

# Montana Fishes

T D H H A G N I L Y A R G P H  
A E Z A J N P M H W H F A D S  
D S M U B A A S X N I D O U I  
C E O P L I I T S W D F S A F  
R I R L E F T T N L P F L M E  
A N I E T R U A E O C A A I T  
P D A A G R A F T N M E R E I  
P L C T G N I T N S R A G H H  
I H L E I S A K U R M A E S W  
E T O U H V Y D H R L Y M I S  
S N R G B P E X N I E L O F A  
C U T T H R O A T E K S U N L  
D E N E T A E R H T C T T U M  
T U O R T R A I N B O W H S O  
J U W W R C X I A U B X U P N

Search for the words in bold in the puzzle above. Words are arranged up, down, and backwards

**Montana** has a unique family of fishes that live in a wide variety of **habitats**. Of the 85 species of warm water and cold water fish in the state, about 55 are considered **native**.

Warm water fish are able to tolerate water **temperatures** above 80 degrees F. Warm water fish include such species as **crappies**, small and **largemouth** bass, **sunfish**, yellow perch, **paddlefish**, and **catfish**.

Cold water fish prefer clear, cold waters; are not tolerant of extreme temperature changes; and cannot survive for long periods with temperatures above 70 degrees F. Cold water fish species include **trout**, **salmon**, and **whitefish**.

Several fish species in Montana are protected and have special rules and regulations regarding their harvest. The **pallid** and white **sturgeon** both are on the endangered species list. Sturgeon are unique in that they have a skeleton made out of **cartilage**, and have been around for 300 million years. The arctic **grayling** is a candidate species for the **endangered** list. West slope and Yellowstone **cutthroat** trout and red band **rainbow** trout are species of concern. **Bull** trout are on the **threatened** list. For more information on Montana fishes please visit the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks at [www.fwp.mt.gov](http://www.fwp.mt.gov).