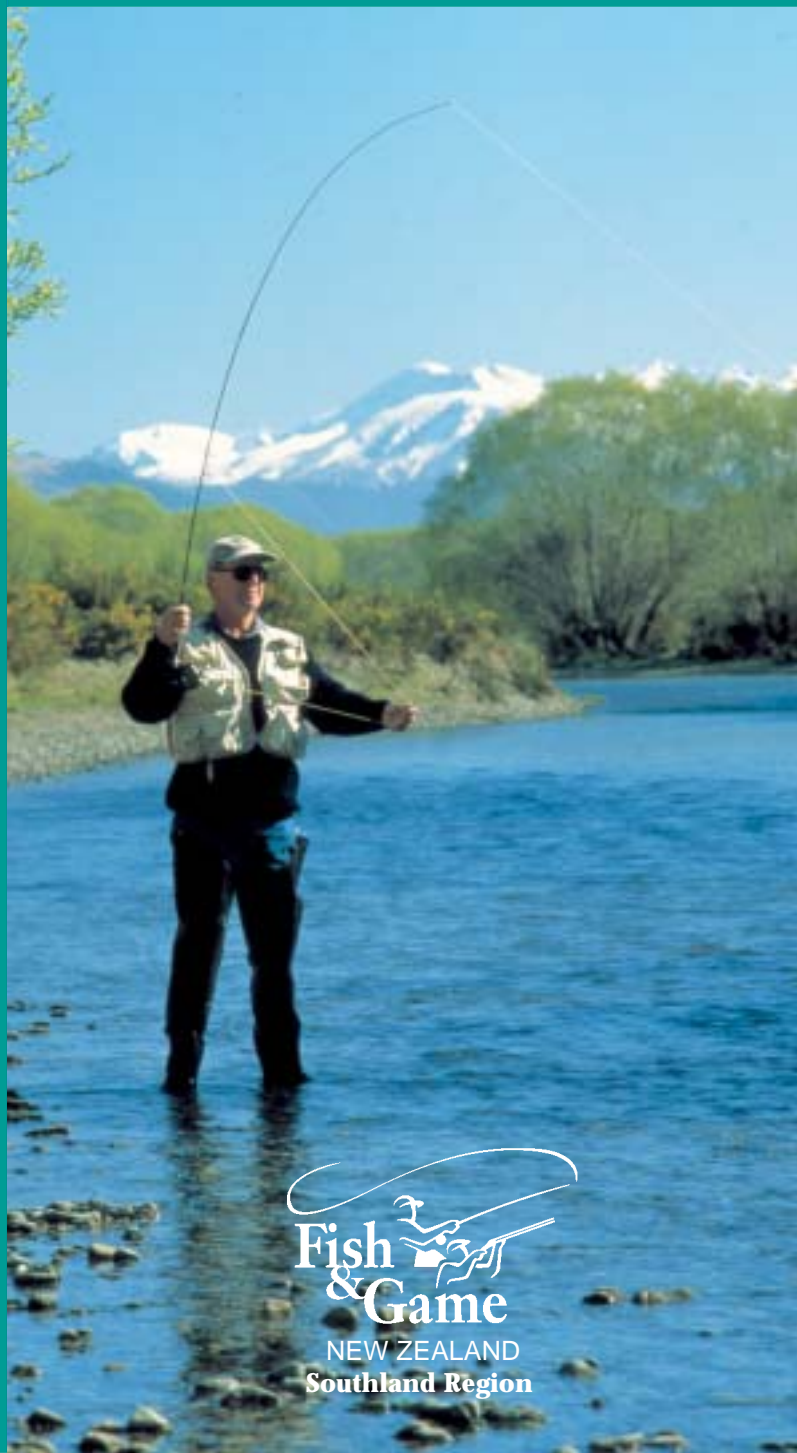


# NORTHERN SOUTHLAND

# ANGLERS ACCESS



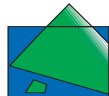
The following information is an overview of trout fishing opportunities in Northern Southland and how to access them.

Northern Southland is serviced by a number of centrally located small towns that make ideal bases from which to fish the great variety of rivers and streams in the area. A key to the services available is found on the map.

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## Southland Region

P.O. Box 159, Invercargill, New Zealand.

Phone 03-214 4501 Fax 03-214 4352  
Email: fishgame@southnet.co.nz

## Fish & Game and Access

Fish & Game New Zealand, Southland Region has a long history of negotiating and sign posting access for anglers. This has only been achieved through the willingness of Southland landowners to allow anglers to cross their land to the river. Unfortunately a small section of the community through their anti-social behaviour have forced closure of some of these accesses. It is therefore imperative that all anglers do nothing to jeopardise the remaining accesses.

