

TIPS FOR CATCH AND RELEASE SUSTAINABLE FISHING

1 USE ARTIFICIAL LURES (NO BAIT) TO MINIMIZE DEEP HOOKING.

Barbless hooks or hooks with flattened barbs make unhooking easier and less stressful on the fish.

2 LAND YOUR FISH AS CAREFULLY AND QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

If you plan to release the fish, do not pull it up or land it on dry land—sand, rocks and vegetation damage the trout's slime covering that helps keep the fish healthy.

3 AVOID MOVING THE FISH FROM THE WATER.

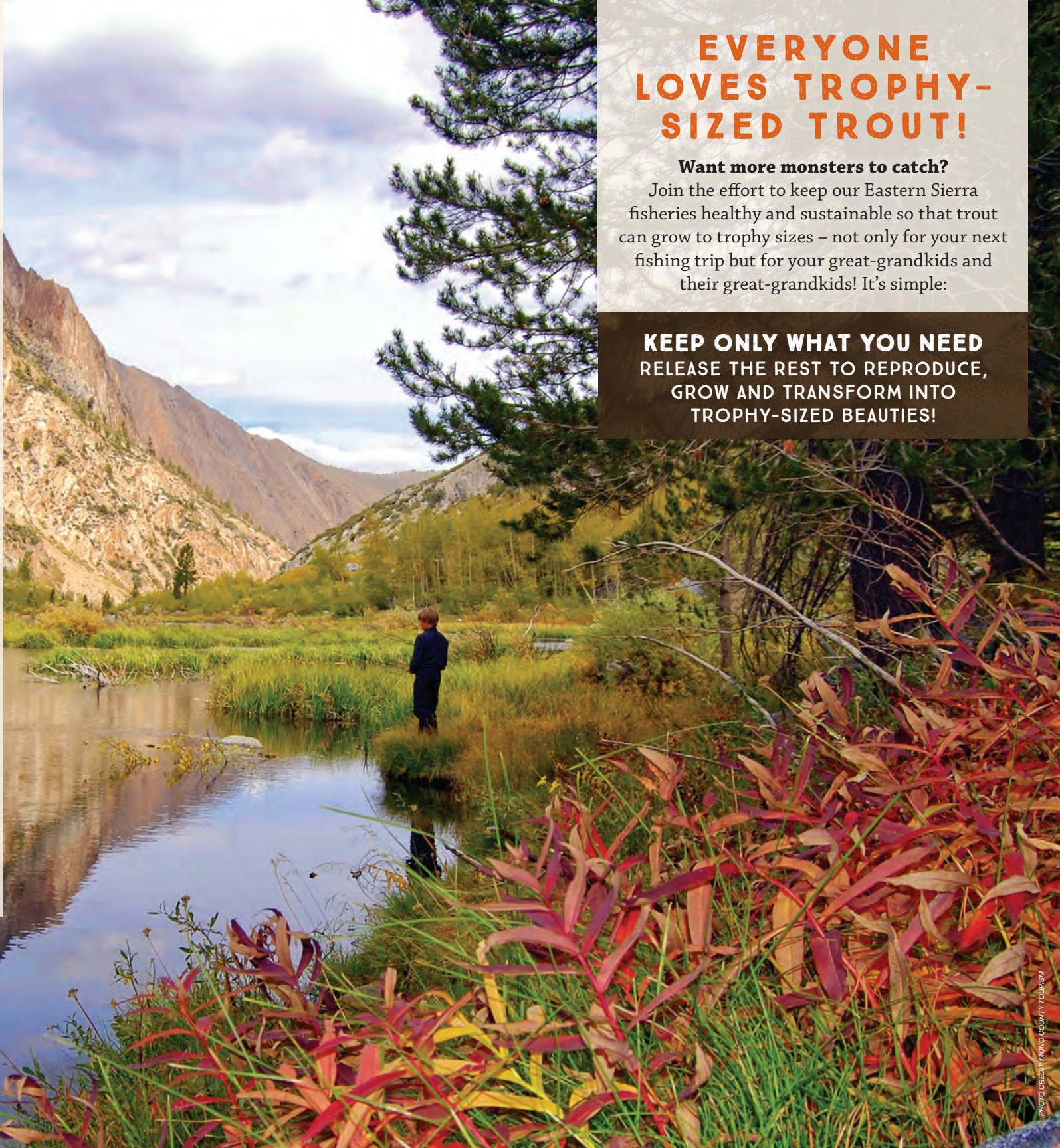
Unhook and release the fish while it is still under water.

4 ONLY USE WET HANDS AND LIMIT OVERALL HANDLING OF FISH.

Never use a rag and never squeeze the fish or touch its eyes or gills.

5 GENTLY REMOVE HOOKS THAT ARE VISIBLE.

If you can see the hook, remove it carefully. Otherwise, just clip the line near the mouth on a deep hooked fish. The hook will rust and dissolve over time.



