

Other Types of Fishing

WCU Bass Cats is a bass fishing team and part of the collegiate fishing team circuit. The team is part of WCU's active club sports program. For more information, visit [facebook.com/WCUBASSTEAM](https://www.facebook.com/WCUBASSTEAM)

Parks & Recreation Management

Students in the Parks & Recreation Management program have produced this guide. For more information about the PRM program contact us at 828.227.7310 or visit our website at prm.wcu.edu

Base Camp Cullowhee

Not ready to explore on your own? Or would like to try a new outdoor adventure? Need to rent outdoor gear for your next adventure? WCU's Base Camp Cullowhee (BCC) provides an array of outdoor program services, which include recreation trips, outdoor gear rental, and experiential education services. Contact BCC at 828.227-3633 or visit their website at basecamp.wcu.edu

Resources:

Leave No Trace | lnt.org

North Carolina Fish and Wildlife | ncwildlife.org

WNC Fly fishing Trail | flyfishingtrail.com



Cullowhee Adventure Guide Originally Produced by:

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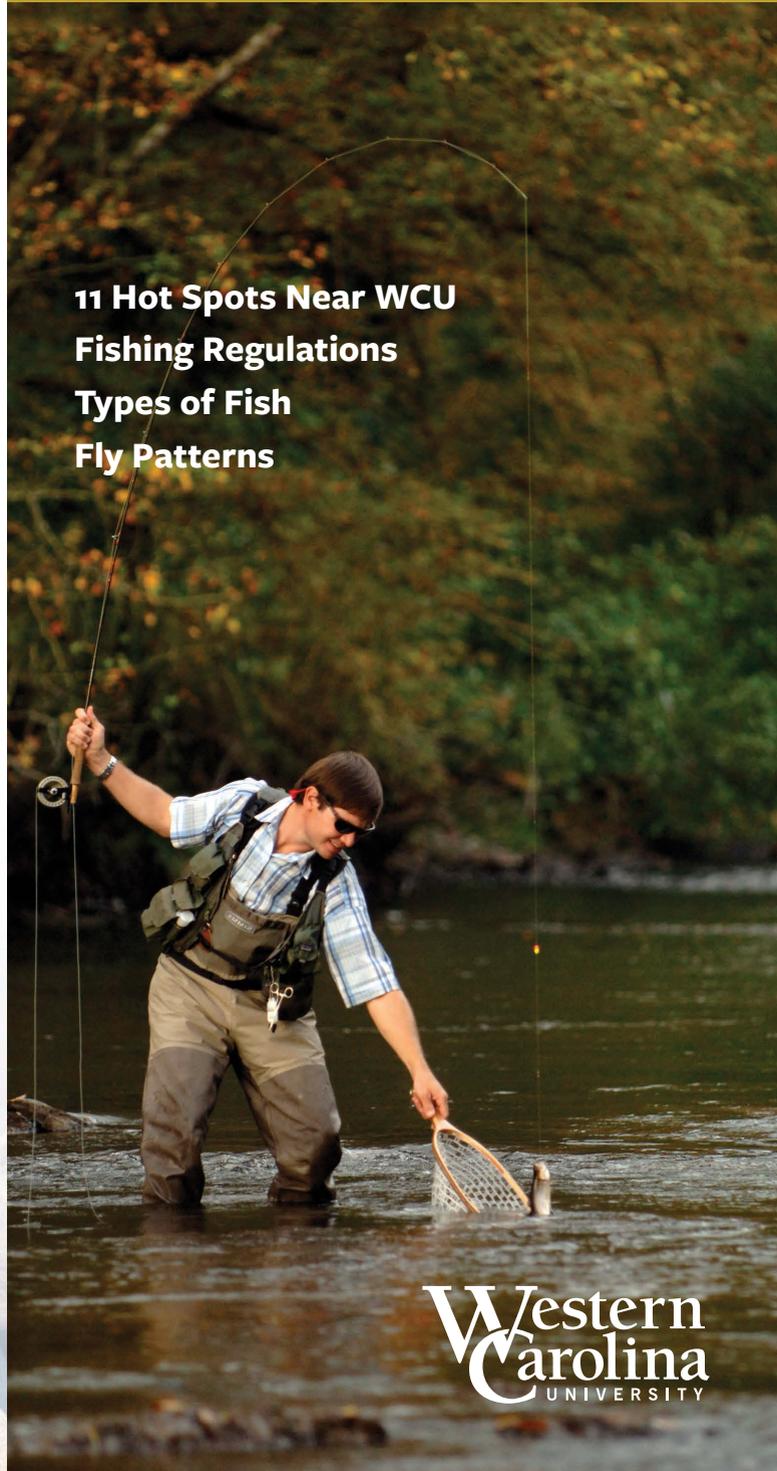
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Fly Fishing

