



# Cape Breton, Inverness, Richmond and Victoria Counties

## RECREATIONAL FISHING AREA 1

### SEASONS

#### **SPECKLED (BROOK) TROUT, BROWN TROUT, RAINBOW TROUT AND LANDLOCKED SALMON.**

Tidal Waters - Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.

Inland Waters and the Bras D'Or Lakes - Apr. 1 to Sept. 30 except the waters referred to in the listings below.

**NOTE:** From Sept. 1 to Sept. 30 no speckled trout may be retained (except for the Cape Breton Highlands Management Area), and the use of natural bait is prohibited province-wide in inland waters for all trout species and landlocked salmon, including Special Management Areas.

#### **SMALLMOUTH BASS**

High Harvest Fishery  
Lake Ainslie, Inverness County  
Apr. 1 to Oct. 31.

Bag Limit - ten (10) bass.

**NOTE:** The opening dates for the following rivers and the waters closed to angling do not apply to the lakes and tributaries to those rivers unless specified.

#### **CAPE BRETON COUNTY**

Belfry Lake. Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.

Catalone River, downstream from the outlet of Belle Lake, including Catelone Lake.  
Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.

Gabarus Lake. Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.

Gaspereau River, downstream from the outlet of Gaspereau Lake. Apr. 15 to Sept.

30. Gerratt Brook, downstream from the outlet of Kelly Lake. Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.

Lorraine Brook, downstream from the outlet of MacVickers Lake. Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.

Mira River, downstream from the highway bridge at Victoria Bridge. Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.

Salmon River, downstream from the still water at Silver Mine. Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.

#### **INVERNESS COUNTY**

Margaree River, downstream from the bridges at East Margaree. Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.

Southwest Margaree River, downstream from the Scotsville bridge. Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.

Northeast Margaree River, (see *Special Trout Management Area page 11*).

River Denys, downstream from the bridge at River Denys to Crowdis Bridge.

Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.

Skye River, downstream from the lower East Skye Glen bridge to the 105 Highway bridge. Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.

#### **RICHMOND COUNTY**

Framboise River, including Middle River Framboise, Northeast Framboise River, and

### A UNIQUE OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE

The Cape Breton Highlands have been said to be the most spectacular part of the Maritime Acadian Highlands, identified as one of 48 natural regions in Canada. This area has five main entry points; Hunters Mountain, Belle Cote, Wreck Cove, North River and Fielding Road in NE Margaree. Home of the highly prized speckled trout, this area also hosts a healthy moose population where morning and evening sightings are common. This area provides a unique experience for both anglers and outdoor enthusiasts. Increased bag limits and higher catch rates make the Cape Breton Highlands Management Area a popular destination. Headwater lakes of the Baddeck and North rivers as well as Wreck Cove, Cheticamp, Gisborne and MacMillan flowages provide excellent trout fishing with varying degrees of access from road side to hiking.

Bagnells River. Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.  
Grand River, downstream from the highway bridge at the head of Loch Lomond. Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.  
L'Archeveque Lake. Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.  
Marie Joseph Brook, downstream from the outlet of Upper Marie Joseph Lake. Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.  
River Inhabitants, downstream from the Highway 105 bridge at Kingsville. Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.  
River Tillard, downstream from the bridge

at Sporting Mountain. Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.  
Rorys Pond. Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.  
St. Esprit Lake. Apr. 15 to Sept. 30.

#### **VICTORIA COUNTY**

Ingonish River, Victoria County, downstream to the Cabot Trail Highway bridge, including tributaries. May 16 to Sept. 30.  
North River, Victoria County, downstream from a point at the benches marked by a fishery officer to the Tidal Pool, including tributaries. June 1 to Sept. 30

### **SPECIAL TROUT MANAGEMENT AREAS**

#### **MARGAREE RIVER, INVERNESS COUNTY**

Upstream from the highway bridges at East Margaree to the bridges at Big Intervale on the Northeast Margaree River and upstream to the bridge at Margaree Forks on the Southwest Margaree.

Closed Apr. 1 to Apr. 14.

