

ABCs OF CAMPFIRE SAFETY

- A**sk yourself if the fire is really necessary.
- B**uild it out of the wind and near water.
- C**lear all overhanging trees, bushes and grasses.
- D**ig a ditch around it to mineral soil or bare rock.
- E**nsure that it is always under control.
- F**eel its entire perimeter with your bare hands before leaving.
- G**reen trees are not for burning. Use dead trees for your fire

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

BOATING SAFETY:

- Make sure your boat is in excellent condition – top up fluids carefully to ensure you do not spill fuel or oil into the environment and check for leaks before you head out.
- Ensure that everyone is wearing a Canadian approved personal floatation device or life jacket that fits properly.
- Bring along appropriate safety equipment including: buoyant throw lines, a bailing can, an extra paddle, a sound-signaling device, flares or a water-tight flashlight, and a fire extinguisher.
- Do not overload your boat. Ensure you distribute equipment evenly throughout the boat.
- Tell someone where you are going and when you are expected back.
- If the weather is poor, postpone your trip. If you get caught in a storm on your trip, head to shore and take shelter quickly.
- If your vessel capsizes, hold onto the boat and do not worry about your gear.
- For more information on boating safety go to www.boatingsafety.gc.ca

ICE SAFETY:

- Always use extra caution and test the thickness of the ice before you travel on it.
- Right after freeze-up, ice towards the middle of the lake is thinner than that along the shoreline.
- Never assume uniform ice thickness on rivers and lakes.
- Drive carefully and slowly over the ice to reduce water waves under the ice and possible cracking.

TREATING HYPOTHERMIA:

- Cover the victim and protect them from the weather.
- It is not enough to cover the victim, a source of heat is needed. Donate your own body heat to gradually rewarm them and raise their body temperature
- Handle the victim gently and keep them as still as possible.
- Wet clothes do not need to be removed if you can provide the victim with good insulation.
- If possible, send someone for medical aid.

BE BEAR AWARE

- **KEEP A CLEAN CAMP!**
Elimination of odours is essential.
- Look for bear tracks and droppings before you make a camp.
- Do not sleep without a tent.
- Maintain areas for cooking, food storage and cleaning fish about 200m (240 yds.) away from sleeping headquarters.
- Burn garbage and bury the ashes a distance away from camp.
- Always store unburned garbage or food in airtight containers.
- Ensure you pack out all garbage when you leave so you do not endanger future campers. This also helps keep our environment clean.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Government of the Northwest Territories Environment and Natural Resources

Regional Offices

Fort Simpson	(867) 695-7450
Fort Smith	(867) 872-6400
Inuvik	(867) 777-7230
Norman Wells	(867) 587-3500
Yellowknife	(867) 873-7184

Visit our website www.nwtwildlife.com

Government of Canada Department of Fisheries and Oceans

Office Locations

Hay River	(867) 875-5305
Inuvik	(867) 777-7500
Yellowknife	(867) 669-4900

Co-Management Boards

Fisheries Joint Management Committee (Inuvialuit)

Inuvik

Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board

Inuvik

Sahtu Renewable Resources Board

Tulita

Report-A-Poacher: 1-866-762-2437

Forest Fires: 1-877-698-3473

Spill Report Line: (867) 920-8130

Marine and Air Search and Rescue: 1-800-267-7270

Boating Safety Infoline: 1-800-267-6687

Marine Radio Distress Call: Channel 16



Record the phone number of the nearest RCMP Emergency number before you go.

Northwest Territories SPORT FISHING REGULATIONS GUIDE

Effective April 1st, 2007 to March 31st, 2008

Look inside for important Daily Catch Limit and Possession Limit information, General Regulations and information about Additional Validations and Special Management Areas. Keep this guide and place it in your tackle box for quick reference while fishing in the NWT. **Don't forget your licence!**



YOUR SPORT FISHING LICENCE

A Sport Fishing Licence is required by everyone except:

- NWT and Canadian residents under the age of 16 or 65 years of age and over, unless fishing in an area that requires an additional validation.
- Non-resident anglers under the age of 16 who are accompanied by a person holding a valid sport fishing licence, unless they are fishing in an area that requires an additional validation.

