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FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT
11 HAZEN DRIVE
CONCORD, NH 03301



Take Me Fishing!



New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

Take Me Fishing!

Great North Woods



Shoreline Fishing Guide



New Hampshire Fish and Game Department
11 Hazen Drive, Concord, N.H. 03301 • (603) 271-3211

www.FishNH.com

North Country Fishing – The Great Escape!

Whether you're fly-fishing for big rainbows or tossing a line in while enjoying a riverside picnic, fishing New Hampshire's Great North Woods will be an experience to remember. Relax in scenic natural surroundings. Catch a glimpse of moose, osprey or loons. Pull in a fighting brookie. There's no better place than New Hampshire's North Country to get away from it all and go fishing.

From world-class fly-fishing waters to serene lakes and welcoming riverbank waysides, use this handy guide to find your own North Country fishing hole. Why wait?

Look inside for a selection of shorebank sites to cast your line in the Great North Woods, plus some handy tips and tricks for fishing success:

Fish of the Great North Woods – Species and bait choices

- Connecticut River Shorebank
- Little Diamond Pond
- Explore the Androscoggin
- Fish the Upper Ammonoosuc
- What to Bring
- Basic Rigging Setup
- The “WHAT I CAUGHT” checkboxes will help you keep track of your fishing success!



Catch-and-release

Fishing for fun, not food? Make sure you practice “catch-and-release.” A fish that is properly handled will have the best chance for survival.

Here's how:

- Use barbless hooks or hooks with pinched barbs.
- Land the fish quickly, so it does not become exhausted or stressed.
- Release the fish while it's still in the water.
- To remove the hook, gently back it out of the fish's mouth. You can use pliers for this.

Never remove a deeply swallowed hook from the fish's throat or stomach — instead, cut the leader and leave the hook in the fish. It will eventually work free or rust away.







Fish of the Great North Woods





Use this handy guide to choose the best baits and to see what kind of fish you've caught.

Baits to Use













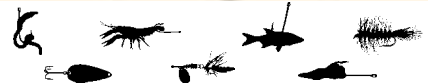





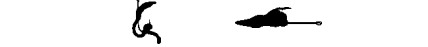

Natural Baits

Worms and crawlers	
Crayfish	
Hellgrammites	
Minnows	

Artificial Baits

Flies (wet, dry, streamers)	
Spoons	
In-line spinner baits	
Artificial putty baits	

Fish Identification Chart

Brook Trout = BKT		Largemouth Bass = LMB	
Rainbow Trout = RT		Smallmouth Bass = SMB	
Brown Trout = BNT		Yellow Perch = YP	
Landlocked Salmon = LLS		Chain Pickerel = CP	
Cusk (burbot) = CSK		Bullhead (horned pout) = BH	
			
			
			
			
			

Match Your Bait to Your Catch

Fish Illustrations: brook trout, rainbow trout, brown trout, LM bass, SM bass, yellow perch, pickerel, bullhead, ©DUANE RAVER/USFWS; Atlantic salmon, © VICTOR YOUNG; cusk, © JOSEPH TOMELLERI

Connecticut River

Anglers can expect to catch several species of trout – brook, brown and rainbow – as well as landlocked salmon, in this beautiful stretch of the Connecticut River downstream from its headwater lakes. An equal number of stocked and wild fish keep the action hot. All salmon caught below Murphy Dam must be immediately released.

- 1. Pittsburg** — Good access points include **(1a)** a **N.H. Fish and Game pull-off/kiosk** near the State garage, **(1b)** **Pittsburg-Clarksville covered bridge** (locals call it Bacon Road Bridge) just south of town, and **(1c)** **Murphy Dam** parking area.
- 2. Canaan Dam** — in West Stewartstown offers wide, deep-water fishing for beginners or kids, while the fast water below the dam will test casting skills and frequently gives up monster brown trout. Good parking and fishing access.
- 3. Lyman Falls** — in Columbia offers good foot access off Route 3 to the river via a private gravel road. Note that only catch-and-release and artificial lures and flies may be used. This stretch of river is awesome nursery habitat for coldwater fish, and anglers can catch naturally reproduced brook, brown and rainbow trout.



