



Wirtschafts-, Energie- und Umweltdirektion  
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Fischereiinspektorat

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## Fishing on mountain lakes

**When fishing on mountain lakes (waters requiring a permit) in the Canton of Bern, the following rules apply:**

- Angling is permitted in the summer season from 05.00 to 24.00 and in the winter season from 06.00 to 20.00.
- **When ice fishing, always bear the following in mind:** check the website [www.slf.ch](http://www.slf.ch) to find out the current avalanche risk. In the event of heavy snowfalls or thaws, there is a serious risk of avalanches and rockfalls. Only walk on the ice if it is clearly able to bear your weight. Where groundwater emerges and by stream inlets, there is an increased risk that the ice will break. Pay attention to the warning signs!  
**The basic principle is: if you fish on the ice, you do so at your own risk!**
- Fishing is permitted all year round. From 1 November to 31 December, fishing rods may only be used with one float and one lure with a simple fishhook in depths of up to three metres, or with a dry fly.
- Fishing with two rods is permitted, but the rods may not be left unsupervised.
- Fishing with a barbed hook is not permitted without a special permit (Sachkundenachweis).
- Fish that have been caught and which may be kept must immediately be properly stunned and then killed before the hook is removed. Stunning is carried out by means of a powerful blow to the back of the head with a blunt instrument, and killing by cutting the gills or by immediately bleeding the fish out. Fish that are less than 22 cm in length may be killed by a blow to the head, or a combination of breaking the neck and a blow to the head, without then bleeding them out.
- Fish that meet the minimum size requirement and are caught outside the close season may not be placed back in the water. Fish that are kept must be recorded in the catch statistics immediately after being caught.
- It is not permitted to continue fishing after keeping six game fish. A maximum of 150 game fish (grayling, trout, char) may be taken per calendar year.

Species	Minimum size requirement	Daily catch limit	Close season
Canadian lake trout	22cm	6	1.11. - 31.12.
Rainbow trout	---	6	---
Char	22cm	6	1.11. - 31.12.
European perch	15cm	100	---

A detailed guide to fishing in the canton of Bern can be found in the **“Regulations on fishing”**.  
For further information, see [www.be.ch/fischerei](http://www.be.ch/fischerei)  
Canton of Bern Fishing Inspectorate Phone 031 636 14 80