FISHING AT MCArTHUR-BURNEY FALLS MEMORIAL STATE PARK

Fishing season opens on the last Saturday in April and closes on November 15th.

Fishing in the park is governed by the regulations prescribed by the California Department of Fish and Game. The information on this handout does not include all of these regulations. We recommend that you read and understand the applicable regulations printed in the California Sport Fishing Regulation booklet prior to fishing.

The collection of reptiles, amphibians, crustaceans, and insects, specifically stoneflies of the genus *Pteronarce*, within the boundaries of McArthur-Burney Falls Memorial State Park is prohibited. All plants and animals are protected.

Fishing Above the Waterfall (Zone 1)
There are no special regulations for fishing above the waterfall. The limit is 5 fish per day and a 10 fish total possession limit regardless of species. There is no size limit and bait can be used with the exception of live or dead fin fish (minnows) which may not be possessed. Fishing at night on Burney creek is not permitted. Please be aware of the closure above the falls which extends up stream from the waterfall for a distance of 60 feet.

Fishing Below the Waterfall (Zone 2)
From Burney Falls down stream to Lake Britton
This is a special regulation area. Only artificial lures or flies with barbless hooks may be used. No bait of any type is permitted. Bait includes, but is not limited to, salmon eggs, powerbaits, worms, crayfish, minnows, and insects. Be sure to read the regulations very carefully if you plan to fish in this area. The possession limit is 2 trout regardless of species, and no trout over 14 inches may be possessed. Fishing is not permitted after dark.

Fishing at Lake Britton (Zone 3)
Lake Britton is open to fishing all year. The access road in the park to Lake Britton is, however, subjected to closures dependent upon season, weather, and time of day. Lake Britton supports both a warm water and cold water fishery. Both large and small mouth bass can be found in the lake as well as: white and black crappie, bluegill, sunfish, channel catfish, bullheads, and trout. The fishing limit for bass is 5 with a size limit of 12 inches. Crappie have a limit of 25 fish with no size limit. Trout in the lake are limited to 5 per day with no size limit. No live or dead fin fish (minnows) may be used or possessed as bait. Trout may not be taken at night.

A fishing license is required for anyone 16 years old or older to fish in McArthur-Burney Falls Memorial State Park. The park is divided into 3 distinct areas, each of which has its own regulations. Parents or adults who are assisting their children to fish by casting, landing, or reeling are required to have a fishing license, even if they, themselves are not fishing. Fishing licenses can be purchased at the park store or in the town of Burney. If you have questions about fishing in the park or about a specific regulation please contact a ranger.
Frequently Asked Questions About Fishing In The Park

Q: Do I need a fishing license to fish in the park?
A: Yes. Everyone 16 years and older must have a fishing license in their possession and have that license displayed above the waist while fishing.

Q: What kinds of fish can I catch?
A: Burney Creek is home to 3 kinds of trout. Rainbows, Brook, and brown. In Lake Britton you can find bass, bluegill, crappie, catfish, carp, squawfish, sunfish, perch, as well as rainbow and brown trout.

Q: Where is the best place to fish?
A: There is no one "best" place to fish. Your best bet however, would be upper Burney Creek. Fish and Game stocks the upper creek weekly during the summer months with up to 400 lbs. of hungry trout.

Q: Can I fish in the pool at the waterfall?
A: Yes, but no bait can be used. This is a special regulation area requiring artificial lures or flies and barbless hooks. Check the sport fishing regulations carefully before attempting to fish the pool or Burney Creek below the falls.

Q: Do I need a license if I'm only helping my child to fish?
A: Yes. If you are assisting in casting, landing, or reeling you are required to have a license.

Q: Can I fish at night?
A: No. Fishing is not allowed in Burney Creek after dark, and the lake area closes at night.

Q: Can I fish off of the boat dock?
A: No. The concession dock is closed to fishing during the summer rental season and the courtesy (launching) dock is closed to fishing all year. The fishing pier is available as an alternative and provides easy access.

WARNING TO DOG OWNERS: Burney creek trout can carry a parasite (trout fluke). While non-toxic to humans trout fluke can be deadly to your dog. Do not allow your dog to ingest the entrails, flesh, or remains of any fish.