

CHAPTER 6264

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DESIGNATED WATERS

6264 0300 DESIGNATED EXPERIMENTAL WATERS

6264 0400 DESIGNATED SPECIAL MANAGEMENT
WATERS**6264.0300 DESIGNATED EXPERIMENTAL WATERS.***[For text of subpart 1, see MR]*

Subp 2 Muskellunge size restrictions and spearing exclusion. The following lakes have experimental regulations with size restrictions for muskellunge and a spearing ban from December 1 to the third Sunday in February. A person may not have a spear in possession or under control while on or fishing on the waters of these lakes during this period. All muskellunge in possession while on or fishing on these waters must be 48 inches or greater in length. All muskellunge less than 48 inches in length must be returned to the water immediately.

[For text of items A to D, see MR]

Subp 3. Spearing prohibited. The following lakes are closed to the taking of fish by spearing from December 1 to the third Sunday in February. A person may not have a spear in possession or under control while on or fishing on the waters of these lakes during this period.

*[For text of items A to F, see MR]**[For text of subps 10 to 12, see MR]**[For text of subps 14 and 15, see MR.]**[For text of subps 19 and 20, see MR]*

Subp. 25. [Repealed, 24 SR 1186]

[For text of subps 28 to 32, see MR]

Subp 33 Annie Battle Lake experimental regulations. Effective March 1, 1997, while on or fishing in Annie Battle Lake, the daily and possession limit for sunfish is five, and angling for northern pike and largemouth bass shall be limited to catch and release only, whereby any northern pike or largemouth bass caught must be immediately returned to the water. Catch and release angling for northern pike and largemouth bass shall be legal during the open season for these species in inland waters. It is unlawful for anyone to have in possession, regardless of where taken, any northern pike or largemouth bass while on or fishing in Annie Battle Lake. A person may not possess a motorized ice auger or electronic fish finding devices while on or fishing in Annie Battle Lake. Electronic fish finding devices include depth finders, fish finders, and other sonars, global positioning systems, and temperature and pH meters.

Name	Location	County	End Date
Annie Battle Lake	T 133, R 39,40, S.13,18,19,24	Otter Tail	3/1/2003

[For text of subp 34, see MR.]

Subp 35 Walleye slot limits on Big Sand and Little McDonald Lakes. All walleye in possession while on or fishing in the following waters must be less than 18 inches in length or greater than 26 inches in length. All walleye that are 18 to 26 inches in length, inclusive, must be immediately returned to the water. A person's possession limit may not include more than one walleye over 26 inches.

	Name	Location	County	End Date
A	Big Sand Lake	T 141, R 34, S Various	Hubbard	3/1/2005
B	Little McDonald Lake (including Kerbs Lake)	T.136, R 40, S Various	Otter Tail	3/1/2010

[For text of subps 36 to 58, see MR]

Subp. 59 **Pelican Lake experimental regulations.** All largemouth bass and smallmouth bass in possession while on or fishing in Pelican Lake must be less than 14 inches in length or greater than 20 inches in length. All largemouth bass and smallmouth bass that are 14 to 20 inches in length, inclusive, must be immediately returned to the water. A person's possession limit may not include more than one largemouth bass or smallmouth bass over 20 inches in length. All northern pike in possession while on or fishing in Pelican Lake must be less than 24 inches in length or greater than 32 inches in length. All northern pike that are 24 to 32 inches in length, inclusive, must be immediately returned to the water. A person's possession limit may not include more than one northern pike over 32 inches in length.

Name	Location	County	End Date
Pelican Lake	T 64,65, R 19, 20,21, S Various	St. Louis	3/1/2008

[For text of subps 60 and 61, see MR.]

Subp. 62 **Mississippi River experimental regulations.** The possession limit for smallmouth bass taken from the following waters is three fish. All smallmouth bass in possession while on or fishing on these waters must be less than 12 inches in length or greater than 20 inches in length. All smallmouth bass that are 12 to 20 inches in length, inclusive, must be returned to the water immediately. Not more than one smallmouth bass in possession may be over 20 inches in length.

Name	Location	County	End Date
Mississippi River	from the St. Cloud dam (T 124N, R.28W, S.13 and T 35N, R 31W, S 1) downstream to the mouth of the Crow River (T 121N, R 23W, S.36 and T 32N, R 26W, S 24) near Dayton	Sherburne, Wright, Stearns	3/1/2009

Subp. 63. **Walleye slot limits on Winnibigoshish and connected waters.** All walleye in possession while on or fishing in the following waters must be less than 17 inches in length or greater than 26 inches in length. All walleye that are 17 to 26 inches in length, inclusive, must be immediately returned to the water. A person's possession limit may not include more than one walleye over 26 inches.

