



ANGLERS' GUIDE TO

# Yukon Stocked Lakes

  
Yukon



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# Stocked Lakes Program

## Good fishing – easy access

Yukon residents and visitors have been enjoying the benefits of stocked fish since the Alaska Highway was opened to public travel in the late 1940s. Today, the Government of Yukon's Fisheries Unit works closely with the Yukon Fish and Game Association to provide good fishing opportunities within easy access of most communities.

You can easily reach most of the lakes listed in this booklet, driving to the shoreline of many. A few require a short walk on trails no longer than 1 km. Access roads are not maintained through the winter but hard-packed snowmobile trails usually provide easy access for ice fishing.

Nineteen lakes are stocked with rainbow trout, Arctic char or kokanee salmon. Stocked lakes not only provide good fishing, they also take angling pressure off slow-growing wild fish species such as lake trout.

## Fishing regulations

You must have a valid Yukon angling licence if you want to fish in stocked lakes. Stocked lakes have specific fishing regulations, and daily catch limits for stocked fish are often higher than for wild fish. Pick up the Yukon Fishing Regulations Summary to read about the rules that apply.

## Protecting the environment

- Pack out all your garbage, especially old fishing line.
- If you want to build a campfire, use an existing fire circle and burn dead wood only. Don't build a fire if the risk of forest fire is high. Make sure your fire is completely out before you leave.
- If you have to go, bury human waste out of sight and at least 60 m away from water.

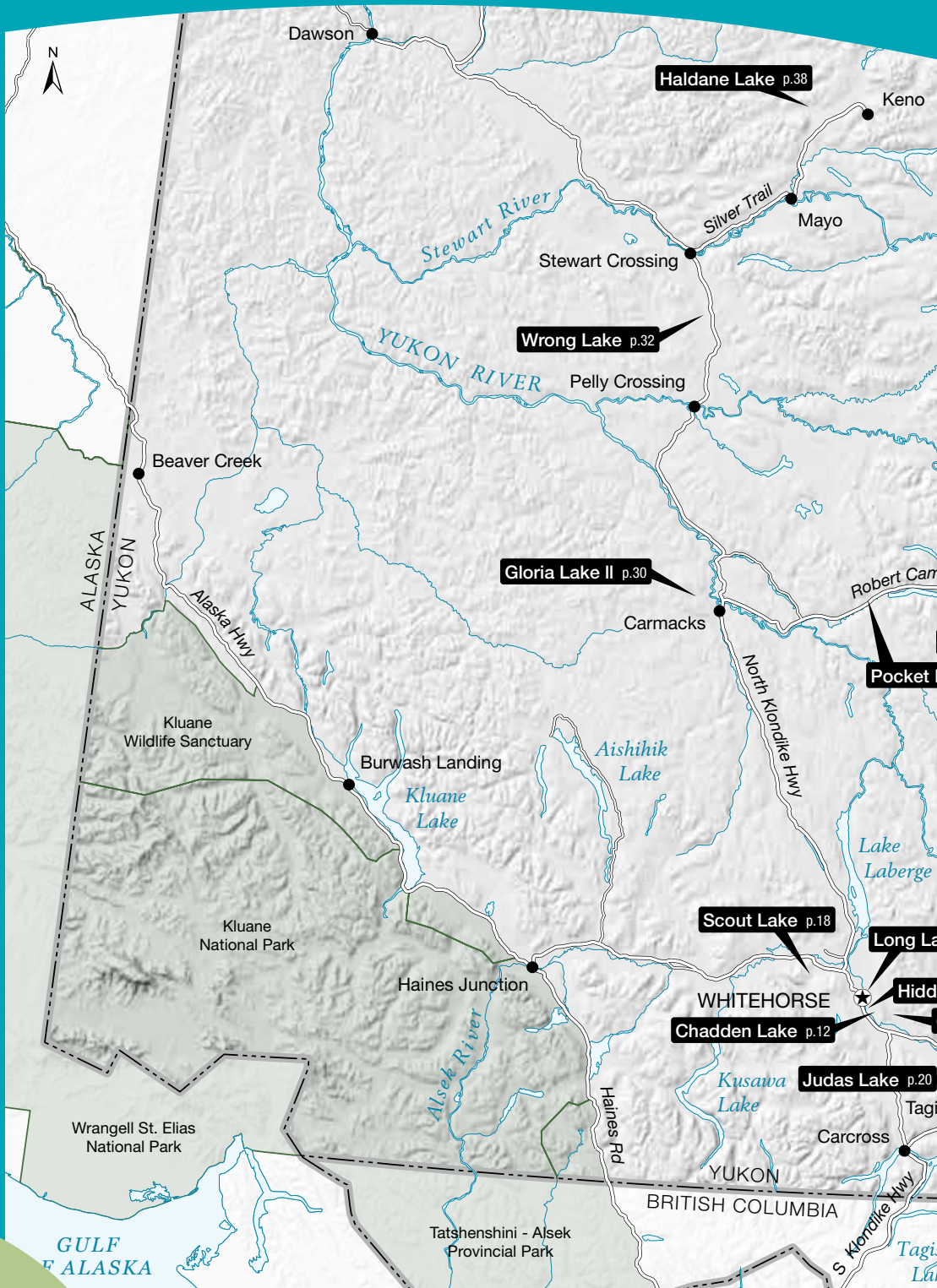
For information on live release, see page 40.

## More information

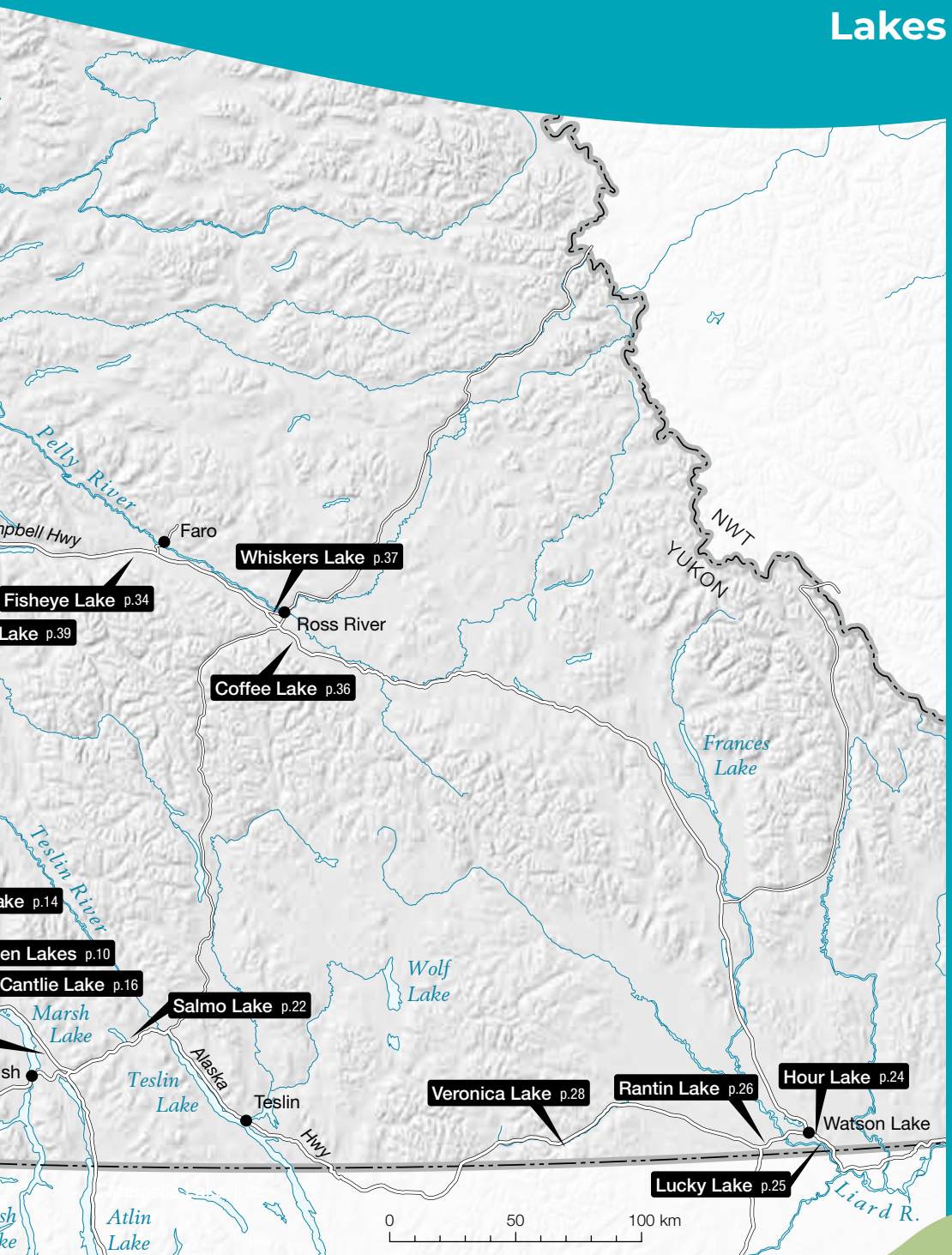
Want to find up-to-date stocking records, more stocked lakes maps, licence requirements, as well as other information on fishing in Yukon?

Visit our website at:

**[Yukon.ca/fishing](http://Yukon.ca/fishing)**



# Yukon Stocked Lakes



## Stocked fish species

### Rainbow trout

Rainbow trout have been stocked successfully in Yukon for over 60 years. The rainbow is popular with anglers, especially fly fishing anglers, because it has a beautiful appearance, strikes vigorously at artificial lures as well as natural baits, fights aggressively, and tastes great.



This trout has a light-coloured body sprinkled with black spots, which line up in radiating rows on the tail. Its name comes from the broad stroke of pinkish colour that runs down the side of the fish from its head to near its tail. As with most fish, the back is darker than the sides. The flesh ranges from white to bright red in colour, depending on the fish's diet. Rainbow trout eat insects, plankton, crustaceans, fish eggs and small fish. Their habit of taking adult insects on the surface makes dry fly fishing particularly effective.

Rainbows can live as long as 11 years but the normal life span is four to six years. Rainbows stocked in small pothole lakes seldom reproduce.

### Arctic char

This fish has many of the characteristics that have made rainbow trout so popular. Char can be caught on streamers and occasionally on dry flies, but a flashy spoon is considered most effective. Small char may jump several times when hooked. Ice fishing anglers catch this fish on spoons and jigs.



The Arctic char has a slightly forked tail and a dark body covered with light spots, except for the head. Although its colour can vary tremendously, this fish is normally silvery-green on its sides with large pink, red or cream-coloured spots. The lower fins have white leading edges. The flesh colour varies from white to red, depending on the fish's diet. Young char feed heavily on shrimp and insect larvae. Adult char feed mainly on small fish and insect larvae found on lake bottoms.

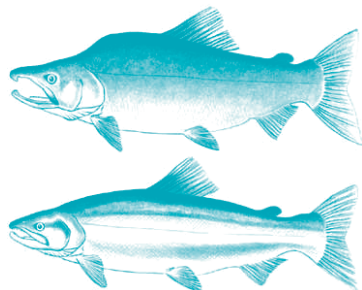
Wild char populations usually spawn in September or October. Char stocked in Cantlie Lake have been reproducing naturally since the 1990s, and in past years Fisheries Unit staff have used this lake as a source for Arctic char eggs for the Whitehorse Rapids Fish Hatchery. Arctic char may live as long as 15 years but they grow slowly, especially after they reach 10 years of age. Arctic char have been stocked in Yukon lakes for more than 20 years.

## Kokanee salmon

Kokanee are landlocked sockeye salmon, identical to their sea-run cousins except for their smaller size, about 20 to 40 cm (8 to 16 in) in length. They are bright silver-bluish in colour and typically trout-like in appearance. They follow the same life cycle as their sea-run relatives and usually mature at four years of age.

At spawning time, from late August to early September, they take on the appearance and colouration of spawning sea-run sockeye. Males become bright red on the back and sides with dirty white underparts. Their heads turn green while their snouts and the sides of their jaws are grey. Females have a similar appearance, but the body is a darker grey-red colour. As they prepare to spawn, kokanee cruise along the lake margins in colourful schools, chasing and nipping at each other. These spawning schools are easily spotted, and make for great fish viewing. Kokanee die shortly after spawning.

Kokanee feed on small aquatic invertebrates and crustaceans, and can be caught on brightly-coloured wet flies or lures fished at or near the bottom. They are a delicious fish, with bright red flesh similar to ocean-run sockeye salmon. Kokanee are highly sought after by anglers looking for a shore lunch. Try them barbecued or smoked.



Autumn paddling  
YG PHOTO



## Catching more fish in stocked lakes

Fishing for stocked lake fish requires some different gear and techniques than you might use for lake trout or pike. Here are some tips.

### Small lures

Trout, char and kokanee, even large ones, mostly feed on small insects, crustaceans, and the occasional small fish. Small lures and flies are best.

### Light line

Trout, char and kokanee have excellent eyesight, and may shy away from your hook if you're using heavy line. Light line is best, with 6 lb test monofilament a good choice.

### Structure

Structure in a lake, such as rock piles, drop-offs, sunken trees and weed beds, offer fish places to hide and feel comfortable. These are also good feeding areas for fish, with lots of insects, crustaceans and small fish. Try fishing in these areas first.

