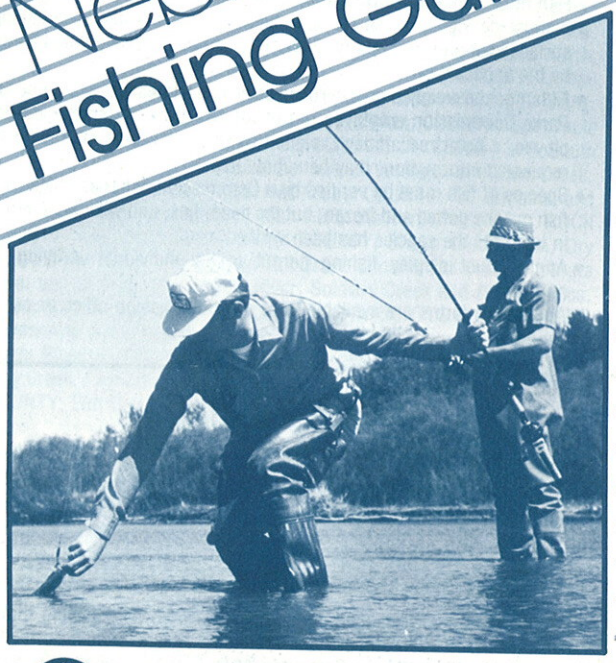
1987 Nebraska Fishing Guide



NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION
Eugene T. Mahoney, Director

Seasons

HOOK-AND-LINE — Open year-round throughout the state, except as noted or as posted.

ARCHERY — Game fish may be taken from July 1 through December 31 from sunrise to sunset. Nongame fish may be taken year-round from sunrise to sunset and 24 hours per day April 1 through August 31. See section on Archery/Surface Spearing for exceptions.

SNAGGING — Missouri River only...from Gavins Point Dam to to the mouth of the Big Sioux River (Mile marker 734) from Nov. 1-30. All other waters of the state are closed to snagging at all times. See section on Snagging for details.

SURFACE SPEARING — Only nongame fish may be taken from sunrise to sunset year-round and 24 hours a day from April 1 through August 31.

UNDERWATER SPEARING — Game fish may be taken from sunrise to sunset from July 1 through December 31. Nongame fish may be taken year-round, sunrise to sunset. See Underwater Spearing section for open waters.

Put Them Back Alive

When size limits are in effect, it's important to release a fish so it has the best chance to survive.

- Wet hands and keep fish in water as much as possible when handling and removing the hook.
- Remove hook gently. Don't squeeze fish or put fingers into the gills.
- If deeply hooked, cut line. Don't pull hook out.
- Release fish only after its equilibrium is maintained. If necessary, hold fish gently upright and move it slowly back and forth.
- Do not play fish to exhaustion.

This agency receives federal funds. Under federal law, discrimination is prohibited on the basis of race, color, national origin, or handicap. If you think you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility or want more information, contact the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, or the Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Dept. of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Notice

This is a guide only. For sources, consult Nebraska statutes and official regulations.

Synopsis of Changes for 1987

- 12-inch size limit on bass extended statewide, except for specific waters designated for 15-inch limit.
- Striped bass combined with white bass and hybrid bass for bag and possession limits.
- Blue catfish combined with channel catfish for bag and possession limits in Inland Waters.
- Paddlefish season reduced to Nov. 1-30 for snaggers and from June 1-July 31 for archers. Season includes Missouri River from Gavins Point Dam to Sioux City. All other waters are closed to the taking of paddlefish.
- Goldfish removed from list of prohibited species for bait and for importation.
- Restriction removed on taking of largemouth bass and musky at Watts Lake on Valentine National Wildlife Refuge.
- Restriction removed on use of live bait on Overton Lake in Holt County and on lakes other than the trout lake on Two Rivers State Recreation Area near Valley.

Limits

Sport fishing is permitted year-round on all Nebraska waters, except for those areas closed by the Game and Parks Commission by posting or by Commission regulation, federal or state law, or city ordinance.

Bag and possession limits may vary between "Inland Waters" and "Waters of the Missouri River". *For this purpose only,* **"Inland Waters"** include all waters of the state except the waters of the Missouri River, and **"Waters of the Missouri River"** include all of the river within Nebraska and all reservoirs, oxbows, sloughs, chutes, backwaters, and marshes

that have annual surface water connection to the river, and the first 300 yards upstream from the mouth of all tributary streams.

	Bag	Possession
Statewide		
Trout (all species)	7	7
Striped Bass/White Bass/Striped Bass Hybrids *(no more than 3 fish over 20 inches long)*	25	50
Muskellunge	1	1
Bait Minnows/Tiger Salamander	100	100
Shovelnose Sturgeon	10	20
Walleye/Sauger *(in combination)*	6	12
All other fish, mussels, and clams	–No Limit–	
Bullfrogs	8	8
Snapping Turtles	10	10
Inland Waters		
Largemouth, Smallmouth, Spotted Bass	8	8
Channel/Blue Catfish	10	20
Flathead Catfish	4	4
Paddlefish	2	2
Northern Pike/Tiger Muskie		
West of U.S. 281	6	6
East of U.S. 281	3	6
Waters of Missouri River		
Largemouth, Smallmouth, Spotted Bass	5	10
Blue Catfish	1	1
Channel Catfish	10	20
Flathead Catfish	–No Limit–	
Paddlefish		
Gavins Point Dam to the mouth of the Big Sioux	2	2
Northern Pike/Tiger Muskie	3	6

DAILY BAG — Fish taken from midnight to midnight.