Little Diamond Pond

In Stewartstown, you'll find some of the best shoreline trout fishing in Coos County at **Little Diamond Pond (4)**. Anglers do very well from shore catching brook and rainbow trout. The parking lot can accommodate about 30 cars and boat trailers. On the shore of the pond, 1,500-acre Coleman State Park offers camping (no hook-ups), hiking and canoeing. For more information, visit www.nhstateparks.org.

What I Caught



Androscoggin River

The entire length of the Androscoggin River is home to trout and landlocked salmon, as well as smallmouth bass. From Errol to Berlin, the Androscoggin offers tremendous access and unlimited fishing opportunities as the river parallels Route 16 for almost 20 miles.

1. Androscoggin Wayside State Park

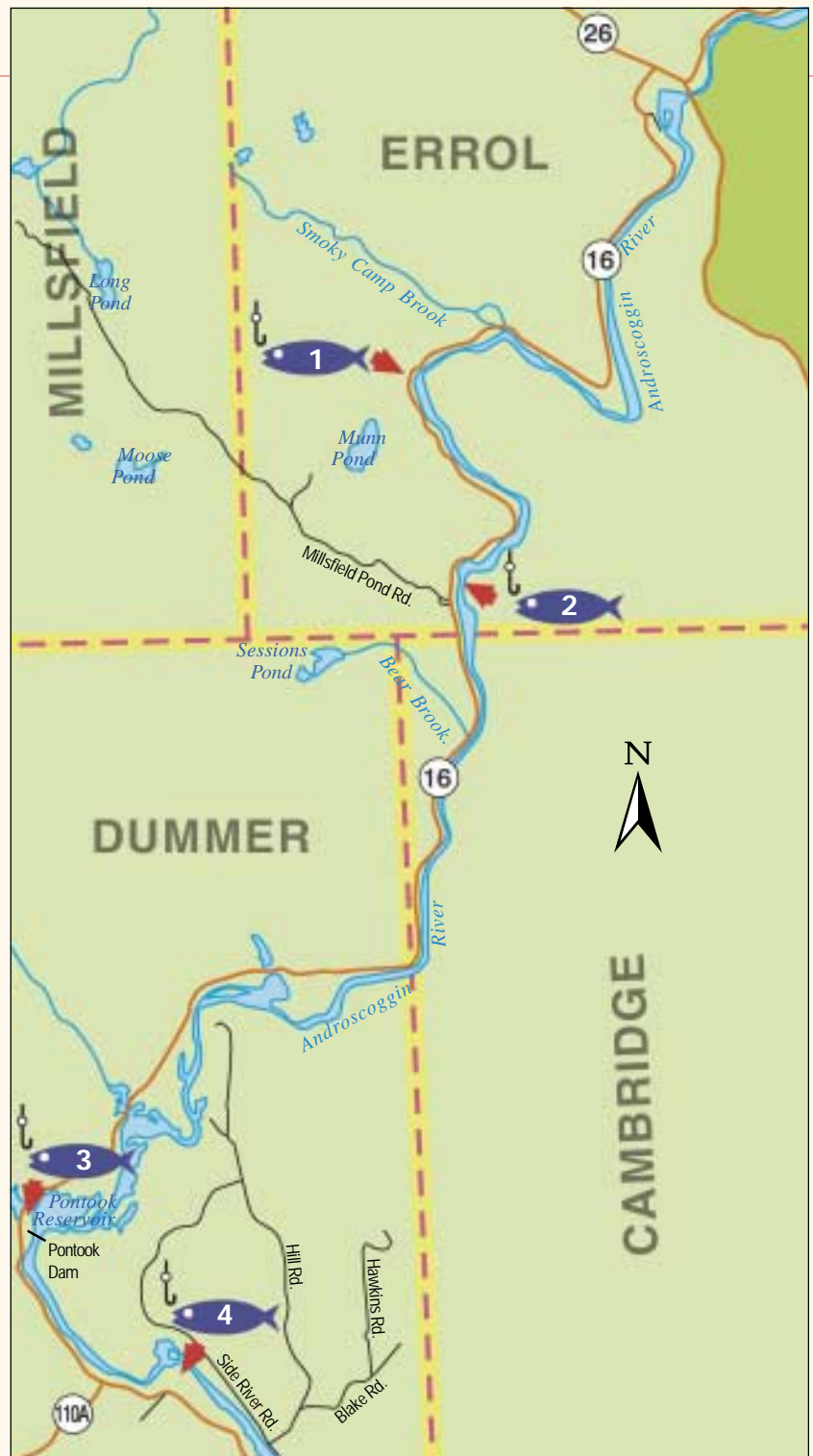
— in Errol, within the Thirteen Mile Woods natural area, is a fishing and family-friendly area with access to classic trout waters.

