

# NORTH ISLAND

## Sports Fishing Regulations 2009-2010



**Fish  
& Game**  
NEW ZEALAND

**Protect our waters: CHECK, CLEAN, DRY**  
[www.fishandgame.org.nz](http://www.fishandgame.org.nz)

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**NORTH ISLAND**

**2009/2010 SPORTS FISHING**

**REGULATION GUIDE**

The regulations printed in this guide booklet are subject to the Minister of Conservation's approval. A copy of the published Anglers' Notice in the New Zealand Gazette is available on [www.fishandgame.org.nz](http://www.fishandgame.org.nz)

## THE SPORTS FISHING REGULATIONS

These regulations are set to ensure:

- That fish populations are maintained and that the number of fish caught do not threaten the sustainability of the fisheries
- That the quality of the fishing experience is maintained
- That spawning areas are protected
- To ensure incompatible methods of fishing are kept separate
- That anglers use sporting methods.

The main angling rules and catch limits are shown in this booklet, but there are other rules in the Conservation Act, Freshwater Fisheries Regulations and other legislation which affect sports fishing. If you are in any doubt about sports fishing regulations, please contact your local Fish and Game office.

These regulations are approved by the Minister of Conservation on the advice of the 12 regional Fish and Game Councils. In the past different methods and gear have been legal in one region but not the region next door, and as the licence is a New Zealand wide one this has been confusing to many anglers. To overcome this problem, the New Zealand Fish and Game Council, in consultation with the regional councils, has attempted to make the regulations more consistent nationwide.

**ANGLERS' NOTICE FOR FISH AND GAME REGIONS  
CONSERVATION ACT 1987  
FRESHWATER FISHERIES REGULATIONS 1983**

Pursuant to section 26R (3) of the Conservation Act 1987, the Minister of Conservation approves the following anglers notice, subject to the First and Second Schedules of this notice, for the following Fish and Game Regions:

Northland	Nelson/Marlborough
Auckland/Waikato	North Canterbury
Eastern	West Coast
Taranaki	Central South Island
Hawke's Bay	Otago
Wellington	Southland

**NOTICE**

This notice shall come into force on the 1st day of October 2009.

**FIRST SCHEDULE**

Fishing conditions generally common to all Fish and Game Regions.

**SECOND SCHEDULE**

Regional specific fishing conditions, bag limits, closed and open waters, and the like.

# PLEASE KEEP DIDYMO OUT OF THE NORTH ISLAND

It is crucial that you do your bit to keep didymo out of the North Island. **CHECK, CLEAN and DRY** your fishing gear, clothing, waders and other equipment before moving from one waterway to another. Thoroughly spray your gear (lines, reels, rods, flies, nets, waders, boots etc) and any clothing that has been in contact water with a 5% solution of household detergent.

**FELT SOLED BOOTS** have been identified as a high risk carrier of didymo and other unwanted aquatic organisms. The felt is very absorbent and cannot be cleaned effectively using the normal methods. Fish & Game New Zealand is continuing the restriction placed on the use of felt soles prior to the start of the 2008 season.

Anglers must still **CHECK, CLEAN, DRY** all equipment that gets wet while fishing before going to a new fishing spot.



# **NATIONAL REGULATIONS**

## **FIRST SCHEDULE**

(applies to all regions except Taupo)

## FIRST SCHEDULE

### 1. INTERPRETATION

Words and expressions in this notice, which are defined in the Conservation Act 1987 or the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983, shall be so defined.

*Artificial fly* means any lure of feather, fur, wool or other material of any kind customarily used in the making of artificial flies.

*Bait means:*

Natural fly.

Natural insect.

Natural spider.

Natural worm or worms.

Natural crustacean.

Natural fish (excluding fish ova, or any portion of a fish, or shellfish (mollusc)).

Uncoloured bread dough.

Any scented lure constructed of, or treated with, elements that have chemical attractant properties.

*Bait assembly* means either a hook rigged with a number of baits, or a single bait rigged with a number of hooks.

*Bait fishing* means to fish for sports fish with bait.

*Boat* means any manned flotation device.

*Coarse fish* means perch, tench (all New Zealand) and rudd (Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Region only).

*Coarse fishing waters* means named locations where anglers can fish for coarse fish:

- (a) with a rod which has either a fixed or running line.
- (b) with no restriction on the type or number of baits in use.
- (c) with no restriction on the use of preparations to attract fish.

*Fly fishing* means to fish for sports fish with fly rod and fly reel and fly line and artificial fly.

*Fishing* and *fish* in this notice means:

The catching, taking, or harvesting of sports fish; and includes:

- (a) any other activity that may reasonably be expected to result in the catching, taking or harvesting of sports fish.
- (b) any attempt to catch, take or harvest sports fish.
- (c) any operation in support of, or in preparation for, any activity described in this definition.

*Foul hook* means to hook a sports fish other than from within the mouth.

*Landmark* means a black, yellow and white ringed post or buoy.

*Length* is the measurement from the tip of the snout to the fork of the tail.

*Lure* means any authorised artificial fly or spinner or bait.

*Spinner* means any artificial lure other than an artificial fly.

*Spin fishing* means to fish for sports fish with a spinner.

*Sports fish* means those freshwater fish described in the First Schedule of the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983, namely:

Brown trout.

Rainbow trout.

American brook trout or char.

Lake trout or char.

Atlantic salmon.

Quinnat or chinook salmon.

Sockeye salmon.

Perch.

Tench.

Rudd (Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Region only).

Any hybrid of the above species.

## 2. AUTHORISED TACKLE

- 2.1 No licence holder shall fish for sports fish except by using a rod and running line and authorised lure (as defined in clause 7 of this schedule).
- 2.2 Nets and gaffs:
  - 2.2.1 When playing a sports fish, a landing net may be used to secure or land that fish.

- 2.2.2 For keeping coarse fish alive, a keep net may be used in the water from which the fish was caught.
- 2.2.3 When playing a salmon, a gaff may be used to secure or land that salmon in the Otago region only.
- 2.3 No licence holder when fishing for sports fish shall:
  - Use more than 1 assembled rod and running line.
  - Use more than 3 artificial flies or spinners.
  - Use more than 1 bait assembly.
  - Be more than 15m from the rod being used.
  - Use in waters other than those where bait fishing is permitted any lure treated with any chemical preparation other than that used solely to control the buoyancy of an artificial fly.
  - Use any preparation not attached to a lure to attract fish except when fishing for coarse fish in coarse fishing waters.
- 2.4 No person shall fish for sports fish by using felt-soled waders or footwear incorporating or having attached a sole of felted, matted or woven fibrous material when sports fishing.
- 3. FOUL HOOKING OF FISH**
- 3.1 No licence holder shall attempt to foul hook any sports fish.
- 3.2 Any licence holder who foul hooks a sports fish shall return it immediately to the water with as little injury as possible.

### 4. FISH LENGTH

Every licence holder who catches a sports fish which does not exceed the specified minimum length, or does exceed the specified maximum length, shall immediately return it with as little injury as possible into the water from which it was taken.

### 5. OPEN SEASON

No licence holder shall fish for any sports fish except during an open season.

