

Regulations in STORELVA

Berlevåg Hunting and Fishing Association (BJFF) leases Storelva in Berlevåg on behalf of the landowner Finnmarkseiendommen (FeFo). Preserving the salmon and Arctic char populations is crucial for the future and should be managed sustainably. In this regard, the fishing regulations are adapted to the conditions of the river and the status of the stocks. It is essential that anglers follow and respect the rules. Arctic char is fully protected in the river, and fishing is only permitted for salmon. To fish in the anadromous section of Storelva, all individuals must have a valid fishing license. Individuals aged 18 and above must have paid the national fishing fee (fiskeravgift) for the current season to purchase a fishing license. The fishing license is personal and cannot be transferred to others. River guards or other enforcement authorities may request to see a valid fishing license, disinfection certificate, and identification.

Fishing Season:

The fishing season runs from July 1st to August 15th. There is a daily fishing ban from 01:00 to 06:00.

3 Protected Zones – all marked along the river:

- 1) Coastal Zone From the river/seashore boundary up to 50 meters above the bridge.
- 2) Laksholla (by the ski cabin) From the sign approximately 100 meters downstream to the sign approximately 100 meters upstream of Laksholla.
- 3) Upper Section From the marker approximately 100 meters north of 2nd Laksholla and further upstream throughout the anadromous zone.

Quotas – applicable to the entire watercourse:

Seasonal quota – 2 salmon (killed) for residents outside Finnmark 3 salmon (killed) for residents in Finnmark. If a fisherman fulfills the seasonal quota, fishing must cease and the fishing license must be handed in with a completed catch report Daily quota – 1 salmon. The fishing ends if 1 salmon is caught and landed (killed).

Winter-run salmon (vinterstøing) and salmon under 35 cm are protected throughout the season and must be released alive into the river. Farmed salmon and pink salmon (pukkellaks) should be killed and immediately reported to the authorities. They do not count towards the quota.

Note: Arctic Char

Arctic char is fully protected in Storelva. It is therefore not allowed to intentionally fish for Arctic char. If one accidentally catches an Arctic char during fishing, the fish should be carefully released. The Arctic char should not be taken out of the water/air. Remove the hook swiftly and release the char. The population is vulnerable and at risk, so we urge our anglers to show consideration for the char.

Catch Reporting:

All individuals purchasing a fishing license are required to submit a catch report, regardless of whether they have caught any fish. To purchase a new fishing license, the previous catch report must be submitted. This means you also have to report no-catch on your license.

If you bought a 24-hour license, you should report your catch within 2 days after the end of fishing. Have you bought a season or week license, you should submit catch reports weekly throughout the season.

All caught and killed salmon should have scale samples taken. The salmon population in Stordalselva is new and establishing, so gathering information on its development is of utmost importance. Scale envelopes and instructions are provided upon purchasing a fishing license.

Disinfection of Fishing Equipment:

All visiting anglers must disinfect their fishing gear before starting fishing. Anglers who are permanent residents of Berlevåg municipality should disinfect their equipment if it has been used in other watercourses, including Kongsfjordelva. All fishing gear, nets, waders, wading pants, and similar items MUST be cleaned and disinfected before use in Storelva. Disinfection is carried out at the guard cabin and costs 100 kroner.

For individuals with approved volunteer work in the current season, disinfection is free of charge.

Gear Regulations:

The following gear is allowed throughout the season:

- Fly rod with a floating line and a fly.
- Single hook with a maximum size of 4-8. No weighting is allowed.
- Double hook with a maximum size of 6-10. No weighting is allowed.
- Plastic tube fly with a single hook or double hook. No weighting is allowed.
- Children under 14 years old can use a floating bobber with a fly.

Fly lines or leaders with sinking components are not allowed.

The use of treble hooks is prohibited.

The use of bait, spoons, spinners, wobblers, or similar gear is not allowed.

It is forbidden to fish in a way that may harm the fish.

Fishing Conduct:

To provide equal opportunities for all individuals with fishing licenses, "moving fishing" should be practiced. The person who arrives at the pool/section first has the right to start fishing. - Begin fishing at the top of the zone or where it is natural to start and fish downstream. If there are anglers in the zone/pool when you arrive, you should start above/behind them. Wait until the angler has moved downstream before starting so as not to obstruct them. Anglers can mutually agree on fishing methods in the pool.

Note: Storelva is a small and vulnerable river. Especially during low water flow, the fish are susceptible, and their migration can be negatively affected if fishing pressure becomes too high. Certain pools near the road are often very popular and frequently occupied by anglers. It is important that everyone gets a chance, and there should be no "occupation" of pools. Therefore, one should not stay in the same pool for too long if others also wish to fish there. It is good practice to move around and rotate between pools. This makes for a good fishing culture and a pleasant atmosphere among anglers. Show respect to each other, the fish, and the environment.

Nature and Code of Conduct:

Storelva and the valley are unique wilderness areas with minimal human impact. We wish to keep it that way for future generations. All individuals visiting the river have a responsibility to keep the river valley free from litter and unnecessary disturbances.

All users are obliged to keep their surroundings clean and tidy when they are by the river, and all garbage must be taken with them when leaving. The fire pits are NOT garbage bins. Cleaning fish by the river is considered careless due to the risk of contamination and for general order and comfort. Fishguts should not be left by the riverbank. Take it with you or bury it well away from fishing and camping areas.

Storelvdalen is devoid of forests, so firewood must be brought in. It is not allowed to cut down trees along the watercourse. Use existing fire pits.

Camping should take place at a reasonable distance from the river and popular fishing spots.

Report any littering observed along the watercourse to the river guard.

Penalties:

Violations of local and national regulations are punishable under the Fisheries Act. By purchasing a fishing license, the angler agrees to learn, and accept the current fishing regulations in the river. Violations of the fishing rules may result in a warning, fines (2000-10000 kroner), confiscation of fishing licenses and/or catch, exclusion (1-5 seasons), and/or police report, depending on the severity of the offense. Failure to submit a catch report will result in a fee of 500 kroner. If a fine is issued, the angler must pay it before purchasing a new fishing license.