

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

[For text of subparts 1 to 58, see Minnesota Rules]

Subp. 59. Upper Red Lake and listed tributaries.

[For text of item A, see Minnesota Rules]

B. While a person is on or fishing in the waters listed under item C, the limitations in this item apply.

(1) Beginning November 1, 2018, 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 February 24, 2019, or until total harvest for the waters listed in item C exceeds the harvest limits identified in subitem (4), in which case subitem (5) 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 May 11, 2019, the daily and possession limit for walleye is four fish, of which not more than one walleye shall be over 20 inches in length. This subitem is effective through November 30, 2019, or until total harvest for the waters listed in item C exceeds the harvest limits identified in subitem (4), in which case subitem (5) applies.

(3) Beginning December 1, 2019, 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 subitem is effective through February 23, 2020, or until total harvest for the waters listed

in item C exceeds the harvest limits identified in subitem (4), in which case subitem (5) applies.

(4) For purposes of this item, a harvest year extends from December 1 through November 30 of the following calendar year. For each harvest year, the total harvest is set by determining mature female spawning stock estimates based on fall gill-net assessments from the preceding harvest year.

(a) If mature female walleye spawning stock is greater than 4.5 pounds per acre, the harvest limit is 408,000 pounds.

(b) If mature female walleye spawning stock is 4.5 pounds per acre or less, the harvest limit is 288,000 pounds.

(5) If at any time during a harvest year the total estimated walleye harvest from waters listed in item C exceeds the limits set under subitem (4), the waters are closed to all walleye harvest except catch and release. Five days before implementing this subitem, the commissioner must post notice of the restriction under this subitem on the department's website 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 subitem are met. The restriction under this subitem remains in effect until the end of the harvest year.

~~(4)~~ (6) Under no circumstances may 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 that allowed in subitem (1), (2), (3), (4), or (5).

[For text of item C, see Minnesota Rules]

[For text of subparts 60 to 145, see Minnesota Rules]

REPEALER. The expedited emergency amendments to Minnesota Rules, part 6264.0400, subpart 59, published in the State Register, volume 41, page 1290, May 8, 2017, are repealed.