### 6. DAILY LIMIT BAGS

- 6.1 No licence holder shall continue to fish for a particular species of sports fish on any day in which he or she has already killed the limit bag for that species.
- 6.2 It shall be permissible to make up the difference between a lesser limit bag prescribed in one place and a higher limit bag prescribed in another.

### 7. AUTHORISED LURES

Authorised lures (subject to any regional restrictions specified in the Second Schedule) are:

- Artificial fly.
- Spinner.
- Bait.

# **SECOND SCHEDULE**

(applies only in the specified region)

# NORTHLAND

## CONTACT

Office:	116 Robert Street, Whangarei
Postal Address:	PO Box 1099, Whangarei 0140
Phone and Fax:	(09) 438-4135
Email:	northland.f.g@clear.net.nz
Administration:	Fay Stodart
Manager:	Rudi Hoetjes
Field Officer:	Graham White

Northland has a temperate climate with summer water temperatures often above the optimum range preferred by trout. As a result freshwater fishing is to some extent limited compared to other regions. The Northland Fish and Game Council have liberal regulations providing maximum fishing opportunity for different types of angling experience. The region has numerous small river and stream fisheries that hold rainbow and brown trout. Rainbows are inclined to be the dominant species as they are able to tolerate the warmer water temperatures. Fly and spin fishing are the only methods allowed in Northland's river fisheries. The rivers have an open season from 1st October to 30th April each year, except for the Wairua River which is open to fishing all year round.

Many of the headwater streams in the region are heavily wooded along the banks which keeps the water cooler in the summer months.

Angler pressure on these streams is low, offering a semi-wilderness experience. Angler access to most rivers in Northland requires permission from the individual landowner before you can cross their properties. Landowners are only too willing to grant approval providing you seek prior permission, shut the gates and do not disturb stock.

Early spring, late autumn and the winter offers the best freshwater angling in Northland's lakes and reservoirs when the trout become more energetic in the cooler surface waters. Northland Fish and Game undertakes an annual stocking programme of hatchery reared trout into two natural lakes and three artificial reservoirs to provide further angling opportunities. Bait fishing and trolling are allowed in the lakes and reservoirs which are open to angling for 12 months.

Several angler access guides are available through the Council office and on the regions webpage [www.fishandgame.org.nz](http://www.fishandgame.org.nz).

## REGULATIONS

**Reference to Description: *New Zealand Gazette*, No. 83, 24 May 1990, page 1861**

### 1. DEFINITIONS

See First Schedule.

## 2. OPEN SEASON

- 2.1 All lakes and reservoirs in region All year
- 2.2 Wairua River (excluding tributaries) downstream from the confluence of the Waiotū and Whakapara Rivers All year
- 2.3 All rivers and streams in region 1 October to 30 April

## 3. CLOSED WATERS

No restrictions.

## 4. AUTHORISED TACKLE

See First Schedule.

## 5. FLY FISHING ONLY WATERS

No restrictions.

## 6. BAIT FISHING WATERS

- 6.1 Bait fishing (as defined in the First Schedule) is permitted in all lakes and reservoirs.
- 6.2 Bait fishing is permitted in the Waitangi River only when fishing for tench.

## 7. COARSE FISHING WATERS

- 7.1 The only public coarse fishing water in the Northland Region is the Waitangi River and its tributaries.

## **8. USE OF BOATS**

- 8.1 Anglers trolling from boats must stay at least **50m** from any anglers fishing from the shore.

## **9. DAILY BAG LIMITS**

- 9.1 All rivers and streams except the Waipapa, Mangapa and Victoria Rivers

9.1.1 No licence holder shall on any one day kill more than two trout.

9.1.2 There is no daily bag limit for tench or perch.

- 9.2 Waipapa, Mangapa and Victoria Rivers and any tributaries of these rivers.

9.2.1 No licence holder shall on any one day kill more than one trout.

- 9.3 All Lakes and Reservoirs

No licence holder shall on any one day kill more than three trout.

There is no daily bag limit for tench or perch.

## **10. FISH LENGTH**

- |      |                                       |          |
|------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| 10.1 | The minimum length for trout          | 300mm    |
| 10.2 | The minimum length for tench or perch | No limit |

# AUCKLAND/WAIKATO

## CONTACT

Office:	156 Brymer Rd, RD9, Hamilton 3289
Phone and Fax:	(07) 849 1666 Fax (07) 849 1648
Email:	admin@awfg.org.nz
Administration:	Robyn Lingard
Chief Executive:	Doug Emmett
Nthn Wildlife Manager:	John Dyer
Fisheries Manager:	Ben Wilson
Sthn Game Bird Manager:	David Klee

The Auckland/Waikato Region offers a wide diversity of fishing opportunities with many lake and river fisheries. Four lakes within one hour of Auckland City are regularly stocked with trout, and wild trout are present in the Mangatawhiri and Mangatangi reservoirs. There is also good trout fishing in the Coromandel Ranges with most rivers having easy access and high scenic values. Further south there are numerous spring-fed trout streams in the South Waikato, and many backcountry fisheries throughout the King Country including the headwaters of the Waipa, Whanganui, Whakapapa, and Awakino Rivers. The Waikato River has an abundant brown trout population, and the hydro-lakes provide excellent lake fishing. Coarse fisheries are present in most lakes north of Hamilton, including Lake Pupuke and Hamilton Lake. Good coarse fishing is also available in the lower Waikato and Whangamarino Rivers.

The following pamphlets are available from Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game:

- Trout fishing in the Auckland/Waikato Region
- Fishing in the lakes of the Auckland/Waikato Region
- Trout fishing in the southern waters of the Auckland/Waikato Region
- Trout fishing in the Coromandel Ranges
- Trout fishing in South Waikato spring creeks
- Coarse fishing in the Auckland/Waikato Region
- Getting started in freshwater fishing.
- Waitomo and Kawhia Trout Fishing
- Trout Fishing on the Mighty Waipa
- Trout Fishing on the Waikato River

## REGULATIONS

**Reference to Description:** *New Zealand Gazette*, No. 83, 24 May 1990, page 1861, as amended by *New Zealand Gazette*, No. 129, 29 August 1991, page 2786

### 1. DEFINITIONS

See First Schedule.

