

CHAPTER 97C

FISHING

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97C.317 FISHING AS A PARTY.

While two or more persons are taking fish by angling as a party, the total number of fish taken and the total number of fish possessed by the party may not exceed the limit of the number of persons in the party that may take and possess fish by angling. For the purpose of this section a party means, for persons who are not on the water that the persons are maintaining unaided visual and vocal contact, and for persons who are on the water that the persons are angling from a single watercraft.

History: 1989 c 153 s 3

97C.355 DARK HOUSES AND FISH HOUSES.

[For text of subds 1 to 6, see M.S.1988]

Subd. 7. Dates and times houses may remain on ice. (a) After February 28, a fish house or dark house may not be on the ice between 12:00 a.m. and one hour before sunrise. A fish house or dark house on the ice in violation of this subdivision is subject to the enforcement provisions of paragraph (b). The commissioner may, by order, extend the date beyond February 28 for any part of international boundary waters. Copies of the order must be conspicuously posted on the shores of the waters as prescribed by the commissioner.

(b) A conservation officer must confiscate a fish house or dark house in violation of paragraph (a). The officer may remove, burn, or destroy the house. The officer shall seize the contents of the house and hold them for 60 days. If the seized articles have not been claimed by the owner, they may be retained for the use of the division or sold at the highest price obtainable in a manner prescribed by the commissioner.

[For text of subd 8, see M.S.1988]

History: 1989 c 199 s 1

97C.395 OPEN SEASONS FOR ANGLING.

Subdivision 1. Dates for certain species. (a) The open seasons to take fish by angling are as follows:

(1) for walleye, sauger, northern pike, muskellunge, largemouth bass, and smallmouth bass, the Saturday two weeks prior to the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend to the third Monday in February;

(2) for lake trout, from January 1 to October 31;

(3) for brown trout, brook trout, rainbow trout, and splake, between January 1 to October 31 as prescribed by the commissioner by order except as provided in section 97C.415, subdivision 2; and

(4) for salmon, as prescribed by the commissioner by order.

(b) The commissioner shall close the season in areas of the state where fish are spawning and closing the season will protect the resource.

[For text of subd 2, see M.S.1988]

History: 1989 c 242 s 2

97C.403 RAINY RIVER WALLEYE RESTRICTIONS.*[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1988]*

Subd. 3. **Open season.** The open season for walleye in the Rainy River is from May 15 until April 14.

*[For text of subd 4, see M.S.1988]***History:** 1989 c 46 s 1**97C.605 TURTLES.***[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1988]*

Subd. 2. **Sales license.** A person may not take, possess, transport, or purchase turtles for sale without a turtle seller's license. A turtle seller's license is not required to buy turtles for retail sale to consumers:

(1) at a location licensed by the department of agriculture or health for sale or preparation of food;

(2) of a person licensed by the department of agriculture or health for sale or preparation of food; or

(3) of a person buying turtle at a retail outlet.

Subd. 3. **Taking; methods prohibited.** (a) Except as allowed in paragraph (b), a person may take turtles in any manner, except by use of:

(1) explosives, drugs, poisons, lime, and other harmful substances;

(2) turtle hooks or traps; or

(3) nets other than anglers' fish landing nets.

(b) A person with a turtle seller's license may take turtles for sale as prescribed by the commissioner.

*[For text of subd 4, see M.S.1988]***History:** 1989 c 266 s 2,3**97C.611 SNAPPING TURTLES; LIMITS.**

A person may not possess more than three snapping turtles of the species *Chelydra serpentina* without a turtle seller's license. A person may not take snapping turtles of a size less than ten inches wide including curvature, measured from side to side across the shell at midpoint.

History: 1989 c 266 s 4**97C.615 [Repealed, 1989 c 266 s 5]**