo courtesy of the Trout Unlimited - Prince County Chapter

Trout River Watershed Planning Project. Trout Unlimited - Prince County Chapter. Amount: **\$5,500.00.**

Development of an Atlantic Salmon Management Strategy for PEI. PEI Council of the Atlantic Salmon Federation. Amount: **\$44,500.00**

Support for Fish Friends elementary classroom program. ASF PEI Council. Amount: **\$1,000**

Souris & Area Wildlife Branch Salmon Restoration Project. Souris & Area Branch Wildlife PEI Federation. Amount: **\$24,200**

Atlantic Salmon Conservation Stabilization Project Trout River. Trout Unlimited Prince County. Amount: **\$10,600**

Traditional Ancestral Homelands of the Mi'kmaq people

The Traditional Ancestral Homelands of the Mi'kmaq People includes all of Prince Edward Island. In Mi'kmaq, Prince Edward Island is known as Epekwitk (pronounced E - PE - KWIT). Approximately 1,740 Mi'kmaq Aboriginal people continue to live on PEI.

In the early 1700's the Mi'kmaq and the British entered into peace, friendship, and trade treaties. The covenant chain of treaty relationships continues to this day. In 1982, the first Ministers of Canada affirmed and recognized Aboriginal and Treaty rights, now entrenched within the Constitution. In 1985, the Supreme Court of Canada confirmed that the treaty of 1752 is an existing treaty and protected under the Constitution. The courts also acknowledged that an Indian treaty is sui generis (unique).

In 1990, the Supreme Court of Canada determined in the Sparrow decision that the Fisheries Act and Regulations were inconsistent with the Constitutional guarantee of an Aboriginal Right to fish. The Supreme Court in the Sparrow decision recognized and affirmed the Aboriginal Right to access and use natural life aquatic resources, which is protected under section 35(1) of the Constitution Act of 1982.

Aboriginal Peoples use of resources is undertaken, applying the principle of Netukulimk, a Mikmaq concept

for responsible harvest of natural life resources to provide for family and community while considering the future needs of generations yet to come.

The Mi'kmaq People of Epekwitk have been harvesting animal, fowl, fish and plant life for over 10,000 years in Atlantic Canada. Since time immemorial, the Mi'kmaq have successfully managed the natural life resources for the expressed benefit and well being of community and family as the common wealth of the Mi'kmaq. Mi'kmaq/Aboriginal People maintain a traditional knowledge of the land, waters and natural life in and around Prince Edward Island, the homelands of the Mi'kmaq - Epekwitk - Mi'kma'ki.

For more information, contact:

Jordan Crane
Native Council of Prince Edward Island
Kelewatl Natural Life Harvesting Commission
6 F.J. MacAulay Crt.,
Charlottetown, PE C1A 9M8
(W) (902) 892-5314
(F) (902) 368-7464
E-mail - Jordan@ncpei.com

Randy Angus
Mi'kmaq Confederacy of Prince Edward Island
70 Kent Street,
Charlottetown, PE C1A 1M9
(W)(902) 367-3660
(F)(902) 436-0873
Email: ranguis@mcpei.ca

General Information

Definitions

“Angling” means fishing with a line to which one or more hooks are attached and that is held in the hand or attached to a rod that is held in the hand or closely attended.

“Artificial fly” means a single or double hook dressed with silk, tinsel, wool, fur, feathers or any combination of those or other materials commonly used in making artificial flies, but does not include a fly that has a spinning device, or a weight that causes the fly to sink.

“Artificial lure” means a device, comprised of wood, plastic, metal, feathers or any other inert material but no organic component, designed to catch fish.

“Bait” means a natural or organic bait comprised of live or dead organisms (animals or plants), derivatives, or parts thereof. This can include minnows, leeches, frogs, insects, worms, cut bait, corn, macaroni, pet food, cheese or similar substances. Fly materials, such as deer hair, or rubber baits impregnated with artificial scents are not considered organic bait.

“Barbless hook” means a hook that was made without a barb or a hook that has all of its barbs compressed to be in complete contact with the shaft of the hook, except those barbs on the shank that are designed solely to retain bait.

“Chumming” refers to the practice of using any material to attract fish to a particular location while angling.

“Daily limit” refers to the lawful capture and retention of fish during a day, with angling restricted to the period of two hours before sunrise to two hours after sunset in any given day. The daily limit is one’s possession limit and is interpreted to be the only legal limit one can possess.

“Fly fishing” means angling by the use of an artificial fly or flies that are attached to a line or to a leader that is attached to a line.

“Grilse” means a salmon that is less than 63 cm but not less than 35 cm in length.

“Hook” means a single, double or treble pointed hook on a common shank or shaft, with or without barbs.

“Jigging” means fishing by manipulating one or more hooks so as to pierce a fish in any part of its body instead of luring the fish to take the hook or hooks into its mouth.