POSSESSION LIMIT — Fish in a person's portable cooler, home freezer, registered in his name in a commercial cold storage locker, or in any other way under his control.

THREATENED SPECIES — Lake Sturgeon and Pallid Sturgeon. Season closed.

SPECIAL LIMITS — In the following state-owned lakes, the daily bag and possession limit is 10 fish in combination: Two Rivers Carp Lake, Douglas County; Niobrara Park Lake, Knox County; West Lake No. 3, Louisville, Cass County; Fremont Lake No. 5 and Dead Timber Lake, Dodge County. Note: Many cities limit the take to less than 10.

Size and Bag Limits

Where size limits apply, fish may not be filleted prior to transport. Only the gills, guts, and scales may be removed before transport. Where bag limits but not size limits apply, fish may be filleted before transport, provided that fillets are kept in one piece until cooked so bag and possession limits can be determined. Fish placed in public storage must be labeled with the owner's name, address, fishing license number, species and number of fish, and the date placed in storage.

Bass (Largemouth, Smallmouth, Spotted)

15-inch limit: Elwood Reservoir in Gosper County; Wagon Train, Stagecoach, Conestoga, Yankee Hill, Cottontail, and Wildwood (Oak Creek 1A) lakes, all in Lancaster County; Summit Lake in Burt County; Skyview Lake in Madison County; Calamus Reservoir in Loup and Garfield counties; Desoto National Wildlife Refuge lake.

12-inch limit: Statewide except those waters where 15-inch limit applies.

Muskellunge: 30 inches minimum, statewide.

Northern Pike/Tiger Muskie: 24 inches minimum in all inland waters east of U.S. 281 and in Box Butte Reservoir in Dawes County.

Walleye: 15 inches minimum at Lake Minatare in Scotts Bluff County and at Oliver Reservoir in Kimball County.

Bullfrog: 4½ inches from snout to vent.

All Other Species: None.

Any fish caught that is not to be counted in the bag limit must be immediately released into the water with as little injury as possible, except during snagging season in the Missouri River where any paddlefish caught must be counted in the bag. Any fish placed on a stringer, or in a container, or not returned immediately to the water, must be counted in the bag.

Hook and Line Limits

Anglers are limited to 2 lines with 2 hooks on each line in any pond, lake, or reservoir, and for one-half mile in their inlets, outlets, and canals.

In stream and ice fishing, the limits are 5 hooks on a line or 15 hooks in the aggregate. However, only 5 lines with 2 hooks on each line are permitted when ice fishing east of U.S. 281.

One hook means a single, double, or treble-pointed hook. All hooks attached to an artificial bait or lure are counted as one hook.

These limits apply to all fishing, including rod and reel, poles, float lines, bank lines, setlines, and all other types.

Float lines may be used only on streams, rivers, and Lewis and Clark Lake. They must be personally attended, and the name and address of the owner shall be attached to all floats when in use. The use of glass floats is unlawful. Bag and possession limits are the same as for hook and line.

Ice Fishing

When ice fishing, no more than 5 hooks on a line or 15 hooks in the aggregate are allowed, except that only 5 lines with no more than 2 hooks on each line are permitted east of U.S. 281. Holes made for ice fishing may not exceed 10 inches in diameter on any Game and Parks Commission controlled area.

A special $5 permit is required to place a permanent ice shelter on all state recreation area and wildlife management area lakes. Application forms and shelter regulations are available from conservation officers, Commission offices, or by mail from the Parks Division, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503. This does not apply to temporary, portable shelters used and removed each day.

Trout Stamp

Everyone, 16 years of age or older, resident and nonresident alike, is required to have a $5 Nebraska Trout Stamp, if they have trout taken in Nebraska in their possession. Holders of free permits are exempted, as are those who fish for trout in the put-and-take lake at Two Rivers State Recreation Area near Valley.

Funds derived from the sale of this stamp are dedicated to the support of Nebraska's trout management programs. For more information, write to: Fisheries Division, Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503.

Snapping Turtles

Snapping turtles may be taken year-round, and limits are 10 in the daily bag and in possession. They may be taken only by hand, hand net, hook and line, bow and arrow, or gaff hook.

Snagging

Snagging of paddlefish and nongame fish only is permitted from sunrise to sunset Nov. 1-30 in the Missouri River from Gavins Point Dam to the mouth of the Big Sioux River (Mile marker 734). All other waters of the state are closed to snagging for all species at all times. Any other game fish snagged accidentally must be returned to the water immediately.

Any paddlefish caught must be counted in the bag, and may not be cut up except for field dressing (removal of intestines, head, and tail) until arrival at the angler's residence or commercial preservation facility. Snagging for any fish is prohibited after the limit of paddlefish is reached.

Bullfrogs

Bullfrog season runs from July 15 through October 31. Bag and possession limit is 8 bullfrogs per person. They may be taken only on a fishing permit by hand, hand net, and hook-and-line. Artificial light may be used when taking bullfrogs. Bullfrogs must measure 4½" from snout to vent or be released. *Only the entrails may be removed prior to transport.*

Mussels (Clams)

Mussels may be taken year-round by hand, hand net or hook and line. There is no limit.

Fish Diseases

Nebraska's wild fishes are subject to many diseases and parasites. The most common and readily observed is the yellow grub which may be found in many species of fish and may affect all body parts. When encountered, remove the infected portions while cleaning and prepare as usual. Complete cooking will render all known parasites harmless. For a more complete discussion, consult the publication, "What's Bugging that Fish", available from the Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503.

