

2023-2024 SUPPLEMENTAL SPORT FISHING

NOTE: Gray shaded text indicates regulations that have changed for 2023-24.

Klamath River Basin Regulations

Subsection 7.40(b)(50) includes the fall-run Chinook Salmon Regulations (planned effective date August 15, 2023). See also maps on pages 21-22.

Please call the Klamath hotline (1-800-564-6479) for the latest on Chinook Salmon angling.

(50) KLAMATH RIVER BASIN REGULATIONS

Anadromous Waters of the Klamath River Basin Downstream of Iron Gate and Lewiston dams. This subsection applies only to waters of the Klamath River Basin that are accessible to anadromous salmonids. This subsection does not apply to waters of the Klamath River Basin that are inaccessible to anadromous salmon and trout, portions of the Klamath River system upstream of Iron Gate Dam, portions of the Trinity River system upstream of Lewiston Dam, and the Shasta River and tributaries upstream of Dwinell Dam.

(A) Restrictions and Requirements.

- (1) Only barbless hooks may be used. (For definitions regarding legal hook types, hook gaps and rigging see Chapter 2, Article 1, Section 2.10.)
- (2) During closures to the take of adult salmon, it shall be unlawful to remove any adult Chinook Salmon from the water by any means.
- (3) See Section 1.74 for sport fish report card requirements.

(B) General Area Closures.

- (1) No fishing is allowed within 750 feet of any department fish-counting weir.
- (2) No fishing is allowed from the Ishi Pishi Road bridge upstream to and including Ishi Pishi Falls from Aug. 15 through Dec. 31. Exception: members of the Karuk Tribe listed on the current Karuk Tribal Roll may fish at Ishi Pishi Falls using hand-held dip nets.
- (3) No fishing is allowed from Sep. 15 through Dec. 31 in the Klamath River within 500 feet of the mouths of the Salmon, Shasta and Scott rivers and Blue Creek.
- (4) No fishing is allowed from Jun. 15 through Sep. 14 in the Klamath River from 500 feet above the mouth of Blue Creek to 500 feet downstream of the mouth of Blue Creek.

(C) Klamath River Basin Possession Limits.

- (1) Trout Possession Limits.
 - (a) The Brown Trout possession limit is 20.
 - (b) The hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead possession limits are as follows:
 - (i) Klamath River - 4 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead.
 - (ii) Trinity River - 4 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead.

(2) Chinook Salmon Possession Limits.

(a) Klamath River downstream of the Highway 96 bridge at Weitchpec from Jan. 1 through Aug. 14 and the Trinity River downstream of the Old Lewiston Bridge to the confluence of the South Fork Trinity River from Jul. 1 through Aug. 31: Closed to all salmon fishing except for 2 Chinook Salmon by federally recognized tribes.

(b) Klamath River from Aug. 15 through Dec. 31 and Trinity River from Sep. 1 through Dec. 31: Closed to the take and possession of Chinook Salmon.

(D) Klamath River Basin Chinook Salmon Quotas.

Klamath River fall-run Chinook Salmon take is regulated using quotas. Accounting of the tribal and non-tribal harvest is closely monitored from Aug. 15 through Dec. 31 each year. Quota areas are noted in subsection (b)(50)(E) with "Fall Run Quota" in the Open Season and Special Restrictions column.

(1) Quota for Entire Basin. The 2023 Klamath River Basin quota is 0 Klamath River fall-run Chinook Salmon. The Klamath River Basin is closed to the take and possession of Chinook Salmon through December 31, 2023. The department shall inform the commission, and the public via the news media, prior to any implementation of restrictions triggered by the quotas. (NOTE: A department status report on progress toward the quotas for the various river sections is updated weekly, and available at 1-800-564-6479.)

(2) Subquota Percentages.

(a) The subquota for the Klamath River upstream of the Highway 96 bridge at Weitchpec and the Trinity River is 50% of the total Klamath River Basin quota.

(i) The subquota for the Klamath River from 3,500 feet downstream of the Iron Gate Dam to the Highway 96 bridge at Weitchpec is 17% of the total Klamath River Basin quota.

(ii) The subquota for the Trinity River main stem downstream of the Old Lewiston Bridge to the Highway 299 West bridge at Cedar Flat is 16.5% of the total Klamath River Basin quota.

(iii) The subquota for the Trinity River main stem downstream of the Denny Road bridge at Hawkins Bar to the confluence with the Klamath River is 16.5% of the total Klamath River Basin quota.

(b) The subquota for the lower Klamath River downstream of the Highway 96 bridge at Weitchpec is 50% of the total Klamath River Basin quota.

(i) The Spit Area (within 100 yards of the channel through the sand spit formed at the Klamath River mouth) will close when 15% of the total Klamath River Basin quota is taken downstream of the Highway 101 bridge.

(E) Klamath River Basin Open Seasons and Bag Limits.

All anadromous waters of the Klamath River Basin are closed to all fishing for all year except those areas listed in the following table. Bag limits are for trout and Chinook Salmon in combination unless otherwise specified.