## 2. OPEN SEASON, PERMITTED METHODS AND TROUT BAG LIMITS

	<i>Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Bag Limit (Trout)</i>
<b>2.1 Lakes</b>			
Arapuni	All year	All legal lures/baits	5
Karapiro	All year	All legal lures/baits	2
Mangatangi Reservoir	All year	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Mangatawhiri Reservoir	All year	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Moana-nui	All year	All legal lures/baits	5
Parkinsons	All year	All legal lures/baits	5
Pupuke	All year	No bait restrictions	5
Tomarata	All year	All legal lures/baits	5
Waipapa	All year	All legal lures/baits	5
Whatihua (Thomsons)	All year	All legal lures/baits	5
All other lakes/ponds	All year	No bait restrictions	5
<b>2.2 Hydro Lake Tributaries</b>			
Little Waipa Stream (Horahora Road Bridge deemed to be the mouth)	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Pokaiwhenua Stream	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Mangawhio Stream	All year	Spinner/artificial fly	5
below lower falls	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
above lower falls	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Waipapa River	All year	Spinner/artificial fly	5
below lower falls	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
above lower falls	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5

	<i>Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Bag Limit (Trout)</i>
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*All other streams flowing into Lake Waipapa, Lake Arapuni and Lake Karapiro are closed (refer to Section 3)*

### **2.3 Rivers and Streams**

Awakino			
below Mahoenui Bridge	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	2
above Mahoenui Bridge	Oct 1–Jun 30	Fly fishing only	2
Awaroa	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Hikutaia			
below Whangamata track	All year	Spinner/artificial fly	5
above Whangamata track	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Kakahu	Oct 1–Jun 30	Fly fishing only	5
Kaniwhaniwha	Oct 1–Jun 30	Fly fishing only	5
Kaimarama	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Kapowai	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Karapiro Stream	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Kauaeranga	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Komata	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Mahakirau	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Mangakahu	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Mangaohae	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Mangaokewa	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Mangaorongo	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Mangaotaki			
below lower bridge on Mangaotaki Road	All year	Spinner/artificial fly	5

# AUCKLAND/WAIKATO

	<i>Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Bag Limit (Trout)</i>
above lower bridge on Mangaotaki Road	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Mangatawhiri			
below State Highway 2 Bridge	Oct 1–Jun 30	No bait restrictions	5
above State Highway 2 Bridge	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Mangatepopo	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Mangatutu			
below Lethbridge Road	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
above Lethbridge Road	Oct 1–Jun 30	Fly fishing only	5
Mangawhero	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Maramataha	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Maratoto	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Marokopa			
below Mangatuahau Stream	All year	All legal lures/baits	5
above Mangatuahau Stream	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Moakurarua			
below Honikiwi Road	Oct 1–Jun 30	All legal lures/baits	5
above Honikiwi Road	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Mokau	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Ngakoaohia			
below Pirongia/Kawhia Bridge	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
above Pirongia/Kawhia Bridge	Oct 1–Jun 30	Fly fishing only	5
Ngutunui	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Ohinemuri			
below Victoria St Bridge, Waihi	All year	All legal lures/baits	2
above Victoria Str Bridge, Waihi	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	2

	<i>Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Bag Limit (Trout)</i>
Okauaka	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Okupata	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Omahine	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Ongarue			
below Waimiha Stream	Oct 1–Jun 30	All legal lures/baits	5
above Waimiha Stream	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Oparau	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Oraka	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Owairaka	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Piopiotea	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Pungapunga	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Puniu			
below Seafund Road Bridge	All year	Spinner/artificial fly	5
above Seafund Road Bridge	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Purere (upper Waihou)	All year	Spinner/artificial fly	No limit*
Rapurapu	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Tapu	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Tairua	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Taringamotu	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Tawarau	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Waihou			
below Okoroire Falls	All year	All legal lures/baits	5
above Okoroire Falls	All year	Spinner/artificial fly	No limit*
Waikato	All year	All legal lures/baits	5
Waimakariri	All year	Spinner/artificial fly	No limit*
Waimiha	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5

# AUCKLAND/WAIKATO

	<i>Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Bag Limit (Trout)</i>
Waiomou	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Waione	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Waipa			
below State Highway 3 Bridge at Otorohanga	All year	All legal lures/baits	5
between State Highway 3 Bridge and Toa Bridge	All year	Spinner/artificial fly	5
above Toa Bridge	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Waipare (upper Waihou)	All year	Spinner/artificial fly	No limit*
Waipari	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Wairoa	All year	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Waitawheta			
below end of Franklin Road	All year	Spinner/artificial fly	2
above end of Franklin Road	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	2
Waitekauri	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	2
Waiwawa	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Whanganui			
below Whakapapa River	All year	All legal lures/baits	5
above Whakapapa River	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
Whakapapa			
below Piopotea Stream	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5
above Piopotea Stream	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	2 brown 0 rainbow
Whakapapa-iti	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	2 brown 0 rainbow

	<i>Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Bag Limit (Trout)</i>
Whakapapa-nui	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	2 brown 0 rainbow
Whangamarino	Oct 1–Jun 30	No bait restrictions	5
All other rivers/streams not mentioned in Sections 2 and 3	Oct 1–Jun 30	Spinner/artificial fly	5

\* Where there is no bag limit, only 2 of these trout may be greater than 30cm in length (refer to Section 10).

### **3. CLOSED WATERS**

- 3.1 No licence holder shall take (or attempt to take) sports fish from all rivers, streams and their tributaries which flow into but not including Lake Arapuni, Lake Waipapa and Lake Karapiro, and that part of the Waikato River downstream from the Maraetai Dam to above the Karapiro Dam.
- 3.2 The closed waters restrictions in Section 3.1 do not apply to the waters specified in Section 2.2 of this Schedule.

### **4. AUTHORISED TACKLE**

Refer to Section 2.

### 5. FLY FISHING ONLY WATERS

Refer to Section 2.

### 6. BAIT FISHING WATERS

No licence holder when fishing in bait fishing waters shall use as bait any fish taken from any water other than where the fishing is occurring.

### 7. COARSE FISHING WATERS

- 7.1 The following waters are designated as coarse fishing waters:  
Mangatawhiri River from the bridge on State Highway 2 to its confluence with the Waikato River.  
Whangamarino River.  
All lakes and ponds, excluding the Mangatangi Reservoir, Mangatawhiri Reservoir and any lake specified in Section 2 of this part of the Schedule.
- 7.2 There are no restrictions on the numbers of rods and running lines that a licence holder fishing for perch, tench or rudd may have provided only one of which shall be used for fishing at any one time.
- 7.3 A roach pole may be used to fish for perch, tench and rudd.

7.4 It is an offence to kill on any day more than five tench. There is no limit for perch or rudd.

## **8. USE OF BOATS**

No licence holder shall fish for sports fish from any vessel in the upper reaches of Lake Karapiro (upstream from the white marker post, situated 200m below the Huihuitaha Stream mouth) unless the vessel is securely anchored.

## **9. HOURS OF FISHING**

There are no restrictions on the hours of fishing in the Auckland/Waikato Region.

## **10. FISH LENGTH**

- 10.1 There are no length restrictions in the Waimakariri Stream and Waihou River upstream from Okoroire and their tributaries, except that no licence holder shall take more than 2 trout exceeding 30cm in length.
- 10.2 In all other waters the minimum length is 30cm.

# EASTERN

## CONTACT

Office: c/- Ngongotaha Hatchery, 1130 Paradise Valley Road, Ngongotaha

Postal Address: Private Bag 3010, Rotorua 3046

Email: office@erfgc.co.nz

Administration: Lynne Sands

Phone and Fax: (07) 357 5501 Fax: (07) 357 5503

Gisborne Phone: (06) 867 0390

Manager: Rob Pitkethley

Office Manager: Kate Thompson

Senior F&G officer: Matthew McDougall

F&G officers: Mark Sherburn, Lloyd Gledhill, Gerald Inskeep, John Meikle, Eben Herbert, Matthew Osborne, Anthony van Dorp

Fish and Game New Zealand's Eastern Region offers a large range of fishing opportunities for both lake and river fishing. Access to much of the fishable water in the Eastern Region has been described in a series of comprehensive informational pamphlets. These can be obtained free of charge from most licence sellers and sports shops, as well as our Rotorua office or on the Eastern Region fishing pages on the [www.fishandgame](http://www.fishandgame).

org.nz web site. These pamphlets have detailed maps of their respective catchments along with labelled access points and fishing information, and outline the best fishing areas and methods to use. An active access programme is also being implemented throughout the region with extensive signage and tracks have been cut to guide anglers to many fishing opportunities.