“Length” means:

(a) in relation to a salmon or a landlocked salmon, the distance measured in a straight line from the tip of the nose to the fork of the tail,

(b) in relation to any other fish referred to in these regulations, the distance measured in a straight line from the tip of the nose to the tip of the tail;

“Possession limit” is interpreted to be one’s daily limit.

“Sport fishing” means fishing for pleasure and not for sale or barter.

“Sport fish” means salmon and trout.

Did You Know?.....Size Matters!

Brook trout grow quickly in PEI’s productive waters and by three years of age, are approximately 30 cm (12 inches) in length. The largest brook trout are those that spend time in salt water. Although not common, these sea-run trout may grow to seven lbs. or more. Brook trout produce about 1,200 eggs per pound of fish weight. Therefore, the big, wary fish that avoid being caught are those that make the most valuable spawners. Restrictions on the harvest of trout longer than 40 centimetres, the practice of catch and release fishing, and the imposition of conservation zones are useful management techniques to enhance the province’s trout fishery.

General Prohibitions

General Angling

It is unlawful to:

1. use a gill-net or trap-net for fishing in non-tidal or inland waters, unless authorized by the Maritime Provinces Fisheries Regulations;
2. jig, snare or spear fish of any kind in non-tidal or inland waters;
3. have in your possession an untagged salmon;
4. fish with an artificial fly that has more than two hooks;
5. angle with more than one fishing line or with a fishing line having more than three separate hooks;
6. angle salmon except by fly fishing;
7. angle within a 100-metre radius of any facility operated by or on behalf of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans or the province for the purpose of counting passage or rearing of fish;
9. angle within a fishway or within 25 metres downstream of the lower entrance of a fishway;
10. angle in non-tidal or inland waters that are frequented by any sport fish during the closed time for that sport fish;
11. angle during the time period extending from two hours after sunset to two hours before sunrise;

12. export any trout from the province without a valid angling license and then only in accordance with the possession limit of 8 trout;
13. litter at any time or place - conviction may result in loss of angling privileges;
14. operate a motor boat while intoxicated;
15. chum while angling for trout or salmon;
16. possess, use or sell fish eggs as bait for angling;
17. retain any sport fish alive while angling. All fish must be:
 - a) immediately released alive back to the wild;
 - or
 - b) killed immediately and counted towards the daily bag limit.
18. No person shall possess fish that were caught by any person while fishing for recreational or sport purposes and that have been skinned, cut, packed or otherwise dealt with in such a manner that:
 - (a) the species cannot be readily determined;
 - (b) the number of fish cannot be readily determined;
 - (c) where size limits are applicable, the size of the fish cannot be readily determined.
19. angle for striped bass;
20. introduce or re-locate live fish species into the waters of Prince Edward Island.

Anglers are reminded that it is illegal to angle during the time period extending from two hours after sunset to two hours before sunrise. Official times of sunrise and sunset are published in local newspapers and can be found on the Environment Canada website: ***www.weatheroffice.gc.ca***

Angling Licences

Trout

Trout angling licences can be obtained from authorized vendors and Access PEI centres throughout the province.

Anglers have the option of purchasing their angling licence online. To access this service, please visit the website: ***www.gov.pe.ca /go/fishing***

Trout licences (resident and non-resident) entitle the licensee to angle brook and rainbow trout only. Youth under the age of 16 years are not required to obtain a trout angling licence.

Resident/Non-Resident - \$10

Courtesy Licence-Free

Available to residents only. Issued to anglers 16 to 18 and 60 years of age and over.

Family Fishing Licence - \$5

This licence allows the spouse and dependants to fish for a period of 5 days. The licence will be available after May 1st.

The Forests, Fish and Wildlife Division encourages adults to take children fishing. The adult does not require an angling licence while assisting the children as long as the number of fishing rods does not exceed the number of children angling.

All in a Name...

All species of trout and salmon belong to the same family of fish - the Salmonidae. Brook trout are part of the genus or group called *Salvelinus* or char, while rainbow trout are more closely related to salmon. The brook or speckled trout is the most common salmonid on Prince Edward Island. Brook trout who spend some time in salt water are the most prized by sport fishers. These are known as sea trout and can grow as large as 7 lbs or more!

Brook trout, speckled trout, sea trout. Call them what you like, but they are all the same fish.



Atlantic Salmon

Salmon licences are available from Access PEI centres and a limited number of vendors. To angle for Atlantic salmon, one requires an Atlantic salmon angling licence in addition to a trout licence. All anglers, including youth under the age of 16 years, must obtain a salmon licence.

Atlantic Salmon - \$10

Wildlife Conservation Fund

All licensed anglers are required to be in possession of a Wildlife Conservation Fund Licence. Youth under the age of 16 are exempt from this licensing requirement.

