

**GAME, FORESTATION AND  
PARKS COMMISSION**

**STATE OF NEBRASKA**

**REGULATIONS  
ON FISH  
1946**

The following regulations are prescribed by the Game, Forestation and Parks Commission, State of Nebraska, in accordance with Section 37-301, Revised Statutes, State of Nebraska, 1943, as amended by Session Laws, State of Nebraska, 1945, and in accordance with Section 81-6505, Revised Statutes, State of Nebraska, 1943, and are effective from February 1, 1946 until further change by the Commission.

**TROUT**

OPEN SEASON: No closed season.  
AREA OPEN: Entire State.  
SIZE LIMIT: No size limit.  
DAILY BAG LIMIT: 10.  
POSSESSION LIMIT ANYTIME: 10.

**BASS**

(Large Mouth and/or Small Mouth)

OPEN SEASON: No closed season.  
AREA OPEN: Entire State.  
SIZE LIMIT: 10 inches.  
DAILY BAG LIMIT: 10 (inclusive of both species).  
POSSESSION LIMIT ANYTIME: 10 (inclusive of both species).

**CRAPPIE**

(Black [calico bass] and/or White)

OPEN SEASON: No closed season.  
AREA OPEN: Entire State.  
SIZE LIMIT: No size limit.  
DAILY BAG LIMIT: 15 (inclusive of both species).  
POSSESSION LIMIT ANYTIME: 15 (inclusive of both species).

**SUNFISH**

(Bluegill, Green and/or Pumpkinseed)

OPEN SEASON: No closed season.  
AREA OPEN: Entire State.  
SIZE LIMIT: No size limit.  
DAILY BAG LIMIT: 15 (inclusive of all species).  
POSSESSION LIMIT ANYTIME: 15 (inclusive of all species).

**ROCK BASS**

OPEN SEASON: No closed season.  
AREA OPEN: Entire State.  
SIZE LIMIT: No size limit.  
DAILY BAG LIMIT: 15.  
POSSESSION LIMIT ANYTIME: 15.

### BULLHEADS

OPEN SEASON: No closed season.  
AREA OPEN: Entire State.  
SIZE LIMIT: 6 inches.  
DAILY BAG LIMIT: 15.  
POSSESSION LIMIT ANYTIME: 15.

### CATFISH

(Channel, Blue and/or Mud [or Yellow])

OPEN SEASON: No closed season.  
AREA OPEN: Entire State.  
SIZE LIMIT: 12 inches.  
DAILY BAG LIMIT: 10 (inclusive of all species).  
POSSESSION LIMIT ANYTIME: 10 (inclusive of all species).

### CATFISH (Commercial fishing)

Under proper commercial permit issued by the Commission, catfish may be taken from the Missouri River by nets, the meshes of which are not less than one and one-half inches square.

OPEN SEASON: No closed season.  
AREA OPEN: Missouri River—South and West of the middle of the channel and not less than 300 yards in any direction from the mouth of any stream emptying into the river.  
SIZE LIMIT: 13 inches.  
POSSESSION LIMIT: None.

ANNUAL REPORT: All persons holding a commercial Seining-Vendor Permit shall keep an accurate record of the number, species and weight of all fish caught and a separate report of all fish sold during the calendar year. A record shall be kept for each month separately. Each person shall send this information to the Secretary of the State Game, Forestation and Parks Commission on or before the 15th day of January of the following year. Forms for this purpose shall be furnished by the State.

### PERCH

OPEN SEASON: No closed season.  
AREA OPEN: Entire State.  
SIZE LIMIT: No size limit.  
DAILY BAG LIMIT: 25, except in Shell and Merriman Lakes in Cherry County and Walgren Lake in Sheridan County where there is no limit.  
POSSESSION LIMIT ANYTIME: 25, except in Shell and Merriman Lakes in Cherry County and Walgren Lake in Sheridan County where there is no limit.

### PIKE (Walleye and/or Sauger [Sand])

OPEN SEASON: No closed season.  
AREA OPEN: Entire State.  
SIZE LIMIT: 12 inches.  
DAILY BAG LIMIT: 5 (inclusive of both species).  
POSSESSION LIMIT ANYTIME: 5 (inclusive of both species).

### PIKE (Northern)

OPEN SEASON: No closed season.  
AREA OPEN: Entire State.  
SIZE LIMIT: 12 inches.  
DAILY BAG LIMIT: 5.  
POSSESSION LIMIT ANYTIME: 5.