	Name	Location	County	End Date
A	Cut Foot Sioux Lake	T.146,147, R 27, S Various	Itasca	5/2010

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B.	Dixon Lake	T 148, R 28,29, S.Variou	Itasca	5/2010
C	Egg Lake	T 146, R 26, S.3,10	Itasca	5/2010
D.	First River Lake	T 146, R 26, S.5,6,7,8,9	Itasca	5/2010
E	Little Cut Foot Lake	T 146,147, R.26, 27, S.Variou	Itasca	5/2010
F.	Mississippi River (from the Knutson dam to the confluence with Wmnibigoshish)	T 145,146, R.29, 30, S.Variou	Itasca, Cass, Beltrami	5/2010
G.	Pidgeon River (from the Pidgeon Dam Lake's dam to the confluence with Winnibigoshish)	T 147, R 27, S'30	Itasca	5/2010
H	Rabbits Lake	T.146, R.29, S.1,2, 11,12	Itasca	5/2010
I	Ravens Flowage	T.146, R.28,29, S 18,19,13,24	Itasca	5/2010
J.	Ravens Lake	T 146, R.29, S.10,11	Itasca	5/2010
K.	Sugar	T 146, R.29, S Various	Itasca	5/2010
L.	Third River Flowage	T.147, R.28,29, S Various	Itasca	5/2010
M.	Wmnibigoshish	T 145,146,147, R.27,28,29, S.Variou	Cass, Itasca	5/2010

Statutory Authority: *MS s 14.386, 97C 001*

History: *24 SR 1186, 24 SR 1578; 24 SR 1849*

6264.0400 DESIGNATED SPECIAL MANAGEMENT WATERS.

[For text of subpart 1, see M R.]

Subp 2. **Catch and release fishing on trout streams.** While on or fishing in the following waters, angling for trout shall be limited to catch and release only, whereby any trout caught must be immediately returned to the water. Catch and release angling for trout shall be legal during the open season for trout in inland streams. It is unlawful for anyone to have in possession, regardless of where taken, any trout while on or fishing in the following waters. All legal methods of taking trout are allowed, except

that barbed hooks are prohibited. A hook from which the barb has been removed by crimping or filing is allowed.

Name	Location	County
Hay Creek	T 112, R.15, S 23,24,26,27, from the posted boundary at the point where Hay Creek crosses the SW 1/4 SE 1/4 section line of S 24 upstream approximately 4.2 miles to the posted boundary in the SW 1/4 SE 1/4 S.27	Goodhue
Middle Branch Whitewater River	T.107, R 11, S.35 and T 106, R.11, S.2,3,10, from the posted boundary at the point where a tributary enters the stream from the west in the NW 1/4 NE 1/4, S.35 of T 107, R 11 upstream approximately 3 3 miles to the source in the SW 1/4 NE 1/4, S 10 of T 106, R 11	Olmsted

[For text of subp 3, see 'MR']

Subp 4 Mille Lacs Lake special management regulations.

A Except as provided in item B, all walleye in possession while on or fishing in Mille Lacs Lake must be from 14 inches to 20 inches in length, inclusive. All walleye that are less than 14 inches or greater than 20 inches in length must be immediately returned to the water.

B. Notwithstanding item A, a person's possession limit may include one walleye over 26 inches in length.

C All northern pike in possession while on or fishing in Mille Lacs Lake must be less than 26 inches or greater than 36 inches in length. All northern pike that are from 26 to 36 inches in length, inclusive, must be immediately returned to the water. A person's possession limit may not include more than one northern pike over 36 inches in length.

D The possession limit for smallmouth bass is one. All smallmouth bass in possession while on or fishing in Mille Lacs Lake must be 21 inches or greater in length. All smallmouth bass less than 21 inches in length must be immediately returned to the water.

E Mille Lacs Lake is closed to the taking of fish between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. daily during the period commencing at 10 p.m. on the Monday following the Saturday two weeks prior to the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend and ending at 12.01 a.m. on Monday, four weeks after the date of commencement. During the closure, no person shall be on the waters of Mille Lacs Lake while having in possession any equipment whereby fish may be taken. Spearing is prohibited from December 1 through April 30. A person may not have a spear in possession while on or fishing in Mille Lacs Lake during this period.

F. The commissioner may modify seasons and limits under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.027, subdivision 13, or sections 97A.0451 to 97A.0459, to accommodate tribal declarations for fish harvest in the 1837 Ceded Territory in compliance with the court ruling in *Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa v. Minnesota*, 119 S.Ct. 1187 (1999).

Changes shall be posted at water access sites and the Department of Natural Resources Web site

Name	Location	County
Mille Lacs	T 42-45, R 25-28, S Various	Aitkin, Mille Lacs

[For text of subps 5 to 10, see MR]

Subp. 11. [Repealed, 24 SR 1186]

[For text of subp 12, see MR]

Subp 13 Largemouth bass and smallmouth bass catch and release regulations.

While on or fishing in these waters, angling for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass shall be limited to catch and release only, whereby any largemouth bass or smallmouth bass caught must be immediately returned to the water. Catch and release angling for largemouth bass or smallmouth bass shall be legal during the open season for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass in inland waters. It is unlawful for anyone to have in possession, regardless of where taken, any largemouth bass or smallmouth bass while on or fishing in these waters.

Name	Location	County
Clear Lake	T 107, R 22, S 4,5,8,9,16,17	Waseca

Statutory Authority: *MS s 14.386, 97C 005*

History: *24 SR 1186, 24 SR 1849*