Wildlife Conservation Fund - \$20

For seniors 65 years of age and over:

Wildlife Conservation Fund - \$13

For family five-day licence

Wildlife Conservation Fund - \$5

For further information and a list of vendors, please call the Department of Environment, Energy and Forestry's Forests, Fish and Wildlife Division, (902) 368-6080.

PEI Wildlife Conservation Fund Where Does Your Money Go?

When you pay a PEI Wildlife Conservation Fund fee, you are helping to improve habitat for fish and many other species of Island Wildlife. Applications for funding are made by many stream and river management groups annually. In 2009, approximately \$162,000 was awarded to watershed, wildlife and environmental groups across PEI to restore, protect and improve Island waterways. Research and education projects were also funded. Groups receiving WCF funds in 2009 for river and stream related projects are listed below. For more information on the PEI Wildlife Conservation Fund you can call (902) 892-7513, email: wcfund@eastlink.ca, or visit the web at www.gov.pe.ca/go/wcf

PEI Wildlife Federation
Trout River Environmental Committee
Trout Unlimited Canada - Prince Co. Chapter
Tignish Watershed Management Co-op
Wheatley River Improvement Group
Mill River Wildlife Federation
Richmond Bay Watershed Association
Central Queens Wildlife Federation
Hunter-Clyde Watershed Group
Friends of Covehead and Brackley Bay Inc.
Trout Unlimited Canada - PEI Chapter
Black Pond Watershed Group

PEI Trappers Association
Souris and Area Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation
Desable River Enhancement and Activity Mgmt
PEI Council of the Atlantic Salmon Federation
West Point Community Enhancement Committee
Wrights Creek Watershed Environmental Committee
Leard's Pond (Coleman) Committee
Harmony and Area Watershed Group

All in a Name...

All species of trout and salmon belong to the same family of fish - the Salmonidae. Brook trout are part of the genus or group called Salvelinus or char, while rainbow trout are more closely related to salmon. The brook or speckled trout is the most common salmonid on Prince Edward Island. Brook trout who spend some time in salt water are the most prized by sport fishers. These are known as sea trout and can grow as large as 7 lbs or more!

Brook trout, speckled trout, sea trout. Call them what you like, but these are all the same fish.

Why Use Barbless Hooks?

Many anglers know that the mortality rate when releasing fish caught on lure or fly is considerably lower than that of bait fishing. However, using hooks without barbs, even when fishing with bait, can greatly improve the survival of fish caught and released. Studies have shown that the mortality rate when fishing with bait on a barbed hook is roughly 30%. This drops to approximately 8% for bait on barbless hooks. Angling mortality using barbed lures and flies is approximately 5%, dropping to 2.5% using barbless hooks. Of course, care must be taken when handling and releasing fish to ensure a successful release.

It is not difficult to transform a “barbed” hook into a “barbless” hook. Simply take a pair of pliers or a hemostat and compress the barb so it lies flat against the shaft of the hook. Talk to anglers who regularly use barbless hooks and they will tell you that they do not notice a difference in their ability to hook and retain fish. It is far easier to release little fish caught on barbless hooks. An added bonus is the ease at which barbless hooks can be removed from your thumb! Give barbless hooks a try!



Attention Anglers

The waters of Atlantic Canada are cold year round.
If you fall overboard, do not panic!

Remember the 1 — 10 — 1 Principle

YOU HAVE:

- 1 minute to get your breathing under control;
- 10 minutes of meaningful use of your arms and legs to stay afloat; and
- 1 hour before you become unconscious due to hypothermia.

SAFETY TIPS:

- Above all, **WEAR A LIFEJACKET.**
- Always tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return.
- Keep a low centre of gravity and never overload your boat.



Over 90 percent of anglers who die while boating are not wearing a lifejacket. When you fall overboard, a lifejacket stored under your seat will do little to save your life. Before you head out on the water, make sure you wear a lifejacket that fits and is in good working order.

Anglers are reminded to be sure to carry proof of competency such as a Pleasure Craft Operator Card, and photo ID, if they are operating a boat fitted with a motor.

*Go to **www.coldwaterbootcamp.com** to learn about the crippling effects of cold water immersion. To prepare for a safe fishing adventure, visit **www.boatingsafety.gc.ca** or call 1-800-387-4999 to speak with a Boating Safety Officer.*

Canada

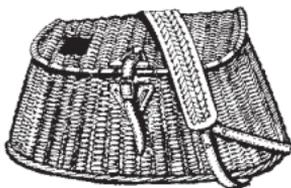
Season Dates and Creel Limits

Trout

Open season - April 15 to September 15, inclusive;
all waters with the following exceptions:

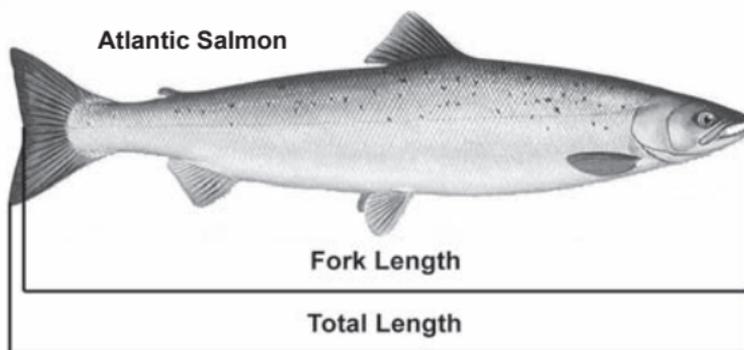
- Glenfinnan and O'Keefe Lakes - have an extended season (see page 35)
- Trout River (Coleman) - has a special Trout Management Zone with shortened season and specific regulations (see page 32)
- Wilmot River - Marchbanks Pond has an extended season for trout (see page 34)
- Souris River - has special regulations, including an extended season (see page 35)

Daily catch limit of 8 trout, of which not more than one trout (either rainbow or brook) may be greater than 40 cm in length.



Possession Limit - In your possession, in the field and elsewhere in storage, you may have no more than 8 trout in total.

The Dunk River will be open to catch and release fishing for brook trout in 2010 to allow fish stocks to recover following a fish kill in 2007. Rainbow trout can be retained (see page 34)



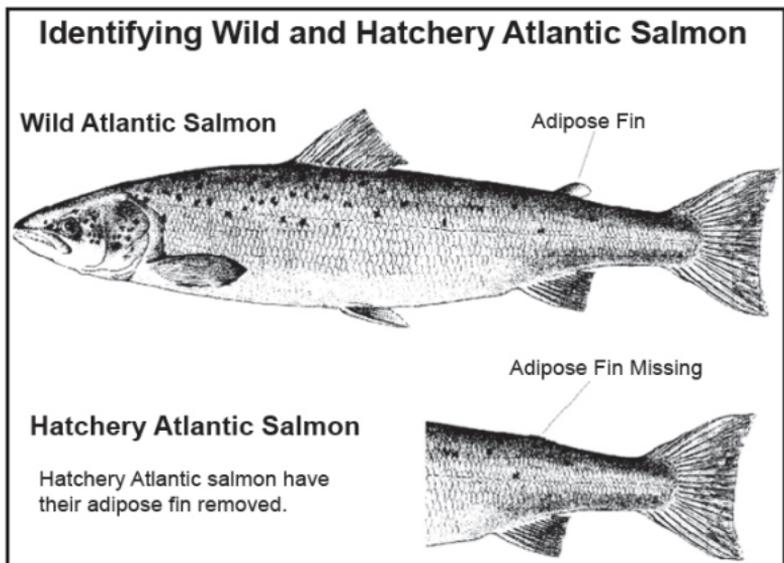
Atlantic Salmon

Open Season - All waters June 1 to September 15, inclusive; except for Morell River (see page 28) and waters noted in the table on page 27.

Daily catch and release limit of not more than two (grilse or salmon).

All salmon must be released immediately with the least possible harm to the fish.

Angling for Atlantic salmon is restricted to an artificial barbless fly as defined in Definitions, page 11. It does not include a fly that has a spinning device or weight that causes the fly to sink; however, a fly so altered can be used to angle for trout.



Extended Season: The following waters are open to salmon fishing, catch and release, using barbless hooks only:

<i>River</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>
<i>Mill River</i>	September 16 to October 15	Downstream from Howlan highway culvert (Route 148)
<i>Trout River</i>	September 2 to October 15	Downstream from Leards Pond in Coleman (Route 140)
<i>West River</i>	September 16 to October 15	Downstream from Green Bay highway culvert (Route 249)
<i>Morell River</i>	September 16 to October 31	see page 28-29

Waters with Special Regulations

Morell River

1. On any day, an angler who holds a salmon licence must cease all angling on the Morell River for that day after two fish, either salmon or grilse, have been caught and released, whichever occurs first.
2. From April 15 to September 15, in the lower section of the Morell River from MacKay's to the mouth of the river (railway bridge), trout may be taken on any tackle. This section of river is closed to all angling after September 15.
3. Any Atlantic salmon must be released immediately with the least possible harm to the fish.
4. Please note that salmon smolts migrate to sea during the month of May. Smolts are delicate at this time and can easily die if handled. If you find yourself catching numerous salmon smolts, please consider angling in a different location until the smolt run is diminished.
5. The section of the East Branch of the Morell River containing the old Crane's Pond dam site is closed to all angling for the period July 1 to September 15. The section of river affected includes all waters 250 metres upstream of the highway bridge on Route 355. This closure is in effect as a conservation measure to protect trout broodstock.

6. Portions of the Morell River are to be angled only by fly fishing after June 1. The restriction applies to Leard's Pond, Riverton, the West Branch below Leard's Pond, all that section of the East Branch below the Hazelgreen Road (Route 329); and the main section of the river from the point of union of the West and East Branches to MackKay's in the Bangor area.
7. The extended season from September 16 to October 31st is for Atlantic salmon only, using barbless hooks.
8. For the period September 16 to October 15 inclusive, salmon angling is restricted to those areas on the Morell River as defined in Section 6 above.
9. Salmon angling on Leard's Pond is permitted from June 1 to October 31st, inclusive.



