



**FLAMING GORGE FISHING DERBY  
OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**May 15-16, 2021**

[www.flaminggorgefishderby.com](http://www.flaminggorgefishderby.com)

1. A team may consist of 1 to 3 members. All team members must fish together i.e., fish from same boat, shoreline, etc. Passengers are allowed in the boat.
2. Entry fee: \$200.00 per team.
3. Teams are required to register online at [www.flaminggorgefishderby.com](http://www.flaminggorgefishderby.com) by May 1st or 400 teams. Payment of registration will serve as a liability waiver for all team participants. There will be NO in person registration due to Covid-19 precautions.
4. Teams will be required to have their team card with all team members listed during the tournament and when checking in fish.
5. Captains must be 18 years or older.
6. Fishing times: Saturday – 5:30 am to 6:00 p.m. Sunday – 5:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Scales open at 6:00 am.
7. Fish must be registered at Lucerne, Cedar Springs or Buckboard Marina weigh stations no later than one half (1/2) hour after the close of each tournament day. This means scales will close at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday & 1:30 p.m. on Sunday. No exceptions.
8. Due to Covid-19 restrictions participants must wear a mask and maintain a 6' distance while at the weigh stations.
9. All entries except the Trophy Lake Trout will be based on weight, in case of a tie, length will be the determining factor.
10. If the Trophy Lake Trout category is not filled, the prize money will be divided and paid into the other categories.
11. The Derby is subject to cancellation due to weather conditions. The cancellation decision will be made by Derby officials, Lucerne Marina, the US Forest Service or Utah DWR. Anglers will be notified by Marine Band Radio, text or email.
12. All contestants must observe all US Coast Guard, Wyoming Game & Fish, Utah DWR, Utah State Parks, US Forest Service, and Daggett/Sweetwater County rules and regulations concerning sport fishing and safe boating on Flaming Gorge Reservoir. This includes UT & WY AIS regulations.
13. All of Lake Flaming Gorge is involved in the tournament. No boundaries, except for no fishing inside of the buoys of Buckboard, Lucerne & Cedar Springs Marinas.
14. Due to Covid-19 precautions there will be no closing ceremony on Sunday. Derby results will be announced online at [www.flaminggorgefishderby.com](http://www.flaminggorgefishderby.com) and [www.facebook.com/LUCERNEMARINA](https://www.facebook.com/LUCERNEMARINA). Please "Like" Lucerne Valley Marina on Facebook to see timely updates on the tournament. Cash prizes will be received through the mail. Non-Cash prizes will be mailed or available for pick-up at a designated location. Cash prizes may increase or decrease depending upon the number of entries.
15. There will be a total team weight category for the Pup Lake Trout (see #4 of prize qualifications). All fish entered are subject to examination by fisheries biologists and derby officials.
16. **Due to the WY regulation – BASS MAY ONLY BE CAUGHT IN UTAH WATERS** and weighed at either Lucerne Valley Marina or Cedar Springs Marina. A live well for release will be set up at Lucerne Valley Marina. Any contestant caught with bass in their possession in Wyoming will be immediately disqualified from the tournament.

**Violation of fishing regulations:** All contestants must abide by all Wyoming Game and Fish and Utah Division of Wildlife regulations concerning fishing, aquatic invasive species and boating. Any participant found to violate any regulation from 5:30 AM Saturday until 1:00 PM Sunday will be disqualified.

**Culling is not permitted.** The decision to release a fish or keep it for contest entry must be made immediately upon capture. Any fish caught that is not to be entered into the contest shall be immediately released to the water with as little injury to the fish as possible. Once a fish is put on a stringer, in a container or in a live well it cannot be released. Participants violating this rule will be disqualified.

**AIS Inspection requirements:** Any contest watercraft coming from out of the state of Wyoming by land from March 1 through November 30, are required to undergo a mandatory inspection by an authorized AIS inspector prior to launching. Participants violating that regulation will be disqualified. Derby Captains must provide their "Mussel Aware Certification" number from the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and watercraft bow number in order to complete online registration. Please go to the following link to complete the certification.