RESIDENCY

NWT Resident – A Canadian citizen or permanent resident who has resided continuously in the NWT for a period of three months immediately preceding the day they began fishing.

Canadian Resident – A Canadian citizen or permanent resident who normally resides in any part of Canada other than the NWT immediately preceding the day they begin to fish.

Non-Resident – A person other than a NWT Resident or a Canadian Resident.

	SEASON	3-DAY*
NWT Resident	\$10	Not Available
Canadian Resident	\$20	\$15
Non-Resident	\$40	\$30

- The Federal Goods and Services Tax (6% GST) will be added to all fees.
- The number of days available on a licence and related fees are subject to change. Please contact vendors for current licence details.
- **All licences are subject to conditions noted in the "Additional Validations" section.**

* A 3-day licence is valid for three consecutive days commencing on the date stated on the licence.

This pamphlet is not an official statement of the law and is provided for guidance only. The regulations summarized here apply to anglers who are Northwest Territories (NWT) residents, Canadian residents, and non-residents. The fishing rights of Aboriginal people in the NWT are different from other anglers and

are not described in this pamphlet. The *Northwest Territories Fishery Regulations* are made under the federal *Fisheries Act*, both of which can be viewed at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca Closures, fishing quotas and size limits for fishing in the NWT may change during the year. If you are in doubt about any regulation contact

a Fishery Officer or Renewable Resource Officer before fishing. For more information about Sport Fishing in the NWT, visit the Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) website at www.nwtwildlife.com

REPORTING FISHING VIOLATIONS

Violations of renewable resource legislation are serious offences. Violators, such as poachers, willfully deplete fish populations, while the unregulated activities of land and water users may cause harm to fish and fish habitat. Timely information concerning any suspected violation is greatly appreciated. If you see something suspicious or illegal, please call and provide as much detail as possible, including the date, time, location, vehicle licence plate, air registration letters or boat registration number and nature of the incident.



WATERS CLOSED TO SPORT FISHING

To conserve fish stocks, the following waters are closed to sport fishing during the times noted. All dates are inclusive.

Water	Coordinates	Closure Dates
Big Fish River	68°39'N, 135°52'W	Closed year round
Mosquito Creek & the waters of Great Slave Lake within 1km of the mouth of Mosquito Creek	62°42'N, 116°05'W	May 1 to June 30
Providence Creek	61°15'N, 117°32'W	April 15 to May 30
Yellowknife River between Prosperous Lake & Bluefish Lake	62°40'N, 115°15'W	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31
Alexie Lake and Chitty Lake	62°40'N, 114°05'W 62°43'N, 114°07'W	Closed year round

AWARD FOR TAGGED FISH

Fish are tagged to help fish managers learn about the distribution, movements, relative abundance and growth rates of fish. With this information, fish managers are better able to protect fish from over-exploitation and the adverse effects of development.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans awards anglers who provide information about tagged fish. If you catch a tagged fish, write down the species, location where it was caught, the date it was caught, length, weight, sex (if you can determine it) and the lure used to catch it. Mail this information along with the tag to:

Fisheries Management Technician
Department of Fisheries and Oceans
42043 Mackenzie Highway
Hay River, NT, Canada X0E 0R9



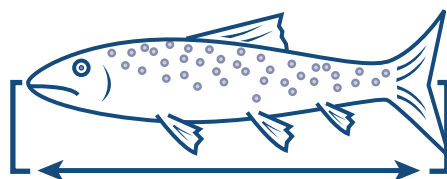
CATCH AND RELEASE FISHING

- Please release your fish with care and respect.
- Use a hook remover or needle nose pliers to remove hooks.
- Minimize handling and keep fish in the water if possible.
- Do not hold fish for later release; this practice reduces survival.
- Your barbless hooks will make "Catch and Release" fishing easier.
- Avoid fighting your fish to complete exhaustion.
- Ensure you use the correct tackle for the targeted fish species. Fishing line that is too light can lead to lost lures or fish, and extended fight times if a light drag is used.
- Avoid contact with the fish's gills and eyes.
- Do not squeeze the fish.
- Tight lines! Enjoy your fishing experience.