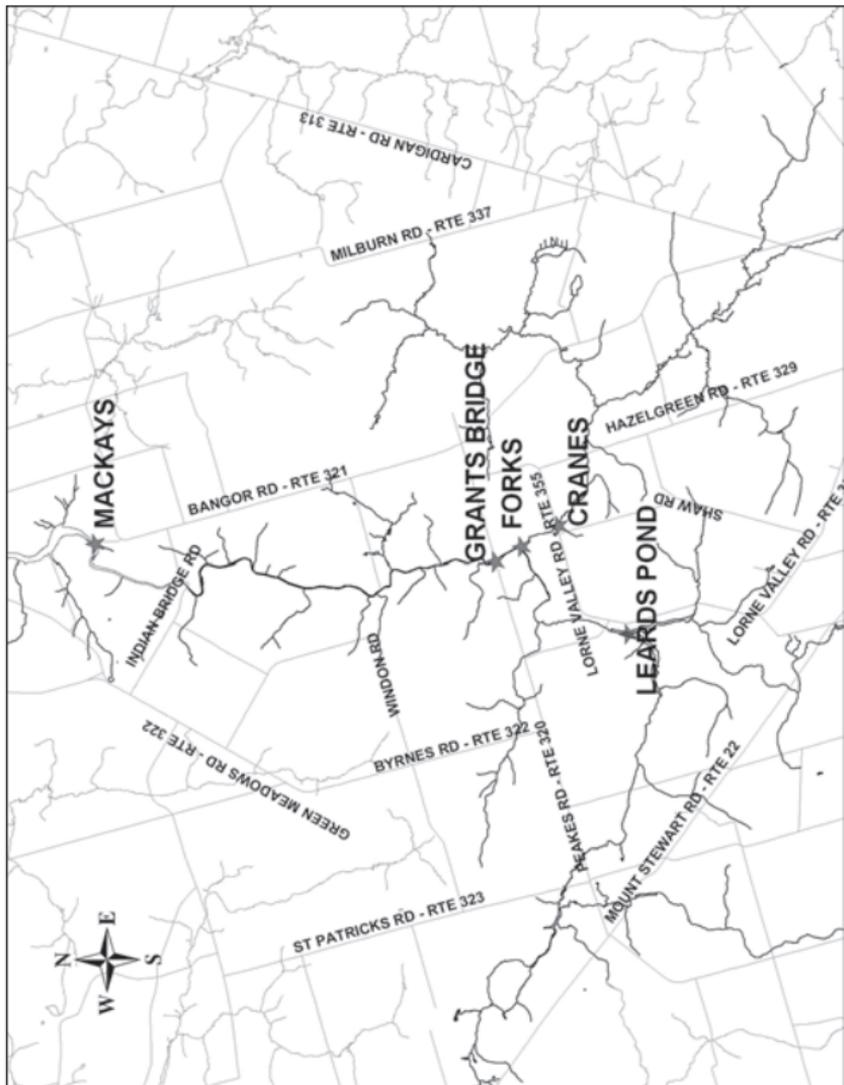
Catch and Release Angling

Anglers are becoming increasingly aware of the fragility of our environment and the pressure on the Island's fishery resources. More anglers are discovering the enjoyment and sense of satisfaction that can be obtained by releasing fish. When practising catch and release fishing, the following steps should be considered:

- Use the right gear:
 - ▶ Barbless or pinched hooks are easier to remove 
 - ▶ Artificial lures, not bait, reduce the chances of deep hooking 
- Minimize handling: retrieve your fish quickly and release it immediately
- Keep the fish in the water
- Use only a knotless mesh net
- Remove the hook carefully
- Cut the leader if necessary
- Hold the fish gently in a natural swimming position, facing upstream until it revives