### Get deep

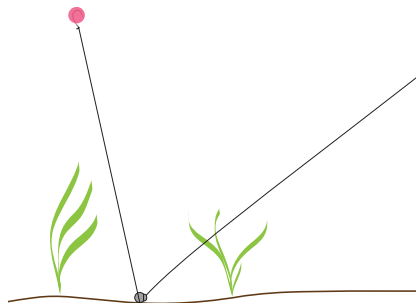
While you may find fish close to the surface, or in mid-water, most fish spend a great deal of time near the bottom of the lake. This is especially true in summer, when shallow water warms and fish look for deeper, cooler water. Try letting your lure sink down close to the bottom, and retrieve it slowly enough that it stays deep.

## Rigs for stocked lakes fish

There are many ways to fish for (and catch) trout, char and kokanee in Yukon's stocked lakes. Here are a few tried and true methods that are easy to set up and really catch fish.

### Bottom-fishing with bait

Trout and char, especially larger fish, often cruise along the bottom, looking for food. The deep end of steep drop-offs near shore is a particularly good spot to find these fish. An easy way to fish for them is to tie on a small hook (size 4 to 8), then 30 to 60 cm (12 to 24 inches) above it pinch a split shot sinker or two to your line. If you're using PowerBait, roll a pea-sized piece into a ball, then put it on your hook. Cast your line out into deeper water and let it sink, then reel in until your line is tight. The sinkers will sit on bottom, and the PowerBait will float up off the bottom, right where fish can find it. Prop your rod up with a forked stick, and wait for a bite.





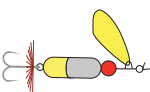
## Bait fishing with a bobber

Trout and kokanee sometimes search for food higher up in the water, especially near sunken trees and other hiding places for insects and small fish. To catch these fish, use a bobber to keep your bait up where fish can see it. Tie on a small hook, and pinch a split shot sinker or two 30 to 60 cm (12 to 24 inches) above it on your line. Above this, clip a bobber to your line. You can slide the bobber along your line, to change how far below the surface your bait sits. Try putting your bobber a metre (40 inches) above your bait, then moving deeper if you don't have any luck. A good bait for this type of fishing is cooked shrimp – try using a piece a bit bigger than a pencil eraser. You can fish with flies this way, too, just use a sinking bead-head fly instead of bait. Cast your line near sunken trees, rocks or weeds, and let the bait or fly sink. Every so often, give the line a twitch to make your hook move – it just might trigger a bite!

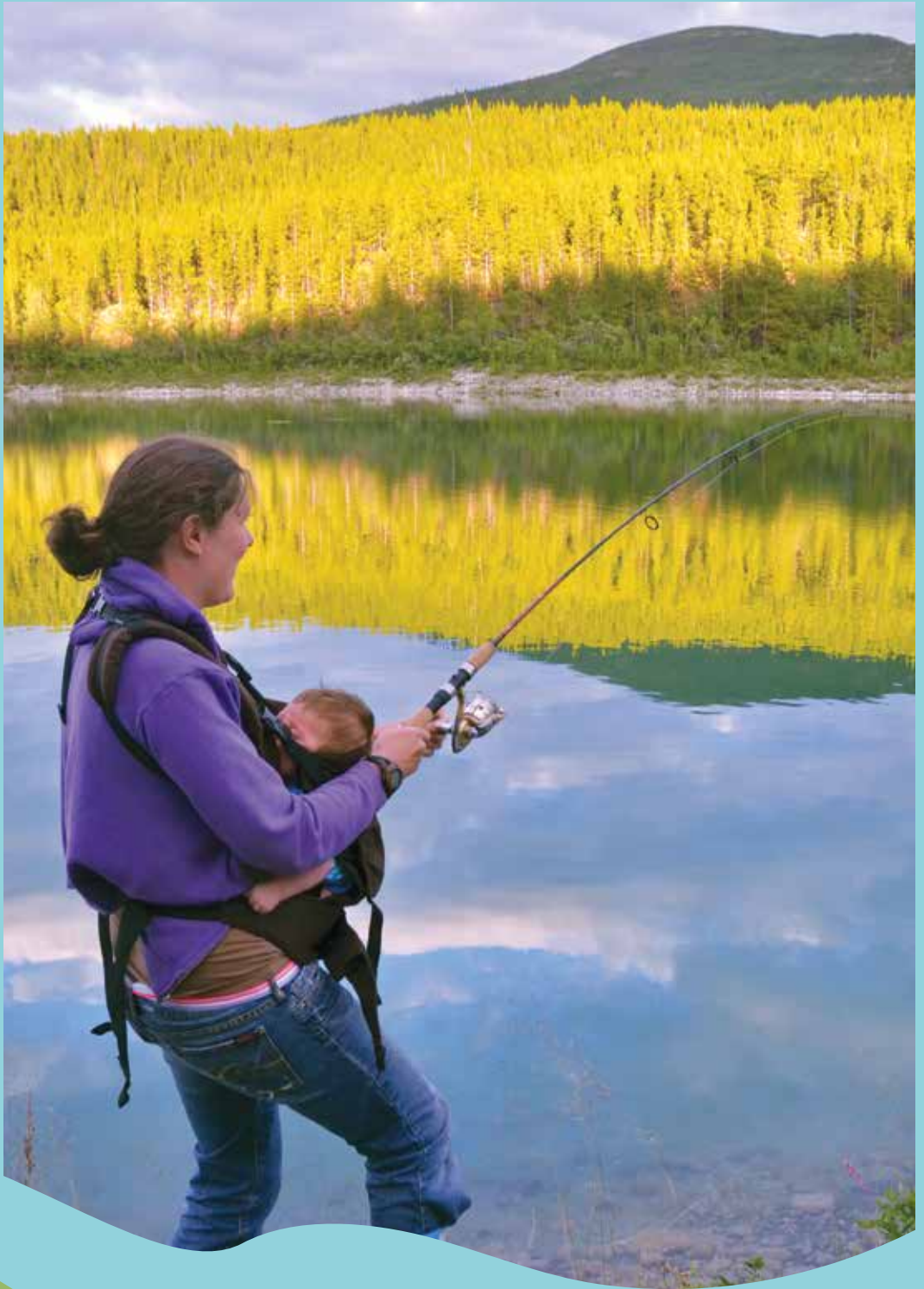


## Fishing with a spoon or spinner

Sometimes trout, char and kokanee prefer to chase a moving target. Small spoons and spinners are ideal lures for active fishing. Cast out to deeper water, or next to sunken trees, rocks or weeds, and let your lure sink until it's close to bottom. Reel in just quickly enough to make the spoon or spinner blade spin. Try giving it a little jerk, or pause occasionally – fish following your spinner might pounce when it changes speed. Spoons and spinners come in many different colours and patterns, so try a different colour if you don't have any luck at first. Because these lures rotate as you reel them in, they can eventually twist your line and make it tangle. To avoid this, tie a small barrel swivel into your line 30 to 60 cm (12 to 24 inches) above your lure.

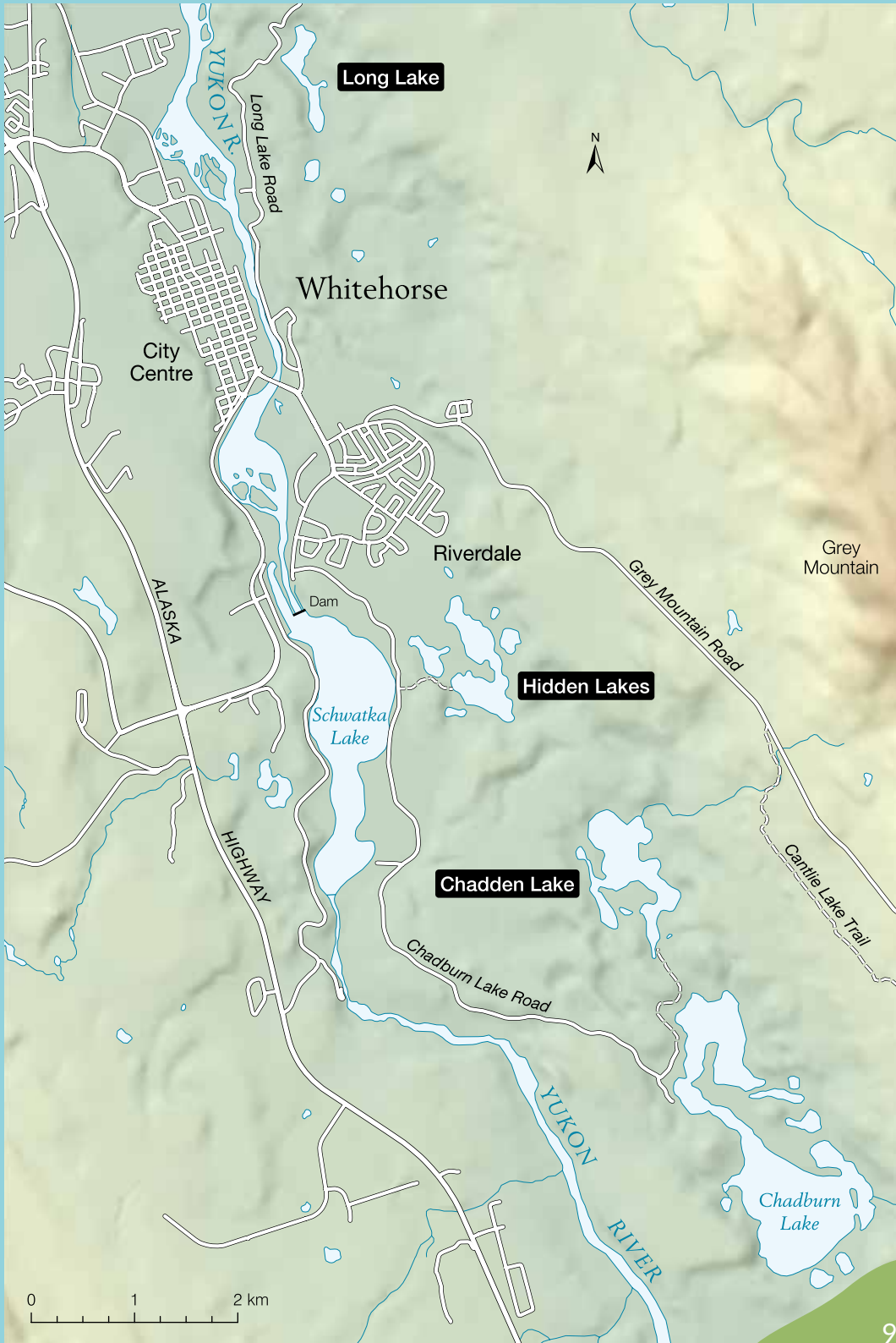


# Whitehorse area



Fishing for two  
at Scout Lake J. HEATH

# Whitehorse area



# Whitehorse area



Trail to  
Hidden Lakes  
D. ZIMMERMANN

## HIDDEN LAKES

rainbow trout  
kokanee  
Arctic char

Distance to Whitehorse: 5 km

Surface area: 34 ha (Hidden Lake 1); 4 ha (Hidden Lake 3)

Maximum depth: 20 m (Hidden Lake 1); 15 m (Hidden Lake 3)

Elevation: 665 m

### Getting there

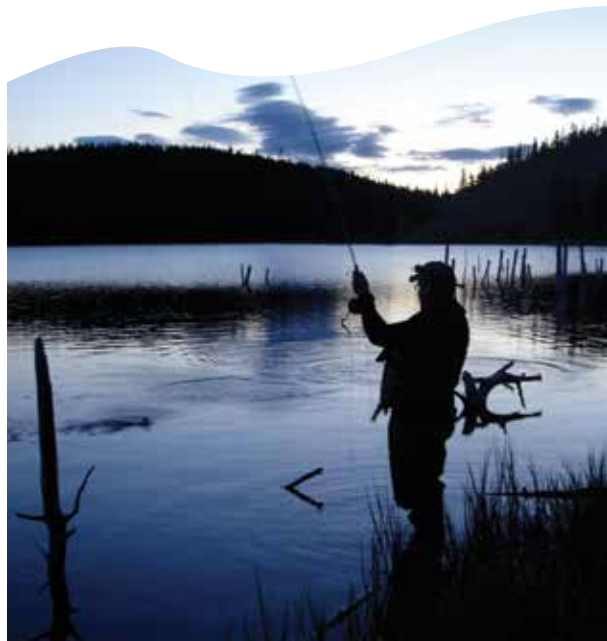
The Hidden Lakes are located across the bridge from downtown Whitehorse, behind the Riverdale subdivision. Follow the signs for the Whitehorse Rapids Fishway, turning left on Chadburn Lake Road just before the Fishway. A short side road beginning at km 1.7 of the Chadburn Lake Road leads to Hidden Lake 2. The road has been improved and

parking is available at the lake. A trail beginning at the south shore of Hidden Lake 2 leads to Hidden Lake 1 where it joins a path that runs around the lake and joins up with Hidden Lake 3. The path provides a complete view of this lake. A narrow rise of land separates Hidden Lakes 1 and 3.