The bush clad Lakes Waikaremoana and Waikareiti in the east provide spectacular boat and shoreline fishing for both brown and rainbow trout in the scenic Te Urewera National Park. The rivers within the park also provide opportunities to target headwater fish and spawning run fish. The Ruakituri River gives anglers a chance to catch world renowned strong trout while the Waiau Rivers offers very high catch rates.

The Bay of Plenty has a large number of spectacular river fisheries from the Waioeka River in the east through the Rangitaiki, Tarawera and Kaituna catchments to the Ngamuwahine River in the west. Lakes like Aniwhenua and Flaxy also add to diverse fishing opportunities. The Rotorua Lakes are the central feature of the region. Shoreline fly fishing and spin fishing can result in very good catch rates while boat fishing over the summer months provides action and fun for the whole family. Most of the Rotorua Lakes lack suitable spawning rivers to sustain fish populations so supplementary stocking of Tarawerastrain trout maintain the high numbers for anglers. Lake Rotorua is not stocked but has one of the highest catch rates in the district while Lake Okareka

also keeps anglers happy with high numbers of good quality fish. The trophy lakes-Tarawera, Okataina and Rotoiti-regularly produce fish in excess of 5 kg. Lakes Rotoma and Rotoehu provide experiences for those wanting to get away from the crowds and the opportunity to chase tiger trout. Lakes Rotomahana and Tikitapu also have their own special charm and local devotees, while Lake Rerewhakaaitu attracts shore based anglers targeting deep bodied fish. Smaller lakes with secluded bays and rising trout are there for the more adventurous anglers who want to “get off the beaten track”.

The Eastern Region offers diverse angler experiences, high catch rates and big fish. There is something for everyone.

### **PAMPHLET LIST**

Comprehensive pamphlets are available for the following waters.

- The Rotorua Lakes
- Lake Rotorua and tributaries
- The Waikaremoana Lakes
- The Ruakituri River
- The Waioeka River
- The Rangitaiki River including Lake Aniwhenua
- The Waikato River and Waikato Lakes
- Boat fishing information (New)
- Tauranga area trout fishing (New)

# REGULATIONS

Reference to description: *New Zealand Gazette*, No 83, 24 May 1990, page 1861 (SO Plan 58495)

## 1. INTERPRETATION

“Fly line” means any floating or sinking line used to facilitate casting that is greater than 3m in length.

“Set rod” means any assembled rod that is not in physical contact with a licence holder when being used to fish for sports fish.

“Wild rainbow trout” means any rainbow trout not having a fin-clip mark or tag.

## 2. OPEN SEASON, PERMITTED METHODS, BAG LIMITS

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Bag Limit</i>
<b>All other waters not listed and excepting closed waters (Section 3)</b>	1 Oct–30 Jun	Artificial fly/ spinner	2
Aniwaniwa Stream below Aniwaniwa Falls	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	8*
Aniwhenua Lake and canal	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	2

## EASTERN REGION

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Bag Limit</i>
Aratiatia Lake	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner/bait	No limit
Atiamuri Lake	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner/bait	No limit
Awahou Stream below Hamurana Rd	All year	Fly fishing only	8*
Flaxy Lake and Canal	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	2
Hamurana Stream below Hamurana Road	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	8*
Hopuruahine Stream and tributaries above landmark pole	1 Dec–30 Jun	Fly fishing only	8*
Kaitawa Lake	1 Oct–30 Jun	Artificial fly/ spinner	8*
Kaituna River below control gates	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	2
Kaituna River below State Highway 2 Bridge	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner/bait	No limit
McLaren Lake	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	2
Maraetai Lake	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner/bait	No limit
Matahina Lake	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	2
Mokau Stream above landmark pole	1 Dec–30 Jun	Fly fishing only	8*

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Bag Limit</i>
Motu River above State Highway 35	1 Oct–30 Jun	Artificial fly/ spinner	2
Motu River below State Highway 35	1 Oct–30 Jun	Artificial fly/ spinner/bait	No limit
Ngahewa Lake	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	8
Ngapouri Lake	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	8
Ngongotaha Stream below State Highway 5 Bridge	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	8*
Ngongotaha Stream and tributaries (excluding Waimataa) above State Highway 5 Bridge	1 Dec–30 Jun	Fly fishing only	8*
Ohau Channel within landmarks at either end	1 Oct–30 Jun	Fly fishing only	8*
Ohakuri Lake	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner/bait	No limit
Okareka Lake	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	8
Okaro Lake	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	8
Okataina Lake excepting areas below	1 Oct–30 Jun	Artificial fly/ spinner	8
Winter shoreline area from Te Koutu Point landmark to west of Okataina Lodge landmark extending 200m offshore	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	8

## EASTERN REGION

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Bag Limit</i>
Within 200m of Log pool, Rayners 1 and 2 stream mouths	1 Oct–30 Jun	Fly fishing only from 1 April to 30 June	8
Putere Lakes	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	2
Rangitaiki River below Otamatea Stream	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	2
Rangitaiki River below State Highway 2 Bridge	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner/bait	No limit
Rangitaiki Canal (Wheao)	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	2
Rerewhakaaitu Lake	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	8
Rotoehu Lake	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	8
Rotoiti Lake excepting areas below	1 Oct–30 Jun	Artificial fly/ spinner	8
Winter shoreline area from Ruato Bay landmark to Hinehopu Landmark extending 200m offshore, excepting areas below in italics:	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	8
Within 200m of Ruato Bay Stream mouth, Waiiti Stream mouth and the Pipe	All year	Fly fishing only from 1 April to 30 September	8

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Bag Limit</i>
Within 200m of Tapuaekura Bay Stream mouth and Haparua Bay Stream mouth	1 Oct–30 Jun	Fly fishing only from 1 April to 30 June	8
Within 300m of the Ohau Channel delta landmark	1 Oct–30 Jun	Fly fishing only	8
Rotoma Lake excepting areas below	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	8
Winter shoreline areas between landmarks at Anaputa Point and Matahi Bay, and between landmarks in Manawahe Bay both extending 200m offshore	1 Oct–30 Jun	Artificial fly/spinner	8
Rotomahana Lake	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	8
Rotorua Lake excepting areas below	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	8*
Within 200m of Awahou Stream mouth	All year	Fly fishing only	8*
Within 200m of Ohau Channel entrance	All year	Fly fishing only	8*
Ruahiri Canal	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	2
Ruakituri River and tributaries (excluding Hangaroa) above Te Reinga Falls	1 Oct–30 Jun	Fly fishing only	2

