

HOW TO USE THIS SUMMARY

For recreational fishing purposes, Ontario is divided into 20 Fisheries Management Zones (Zones). The map below indicates the general location of these Zones within Ontario.

Please follow these step-by-step instructions to be sure that you comply with the regulations.

1. Make sure that you have a valid Ontario fishing licence.

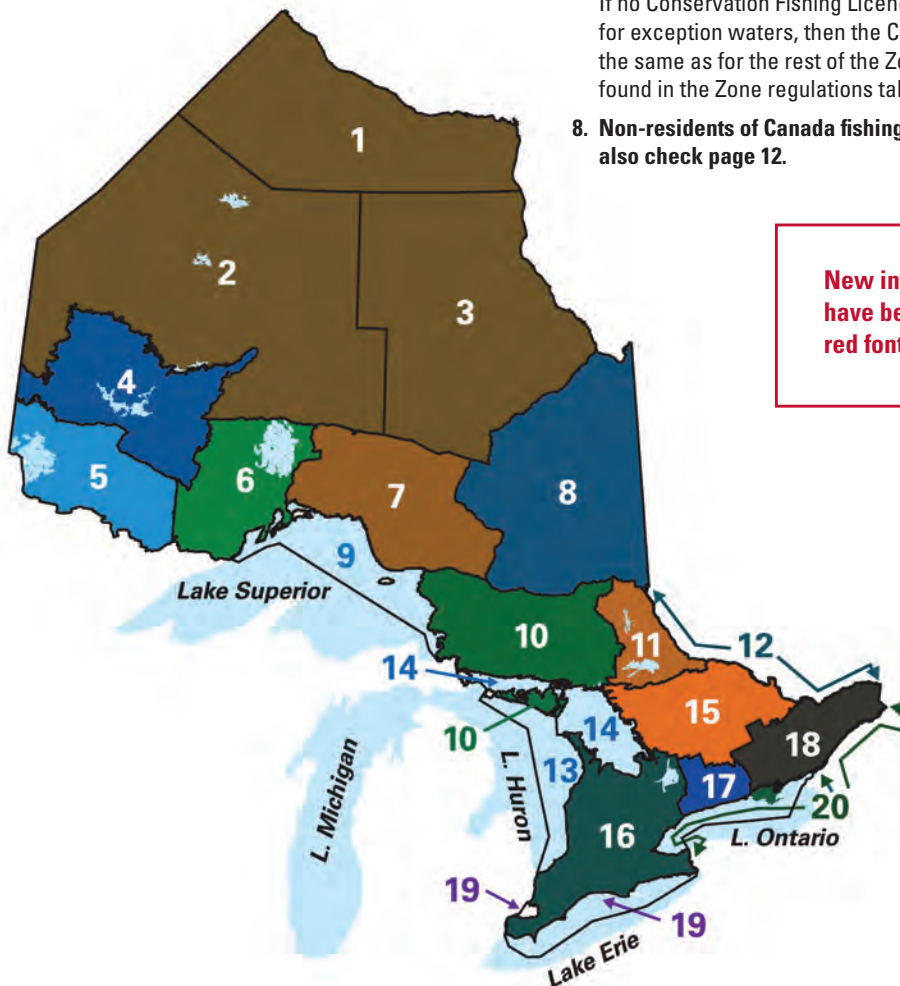
2. Carefully read the general fishing regulations section.

Here you will find information that applies to fishing in all Zones, including general prohibitions, definitions, as well as information on ice fishing, bait, transporting fish, non-angling methods and laws to help stop the spread of invading species.

3. Using the map below, determine the Zone in which you plan to fish. For more detailed information, see the Zone section in which you plan to fish. For detailed maps of the Zone boundaries please visit ontario.ca/fishing.

4. Check the Zone regulations table to determine:

- the open season for fishing for any species you plan to target in that Zone.
- the catch and possession limits and size limits, if applicable, for those species in that Zone.



THEN YOU MUST

7. Check the exceptions to the general Zone regulations for the waters or general area in which you will be fishing.

- If there are any exceptions to the general rule for the Zone, you must comply with those exceptions.

NOTE: In some cases, lower limits or size limits stated in the exceptions apply only to Sport Fishing Licence Tag holders. If no Conservation Fishing Licence Tag limit or size limit is stated for exception waters, then the Conservation Licence Tag limit is the same as for the rest of the Zone for that species and can be found in the Zone regulations table.

8. Non-residents of Canada fishing in northwestern Ontario must also check page 12.

New information and changes have been highlighted in bold red font for your convenience.

5. Remember that most catch and possession limits and some size limits are different for a holder of a Sport Fishing Licence than for a holder of a Conservation Fishing Licence.

- **S** - refers to limits under a Sport Fishing Licence Tag.
For example: S – 4 = catch and possession limit of four.
- **C** - refers to limits under a Conservation Fishing Licence Tag.
For example: C – 2 = catch and possession limit of two.