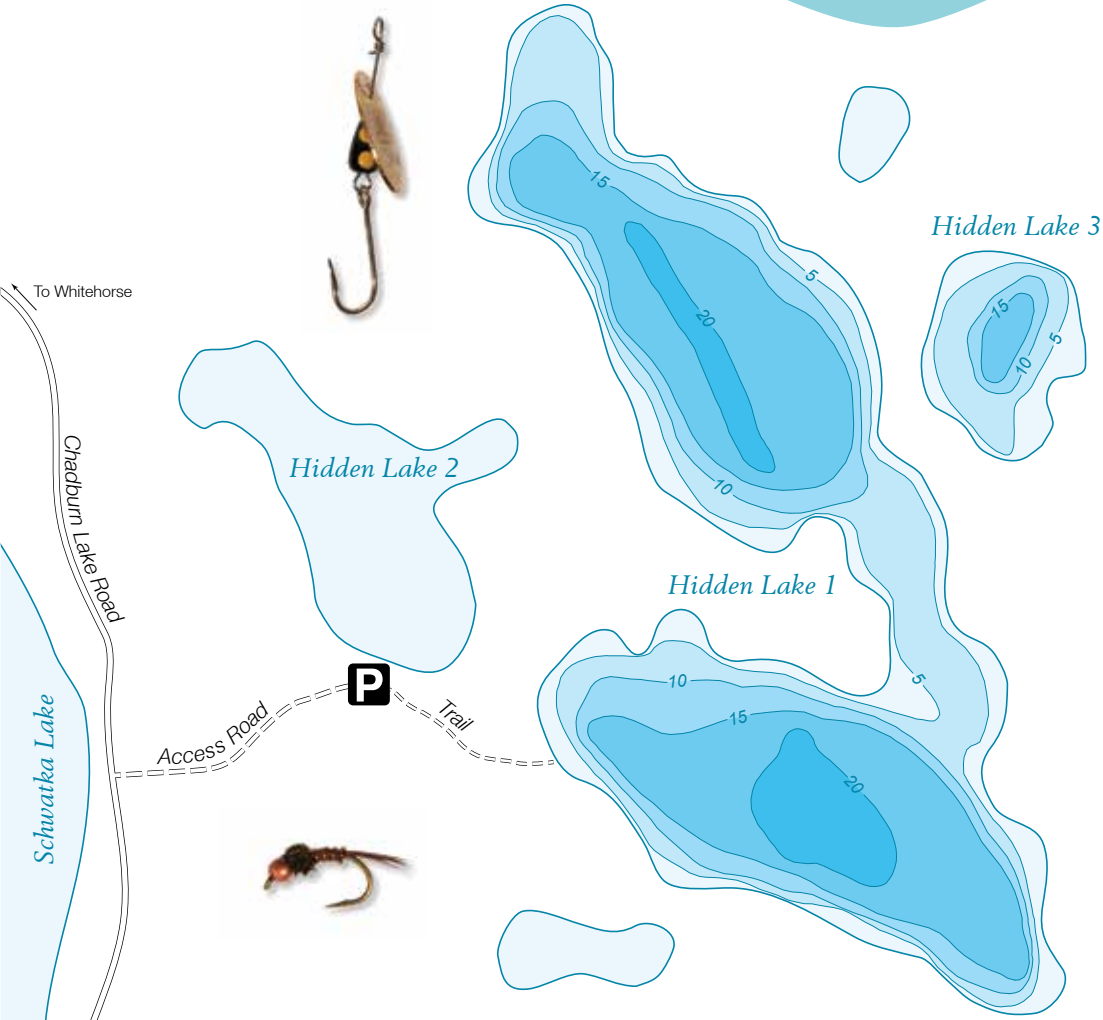
### Fishing there

Hidden Lake 1 is stocked with rainbow trout, kokanee and Arctic char, and Hidden Lake 3 is stocked with rainbow trout and Arctic char. The water table in this area rose after construction of the Whitehorse Dam in 1958, and the edges of Hidden Lakes 1 and 3 are lined with submerged forest. This provides excellent cover and feeding habitat for fish, but can make fishing from shore tricky. A canoe or belly boat can be useful for fishing in these lakes.

Try slowly trolling a lure or fly along the offshore edge of the submerged trees – trout and kokanee will often dart out from their hiding spots and grab it. Fishing with PowerBait from shore is another popular (and effective) method here. Hidden Lakes 1 and 3 are especially popular with Whitehorse residents during the spring ice fishing period. Hidden Lake 2 is not stocked, as it is too shallow for fish to survive the winter. Campfires are not permitted at Hidden Lakes.

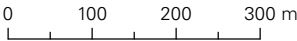


Fly fishing at Hidden Lakes  
D. ZIMMERMANN



## Hidden Lakes

DEPTH INTERVAL: 5 m



Hidden Lake shoreline  
D. ZIMMERMANN



# Whitehorse area



Chadden Lake YG PHOTO

## CHADDEN LAKE

rainbow trout  
Arctic char

Distance to Whitehorse: 11 km

Surface area: 55 ha

Maximum depth: 30 m

Elevation: 661 m

### Getting there

Chadden Lake is reached from the Chadburn Lake Road in the Riverdale subdivision, across the bridge from downtown Whitehorse. This road begins just before the Whitehorse Rapids Fishway. Drive 7.9 km to Chadburn Lake at the end of the road. A 1 km footpath connects the northwest corner

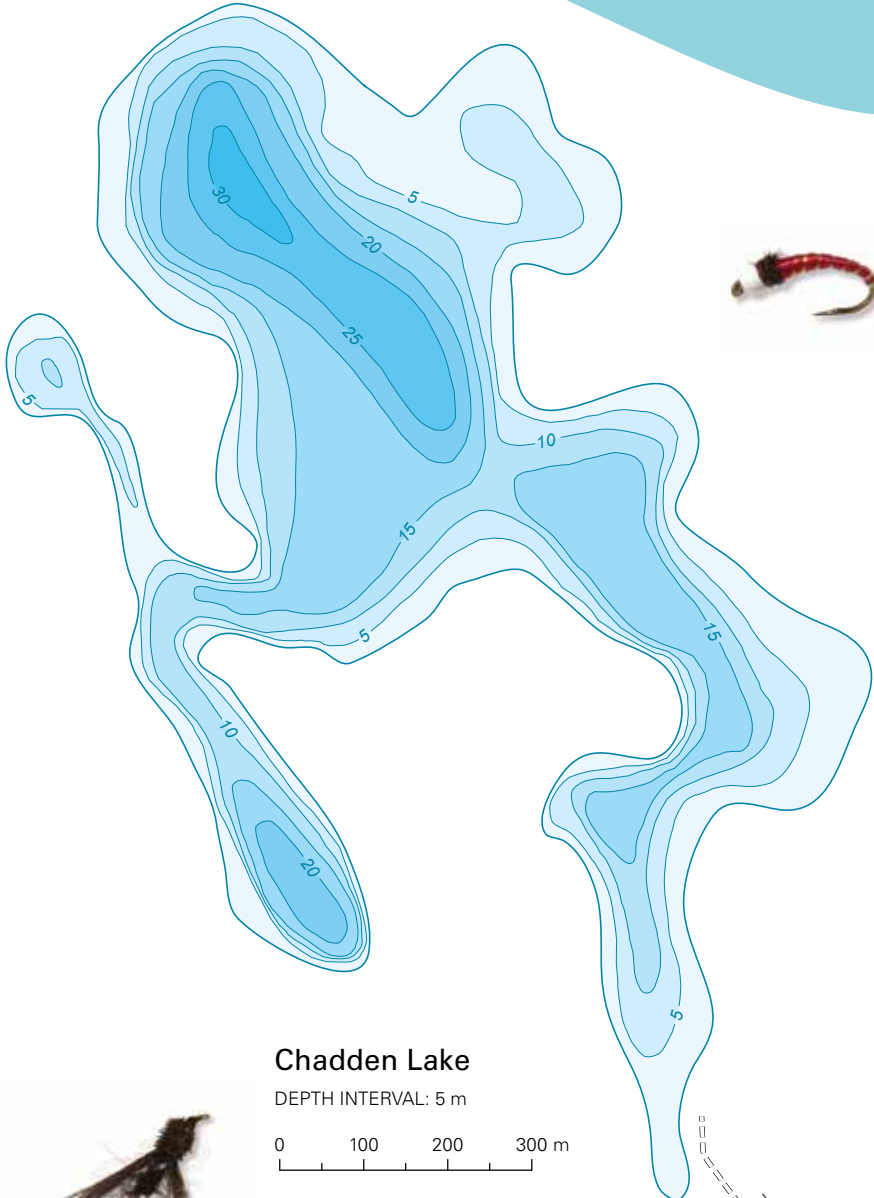
of Chadburn Lake to the south end of Chadden Lake. The path can be reached by canoe or by walking along the northwest shore of Chadburn Lake. You may want to portage a canoe over to Chadden Lake because much of the lake is ringed with partially submerged trees, making shore fishing difficult.

### Fishing there

Chadden Lake is stocked with rainbow trout and Arctic char. Rainbow trout up to 3 to 4 kg (7 to 9 lbs) have been taken from this lake. It's a popular fishing spot for Whitehorse anglers. Campfires are not permitted at Chadden Lake.

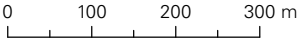


Late autumn rainbow trout YG PHOTO



**Chadden Lake**

DEPTH INTERVAL: 5 m



To Chadburn Lake  
(1 km)

# Whitehorse area



Stocked lake ice fishing D. ZIMMERMANN

## LONG LAKE

kokanee  
Arctic char

Distance to Whitehorse: 5 km

Surface area: 34 ha

Maximum depth: 15 m

Elevation: 665 m

### Getting there

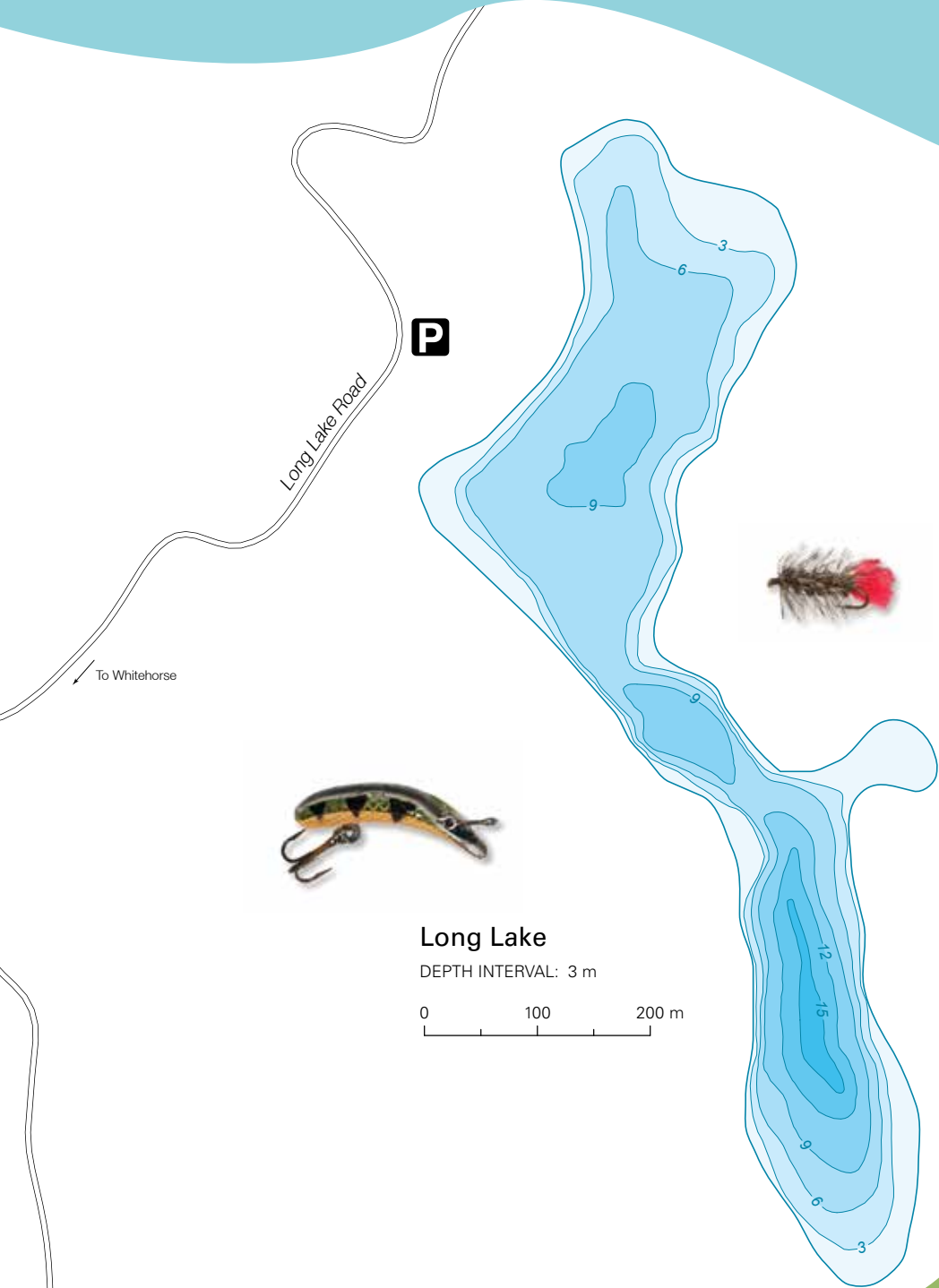
Long Lake is reached from Wickstrom Road, which starts just before the Whitehorse General Hospital across the bridge from downtown Whitehorse. Follow this road about 4 km until you see Long Lake on the right hand side. A well-beaten trail around the lake provides plenty of opportunities for shoreline fishing and hiking.

### Fishing there

Long Lake is stocked with kokanee and Arctic char. Look for schools of kokanee travelling along the shoreline drop-off. Long Lake also has a large population of three-spined sticklebacks. Campfires are not permitted at Long Lake.