Archery/Surface Spearfishing

Game fish may be taken by bow and arrow from July 1 through December 31 from sunrise to sunset, statewide, except that paddlefish may only be taken by archery from June 1 through July 31 in the Missouri River from Gavins Point Dam to the mouth of the Big Sioux River (Mile marker 734). Game fish may not be taken with surface spears.

Nongame fish may be taken by archery or surface spear year-round, sunrise to sunset, and may be taken 24 hours a day from April 1 through August 31.

The following areas are closed year-round — all put-and-take lakes stocked by the Game Commission; Two Rivers; Louisville, Kearney County and Fremont state recreation areas; Mormon Island and Windmill state wayside areas, and trout streams (see Special Areas).

With archery, only long bows (including compound bows), drawn by hand, are legal. Arrows must be attached by a line to the bow and must have only one point, which must be barbed. Arrows with more than one point are prohibited. For surface spearing, only hand spears are legal. Any spearing device must be barbed.

Underwater Spearfishing

Lawful spear guns include hand spears, rubberbandpowered spear guns, and spring-loaded spear guns. All spears used on powered spear guns must be attached to a lanyard with a maximum length of 20 feet.

Underwater spearfishing is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated swimming or water ski jump area, boat dock, boat ramp, or spillway.

SEASONS

Game fish — July 1 through December 31 in waters listed below. Bag and possession limits are the same as for hook and line. Hours are sunrise to sunset.

Nongame fish — Open year-round in waters listed below. There are no size, bag or possession limits. Hours are sunrise to sunset.

OPEN WATERS

1. Privately-owned lakes with permission of the lake owner.
2. Lake McConaughy, Keith County
3. Lake Ogallala, Keith County
4. Lake Minatare, Scotts Bluff County
5. Box Butte Reservoir, Dawes County
6. Lewis and Clark Lake
7. Harlan County Reservoir
8. Enders Reservoir, Chase County
9. Swanson Reservoir, Hitchcock County
10. Hugh Butler (Red Willow) Reservoir, Frontier County
11. Harry Strunk (Medicine Creek) Reservoir, Frontier County
12. Sutherland Reservoir, Lincoln County
13. Maloney Reservoir, Lincoln County
14. Jeffrey Canyon Reservoir, Lincoln County
15. Johnson Reservoir, Gosper and Dawson counties
16. Sherman Reservoir, Sherman County
17. Elwood Reservoir, Gosper County
18. Merritt Reservoir, Cherry County

DIVERS' FLAG

The International Divers' Flag must be displayed on the water on a float or buoy when diving or underwaterpowered spearfishing. A diver and underwater spearfisherman must remain within 150 feet of his flag.

The flag must be at least 12 inches square, with a red background and white diagonal stripe that is one-fifth the width of the flag. The white stripe must run from the top of the hoist to the bottom of the flag. It is unlawful to display this flag when diving or spearfishing is not in progress.

It Is Unlawful

...to borrow or use the permit of another or lend your permit to another.

...to leave fish or any part thereof on the banks of any stream, lake, or other body of water.

...to fish on any private land without permission of the owner.

...to use crossbow or similar device.

...to seine game fish of any size.

...to leave minnows in a minnow trap for more than 24 hours.

...to use float lines, except on rivers, streams, and Lewis and Clark Lake. They must be personally attended, and name and address must be attached.

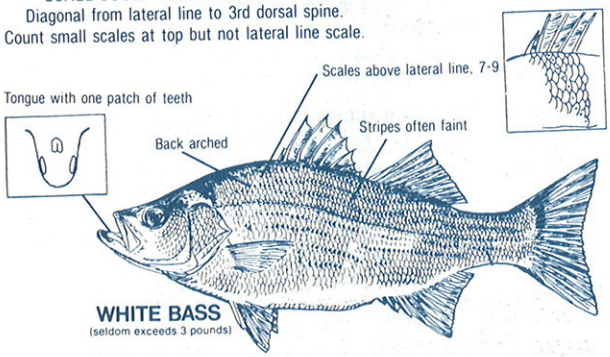
...to use glass floats on float lines.

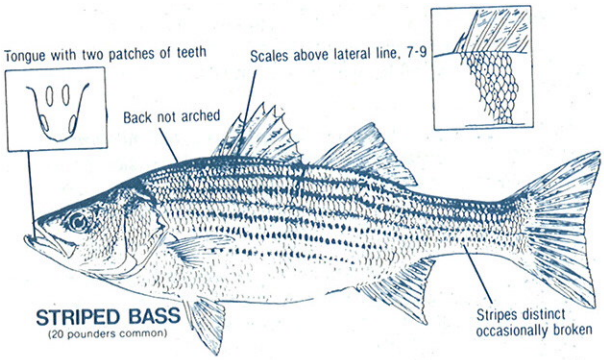
...to attach limb lines with nails or more than 12 inches above the water to trees on any lake or reservoir.

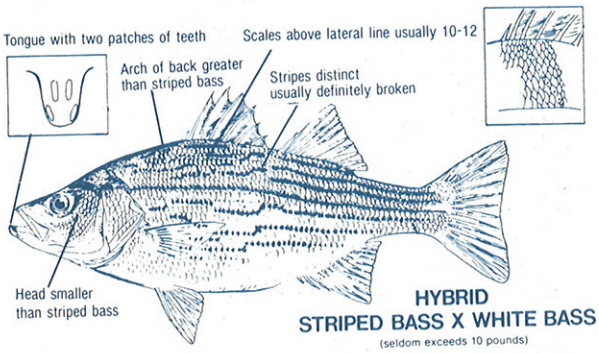
...to possess live diploid grass carp (Ctenopharyngodon idella), also known as white amur.