## EASTERN REGION

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Bag Limit</i>
Tarawera Lake excepting areas below	1 Oct–30 Jun	Artificial fly/ spinner	8
Within 200m of Te Wairoa Stream mouth	1 Oct–30 Jun	Fly fishing only	8, female trout only
Within 200m of the mouths of Wairua Stream and Twin Creeks	1 Oct–30 Jun	Fly fishing only	8
Within 200m of the Tarawera Outlet	1 Oct–30 Jun	Fly fishing only	8
Winter shoreline area from Tarawera Outlet landmark to Te Tapahoro Bay landmark and 200m offshore	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	8
Winter shoreline area from Te Wairoa Landing landmark to Otumutu Lagoon landmark and 200m offshore, excluding landmarked stream mouths as below in italics:	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	8
Within 200m of the Landing and the Orchard Stream mouths	All year	Fly fishing only	8
Within 200m of the mouth of Waitangi Stream	1 Oct–30 Jun	Fly fishing only	8
Within 200m of the Otumutu Lagoon Streams	1 Oct–30 Jun	Artificial fly/ spinner	8

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Bag Limit</i>
Tarawera River from the outlet to the Tarawera falls, excluding the spawning sanctuary	1 Oct–31 May	Fly fishing only	8
Tarawera River from the falls to State Highway 2	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	2
Tarawera River below State Highway 2	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner/bait	No limit
Tikitapu Lake	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	8
Tiniroto Lakes	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	2
Utuhina Stream below Devon Road Bridge	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	8*
Utuhina Stream above Devon Road Bridge but below Pukehangi Road Bridge	1 Dec–30 Jun	Fly fishing only	8*
Waikareiti Lake	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	8
Waikaremoana Lake excepting area below	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	8*
Within 200m downstream of the Hopuruahine and Mokau landmark poles	All year	Fly fishing only	8*
Waikaretaheke River down from Piripaua Powerhouse	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	2

## EASTERN REGION

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Bag Limit</i>
Waiau River below Waikaretaheke River	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	2
Waikato River from Huka Falls to Maraetai	All year	Artificial fly/spinner/bait	No limit
Waimana River below the Matahi Bridge	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	2
Waioeke River below the Tauranga Stream confluence	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	2
Waioeke River below State Highway 2 Bridge	All year	Artificial fly/spinner/bait	No limit
Wairoa River below Te Reinga Falls to State Highway 2	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	2
Wairoa River below State Highway 2 Bridge	All year	Artificial fly/spinner/bait	No limit
Wairoa River (Tauranga) below Lake McLaren	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	2
Wairoa River (Tauranga) below State Highway 2 Bridge	All year	Artificial fly/spinner/bait	No limit
Waiteti Stream below Hamurana Road	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	8*
Waiteti Stream above Hamurana Road	1 Dec–30 Jun	Artificial fly/spinner	8*
Whakamarino Lake (Tuai Lake)	1 Oct–30 Jun	Fly fishing only	8*
Whakatane River below Owaka Stream	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	2

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Bag Limit</i>
Whakatane River below State Highway 2 Bridge	All year	Artificial fly/spinner/bait	No limit
Wheao River	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	2

*Bag limits denoted by 8\* mean no licence holder shall kill more than 2 brown trout in a daily bag limit of 8 trout.*

### **3. CLOSED WATERS**

No licence holder shall fish for sports fish at any time from the following waters:

- 3.1 All streams flowing into Lake Tarawera and that portion of the Tarawera River enclosed by landmarks at the Lake Tarawera Outlet and extending approximately 150m downstream to landmarks in the river, otherwise known as the Tarawera Outlet Spawning Sanctuary.
- 3.2 The Utuhina Stream above the Pukehangi Road Bridge and all tributaries of this stream.
- 3.3 The following streams and their tributaries which flow into Lake Rotorua:
  - (a) the Waiowhiro, Waiohewa, Waingaehe, Waimataa and Waikuta Streams
  - (b) the Hamurana Stream above the Hamurana Road Bridge
  - (c) the Awahou Stream above the Hamurana Road Bridge

- 3.4 All springs, streams and their tributaries which flow into Lake Waikareiti, and into or from Lakes Rotoma, Rotoehu, Rotomahana, Rerewhakaaitu, Rotokakahi, Okareka, Okataina and Rotoiti except the Ohau Channel and the Kaituna River.
- 3.5 The section of the Ruahihi Canal between the landmarks at the southern end of the canal which enclose the artificial spawning bed.

#### **4. AUTHORISED TACKLE**

- 4.1 No licence holder shall fish for sports fish with a set rod unless he or she is fishing from an unanchored boat.
- 4.2 Downriggers, paravanes, weights to assist sinking of trolled lures and metal cored or wire lines are prohibited in Lakes Waikaremoana and Waikareiti.

#### **5. BAIT FISHING WATERS**

- 5.1 No licence holder when fishing in bait fishing waters shall use any whole fish sourced from any water other than that where the fishing is occurring

#### **6. COARSE FISHING WATERS**

- 6.1 There are no defined coarse fishing waters in the Eastern Region.

## 7. USE OF BOATS

7.1 No licence holder shall fish for trout from a boat in the following waters:

- (a) that section of the Tarawera Outlet enclosed by landmarks;
- (b) the designated winter shoreline-fishing areas on Lakes Tarawera, Rotoiti and Okataina (Schedule 2 Clause 2) from July 1 to September 30.

**Note** 1) *No boats are allowed to pass through the Tarawera Outlet Spawning Sanctuary at any time.*  
2) *No boats are permitted under the Bay of Plenty Regional Navigation Safety Bylaws 2004 to anchor in the Ohau Channel.*

7.2 No licence holder shall fish for trout from any unanchored boat:

- (a) in waters that, at any time of the year, are reserved for artificial fly fishing.
- (b) in waters that are within a 200m radius around the centre of the Utuhina, Waiteti, Ngongotaha and Hamurana Stream mouths in Lake Rotorua.
- (c) in waters that are within the section of Rangiuru Bay defined by landmarks at Stoney Point and Kariri Point and extending 200m offshore in Lake Tarawera.

- (d) Boats should be securely anchored with no more than two anchors.

### **8. MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM LENGTH TO BE TAKEN**

- 8.1 Lakes Waikaremoana, Kaitawa, Whakamarino (Tuai) and Waikareiti, and the Rotorua Lakes and their inflowing tributary streams *350mm minimum*
- 8.2 Ruakituri River and tributaries above Waitangi Falls  
*600mm maximum*
- 8.3 All other waters *No minimum size limit*
- 8.4 No licence holder shall keep or kill any wild rainbow trout larger than 650mm caught in Lake Tarawera, including that section of the Tarawera River between the Tarawera Outlet and the falls approximately 2500m downstream from the Outlet.

### **9. HOURS OF FISHING**

No licence holder shall fish for any sports fish between 12.00 midnight and 5.00am.