Morell River



Trout River

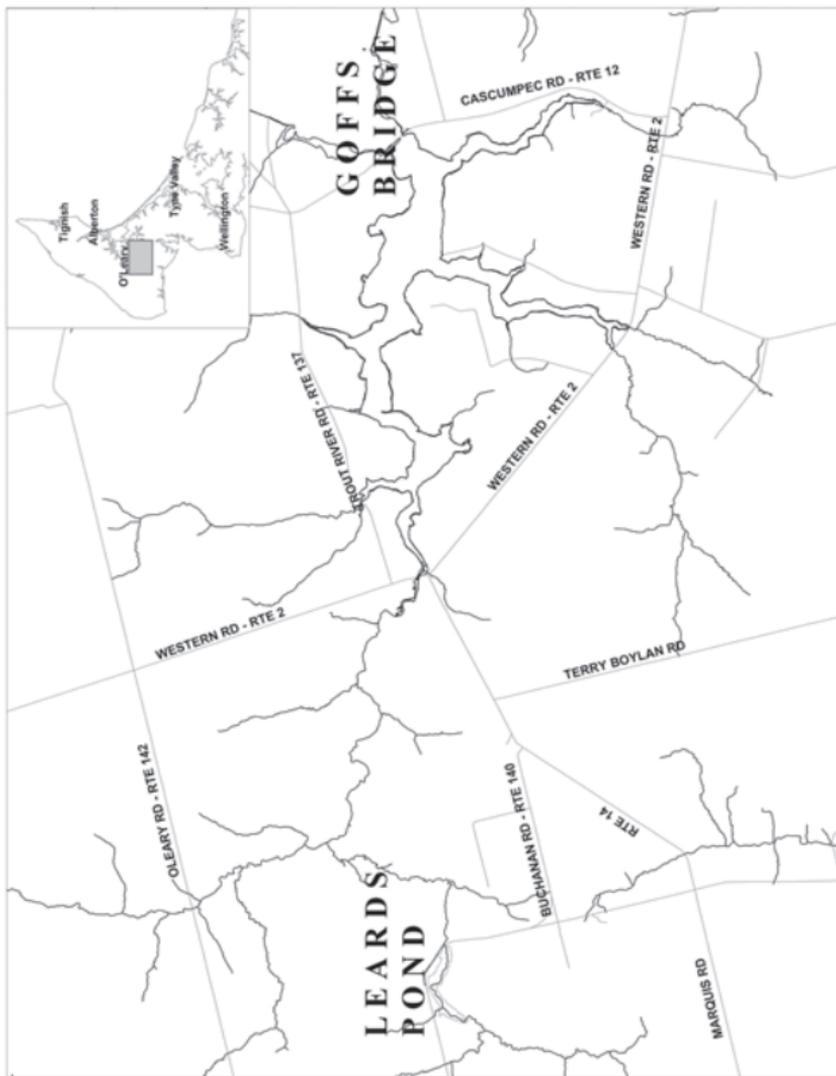
There is a Trout Management Zone in place on the Trout River in Coleman which includes:

***Leards Pond in Coleman (Route 140)
downstream to a point 200 metres below
Goffs Bridge at Route 12:***

Open trout season is May 1 to September 1, 2010
Daily bag limit and possession limit of six (6) trout,
of which only one may be greater than 35 cm in
length.



Trout River (Coleman)



Wilmot River

Marchbanks Pond

Angling within Marchbank's Pond is extended from September 16 to October 31, 2010. The extension affects that part of the Wilmot River between the road stream intersection at Highway 120 (McMurdo Road) and the intersection of Klondike Brook with the Wilmot River (tributary at upper end of pond on south side). Catch and release fishing with fly, using barbless hooks.

Dunk River

The Dunk River will have special restrictions in 2010 to allow fish stocks to recover following a fish kill in 2007.

- Catch and release fishing for brook trout; **rainbow trout can be retained.**
- Barbless hooks only (barbs can be pinched - see page 21 for details)
- Artificial lure and fly only - use of organic bait is not permitted (refer to definitions on page 11)
- Angling season - April 15 to September 15 (there will be no extended season in 2010)

Some tips on catch and release fishing are given on page 30.

Souris River

- The angling season on Souris River will open on May 15, 2010, with the exception of Harmony Pond which will open on April 15th.

- The section of the east branch, Souris River, upstream from the Souris Line Road will be closed to all angling for the period April 15th to October 15th.
- Angling on the Souris River is extended from September 15th to October 15th in all that section of the main river below the Gowanbrae Bridge on Souris River Road (Route 358). Artificial fly or lure
- Single barbless hooks only.

Glenfinnan and O’Keefe’s Lakes

O’Keefes Lake and Glenfinnan Lake are periodically stocked with rainbow trout in support of a put and take fishery.

- Open season for rainbow trout is April 15 to November 15
- Glenfinnan Lake has a daily catch limit of 5 rainbow trout, only one of which can be greater than 40 cm. The O’Keefe’s Lake is catch and release only.
- Possession limit of 5 rainbow trout

Please Note: Regular monitoring of fish in O’Keefe’s Lake has indicated that mercury levels can be in excess of recommended guidelines. Prince Edward Island’s Chief Health Officer advises that fish from O’Keefe’s Lake should not be eaten. Fish from other lakes, ponds or brooks on P.E.I have not been found to have mercury above the national guidelines.

Winter Ice Fishing

Winter ice fishing is restricted to Glenfinnan and O'Keefe's Lakes. Those anglers wishing to participate in the winter ice fishery should retain both their Trout Angling Licence and the Wildlife Conservation Licence.