Know These Fish

SCALE COUNT ABOVE LATERAL LINE
Diagonal from lateral line to 3rd dorsal spine.
Count small scales at top but not lateral line scale.







REMEMBER...

...To distinguish white bass from striped bass and hybrid bass, check center tooth patches on tongue as shown in the illustration.

...Stripes on white bass are faint with 1st stripe below the lateral line not distinct or complete to the tail.

...First stripe below the lateral line is distinct and complete to the tail on the striped bass and hybrids.

Broken lines on the side do not necessarily mean it's a hybrid. Some striped bass have broken lines.

Operation Game Thief

If you observe a violation of Nebraska fish and game laws or regulations, you can now report it by calling the Operation Game Thief toll-free hotline, sponsored by the Nebraska Wildlife Protectors in cooperation with the Game and Parks Commission. That number is 800-742-SNAP. Your call will be kept completely confidential. You may also report a violation by contacting the local conservation officer. Hotline hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Grass Carp

The triploid grass carp is approved for use in private waters for aquatic weed control by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. A special permit is necessary to stock the triploid and authorization for use will be granted after a request to any Commission office that gives ownership, acreage, and legal description of waters to be stocked.

Bait and Minnows

It is unlawful to take minnows from any lake, reservoir, or bayou, and digging, seining, trapping, and dipping for bait or any other purpose is prohibited on all state-owned or controlled areas. All game fish of whatever size taken while netting or seining for bait must immediately be returned to the waters from which taken.

GIZZARD SHAD — Except at Lake McConaughy, which is closed, shad may be taken for use as bait by legal minnow dip nets in any number from lakes, ponds, reservoirs, and below dams and other artificial obstructions for a distance of 200 yards below such obstructions. Shad may be taken by legal minnow seine landing net, or dip net in any number in streams except those streams closed to the taking of minnows or bait by such method.

BELOW DAMS — The seining or capturing of minnows for commercial or private purposes for a distance of 200 yards below any dam, check, spillway, or other artificial obstruction is unlawful, provided, however, that legal minnow dip nets may be used to take minnows for bait.

RESTRICTED SPECIES — It is unlawful to sell, transport, or offer for bait any carp, carpsucker, buffalo, gar, quillback, or bowfin, and it is unlawful to use any of these fish for bait except in the water from which they are taken.

EXPORTING — No more than 100 legally captured minnows may be exported by a resident for his personal use in fishing outside the state. No other minnows taken from Nebraska waters may be transported out of the state in any manner, except minnows artificially propagated in man-made impoundments by licensed fish culturists.

IMPORTING — It is unlawful to import or transport carp, carpsucker, buffalo, quillback, gar, or bowfin into the state for use as bait. A $25 resident bait vendor's permit or $100 nonresident fish dealer's permit is required for a person to import and sell bait or bait minnows.

SCENTS — Anise oil and other scents that do not stun, kill, or harm fish are permitted.

FISH NETS AND TRAPS — The possession or use of any nets, traps, *electrical gear capable of stunning fish,* or other devices except the following is unlawful:

1. Minnow seines of one-fourth inch non-metallic square mesh only, and not over 20 feet long and 4 feet deep.
2. Minnow dip nets of one-fourth inch non-metallic square mesh. Neither length or width may exceed 36 inches.
3. Minnow and bait traps of one-fourth inch square mesh material with a length of 24 inches or less, a diameter 16 inches or less, and a throat 1½ inches or less in diameter. All minnow traps shall be raised and the minnows removed at least every 24 hours.
4. Landing nets, made of non-metallic mesh, used only for landing fish caught on hook and line.

CLOSED WATERS — See Special Areas section.

Fish Stocking

It is unlawful to release any non-native fish, reptile, or amphibian in any waters of the state or to release any fish in any public waters in the state except those taken therefrom without written authorization from the Game and Parks Commission.

NOTICE — Do NOT transfer any minnows or other fish from one lake or stream to another. You may be destroying your own fishing!

Special Areas

PLATTSMOUTH WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT AREA — This area is open to fishing from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily from April 15 through September 15 except when closed by the Commission by posting.

BURCHARD STATE LAKE — It is unlawful to fish in this Pawnee County lake during any waterfowl hunting season, except bank fishing from the face of the dam is permitted during this closed period as posted by signs on the area.

TWIN LAKES (Seward County) — This wildlife management area is closed to all public use from October 15 until the end of the dark goose season.

NINE MILE CREEK (Scotts Bluff County) — Upper portions closed to all fishing from October 1 through December 31, as posted.

VALENTINE NATIONAL REFUGE — Fishing is permitted year-round during daylight hours, unless otherwise posted. Electric-type outboard motors are permitted on lakes open to fishing; the use of internal combustion motors is prohibited. Possession or use of live or dead minnows and possession of any fish not taken from refuge waters are unlawful. However, frozen or dead smelt may be used for bait. Overnight camping is not permitted.

CRESCENT LAKE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE — Fishing is permitted during daylight hours in Island and Hackberry lakes from January 1 through April 15 and from July 16 through December 31 and in the designated portion of Island Lake from April 16 through July 15 as per refuge regulations. Electric-type outboard motors are permitted on lakes open to fishing; the use of internal combustion motors is prohibited. The possession or use of live or dead minnows and the possession of any fish not taken from refuge waters are unlawful. However, frozen or dead smelt may be used for bait. Overnight camping is not permitted.

CLEAR LAKE (Brown County) and OLIVER RESERVOIR (Kimball County) — The possession or use of live or dead minnows and the possession of any fish not taken from these waters is unlawful.