2. **Seven Islands Bridge** — in Errol, allows an opportunity to cross the river and cast from both sides into pool, riffle and glide sections of river.

3. **Pontook Reservoir** — in Dummer, offers traditional, pond-style fishing in the impoundment, while the river below the dam is a white-water trout and salmon fishery. Ample parking and boat launch.

4. **Paul Bofinger Wayside State Park** — in Dummer, allows access to an otherwise quiet and secluded section of river and can be a hotspot for taking smallmouth on a fly rod.

What I Caught



Androscoggin continued...

5. Nansen Wayside State Park

— in Milan, offers great fishing access; popular spot for wading, picnicking and boating.

6. Northern Forest Heritage Park

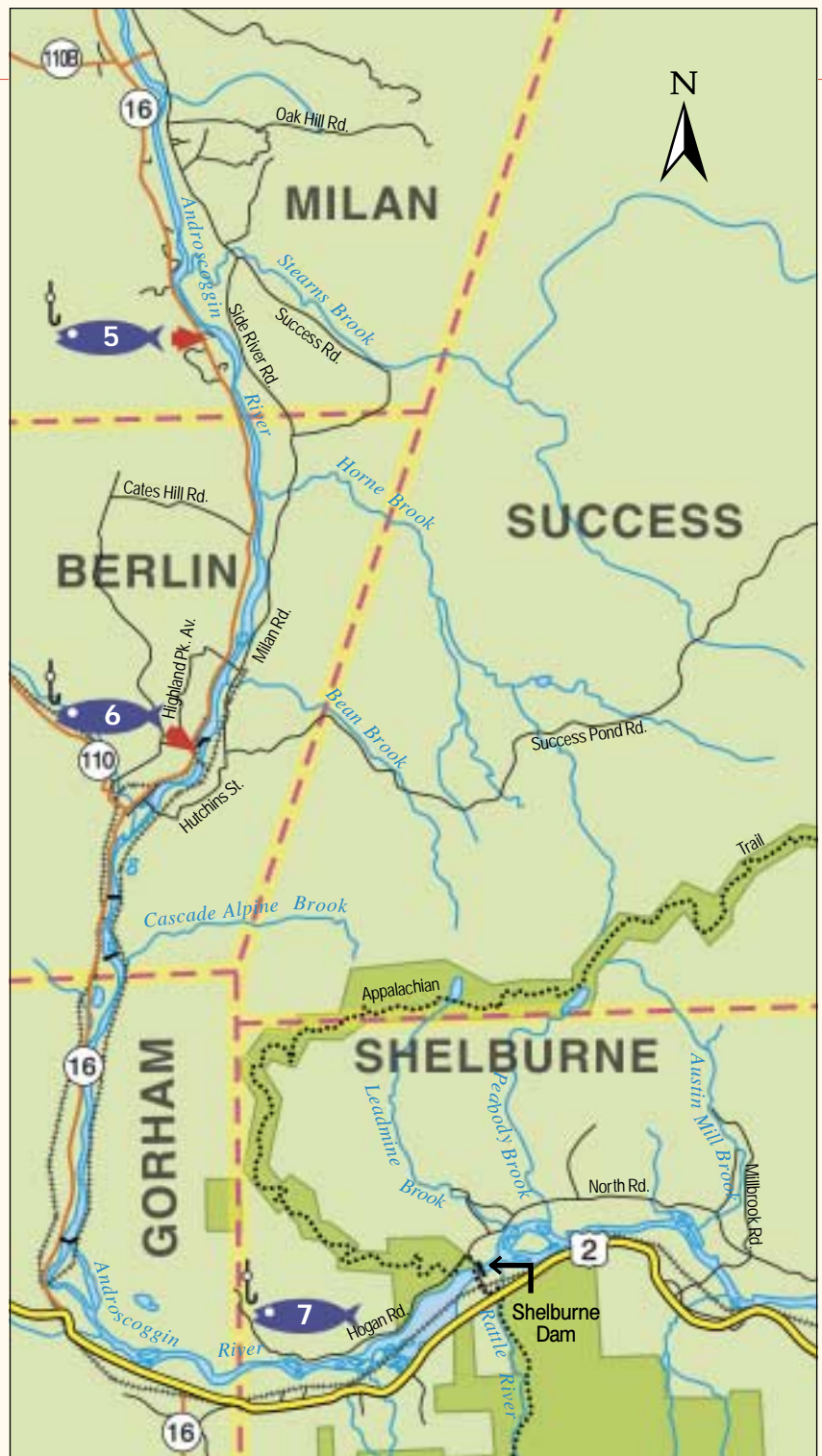
— on Main Street in Berlin. Toss in your line at the park's waterfront, then stop in at the logging camp museum to learn about the story of the working forest.

