



Suggested Fishing Destinations in Central Washington

Always refer to the WDFW Fishing Regulation Pamphlet prior to fishing any of these streams. Most of these are within an easy drive of Red's Fly Shop, or even a day trip from the Puget Sound area. The east slopes of the Cascades are regarded as the best small stream fishing in Washington State and a GREAT place to start as a beginner! Most of the fisheries here offer small trout in abundance, which is great adventure and perfect for learning the art of fly fishing.

The Yakima River Canyon

The Canyon near Red's Fly Shop is best wade fished when the river flows are below 2,500 cfs. September and October are the best months for wading, but February and March can offer great bank access as well. Spring and summer are more challenging but still possible.

Yakima County

Naches River – Trout tend to be most abundant upstream from the Tieton River junction. The best wade fishing season is July – October

Tieton River – It runs fairly dirty in June, but July – mid August is excellent.

Rattlesnake Creek – This is a great hike in adventure and offers wonderful small stream Cutthroat fishing for anyone willing to get off the beaten path.

Little Naches River – Easy access off of USFS Road 19, July – October is the best time.

American River/Bumping Rivers – These are in the headwaters of the Naches drainage. Be sure to read the WDFW Regulations if you fish the American River.

Ahtanum Creek – Great small stream fishing. June – October

Wenas Creek – Small water, small fish, but a great adventure. This is located in the mountains just south of Ellensburg. You can take Umtanum Road out of Ellensburg.

Kittitas County

Yakima River – Look for river flows below 2,500 cfs at the Umtanum Gauging Station. You can find a link to this on the Red's website.

Manastash Creek – This is easily accessed on USFS and WDFW Lands off of Manastash Road. Great small creek fishing for small trout.

Taneum Creek – Easy access off Taneum Road, and a near mirror image of Manastash Creek.

Teanaway River – Follow Teanaway River Road, beginning near Mile Marker 10 there is lots of public access. This offers a few shots at trout to 16", above average for a tributary stream!

Upper Cle Elum River – This is the Salmon La Sac area. Fish above Boulder Creek towards Tuquala Meadows for the greatest abundance of fish.

Waptus River – This is a tributary of the Upper Cle Elum River, and a great backcountry stream for anyone that likes backpacking. You can also access it from Salmon La Sac road for some casual car fishing.

Cooper River – This is below Cooper Lake, above Lake Cle Elum. This flows through a very steep gorge and has tough access. It is one of the prettiest streams however!