NORTH PLATTE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE — This Scotts Bluff County refuge is open to fishing from January 15 through September 30 or as posted. Waters within 150 feet of the dam at Lake Minatare are closed to fishing from sunset to sunrise from April 1 through April 30.

BUFFALO CREEK WMA (Scotts Bluff and Banner counties) — It is unlawful to use more than two lines with two hooks per line when fishing in Buffalo Creek Pond, including ice fishing.

FORT ROBINSON STATE PARK (Dawes County) — It is unlawful to use more than 2 lines with 2 hooks on each line when fishing in Cherry Creek, Icehouse and Grabel ponds, and Carter P. Johnson Lake. This includes ice fishing.

FREMONT STATE RECREATION AREA (Dodge County) — Lake No. 20 is closed to fishing from a boat from 10 a.m. to 1 hour before sunset year-round.

TWO RIVERS STATE RECREATION AREA (Douglas County) — The Platte River bordering this area and all lakes, except Nos. 3, 4, and 5, are closed to fishing during the waterfowl hunting seasons. Archery fishing, snagging, spearing, gigging, snaring, and baiting are prohibited in all lakes. Lake No. 5 is designated as a put-and-take trout fishing lake and is subject to special regulations. A daily trout tag is required to possess trout on the entire Two Rivers area. Check at area office.

TROUT WATERS — It is unlawful to take or attempt to take game or nongame fish by bow and arrow or spearing and to take or attempt to take by seine or trap any bait or minnows in any of the following trout streams: ANTELOPE COUNTY, Verdigre Creek and all tributaries. BROWN COUNTY, Long Pine Creek and all tributaries, Plum Creek and all tributaries, Fairfield Creek. BOX BUTTE COUNTY, Niobrara River. CHERRY COUNTY, Middle Loup River and all tributaries, North Loup River and all tributaries, Schlagel Creek, Fairfield Creek, Snake River and all tributaries, Plum Creek and all tributaries. CHEYENNE COUNTY, Lodgepole Creek west of Brownson. DAWES COUNTY, Chadron Creek, Big Bordeaux Creek, Little Bordeaux Creek, White River above Crawford, Niobrara River from Box Butte Reservoir west to the Wyoming line and all tributaries. Dead Horse Creek, Squaw Creek, and White Clay Creek. GARDEN COUNTY, Blue Creek, HOLT COUNTY, Steel Creek and North, Middle, and South branches of Verdigre Creek. HOOKER COUNTY, Dismal River and all tributaries. KEITH COUNTY, Otter Creek, White Tail Creek, and Lonergan Creek and all tributaries. KIMBALL COUNTY, Lodgepole Creek and all tributaries. KNOX COUNTY, North, Middle, and South Verdigre and all tributaries above the town of Verdigre, and Steel Creek. LOUP COUNTY, Gracie Creek. MORRILL COUNTY, all streams and tributaries except the channel or channels of the North Platte River. ROCK COUNTY, Long Pine Creek. SIOUX COUNTY, Sheep Creek Drain, Dry Sheep Creek Drain, Dry Spotted Tail Drain, Spotted Tail Drain, Niobrara River and all tributaries, White River, Soldiers Creek and all tributaries, Monroe Creek, Sowbelly Creek, and Hat Creek. SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY, all streams and tributaries except the channel or channels of the North Platte River. SHERIDAN COUNTY, Snake River, Larrabee Creek, White Clay Creek, Pine Creek, Deer Creek, and Little Bordeaux Creek. WEBSTER COUNTY, Elm Creek.

It is unlawful to possess a net or seine of any type on trout spawning streams in Sioux, Scotts Bluff, Morrill, Garden, and Keith counties that are tributary to the North Platte River and Lake McConaughy, including: Pumpkin, Red Willow, Wildhorse, Stuckenhole, Nine Mile, Tub Springs, Winter, Sheep, Dry Sheep, Spotted Tail, Dry Spotted Tail, Otter, Clear, Lonergan, Upper Dugout, Indian, Silvernail Drain, and Cedar Creeks.

Game/Nongame Fish

Nebraska law defines game fish as all species of fish except buffalo, carp, gar, quillback, sucker, and gizzard shad.

Boundary Waters

MISSOURI RIVER (Iowa) — Anglers holding a valid sport fishing permit from either Nebraska or Iowa may fish in the waters of the Missouri River lying between the two states. "Waters of the Missouri River" are defined to include all oxbows, sloughs, chutes, and backwaters that draw water from the Missouri River proper. Oxbows, chutes, and backwaters separated from the Missouri River by land are included only if the state boundary line passes through some part of such waters. *Mouths of streams are not included.* Fishing may be from boats or from the bank. All fishermen shall conform with the regulations of the state in which they are fishing, unless the regulations of the licensee's state are more restrictive. Then, the licensee must conform with the more restrictive regulations. Anglers may transport fish taken from the waters of the Missouri River through the neighboring state, provided they return to their home state by the most direct route.

DESOTO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE — Sport fishing by hook-and-line and archery is permitted as designated by area regulations. The use of trot lines and float lines is unlawful. All fishermen shall conform with the regulations of the state in which they are licensed, either Nebraska or Iowa, and federal refuge regulations as posted.