FORK LENGTH

Fork Length

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



DAILY CATCH LIMITS (DCL) AND POSSESSION LIMITS (PL)

SPECIES	WATERS	DCL	PL	SIZE LIMITS/OTHER RESTRICTIONS
Arctic Char	Rat River and within 100 m of mouth	0	0	Catch and release only
	Husky, Peel and West Channel of the Mackenzie River and within 100 m of mouth	0	0	Catch and release only
	All other NWT waters	4	7	None
Arctic Grayling	Mackenzie River Management Area on Great Slave Lake and its tributaries (see Special Management Areas section)	1	1	Minimum size for retention 36 cm (14 in.)
	All waters within the Gwich'in Settlement Area, Inuvialuit Settlement Region, and Sahtu Settlement Area excluding Great Bear Lake.	5	10	None
	Baker Creek (near Yellowknife) and within 100 m of the mouth	0	0	Catch and release only
	All other NWT waters including Great Bear Lake	3	5	None
Brook Trout	All NWT waters	3	5	None
Bull Trout	All NWT waters	2	3	None
Burbot	All NWT waters	5	10	None
Ciscoes	All NWT waters	350	350	None
Dolly Varden	Rat River and within 100m of mouth	0	0	Catch and release only
	Husky, Peel and West Channel of the Mackenzie River and within 100 m of mouth	0	0	Catch and release only
	All other NWT waters	4	7	None
Goldeye	All NWT waters	5	10	None
Inconnu	Great Slave Lake and its tributaries	1	2	None
	All other NWT waters	5	10	None
Lake Trout	Great Bear Lake	1	2	Only one lake trout may be removed from Great Bear Lake Special Management Area during any fishing trip
	Great Slave Lake and its tributaries [†]	2	3	DCL – Only one can be from Area VI of Great Slave Lake PL – Only two can be from Area VI of Great Slave Lake Only one lake trout in possession may be more than 70 cm fork length
	Trout Lake and its tributaries	1	1	None
	Prelude Lake and Prosperous Lake	1 / 0 / 1	1 / 0 / 1	April 1 – August 31 / September 1 – October 31 / November 1 – March 31
	All other NWT waters	3	5	None
	All other NWT waters	3	5	None
Northern Pike	Waters within the Gwich'in Settlement Area, Inuvialuit Settlement Region, and Sahtu Settlement Area excluding Great Bear Lake.	5	10	None
	Mackenzie River Management Area on Great Slave Lake and its tributaries (see Special Management Areas section)	1	2	Only one pike in possession may be more than 70 cm (28 in.) fork length. Included in total DCL/PL for GSL*
	Hay River, Little Buffalo River and Resolution Bay	2	3	Included in total DCL/PL for GSL*
	Great Slave Lake	3	5	Includes Mackenzie River Management Area.
	Sandy Lake	1	1	None
	Trout Lake and its tributaries	2	3	None
	All other NWT waters including Great Bear Lake	3	5	None
Rainbow Trout	All NWT waters	3	5	None
Suckers	All NWT waters	No Limit	No Limit	None
Walleye	Mosquito Creek	0/3	0/5	Season closed May 1 – June 30 / Season open July 1 – April 30
	All waters within the Sahtu Settlement Area, Gwich'in Settlement Area, Inuvialuit Settlement Region	5	10	None
	Sandy Lake	1	1	None
	Hay River and the Mackenzie River Management Area on Great Slave Lake and its tributaries (see Special Management Areas section)	1 3	1 5	April 1 – June 6 Included in total DCL/PL for GSL* June 7 – March 31 Included in total DCL/PL for GSL*
	Little Buffalo River and Resolution Bay	1 2	1 3	April 1 – June 6 Included in total DCL/PL for GSL* June 7 – March 31 Included in total DCL/PL for GSL*
	Great Slave Lake	1 / 4	1 / 7	April 1 – June 6 / June 7 – March 31
	Trout Lake and its tributaries	1 / 2	1 / 3	April 1 – June 6 / June 7 – March 31
	All other NWT waters	1 / 4	1 / 7	April 1 – June 6 June 7 – March 31
	Waters within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, Sahtu Settlement Area, Gwich'in Settlement Area	10	20	None
	All other NWT waters	5	10	None

