

FISHING CONEJOS COUNTRY

Welcome to the Conejos River and the South San Juan Mountains, some of the most beautiful scenery in Colorado! The rivers and lakes in Conejos County are home to quality fishing for Rio Grande cutthroat trout, brown trout, brook trout, rainbow trout, splake, and the kokanee salmon of Platoro Reservoir. Please refer to the **2013-2014 Colorado Fishing Brochure** to help make your fishing experience an enjoyable one.

License Requirements: A fishing license is required for people 16 years or older. Children ages 15 and younger do not need a fishing license. Colorado residents age 64 and older can obtain an annual fishing license for \$1. To qualify for the benefits of a **resident** license a person must have lived continuously in Colorado for at least 6 months, immediately before buying a fishing license and who intends to make Colorado home. **Free fishing days:** You can fish in Colorado without a license only on the first full weekend in June, each year. All other rules and regulations apply. **Habitat Stamp** required, see directory.

Daily Bag Limit - (Maximum number of fish you can take in ONE day regardless of what you do with the fish that day): **Except** in special regulation waters, you can take a mixed bag of **4 trout**, splake, char, grayling, salmon (except kokanee). **Additionally**, you can take up to **10 brook trout 8 inches or less** and **10 kokanee salmon**.

Possession Limit - (Maximum number of fish allowed in possession at any ONE time, including the field, while transporting, at home or other places of storage): No more than **8 trout** (in aggregate) may be possessed at any time. **Additionally**, you can possess up to **10 brook trout 8 inches or less** and **10 kokanee salmon**.

Donation of Fish: Edible portions of fish may be donated to any person, anywhere as long as they have a valid Colorado fishing license or to a person at their home. **Donor and recipient are subject to ALL bag and possession limits!**

Methods of Take: Each angler is allowed to use only one personally attended rod or line, unless a **second rod stamp** is purchased, allowing the use of a second rod or line. The license holder is the only person that can use the benefits of the second rod stamp. No more than three common hooks are allowed per line. Natural or man made bait is allowed, **except** in designated artificial fly and lure only waters. **The use of live baitfish is prohibited in this area.** Chumming, netting, seining, snagging, trapping, or any other method of catching fish, except angling is prohibited.

Private Lakes and Streams: State fishing and hunting laws apply to all lands and waters public or private, even if you purchase and stock your own fish. For privately owned lakes that do not charge a fee to fish, a Private Lake license can be applied for. A fishing license is not required to fish in a licensed private lake. Fish taken under a Private Lake license can only be transported with a receipt from the Private Lake license holder. **A fishing license is required on streams/rivers passing through private property. Fishing on Private Property without landowner permission is illegal.**

Special Regulation Waters: (Special regulations are designed to provide the best fishing and maintain the long-term welfare of fish).

1. The Conejos River from the lower bridge at Platoro downstream to the confluence with the South Fork of the Conejos River. Artificial flies and lures **ONLY**, with a bag and possession limit of 2 trout, 16 inches or longer.
2. The Conejos River from Menkhaven Resort downstream to the upper boundary of Aspen Glade Campground. Artificial flies **ONLY**, with a bag and possession limit of 2 trout, 16 inches or longer.
3. Bear Creek, Sheep Creek, and Kerr Lake. Artificial flies and lures **ONLY**, with a bag and possession limit of 2 trout from each (not to exceed the daily bag limit).
4. Cascade Creek, Jim Creek, Navajo River, Osier Creek, Rhodes Gulch, Rio de Los Pinos (above the falls at S. San Juan Wilderness boundary), Rough Canyon, the Lake Fork of the Conejos (including Big Lake) to Rock Lake, Torsido Creek, and Wolf Creek. Artificial flies and lures **ONLY** and **ALL CUTTHROAT TROUT MUST BE RETURNED (ALIVE) TO THE WATER IMMEDIATELY!**

THANK YOU, in advance for complying with the State's Wildlife Laws, Packing Out Your Trash, Staying on Designated Roads & Trails, Respecting Private Property and Caring for Colorado's Wildlife Resource! I look forward to meeting you on the water.

ROD RUYBALID, District Wildlife Manager-Conejos
COLORADO DIVISION OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE
Phone: (719) 588-6362
Colorado State Patrol Dispatch: (719) 589-5807
www.wildlife.state.co.us
Feb. 2013