# HAWKE'S BAY

## CONTACT

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Administration:	Christine Tuck
Manager:	Iain Maxwell
F&G Officer:	Tom Winlove, John Cheyne

The Hawke's Bay offers a huge range of angling opportunities, with some of the best and easiest access in the country. The region's rivers provide some spectacular headwater fishing as well as year round lowland angling. Lake Tutira is the major lake fishery in the region and is stocked with Tarawera sourced fish annually. These fish grow quickly during the summer and provide excellent sport to both shore based and rowboat trolling anglers. The major river systems in the region are the Mohaka, Tutaekuri, Ngaruroro, Waipawa and Tukituki, all of which have comprehensive angler access pamphlets to assist anglers (see below). Both brown and rainbow trout are prevalent throughout the region. The dry fly fishing on the Tukituki, along with its many tributaries is a major attraction during the heat of the summer months as fish feed on the surface. The Ngaruroro and Mohaka River headwater wilderness fisheries

are nationally rated and offer anglers the chance to catch trophy sized fish in gin clear waters. The middle and lower reaches of the region's rivers are easily accessible from a variety of public roads and provide anglers with vast amounts of fishable water.

### **ANGLER ACCESS PAMPHLET LIST**

Comprehensive angler access pamphlets are available from licence agents, information centres, Fish and Game offices and the web for the following waters.

- Tukituki/Waipawa Rivers and tributaries
- Ngaruroro River Fishery
- Mohaka River Fishery
- Tutaekuri River Fishery
- Northern Hawke's Bay/Tutira Lake Fisheries

## **REGULATIONS**

**Reference to description:** *New Zealand Gazette*, No. 83, 24 May 1990, page 1861

### **1. INTERPRETATION**

See First Schedule

## 2. OPEN SEASON, PERMITTED METHODS, BAG LIMITS

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Bag Limit</i>
All other waters not listed below	1 Oct–30 Jun	Artificial fly/ spinner	2
Larger of Twin Lakes, Kuripapango	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	No limit
All other lakes of the region (except the larger of Twin Lakes above)	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	4
Aropoanui River downstream of the landmark opposite Wareham Rd	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	2
Esk River upstream of Waipunga Road Bridge and all tributaries	1 Oct–30 Jun	Artificial fly/ spinner	1
Esk River downstream of Waipunga Road Bridge	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	1
Karamu Stream, excluding tributaries	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner/bait	2
Mohaka River below the confluence with the Mangatainoka River to State Highway 5, excluding tributaries	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	2
Mohaka River below the State Highway 5 Bridge	All year	Artificial fly/ spinner	4
Mohaka River tributaries	1 Oct–30 Jun	Artificial fly/ spinner	1

## HAWKE'S BAY

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted methods</i>	<i>Bag limit</i>
Ngaruroro River and tributaries above the Kiwi Creek confluence	1 Oct–30 Jun	Artificial fly/spinner	1
Ngaruroro River from Kiwi Creek to Whanawhana cable, excluding tributaries	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	1
Ngaruroro River tributaries above Whanawhana cable	1 Oct–30 Jun	Artificial fly/spinner	1
Ngaruroro River below the Whanawhana cable, excluding tributaries	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	2
Ngaruroro River tributaries below the Whanawhana cable	1 Oct–30 Jun	Artificial fly/spinner	2
Porangahau River downstream from its confluence with the Mangawhero Stream, excluding tributaries	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	2
Tuki Tuki River upstream from the State Highway 50 road bridge, excluding tributaries	1 Oct–30 Jun	Artificial fly/spinner	4
Tuki Tuki River downstream from the State Highway 50 road bridge, excluding tributaries	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	4
Tutaekuri River downstream from its confluence with the Mangaone Stream, excluding tributaries	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	2

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted methods</i>	<i>Bag limit</i>
Waipawa River downstream from the State Highway 50 road bridge, excluding tributaries	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	4
Waipawa River upstream from the State Highway 50 road bridge, excluding tributaries	1 Oct–30 Jun	Artificial fly/spinner	4
Waipunga River downstream from the falls, excluding tributaries	All year	Artificial fly/spinner	2

### 3. CLOSED WATERS

No restrictions.

### 4. COARSE FISHING WATERS

There are no defined coarse fishing waters in the Hawkeís Bay Region.

### 5. USE OF BOATS

No restrictions.

### 6. FISH LENGTH

Esk River above the Waipunga Road Bridge, including tributaries	550mm maximum
Ngaruroro River above the Whanawhana cable, including tributaries	550mm maximum
Lakes Tutira and Waikopiro	350mm minimum
All other waters	No minimum size length

# TARANAKI

## CONTACT

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Manager: Daren Smith  
Field Officers: Allen Stancliff

Most Taranaki trout fisheries have their source within the Egmont or Tongariro National Parks and provide a high quality angling experience in a scenic and un-crowded environment. More than 40 small to medium sized trout streams radiate from the base of Mt Egmont/Taranaki and few places offer such a diversity of angling opportunity. These streams provide quality 'sight fishing' for large brown trout, while rainbow trout fishing is also available in several lakes and the Waingongoro River between Eltham and the sea. Wanganui has a number of lakes that provide fishing for rainbow trout and perch within a few minutes of the city. Many anglers travel some distance from Wanganui to fish without realising the opportunities that are so close at hand. Ruapehu district rivers are some of the most productive in the Taranaki region.

They include the Manganuioteao River, which is a nationally important brown and rainbow trout fishery offering a quality backcountry angling experience. There is little fishing pressure in the region and anglers appreciate the peace and solitude that comes with the fishing.

### **ACCESS PAMPHLETS**

Information pamphlets on Taranaki ring plain, Waingongoro River, Wanganui and Ruapehu fisheries can be obtained from most sports shops and information centres within the region or from the Wanganui and New Plymouth offices of Fish and Game NZ. North and South Island Angler Access guides are also available.

### **DIDYMO**

Please do your bit to keep didymo out of the North Island and Taranaki. Check, clean and dry your fishing gear, clothing, waders and other equipment before fishing in Taranaki and before moving from one waterway to another. Confine your fishing to one waterway per day if possible and clean your gear after leaving the water. If you must move between waterways, thoroughly spray your fishing gear (lines, reels, rods, flies, nets, waders, boots etc.) and any clothing that has been in contact with water with an approved cleaner, such as a 5% solution of household detergent. Please remember – leave your felt-soled waders at home. Felt soled waders have been identified as a high risk vector for the spread of didymo and it is now illegal to use them for sports fishing within the Taranaki Fish and Game Region and anglers will be liable to prosecution if caught using them.”

## REGULATIONS

Reference to description: *New Zealand Gazette*, No. 83, 24 May 1990, page 1861

## 1. DEFINITIONS

See First Schedule.

