

**Fisheries and Aquaculture** 

# **2018 SALMON REGULATIONS**

## Licence

• All persons, except residents 15 years of age and under, require a salmon fishing licence to angle for Atlantic salmon. A general fishing licence is only required for persons who fish in non-tidal waters for any species other than Atlantic salmon.

### (All fees include H.S.T.)

Residents (18 years & over) (Seasonal) \$42.00
Non-Residents (age 18 and over) (Seasonal) \$157.40
Non-Residents (age 18 and over) (7-Day) \$63.65
Residents **and** non-residents (one-day) \$30.00

Residents **and** non-residents ages 16 and 17

No charge for any Salmon Fishing Licence

- Included in the fees for all salmon fishing licences is a \$5.91 surcharge for projects funded under the Sportfish Habitat Program.
- More than one 7-day or one-day salmon fishing licence may be purchased during the same salmon fishing season, provided a person is not issued more than one such licence for any of the same (overlapping) day(s).
- Please Note: Non-residents do not need a guide to fish for salmon.

### Size and Bag Limits and Gear Requirements

- All salmon caught shall be returned alive to the water immediately. Catch and release only.
- The daily catch and retain limit is **ZERO**
- The daily catch and release limit is any combination of grilse or salmon totaling four in SFA 18 and two in SFA 19
- The yearly catch and retain limit is **ZERO**.
- When fishing for salmon, only SINGLE HOOK BARBLESS OR PINCHED BARB artificial flies are permitted.

### **Notice**

- This is a summary prepared for the information and convenience of the salmon anglers in Nova Scotia only, and has no legal force
  or effect. This should be used in conjunction with the Anglers Handbook issued by the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture.
  The original Acts and Regulations should be consulted for all purposes of interpreting and applying the law. These Regulations are
  subject to change at any time.
- For further information or clarification, please contact the Department of Environment Conservation Officer or the Federal Fisheries Officer in your area.

### Stub Return

By law, the stub return on the salmon licence must be properly filled out and mailed within seven days of the close of the season or the licencee may be subject to a fine, or fishing privileges may be suspended in future years. This applies even if you didn't catch anything. If no Atlantic salmon were released, you should still record the date and rivers fished. If you did not fish for Atlantic salmon this should be indicated on the card, before mailing it to the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture. No stamp is required. This information is critical to the management of Atlantic salmon in our rivers, so your cooperation is extremely important.

 Please fill out one line on the card for each day you fish for salmon. Record the following at the end of each fishing day: date (day and month), river fished, county, number of salmon released, number of grilse released

		2018 SALMON REPORT CARD							Licence No. 18-000001		
	SECTION FOR EXPLORATE	(Please Print)				-		ID NOT fish for Salmon			
DATE		DRUED	County	Number released		DATE		RIVER	County	Number released	
Day	Month	RIVER	County	Salmon	Grilse	Day	Month	THELT	County	Salmon	Grilse
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**Note:** If more than one river is fished in one day, use a separate line for each river. Only record a fish as being released if you intentionally release it by breaking/cutting your line or by removing the hook.

**Note:** If your Atlantic salmon licence stub return card does not have sufficient space, please continue on the form above. If you complete this additional form, please record your N.S. Atlantic salmon licence number and mail (or fax) to N.S. Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Inland Fisheries Division, Box 700, Pictou, NS, BOK 1H0 (Fax 902-485-4014), or take it to an office of the N.S. Department of Natural Resources or the N.S. Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

# **Aquatic Invasive Species**

- The intentional or accidental movement of fish or other aquatic organisms from one river to another can negatively affect Atlantic salmon populations through competition, predation, disease, and changes to the ecosystem. While the threat from **chain pickerel** and **smallmouth bass** is already apparent in some of our rivers, the following aquatic invasive species may also impact Atlantic salmon.
- Didymosphenia germinata, or didymo is a fresh water algae and has been recently documented in several rivers in Quebec including the Matapedia which flows into the Restigouche on the Quebec/New Brunswick border. It can form extensive algal mats on rocky streambeds under the right environmental conditions and its appearance greatly reduces the esthetic appeal of salmon streams giving the impression the water is polluted. However, it is non-toxic to humans or aquatic life. Although not present in Nova Scotia, it could be transferred here by fishing or boating equipment which has come into contact with the microscopic cells from other rivers. It has been suggested that felt soled waders are an especially good vector for this organism because they take a long time to dry and provide tiny spaces for the cells to adhere. Placing waders in the freezer overnight is also an effective way to kill didymoMore information on didymo can be found at

http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/natural resources/fish/content/Didymo.html

Myriophyllum spicatum or **Eurasian water-milfoil** is an invasive aquatic plant native to Europe, Asia and northern Africa. Introduced to North America in the 19th century, it is now one of the most widely distributed invasive aquatic plants on the continent and known to be present in the St.John River watershed of New Brunswick. The plant reduces biodiversity by competing aggressively with native plants. Reduced oxygen levels in the water caused by decomposing plants can kill fish. More information on water-milfoil can be found at http://www.invadingspecies.com/eurasian-water-milfoil/

Adopting some simple measures such as washing your fishing and boating equipment thoroughly in hot water, removing any
plants or plant fragments or allowing gear to dry in the sun for at least five days before transporting it to another water body will
reduce the chance of spreading aguatic invasive species.

## A message from the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs

Mi'kmaq Salmon Harvesting in Nova Scotia

Why can the Mi'kmaq keep salmon when it is illegal for others to do so? Why can the Mi'kmaq fish using methods considered illegal under federal law? Here's why.

Traditionally, the Mi'kmaq fished for both large and small salmon using spears and snares during the day and night, and have utilized other methods such as trap nets, weirs, rods and gill nets depending on fishing area and availability of the resource. As the first peoples of the ancestral and unceded lands and waters of Mi'kma'ki, we have both Aboriginal (inherent) and Treaty (negotiated) rights. These rights are protected under the Constitution Act (1982, s. 35). Constitutional protection means that when there is a conflict between the fishing practices of the Mi'kmaq and federal and/or provincial law, Mi'kmaq practice supersedes those laws. Conservation of the species is the highest priority; once the conservation of the species is met, priority of access is first to the Aboriginal fishery (R. v. Sparrow, 1990).

Because of the shared concern for the sustainability of Atlantic salmon in Nova Scotia, Mi'kmaq, Federal, and Provincial governments are working together to ensure that conservation targets are met before any Mi'kmaw harvest occurs.





