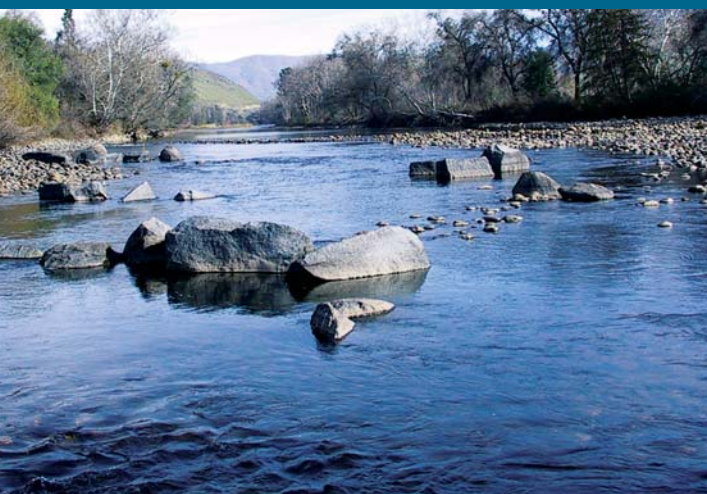


Kings River Fisheries Management

The Kings River Water Association (KRWA), Kings River Conservation District (KRCDD), and California Department of Fish & Game (CDFG) have jointly implemented habitat enhancement projects and conducted a series of monitoring programs in the Kings River and Pine Flat Reservoir over the past five years. These activities have been conducted in response to the Kings River Fisheries Management Program (FMP) Framework Agreement, which was approved on May 28, 1999.

The Framework Agreement is voluntary and includes a number of actions designed to protect and enhance fishery habitat within the Kings River. The project area covers Pine Flat Reservoir and approximately 60 miles of river downstream of Pine Flat Dam. A Technical Steering Committee is responsible for implementing the actions authorized under the agreement and approved by the Executive Policy Committee. A Public Advisory Group, comprised of fishing, river, and landowner interests, provides input to the program.



Completed boulder project near Winton park.

Fishery Habitat Enhancement Actions

A VARIETY OF TASKS HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED DURING THE FIRST FIVE YEARS OF THE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROGRAM INCLUDING:

- A 100,000 acre-foot temperature control pool in Pine Flat Reservoir;
- Increased flows in the lower Kings River during fall and winter;
- Contributions of \$1,000,000 by the Kings River Conservation District and Kings River Water Association; and of \$1,000,000 in funds and services by the California Department of Fish & Game over a 10-year period;
- Monitoring hydrology and operations within the river and reservoir;
- Monitoring water temperature and dissolved oxygen within Pine Flat Reservoir and the Kings River downstream from the dam;
- Habitat enhancement projects within the river and reservoir;
- Fish stocking within the river and reservoir;
- Implementation of angling regulations;
- Baseline and performance monitoring of fishery program status;
- Public education and outreach;
- Maintenance activities; and
- Development of an annual 5-Year Plan for identifying specific habitat enhancement and monitoring projects on the lower Kings River and in Pine Flat Reservoir.

GETTING INVOLVED

CONTACT:

- **Kings River Water Association** 559/266-0767
www.kingsriverwater.org
- **Kings River Conservation District** 559/237-5567
www.krcd.org
- **California Dept. of Fish & Game** 559/243-4005
www.dfg.ca.gov
- **Public Advisory Group to the Kings River Fisheries Management Program**
www.kingsriverfisheries.org

Guide to Kings River downstream of Pine Flat Dam

Recreational Fishing Access & Fisheries Management Program Information



Recreational Facilities

CAMPGROUNDS

Campgrounds with bathrooms, running water, fire pits, barbecues, and picnic tables are available at the Pine Flat Recreation Area and Choinumni Park. The parks are managed and maintained by the County of Fresno. Campgrounds are also located around Pine Flat Reservoir and are managed and maintained by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Camp sites are available in the Sierra and Sequoia National Forests, and Kings Canyon National Park located upstream of Pine Flat Lake.

DAY-USE / PICNIC SITES

Day-use/picnic areas with bathrooms, running water, barbecues, and picnic tables are available at Pine Flat Recreation Area, Choinumni Park, Winton Park, and Avocado Lake Park. The parks are managed and maintained by the County of Fresno. Day-use/picnic areas also are found around Pine Flat Reservoir and are managed and maintained by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

UNDEVELOPED PARK SITES

Undeveloped park areas without any facilities located on the river are available at Kings River Recreation Park and Green Belt Park. The areas provide natural habitats with hiking and nature viewing opportunities. The parks are managed and maintained by the County of Fresno.