NOTE: all size limits refer to total length – refer to Angler's Guide to Fishing Regulations, page 7.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

This is a summary of information dealing with fishing licences and fishing laws. This summary is neither a legal document nor a complete collection of the current regulations. It is meant to be a convenient reference only.

For details on the current regulations see:

- Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act and regulations
- Federal Fisheries Act
- Endangered Species Act and regulations
- Federal Species at Risk Act
- Ontario Fishery Regulations
 - Close times, fishing quotas and limits on the size of fish established in the Ontario Fishery Regulations may be changed through Variation Orders which are available at ontario.ca/fishing.

The maps presented in this summary are provided as a guide only. Due to the scale of the maps, the official plan (detailed information) for the boundaries of the Zones cannot be provided in this summary.

You can obtain specific details of the regulations, including more detailed maps of Zone boundaries, from ontario.ca/fishing or local MNRF offices.

Find the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry at:
ontario.ca/mnrf

Visit the ministry's fishing website:
ontario.ca/fishing

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MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO



One of the most popular outdoor activities for Ontario residents and visitors alike is recreational fishing. With over a quarter of a million lakes and innumerable rivers and streams, the province has fishing opportunities that will appeal to every outdoor enthusiast. Angling is an all-season pursuit that can be enjoyed in many different settings: from piers in the largest of cities to the quiet and solitude of remote fly-in camps.

Fishing is also an excellent way to develop a love of the outdoors, spend time together as families and just unwind. A great opportunity to get young people and new anglers hooked on fishing without needing to buy a licence is the Family Fishing Weekend in February, which coincides with the Family Day long weekend from February 13 to 15, and the Family Fishing Week from July 2 to 10.

In 2015, we released Ontario's Provincial Fish Strategy. It provides up-to-date direction for the management of the province's fish, fisheries and supporting ecosystems, to ensure strong healthy fish populations for years to come. The Strategy aims to improve the conservation and management of fisheries, and to promote and encourage fishing as an activity that provides many benefits to the people of Ontario.

Our Cover

Learn to Fish is a hands-on program working to increase participation in recreational fishing in Ontario. For many new anglers, fishing can seem like an intimidating activity, particularly if they don't have a friend or family member involved in fishing to assist them. Since 2013, Learn to Fish has helped more than 13,000 Ontarians – young and old – gain the skills and confidence they need to get started with fishing. Our goal is to inspire new anglers to connect with nature and take up fishing as a regular outdoor activity. The two-hour Learn to Fish experience teaches new anglers how to rig and cast a rod, how to fish safely and legally, and how to identify and handle fish. All the necessary fishing equipment is supplied and we invite participants to catch their first fish with our instructors. In 2015, Learn to Fish unveiled a new mobile unit to expand our ability to reach non-anglers where they live. Last summer the mobile unit made a trek across the province stopping at more than 55 locations to both teach people about, and promote, recreational fishing in Ontario. Learn to Fish is run in partnership with OFAH/OPG TackleShare, Lucky Strike Baitworks, the Toronto Sportsmen's Show, BOATsmart, Ontario Parks and the Enforcement Branch of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. Visit Ontario.ca/learntofish for 2016 program schedules, news and updates.



Invasive species and diseases continue to pose a serious threat to Ontario's biodiversity, as well as the many goods and services provided to communities and industries by healthy fisheries and ecosystems. For example, Asian carp can have significant impacts on Great Lakes coastal wetlands and aquatic vegetation which provide important habitats for native species. Grass, Bighead, Black and Silver Carp are all listed as invasive fish for which live possession is prohibited in Ontario. Anglers are encouraged to report sightings of Asian carp and other invasive species to the Invading Species hotline at 1-800-563-7711.

Anglers should be aware that live bait used for angling is one pathway that can lead to the spread of invasive species and diseases. Ontario is working to raise awareness of the potential threats posed by the presence of non-baitfish species and other aquatic organisms in the bait pathway, and seeks to reduce them by encouraging compliance with regulations. Bait policies are also under review to determine how to minimize the ecological risks associated with the movement and use of bait while reducing the complexity of current regulations and providing greater business certainty to the bait industry.

We all have a role to play in keeping the province's world-class recreational fisheries sustainable and healthy. Please familiarize yourself with the summary and follow the rules. In respecting the natural environment and each other, we help to make Ontario a wonderful place to get outside and appreciate Ontario's fisheries resource.

Fish and Wildlife Heritage Commission

The Fish and Wildlife Heritage Commission was created in 2002 to advise the Minister on promoting hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities, funding of the Fish and Wildlife Program, and other matters as requested by the Minister. The commission consists of ten members, including the chair, who represent a cross-section of key interests in the sustainable use of our fish and wildlife resources. The commission continues to work on a number of important issues, including the development of strategies to engage youth in our fishing and hunting heritage and the continued effective management of the Fish and Wildlife Special Purpose Account.