

## Posted Boundaries and Fish Sanctuaries on Lake Superior Tributaries

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources-Section of Fisheries has established regulations and fish sanctuaries on Lake Superior tributaries to protect migratory fish species from Lake Superior, particularly native coaster Brook Trout, and also to extend fishing seasons for other species. Fish sanctuaries have permanent or seasonal closures (Minnesota administrative rule [6264.0500](#)) to protect fish in vulnerable locations during spawning seasons and to restrict fishing near dams, fish traps and egg collection stations. Fish sanctuaries are marked by signs hung by cables, attached to natural features or on posts. Posted boundaries for areas covered by Lake Superior and below-boundary tributary regulations are marked by yellow signs posted near the stream at the upstream end of the boundary.

Posted boundaries specify the location on a stream where fishing regulations change and generally correspond to areas accessible to fish migrating upstream from Lake Superior. When a stream has no impassible barrier, such as a waterfall, the posted boundary is marked at a road crossing or other landmark. Streams with a posted boundary at the stream mouth or Minnesota/Wisconsin state line will not have a physical sign posted. Regulations for below posted boundary areas are:

- Most people fishing Lake Superior or its tributaries will need a trout/salmon stamp validation in addition to a Minnesota angling license (see [MNDNR fishing regulations](#)).
- Many special possession limits and size restrictions apply for trout and salmon caught below the posted boundaries (see [MNDNR fishing regulations](#)).
- Angling hours on Lake Superior tributaries below the posted boundaries are from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset. Exceptions are the St. Louis River (St. Louis and Carlton counties) and the Pigeon River (Cook County).
- Only one line may be used on Lake Superior tributaries below the posted boundaries. Two lines may be used on Lake Superior and the St. Louis River estuary, except only one line is allowed within 100 yards from where a tributary stream enters the lake.
- Anglers are restricted to a single hook or fly only – no treble hooks. Exceptions are the St. Louis River (St. Louis and Carlton counties) and the Pigeon River (Cook County).
- A fish that is hooked in any part of the body, except the mouth, must be immediately returned to the water.

Lists of fish sanctuaries and posted boundary locations are provided below. Streams not listed have no posted boundary and are subject to below barrier regulations throughout their length. Maps of posted boundary and fish sanctuary areas on designated trout streams and the St. Louis River are available online from the MNDNRs [Trout Angling Opportunities in Northeast Minnesota](#) webpage. These maps do not show below boundary reaches on non-trout waters or designated trout tributaries. Designated trout tributaries are considered under below boundary regulations if they flow into a designated trout stream in a below boundary reach.

## Fish Sanctuaries on Lake Superior Tributaries

County	Name	Fish Sanctuary Location	MN Administrative Rules ( <a href="#">6264.0500</a> )	Posting Description	UTM Easting	UTM Northing
St. Louis	St. Louis River	Fond du Lac Dam downstream to the Minnesota-Wisconsin boundary cable	Permanent closure (no fishing)	Posted on tree below Fond du Lac Dam	553780	5168262
	St. Louis River	Minnesota-Wisconsin boundary cable downstream to the Highway 23 bridge.	Seasonal closure: Sanctuary area closed to fishing from February 28 - May 18	Minnesota - Wisconsin Boundary cable	554151	5168254
				Posted on downstream side of Highway 23 Bridge	554854	5167559
	Lester River	Immediately downstream of the Superior Street bridge to the bottom of the first falls. The pool downstream of the first falls remains open.	Permanent closure (no fishing)	Posted on downstream side of Superior St. bridge abutment	575754	5187765
				Posted on rock wall adjacent to base of falls	575732	5187721
	French River	U.S. Highway 61 (Expressway) to Lake Superior	Permanent closure (no fishing)	On post on upstream side of U.S. Highway 61 (expressway)	583825	5194835
				Lake Superior	584367	5194564
St. Louis / Lake	Knife River	Between the signs from the top of the second falls 100 feet downstream	Permanent closure (no fishing)	On post at top of 2nd falls	590983	5201396
				On post 100 feet downstream of 2nd falls	590949	5201377
	Knife River	U.S. Highway 61 (Expressway) bridge downstream to the cable below the Knife River fish trap	Permanent closure (no fishing)	U.S. Highway 61 (Expressway)	591717	5199943
				Cable below fish trap	591857	5199953
Cook	Devil Track River	From 1.1 to 1.6 miles above the mouth	Seasonal closure: Sanctuary area open to fishing from June 1 - August 31 only	Sign Posted on east bank of river	704353	5295020
	Kadunce Creek	From 0.2 (lower falls) to 0.4 miles above the mouth	Seasonal closure: Sanctuary area open to fishing from June 1 - August 31 only	Sign posted at top of first falls	712954	5297616
	Gauthier Creek	Entire stream	Seasonal closure: Entire stream open to fishing from June 1 - August 31 only	Sign posted at confluence with Brule River	720801	5301065

