

Department of Natural Resources**Adopted Expedited Emergency Game and Fish Rules: Upper Red Lake Fishing Restrictions****6264.0400 DESIGNATED SPECIAL MANAGEMENT WATERS.**

[For text of subps 1 to 58, see M.R.]

Subp. 59. Upper Red Lake and listed tributaries.

[For text of item A, see M.R.]

B. While a person is on or fishing in the waters listed under item C:

(1) beginning May 13, 2017, the daily and possession limit for walleye is two four fish, of which not more than one walleye shall be over 26 17 inches in length. This subitem is effective through 11:59 p.m. on November 30, 2017, or until the total harvest for the waters listed in item C equals or exceeds 408,000 pounds. When the harvest equals or exceeds 408,000 pounds, subitem (3) applies;

(2) ~~all walleye in possession must be less than 17 inches or greater than 26 inches in length;~~

(3) ~~all walleye that are 17 inches to 26 inches in length, inclusive, must be immediately returned to the water; and~~

(2) beginning December 1, 2017, if mature female walleye spawning stock as estimated from the 2017 fall gill-net assessment:

(a) is greater than 4.5 pounds per acre, then the daily and possession limit for walleye is four fish, of which not more than one walleye shall be over 17 inches in length. This unit is effective through 11:59 p.m. on November 30, 2018, or until the total harvest for the waters listed in item C equals or exceeds 408,000 pounds. When the harvest equals or exceeds 408,000 pounds, subitem (3) applies; or

(b) is 4.5 pounds per acre or less, then the daily and possession limit for walleye is three fish, of which not more than one walleye shall be over 17 inches in length. This unit is effective through 11:59 p.m. on November 30, 2018, or until the total harvest for the waters listed in item C equals or exceeds 288,000 pounds. When the harvest equals or exceeds 288,000 pounds, subitem (3) applies;

(3) if at any time during a harvest year the total estimated walleye harvest from waters listed in item C equals or exceeds the limits under subitems (1) and (2), the waters are closed to all harvest except catch and release, provided that the commissioner complies with the notice requirements under unit (b).

(a) For purposes of this subitem, a harvest year extends from December 1 through November 30 of the following calendar year.

(b) Five days before implementing this subitem, the commissioner must post notice of the restriction on the department's Web site and at all public water-access sites on the waters listed under item C. The restriction under this subitem is not effective until the notice requirements under this unit are met.

(c) If this subitem is implemented, it is effective until the end of the harvest year; and

(4) a person's statewide bag limit shall not include more ~~than two~~ walleye taken from Upper Red Lake and the tributaries listed under item C than is allowed under subitem (1), (2), or (3).

[For text of item C, see M.R.]

[For text of subps 60 to 137, see M.R.]

REPEALER. The expedited emergency amendments to Minnesota Rules, part 6264.0400, subpart 59, published in the State Register, volume 40, page 563, November 16, 2015, are repealed.

EFFECTIVE PERIOD. The expedited emergency amendments to Minnesota Rules, part 6264.0400, subpart 59, and the repealer are effective May 13, 2017.