### FRESHWATER DRUM (Sheepshead) (*Haploiclnotus grunniens*)

OPEN SEASON: No closed season.  
AREA OPEN: Entire State.  
SIZE LIMIT: No size limit.  
DAILY BAG LIMIT: 10.  
POSSESSION LIMIT ANYTIME: 10.

TOTAL BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT: No more than 25 game fish of *all kinds combined* may be taken in any one day, nor more than 25 game fish of *all kinds combined* be had in possession at any one time, excepting perch in Shell and Merriman Lakes in Cherry County and Walgren Lake in Sheridan County where there is no limit on perch.

RETURNING FISH TO WATER: All fish caught that are under the legal size limits as specified herein and all fish legally taken that are not to be counted in the bag limit must be returned immediately to the water with as little injury as possible.

RESERVOIRS AND LAKES OPEN TO FISHING: All reservoirs and lakes within the State not closed or restricted because of Federal regulations or otherwise closed or posted are declared open to the public for fishing subject to the rules and regulations of the Commission.

RESTRICTED AREAS: Restricted areas shall be designated on various lakes during the spawning season in which areas fishing shall not be permitted.

The following streams and all their tributaries are closed to spearing and to the seining of minnows, effective February 1, 1946 until further change by the Commission.

#### I Antelope County:

1. Verdigre Creek and all its tributaries.

#### II Banner County:

1. Pumpkin Creek and all its tributaries.
2. Lawrence Fork.

#### III Box Butte County:

1. Niobrara River.

#### IV Brown County:

1. Long Pine Creek and tributaries.
2. Plum Creek and all its tributaries.
3. Calamus River.
4. Goose Creek.

#### V Cherry County:

1. North Loup River and all tributaries.
2. Schlagel Creek.
3. Fairfield Creek.
4. Cedar Creeks.
5. Snake River and all tributaries.
6. Plum Creek and all tributaries.
7. Bear Creek.
8. Goose Creek.

#### VI Cheyenne County:

1. Cedar Creek.
2. Lodgepole Creek and all tributaries.

#### VII Custer County:

1. South Loup River above Arnold.

**VIII Dawes County:**

1. Chadron Creek.
2. Big Bordeaux Creek.
3. Little Bordeaux Creek.
4. Squaw Creek.
5. White River.
6. Niobrara River above Dunlap and all tributaries.
7. Beaver Creek.
8. Dead Horse Creek.
9. Deep Creek.
10. White Clay Creek.
11. West Ash Creek.
12. Deadman Creek.

**IX Dundy County:**

1. Buffalo Creek.
2. Rock Creek.

**X Garden County:**

1. Blue Creek.

**XI Garfield County:**

1. Cedar River.

**XII Holt County:**

1. Steele Creek.
2. North Branch of Verdigre.
3. Middle Branch of Verdigre.
4. South Branch of Verdigre.
5. Brush Creek.
6. Red Bird Creek.
7. Eagle Creek.
8. Big Sandy Creek.

**XIII Hooker County:**

1. Dismal River and all tributaries.

**XIV Keith County:**

1. Otter Creek.
2. White Tail Creek.
3. Lonergerin Creek.

**XV Kimball County:**

1. Lawrence Fork.
2. Lodgepole Creek and all tributaries.

**XVI Knox County:**

1. Steel Creek.
2. North, Middle and South Verdigre and all tributaries.

**XVII Lincoln County:**

1. East Hershey Drains.
2. West Hershey Drains.
3. Sutherland Drain.

**XVIII Logan County:**

1. South Loup River.

**XIX Morrill County:**

1. Cedar Creek.
2. Red Willow Drain.
3. Lawrence Fork.
4. Pumpkin Creek and tributaries.
5. Plum Creek.
6. Upper Dugout Creek.
7. Lower Dugout Creek.
8. Indian Creek.
9. Wild Horse Creek.
10. All drain ditches including the following: Lyman Drain, Miller Drain, Myrtle Hill Drain, North and South Drain, Suhr Drain, Silvernail Drain.