- Winter ice fishing from January 1 to March 31, 2010.
- Catch limit and possession limit as outlined above

Ice Safety

Traditionally, some ponds and rivers are iced over on opening day of the angling season, while the winter trout fishery is dependent on ice. To avoid a potentially life threatening situation, practise caution when fishing on ice.

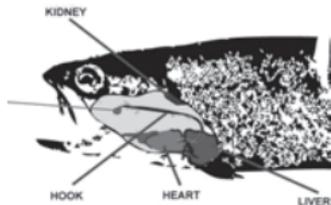
- For your safety there should be at least 15 cm (six inches) of ice or more for small groups of people; and 25 cm (10 inches) or more for snowmobiles and all terrain vehicles.
- Plan to fish with a friend.
- Children should be supervised by an adult.
- Dress warmly - wear a hat, scarf and mitts.
- Wearing a personal flotation device like a floater coat is a good idea when ice fishing.

Should you break through the ice, extend your arms flat on the ice surface and kick your feet. Try to squirm the upper part of your body onto the ice. Once out of the water, roll quickly to one side away from the edge. Once you reach safety, get to shore and warm yourself by building a fire and getting into dry clothing.



Where Does the Hook Go?

Many anglers are unaware of the location of vital organs in a fish. When fish are hooked in the lips or jaw area, mortality can be less than 1%. However, fish that are “deep hooked” in the esophagus or gills suffer a high mortality rate. Studies have shown that many fish which are deeply hooked suffer major internal damage to the heart, stomach or liver.



The fish may appear unharmed and swim away, only to die a few hours later. Use equipment and techniques which will allow you to catch and release fish unharmed.

Is it a salmon or brook trout?

Anglers may confuse brook trout with Atlantic salmon, particularly in the spring when “slink” salmon are in the rivers. “Slink” or “black” salmon are fish that returned to the river the previous year, spawned in the fall, and are preparing to return to sea again in spring. Unlike fresh salmon, these fish tend to be dark and rather thin. If you hook a slink salmon,

please take care when releasing the fish to ensure minimal harm. To distinguish between the two fish, look for the telltale spots on the body of the brook trout (orange and red spots fringed with blue) and white edge on the fins.

Atlantic salmon undergo a number of physiological changes which allow them to move from fresh water to salt water. On PEI, smolts move out of the rivers into salt water in May. They are quite delicate at this time and can easily die if handled. If you find yourself catching numerous salmon smolts, please consider angling in a different location until the smolt run is diminished.



Atlantic salmon “slink”



Brook trout

Take Your Family Fishing on the Long Weekend in May!



Take your children fishing and let them experience the great outdoors and enjoy a life long pleasure that comes from fishing. The Department of Environment, Energy and Forestry encourages parents to share the weekend of May 21-24, 2010 with their kids fishing. In support of this adventure, no licence will be required to fish over the Victoria Day long weekend, May 21-24 inclusive.



**Report poachers and
polluters!**

Call Crime Stoppers
toll-free

1-800-222-8477

Report Litterers!

Call the hot line
toll-free

1-866-368-5024

Investigation and Enforcement

For enforcement of any of the environment acts or regulations **during regular working hours**, telephone a Conservation Officer at any of the following locations:

O'Leary	859-8800	Aaron Waddell
Wellington/ (bilingual officer)	854-7250	Roland Richard
Summerside	888-8000	
Charlottetown (Chief Conservation Officer)	368-4808	John Clements
	368-5000	Wade MacKinnon
Queens County	368-5000	Sandra Keough
Montague	838-0600	Locke Jones
Souris	687-7000	Trevor MacKinnon

For environmental or enforcement emergencies after normal office hours, telephone **1-800-565-1633**.

Access PEI Centres

Queens County

Charlottetown368-5200

Kings County

Montague.....838-0600

Souris687-7000

Prince County

Alberton853-8622

O'Leary859-8800

Summerside888-8000

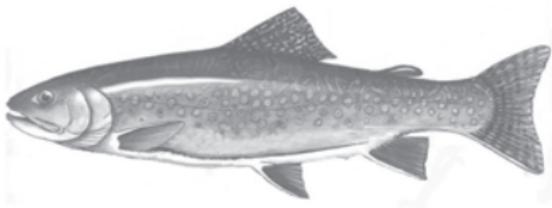
Tignish882-7351

Wellington.....854-7250

Fish Identification

Brook trout (speckled trout)

- Pectoral, pelvic and anal fins colored with a leading edge of white.
- Back and dorsal fin vermiculated (wormlike pattern)
- Sides pigmented with orange and red spots fringed with blue.
- Black spots "not" present on the body.



Atlantic salmon parr (juvenile salmon in freshwater).

- Eleven dark bars separated by a single row of red spots on the lateral line.
- Tail fin forked more so than trout species.



Rainbow trout (juvenile in freshwater)

- A band of pink to red coloring the sides
- Five to 10 dark oval parr marks spaced along the side straddling the lateral line.
- Black spots on the dorsal and tail may be visible.



