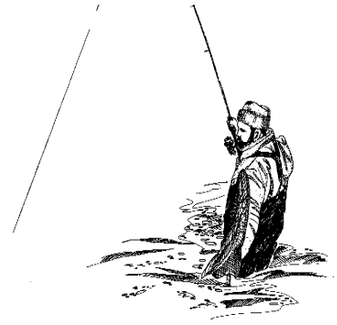
Fishing

Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore
National Park Service
Department of the Interior



Hidden backcountry beaver ponds and brook trout; a paddle stroke through loon waters and the hard tug of a smallmouth bass; Lake Superior's open horizons of wind and surf and spawning steelhead. The fishing opportunities are many; the experiences draw us back. Fishing at Pictured Rocks has been a recreational opportunity enjoyed long before the Lakeshore was created and continues to be an activity favored by many.

The fishery is managed jointly by the National Park Service and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. State fishing regulations, including creel limits, license requirements, and seasons apply, however special restrictions apply to bait to prevent the deadly fish disease VHS (see reverse.) Both Park Rangers and Michigan Conservation Officers are authorized to enforce state fishing regulations within the Lakeshore.

Lakeshore Fishing Opportunities

With its many streams, inland lakes and Lake Superior, the park offers a variety of fishing opportunities. Common cool water game fish include smallmouth bass, northern pike, walleye, yellow perch, whitefish, menominee, and smelt. Trout species include brook trout, rainbow trout, lake trout, and coho salmon. The table below provides more details about fish species of specific lakes and streams within the Lakeshore. Fishing licenses are available at businesses in local communities. Persons under 17 years of age may fish without a license. A trout and salmon stamp is required to fish for these species.

Lakes/Streams	Common Game Fish													Regulations			Facilities					Comments
	Smallmouth Bass	Northern Pike	Yellow Perch	Rock Bass	Walleye	Smelt	Whitefish	Menominee	Brook Trout	Rainbow Trout- Steelhead	Lake Trout	Splake	Coho Salmon	Designated Trout Waters	Extended Trout Season	Special Brook Trout Regs.	Boat Ramp	Motors Permitted	Trail Access	Drive-In Campground	Backcountry Campsite	See the Michigan Fishing Guide for Regulations
Grand Sable Lake	x	x	x	x		x			x	x	x	x					x	x	x			(50 hp limit) Towes Creek open for smelt
Little Beaver Lake	x	x	x	x					x	x		x	x				x	x	x	x		Electric motors only
Beaver Lake	x	x	x	x	x				x	x		x	x					x	x		x	Electric motors only
Trappers Lake			x	x															x		x	
Sevenmile Lake									x										x			
Hyde Lake									x													
Legion Lake																			x			
Chapel Lake		x	x	x																		Access difficult
Little Chapel Lake		x	x	x															x		x	
Miners Lake		x	x						x										x			
Lake Superior		x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	
Sable Creek				x					x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x			
Hurricane River									x	x		x	x	x	x	x			x			
Sullivan Creek									x	x			x	x					x			
Sevenmile Creek									x	x		x	x	x		x			x		x	
Beaver Basin Streams	x	x	x	x	x				x	x			x	x					x		x	
Mosquito River									x	x		x	x	x		x			x		x	
Miners River									x	x		x	x	x	x				x			Portage wheels permitted

A percentage of steelhead in the Hurricane, Sevenmile and Mosquito drainages have been implanted with a 1 inch long electronic tag to identify fish movement. The tag is free in the body cavity and should be easily observed when cleaning your catch. If you have found a PIT tag in the body cavity of a brook trout or steelhead, please take the tag to a park, forest, wildlife refuge, or DNR office. We would appreciate your name, date, location of where you caught the fish, size, and species information.

BROOK TROUT FISHING REGULATIONS
Mosquito River Research Area (from Mosquito Falls downstream)
Sevenmile Creek Research Area (from Sevenmile Lake downstream)

Season: last Saturday in April - July 31 **Minimum Size: 18 inches** **Daily Harvest / Possession Limit: 1**

Lake Superior

Season: all year **Minimum Size: 20 inches** **Daily Harvest / Possession Limit: 1**

Fishing Tips

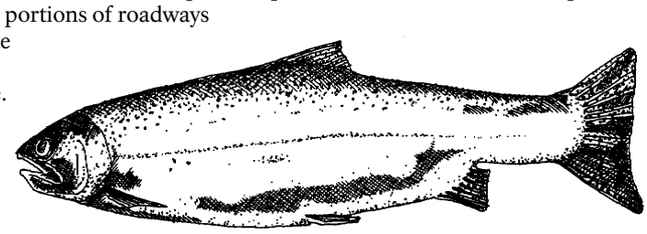
The best fishing is usually in the early morning and evening when many fish feed.

Your personal floatation device won't do you any good if it is inaccessible. Wear it while on the inland lakes and Lake Superior. Before venturing onto the big lake, get an updated weather forecast and be aware of quick changes in weather and sea conditions. The only safe harbors are Munising Bay and Grand Marais Bay at either end of the Lakeshore.

Digging for bait in the Lakeshore is prohibited.

Ice fishermen should ensure safe ice conditions before fishing. Snowmobiles are permitted on designated portions of roadways and Grand Sable Lake and Lake Superior within the Lakeshore.

Fishermen wishing to leave their boats unattended longer than 24 hours at designated stream mouths may do so with written permits from the Lakeshore Superintendent.



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