MISSOURI RIVER (South Dakota) — Nebraska or South Dakota residents, holding a valid sport fishing permit from their home state, may fish that part of the Missouri River that constitutes the legal boundary between the two states. This includes Lewis and Clark Lake, Gavins Point Dam, and its tailwaters. However, anglers must conform to the regulations of the state in which they are fishing, unless the regulations of their home state are more restrictive. Then, the angler must conform to the more restrictive regulations. At Lewis and Clark Lake, it is unlawful for any person to use more than two lines with more than two hooks on each line; this restriction applies to all water area from Gavins Point Dam upstream to the Santee boat ramp in Knox County, Nebraska. In no case may an angler licensed in only one state fish in tributaries in the other state. *Fishing is permitted from boat or bank.*

MISSOURI RIVER (Missouri) — Anglers holding a valid sport fishing permit from either Nebraska or Missouri may fish with hook and line, including personally attended jugs or floats, on the flowing portion of the Missouri River lying within the boundary of Nebraska or Missouri. In no case may the angler licensed in only one state fish in the tributaries, bayous, or backwaters of the Missouri River in the other state. Fishermen may not fish from nor attach any device or equipment to land under the jurisdiction of the state in which they are not licensed. Creel limits and methods of the state licensing the sport fisherman shall apply.

Fish Kill Reports

Reports of dying fish populations may be made by notifying your local conservation officer, district Game and Parks Commission office, or the 24-hour State Patrol pollution complaint number (402) 471-4545, as soon as possible. Prompt notification will make it easier to determine the cause.

Master Angler

If you take an outstanding catch, it may qualify for a Game and Parks Commission Master Angler Award. Application forms are available from any Commission office, conservation officer, or permit vendor. Rules include:

- All fish must be taken from Nebraska waters.
- Fish must be taken by hook and line. Fish caught on banklines are not eligible. Fish must be hooked, played, and landed by the applicant.
- The catch must be verified with signature and address by a Commission employee, a hunting-fishing permit vendor, or witness.
- Angler must display fishing permit to the individual verifying the application.
- Minimum weights or lengths to qualify for an award include:

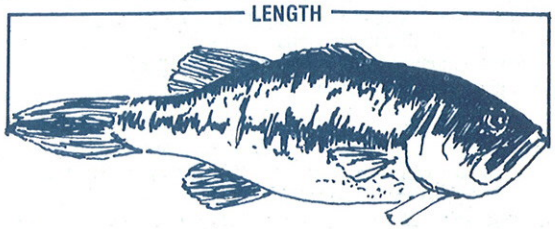
American Eel	1 lb.	Crappie	2 lbs.
Largemouth Bass	20½ in. or 5 lbs.	Drum	5 lbs.
Kentucky Spotted Bass	3 lbs.	Goldeye	1½ lbs.
Rock Bass	1 lb.	Muskie/Tiger Muskie	35 in. or 10 lbs.
Smallmouth Bass	18 in. or 3 lbs.	Paddlefish	30 lbs.
Striped Bass	10 lbs.	Yellow Perch	1¼ lbs.
Striper Hybrid	5 lbs.	White Perch	1 lb.
White Bass	2½ lbs.	Northern Pike	36 in. or 10 lbs.
Bluegill	1 lb.	Sauger	3 lbs.
Buffalo	10 lbs.	Shovelnose Sturgeon	2½ lbs.
Bullhead	2 lbs.	Sucker	2 lbs.
Burbot	1 lb.	Sunfish	1 lb.
Carp	15 lbs.	Brook Trout	14 in. or 1 lb.
Blue Catfish	30 lbs.	Brown Trout	22 in. or 4 lbs.
Channel Catfish	12 lbs.	Rainbow Trout	22½ in. or 5 lbs.
Flathead Catfish	15 lbs.	Walleye	27 in. or 8 lbs.