Daily Catch Limit is the number of fish of each species that a person may catch and retain in a 24-hour period from one midnight to the next midnight.

Possession Limit is the total number of fish of each species that a person is entitled to possess at any time.

These limits apply to individuals only. Group limit fishing is **NOT** permitted.

Unless otherwise specified, a **tributary** includes the entire stream or river which flows into a larger body of water.

[†]In this case, a tributary begins at the mouth of the larger body of water and extends 1km upstream.

*Great Slave Lake and its tributaries[†]

GENERAL REGULATIONS

Should you be convicted for a first offence under the *Fisheries Act*, you may be liable to a fine up to \$100,000. If you are uncertain about any of the following items, contact a Fishery Officer or Renewable Resource Officer **BEFORE** fishing.

Regulations under the *Fisheries Act* state that:

- You must carry your signed and validated licence while fishing, and be able to produce it at the request of an officer. Check your licence for the expiry date.
- Sport fishing refers to fishing for pleasure. It is an offence to sell any game fish caught by sport fishing.
- It is an offence to waste any game fish that is suitable for food.
- Live fish cannot be used for bait. Live fish or live fish eggs cannot be put into NWT waters.
- A hand net may only be used for landing fish caught by angling.
- You may not use or possess a gaff while sport fishing.
- No person shall engage in spear fishing except while swimming.
- You may not dispose of fish or fish remains in the water or on the ice. At public sites, place fish remains and refuse in the provided containers.
- Dip nets may be used to catch ciscoes and suckers. The diameter of the dip net hoop cannot exceed one metre, and all other species of fish caught must immediately be returned to the water.
- Snagging of fish is prohibited.
- Except when preparing your fish for immediate consumption, you must leave the skin on the fish to help in determining the species. The number of fish must also be identifiable. Fillets must be separated before freezing them. Two fillets are regarded as one fish.
- When stored in an area other than your permanent residence, fish must be marked with the name and Sport Fishing Licence number of the person who caught them. If you are transporting fish, this information must also be marked on the outside of the package.
- No one shall fish in any manner within twenty-five yards downstream from the lower entrance to any fishway, canal, obstacle or leap.

WASTE DISPOSAL

Please do not litter! Dispose of your garbage properly and help keep our environment clean and safe. Litter can be hazardous to fish, wildlife and other anglers. Discarding bait containers, fishing line and other types of litter along shorelines, on the ice or in the water is illegal and perpetrators may face significant fines. When possible, show your concern for the environment by cleaning up after others.

ANGLING & ICE FISHING

Angling is fishing with a hook and line. The use of any unusual or special gimmick is often illegal and best avoided. Hooks or lures must not be spring-loaded. You may not use lights while angling. During open water season, you may fish with only a single line or rod. No more than two hooks can be attached to the line. You must attend to your line at all times. While fishing through the ice, you may fish with a maximum of two lines. No more than two hooks can be attached to any line. You must remain within 50 metres (60 yds.) of your line or lines.