7. Further down the Androscoggin

— from the Sawmill Dam in Berlin through Shelburne to the Maine border, fishing for big browns and rainbows is phenomenal. Access the river from the whole length of Hogan Road (this road runs parallel to the river on the north side), and from Route 16 on the south side of the river. Below the Shelburne Dam, you'll find great fishing with access via the state land on the south shore. This section of the river has no closed season, but is catch-and-release and single-hook artificial lure/fly only, giving the angler excellent opportunities at trophy fish.

What I Caught

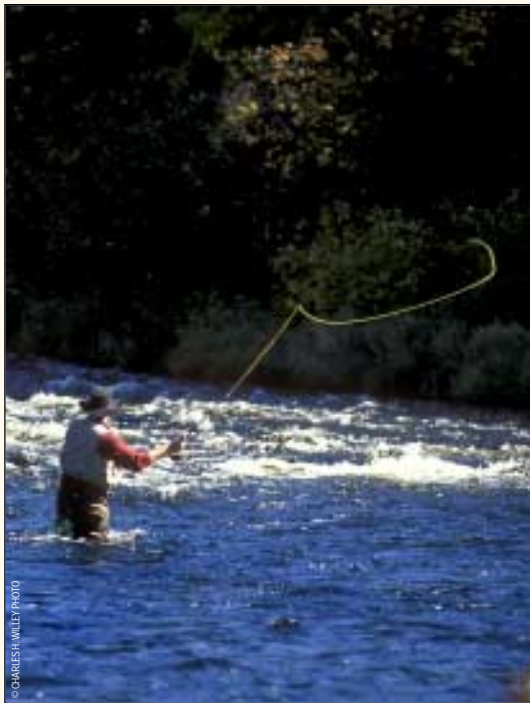
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|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> BKT | <input type="checkbox"/> LMB |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BNT | <input type="checkbox"/> SMB |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> LLS | <input type="checkbox"/> CP |