HOOK AND LINE

KENTUCKY SPOTTED BASS.....3 lbs. 11 oz.
Tom Pappas, North Platte, Lincoln County sandpit, 3/24/68
LARGEMOUTH BASS.....10 lbs. 11 oz.
Paul Abegglen, Sr., Columbus, sandpit near Columbus, 10/2/65
ROCK BASS.....2 lbs. 4 oz.
Edna Zuege, Haigler, Dundy County farm pond, 5/6/72
SMALLMOUTH BASS.....6 lbs. 1½ oz.
Wally Allison, North Platte, Merritt Reservior, 5/17/78
STRIPED BASS.....44 lbs. 10 oz.
Dave Hilferty, Grant, Lake McConaughy, 8/27/86
STRIPED BASS/HYBRID.....7 lbs. 11½ oz.
Ron Meyer, Lexington, Johnson Lake, 9/25/85
WHITE BASS.....5 lbs.
Jim Kilcoin, Aurora, Gavins Point Tailwaters, 11/12/83
BLUEGILL.....2 lbs. 13 oz.
Gary Ralston, Creighton, Grove Lake, 4/26/77
BIGMOUTH BUFFALO.....44 lbs. 8 oz.
Kevin Messman, Omaha, Carter Lake, 4/27/78
BLACK BUFFALO.....41 lbs.
Bob Eaton, Omaha, Carter Lake, 4/29/82
SMALLMOUTH BUFFALO.....45 lbs.
Bruce F. Baete, Beatrice, Big Blue River, 6/15/84
BOWFIN.....8 lbs.
Ronald Evenson, Omaha, Dead Timber Lake, 8/7/82
BULLHEAD.....3 lbs. 14 oz.
Dick Dunn, Beatrice, Pawnee County Farm pond, 7/22/74
BURBOT.....5 lbs. 13 oz.
Terry Freeman, Omaha, Gavins Point Dam Tailwaters, 4/28/79
CARP.....33 lbs. 12 oz.
Toni C. Baete, Beatrice, Gage County farm pond, 5/12/83
BLUE CATFISH.....100 lbs. 8 oz.
Raynold Promes, Wynot, Missouri River near Wynot, 11/29/70
CHANNEL CATFISH.....41 lbs. 8 oz.
John Cunning, Valentine, Merritt Reservoir, 7/26/85
FLATHEAD CATFISH.....76 lbs.
Orville Sudbeck, Hartington, Missouri River near Wynot, 3/10/71
BLACK CRAPPIE.....4 lbs. 2 oz.
Joe L. Citta, Hershey, Red Willow Reservoir, 5/30/81
WHITE CRAPPIE.....4 lbs. 1 oz.
Elsie M. Jensen, Broken Bow, Red Willow Reservoir, 5/18/80
FRESHWATER DRUM.....28 lbs. 4 oz.
Vincent Prazak, Clarkson, Missouri River below Gavins Point Dam, 10/1/71
AMERICAN EEL.....5 lbs.
George Sweisberger, South Sioux City, Missouri River, 8/2/83
LONGNOSE GAR.....14 lbs. 6 oz.
Joe W. Vlasak, Ashland, Platte River in Saunders County, 5/17/84
SHORTNOSE GAR.....19 lbs.
Ronald Hardin, Omaha, lake in Cass County, 6/29/74
GOLDEYE.....2 lbs. 7 oz.
Todd Kabuss, Columbus, private lake in Platte County, 5/8/81
SKIPJACK HERRING.....1 lb. 3 oz.
John Cowan, Aberdeen, S.D., Missouri River tailwaters, Cedar County, 7/17/85
MUSKELLUNGE.....28 lbs.
Jerry Priest, Ainsworth, Merritt Reservoir, 8/1/82
PADDLEFISH.....91 lb. 8 oz.
Warren Yelkin, Lincoln, Gavins Point Dam Tailwaters, 11/18/78
SACRAMENTO PERCH.....2 lbs. 8 oz.
John A. Bush, Valentine, Clear Lake on Valentine National Wildlife Refuge, 6/20/71
WHITE PERCH.....1 lb. 6 oz.
Curtis Kadlick, Lincoln, Wagon Train Lake, 5/16/72
YELLOW PERCH.....2 lbs. 10¾ oz.
John D. Skrdla, Stuart, Hackberry Lake, 2/11/84
NORTHERN PIKE.....29 lbs. 12 oz.
Gary Jones, Royal, Grove Lake, 7/6/84
PUMPKINSEED.....8½ oz.
Chris Rerucha, Grand Island, Douglas County farm pond, 6/10/81
QUILLBACK.....10 lbs. 2 oz.
Richard L. Hardin, Omaha, Lake in Cass County, 7/17/76
CHINOOK SALMON.....2 lbs. 8 oz.
Rick Heppner, Norfolk, Lewis and Clark Lake, 9/14/85
COHO SALMON.....5 lbs. 12 oz.
Lyle Fry, Gering, Lake McConaughy, 7/3/71
KOKANEE SALMON.....4 lbs. 2 oz.
Neal Dunbar, North Platte, Lake McConaughy, 7/11/71

How To Measure Length Of Fish

Lay the fish on its side, with the mouth closed and the tail lobes pressed together. Measure the length from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail.



STATE FISHING RECORDS

SAUGER.....8 lbs. 5 oz.
Mrs. Betty Tepner, Plainview, Missouri River near Niobrara, 10/22/61
GIZZARD SHAD.....2 lbs. 7 oz.
George B. Huff, McCook, Rock Creek Lake, 1/8/83
SHOVELNOSE STURGEON.....3 lbs. 11 oz.
Robert C. Byers, Omaha, Missouri River, Cass County, 5/30/84
SUCKER.....9 lbs.
Ron Reutzel, Lincoln, Pawnee Lake, 7/21/79
GREEN SUNFISH.....1 lb. 4 oz.
Jeff Knajdl, Riverdale, Buffalo County sandpit, 7/13/80
REDEAR SUNFISH.....1 lb. 6 oz.
Gary K. Reagan, Lincoln, Conestoga Lake, 5/4/70
BROOK TROUT.....5 lbs. 1 oz.
Joe Gray, North Platte, Pawnee Springs near North Platte, 11/3/65
BROWN TROUT.....20 lbs. 1 oz.
Denny Doolittle, Valentine, Snake River, 7/26/73
CUTTHROAT TROUT.....11 oz.
David Wolf, Omaha, Missouri River, Boyd-Holt Counties, 6/11/86
RAINBOW TROUT.....14 lbs. 2 oz.
Frank Aloy, North Platte, canal in Keith County, 3/18/75
WALLEYE.....16 lbs. 2 oz.
Herbert J. Cutshall, Ogallala, Lake McConaughy, 7/5/71

BOW AND ARROW
LARGEMOUTH BASS.....8 lbs. 14 oz.
Jerry Grasmick, Scottsbluff, sandpit near Scottsbluff, 6/18/66
ROCK BASS.....1 lb. 6 oz.
Harlan L. Worden, North Platte, Interstate 80 lake in Lincoln County, 5/8/72
SMALLMOUTH BASS.....3 lbs.
Michael Lange, Gibbon, Interstate 80 lake in Buffalo County, 6/5/71
STRIPED BASS.....8 lbs. 5 oz.
Michael Dorris, Arthur, Lake McConaughy, 4/14/73
WHITE BASS.....3 lbs.
Lonnie Miller, Hastings, Harlan County Reservoir, 4/14/73
BLUEGILL.....14 oz.
Michael J. Christiansen, North Platte, Thomas County farm pond, 6/13/75
BUFFALO.....43 lbs.
Ronald Meyers, Columbus, Linoma Beach near Ashland, 6/17/67
BULLHEAD.....1 lb. 11 oz.
Cory Hardin, Rushville, Smith Lake, 7/13/78
CARP.....38 lbs. 8 oz.
Ronald A. Meyers, Omaha, Platte County Lake, 5/9/85
CHANNEL CATFISH.....21 lbs. 12 oz.
Mike Lacey, Gering, Lake Minatare, 7/23/82
FLATHEAD CATFISH.....46 lbs. 2 oz.
Jim Foral, Lincoln, Bluestem Creek, Sprague, 10/13/84
BLACK CRAPPIE.....1 lb. 14 oz.
Tim McQuade, North Platte, Shoup Lake, Cherry County, 6/1/74
WHITE CRAPPIE.....2 lbs. 13 oz.
David Medinger, Bellwood, sandpit in Butler County, 6/2/73