### Access Rules

- Park vehicles off track and away from gates.
- Do not litter
- Leave gates as you find them
- Cross fences without damaging them
- Stay within river margins
- Do not short-cut through mobs of stock
- Walk fence lines to avoid trampling crops
- Rescue or report trapped stock
- Land owners invariably enjoy eating the occasional fish dropped at the farmhouse
- Report any missing or damaged signs to Fish & Game

### Fishing Etiquette

- Respect other anglers already on the water and give them plenty of room.
- A polite approach to discuss plans can lead to a productive rather than a confrontational days fishing.
- Refer to your South Island regulation booklet for current angling regulations and bag limits.

## Fishing Information

### Aparima River

**Description** Medium sized faster stream, flowing over big cobbles, especially in headwaters.

**Fish Size** 1-2kg brown trout.

**Best Spots** Fish feed in the edge of fast water and at base of ripples.

**Best Lures** Fly - mayfly patterns, Spin - veltic, insect, and toby.

**Best Times** Fly - middle of day, Spin - mornings.

### Oreti River and Five Rivers' Tributaries

**Description** A mid-sized river with the headwaters providing the classic pool, run, riffle configuration and the mid reaches containing bigger pools interspersed with long runs. The Acton and Cromel join the Irthing to form the major tributary

**Fish Size** 0.5-3kg brown trout.

**Best Spots** Fish cruise backwaters and feed on the edges. In evenings fish the froth lines and the tail of the pool. In upper reaches fish can be found anywhere.

**Best Lures** Fly - mid size mayfly and caddis dryflies and nymphs in the mid reaches with large stonefly, mayfly, and cicada imitations in the headwaters. Spin - Tassie devil, toby, and artic trout.

**Best Times** Fly - mid morning to mid afternoon then late evening. Spin - early morning and early evening.

### Mararoa

**Description** Medium sized fast flowing river draining the Mavora Lakes. Can be difficult to cross. Noted for its long fast runs.

**Fish Size** 1-3kg brown and rainbow trout.

**Best Spots** Fish can be found in all parts of the river.

**Best Lures** Fly - larger nymphs and dry flies containing peacock herl or deer hair, Spin - insect, toby, and other fast water lures.

**Best Times** Fly - mid morning to mid afternoon, Spin - early morning and evening.

### Hamilton Burn

**Description** A small tea coloured stream that meanders through farmland. It is characterised by long, slow moving pools and appeals to fly fishers. Easily waded.

**Fish Size** 0.5-1.5kg brown trout.

**Best Spots** Fish feed in the froth line as well as cruising the pools.

**Best Lures** Fly - small mayfly and boatmen patterns, Spin - small veltic.

**Best Times** Fly - mid morning to late afternoon, Spin - early morning and when stream is coloured.

### Mavora Lakes

**Description** Two picturesque high country lakes partly surrounded by beech forest.

**Fish Size** 1-2kg brown and rainbow trout.

**Best Spots** Brown trout cruise the shoreline maintaining a regular 'beat'. Rainbow are best caught trolling from a boat.

**Best Lures** Fly - dry flies containing peacock herl bodies, small to medium nymphs and feathered lures. Spin - trolling lures or artificial mouse.

**Best Times** Fly - anytime, Spin - trolling anytime but mouse only after dark.

### Mataura and Waikaia Rivers

**Description** Mid-sized rivers characterised by long willow lined pools joined by riffles. The Waikaia is the major Mataura tributary joining near Riversdale.

**Fish Size** 0.5-2kg brown trout.

**Best Spots** Fish feed along willow margins and at the base of riffles.

**Best Lures** Fly - small mayfly and caddis dryflies and nymphs. Spin - small veltic.

**Best Times** Fly - mid morning to late evening, Spin - early morning and evening.

### Interpreting the access map overleaf

- Services available in local towns are coded adjacent to the townships name.
- Only useful roads or those providing river access have been drawn.
- All types of accesses are marked with a red star. These may be from a road bridge, via sign posted Anglers Accesses, via walking accesses across private land or simply where the river is adjacent to the road.
- The sketched access map is best used in conjunction with the New Zealand InfoMap Series 262 Sheets 14 and 16 or if you require more detail get the InfoMap 260 Series Sheets D43, E43, E44, E45 and F44.

These are available from Fish & Game Southland

**Season Bag Limits Baits**  
Please read the current South Island Sports Fishing Guide provided with your licence.



ATLAS 299

# NORTHERN SOUTHLAND ANGLER ACCESS



Vehicle Access sign  
 (Respect farmer's property, fasten gates - no guns, no dogs)



Walking Access only  
 (no guns, dogs or cars)



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