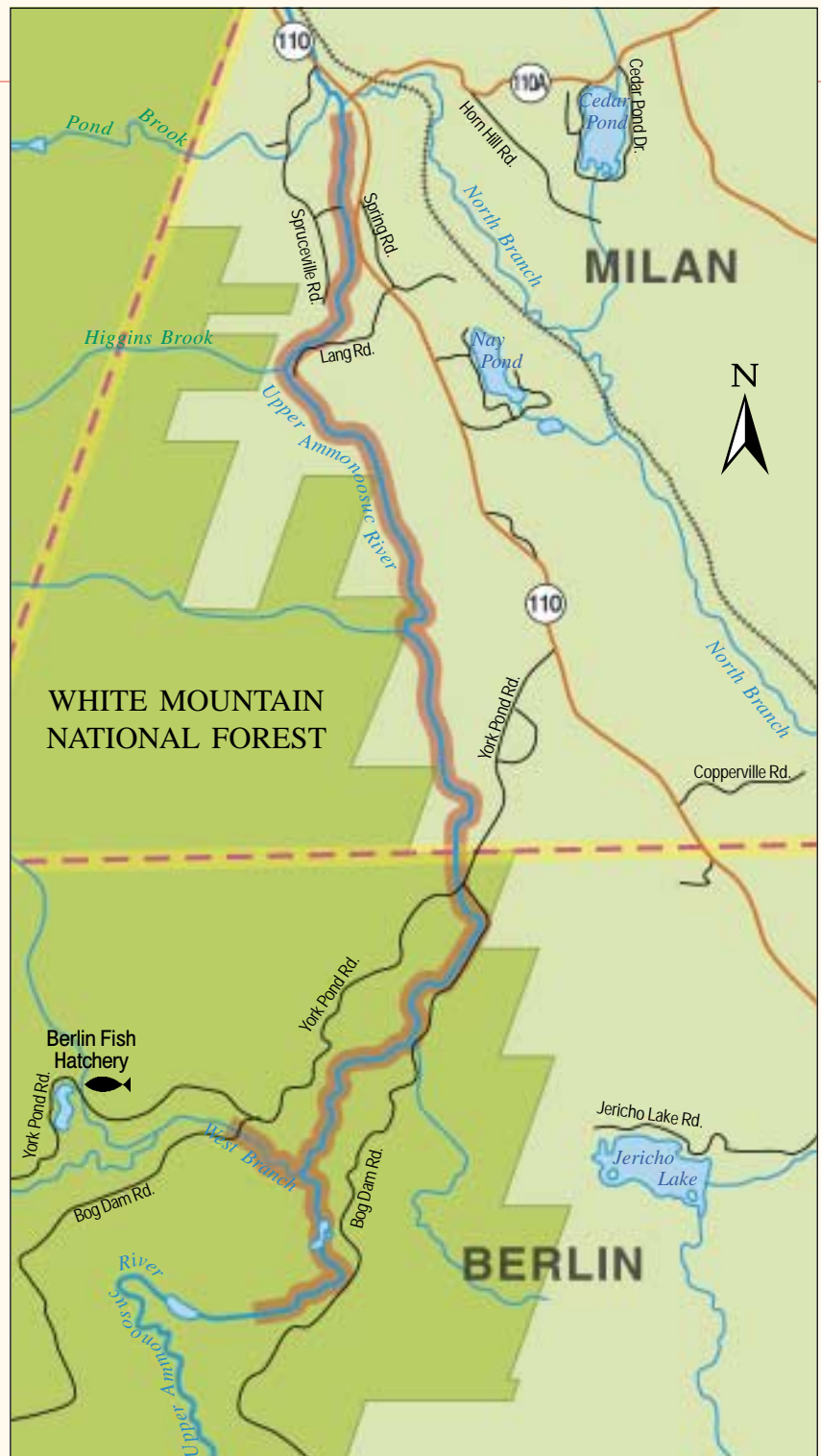
Upper Ammonoosuc

Anglers looking for a more solitary experience will enjoy the upstream reaches of the Upper Ammonoosuc River and the West Branch of the Upper Ammonoosuc River (shaded in red) in Milan and Berlin. The “Kilkenny Loop” – Bog Dam Road – off York Pond Road from Route 110, offers the best access to this area, with excellent opportunities for brook trout.

What I Caught



From rushing rivers to secluded streams, the unrivaled beauty of the Great North Woods makes it well worth the trip.