CREEL CENSUS PROGRAM

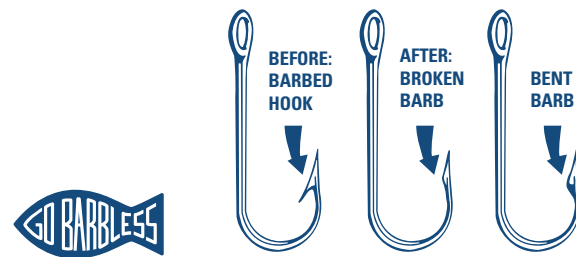
The Department of Fisheries and Oceans in cooperation with First Nations Bands and Renewable Resource Councils coordinates creel census studies to gather catch and effort statistics as well as biological data on game fish. Information, such as numbers of hours fished and number of fish caught, is noted. This is being done as part of a continuing program to ensure viable sport fisheries in the NWT for future generations of anglers. Your cooperation is appreciated.

REGULATORY AMENDMENTS

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans has initiated a process to amend the *Northwest Territories Fishery Regulations*. A person can provide comments regarding the NWT Fishery Regulations to: Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Suite 101, 5204-50th Ave., Yellowknife, NT, X1A 1E2 or by Email: nwtregs@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

BARBLESS HOOKS

The use of barbless hooks for sport fishing is **mandatory** in the NWT. Barbless hooks permit easier removal of the hook, minimizing damage to the fish and reducing handling time, which subsequently increases the chances of survival for released fish. Many fish that are released after being caught with a barbed hook later die from excessive handling or bleeding. Barbless hooks can be purchased at local sporting goods stores. Barbed hooks can easily be converted to barbless by either crimping or filing the barb off.



ADDITIONAL VALIDATIONS AND SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS

Great Bear Lake Special Management Area

Any person, including those under 16 or 65 years of age and older, must have a valid Sport Fishing Licence and Special Management Area Licence to fish in this area. This validation may be obtained from any ENR office for \$10. For further information on sport fishing in the Great Bear Lake Special Management Area, contact the RRC at (867) 589-8100.

Great Slave Lake Special Management Areas

The Mackenzie River Management Area has special restrictions for arctic grayling and northern pike. Area VI on Great Slave Lake has special restrictions for lake trout. See the Daily Catch Limits and Possession Limits Chart inside for more details.



Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR)

Any person, including those under 16 or 65 years of age and older, must have a valid Sport Fishing Licence and validation to fish in the ISR. This free validation may be obtained from a vendor of fishing licences or any ENR office. Any person intending to fish lakes or rivers on Inuvialuit private lands must first register with either the local Hunters and Trappers Committee or the Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC). If you are not able to register during regular office hours, please call for phone registry at 1-888-847-5206 or locally at (867) 777-2243, or visit www.fjmc.ca. Persons fishing within the ISR may be contacted at a later date by the FJMC and asked to report their catch. For further information, see the *Fishing in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region* brochure, available from all licence vendors in the ISR.

Council (RRC). Permission may be required to access Sahtu Dene and Metis private lands. For further information on sport fishing in the SSA or to access Sahtu private lands, contact the applicable RRC or Land Corporation(s) at: Norman Wells (867) 587-2455, Deline (867) 589-8100, Fort Good Hope (867) 598-2105/2519, Colville Lake (867) 709-2200, or Tulita (867) 588-4724, (867) 588-3734/3201.

