

Department of Natural Resources

Proposed Expedited Game and Fish Rule: Fishing in Inland Waters

6262.0200 FISHING REGULATIONS FOR INLAND WATERS.

Subpart 1. **General inland fishing regulations.** Fish may be taken in inland waters by angling during the time specified for each of the following species; however, certain waters of the state are subject to experimental or special regulations or are closed for taking and possessing fish. When the closing date of a season falls on a Saturday, the season extends through the following Sunday.

Species and Open Season	Daily and Possession Limits
A. Largemouth and smallmouth bass.	6 in aggregate.
(1) In all waters lying east and north of U.S. Highway 53 from Duluth to International Falls and Pelican and Ash Lakes, St. Louis County.	
Saturday two weeks prior to <u>before</u> the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend to <u>through 11:59 p.m.</u> the last Sunday in February.	
(2) In all other waters.	
From the Saturday two weeks prior to <u>before</u> the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend to <u>through 11:59 p.m.</u> the Saturday of <u>Friday before</u> Memorial Day weekend , angling for bass is limited to catch and release only. Any bass must be immediately returned to the water. It is unlawful for anyone to have in possession, regardless of	

where taken, any bass while on or fishing in these waters. The Saturday of Memorial Day weekend ~~to~~ through 11:59 p.m. the last Sunday in February is the harvest season.

From the second Monday in September ~~to~~ through the end of the season, angling for smallmouth bass is limited to catch and release only. Any smallmouth bass must be immediately returned to the water and it is unlawful for anyone to have in possession, regardless of where taken, any smallmouth bass while on or fishing in these waters.

B. Brook, brown, and rainbow trout and splake.

Except as provided in part 6264.0400, subparts 35, 36, 37, and 117, the following restrictions apply.

- (1) In all streams in Houston, Fillmore, Mower, Dodge, Olmsted, Winona, Wabasha, Dakota, and Goodhue Counties.

January 1 ~~to~~ through 11:59 p.m. October 15.

5 in aggregate ~~with rainbow and brook trout and splake~~ from the second Saturday in April through 11:59 p.m. September 14. No more than 1 may be over 16 inches in length. Angling for trout is limited to catch and release only from January 1 up to but not including the second Saturday nearest in April ~~15~~ and from September 15 ~~to~~ through 11:59 p.m. October 15. During these time

periods, all trout must be immediately returned to the water. It is unlawful for anyone to have in possession, regardless of where taken, any trout while on or fishing in these waters. All legal methods of taking trout are allowed.

- (2) In all other streams, except those in part 6262.0300, subpart 6, item C, for St. Louis, Lake, Carlton, and Cook Counties.

Second Saturday nearest in April 15 to through 11:59 p.m. September 30.

5 in aggregate ~~with rainbow and brook trout and splake.~~
No more than 1 may be over 16 inches in length.

- (3) In lakes only:

5 in aggregate ~~with rainbow and brook trout and splake.~~
No more than 3 may be over 16 inches in length.

- (a) Statewide.

Saturday two weeks prior to before Saturday of Memorial Day weekend to through 11:59 p.m. October 31.

- (b) All lakes entirely within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

January 1, except when January 1 falls on a Sunday, Monday, or Tuesday, then opening day is the preceding Saturday (Saturday nearest January 1), to through 11:59 p.m. March 31.

- (c) All lakes entirely or partly outside the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Saturday nearest January 15 ~~to~~ through 11:59 p.m. March 31.

- (d) Little Andrus (Snowshoe) Lake, Cass County; Allen and Pleasant Lakes, Crow Wing County; and Bad Medicine Lake, Becker County, are closed for the winter season.