LOCAL SERVICES

A post office, store with fishing bait and gear, supplies, and gas, and a Fresno County library are located in Piedra. Other supply stores are found in Sanger, Centerville and Tivy Valley, and restaurants may be found in Sanger, Centerville and Minkler. Boating and fishing recreation is available from marinas on Pine Flat Reservoir.

Commonly Used Bait, Flies & Lures

FALL — WINTER

During fall and winter, flows in the river can range from minimum levels to large flood releases. Commonly used baits and lures during this time period are noted below.

- **Spin-casting:** Powerbait, salmon eggs, nightcrawlers, and spinners.
- **Flyfishing:** Dry and wet flies such as Kings River caddis, muddler minnow, woolybugger, Royal Coachman, blue wing olive, and blue dun or spinner.

SPRING — SUMMER

During spring and summer, flows in the river are usually high and may be up to several thousand cubic feet per second. Commonly used baits and lures during this time period are noted below.

- **Spin-casting:** Powerbait, salmon eggs, spinners, and small minnow imitations.
- **Flyfishing:** Dry flies, wet flies, and nymphs such as Kings River caddis, Prince nymph, woolybugger, Elk-hair caddis, mosquito, and caddis larvae.

Fishing success is high year-round in areas where trout are stocked. Fishing success is high in fall and winter when river flows have decreased, fish are concentrated, and river wading is easier.

Fish population sampling in the Kings River using backpack electroshockers.



Fishing Opportunities

The river is open to recreational angling for trout year-round, but is closed year-round to fishing between the Army Corps bridge and Pine Flat Dam.

See the official *Freshwater Fishing Regulations* by the Department of Fish & Game (DFG) for current bait, gear, location, general angling restrictions, and license requirements.

TROUT FISHING: HARVEST REACH (FIVE TROUT BAG LIMIT)

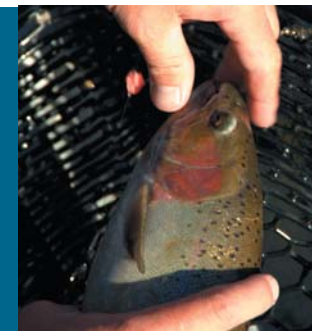
Public fishing access to Kings River in the reach from the Army Corps bridge below Pine Flat Dam to Cobbles (Alta) Weir includes Pine Flat Recreation Area, Kings River Recreation Park (undeveloped), Choinumni Park, and Winton Park. The Department of Fish & Game commonly plants hatchery-reared, catchable-size rainbow trout at the bridge below Pine Flat Dam, Choinumni Park, and Winton Park. Trout are also stocked in Avocado Lake during the winter and early spring. Catchable trout are usually stocked twice per week in the fall and winter, and once per week in the spring and summer. **Remember: the lake in Avocado Lake Park is the only area within the park where fish may be taken.**

TROUT FISHING: CATCH & RELEASE REACH (ZERO TROUT BAG LIMIT)

Public fishing access in the reach from Cobbles (Alta) Weir downstream to the Highway 180 crossing includes Avocado Lake Park and Green Belt Park (undeveloped). Public access areas are nestled between privately held properties where access is prohibited without land-owner permission. The Department of Fish & Game, in cooperation with the Fisheries Management Program, stocks hatchery reared, subcatchable-size rainbow trout (4-6" long) during the winter. **Remember: in this reach, only artificial lures may be used and all hooks must be barbless.**








To report poachers, call **CALTIP: 1-888-DFG-CALTIP (1-888-334-2258)** .

To report on your fishing experience on the Kings River, please visit the Public Advisory Group's website: **www.kingsriverfisheries.org** Your feedback is extremely valuable to the overall success of the program.