<https://dwrapps.utah.gov/wex/dbconnection.jsp?examnbr=511783>

#### **PRIZE QUALIFICATION IS BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:**

1. Trophy Lake Trout: Fish must be freshly caught, be a minimum length of 36-inches for entry eligibility. Only one (1) Lake Trout per angler may be in possession through the tournament. Lake Trout will be based on total length not weight. Ties will be determined by which fish was caught first. The large Lake Trout on Flaming Gorge are a precious resource that the Flaming Gorge Fish Derby wants to protect. During online registration you will be required to declare if your team will be targeting trophy lake trout. We will provide the measuring stick and token based on your online registration. Anglers will measure the fish at their boat with the provided catch and release ruler and token and submit the picture clearly showing the fish, correct measurement and token to the Flaming Gorge Fish Derby via text message to the number given at registration. A member of the Derby staff will send back a message via text of receipt of the fish with the measurement information to be a valid entry into the Lake Trout category. It is the responsibility of the team member to make sure he/she receives a text back in confirmation of his/her entry. If one is not received, then the fish is not entered. If an angler does not have the ability to text a picture of the fish then either a picture of the fish or the fish will need to be entered at one of the weigh stations. Per Wyoming Game & Fish and Utah Division of Wildlife rules, if the actual Lake Trout is entered at a weigh station then it must be harvested. Anglers fishing for trophy Lake Trout are restricted to using flies and lures only, and may not use bait. Participants violating this rule will be disqualified. (see below for more explanation)
2. Length qualification: Rainbow, Cutthroat, Kokanee and Brown Trout must be 18-inches or longer. Bass and Catfish have no size limit. **Only one fish per category per angler** may be entered throughout the tournament. Fish must be caught during derby hours on Lake Flaming Gorge. In case of a tie, length will prevail.
3. Largest fish will be the largest fish from the individual species of Bass, Kokanee, Rainbow, Cutthroat or Brown Trout category. The largest fish by weight from one of these categories will get \$2000.00. That fish will not be eligible for 1<sup>st</sup> place in its category but the larger amount. The next fish in line in that category will then move into the 1<sup>st</sup> place species and all other fish will move up one notch. This will spread the prize money out to more contestants.
4. Pup Lake Trout Category
  - Team with the most weight of Lake Trout less than 25-inches wins.
    - Each team member may enter no more than one daily limit per day (12 Lake Trout less than 25-inches) but up to 24 Lake Trout (less than 25-inches) for a two day total. For example, 12 Lake Trout per team member may be entered on Saturday and again on Sunday, for a maximum of 24 Lake Trout per team member.
    - The tie breaker will be the first team to enter Lake Trout less than 25-inches for their completed total weight on Sunday.
    - Fish greater than 25-inches will be disqualified and not count towards the total weight. Derby officials make the final determination.
5. Anglers must be 13 or younger to enter a fish in the Youth Angler Category. Youth anglers do not qualify for the Trophy Lake Trout Category.

## GROUNDS FOR DISQUALIFICATION

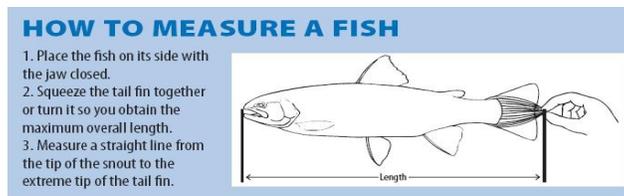
- Violations of any Wyoming/Utah fishing or boating safety regulations.

### LAKE TROUT MEASUREMENT INFORMATION:

**Lake Trout only:** The large Lake Trout in Flaming Gorge are a precious resource that the Flaming Gorge Fish Derby, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Wyoming Game & Fish want to protect. We are providing a catch and release option for entering Lake Trout into the derby this year. Lake Trout will **not** be weighed but will be measured for overall length. This is the only species that will be measured during the Derby.

- Fish must be freshly caught and be a minimum length of 36-inches for entry eligibility.
- Only one (1) Lake Trout per angler may be entered or in possession through the tournament.
- Lake Trout will be based on total length not weight. Ties will be determined by which fish was caught first.
- Anglers fishing for trophy Lake Trout are restricted to using flies and lures only, and may not use bait. Participants violating this rule will be disqualified.

There are two options to enter the **Lake Trout** into the Derby: Digitally and Harvested. The FG Fish Derby will provide a measuring ruler, a special token and instructions for measuring Lake Trout at registration as follows:



**Note: In order for the fish to qualify, the picture must be taken from directly above the fish, not at an angle, so the snout is clearly visible at the beginning line of the ruler and the tail is clearly visible in relationship to the ruler.**

### Digital Option – Text message picture via cell phone):

- Anglers will measure the fish immediately upon capture with the provided measuring device and the special token included in the registration packets. A picture must be taken from a cell phone that clearly shows the entire fish, the measurement and token. Send the picture via text message to **the number provided in your packet** with the team number, angler's name, and length to the number specified during registration. An official will send back a message via text of receipt of the fish with the measurement information and time entered in confirmation of his/her entry. It is the responsibility of the team member to make sure he/she receives a text back in confirmation of the entry. If a text confirmation is not received from a Derby official then the fish is not entered and the fish should immediately be taken to one of the three (3) weigh stations. As a general rule keep the fish out of the water no more than 60 seconds - shorter is better. The more time the fish spend out of the water the more likely it will die after release. We recommend holding the fish in the water in a landing net while you wait for entry confirmation.

### Harvest Option:

- If a team does not have the ability to text a picture of the fish then either a picture of the fish or the actual fish will need to be entered at one of the weigh stations. Per Wyoming Game & Fish and Utah Division of Wildlife Resources regulations, fish entered at a weigh station must be dead prior to leaving the lake.