~~C. Brook trout and splake.~~

~~Except as provided in part 6264.0400, subparts 35, 36, 37, and 117, the following restrictions apply.~~

- ~~(1) In all streams in Houston, Fillmore, Mower, Dodge, Olmsted, Winona, Wabasha, and Goodhue Counties. January 1 to October 15.~~

~~5 in aggregate with rainbow and brown trout and splake. No more than 1 may be over 16 inches in length. Angling for trout is limited to catch and release only from January 1 up to but not including the Saturday nearest April 15 and from September 15 to October 15. During these time periods, all trout must be immediately returned to the water. It is unlawful for anyone to have in possession, regardless of where taken, any trout while on or fishing in these waters. All legal methods of taking trout are allowed.~~

(2) ~~In all other streams, except those in part 6262.0300, subpart 6, item B, for St. Louis, Lake, Carlton, and Cook Counties. Saturday nearest April 15 to September 30.~~

~~5 in aggregate with brown and rainbow trout. No more than 1 may be over 16 inches in length.~~

(3) ~~In lakes only:~~

~~5 in aggregate with brown and rainbow trout. No more than 3 may be over 16 inches in length.~~

(a) ~~Statewide.~~

~~Saturday two weeks prior to Saturday of Memorial Day weekend to October 31.~~

(b) ~~All lakes entirely within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.~~

~~January 1, except when January 1 falls on a Sunday, Monday, or Tuesday, then opening day is the preceding Saturday (Saturday nearest January 1), to March 31.~~

(c) ~~All lakes entirely or partly outside the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.~~

~~Saturday nearest January 15 to March 31.~~

(d) ~~Little Andrus (Snowshoe) Lake, Cass County; Allen and Pleasant Lakes, Crow Wing County; and Bad Medicine Lake, Becker~~

~~County, are closed for the
winter season.~~

~~D. Rainbow trout, including
steelhead.~~

~~Except as provided in part
6264.0400, subparts 35, 36,
37, and 117, the following
restrictions apply.~~

- ~~(1) In all streams in Houston,
Fillmore, Mower, Dodge,
Olmsted, Winona, Wabasha,
and Goodhue Counties.
January 1 to October 15.~~

~~5 in aggregate with brown
and brook trout and splake.
No more than 1 may be over
16 inches in length. Angling
for trout is limited to catch
and release only from
January 1 up to but not
including the Saturday
nearest April 15 and from
September 15 to October 15.
During these time periods,
all trout must be immediately
returned to the water. It is
unlawful for anyone to have
in possession, regardless of
where taken, any trout while
on or fishing in these waters.
All legal methods of taking
trout are allowed.~~

- ~~(2) In all other streams, except
those in part 6262.0300,
subpart 6, item A, for St.
Louis, Lake, Carlton, and
Cook Counties.
Saturday nearest April 15 to
September 30.~~

~~5 in aggregate with brook
and brown trout and splake.
No more than 1 may be over
16 inches in length.~~

- ~~(3) In lakes only:~~

~~5 in aggregate with brook
and brown trout and splake.
No more than 3 may be over
16 inches in length.~~

- ~~(a) Statewide.~~

~~Saturday two weeks prior
to Saturday of Memorial
Day weekend to October
31.~~

- ~~(b) All lakes entirely within the
Boundary Waters Canoe
Area Wilderness.~~

~~January 1, except when
January 1 falls on a
Sunday, Monday, or
Tuesday, then opening
day is the preceding
Saturday (Saturday
nearest January 1), to
March 31.~~

- ~~(c) All lakes entirely or partly
outside the Boundary
Waters Canoe Area
Wilderness.~~

~~Saturday nearest January
15 to March 31.~~

- ~~(d) Little Andrus (Snowshoe)
Lake, Cass County; Allen
and Pleasant Lakes, Crow
Wing County; and Bad
Medicine Lake, Becker
County, are closed for the
winter season.~~

~~E.~~ Lake trout.

2

C.

- (1) Statewide.

Saturday two weeks prior
to Saturday of Memorial
Day weekend ~~to~~ through
11:59 p.m. September 30.