White Perch

- Found in many Prince Edward Island rivers and are commonly present in bays, tidal tributaries and barrier beach ponds along the shore,.
- Close relative of striped bass.
- Can reach sizes of 19 inches (48cm) and 4 ½ lb (2 kg).
- Normal life span is 6-7 years.
- Considered an important sport fish in many parts of its range.
- Can be angled on P.E.I. during the regular angling season (April 15-September 15)



Rainbow/American Smelt

- Important commercial fish
- Enter freshwater streams in spring to spawn.
- 5-8" in length (13-20 cm)
- Sport fishing with hook and line or spearing in winter
- Limit of 60 per person per day



Give perch a try!

White perch are commonly found in many rivers across Prince Edward Island. In many areas, white perch are considered an important sport fish. Next time you catch a perch, consider taking it home for supper.

Grilled White Perch

2 lbs white perch fillets

1 tsp garlic powder

2 tsp worcester sauce

margarine or butter

3 tablespoons lemon juice

3 tsp onion powder, salt and pepper

Mix lemon juice, garlic powder, onion powder and Worcester sauce in a bowl. Spread fish fillets on aluminum foil and salt and pepper. Pour mixture over fillets. Spread several pats of margarine on top the fillets and seal aluminum foil. Place on hot grill about 4 inches above coals and cook for 20 minutes or until fillets are flaky to the touch of a fork. This recipe would also work in a oven by replacing the aluminum foil with a baking dish. Flounder, striped bass, black bass, white bass or most any white meat fillets could be substituted for the white perch.

Courses/Workshops

Each year, the Forests, Fish and Wildlife Division offers a number of courses and workshops. If you are interested in any of the following courses, please contact our office (902) 368-4683

- Trapping (beginner and advanced)
- Hunting (Hunter Safety, Bow hunting, Hunting Guide)
- Becoming and Outdoors Woman workshop
- Youth Waterfowl Hunting Workshop
- Chainsaw (Weekend Woodsman, Chainsaw Filing, Cutting Firewood Safely, Basic Silviculture Lesson Plan)

Fish Stocking in Prince Edward Island

Restoring quality fish habitat is the first step towards improving the sport fishery in P.E.I. However, fish stocking is also an important tool in fisheries management. Historically, brook trout, Atlantic salmon and rainbow trout were stocked in rivers across Prince Edward Island. Currently, brook trout broodstock are collected annually from five regions: Mill River/Trout River, Wilmot/Dunk, West River, Morell River and Brudenell/Cardigan rivers. The offspring of these fish are available to stock in rivers to compensate for intensive angling activity (e.g. Morell River), to assist recovery in rivers affected by fish kills (e.g. Dunk River, Tryon River) and to provide angling opportunities in specific locations (e.g. urban ponds).

Atlantic salmon broodstock are also collected annually and young salmon (fingerlings) are stocked into selected rivers to provide angling opportunities, for example Morell River, and in other rivers to assist in the recovery of salmon populations (e.g. North River, Souris River).

Rainbow trout are periodically stocked into Glenfinnan Lake and O'Keefe's Lake in support of a rainbow trout fishery.

2010 Survey of Recreational Fishing in Prince Edward Island

Every five years, since 1975, Prince Edward Island has participated in the national Survey of Recreational Fishing in Canada, which summarizes angling activity not only in P.E.I., but also across Canada. The survey provides the Forests, Fish and Wildlife Division with valuable up-to-date information about fishing effort, harvest of fish, species preference, attitudes, opinions, and investments and expenditures for fishing in our province.

The survey will be mailed early in 2011 to randomly selected anglers, requesting information about fishing activity from January to December 2010. We encourage you to keep track of your days fished, fish caught and expenditures you make for fishing in case you are sampled for this survey.

If you receive a questionnaire, we would appreciate it if you would complete it and return it as soon as you can. Your assistance will be extremely important and greatly appreciated.

To view previous survey information, visit:
www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/stats/rec/canada-rec-eng.htm
www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/stats/rec/canada-rec-fra.htm





Fisheries and Oceans
Canada
Pêches et Océans
Canada

Set Young SALMON Free

It's the Law!

If you catch a salmon parr or smolt, gently remove the hook and release it back in the water.

For further details on salmonid identification, please refer to the provincial angling guide.

Canada



SALMON PARR

Black spots on back and sides and a **forked tail**. No markings on fins or tail.



SALMON SMOLT

A silvery fish lacking, or with only a shadow of the vertical side bars of the salmon parr or brook trout. Black spots on upper sides and cheeks and a **dark forked tail**.



BROOK (SPECKLED) TROUT

Light coloured spots on its sides, red spots with a light coloured edge and a marbled pattern on the upper parts and back. Dorsal fin has dark bars and patches. There are no black spots on body. Lower fins have **white edge**. Tail is square or only slightly concave.

Study these pictures and note the differences between young Atlantic Salmon and Brook Trout.

