

TROUT IDENTIFICATION

The following illustrates important characteristics for identifying common trout species. Alberta's Fish Identification web site is found at srd.alberta.ca or mywildalberta.com

Trout (true trout and char) – rayless, fleshy lobe on back behind dorsal fin (adipose fin) and small scales on body.

TROUT – BLACK SPOTS ON SIDES

BROWN TROUT



– pale haloes around black spots

CUTTHROAT TROUT



– no haloes around black spots and a red-orange slash under the jaw

RAINBOW TROUT*



– no haloes around black spots and no red-orange slash under the jaw

CHAR – NO BLACK SPOTS ON SIDES

BULL TROUT



– no spots or markings on dorsal fin

LAKE TROUT



– pale spots on dorsal fin and tail deeply forked

BROOK TROUT

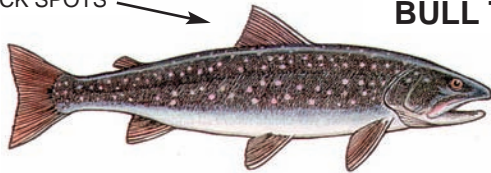


– black markings on dorsal fin and tail not deeply forked

* Golden Trout – resemble rainbow trout, but have black spots on sides mainly near tail (only occur in a few high mountain lakes).

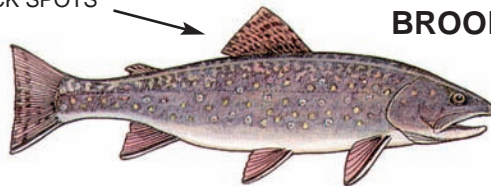
BULL TROUT IDENTIFICATION

NO BLACK SPOTS →



BULL TROUT

BLACK SPOTS →



BROOK TROUT

**NO BLACK
PUT IT BACK!**

Bull trout populations in Alberta declined mainly because of overharvest by anglers. No bull trout caught in any waters may be kept. If you catch a bull trout, release it immediately. You will be helping the recovery of this important native fish. Remember, the bull trout is our official provincial fish emblem. Study the pictures to the left and learn how to recognize bull trout. Bull trout have no black spots on their dorsal fin.

SPORT FISH OF ALBERTA



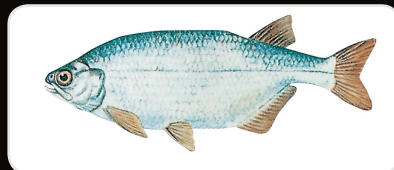
BULL TROUT



LAKE TROUT



ARCTIC GRAYLING



GOLDEYE



BROOK TROUT



BROWN TROUT



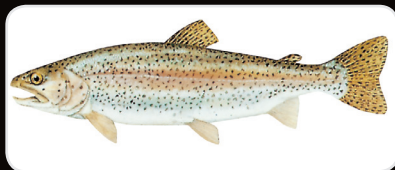
MOUNTAIN WHITEFISH



SAUGER



CUTTHROAT TROUT



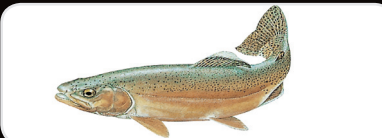
RAINBOW TROUT



LAKE WHITEFISH



WALLEYE



GOLDEN TROUT



LAKE STURGEON



NORTHERN PIKE



YELLOW PERCH



BURBOT