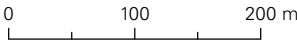






**Long Lake**

DEPTH INTERVAL: 3 m



# Whitehorse area



## CANTLIE LAKE

## Arctic char

Distance to Whitehorse: 13 km

Surface area: 217 ha

Maximum depth: 18 m

Elevation: 901 m

Arctic char in spawning colours YG PHOTO

### Getting there

Located behind Grey Mountain, the trail to Cantlie Lake begins on Grey Mountain Road in the Riverdale subdivision, across the bridge from downtown Whitehorse. The trail leading to Cantlie Lake branches off the right hand side of Grey Mountain Road at km 8, between the rifle range and the lookout. It's an old bulldozer trail, not recommended for full-size vehicles, not even four-wheel-drives. The lake is best accessed by foot, bike, ATV, snowmobile or air.

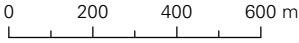
The distance from the Grey Mountain Road to the lake is 13 km. There are quite a few trails branching off from the Cantlie Lake trail. Just keep to the left and you'll be okay. There are three difficult, steep hills near the end of the trail so be careful.





## Cantlie Lake

DEPTH INTERVAL: 3 m



### Fishing there

Cantlie Lake is the largest stocked lake and is one of the few lakes where the stocked Arctic char are spawning successfully. Restocking has not been necessary. Cantlie Lake is a large lake, and using a belly boat or canoe can increase your fishing success. Spoons, spinners and streamer flies are all popular choices at Cantlie Lake. The larger char there feed on abundant lake chub, so lures that imitate these small minnows produce well. Ice fishing is a popular and productive method of catching char at Cantlie Lake.

Arctic char YG PHOTO



# Whitehorse area



Evening fishing at Scout Lake  
J. HEATH

## SCOUT LAKE

rainbow trout  
kokanee

Distance to Whitehorse: 32 km

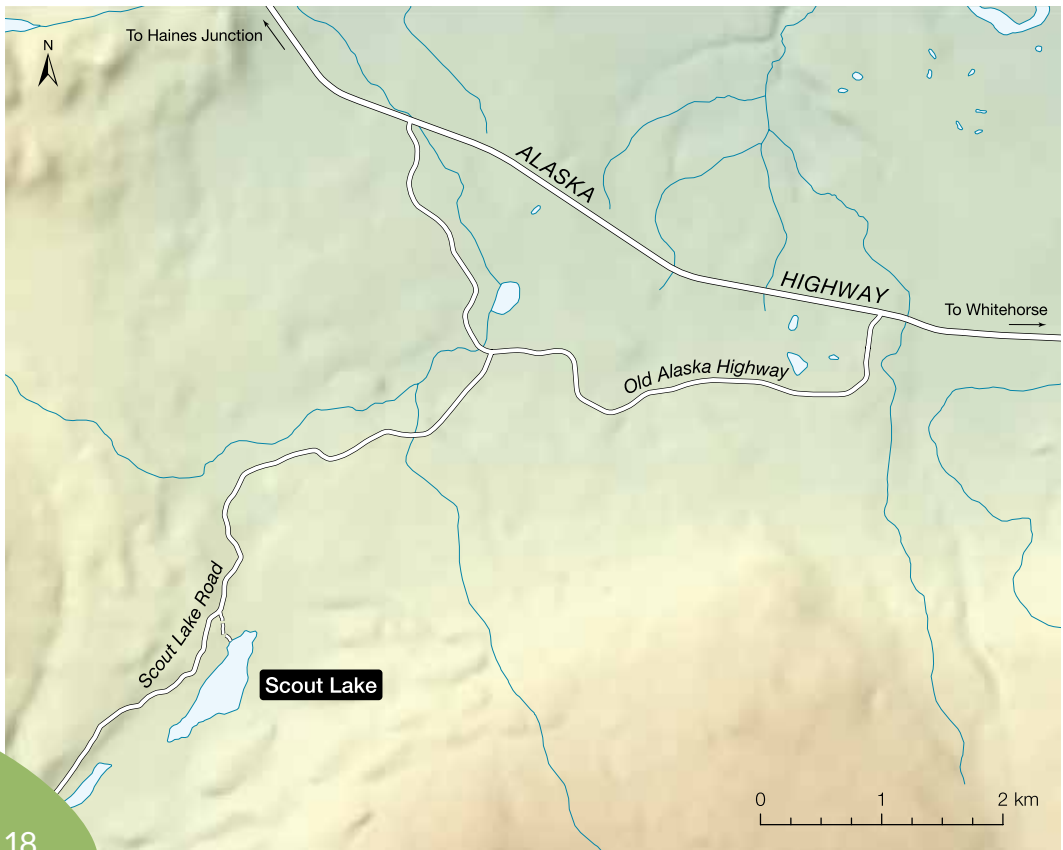
Surface area: 23 ha

Maximum depth: 22 m

Elevation: 877 m

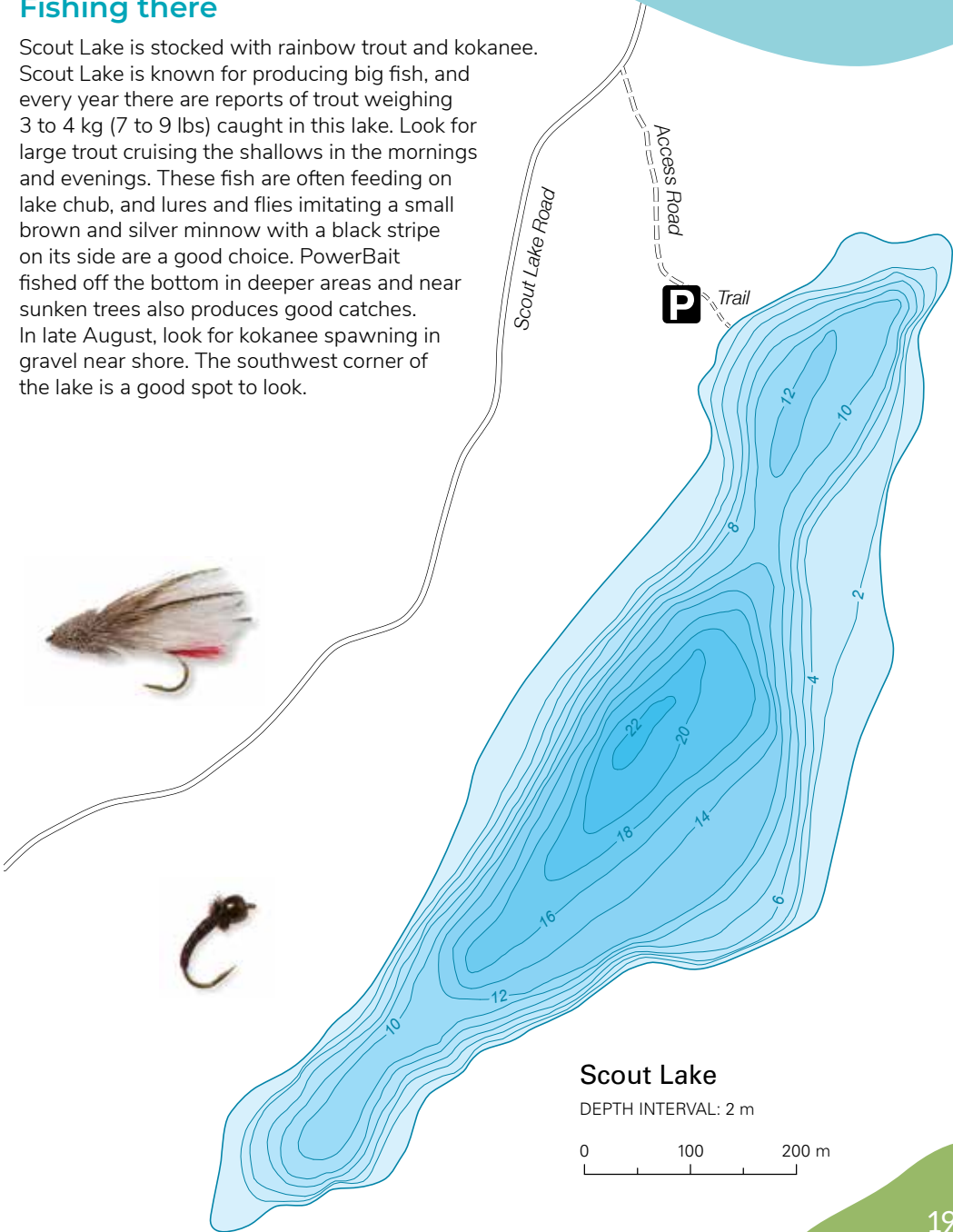
## Getting there

Scout Lake is off the Alaska Highway west of Whitehorse. From the city, take the Alaska Highway 6.7 km past the Klondike Highway junction and turn left (south) onto a section of the old Alaska Highway. Turn south at the gravel pit and follow the unmaintained road for 3.8 km, then take the left-hand fork in the road. It leads 200 m to a small parking area above the lake. A canoe can easily be dragged down to the lake. The shoreline is clear of trees making it easy to fish from shore.



## Fishing there

Scout Lake is stocked with rainbow trout and kokanee. Scout Lake is known for producing big fish, and every year there are reports of trout weighing 3 to 4 kg (7 to 9 lbs) caught in this lake. Look for large trout cruising the shallows in the mornings and evenings. These fish are often feeding on lake chub, and lures and flies imitating a small brown and silver minnow with a black stripe on its side are a good choice. PowerBait fished off the bottom in deeper areas and near sunken trees also produces good catches. In late August, look for kokanee spawning in gravel near shore. The southwest corner of the lake is a good spot to look.