**XX Rock County:**

1. Calamus River.
2. Long Pine Creek and all tributaries.

**XXI Scottsbluff County:**

1. Winter Creek Drain.
2. Nine Mile Drain.
3. Sheep Creek Drains.
4. Dry Sheep Creek Drain.
5. Spotted Tail Drains and all tributaries.
6. Dry Spotted Tail Drain and all tributaries.
7. Tub Springs Drain.
8. Minatare Drain.
9. Stuckenhole Drain.

**XXII Sheridan County:**

1. Snake River.
2. Larrabee Creek.
3. Pine Creek.
4. White Clay Creek.
5. Deer Creek.
6. Little Bordeaux Creek.

**XXIII Sioux County:**

1. Sheep Creek Drain.
2. Dry Sheep Drain.
3. Dry Spotted Tail Drain.
4. Spotted Tail Drain.
5. Niobrara River and all tributaries.
6. White River and all tributaries.
7. Monroe Creek.
8. Sow Belly Creek.
9. Hat Creek.
10. Dead Man Creek.
11. Deep Creek.
12. Squaw Creek.

**XXIV Thomas County:**

1. Dismal River.

**XXV Wheeler County:**

1. Cedar River.

**LENGTH OF FISH:** The "*Total Length*" of a fish shall be used when determining the size limits. Total length shall be found by measuring from the tip of the nose to the tip of the tail.

**SALE OF FISH:** No species of fish may be sold from private fish hatcheries in Nebraska, except trout, for purposes other than propagation, and where sold for propagation invoices furnished by the Commission must be used and a report made to the Commission covering all sales at the end of each quarter of the year.

**DESTROYING OR DAMAGING STATE PROPERTY:** It is unlawful to injure trees or shrubs, to pick flowers or ferns, to mar, deface, or remove any of the natural or structural features in any State-owned or controlled area.

**STATE-OWNED LAKES**

Special Fishing Regulations are in Effect at the Following State-Owned Lakes:

Arnold Lake, Custer County; Blue River Recreation Grounds, Seward County; Champion Lake, Chase County; Cottonmill Lake, Buffalo County; Cottonwood Lake, Cherry County; Crystal Lake, Adams County; Duke Alexis, Hayes County; Dead Timber Recreation Grounds, Dodge County; Fremont Sand Pits, Dodge County; Jefferson County Recreation Grounds; Loup City Lake, Sherman County; Memphis

Lake, Saunders County; Niobrara Park Lake, Knox County; Pawnee Lake, Webster County; Pibel Lake, Wheeler County; Platteview Lake (Louisville), Cass County; Rat and Beaver Lake, Cherry County; Ravenna Lake, Buffalo County; Verdon Lake, Richardson County; Rock Creek Lake, Dundy County; Shell Lake, Cherry County; Walgren Lake, Sheridan County; Wellfleet Lake, Lincoln County.

The following Regulations are in effect on State-owned Lakes only:

Fishing devices other than regular lines attached to poles are prohibited.

Each person is permitted to use not more than two lines with two hooks per line.

Throw lines or floats are prohibited.

Motorboats are not permitted.

Digging or seining for bait on grounds is prohibited.

**NOTES**

Where "*entire State*" is open, this does not include private lakes closed to the public or areas closed by Federal or State Law or City ordinance.

"*Daily Bag Limit*" means fish taken from midnight to midnight.

"*Possession Limit*" means fish in the possession of any person at anytime.

The only legal method of taking fish is with hook and line with the following exceptions:

Carp, buffalo, suckers and other non-game fish may be speared between sunrise and sunset from April 1 to December 1, except in restricted areas as mentioned above.

Catfish of legal size may be taken from the Missouri River with seines, hoop nets, or trammel nets under special regulations with proper commercial permit.

Carp, buffalo, suckers and other non-game fish may be taken with hook and line at any time without limit on size, bag or possession.

It is unlawful for anyone to angle with a line having more than five hooks thereon or to angle in any inland waters with more than fifteen hooks in the aggregate or with artificial bait having thereon more than three triple gang hooks.

Snagging any fish externally with hook and line is unlawful whether game fish or non-game fish.

All persons sixteen years of age or older must have a fishing permit for the current year.

It is unlawful for any person to borrow or use the permit of another or to lend or transfer his permit to another.

**WINTER FISHING**

Winter fishing is permitted through the ice. Regulations are the same as for regular fishing over the entire state. Fifteen hooks are permitted with no more than 5 on a line, and floats and throw lines are also legal except in State-owned Lakes and other restricted areas (see special regulations on State-owned Lakes above).