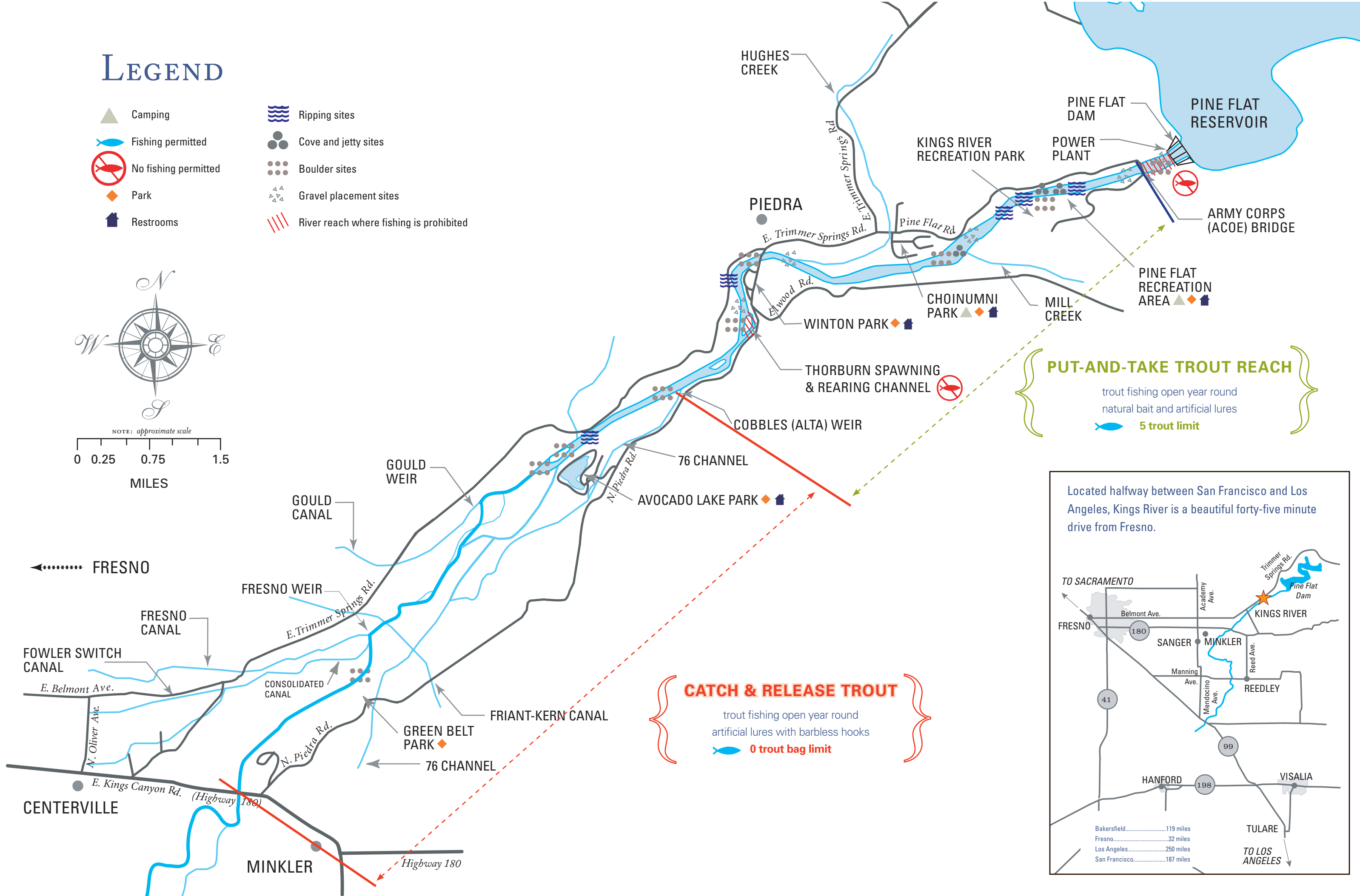
All fish caught in the Cobbles (Alta) Weir reach must be returned.

LEGEND


-  Camping
-  Fishing permitted
-  No fishing permitted
-  Park
-  Restrooms
-  Ripping sites
-  Cove and jetty sites
-  Boulder sites
-  Gravel placement sites
-  River reach where fishing is prohibited




NOTE: approximate scale
0 0.25 0.75 1.5
MILES



PUT-AND-TAKE TROUT REACH

trout fishing open year round
natural bait and artificial lures
 **5 trout limit**

CATCH & RELEASE TROUT

trout fishing open year round
artificial lures with barbless hooks
 **0 trout bag limit**

Located halfway between San Francisco and Los Angeles, Kings River is a beautiful forty-five minute drive from Fresno.

