

NEBRASKA
FISHING
REGULATIONS

1953



Nebraska Game, Forestation and Parks Commission

1953 FISHING REGULATIONS

AREA OPEN: The entire state is open to fishing excepting private lakes closed to the public or areas closed by Federal or State law or City ordinance.

SEASON: Open throughout year for all species of fish.

SIZE LIMITS: No size limits on any species of fish.

Species	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit
TROUT	7	7
BLACK BASS (Large and Smallmouth)	10	10
WHITE BASS	10	10
CRAPPIE (Black and White)	10	10
BLUEGILL	15	15
SUNFISH (Green, Orange-Spotted & Pumpkinseed)	None	None
ROCK BASS	15	15
BULLHEADS	15	15
	(Except in Cherry, Brown, Holt and Rock counties where the limit is 25)	
PERCH	25	25
	(Except in Cherry, Brown, Holt and Rock counties where there is no limit)	
WALLEYE AND SAUGER	5	5
NORTHERN PIKE	5	5
FRESHWATER DRUM (Sheepshead)	10	10
CATFISH (Channel, Blue and Yellow)	10	10

CATFISH (Commercial Fishing)

Under proper commercial permit issued by the Game 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 LIMITS: 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. Such records shall be open at all reasonable times to inspection by Commission agents. Each person shall send this information to the Secretary of the Nebraska 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. Failure to make such report shall be cause of refusal to issue a new permit.

COMMERCIAL NETS: It shall be illegal for any person holding a Seining-Vendor permit to use or have in possession wing nets, dip nets, basket traps, gill nets, traps or any other device than regular hoop nets, trammel nets, seines, or trot lines made of non-metallic cord as provided for by law.

WINTER FISHING

Winter fishing is permitted through the ice. Regulations are the same as for regular fishing over the entire state.

Floats and throw lines are legal except in state-owned lakes and other restricted areas (see special regulations on state-owned lakes).

STATE-OWNED LAKES

Special fishing regulations are in effect at the following state-owned lakes:

Arnold lake, Custer county; Atkinson lake, Holt county; Blue River Recreation grounds, Seward county; Bowman lake, Sherman county; Camp Hayes lake, Hayes county; Champion lake, Chase county; Cottonmill lake, Buffalo county; Cottonwood lake, Cherry county; Crystal lake, Adams county; Dead Timber Recreation grounds, Dodge county; Fremont sandpits, Dodge county; Goose lake, Holt county; Hord

lake, Merrick county; Hull lake, Boyd county; Jefferson County Recreation grounds; Long lake, Brown county; Memphis lake, Saunders county; Niobrara Park lake, Knox county; Pawnee lake, Webster county; Pibel lake, Wheeler county; Platteview lake (Louisville), Cass county; State part of Rat and Beaver lakes, Cherry county (ONLY A SMALL PART OF THESE LAKES IS STATE-OWNED); Ravenna lake, Buffalo county; Verdon lake, Richardson county; Rock Creek lake, Dundy county; Shell lake, Cherry county; Smith lake, Sheridan county; Walgren lake, Sheridan county; Wellfleet lake, Lincoln county.

The following regulations are in effect on state-owned lakes only:

1. Fishing devices other than regular lines attached to poles are prohibited.
2. Each person is permitted to use not more than two poles with two hooks per line.
3. Throw lines or floats are prohibited.
4. Digging or staking for bait on grounds is prohibited.
5. Motor boats are not permitted, except on Victory lake at Fremont, and Cottonmill lake at Kearney.
6. Firearms are not permitted except during legal open hunting season.
7. State lake No. 4 of the Fremont sandpits located along State Highway No. 30 about four miles west of Fremont in Sec. 13, T 17N, R 7E, Dodge county shall be restricted to the use of artificial lures from January 1st to June 30th.

NOTES

Due to the critical minnow situation, there is a probability that all commercial seining of minnows will be prohibited by 1954.

DAILY BAG means fish taken from midnight to midnight.

POSSESSION LIMIT means fish in the possession of any person at any time.

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 mentioned above.

Catfish of legal size and non-game fish 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 or non-game fish.

All persons sixteen years of age or older must have a fishing permit for the current year. All non-residents must have a fishing permit for the current year, regardless of age. Short-term non-resident permits are available. They are reciprocal with other states with a minimum of \$3.00 for a ten-day permit.

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

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 time: Provided, however, that this regulation shall not apply to PERCH that are taken in Cherry, Brown, Holt and Rock counties where there is no bag or possession limit on Perch. Provided also, that this regulation shall not apply to Green Sunfish, Orange-Spotted Sunfish, or Pumpkinseed Sunfish. There is no bag or possession limit on these fish.

SALE OF FISH: No species of a fish shall 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.

TRANSPORTING MINNOWS: It shall be unlawful for any person to transport live minnows out of the state in any manner.

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 areas.

