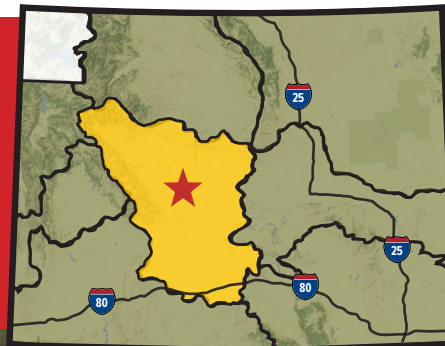


FISHING AROUND CENTRAL WYOMING

Regional fishing opportunities near Lander, Dubois and Shoshoni.



You can work toward the following youth fishing challenges on these trips:

- Wild One
- Pan Pair
- Cutt Slam
- Habitat Counts
- Cool Catch
- Percid Prize
- Trout Trio



WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT



How many days do you have to fish in central Wyoming?

1 Day

Boysen Reservoir is located near Shoshoni in central Wyoming and has just about every kind of fish an angler could ask for....walleye, sauger, yellow perch, channel catfish, burbot, black crappie, rainbow trout, and brown trout. If you only have a day to fish, this is the place to get your “Percid Prize” and “Wyoming’s Wild One”! The walleye are big (up to 15 pounds) and sauger are native to Wyoming. In fact, sauger can only be caught in the Wind/Bighorn River drainage. Walleye and sauger eat other fish and will bite about any lure or bait you throw out. They also look really cool with big teeth and sharp spines.

2 Days

Have you ever been to Dubois country? If not, you’re missing out. In just a couple days you can catch native Yellowstone cutthroat trout, brook trout, brown trout, and rainbow trout all from the upper **Wind River**. The river flows next to Highway 287 and has many public access areas to pull over and fish. All trout are fun to catch but native Yellowstone cutthroat are special and will count towards the “Cutt Slam” challenge. They have declined across their native range and the Dubois area has one of the best populations remaining in Wyoming. The **East Fork of the Wind River** and the **Wiggins Fork** support good populations and these waters have special catch and release fishing regulations to protect the native trout. In addition to Yellowstone cutthroat trout, the brown trout grow big and rainbow trout are usually easy to catch. Another unique thing about the **Wind River** is that it has a lot of warm springs. Therefore, ice does not form on the river in many locations during the winter making it an excellent destination to wet a line year around.

3 Days

If you have three days to fish, consider a backpacking trip in the majestic Wind River Mountains. The Winds offer a lot of opportunities to fish for brook trout, cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, brown trout, tiger trout, splake, and grayling. If you are looking to complete the “Cool Catch” challenge, the most sought after fish is golden trout. Golden trout live in some of the most beautiful country on earth and one of those places is **Thumb Lake** in the **Silas Creek drainage**. Thumb Lake is an easy 5 mile hike from Fiddlers Lake. It’s about a 20 mile drive south from Lander through Sinks Canyon on Highway 131 and Forest Service Road 300. Locals call it the Loop Road because it connects Lander and South Pass. There are plenty of places to camp along the way and the scenery is spectacular. On the hike into **Thumb Lake**, you’ll pass **Lower Silas, Upper Silas, and Island lakes**. Take a break to fish for brook trout, cutthroat trout, and tiger trout at these waters along the way to earn the “Habitat Counts” certificate. The challenge starts once you get to Thumb Lake. Golden trout can be difficult to catch, but that’s what makes it fun and they are some of the prettiest fish you’ll ever see! If you like fly fishing try casting scud or nymph patterns and strip them slowly back to shore. Spin casting can also be good with small spoons or spinners.

Find out more

Want to get more information about the youth fishing challenges or their adult equivalents? Visit the Wyoming Game and Fish Department fishing challenge website at wgfd.wyo.gov/Fishing-and-Boating/Fishing-Challenges

Or do you just have questions about other fishing opportunities in central Wyoming, fishing locations or what the rules for fishing are? Visit the Wyoming Game and Fish Department website at wgfd.wyo.gov or call the Lander office at 307-332-2688.