Gwich'in Settlement Area (GSA)

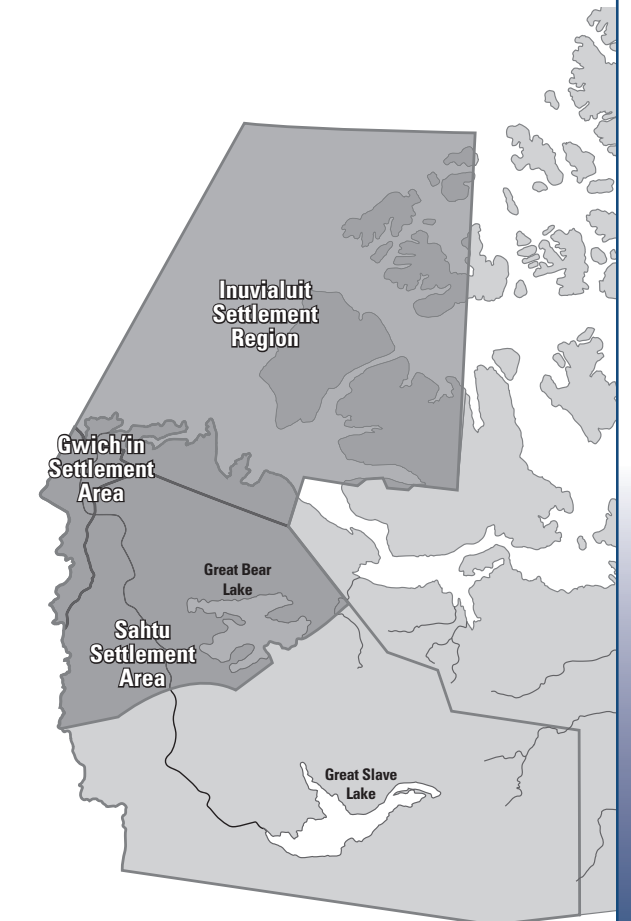
Sport fishing in the GSA is subject to the terms and conditions of the Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement. Permission is required to access Gwich'in private lands and to fish in a Special Harvesting Area. For more information and to obtain permission, contact the appropriate Renewable Resource Council in Aklavik (867) 978-2336, Fort McPherson (867) 952-2783, Inuvik (867) 777-3344, Tsiigehtchic (867) 953-3608, or the Gwich'in Land and Resources Office in Inuvik (867) 777-7913. For more information about fishing in the GSA visit www.grb.nt.ca

National Parks

A NWT Sport Fishing Licence is not valid in a national park. A separate national parks sport fishing licence is required and may be obtained from a Parks Canada Office.




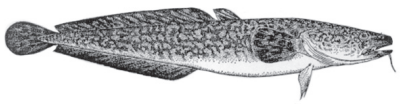






Sahtu Settlement Area (SSA)

Sport Fishing in the SSA may be subject to terms and conditions in accordance with the Sahtu Land Claim Agreement. Persons wishing to fish in the Special Harvesting Area are advised to contact the local Renewable Resources