# Whitehorse area



Rainbow trout  
D. ZIMMERMANN

## JUDAS LAKE

rainbow trout  
Arctic char

Distance to Whitehorse: 72 km

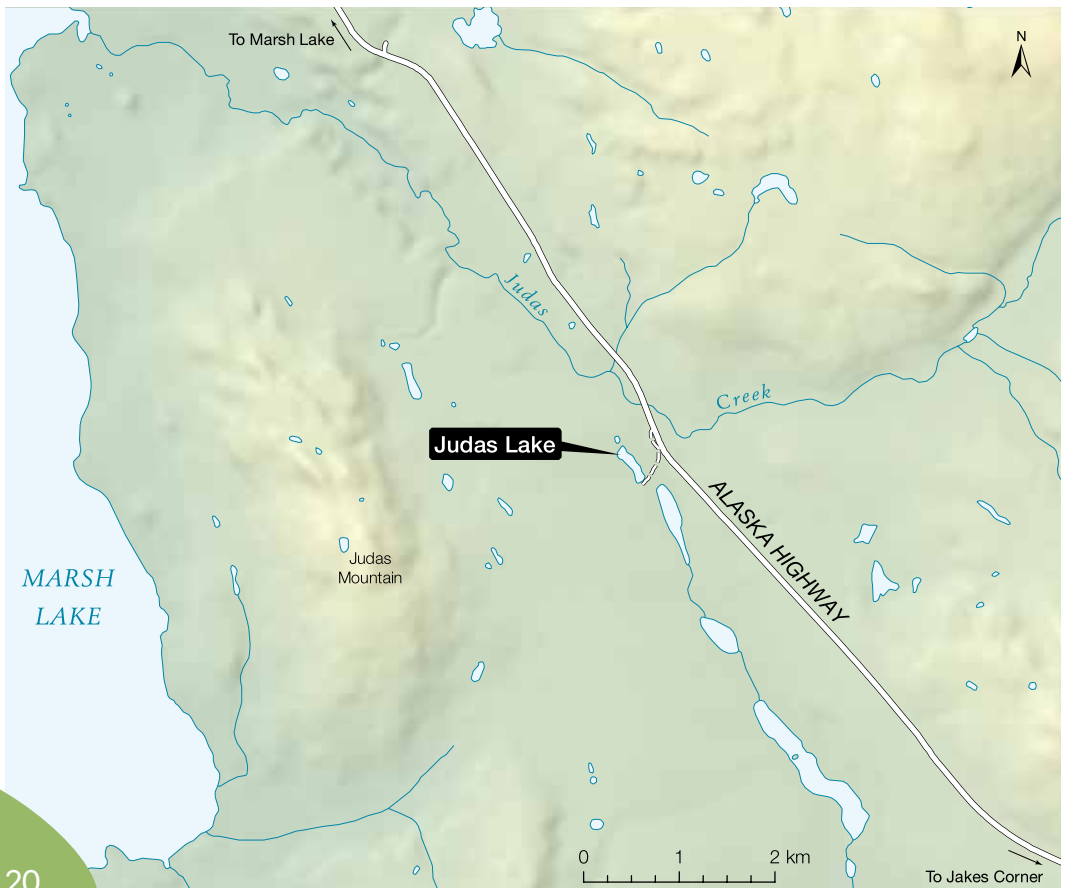
Surface area: 4 ha

Maximum depth: 12 m

Elevation: 732 m

## Getting there

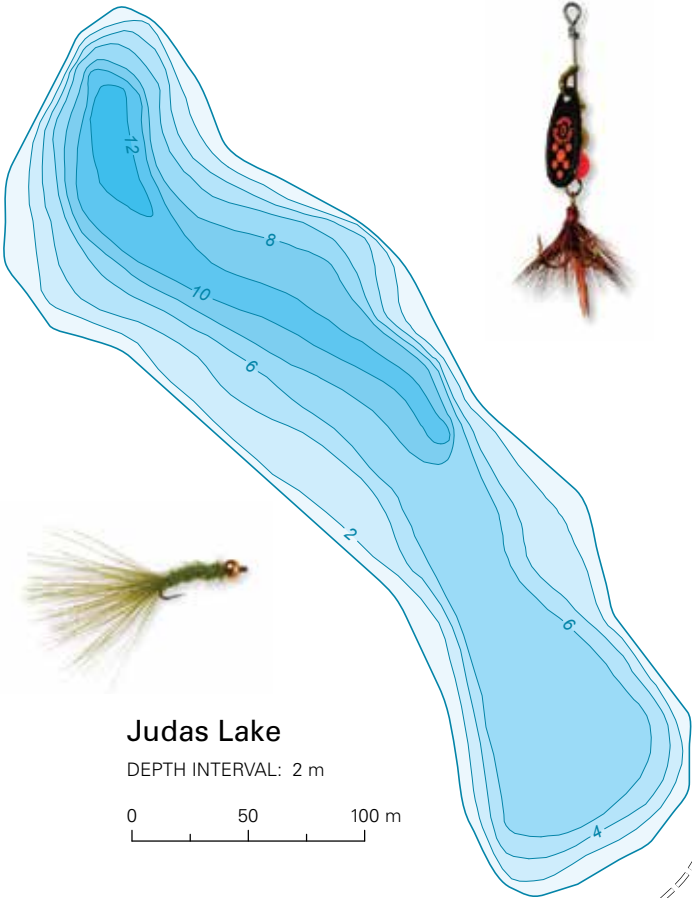
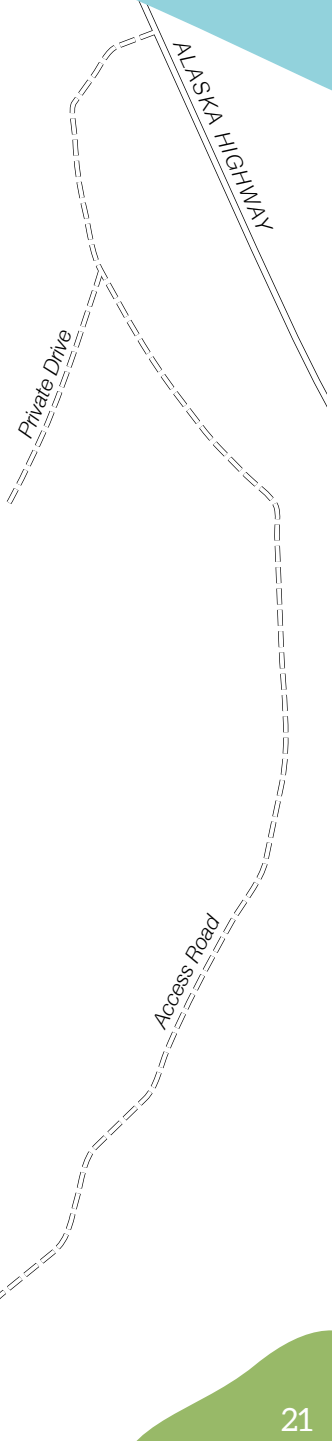
Judas Lake is reached from the Alaska Highway, 75 km south of Whitehorse. Follow the highway toward the south end of Marsh Lake to the point where Judas Creek crosses the highway. A short rough trail, easily visible on the west side of the highway, leads to Judas Lake. Stay on the trail that initially runs parallel with the highway.



### Fishing there

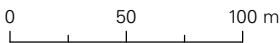
Judas Lake is stocked with rainbow trout and Arctic char. Anglers report good summer fishing. The small fish that you'll see in the shallows are lake chub, a great food source for the larger rainbows in the lake. Lures and flies that imitate lake chub are a good choice for catching big rainbows. The fallen trees and beaver lodges along the shore offer great cover and feeding areas for trout.

Be a good neighbour: Judas Lake is one of the few stocked lakes with private residences nearby. Please be thoughtful of people living near Judas Lake. Pack out all of your garbage, make sure to put out your campfire thoroughly if you build one, and don't build campfires if the forest is dry.



Judas Lake

DEPTH INTERVAL: 2 m



# Whitehorse area



Happy ice angler  
D. ZIMMERMANN

## SALMO LAKE

## rainbow trout

Distance to Whitehorse: 109 km

Surface area: 3 ha

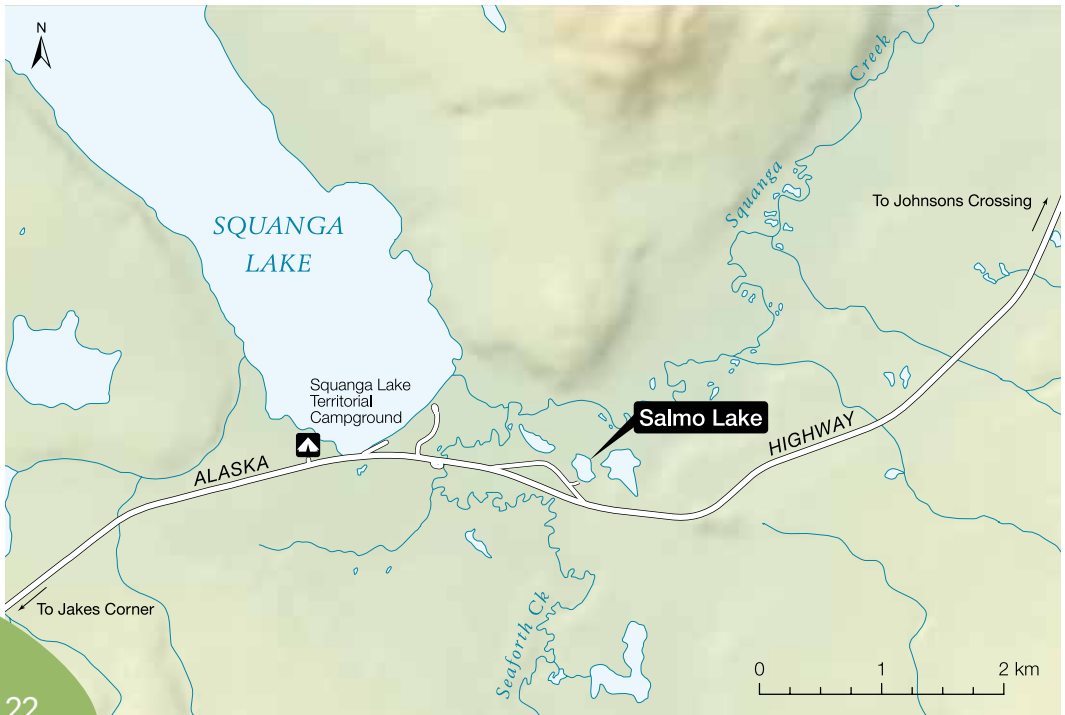
Maximum depth: 8 m

Elevation: 796 m

### Getting there

Salmo Lake is near Squanga Lake, at km 1368 on the Alaska Highway. It is the middle of the three small lakes on the north side of the highway. To reach Salmo Lake, turn on to the short piece of old Alaska Highway that has been bypassed by the new highway. A 100-metre trail leads to Salmo Lake.

The Government of Yukon maintains two bat houses at Salmo Lake – home to a colony of little brown bats. You can spot the houses on the northern shore among the trees. Anglers visiting Salmo Lake on summer evenings are likely to see both trout and bats feeding on the caddis flies and midges flying near the lake's surface.

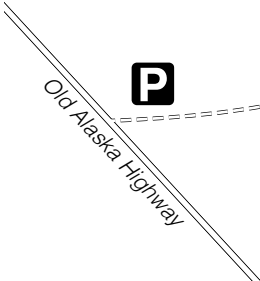




You can camp at the Squanga Lake campground and fish Squanga as well as Salmo Lake. Squanga Lake has wild populations of whitefish and Arctic grayling as well as an excellent northern pike fishery.

## Fishing there

Salmo Lake is stocked with rainbow trout. Flying insects are plentiful here, and fly-fishing anglers have reported good results. On calm summer evenings, fishing dry flies that imitate caddis flies can produce some exciting hits.



Trail

## Salmo Lake

DEPTH INTERVAL: 2 m



# Watson Lake area



Schooling kokanee in the shallows  
YG PHOTO

## HOURLAKE

rainbow trout  
kokanee

Distance to Watson Lake: 0 km

Surface area: 3 ha

Maximum depth: not available

Elevation: 689 m

## Getting there

Hour Lake lies within the Belleview subdivision in the town of Watson Lake. The best access is at the north-east corner of the lake, from Stubenberg Boulevard. From there, a trail extends along the east and south sides of the lake with access points for fishing.

## Fishing there

Hour Lake is stocked with rainbow trout and kokanee. Hour Lake has extensive shallows with a light-coloured bottom, and fish are easy to see. This lake is a great place to stalk big rainbow trout, particularly in the mornings and evenings as they cruise the shallows. These large fish are feeding on tiny insects and crustaceans, which are abundant in Hour Lake. Anglers have had good luck using very small flies, such as chironomid imitations, and light line to catch Hour Lake trout. If you don't have a fly rod, try using a small fly under a bobber. No matter how you fish, though, you'll have to be sneaky – in this clear, shallow water, trout can see you just as well as you can see them!





Mature male kokanee  
YG PHOTO

## LUCKY LAKE

rainbow trout  
kokanee

Distance to Watson Lake: 9 km

Surface area: 4 ha

Maximum depth: not available

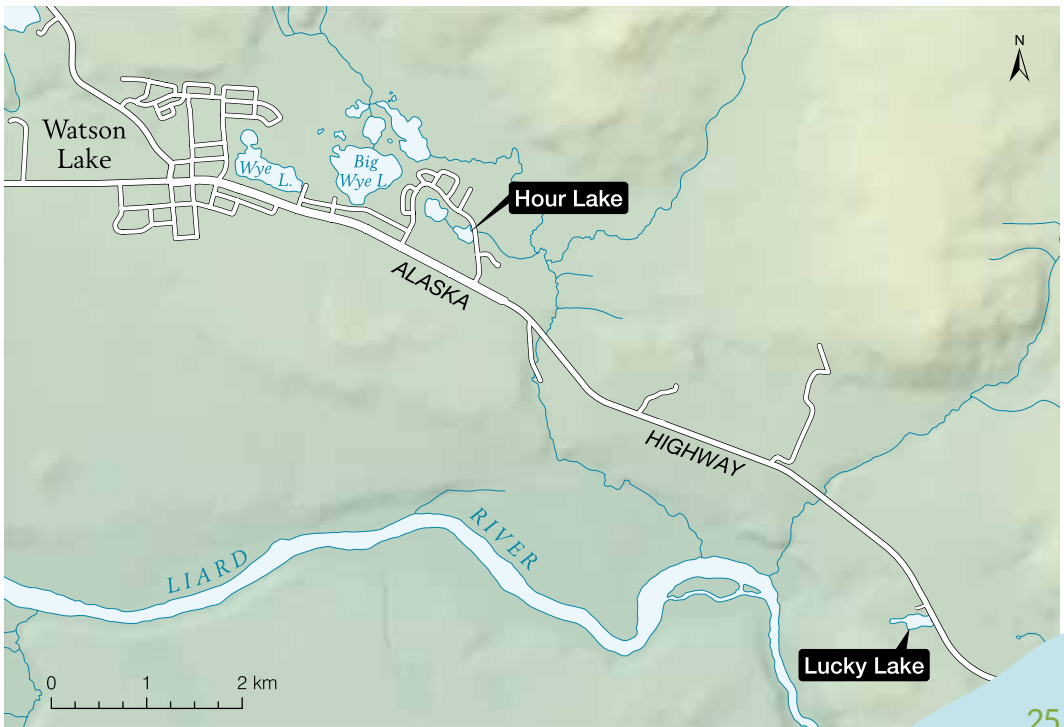
Elevation: 670 m

## Getting there

Lucky Lake is on the south side of the Alaska Highway about 9 km south of Watson Lake and is located right beside the road.

## Fishing there

Lucky Lake is stocked with rainbow trout and kokanee. It is easily fished from shore and there are many places to launch a canoe. Picnic tables and fire pits are available to enjoy a fresh meal. Try casting near shoreline vegetation – trout often hunt in these areas looking for insects and minnows. This lake is a popular recreation and swimming area, so please be careful with your hooks.