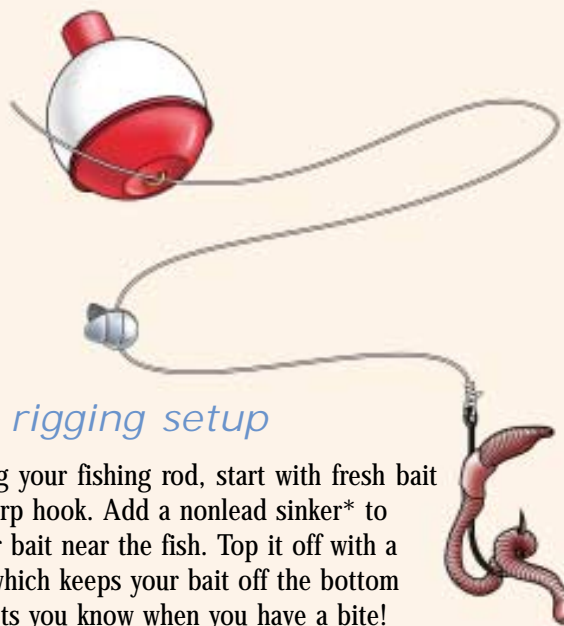


What to Bring

Make a fun day even better by taking along the right gear. You'll want to have:

- Fishing rods with spin-casting reels and 8-pound-test line
- Tackle box with hooks, bobbers, non-lead sinkers, artificial baits and a pair of pliers
- N.H. Freshwater Fishing Digest
- Cooler with ice for storing your catch
- Binoculars for moose-watching

Keep your family comfortable while they're fishing, and they'll ask to come with you again. Have them dress for the weather, and be ready for whatever the day might bring. Keep the bug spray handy, as well as a simple first aid kit, sunscreen, sunglasses and hats. Pack plenty of snacks and drinks, too — but keep in mind that some fishing sites have many users. To help keep these places clean and safe, bring along a small trash bag and carry out everything you bring in.



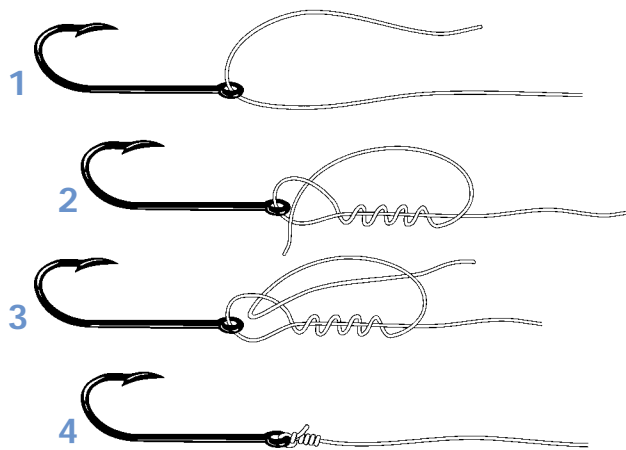
Basic rigging setup

To rig your fishing rod, start with fresh bait and a sharp hook. Add a nonlead sinker* to keep your bait near the fish. Top it off with a bobber, which keeps your bait off the bottom — and lets you know when you have a bite!

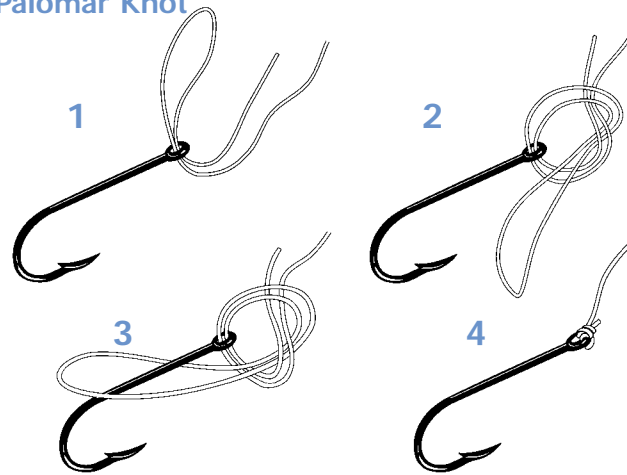
*N.H. State Law prohibits the use of certain sizes of lead tackle in all fresh waters in the state.

Need-to-know knots

Clinch Knot



Palomar Knot



Find more New Hampshire fishing information at the N.H. Fish and Game website, www.FishNH.com. Buy your license online and be ready to go fishing — right now!

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