



Ice Fishing Anyone?

When one thinks ice fishing, they don't usually think California. Beaches, redwoods and deserts yes. But ice fishing? In reality, California offers some great ice fishing opportunities - especially in the northern part of the state. If you find yourself wanting to try something out of the ordinary in 2017, grab your fishing gear, an auger, some warm clothes and give ice fishing a try. Below you will find some ice fishing techniques, safety tips, necessary gear and ideas for teaching kids to fish in cold weather.



Ice Fishing Tips and Techniques

Ice fishing techniques are slightly different than what would be used in the warmer months. Since the water is much colder, fish will not move much to bite. In addition to little movement, fish do not bite as aggressively as in the summer, so a big part of technique is reading the bite. It is important to

learn different ways to attract the fish and read the bite.

**MORE ICE FISHING
TIPS AND
TECHNIQUES >**

Safety

Ice Fishing can be a very fun outdoor activity, but must be done safely. Simple things can be done to have a fun, safe outing.

**ICE FISHING SAFETY
TIPS >**



Gear

Your standard trout fishing set-up will work just fine, or you can opt for the smaller ice fishing-specific rod and reel. You will also need an auger, shovel and small trowel or a large spoon to remove ice build-up. A hat, boots and gloves are essential. Dressing in layers and having some hand-warmer packets in your pockets will help you stay comfortable. A carpet remnant or piece of cardboard can be useful to keep you off of the snow.

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Take the Kids

Fishing is a great activity to teach kids. It is empowering, increases environmental awareness, and is just plain fun. There are many tips to teach kids to fish but the old rule to "always leave them wanting more" has never been more important than fishing in the cold. Extra creature comforts can help their cold fishing enjoyment.

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Second Rod Validation

Purchasing a second rod validation can greatly increase your success rate while ice fishing. Fishing with two rods allows you to try different locations with different angling techniques in order to figure out what's working on any given day. One rod can be baited with a worm or salmon eggs and the other can be rigged with a jig or a spoon.

***BUY YOUR VALIDATION
NOW >***

Check the Regs

It is every angler's responsibility to be familiar with the fishing regulations in the area they plan to fish. Some high-elevation lakes may be closed to fishing during the winter months. Be sure to check the regulations before you head out.

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By purchasing a fishing license in California, you are providing a dedicated source of funding for management and protection of the state's fisheries and for fish hatchery operation. Purchasing a sport fishing license also helps support California's longstanding fishing heritage for today and future generations.

Thank you for fishing in California!