# Watson Lake area



Rainbow trout D. ZIMMERMANN

## RANTIN LAKE

## rainbow trout

Distance to Watson Lake: 21 km

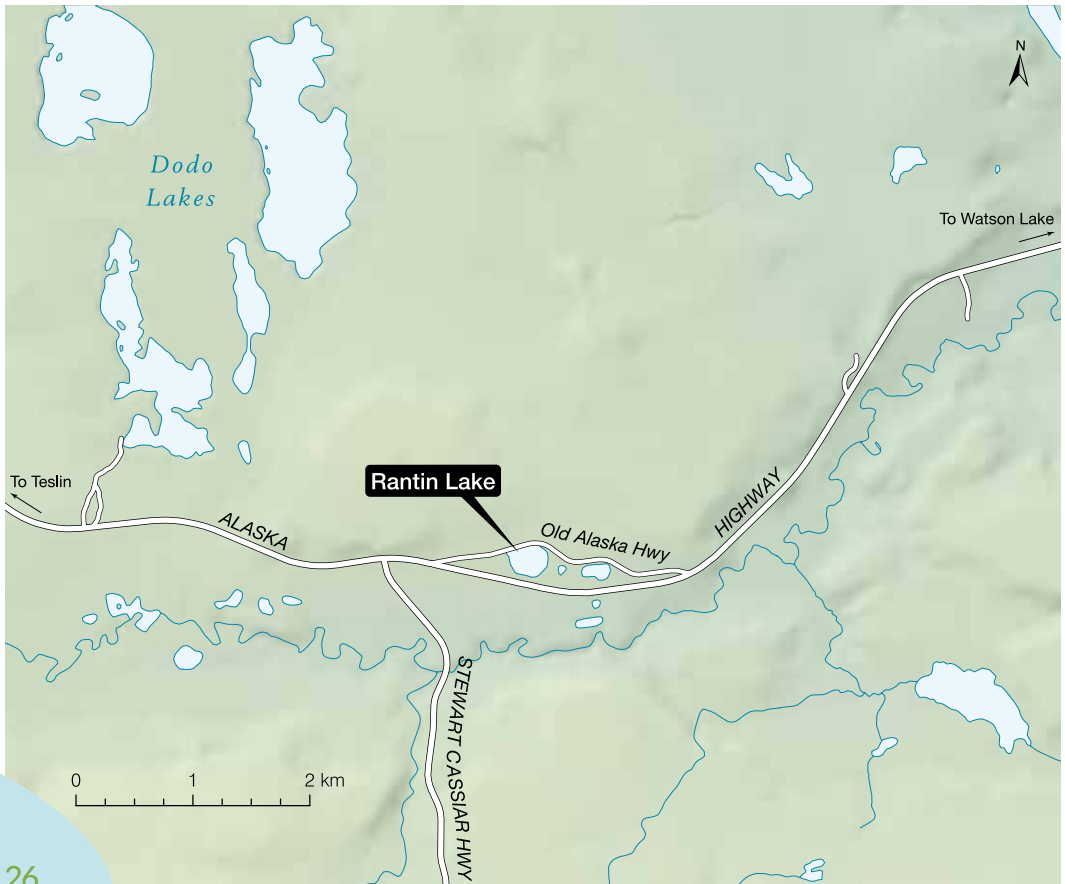
Surface area: 7 ha

Maximum depth: 12 m

Elevation: 723 m

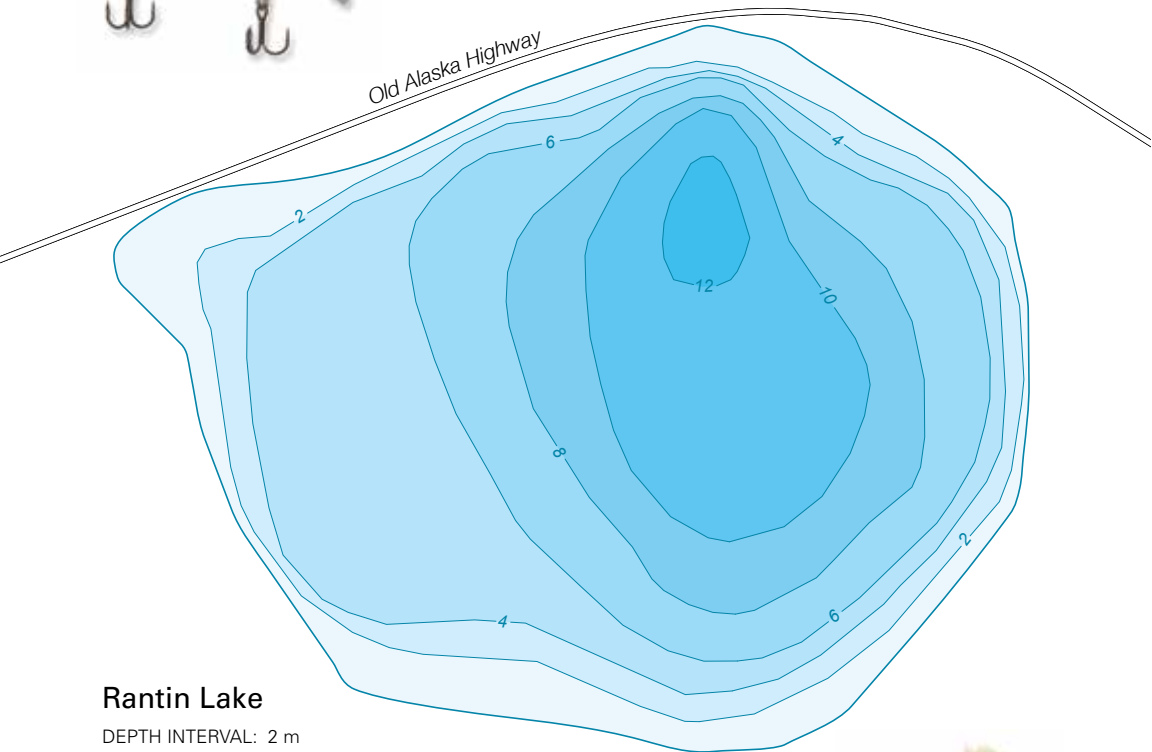
### Getting there

Rantin Lake is located about 1 km east of the Alaska and Stewart Cassiar highway junction, which is 15 km west of Watson Lake. It is visible from the road. In the summer anglers can reach the lake from a section of the old Alaska Highway where vehicles can be parked away from highway traffic. During winter, when the old highway is snowed over, Rantin Lake is accessed from the Alaska Highway.



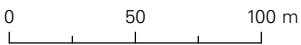
## Fishing there

Rantin Lake is stocked with rainbow trout. About half of the lake can be fished from shore. A small boat or canoe can be easily launched at several points. Rantin Lake contains a healthy population of lake chub, and larger rainbows grow quickly once they start eating these small fish. Lake chub are brown and silver, with a black stripe down their sides, and are 5 to 10 cm (2 to 4 inches) long. Try using lures or streamer flies that imitate these small fish. Rantin Lake also has a healthy population of longnose sucker.



### Rantin Lake

DEPTH INTERVAL: 2 m



ALASKA HIGHWAY

# Watson Lake Area



Arctic char at Veronica Lake J. HOOPER

## VERONICA LAKE

kokanee  
Arctic char

Distance to Watson Lake: 106 km

Surface area: 14 ha

Maximum depth: not available

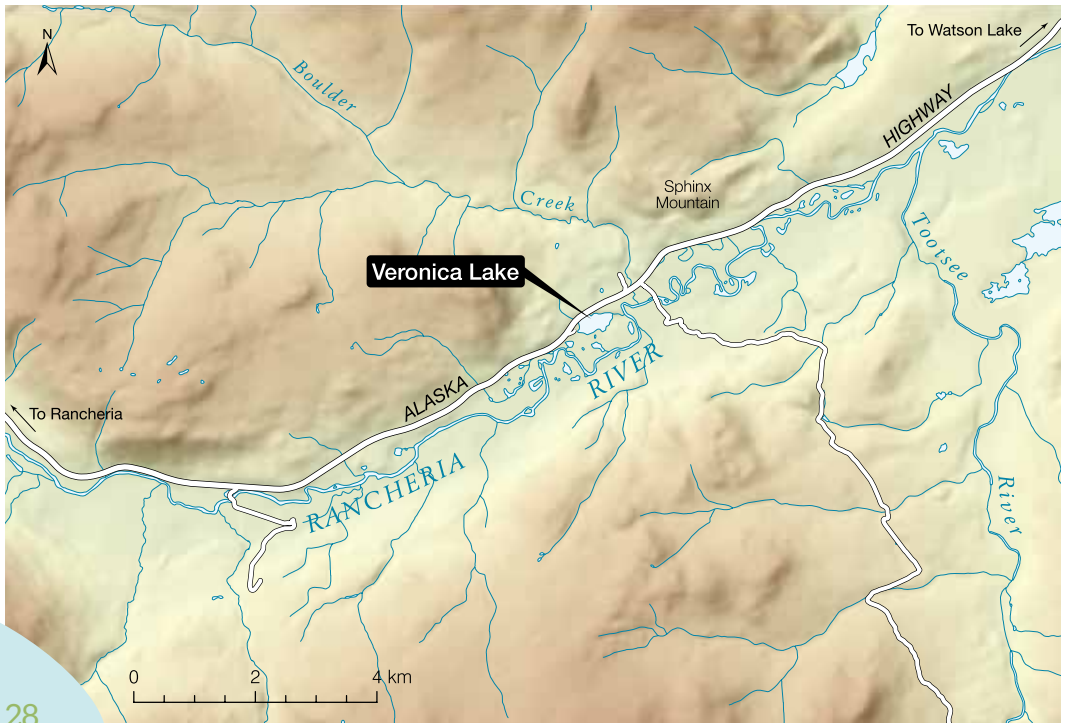
Elevation: 861 m

### Getting there

Veronica Lake is located on the south side of the Alaska Highway approximately 12 km southwest of Rancheria. Just pull off the highway and park beside the lake. You must walk down a steep hill to get to the lake, but fishing is easy from shore.

### Fishing there

Veronica Lake is stocked with kokanee and Arctic char. You should be able to spot schools of kokanee swimming along the lake margins. Try small spinners, flies or PowerBait for kokanee, and larger spoons for Arctic char.



## HOW DO WE STOCK A LAKE?

The first step to stocking a lake for recreational fishing is to choose an appropriate lake. There are hundreds of pothole lakes across Yukon but few meet the criteria for stocking. Selected lakes must have no existing game fish populations, and no inlet or outlet which could allow the stocked fish to escape. They must also have sufficient food sources to support a population and be deep enough to allow the fish to survive the winter.



Collecting rainbow trout eggs



Fry at Whitehorse Rapids Fish Hatchery



Releasing fry at Long Lake YG PHOTOS

The next step is to produce fish fry (juvenile fish) to be released. From the 1940s to the late 1990s, southern hatcheries supplied rainbow trout fry. In 1997, the Government of Yukon funded an expansion of the Whitehorse Rapids Fish Hatchery, which until then housed only Chinook salmon fry for release in the Yukon River. This expansion provided space for the hatching and rearing of native freshwater species to supply a Yukon-wide stocking program.

Currently, Whitehorse Rapids Fish Hatchery produces rainbow trout and kokanee fry from Yukon brood stock. The rainbow trout are from Kathleen River, and the kokanee from Kathleen Lake. We are proud to be raising local fish for stocking in Yukon lakes.

The process of producing fry for release begins with adult brood stock. These fish are gently stripped of eggs or sperm, which are carefully mixed to fertilize the eggs. The eggs are set in trays, and kept covered with cold, oxygenated water in the hatchery. The eggs are incubated for 6 to 8 weeks until they hatch. After hatching, the fry are carefully fed until they reach 2 to 5 grams, big enough for release. Small quantities of fry are transported in collapsible water jugs or large containers in the back of trucks, and released by hand from shore. Larger quantities are transported in enormous metal buckets by helicopter.

The Government of Yukon maintains stocked lakes near many Yukon communities. Assessment work for additional stocked lakes is ongoing. If you know of a pothole lake near your community that may have potential for stocking, let us know. If you would like to volunteer to assist in lake stocking work, please contact the Fisheries Unit at 867-667-5721.