## 2. OPEN SEASON, PERMITTED METHODS AND BAG LIMITS

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Daily Bag Limit</i>
All unlisted waters west of the Whanganui River	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
All unlisted waters east of the Whanganui River	1 Oct–30 Jun	All legal lures/baits	4
Huatoki Stream upstream from Brois Street Bridge	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Huatoki Stream downstream from Brois Street Bridge	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	2
Kahouri Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Kaiauai Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	Spinner/artificial fly	1
Kapuni Stream upstream from Skeet Road Bridge	1 Oct–30 Apr	Spinner/artificial fly	1

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Daily Bag Limits</i>
Kapuni Stream downstream from Skeet Road Bridge	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Kaupokonui Stream upstream of State Highway 45 Bridge	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Kaupokonui Stream downstream of State Highway 45 Bridge	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	2
Kohata, Lake	1 Oct–20 Apr and 10 Jul–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	2
Lahar, Lake	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	2
Makatote River	1 Oct–30 Jun	All legal lures/baits	3
Maketawa Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Makotuku Stream	1 Oct–30 Jun	All legal lures/baits	4
Makuri Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Mangamahoe, Lake, excluding the Waiwhakaiho inlet and tributaries	1 Oct–30 Sep	Fly fishing only	2
Mangamahoe, Lake–Waiwhakaiho inlet	1 Oct–30 Apr	Fly fishing only	2
Manganuioteao River upstream of Orautoha Stream confluence	1 Oct–30 Jun	All legal lures/baits	3

# TARANAKI

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Daily Bag Limits</i>
Manganuioteao River downstream of Orautoha Stream confluence	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	3
Manganui River	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Mangaoraka Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Mangatoki Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Mangawhero Stream (Kaupokonui tributary)	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Mangawhero River upstream of State Highway 49 “golf course” Bridge	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	4
Mangawhero River down- stream of State Highway 49 “golf course” Bridge	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	4
Mangorei Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Namunamu, Lake	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	2
Ngangana, Lake	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	2
Ngatoro Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Oakura River	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Okahu Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Opunake, Lake	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	2
Orautoha Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	4
Otakeho Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Patea River upstream from Mangamingi Bridge	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Daily Bag Limits</i>
Patea River downstream from Patea Dam	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	2
Pauri, Lake	1 Oct–20 Apr and 10 Jul–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	2
Piaka Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Raetihi Hydro Dam	1 Oct–30 Jun	All legal lures/baits	2
Ratapiko, Lake	1 Oct–30 Apr and 1 Jun–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	2
Retaruke River upstream from Oio Road Bridge	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	4
Retaruke River and tributaries downstream from Oio Road Bridge	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	4
Rotomanu, Lake	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	2
Rotorangi Lake downstream from Mangamingi Bridge	1 Oct–30 Apr and 1 Jun–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	2
Ruatiti Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	4
Stony River	1 Oct–30 Sep	Spinner/artificial fly	2*
Taonui Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	4
Taungatara Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Tawhiti Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Te Henui Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Timaru Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Tokiahuru Stream upstream from State Highway 49 Bridge	1 Oct–30 Jun	All legal lures/baits	4

# TARANAKI

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Daily Bag Limits</i>
Tokiahuru Stream downstream from State Highway 49 Bridge	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	4
Waiaua River upstream from State Highway 45 Bridge	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Waiaua River downstream from State Highway 45 Bridge	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	2
Waimarino Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	3
Waingongoro River upstream from Eltham Road Bridge	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Waingongoro River between Eltham Road and State Highway 45 Bridges	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	4
Waingongoro River downstream from State Highway 45 Bridge	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	4
Waiongana Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Waitaiki Stream upstream from State Highway 49 Bridge	1 Oct–30 Jun	All legal lures/baits	4
Waitaiki Stream downstream from State Highway 49 Bridge	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	4
Waitara River downstream from Manganui River confluence	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	2

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Daily Bag Limits</i>
Waiwhakaiho River upstream from the end of Rimu Street extension	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Waiwhakaiho River downstream from the end of Rimu Street extension	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	2
Warea River upstream from State Highway 45 Bridge	1 Oct–30 Apr	All legal lures/baits	2
Warea River downstream from State Highway 45 Bridge	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	2
Whanganui River excluding tributaries	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	4
Wiritoa, Lake	1 Oct–30 Sep	All legal lures/baits	2

Bag limits denoted by 2\* mean that no licence holder shall kill more than one (1) brown trout within a daily bag limit of 2 trout.

### **3. CLOSED WATERS**

No licence holder shall take (or attempt to take) sports fish from the following waters:

3.1 Virginia Lake

### **4. COARSE FISHING WATERS**

There are no defined coarse fishing waters in the Taranaki Fish and Game Region.

### **5. USE OF BOATS**

No licence holder shall fish for sports fish from a boat in Lake Mangamahoe, including the Waiwhakaiho inlet.

### **6. DAILY LIMIT BAG**

In addition to the daily bag limits described in Section 2, there shall be no limit on the number of perch killed by a licence holder.

### **7. FISH LENGTH**

There is no length limit for sports fish caught in the Taranaki Fish and Game Region.

### **8. HOURS OF FISHING**

There is no restriction on the hours of fishing in the Taranaki Fish and Game Region.

# WELLINGTON

## CONTACT

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Environmental Officer:	Corina Jordan
Senior Field Officer:	Steve Pilkington
Field Officer:	Nic Cudby

The Wellington Region encompasses the area roughly from Waiouru, across to Norsewood and south to Cook Strait. It includes four large river catchments: the Rangitikei, Manawatu, Ruamahanga, and Hutt which provide a very diverse range of opportunities for principally brown trout river fishing. The Rangitikei and Manawatu rivers have both significant brown and rainbow trout fisheries. The diversity of local angling opportunities ranges from spectacular wilderness backcountry streams in the Kaimanawa, Ruahine, or Tararua Forest Parks to highly productive rivers on the doorstep of urban centres of Wellington, Masterton, and Palmerston North.

## INFORMATION FOR ANGLERS

### **Angler Access**

Access in general is one of the key barriers to participation of anglers and hunters, especially when you want to explore new and different sites. Wellington Fish & Game have embarked on a project to improve access information, through production of a new series of information pamphlets and on the ground signage to denote angler access. In most situations we will be endeavouring to match up numbers on the access pamphlets to sign numbers on the ground-to confirm you are actually in the 'right spot'.

Legal public access along many of the river and streams in the Wellington Fish & Game Region is often fragmented. There are several angler access pamphlets available that are a guide to show where anglers have unencumbered public access and where permission for landholders is required. These are provided for the main river systems and many of their tributaries.

Public access is available over much of the lower Rangitikei downstream of the confluence with the Kauwhata but further upstream permission from landowners is generally required. On the Hutt River public access is readily available at various points downstream from the Akatarawa confluence.

### **Access information is available for:**

- Kapiti Coast Rivers-Otaki, Waikanae, Ohau
- Ruamahanga River
- Waiohine River
- Upper Manawatu River
- Mangatainoka River
- Makuri River
- Pohangina River
- Lower Manawatu River
- Rangitikei River-mid and lower reaches
- Hautapu River

These can be obtained free from any sports fish licence agent or send a self addressed envelope with your request to PO BOX 1325 Palmerston North, or phone 06 359 0409.

### **RIVERLINE-WHAT'S THE RIVER LIKE TODAY?**

#### **PHONE 0900 TROUT – 0900 87688**

The 'RIVERLINE' information service tells you whether a river is clear or turbid (dirty) and able to be fished or not. It is regularly updated and the information can also be found on the Fish & Game NZ website ([www.fishandgame.org.nz](http://www.fishandgame.org.nz)) under section Wellington Region/Fishing. This can save anglers many wasted kilometres of travel. Calls cost 90 cents per minute-to cover costs of service-the number to ring is 0900 TROUT or 0900 87688.