## Posted Boundaries on Lake Superior Tributaries

County	Stream Name	Posted Boundary Location	Posting Description	UTM Easting	UTM Northing
Carlton	South Fork Nemadji River	Highway 23	On post upstream of Highway 23	545257	5149076
	State Line Creek	County Road 8	On post upstream of County Road 8	553719	5148652
	Section 36 Creek	Mouth	No sign	553193	5151866
	Net River	County Road 8	On post upstream of County Road 8	546523	5145941
	Little Net River	County Road 8	On post upstream of County Road 8	549061	5147865
	Tributary 2.3 to South Fork Nemadji River	Mouth	No sign	545319	5149051
	Nemadji River	At confluence with Blackhoof River	On post on East side of river	546229	5151858
	Rock Creek	Mouth	No sign	553051	5153863
	Deer Creek	Mouth	No sign	548045	5152466
	Blackhoof River	Baker Road	On post upstream of Baker Road Bridge	539715	5155250
	Spring Creek (to Blackhoof River)	Mouth	No sign	540471	5152874
	Mud Creek	MN/WI State Line	No sign	554261	5156128
	Clear Creek	MN/WI State Line	No sign	554256	5157903
	Red River	MN/WI State Line	No sign	554218	5162027
St. Louis	St. Louis River	Highway 23	Posted on downstream side of Highway 23 Bridge	554854	5167559
	Buckingham Creek	Mouth	No sign	568042	5180304
	Coffee Creek	Mouth	No sign	566726	5179283
	Miller Creek	Foot bridge at top of barrier falls in Lincoln Park	Posted on footbridge in Lincoln Park at top of barrier falls	566075	5179488
	Merritt Creek	Mouth	No sign	565783	5177790
	Keene Creek	Mouth	No sign	564509	5175224
	Kingsbury Creek	Top of barrier falls in Lake Superior Zoo	Posted on tree adjacent to top of barrier falls just above trail bridge	561607	5175132

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	Knowlton Creek	Top of lowest barrier falls	Posted on tree adjacent to top of barrier falls	560652	5174006
	Stewart Creek	Mouth	No sign	560526	5171941
	Sargent Creek	Mouth	No sign	559154	5166960
	Mission Creek	Mouth	No sign	555383	5167477
	Chester Creek	Interstate 35	On post downstream of I35	570218	5183118
	Tischer Creek	London Road	On post upstream of London Road	572221	5185050
	Lester River	Top of barrier falls	On post at top of barrier falls	575971	5188367
	Amity Creek	Lowest bridge on Skyline Parkway	On post upstream of lowest Skyline Parkway Bridge	575462	5188336
	Talmadge River	U.S. Highway 61	On post upstream of Expressway	582084	5193408
	French River	U.S. Highway 61	On post upstream of Expressway	583822	5194822
	Schmidt Creek	U.S. Highway 61	On post upstream of Expressway	584496	5195537
	Palmer Creek	Entire stream below posted boundary	No sign	--	--
	Sucker River	County Road 258 (Berquist Road)	On post upstream of Berquist Road	584514	5200568
	Little Sucker River	Entire stream below posted boundary	No sign	--	--
<b>St. Louis / Lake</b>	Knife River	County Road 9 (Stanley Road)	On post upstream of County Road 9 (Stanley Road)	594872	5207228
	Little Knife River	Entire stream below posted boundary	No sign	--	--
	Tributary 3 to Little Knife River	Entire stream below posted boundary	No sign	--	--
	Stanley Creek	Entire stream below posted boundary	No sign	--	--
	West Branch Knife River	County Road 9 (Stanley Road)	On post upstream of County Road 9 (Stanley Road)	594344	5207320
<b>Lake</b>	Stewart River	Top of barrier falls	On post near falls	602238	5213455
	Stewart River, Little	County Road 2	On post at County Road 2	601170	5213198
	Silver Creek	County Road 3	On post at County Road 3	604535	5213935
	Encampment River	U.S. Highway 61	On post at U.S. Highway 61	608098	5216549
	Crow Creek	Twp. Road 617 (Castle Danger Road)	On post at Castle Danger Road	608196	5220264
	Castle Danger Creek	U.S. Highway 61	On post at U.S. Highway 61	613329	5219578
	Gooseberry River	U.S. Highway 61	On post at U.S. Highway 61	616142	5222238

