

Bear River



Fish Species

Brown Trout; Rainbow Trout; Steelhead

Species Description

The Bear River receives migratory fish runs, including steelhead and lake-run brown trout, in addition to its resident brown trout population. 5,000 Michigan strain yearling steelhead and 1,000 yearling brown trout are stocked into the lower Bear River annually.

Geographic Coordinates

Lat:45.374267 / Long:-84.9613

Noteworthy

The best stretch of the Bear River for trout fishing is from Sheridan Road downstream to the mouth. In this short reach the river drops nearly 75 of elevation, so the stream here is very fast with prominent pools and riffles. This stretch of river is highly accessible, being located entirely within the Bear River Valley Recreation Area (a Petoskey city park). A trail network from the mouth upstream to Sheridan Street includes access points to the river.

Fishing Regulations

The Bear River in this area is designated a Type 4 trout stream. Please refer to the Inland Trout and Salmon Stream Regulations in the current Michigan Fishing Guide.

Directions to Site

Begin in the Petoskey business district. For upstream access off US-131, turn right (east) onto Sheridan Street, follow road down the hill, and the parking area is on the left just past the City maintenance building. For downstream access off US-131, turn left (west) onto West Lake Street. Parking is available under the US-131 bridge to access the Bear River Valley Recreation Area trails.

Regional Visitor Information (URL)

petoskeychamber.com