## REGULATIONS

Reference to Description: *New Zealand Gazette*, No. 83, 24 May 1990, page 1861

## 1. DEFINITIONS

See First Schedule.

## 2. OPEN SEASON, FISHING METHODS, DAILY BAG LIMITS AND LENGTH LIMITS

**Permitted Methods definition:**

F = Fly fishing only

FS = Fly, Spin fishing only

FSB = Fly, Spin or Bait fishing

Maximum size limit means all trout longer than the specified length must be released.

There is no minimum size limit in any water in the Wellington Fish and Game region.

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Daily Bag Limits</i>	<i>Length Limits</i>
All other waters not listed below	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	No limit	None
All coastal dune lakes	All year	FSB	No limit	None
Akatarawa River	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	1	Max 450mm

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Daily Bag Limits</i>	<i>Length Limits</i>
Hautapu River upstream from the road bridge numbered 741/1096 on State Highway 1 by the Taihape Golf Club	1 Oct–30 Apr	F	1	Max 550mm
Hautapu River downstream from the road bridge numbered 741/1096 on State Highway 1 by the Taihape Golf Club	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	No limit	None
Henley, Lake	All year	FSB	No limit	None
Hokowhitu Lagoon (also known as Centennial Lagoon)	All year	FSB	Rainbow or Brown Trout 1 All other sports fish no limit	None
Hutt River	All year	FS	1	Max 450mm
Kahuterawa Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	No limit	None
Kawhatau River	All year	FSB	No limit	None
Kopuaranga River	1 Oct–30 Apr	F	No limit	None
Kourarau Dam (Upper) Reservoir	All Year	FSB	Rainbow or Brown Trout 1 All other sports fish no limit	None
Lake Wairarapa	All year	FSB	No limit	None
Makakahi River, upstream from the road bridge at Eketahuna	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	No limit	None

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<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Daily Bag Limits</i>	<i>Length Limits</i>
Makakahi River, downstream from the road bridge at Eketahuna	All year	FSB	No limit	None
Makiekie River (Coal Creek)	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	No limit	None
Makuri River upstream from the township bridge	1 Oct–30 Apr	F	1	Max 450mm
Makuri River downstream from the township bridge	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	1	None
Manawatu River upstream from the Maunga Road Bridge (upstream of Dannevirke)	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	1	None
Manawatu River downstream from the Maunga Road Bridge (upstream of Dannevirke)	All year	FSB	No limit	None
Mangaohane Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	FS	1	Max 550mm
Mangahao River upstream from Marima Reserve Bridge	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	No limit	None
Mangahao River downstream from Marima Reserve Bridge	All year	FSB	No limit	None
Mangaone River (a tributary of the Tiraumea River)	All year	FSB	No limit	None
Mangaroa River	1 Oct–30 Apr	FS	1	Max 450mm

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Daily Bag Limits</i>	<i>Length Limits</i>
Mangatainoka River upstream from the Scarborough Konini Road Bridge	1 Oct–30 Apr	FS	2	Max 450mm
Mangatainoka River downstream from the Scarborough Konini Road Bridge	All year	FS	2	Max 450mm
Mangatarere Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	F	1	None
Mangatoro River	1 Oct–30 Apr	F	No limit	None
Moawhango River	All year	FSB	No limit	None
Ohau River	All year	FSB	No limit	None
Oroua River and its tributaries upstream from the Ruahine Forest Park boundary	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	1	None
Oroua River downstream from the Ruahine Forest Park boundary	All year	FSB	No limit	None
Otaki River and its tributaries upstream from the Tararua Forest Park boundary	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	1	None
Otaki River downstream from the Tararua Forest Park boundary	All year	FSB	No limit	None
Pakuratahi Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	FS	1	Max 450mm

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<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Daily Bag Limits</i>	<i>Length Limits</i>
Pohangina River	All year	FSB	No limit	None
Pourangaki River	1 Oct–30 Apr	FS	1	Max 450mm
Rangitikei River and its tributaries upstream of the Ohinewaione Stream confluence (about 9 river kilometres upstream of the Springvale Bridge) ( <i>refer to clause 4 of this part of the notice</i> )	1 Oct–30 Apr	FS	1	Max 550mm
Rangitikei River upstream from the Matawhero Road Bridge (commonly called the Mangaohane Bridge) to the Ohinewaione Stream confluence	All year	FS	2	Maximum 550mm
Rangitikei River downstream from the Matawhero Road Bridge (commonly called the Mangaohane Bridge)	All year	FSB	No limit	None
Ruamahunga River and its tributaries upstream from the Tararua Forest Park boundary	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	1	None
Ruamahunga River downstream from the Tararua Forest Park boundary	All year	FSB	No limit	None

<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Daily Bag Limits</i>	<i>Length Limits</i>
Tauherenikau River and its tributaries upstream from the Tararua Forest Park boundary	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	1	None
Tauherenikau River downstream from the Tararua Forest Park boundary	All year	FSB	No limit	None
Tauweru River	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	No limit	None
Tiraumea River	All year	FSB	No limit	None
Tokomaru River	1 Oct–30 Apr	FS	1	Max 450mm
Turitea Stream	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	No limit	None
Upper Kourarau Dam (except all inflowing streams)	All year	FSB	No limit	Max 550mm
Waikanae River	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	1	None
Waipoua River	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	No limit	None
Waingawa River and its tributaries upstream from the Tararua Forest Park boundary	1 Oct–30 Apr	FS	1	Max 550mm
Waingawa River downstream from the Tararua Forest Park boundary	All year	FSB	No limit	None
Wainui River	1 Oct–30 Apr	FS	1	Max 450mm

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<i>Lakes/Rivers</i>	<i>Open Season</i>	<i>Permitted Methods</i>	<i>Daily Bag Limits</i>	<i>Length Limits</i>
Wainuiomata River downstream from the main township bridge	1 Oct–30 Apr	F	1	Max 550mm
Waiohine River and its tributaries upstream from the Tararua Forest Park boundary	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	1	None
Waiohine River downstream from the Tararua Forest Park boundary	All year	FSB	No limit	None
Waitawa, Lake (Otaki)– [ <i>Forest Lake</i> ]	All year	FSB	Tench 0	
Whakatikei River	1 Oct–30 Apr	FSB	1	Max 450mm
Whitby Lakes	All year	FSB	Tench 0	

### 3. COARSE FISHING WATERS

Lake Waitawa (Otaki) (catch & release)

Upper and Lower Whitby Lakes (catch & release)

Lake Wairarapa

Ruamahanga Cut-off

### 4. WELLINGTON BACKCOUNTRY FISHERIES

The following waters are designated as Backcountry Fisheries, meaning all anglers fishing these waters will need a Backcountry

Licence as defined in the Sports Fish Licences, Fees and Forms Notice 2009 and the provisions of that notice apply to this notice:

- Upper Rangitikei River and its tributaries upstream of the Ohinewaione Stream confluence (about 9 river kilometres upstream of the Springvale Bridge).



## FISH & GAME NEW ZEALAND

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