- (2) All lakes entirely within the
Boundary Waters Canoe
Area Wilderness.

January 1, except when
January 1 falls on a
Sunday, Monday, or
Tuesday, then opening
day is the preceding
Saturday (Saturday
nearest January 1), ~~to~~
through 11:59 p.m.
March 31.

- (3) All lakes lying entirely or
partly outside the Boundary
Waters Canoe Area
Wilderness.

Saturday nearest January
15 ~~to~~ through 11:59 p.m.
March 31.

~~F.~~ Walleye and sauger.

6 in aggregate.

D.

Saturday two weeks ~~prior to~~
before the Saturday of
Memorial Day weekend ~~to~~
through 11:59 p.m. the last
Sunday in February.

~~G.~~ Northern pike.

E.

Saturday two weeks ~~prior to~~
before the Saturday of
Memorial Day weekend ~~to~~
through 11:59 p.m. the last
Sunday in February.

The restrictions in this item
do not apply to boundary
waters, which are regulated
under parts 6266.0100 to
6266.0700.

- (1) Northeastern management
zone.

2

The northeastern management zone includes all inland waters lying east and north of U.S. Highway 53 from International Falls to Duluth.

When taking northern pike by angling, only 1 over 40 inches in length may be in possession; all northern pike from 30 to 40 inches in length must be immediately returned to the water.

When taking northern pike by dark house spearing, only 1 over 26 inches in length may be in possession.

(2) North-central management zone.

10

The north-central management zone includes all inland waters lying west ~~and south~~ of U.S. Highway 53 from the Canadian border at International Falls to Duluth and north of a line described as follows: from beginning at the South Dakota border, along U.S. Highway 12 to State Highway 7, thence south along State Highway 7 to State Highway 22, thence south on State Highway 22 to U.S. Highway 212, thence east on U.S. Highway 212 to State Highway 41, thence south on State Highway 41 to the near or north bank of the Minnesota River, thence along the near banks of the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers Hennepin County Road 61, thence east on Hennepin County Road 61 to Hennepin County Road 1, thence east on Hennepin

When taking northern pike by angling, only 2 over 26 inches in length may be in possession; all northern pike from 22 to 26 inches must be immediately returned to the water.

When taking northern pike by dark house spearing, either:

- (a) only 2 over 26 inches in length and none from 22 to 26 inches in length may be in possession; or
- (b) only 1 from 22 to 26 inches in length and 1 over 26 inches in length may be in possession.

County Road 1 to State Highway 5, thence east on State Highway 5 to U.S. Highway 10, thence south on U.S. Highway 10 to the Wisconsin border.

The north-central management zone does not include waters of the Minnesota or Mississippi Rivers where those waters create the southern boundary of the zone.

(3) Southern management zone.

The southern management zone includes all inland waters lying south of a line described as follows: ~~from beginning at the South Dakota border, along U.S. High 12 to State Highway 7, thence south along State Highway 7 to State Highway 22, thence south on State Highway 22 to U.S. Highway 212, thence east on U.S. Highway 212 to State Highway 41, thence south on State Highway 41 to and including the waters of the Minnesota River, thence along the Minnesota River to and including the waters of the Mississippi River, Hennepin County Road 61, thence east on Hennepin County Road 61 to Hennepin County Road 1, thence east on Hennepin County Road 1 to State Highway 5, thence east on~~

2

The minimum size is 24 inches in length, and includes northern pike taken by angling or dark house spearing.

Highway 5 to U.S. Highway 10, thence south on U.S. Highway 10 to the Wisconsin border.

- (4) Certain experimental and special management waters.

3

This subitem applies to waters regulated under parts 6264.0300, subparts 74 and 76; and 6264.0400, subparts 19, 25, 54, 59, 71, 72, 73, 74, 76, 77, 79, 80, 94, 98, and 102.

- H. Muskellunge (~~including muskellunge-northern pike hybrid~~).
F. ~~muskellunge-northern pike hybrid~~.

