

Smart Fishing Keys to a great catch:

- 💡 All anglers in BC require a fresh water fishing license.
- 💡 Keep up to date with Provincial catch and release regulations. For more information visit: env.gov.bc.ca/fw/fish/regulations
- 💡 Avoid releasing either dead or alive foreign species bait into freshwater lakes.
- 💡 Report illegal fishing, damage to fish habitat, polluting, disturbance to marine mammals and other violations of the Fisheries Act. Report All Poachers and Polluters (RAPP) at 1-877-952-7277.



Complete our Community Fish Survey using this QR code or visit: lakeambassadors.ca/stewardship/fishsurvey/

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Fish of Lake Windermere



Burbot
(*Lota lota*)

- Average length by maturity is about 40 cm (16 in).
- They're primarily piscivores (eat fish) but also prey on insects and other macro invertebrate.
- Burbot live in large, cold rivers, lakes, and reservoirs and often spawn under the ice in the winter months.



Northern Pikeminnow
(*Ptychocheilus oregonensis*)

- Average length is about 20-35 cm (8-12 in).
- Pikeminnow are voracious predators that prey on salmon smolts and their eggs which can threaten sensitive salmon populations.
- Northern Pikeminnows prefer lakes or slow moving runs of rivers. Their populations have flourished with the development of the Columbia River hydropower system.



Largemouth Bass
(*Micropterus salmoides*)

- Average length is 25-55 cm (10-22 in).
- This introduced species comes from Eastern North America but were introduced to Lake Windermere several years ago for sport fishing.
- Bass tend to swim close to shore in warm, shady waters and close to vegetation.
- They will out-compete many native species that require cool, deep waters.



Large-scale Sucker
(*Catostomus macrocheilus*)

- Large-scale Suckers can reach 60 cm (24 in) in length.
- They are bottom dwellers that feed on benthic aquatic invertebrates, diatoms, and other plant material.
- Found in the slower-moving portions of rivers and streams, and in lakes. Large-scale suckers spawn in the spring in shallow water over sandy areas of streams or the sandy or small gravel shoals of lakes.



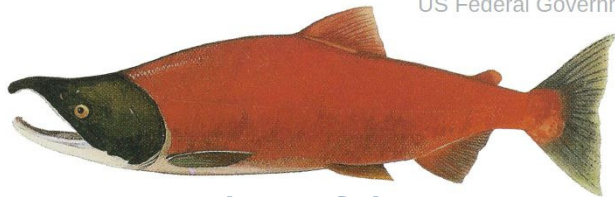
Rainbow Trout
(*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)

- Average length of Rainbow Trout is about 40 cm (16 in).
- Unlike their cousins, Steelhead Trout, Rainbow Trout in the Columbia River do not migrate to the ocean, they are land locked.
- Rainbow Trout prefer cool, swift waters, and feed on a diet of invertebrates, fish eggs, and other small fish.



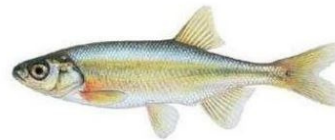
Pumpkinseed Sunfish
(*Lepomis gibbosus*)

- Average length is about 12-17 cm (5-7 in).
- Pumpkinseed sunfish are an introduced species in Lake Windermere; however they are an important food source for grebes and other piscivorous fish.
- They are comfortable in warm waters between 24 - 32°C, and can tolerate low oxygen levels which also allows them to out-compete many native fish species.



Kokanee Salmon
(*Oncorhynchus nerka*)

- Average length is less than 50 cm (20 in).
- Kokanee are native to Lake Windermere, spend their whole lives in freshwater (unlike many of their salmon relatives who swim to the ocean).
- Kokanee spawn in in small streams with coarse gravel bottoms in the fall and can only tolerate water temperatures up to about 16 degree celsius.



Redside Shiner
(*Richardsonius balteatus*)

- Average length is about 18 cm (7 in).
- Redside Shiners are an important source of food for diving water birds like ducks, loons, and grebes. In turn, they consume insects, algae, eggs and fry.
- Young fish often live near shorelines and around vegetated areas, while adults prefer deeper waters.
- Are a schooling fish and often congregate in the thousands.



Mountain Whitefish
(*Prosopium williamsoni*)

- Average length of the Whitefish is 20-30 cm (8-12 in).
- Mountain whitefish are bottom feeders, stirring up the substrate with pectoral and tail fins to expose insect larvae and other invertebrates.
- Prefer mountain streams and lakes, favoring clear cold water and large deep pools of at least a meter's depth.