Game Fish of the Northwest Territories



GAME FISH	DESCRIPTION	DISTRIBUTION IN THE NWT
ARCTIC CHAR 	Arctic char have a dark green back that shades to silvery sides with eye-sized pale white/pink spots without halos. There are no spots on the tail. At spawning time the colours of both sexes become more brilliant, particularly in the male which turns a vivid orange-red. The males also develop a protruding, hooked lower jaw.	Anadromous (sea-run) forms of Arctic char are found from Victoria Island to Banks Island and along the mainland coast eastward from the Hornaday River. Land-locked lacustrine char overlap the range of anadromous Dolly Varden, west of the Mackenzie River. Dolly Varden is a similar species described below.
ARCTIC GRAYLING 	The Arctic grayling, also known as the bluefish, is a beautiful game fish with dark blue, pink and purple tones which have an iridescent sheen. A striking feature is the sail-like dorsal fin, which is especially pronounced in males.	Grayling are found throughout the mainland area of the NWT. It is particularly common in the Great Slave and Great Bear watersheds as well as the Mackenzie River and its tributaries.
BULL TROUT 	The back and upper sides of the bull trout range from dark blue to olive green, with the lower sides being paler in colour. Small yellow, orange, or red spots mark the back and sides. Some spawning males develop bright red bellies and hooked lower jaws. Bull trout and Dolly Varden are very similar in colouration and are difficult to tell apart, especially smaller individuals. Bull trout, however, have a larger, broader, flatter head with eyes close to the top of the head, and a more rounded body.	Bull trout can be found in the Liard and Mackenzie watersheds in the Deh Cho and southern Sahtu. They are known to inhabit streams that flow out of the Mackenzie Mountains such as the Kotaneelee, the North and South Nahanni and Keele rivers.
BURBOT 	Burbot, commonly known as loche or mariah in the NWT, have distinctive features including an oval-shaped tail and a barbel under the chin. A master of camouflage, their colour can range from yellow, light brown, tan or olive to a medium/dark brown-green shade to almost black depending on the clarity of the water.	Burbot are plentiful and widespread in the mainland area of the NWT, found mostly in rivers and larger lakes. They are plentiful at the outflows of small streams in the Mackenzie Delta where they congregate in early winter to feed on a variety of forage fish.
DOLLY VARDEN 	Dolly Varden and bull trout are very similar in colouration and are difficult to tell apart. However, Dolly Varden have more oval, laterally compressed bodies and their heads do not dominate their profile.	Dolly Varden can be found in the western Mackenzie Delta and the fast-flowing cold streams along the northern slope of the Richardson Mountains as well as upstream on the Peel River watershed. The anadromous form is present in the Beaufort Sea in summer.
INCONNU 	Inconnu, commonly called coney in the NWT, somewhat resembles a very large herring with dark back, silvery sides and large scales. A mature coney can range from a half meter to over a meter in length. Inconnu is a member of the whitefish family.	Inconnu, common in the Mackenzie Delta, migrate upstream into the Peel, Arctic Red and Mackenzie rivers to spawn. Spawning runs of coney are also found further upstream in the Mackenzie in tributaries such as the Bracket and Liard rivers. Inconnu can be found in Great Slave Lake and tributary streams such as the Slave and Buffalo rivers where they spawn. They are occasionally caught in smaller streams such as the Hay River, Little Buffalo and Taltson River.
LAKE TROUT 	Lake trout range from light green or gray, to dark green, brown, or almost black with a light coloured belly. Their whole body including the dorsal, adipose and tail fins are covered with many light-coloured spots.	Lake trout are wide-spread in the NWT including the Arctic Islands. They inhabit large lakes such as Great Slave and Great Bear where they support trophy fisheries. They are found in many Shield lakes as well as in deep lakes along the Mackenzie Valley and tundra lakes which extend to the Arctic coast.
NORTHERN PIKE 	Also known as jackfish, pike have long bodies with dark green to brown colouration along their back. The sides are lighter with irregular rows of yellow to whitish bean-shaped spots which run lengthwise on the body. The dorsal or back fin is near the tail end of the body.	Pike can be found throughout most of the mainland NWT. They prefer warm, slow, heavily vegetated rivers and the warm, weedy bays of lakes.
WALLEYE 	Also known as pickerel or doré, the walleye is a member of the perch family. They have sharp teeth and two dorsal fins on their back, the front one supported by large, sharp spines. They vary in colour from olive-brown to golden brown to yellow with golden flecks on the scales and have a white belly. Their large, silvery eyes are very distinctive.	Walleye are found in the Mackenzie River watershed as far north as the delta. They are often plentiful in tributary streams of Great Slave Lake where they spawn and are sometimes found feeding throughout the summer. They are also plentiful in some inland lakes and rivers.
LAKE WHITEFISH 	Lake whitefish have narrow silvery bodies which may shade to olive-brown or to almost black along the back dependant on water clarity. The snout overhangs the lower jaw; the head may appear small in larger fish which may develop a distinct hump behind the head.	Lake whitefish are found throughout the mainland area of the NWT. They occur in lakes but also are found in large rivers and are plentiful in the Mackenzie Delta. Spawning takes place in the fall over reefs in lakes and also in rivers.