EVERYONE LOVES TROPHY-SIZED TROUT!

Want more monsters to catch?

Join the effort to keep our Eastern Sierra fisheries healthy and sustainable so that trout can grow to trophy sizes – not only for your next fishing trip but for your great-grandkids and their great-grandkids! It's simple:

**KEEP ONLY WHAT YOU NEED
RELEASE THE REST TO REPRODUCE,
GROW AND TRANSFORM INTO
TROPHY-SIZED BEAUTIES!**

LEAVE NO TRACE

Fishing line and hooks left behind can harm pets, wildlife and other people (often children, who are wading, swimming or playing on the shore). Please collect and recycle fishing line and hooks at your local tackle shop and at fishing disposal tubes at lakes and marinas throughout the Eastern Sierra.

JUNE IS LEARN TO FISH MONTH!

Share the love of fishing with your friends and family! Invite someone who has never fished before to cast a line with you in your favorite waters during the month of June. Get someone "hooked" on fishing – share the excitement of catching your first fish and post your pictures on social media with the hashtag **#LearnToFish**



PHOTO CREDIT: REBECCA GARRETT

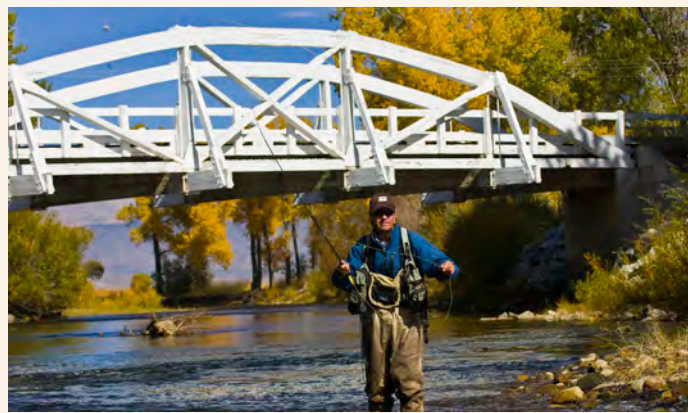


PHOTO CREDIT: NICK SOUZA/MONO COUNTY TOURISM

FISH SPECIES FOUND IN THE EASTERN SIERRA

CATCH THE SIERRA SLAM!

Catch all four species of trout in the same day or on the same trip – Rainbow, Brown, Golden, and Cutthroat – and you've got a Sierra Slam!

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Rainbow Trout* | Small Mouth Bass |
| Brown Trout* | Kokanee Salmon |
| Lahontan Cutthroat* | Largemouth Bass |
| Golden Trout* | Catfish |
| Brook Trout | Carp |
| Sacramento Perch | Bluegill |

For information on derbies, events, lodging, professional fishing guides and more, please contact:



MONO COUNTY TOURISM
MonoCounty.org



MAMMOTH LAKES TOURISM
VisitMammoth.com



VISIT BISHOP
BishopVisitor.com



INYO COUNTY
TheOtherSideOfCalifornia.com

OVER 650,000 LBS. OF FISH STOCKING

In addition to the significant amount of trout stocking provided by California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) – Mono County, Mammoth Lakes, Inyo County, Bishop, and private marinas and resorts also plant approximately 40,000 pounds. This partnership stocking program totals over 650,000 pounds in the Eastern Sierra annually! Learn more at the DFW website: **Wildlife.ca.gov**

EASTERN SIERRA FISHING MAP



PHOTO CREDIT: COULIN FARELLO/OP CREATIVE

INYO AND MONO COUNTIES

EASTERN SIERRA FISHING DESTINATIONS

REGULAR FISHING SEASON BEGINS THE LAST SATURDAY IN APRIL AND ENDS ON NOVEMBER 15. MANY WATERS OPEN FOR YEAR-ROUND FISHING.

1 WEST WALKER RIVER*

US 395, Walker/Coleville/Topaz

Designated a Wild and Scenic River, the West Walker has great fishing all year long, and is subject to year-round fishing regulations from November 16 until the last Saturday in April.

2 BRIDGEPORT RESERVOIR AND EAST WALKER RIVER*

SR 182, North of Bridgeport

Anglers come from all over the country each year to try their luck against wily browns, rainbows, cutthroat and Sacramento perch. The East Walker is open for year-round fishing.

3 TWIN LAKES

Twin Lakes Road, Bridgeport

About 13 miles from Bridgeport, this family favorite destination has excellent camping and fishing on two pristine lakes beneath the Sawtooth Ridge.

4 VIRGINIA LAKES

Virginia Lakes Road

At the top of Conway Summit, south of Bridgeport, these picture-perfect lakes west of US 395 are stocked regularly with rainbows.

5 LUNDY LAKE

Lundy Lake Road

North of Lee Vining, west of US 395, follow Lundy Lake Road to a good-sized lake and lots of rainbow, brown and brook trout.