LEGAL NETS, TRAPS AND OTHER DEVICES

The possession or use of any and all nets, traps or other devices is illegal with the following exceptions:

1. Commercial nets used in the Missouri river under special provisions of Section 37-502.
2. Minnow nets of non-metallic mesh, one-fourth inch square measure and not over 20 feet long and four feet deep.
3. Minnow dip nets of non-metallic mesh, one-fourth inch square measure and with a throat of not over 12 inches in diameter.
4. Landing nets used only for landing fish caught on hook and line, with a throat of 18 inches or less and non-metallic mesh of not less than one inch square measure, and with a handle of not over four feet in length.
5. Minnow and bait traps with a length not to exceed 24 inches and a diameter of not to exceed 16 inches with an opening in the throat of the trap not larger than one and one-half inches in diameter. All minnow traps shall be raised and minnows removed from them at least every 24 hours.

RESTRICTED AREAS

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

- I. Enders reservoir, and upstream to the Imperial Light plant dam in Chase county, shall be

open to fishing effective January 15, 1953. This area is closed to the taking of minnows or bait.

II. Swanson lake, Hitchcock county, and Harlan County reservoir in Harlan county, shall be closed to fishing until further change.

III. The main channel of the Nemaha river and the Little Nemaha river and within one mile of the mouth of any of the tributaries running to said rivers in Richardson, Pawnee, Gage, Johnson, Nemaha, Otoe and Lancaster counties shall be closed to taking of bait at all times. Bait seining will be permitted in the tributaries one mile above the mouth of each tributary to the source.

IV. The Cedar river and its tributaries in Holt, Garfield and Wheeler counties are closed to the taking of bait at all times.

V. Watts lake and Clear lake on the Valentine National Wildlife refuge in Cherry county are open to winter fishing from December 15 through February 28 of each year, and closed to fishing the balance of each year until further change by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

VI. It shall be illegal to seine for or otherwise take minnows or bait below any dam, check, spillway or other artificial obstruction and for a distance of 200 yards below such obstruction, provided, however, dip nets with an opening of not over 12 inches in diameter and having one-fourth inch mesh only of non-metallic material may be used by individuals for their own use, but no minnows or bait may be taken for commercial use.

VII. It shall be illegal to seine for or otherwise take minnows or any bait from lakes or bayous.

VIII. The following streams are closed to the seining or taking of minnows or bait in any manner:

ANTELOPE COUNTY—Verdigre creek and all tributaries.

BANNER COUNTY—Pumpkin creek and all tributaries.

FISHING, HUNTING MAGAZINE

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BOX BUTTE COUNTY—Niobrara river.

BROWN COUNTY—Long Pine creek; Plum creek and all tributaries; Calamus river; Goose creek.

CHASE COUNTY—Frenchman river from Enders lake to Imperial Light Plant lake.

CHERRY COUNTY—North Loup river and all tributaries; Schlagel creek; Fairfield creek; Cedar creeks; Snake river and all tributaries; Plum creek and all tributaries; Bear creek; Goose creek.

CUSTER COUNTY—South Loup river above Arnold.

DAWES COUNTY—Chadron creek; Big Bordeaux creek; Little Bordeaux creek; Squaw creek; White river above Crawford; Niobrara river, excluding Box Butte reservoir, above Mirage Flats diversion dam at Old Dunlap and all tributaries; Dead Horse creek; Deep creek; White Clay creek; West Ash creek; Dead Man creek.

DUNDY COUNTY—Buffalo creek; Rock creek.

GARDEN COUNTY—Blue creek.

HOLT COUNTY—Steel creek; North Branch of Verdigre; Middle Branch of Verdigre; South Branch of Verdigre; Brush creek; Red Bird creek; Eagle creek; Big Sandy creek.

HOOKER COUNTY—Dismal river and all tributaries.

KEITH COUNTY—Otter creek; White Tall creek; Long-ergin creek and all tributaries.

KIMBALL COUNTY—Lodgepole creek and all tributaries—west of Owasco Irrigation canal dam located in Sec. 29, T 15, R 1 55W, and approximately 100 feet east of State Highway No. 29.

KNOX COUNTY—North, Middle and South Verdigre, and all tributaries above the town of Verdigre; Steel creek.

LINCOLN COUNTY—Hershey drains: No. 1 North Ditch, No. 2 Middle Ditch and No. 3 South Ditch.

LOGAN COUNTY—South Loup river.

MORRILL COUNTY—Cedar creek; Red Willow drain; Pumpkin creek and all tributaries; Plum creek; Wild Horse creek; Lyman drain; Miller drain; Myrtle Hill drain; North and South drain; Suhr drain; Silvernail drain.

ROCK COUNTY—Calamus river; Long Pine creek.

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY—Winter Creek drain; Nine Mile drain; Sheep Creek drains; Dry Sheep creek; Spotted Tail drains and all tributaries; Tub Springs drains; Minatare drain; Stuckenhole (Leavitt's) drain; Aker's draw.

SHERIDAN COUNTY—Snake river; Larabee creek; Pine creek; White Clay creek; Deer creek; Little Bordeaux creek.

SIOUX COUNTY—Sheep Creek drain; Dry Sheep Creek drain; Dry Spotted Tail drain; Spotted Tail drain; Niobrara river and all tributaries; White river and all tributaries; Monroe creek; Sow Belly creek; Hat creek; Dead Man creek; Deep creek; Squaw creek.

THOMAS COUNTY—Dismal river.

WEBSTER COUNTY—Elm creek.

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