

Angler Etiquette

Yellowstone hosts tens of thousands of anglers each year, concentrated in just a few months. For your own enjoyment, the enjoyment of those around you, and the protection of our aquatic resources, please remember to be courteous and observe the following behavior.

- Use established trails and avoid sensitive wetland vegetation such as bogs and seeps. Heavy trail use in these areas causes erosion and loss of habitat essential to many of Yellowstone's wildlife.
- Anglers must stay on established trails in thermal areas and must not cross these areas or approach thermal features.
- Avoid using the streambed as a pathway. Your footsteps can damage aquatic habitats and kill eggs and fry in the gravel.
- Do not overfish a good fishing area. Fish for a while, and then move on.
- Do not encroach on another angler's space and keep out of sight of other anglers, if possible.
- During late July and August, when water temperatures can be high, do most of your fishing early and late in the day. Allow fish to rest during the heat of the day.



Walking in stream beds can damage delicate aquatic habitats.

These actions are illegal and destructive.

- Possessing a native cutthroat trout or any other native fish.
- Releasing a nonnative fish alive within a mandatory kill area.
- Moving any live fish, water, sediment (mud), fish eggs, fish parts, or other aquatic animals or plants within the park—whether intentional or not.
- Bringing any aquatic invasive species, water, mud, plants, or bait (live or dead) into the park.



If you witness a violation please report it immediately to a law enforcement ranger, or call 307-344-7381 and press “0” to immediately reach park dispatch.