6 JUNE LAKE LOOP

SR 158/June Lake Loop

Four lakes – June, Gull, Silver, and Grant – all within a 15-mile stretch are loaded with rainbow and brown trout.

7 MAMMOTH LAKES BASIN

Mammoth Lakes

Boat, float and shore fish for rainbows, browns and brookies in Lake Mary, Twin Lakes, Lake Mamie and Lake George. Or fish the backcountry by hiking as little as a mile to the five lakes in the upper basin.

8 HOT CREEK*

Hot Creek Road

This popular stream, east of Mammoth Lakes, is swimming with trout and is ideal for beginning fly fishing.

9 CONVICT LAKE

South of Mammoth Lakes off US 395

Catching your limit is common on this big, well-stocked lake. A marina offers boat rentals and Convict Lake Resort hosts derbies every spring and fall.

10 CROWLEY LAKE

South Landing

East of Mammoth Lakes and north of Tom's Place, the rainbow at Crowley grow big off Sacramento perch fry.

11 ROCK CREEK AND ROCK CREEK LAKE

Rock Creek Road

Stretching from Paradise to Rock Creek Lake, the creek offers countless spots for anglers to drop lines. Rock Creek Lake, heading west at Tom's Place exit, is particularly gorgeous in the fall.

12 PLEASANT VALLEY RESERVOIR*

Pleasant Valley Dam Road

An outstanding year-round fishery, Pleasant Valley Reservoir is located in a canyon along the Chalk Bluffs about 10 minutes north-west of Bishop. Many people leave their vehicles in the parking lot at the base of the dam and bike or hike into the canyon along the two mile paved maintenance road that runs adjacent to the reservoir.

13 OWENS RIVER*

Owens River Road

The gently flowing scenic waterway is popular with both fly anglers that fish from shore, drift boat or float tube and is open year-round.

The Wild Trout area below Pleasant Valley Campground is favored by fly fisherman; it is a barbless, catch and release zone.

The Buckley Ponds area south of Bishop offers warm water species including bass, catfish and bluegill.

14 BISHOP CREEK CANYON

SR 168, West of Bishop

An alpine wonderland of pine forest, rushing streams and clear blue lakes. Easy to access and popular fishing spots include Lake Sabrina, South Lake, North Lake, Weir Pond, Intake II and North and South Forks of Bishop Creek.

15 INDEPENDENCE CREEK

West of Independence

A beautiful stream stocked heavily with rainbows by DFW is open early every year from the last Saturday in March through November 15.

16 LONE PINE CREEK

Whitney Portal Road

Turn west at the stoplight in Lone Pine and fish the creek starting at the mouth of the canyon and work your way up for unparalleled mountain stream fishing.

17 COTTONWOOD CREEK

Horseshoe Meadows Road

Turn west at the Cottonwood Power House Turnoff about 10 miles south of Lone Pine. Keep to the left as you cross the Los Angeles Aqueduct. The best fishing is from the campgrounds at the power house intake to the end of the road.

18 DIAZ LAKE*

South of Lone Pine on US 395

Diaz Lake is a popular roadside destination for camping and fishing just a few miles south of Lone Pine and is open year-round. There is a nice boat launch and camping is available year-round. The lake is well stocked with rainbows and it is not unusual for a heavyweight largemouth bass to make a showing.



Regulations – Fishing regulations are subject to change at any time. Please check the California Department of Fish and Wildlife website prior to arrival at Wildlife.ca.gov.

Requirements – a California Sport Fishing License is required for anyone over 16. One-day and annual licenses are sold at all Eastern Sierra tackle shops or online at Wildlife.ca.gov/Licensing.

***Year-Round Fishing** – Green areas indicate year-round fishing. Some waters have special regulations for fishing methods and bag limits. Be sure to check DFW sport fishing regulations.

***Special regulations may apply.**

Early Open Fishing – Pink areas indicate early open fishing. Fishing opens the first Saturday in March - November 15.

Hike-In Lakes – Head up to the higher alpine lakes for solitude, scenery and wild trout. Parker and Little Walker lakes off the June Lake Loop (SR 158) are recommended, as are those along the Little Lakes Valley trail at the end of Rock Creek Road. Other favorite hike-in lakes are around the Twenty Lakes Basin at Saddlebag Lake (Tioga Pass Road/SR 120), as well as Cottonwood Lakes over New Army Pass, and Kirman Lake off Sonora Pass/SR 108.

Additional Fishing Info – California Department of Fish and Wildlife: 760-872-1171 or visit Wildlife.ca.gov.

Copyright 2017 – Inyo County, Mono County, Mammoth Lakes Tourism and Visit Bishop. Permission to use or reproduce material herein must be with the express written consent of Inyo County, Mono County, Mammoth Lakes Tourism and Visit Bishop. All information in this guide is subject to change and/or cancellation without notice. Inyo County, Mono County, Mammoth Lakes Tourism and Visit Bishop will not be held responsible for incorrect information.