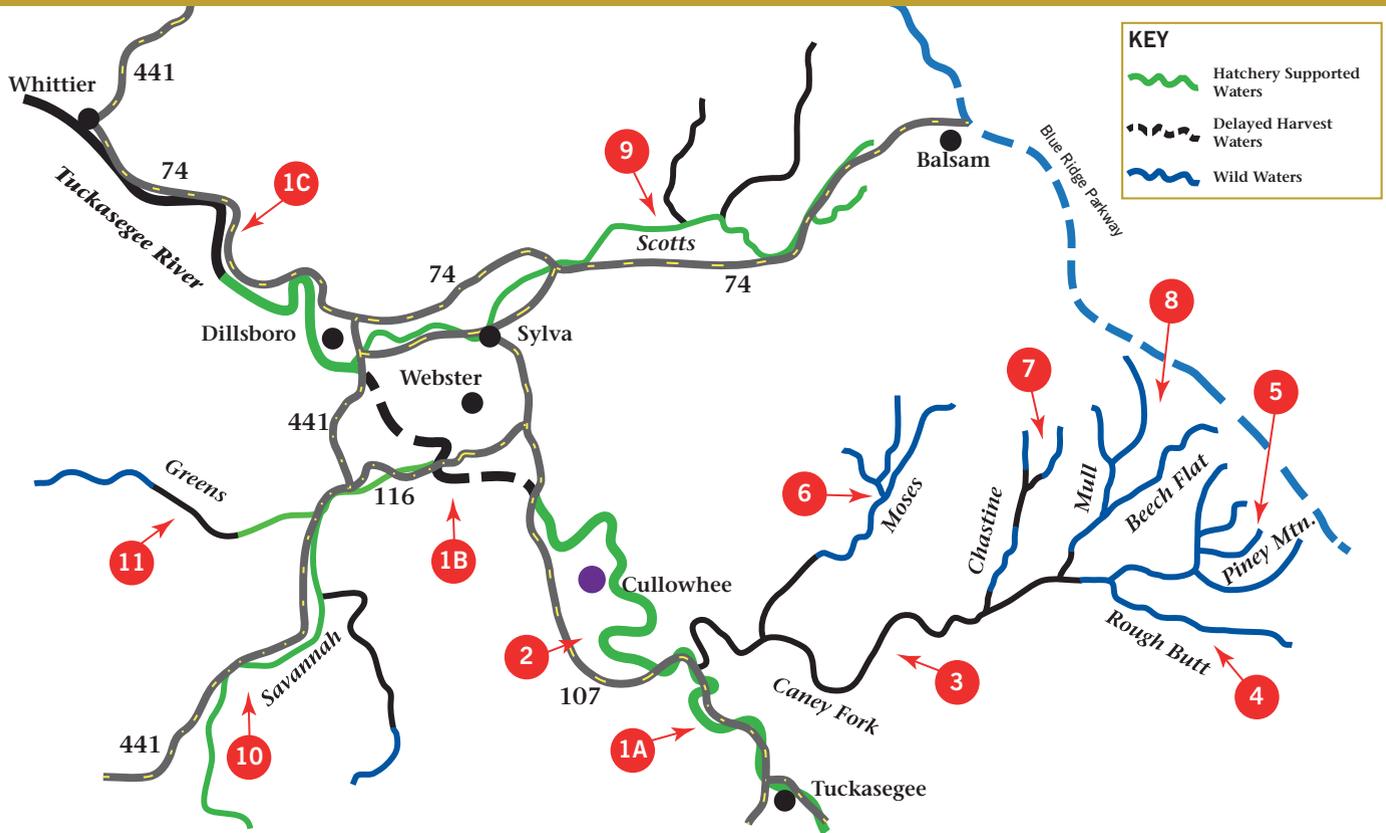
Where Whee Play

11 Hot Spots Near WCU
Fishing Regulations
Types of Fish
Fly Patterns



Western
Carolina
UNIVERSITY

Where Whee Fish



Locations with Parking Information

1. Tuckasee River

- A. Upper Tuckasee: East Laporte Park to NC 107 Bridge. Parking and access available at East Laporte Park and several pulls off along Old Cullowhee Road.
- B. Middle Tuckasee: NC 107 Bridge to Dillsboro Park. Parking and access available via pull-off areas along North River Road.
- C. Lower Tuckasee: Access available via pull off and businesses along 10-mile stretch of U.S. 19.