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	Twin Points Creek	U.S. Highway 61	On post at U.S. Highway 61	619286	5224877
	Split Rock River	High Falls Near Split Rock Hiking Trail	On post near falls	619946	5227468
	Black Sand Creek	Entire stream below posted boundary	No sign	624800	5233923
	Beaver River	Barrier Falls at U.S. Highway 61	On post at U.S. Highway 61	628917	5235510
	Palisade Creek	Upstream of U.S. Highway 61 (0.8 miles)	On post at barrier location	633807	5242720
	Baptism River	Cascade Falls in Tettegouche State Park	On tree adjacent to falls	635480	5244786
	Crystal Creek	U.S. Highway 61	On post at U.S. Highway 61	637002	5245412
<b>Cook</b>	Dragon Creek	U.S. Highway 61	On post at U.S. Highway 61	643532	5253414
	Manitou River	Falls at Lake Superior	On post near falls	645924	5256199
	Little Manitou River	U.S. Highway 61	On post at U.S. Highway 61	647030	5257799
	Caribou River	U.S. Highway 61	On post at U.S. Highway 61	648432	5258606
	Section 16 Creek	Entire stream below posted boundary	No sign	653358	5263058
	Two Island River	Culverts at MN Allete RR	On post upstream of U.S. Highway 61	656457	5265458
	Cross River	U.S. Highway 61	On post downstream of U.S. Highway 61	658278	5267779
	Temperance River	U.S. Highway 61	On post at U.S. Highway 61	659962	5269159
	Onion River	High Falls Upstream of U.S. Highway 61	On post near falls	667334	5275463
	Rollins Creek	U.S. Highway 61	On post at U.S. Highway 61	668834	5276332
	Poplar River	U.S. Highway 61	On post at U.S. Highway 61	672140	5278701
	Jonvick Creek	U.S. Highway 61	On post at U.S. Highway 61	677865	5281787
	Deeryard (Spruce) Creek	U.S. Highway 61	On post at U.S. Highway 61	682370	5284484
	Indian Camp Creek	Falls above U.S. Highway 61	On post near falls	683354	5286028
	Cascade River	First barrier falls upstream of U.S. Highway 61	On post near falls	685734	5286852
	Cutface Creek	Slide/falls above U.S. Highway 61	On post near falls	691552	5289708
Fall (Rosebush) River	U.S. Highway 61	On post at U.S. Highway 61	695796	5290863	

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Devil Track River	High falls about 1.6 miles above U.S. Highway 61	On post near falls	702492	5295483
Woods Creek	At Mouth	On post near mouth	705028	5294629
Durfee Creek	First barrier falls upstream of U.S. Highway 61	On post near falls	707868	5295307
Kimball Creek	At base of long slide, 1.6 miles upstream of U.S. Highway 61	On post near falls	710304	5298159
Stone Creek	First barrier falls upstream of U.S. Highway 61	On post near falls	712232	5297989
Kadunce Creek	Second falls, about 0.7 miles upstream of U.S. Highway 61	On post near second falls	712927	5298196
East Colville Creek	Upper crossing of County Road 14	On post at County Road 14	715552	5299930
Little Brule Creek	County Road 68	On post at County Road 68	716677	5302829
Brule River	Devil's Kettle Falls, about 1.0 miles above U.S. Highway 61	On post near Devil's Kettle Falls	720802	5301469
Gauthier Creek	At mouth	On post near mouth	720798	5301065
Myhr Creek	U.S. Highway 61	On post at U.S. Highway 61	721795	5300711
Flute Reed River	Upstream of Bridge at First County Road 69 Crossing	On post at first County Road 69 Crossing	726988	5303728
Carlson Creek	County Road 71	On post at County Road 71	728857	5306844
Farquhar Creek	Entire stream below posted boundary	No sign	--	--