Open Apr. 15 to Sept. 30. Bag limit of five (5) trout, only one of which may be longer than 35 cm (13.8 in) total length. From Sept. 1 to Sept. 30 all speckled trout must be released.

#### **ASPY RIVER, VICTORIA COUNTY**

Upstream from the Cabot Trail Highway bridge near South Ingonish Harbour to the Cape Breton Highlands Park boundary.

Closed Apr. 1 to Apr. 14.

Open Apr. 15 to Sept. 30

June 1 to end of all fishing seasons. Unbaited lure to which not more than one hook is attached or artificial fly and the use of natural bait is prohibited. From Sept. 1 to Sept. 30 all speckled trout must be released.

#### **BADDECK RIVER, VICTORIA COUNTY**

Upstream from the 105 Highway bridge including the North Branch Baddeck River and Canes Pond.

Closed Apr. 1 to May 14.

Open May 15 to Sept. 30. Unbaited lure to which not more than one hook is attached or artificial fly and the use of natural bait is prohibited. From Sept. 1 to Sept. 30 all speckled trout must be released.

Oct. 1 to Oct. 31. Rainbow trout only, artificial fly only. Bag limit of five (5) trout.

#### **MIDDLE RIVER, VICTORIA COUNTY**

Upstream from the 105 Highway bridge to the Cabot Trail highway bridge near Findlayson, including tributaries.

*contd. on page 14*

Closed Apr. 1 to May 14.

Open May 15 to Sept. 30. Unbaited lure to which not more than one hook is attached or artificial fly only and the use of natural bait is prohibited. This gear restriction does not apply to Indian Brook. Bag limit - five (5) trout, but only one speckled trout may be 35 cm (13.8 in) total length or longer.

From Sept. 1 to Sept. 30 all speckled trout must be released.

Oct. 1 to Oct. 31. Rainbow trout only, artificial fly only. Bag limit of five (5) trout.

## CAPE BRETON HIGHLANDS MANAGEMENT AREA

The management area is defined as that area enclosed by the following boundaries: (1) the 105 Highway from the St. Anns exit to the Cabot Trail to the Hunters Mountain exit to the Cabot Trail, (2) the Cabot Trail Highway, (3) the Victoria County line, and (4) the Cape Breton Highlands National Park boundary.

Apr. 1 to Sept. 30. Bag limit of ten (10) speckled trout, only two (2) of which may be over 25.4 cm (10 in) total length. From Sept. 1 to Sept. 30 the use of natural bait is prohibited.

*Please Note: The following waters are not included in the Management Area and the bag limit remains at five (5) trout.*

Baddeck River, North Branch Baddeck River and Canes Pond, not including tributaries to those rivers. Barachois River, not including tributaries. Indian Brook, downstream from the confluence of the east and west branches, not including tributaries. Ingonish River, not including tributaries. Middle River, including tributaries. North River, downstream from a point at the benches marked by a fishery officer, not including tributaries.

### SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS FOR RAINBOW TROUT

Bag limit reduced to two (2) rainbow trout from Jan. 1 to Mar. 31.

Baddeck River, Victoria County.

May 15 to Oct. 31.

Middle River, Victoria County.

May 15 to Oct. 31.

Livers Lake, Cape Breton County.

OPEN ALL YEAR.

#20 Dam, Cape Breton County.

OPEN ALL YEAR.

The Bras D'Or Lakes.

OPEN ALL YEAR.

The tidal waters of the Bras D'Or Lakes, Great Bras D'Or Lake, St. Patrick's Channel, St. Andrews Channel, and Sydney River (between the dam and a line drawn between Point Edward and Liscomb Point).

Note: From Jan. 1 to Mar. 31 the bag limit

for rainbow trout is reduced to two (2) and the following five areas will be closed to all angling: (1) above the Baddeck River Bridge on Highway 105, (2) inside the East Bay sandbar, (3) above the Crowdis Bridge in River Denys Basin, and (4) above Black River Bridge in Dundee (5) waters upstream from MacKenzie Brook bridge (crooked bridge) near South Side Basin of River Denys.