1 ~~in aggregate~~. The minimum size limit is 54 inches in length.

The first Saturday in June ~~to December 1~~ through 11:59 p.m. November 30.

- (1) ~~In all inland waters not listed in subitem (2).~~

- G. Tiger muskellunge (northern pike-muskellunge hybrid).

1 ~~in aggregate~~. The minimum size limit is 40 inches in length.

First Saturday in June through 11:59 p.m. November 30.

- (2) ~~In the following lakes in Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington Counties:~~

Lake:

County:

Bryant

Hennepin

Bush

Hennepin

Calhoun

Hennepin

Cedar

Hennepin

	Cedar	Scott
	Clear	Washington
	Crystal	Dakota
	Crystal	Hennepin
	Eagle	Carver
	Elmo	Washington
	Gervais	Ramsey
	Island	Ramsey
	Isles	Hennepin
	Johanna	Ramsey
	Nokomis	Hennepin
	Orchard	Dakota
	Phalen	Ramsey
	Pierson	Carver
	Silver	Ramsey
	Wasserman	Carver
	Weaver	Hennepin
I. <u>H.</u>	Rock bass. Continuous.	30
J. <u>I.</u>	White (striped) <u>and yellow</u> bass. Continuous.	30 <u>in aggregate.</u>
K. <u>J.</u>	Crappies. Continuous.	10
L. <u>K.</u>	Sunfish, as defined in <u>Minnesota Statutes, section</u> <u>97A.015, subdivision 46.</u>	20

Continuous.

- ~~M.~~ Flathead and channel
L. catfish.

~~Continuous, except for
flathead catfish, the season
is closed from December 1
to March 31. April 1
through 11:59 p.m.
November 30.~~

~~5 in aggregate. No more than
1 may be over 24 inches and
no more than 2 may be
flathead catfish. 2. Only one
over 24 inches may be in
possession.~~

- M. Channel catfish.

Continuous.

5. Only one over 24 inches
may be in possession.

- N. Perch.

Continuous.

~~100 to November 30, 2000.~~

~~20 daily, 50 in possession;
December 1, 2000, to
November 30, 2001.~~

~~20 daily; 40 in possession;
December 1, 2001, and
thereafter.~~

- O. Bullheads.

Continuous.

100

- P. Lake and shovelnose
sturgeon.

0

~~June 16 to through 11:59
p.m. April 14 for catch and
release only. Closed April
15 to through 11:59 p.m.
June 15. When the closing
date of a season falls on a
Saturday, the season does
not extend through the
following Sunday.~~

- Q. Carp, bowfin, redhorse,
sheepshead, suckers, burbot,

No limits.

~~gar, whitefish, goldeyes,~~
~~tullibees, buffalo, smelt.~~

Continuous.

- | | | |
|-----------|---|--|
| <u>R.</u> | <u>American eel.</u> | <u>0</u> |
| | <u>Continuous catch and release only.</u> | |
| <u>S.</u> | <u>Burbot.</u> | <u>4</u> |
| | <u>Continuous.</u> | |
| <u>T.</u> | <u>Whitefish.</u> | <u>15. No more than 15 greater than 7 inches may be in possession.</u> |
| | <u>Continuous.</u> | |
| <u>U.</u> | <u>Cisco.</u> | <u>15. No more than 15 greater than 7 inches may be in possession.</u> |
| | <u>Continuous.</u> | |
| <u>V.</u> | <u>Paddlefish.</u> | <u>0</u> |
| | <u>No open season. Paddlefish are a state threatened species and may not be targeted, taken, bought, sold, or possessed. An incidentally caught paddlefish must be immediately returned to the water.</u> | |
| <u>W.</u> | <u>Longnose and shortnose gar.</u> | <u>10 in aggregate.</u> |
| | <u>Continuous.</u> | |

[For text of subpart 2, see Minnesota Rules]