



# RULES FOR FISHING IN RIVER KONGSFJORD

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Berlevåg Jeger- og fiskerforening leases Kongsfjord River on behalf of the landowner Finnmarkseiendommen (FeFo). River Kongsfjord is a nationally designated salmon river appointed by the Norwegian Parliament. Preserving the salmon stock is important for the future and must be managed sustainably. In this regard, fishing regulations are adapted to the conditions of the river and the state of the stocks. It is crucial that the various rules are followed by anglers.

To be able to fish within the anadromous stretch of River Kongsfjord, everyone must have a valid fishing license. All persons over 18 years old must have paid the national fishing fee (available at <http://fiskeravgift.miljodirektoratet.no/>) for the current season in order to purchase a fishing license. The fishing license is personal and cannot be transferred to others. River wardens or other authorities may request to see a valid fishing license, disinfection certificate, and identification.

The rules apply in the river, including tributaries and lakes, as far as anadromous salmonid fish occur. Anadromous salmonid fish include salmon, sea trout, and arctic char. The river is divided into 3 fishing zones, each requiring a separate fishing license

## Fishing Season

The fishing season runs from June 21 at 6:00 p.m. until August 24.

Throughout the season, there is a daily fishing ban from 1:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. in all zones except for Buetjern in Zone 3 (applies only to the lake).

## Catch Reporting

All those who purchase a fishing license are obliged to submit a catch report, regardless of whether they have caught any fish. To purchase a new fishing license, the previous catch report must be submitted.

Daily licenses must be reported no later than 2 days after the end of fishing, while season and weekly license holders must submit catch reports weekly throughout the entire season. It is recommended to take scale samples from all killed catches. Scale envelopes and instructions can be obtained from the wardens

## Protected zones

- From Porten and about 200 meters above Fossvatnet.
- The entire Geatnja/Gednjelva (Fishing for freshwater fish will be allowed in certain areas)
- Fallow zone - from the marker in the lower part of Daldorfkulpen to the river/sea boundary.
- Bryggarielva

## Disinfection of fishing equipment

All visiting anglers must disinfect their fishing gear before they start to fish.

Anglers living permanently in Berlevåg municipality must disinfect their equipment if they have used it in other watercourses. This also applies if it has been used in Storelva.

All fishing equipment, nets, waders, wading pants, and similar MUST be cleaned and disinfected before use in Kongsfjordelva.

Disinfection is carried out at the guard cabin and costs 100 kroner.  
For individuals with an approved volunteer work in the current season, it is free.

## **Quotas and protections**

### **Season quotas**

Residents of Berlevåg municipality: maximum 10 salmon, 3 can be 68cm or larger.

Residents of Finnmark: maximum 8 salmon, 2 can be 68cm or larger.

Residents outside Finnmark: Maximum 6 salmon, 1 can be 68cm or larger.

### **Daily quota for all user groups:**

2 salmon per day license. One of these may be 68cm/3 kilos or more (applies until July 31).

The fishing licenses end when the daily quota is filled (no catch-and-release).

The quotas apply to the entire watercourse. Released fish do not count towards the quota.

### **Protection based on size and species**

- Starting from August 1st, all salmon over 68 centimeters/3 kilos must be released back into the water alive. The use of nets or similar tools for catching fish is not allowed. Any fish that does not survive must be immediately reported to the guard at phone number 99375118 and delivered to a worthy cause.
- Sea trout, arctic char, and salmon under 35 cm are protected for the entire season and must be released back into the water alive. Farmed salmon and pink salmon must be killed and immediately reported to the guard. They do not count towards the quota. Remember to take a scale sample.
- It is encouraged not to catch large female salmon over 90 cm before August 1st.
- Fishing for salmon is not allowed in the upper part of the river - Buetjern (Zone 3) and the entire Gednjeelva up to the dam. This is to strengthen salmon production in the upper part of the river. In Gednjeelva, there is no set minimum water flow, and the water flow is often very low in July and August. Therefore, the salmon are very vulnerable. However, fishing for freshwater fish, such as trout and arctic char, is allowed in certain areas of Gednjeelva. This is because Gednjeelva is important for recruiting children and young people. The open areas will be marked

### **Reason for higher quota for local anglers**

According to FeFo's guidelines for leasing, section 2.4, and in the sixth paragraph of the Finnmark Act (fl) § 27, it is stated that in regulations that restrict access to the resource, reasonable consideration should be given to the various user groups. Although the right to fish for salmon with a rod is a county law, the management is also based on a principle that proximity to the resource gives the strongest right. This is most clearly expressed where the resource scarcity is high, but it also allows for some differentiation between local residents and others, for example, other residents of Finnmark or those residing outside Finnmark, if this is done for the sake of the resource.

FeFo asked BJFF to make it clear that the quota for residents of the municipality is slightly higher than for others, now that the resource (salmon) is scarce. BJFF also sees the value in providing good conditions for local anglers while maintaining a good offer for visiting anglers.