Stocked lake autumn colours  
YG PHOTO

## GLORIA LAKE II

rainbow trout  
Arctic char

Distance to Carmacks: 17 km

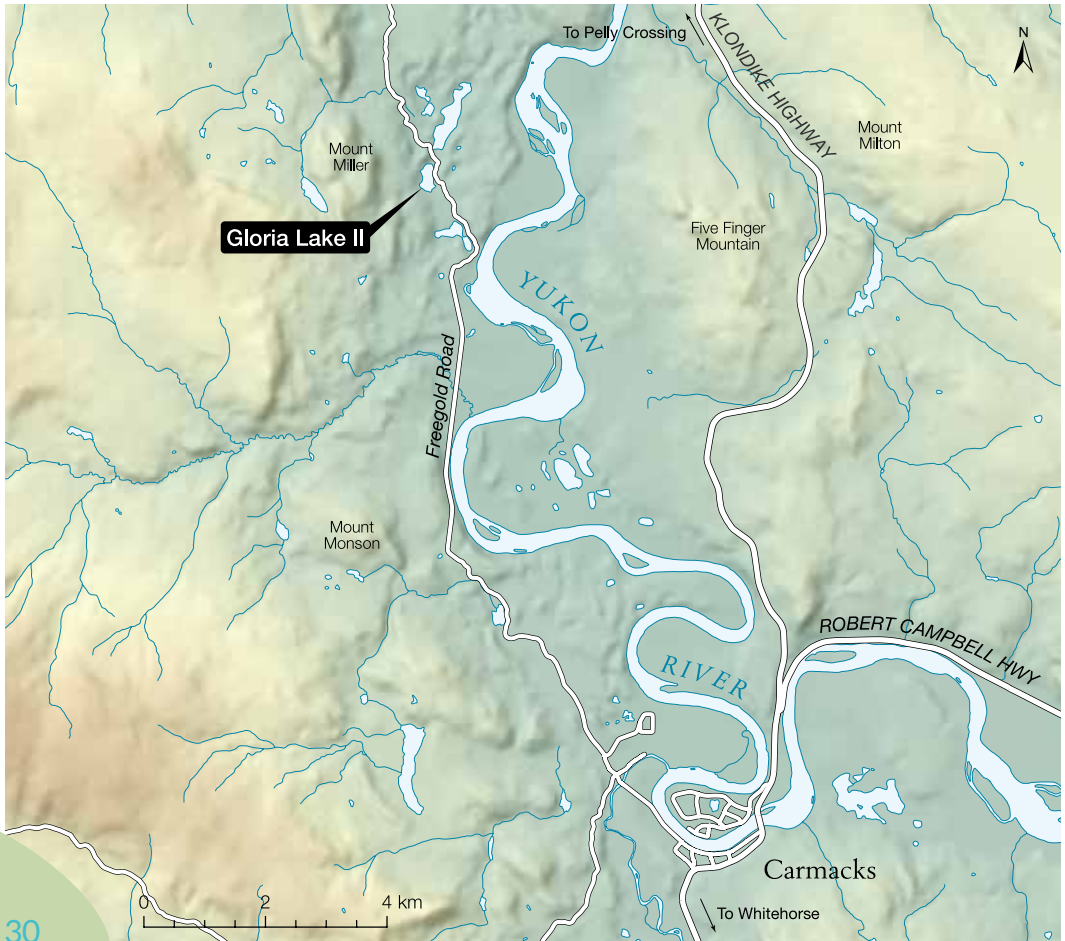
Surface area: 9 ha

Maximum depth: 20 m

Elevation: 507 m

### Getting there

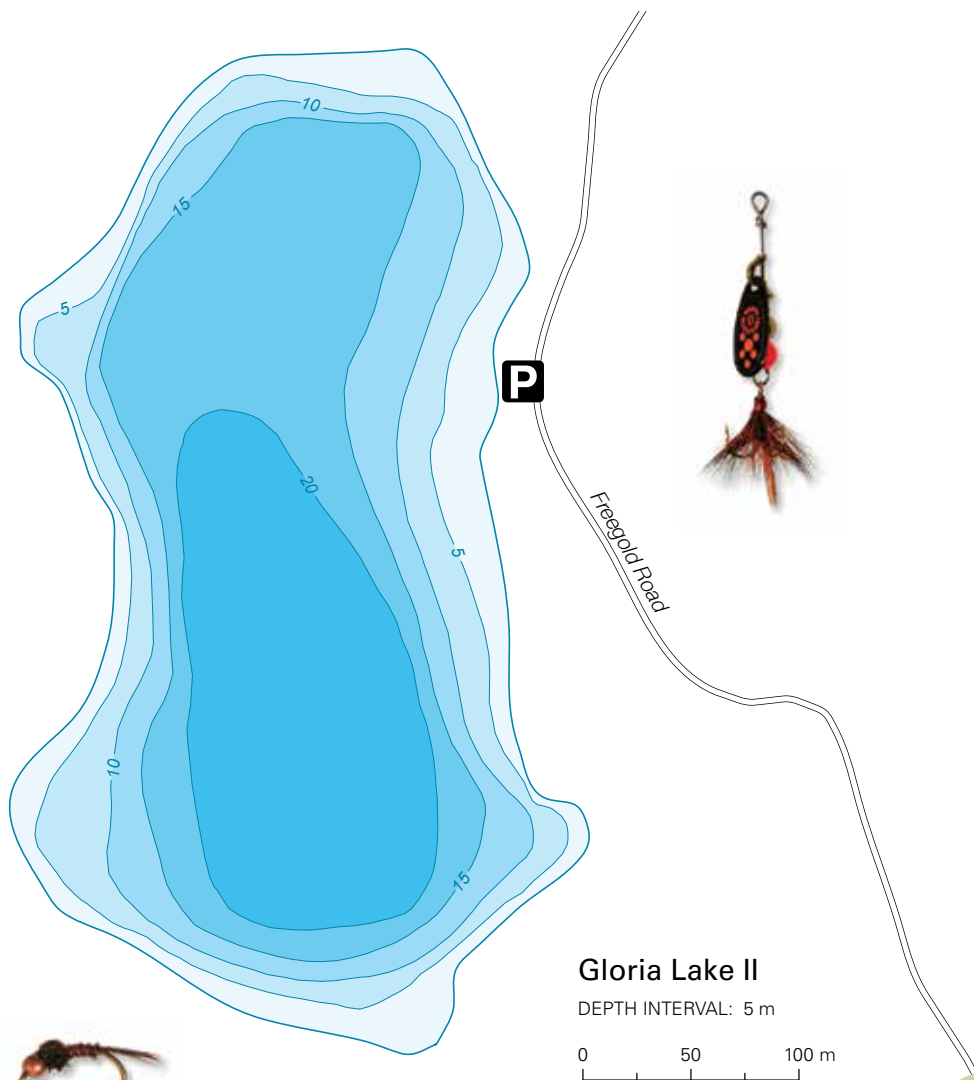
Gloria Lake II is the second lake that you see on the left-hand side when travelling up the Freegold Road, about 14 km north of Carmacks. The first lake is similar in size but is too shallow for stocking.





## Fishing there

Gloria Lake II is stocked with rainbow trout and Arctic char. Anglers report good luck catching rainbows in the 1 to 2 kg (2 to 4 lbs) range. A gentle slope at the north end of the lake provides the easiest access route for launching a small boat, but a boat is not necessary. The shoreline is clear enough to walk around and to permit casting. The water is very clear, and with any luck, you should be able to spot rainbow trout cruising along the drop-off near shore. Try fishing the deeper water beyond the drop-off, or near the weedy shallows at the north and south ends of the lake.





Rainbow trout YG PHOTO

## WRONG LAKE

## rainbow trout

Distance to Stewart Crossing: 28 km

Surface area: 8 ha

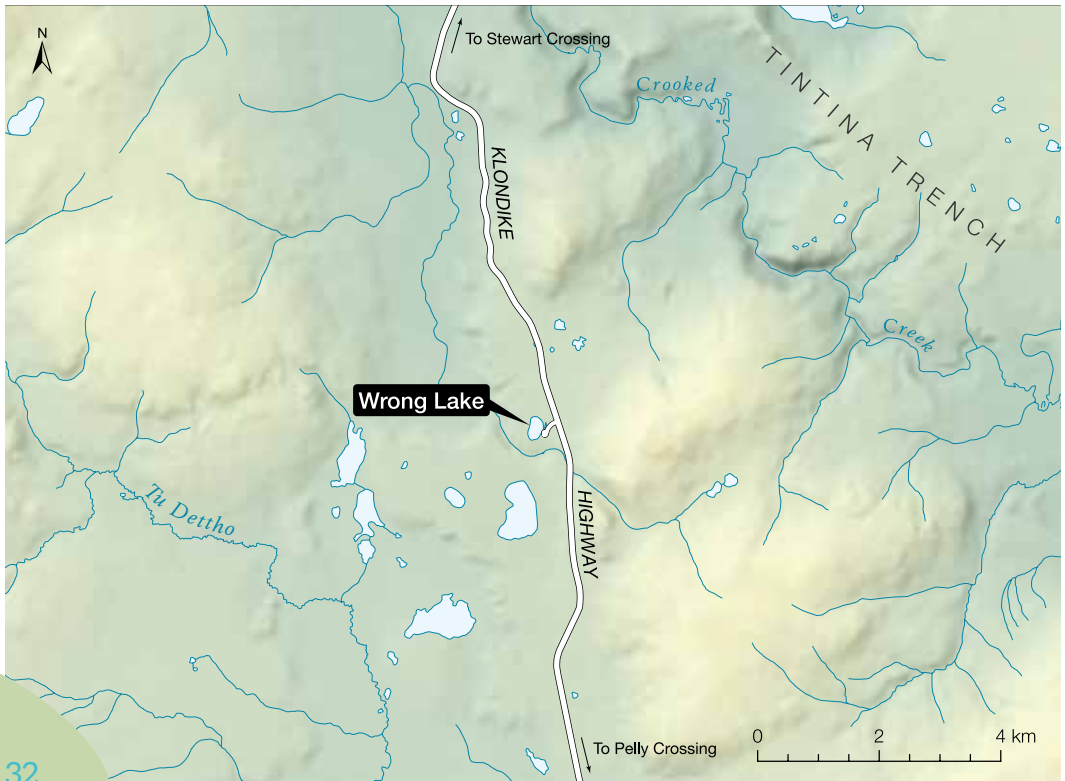
Maximum depth: 6 m

Elevation: 742 m

### Getting there

Wrong Lake is on the west side of the Klondike Highway, about 28 km south of Stewart Crossing or 41 km north of Pelly Crossing. This lake is very small and hard to find. Some anglers have confused Wrong Lake with the larger, more visible lake 1 km to the south.

The access road to Wrong Lake begins at a gravel pit on the west side of the Klondike Highway. The road is used by Government of Yukon water trucks and is well-maintained through the summer. The closest landmark is a small cabin on the east side of the highway 2.5 km to the south. Parking is available and it's a nice spot for a day of angling.





## Fishing there

Wrong Lake is stocked with rainbow trout. You'll find the rainbows swimming in the weedy shallows around the lake. Try casting near lily-pad beds. These shady spots provide food and cover, and are a good place to find trout.

Calm waters and autumn colours  
YG PHOTO





Mature  
kokanee  
YG PHOTO

## FISHEYE LAKE

rainbow trout  
kokanee

Distance to Faro: 13 km

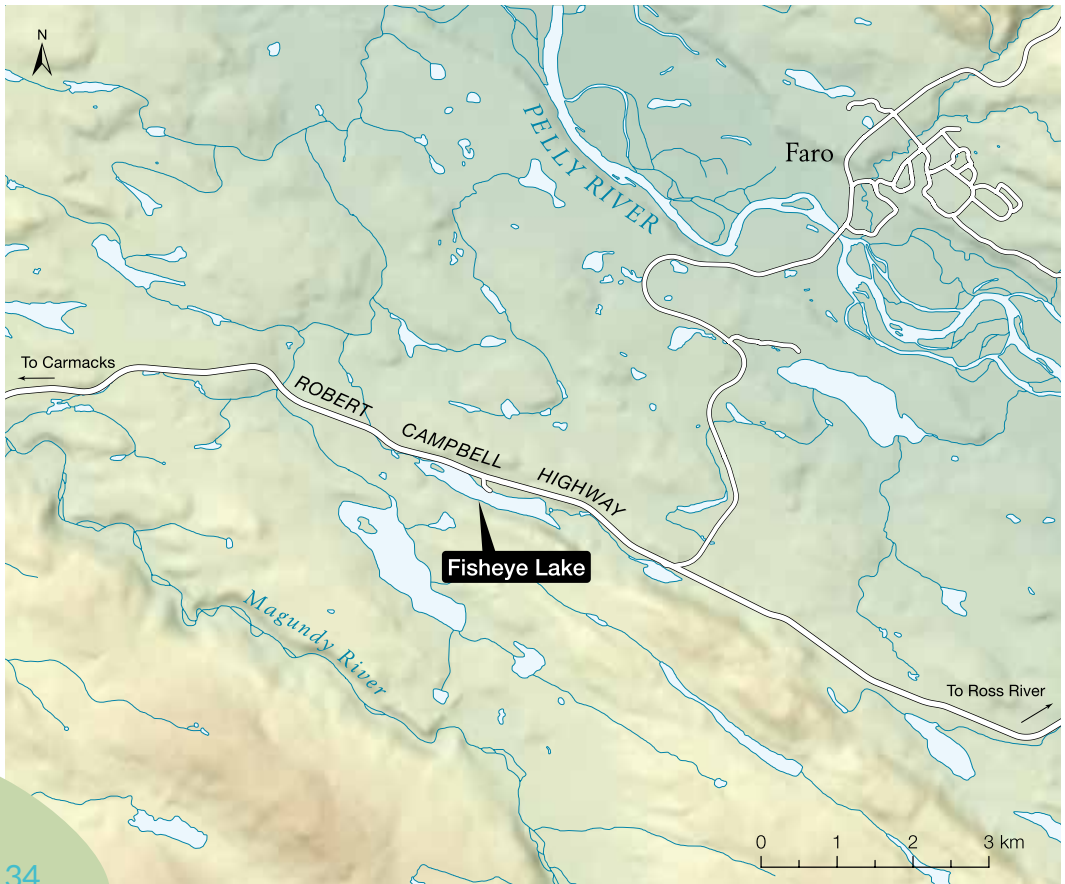
Surface area: 40 ha

Maximum depth: 20 m

Elevation: 784 m

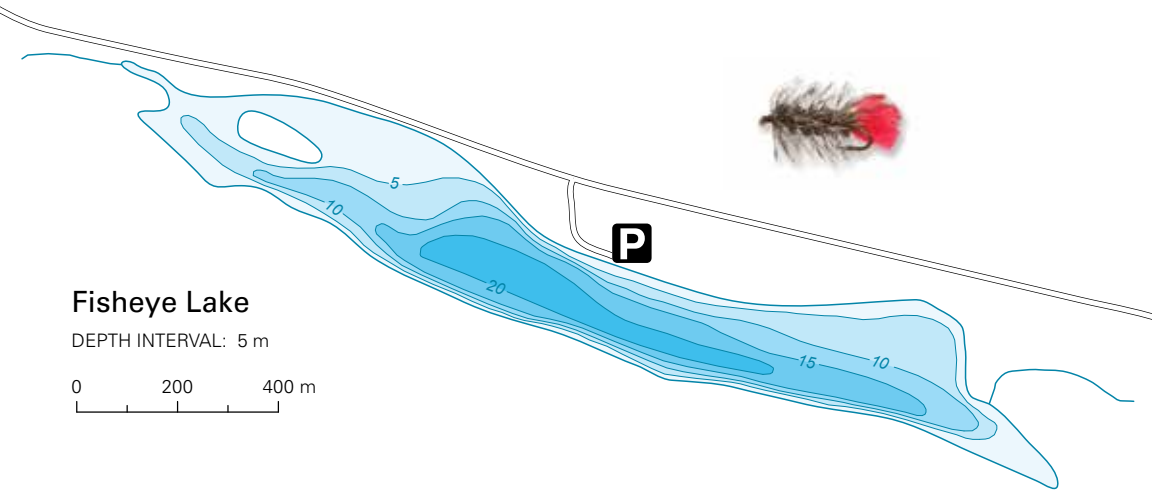
### Getting there

Fisheye Lake is located on the south side of the Robert Campbell Highway at km 416, about 2.5 km west of the Faro turnoff. It is visible from the road. A short access road leads to the lake and provides parking. This is a large lake, easily accessible by boat. Government campgrounds are located nearby at Johnson Lake and Drury Creek.