2. Cullowhee Creek

Located on the outskirts of Western Carolina University.

3. Caney Fork

Access via Caney Fork Road off NC 107. Avoid posted land.

4. Rough Butt Creek

Access via Moses Creek Road and Caney Fork Road off NC 107.

5. Piney Mountain Creek

Access via Moses Creek and Caney Fork Road off NC 107.

6. Moses Creek

Access via Moses Creek Road off of Caney Fork Road off NC 107.

7. Chastine Creek

Access via Moses Creek Road off of Caney Fork Road off NC 107.

8. Mull Creek

Access via Moses Creek Road off of Caney Fork Road off NC 107. Avoid private lands.

9. Scotts Creek

Access via Skyland Drive off of US 19/23.

10. Savannah Creek

Parking and Access available via several pull-off areas along U.S. 23/441.

11. Greens Creek

Parking and Access available via pull-off areas along Greens Creek Road.

NOTE: **Numbers will correlate with the numbers on the map.**

Other places to fish a little bit farther...

- Nantahala River - 45 minutes
- Panthertown Creek - 35 minutes
- Oconaluftee River - 30 minutes (special tribal permit required)
- Great Smoky Mountain National Park - 30 minutes

The Tuckasegee River is one of the most incredible places to fish and it's right here in our backyard. It rivals many of the rivers out West for its number and size of rainbow, brook, and brown trout. The "Tuck," as the locals call it, begins high in the Appalachian Mountains as many small streams and creeks converge. In addition to trout, as the waters warm up you will begin to see a good Smallmouth Bass population. Many people say the Tuck is some of the most impressive waters in the Eastern United States.

Fly Patterns

What the Locals Use



Dry Flies: Patterns imitating the adult stage of aquatic insects like mayflies, caddis flies, stoneflies, midges or dragon flies.

**Recommended patterns are Adams, Light Cahills, Elk hair Caddis and Orange Stimulators.*



Streamers: Designed to resemble some form of baitfish or other large aquatic prey. Great flies to use when water levels are high.

**Recommended patterns are Woolly Buggers and the Muddler Minnow.*



Nymphs: Most trout feeding is below surface where they forage on Nymphs. Insects drop their eggs on the surface and these drift to the bottom of streams and rivers where they stay until hatch and the newly developed nymphs are prime food for hungry trout.

**Recommended patterns are Prince Nymphs, Pheasant Tails and Hares Ear.*

Safety Tips

Be Prepared

- Be aware of your surroundings when casting.
- Sunglasses will protect your eyes from hooks and the sun.
- Shoes should always be worn to protect your feet from sharp objects.
- Dress for the weather.
- Carefully check the area before wading in.

What's in the Water?

What the Locals Catch



Rainbow Trout



Brook Trout



Brown Trout



Smallmouth Bass

Leave No Trace

Respect the Environment

- Properly dispose unwanted fishing line or trash.
- Fish entrails and human waste should be buried 6-inches deep in the ground 200 feet from the water.
- Pack it in, pack it out. Pack out everything you bring.
- Respect the Fish:
 - Cut barbs off of hooks to limit damage to the fish.
 - Keep only the fish you need and return others back into the water.
 - Limit the time the fish is out of water.
- Respect Others:
 - Keep a respectable distance from others recreating on the waters.
 - Be aware of designated public and private fishing areas.
 - Travel and fish quietly, not to disturb the fish or others.

Help provide a great fishing experience to the environment, the fish, and others by following Leave No Trace principles.

Things to Note

Licenses, Water Levels & Rules

- A fishing license is required to fish in all areas. Licenses can be purchased online at www.ncwildlife.org or at Wal-Mart in the sporting goods section.
- The Tuckaseegee River water level rises and lowers with release of the dam and rains.
- Fishing is not allowed in many locations during the month of March. Check the rules and regulations for further details.

NC fishing regulations and rules can be found on the North Carolina Fish and Wildlife web site, ncwildlife.org, or in the fish and wildlife guide available at the Walmart sporting goods section.

Did You Know?

All fishing waters listed in this brochure flow into the Gulf of Mexico. West of the Eastern Continental Divide, water from the Tuckaseegee River flows into the Little Tennessee, followed by the Tennessee, Ohio, Mississippi rivers and eventually dumps into the Gulf of Mexico.