### **Measures during the season**

BJFF continually monitors the development of the salmon stock, salmon run, and catch to assess the need for new measures. In addition to this the 11<sup>th</sup> of July we are obligated to do a mid-season evaluation. Measures that can be taken during the season include:

- a) Poor season (if it appears likely that GBM will not be achieved):  
Introducing additional measures to prevent overfishing. Quotas, protection of salmon over 68 cm, or other measures. Inland fishing in Buetjern will not be affected by any potential halt to salmon fishing in the watercourse.
- b) Good season (if it appears likely that GBM will be achieved with a good margin) - increase daily and/or seasonal quotas.

## REDSKAPSREGULERINGER KONGSFJORDELVA

Redskap	Zone	June	July	August
Fly fishing with floating line and light flies	1-2- Gednjeelva	YES	YES	YES
Fly fishing with sinking line	1-2- Gednjeelva	YES*	NO**	NO
Fly fishing with heavy flies	1-2-Gednjeelva	YES*	NO**	NO
Casting spoon max 12 gram	1 og 2	YES*	NO**	NO
Bait fishing with 3 gram sinker	1 og 2	YES*	NO**	NO
Bait fishing without sinker	1-2 og Gednjeelva	YES	YES	NO
Floating float with bait - children under 14 years old	1-2 og Gednjeelva	YES	YES	NO***
Floating float with fly - children under 14 years old	1-2 og Gednjeelva	YES	YES	YES

\*Discontinued and "light fishing" is introduced if the water flow drops below 4m<sup>3</sup>/sec (BJFF informs about changes in gear regulations due to water flow.)

\*\*Permitted until July 10th if water flow exceeds 4m<sup>3</sup>/sec.

\*\*\*Children under 14 years old can use floating float with bait also in August above the confluence from Buetjern.

### Notes

- Live bait is meant by "worms".
- Splitthagl up to a total of 3 grams is meant by "sinker".
- Light flies means regular hook flies without weighting, and plastic tubes.
- Heavy flies mean tubes made of metal or with coneheads, bead heads, etc., or flies/tubes with other built-in weighting.
- By "sinking line" is meant a line/leader/poly leader where all or part of the line is sinking/intermediate.
- By "casting spoon" means typical salmon lures in spoon form. It is not allowed to use spinners, wobblers, or herring-like lures such as stingsild, etc.
- "Clean fishing" must be practiced. When using live bait, it is not allowed to have a fly as an attachment.
- A single hook can have a maximum opening of 15mm between the hook shank and the hook tip.
- When fly fishing, one attachment is allowed. A maximum of 3 hooks in total are allowed (e.g., 1 single and 1 double hook). Maximum allowed hook sizes: single hook size 2, double hook size 6, triple hook size 8.
- Separate rules apply to Buetjern. See the bulletin board.

Other types of gear are prohibited!

**Note that it is forbidden to fish in such a way that the fish can be hooked.**

### **Exercise of fishing**

To give all those who have purchased a fishing license equal opportunities to fish, "movable fishing" shall be practiced. The person who arrives at the pool/stretch first has the right to start fishing. - Begin fishing at the top of the zone, or where it is natural to start, and fish your way down. If there are other anglers in the zone/pool when you arrive, start above/behind them. Wait until the angler has moved down a bit before starting so as not to obstruct them. Anglers can agree among themselves on how to fish in the pool.

NB! Some pools are very popular and there are almost always anglers there. It is important that everyone has a turn and that there is no "occupation" of the pools. It is good practice to move around so that the pools are rotated. This creates good fishing culture and a pleasant atmosphere among anglers. This applies especially to popular pools such as Porten, Steinholla, Sandmelen, Hengebroa, Svaberget, and Daldorffkulpen. Show consideration for each other.

### **Nature and order rules**

All users are obliged to keep their surroundings clean and tidy when they are by the river, and all litter must be taken away when leaving. Campfire places are NOT garbage cans. It is considered careless to clean fish by the river, for reasons of infection control and general order and wellbeing. Fish waste should not be left by the riverbank. Take it with you or bury it well away from fishing and campfire sites.

It is not allowed to cut down fresh forest for campfire fuel. Bring fuel or use fallen trees. Use existing campfire places.

Camping should take place at a good distance from the river, cabins, and popular fishing spots. Do not occupy a camping spot for a long time.

Report any littering along the watercourse to the river guard - 99375118.

### **Penalty provisions**

Violation of local and national regulations is punishable under the Act on Salmon and Inland Law. By purchasing a fishing license, the angler commits to familiarizing themselves with and accepting the applicable fishing rules in the watercourse. Violation of fishing rules may result in a warning, a fine (2000-10000 NOK), confiscation of the fishing license and/or catch, exclusion from fishing (1-5 seasons), and/or a police report, depending on the severity of the offense.

If the catch report from the previous season is not submitted, a fee of 500 NOK will be added. If a fee is imposed, the angler must pay it before purchasing a new fishing license.