### NIGHT FISHING

Salmon River, Cape Breton County from the highway bridge near Rock Elm to its confluence with the Mira River. Brown trout angling at night is permitted from Apr. 15 to Aug. 31.

### OTHER ANGLING SEASONS

See page 9.

# Illegal Introductions

Moving fish from one lake or stream to another can negatively affect local fish populations through competition, disease, or genetic changes.

No one is allowed to release live fish into the waters of the province, except under a license issued by the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

Unwanted species can be accidentally spread by releasing unused live bait. Do not discard bait unless it was caught from the water body in which you are fishing.

Because of the potential threat to local fish populations, it is illegal to use certain species as bait or to possess them for bait (whether alive or dead). These include bass, bullhead, white perch, yellow perch, goldfish, pickerel, or any fish not taken from provincial waters.

Report illegal fishing activities or introductions to your local office of the Department of Natural Resources at 1-800-565-2224, or Department of Fisheries and Oceans at 1-800-565-1633, or Nova Scotia Crime Stoppers at 1-800-565-TIPS (8477).



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## **WATERS CLOSED TO ANGLING**

### **INVERNESS COUNTY**

**Northeast Margaree River**, upstream from the bridges at Big Intervale. **CLOSED ALL YEAR.**

**Trout Brook**, upstream from a point 96 m (105 yds) upstream from the highway bridge, including tributaries. **CLOSED ALL YEAR.**

### **VICTORIA COUNTY**

**Middle River**, upstream from the Cabot Trail highway bridge near Findlayson, including tributaries. **CLOSED Apr. 1 to Sept. 30.**

**North River**, upstream from a point at the benches marked by a fishery officer, including tributaries. **CLOSED ALL YEAR.**

### **FLY FISHING ONLY**

Fishing is permitted with artificial flies only in the sections of the following rivers during the times listed. Other methods are permitted during the remainder of the open season.

If in doubt as to the extent of these restrictions, please contact the local federal fishery officer.

### **INVERNESS COUNTY**

**Margaree River**, from the highway bridges at East Margaree upstream to the bridges

at Big Intervale on the Northeast Margaree and upstream to the bridge at Margaree Forks on the Southwest Margaree, not including the tributaries to those rivers.

**June 1 to end of all fishing seasons.**

**Trout Brook and Lake Ainslie**, within 96 m (105 yds) upstream from the highway bridge and within 137 m (147 yds) downstream from the highway bridge, and lying between two markers set 45 m (50 yds) apart in Lake Ainslie. **Apr. 1 to end of all fishing seasons.**

### **RICHMOND COUNTY**

**Grand River**, from the highway bridge at Grand River upstream to the highway bridge at the head of Loch Lomond, not including tributaries. **June 1 to end of all fishing seasons.**

### **VICTORIA COUNTY**

**North River**, upstream from the tidal pool to a point at the benches marked by a fishery officer, not including tributaries. **May 26 to end of all fishing seasons.**

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#### **Cape Breton Highlands National Park**

A National Parks general fishing permit or National Parks salmon licence as well as a park entry permit is required to angle in the park. For more information contact the Park Office (see page 26).

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## **GRAND RIVER**

**G**rand River, Richmond County, on the East Side of Cape Breton Island is well known for sea run trout angling. It is a short river leading to a small productive estuary, typical of many Nova Scotia rivers. Loch Lomond and Lake Uist, headwater lakes of Grand River, provide excellent angling for brook trout and brown trout. Insects and bait fish congregate on the lee side of the numerous islands and shoals. Casting to these shallow feeding areas, and can very productive in spring until warmer shoreline temperatures force trout to deeper, cooler water. Trolling lures, streamers and muddler minnows can locate fish suspended on rocky drop-offs later in the season.



**Becoming an Outdoors-Woman** is a workshop primarily aimed at women, 18 years of age or older, who want to learn skills usually associated with hunting and fishing, but useful for many other outdoor pursuits.

**This workshop is for you if...**

- you've always wanted to try these activities.
- you're a beginner and want to improve your skills
- you know how to do some of these activities, but would like to try others.
- you're looking for the camaraderie of like-minded individuals.

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