## Fishing there

Fisheye Lake is stocked with rainbow trout and kokanee and produces good catches during summer and winter. There are picnic tables and fire pits available for shore lunches. Fisheye is also a great lake for viewing fish. From late August to early September, the kokanee school in various locations as they get ready to spawn, and the rainbows cruise just off the drop-off. Get your canoe out and go have a look.



Fisheye Lake in September  
YG PHOTO





Kokanee  
YG PHOTO

## COFFEE LAKE

kokanee

Distance to Ross River: 22 km

Surface area: 136 ha

Maximum depth: not available

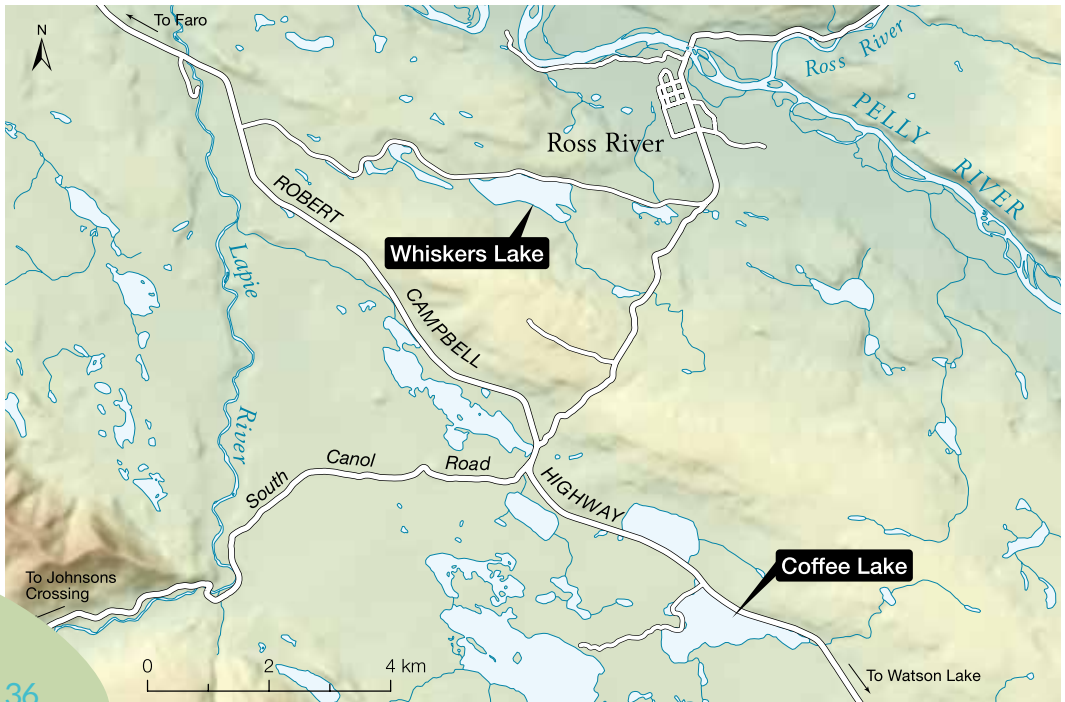
Elevation: 814 m

## Getting there

Coffee Lake is located at km 350 of the Robert Campbell Highway. This large lake is found on the south side of the highway and has two access roads. The first access road follows the backside of the lake and ends at a rustic boat launch. This road gets very muddy in the summer. The second access is at a lakeside pull-off. A boat launch is also available. Ample parking is available at both sites.

## Fishing there

Coffee Lake is stocked with kokanee and provides great angling opportunities. The lake has been producing some big fish, with a few kokanee reaching more than 1.5 kg (3 lbs).





Releasing Arctic char  
YG PHOTO

## WHISKERS LAKE

rainbow trout  
Arctic char

Distance to Ross River: 5 km

Surface area: 73 ha

Maximum depth: 30 m

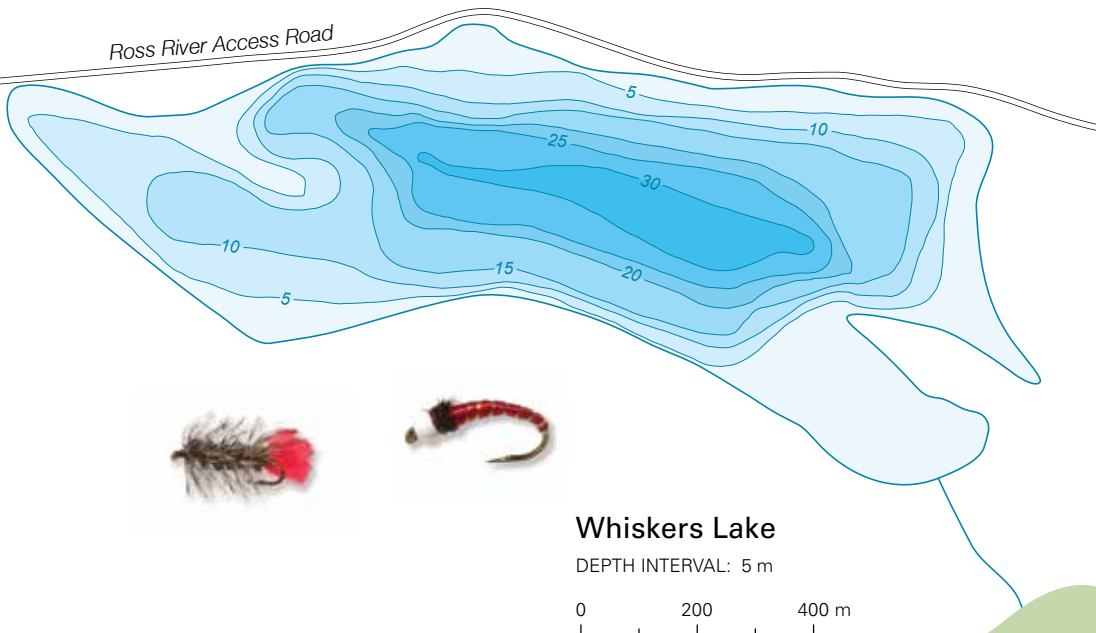
Elevation: 783 m

### Getting there

Whiskers Lake is a large, deep lake on the south side of the Ross River access road, about 2 km from the Canol Road. Since the steep shoreline provides few opportunities for shore fishing, a small boat or canoe is recommended. The easiest place to launch a boat is at the west end of the lake.

### Fishing there

Whiskers Lake is stocked with rainbow trout. Local anglers have reported good results on this lake during the ice fishing season as well as the open-water period. Whiskers Lake has a history of Arctic char stocking, with the last release of char occurring in 1999. Anglers are still catching Arctic char in Whiskers Lake, evidence that the char may be reproducing naturally.



# Central Yukon



Rainbow trout  
YG PHOTO

## HALDANE LAKE

rainbow trout  
Arctic char

Distance to Mayo: 58 km

Surface area: 10 ha

Maximum depth: not available

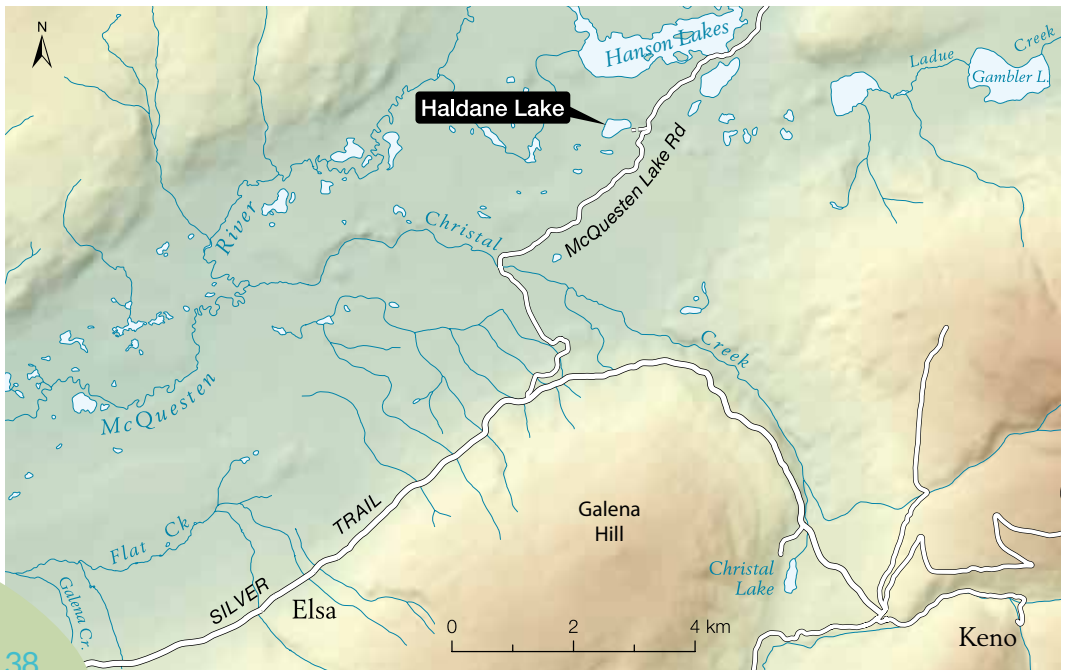
Elevation: 691 m

## Getting there

Haldane Lake is off the beaten track between Elsa and Keno. Drive about 5 km from Elsa towards Keno and turn left onto the McQuesten Lake Road. This is a rough and narrow road with several steep grades, best suited to pick-up trucks or four-wheel-drives. Continue for about 9 km until Haldane Lake is visible to the west (left). A short trail provides easy access from the road.

## Fishing there

Haldane Lake is stocked with rainbow trout and Arctic char. Since the shoreline of Haldane Lake is wet, muddy and heavily overgrown, a boat is recommended. Haldane Lake is one of the more remote stocked lakes, and light fishing pressure there allows many trout to grow for years before being caught. We have had reports of some extremely large trout coming out of Haldane Lake.







A calm day at Pocket Lake  
YG PHOTO

## POCKET LAKE

## Arctic char

Distance to Carmacks: 66 km

Surface area: 6.3 ha

Maximum depth: not available

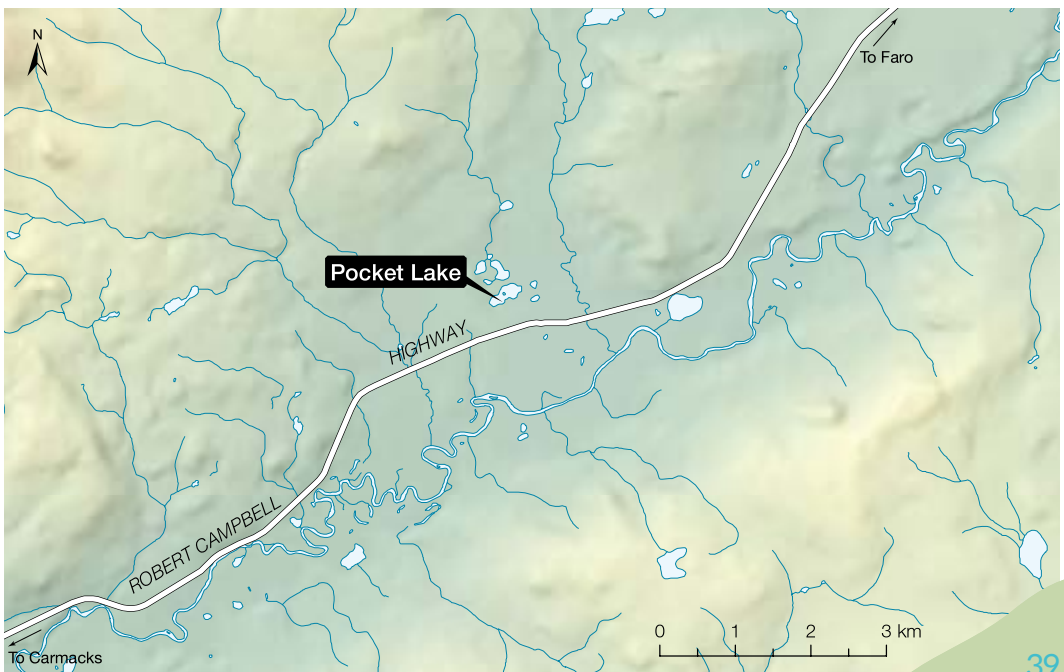
Elevation: 610 m

### Getting there

Pocket Lake is located approximately 63 km from the Robert Campbell Highway turnoff near Carmacks, Yukon. There is a cleared flat gravel area on the left side of the highway, with ample space to park vehicles. Follow the quad trail until it narrows and begins to head downhill. This trail will lead you down to the lake.

### Fishing there

Pocket Lake was stocked with Arctic char in spring of 2019. Anglers will be able to catch fish large enough to harvest fish approximately one to two years after that date. The lake has a high abundance of aquatic invertebrates for fish to feed on, and has the potential to grow large Arctic char.



## Live release

Live release is a valuable conservation tool when you're angling for wild fish. Stocked fish, however, are there to provide you with a good meal as well as an enjoyable experience. If you plan on releasing the fish you catch, here's how you can reduce the mortality rate or risk of injury to the fish.

- Handle the fish gently. When holding the fish, fully support the belly and the tail while avoiding the gills.
- Use single-pointed barbless hooks.
- Minimize the time the fish spends out of the water.
- Release the fish gently, holding it upright underwater until it's ready to swim away.
- Use artificial lures.
- Cut the line from deep-hooked fish.

**For more information about how to live release, consult the Yukon Fishing Regulations Summary.**

Live release of a  
rainbow trout  
J. HEATH







[Yukon.ca/fishing](http://Yukon.ca/fishing)