State Record Rules

- Fish must exceed current record by at least one ounce or it will be considered as a tie.
- Fish must be taken from Nebraska waters.
- It must be legally taken by hook-and-line, underwater spearfishing, surface spearing, or archery. Fish must be caught, played, and landed by the applicant.
- Fish must be weighed on a certified scale and witnessed by a Game and Parks Commission employee. If not witnessed by a Commission employee, a notarized affidavit, signed by two witnesses and giving the requested information, may be substituted.
- Species of fish must be verified by a Commission fisheries offical. The fish may be gutted and frozen, but the head, fins, and skin must remain in tact until the species has been verified.
- Angler must display fishing permit to the individual verifying the application.
- Application forms are available from any Commission office or permit vendor.

FRESHWATER DRUM.....20 lbs.
Gerald Tramp, Crofton, Gavins Point Tailwaters, 6/15/82
GAR.....22 lbs.
Gary Trofholz, Columbus, Polk County sandpit, 6/13/74
GOLDEYE.....2 lbs. 1 oz.
Bill Schwarting, Fremont, Platte River, Dodge County, 5/17/85
PADDLEFISH.....86 lbs.
Gene R. Haswell, Omaha, sandpit in Cass County, 4/16/72
YELLOW PERCH.....1 lb. 2 oz.
Tim McQuade, North Platte, Cody Lake, 4/19/75
NORTHERN PIKE.....21 lbs. 4 oz.
Allen Splichal, Scottsbluff, Lake Minatare, 5/2/70
QUILLBACK.....11 lbs. 2 oz.
Tim Smith, Benkelman, Dundy County sandpit, 7/4/84
GIZZARD SHAD.....2 lbs. 6 oz.
Michael Dorris, Arthur, Lake Ogallala, 3/6/76
SUCKER.....3 lbs. 3 oz.
Mike Lauby, Lexington, Platte River, Dawson County, 7/4/74
GREEN SUNFISH.....8 oz.
Marty Guthrie, McCook, sandpit near Bartley, 7/22/76
BROWN TROUT.....5 lbs. 4 oz.
Richard Thompson, Lincoln, Lake McConaughy, 4/11/70
RAINBOW TROUT.....9 lbs. 13 oz.
Mike Dorris, Arthur, canal in Keith County, 8/22/76
WALLEYE.....11 lbs. 1 oz.
Bradley M. Heck, Brady, Jeffrey Reservoir, 4/11/70

UNDERWATER-POWERED SPEARFISHING
KENTUCKY SPOTTED BASS.....2 lbs. 7 oz.
William Thompson, North Platte, Lincoln County sandpit, 8/17/73
LARGEMOUTH BASS.....6 lbs. 7 oz.
Pierre Maloley, Lexington, sandpit in Dawson County, 11/10/82
ROCK BASS.....1 lb. 4 oz.
Terry Robbins, Alliance, Box Butte Reservoir, 7/10/82
SMALLMOUTH BASS.....3 lbs. 14¾ oz.
Fred Barting, Hay Springs, Box Butte Reservoir, 7/1/84
STRIPED BASS.....19 lbs. 5½ oz.
Terry McCarty, North Platte, Lake McConaughy, 7/4/82
BLACK BUFFALO.....27 lbs.
Matthew B. Donelan, Omaha, Saunders County sandpit, 5/22/82
SMALLMOUTH BUFFALO.....13 lbs. 4 oz.
Vince Willits, Silver Creek, Merrick County sandpit, 7/5/82
CARP.....33 lbs. 6 oz.
Aldin Kasten, Benkelman, sandpit in Hitchcock County, 7/20/81
CHANNEL CATFISH.....20 lbs.
Jerry Rich, Lexington, Dawson County sandpit, 10/22/81
BLACK CRAPPIE.....2 lbs. 2 oz.
Hershel D. Smith, Lexington, Dawson County sandpit, 12/19/82
GOLDEYE.....1 lb. 5½ oz.
George (Mike) Fritton, Silver Creek, Merrick County sandpit, 7/5/82
TIGER MUSKY.....10 lbs. 3 oz.
Bob Johnson, North Platte, Lake McConaughy, 9/18/85
YELLOW PERCH.....1 lb. 11½ oz.
LeRoy Adamson, Alliance, Box Butte Reservoir, 7/15/80
NORTHERN PIKE.....13 lbs. 12 oz.
Albert Cherry, St. Edward, Lake McConaughy, 8/8/75
QUILLBACK.....6 lbs. 6 oz.
Michael Dorris, Arthur, Lake McConaughy, 6/17/78
KOKANEE SALMON.....4 lbs. 2 oz.
John Williams, Omaha, Lake McConaughy, 8/26/72
GIZZARD SHAD.....2 lbs. 14 oz.
Jerry Sack, North Platte, Lake McConaughy, 7/8/79
WHITE SUCKER.....3 lbs. 13 oz.
Bill Klimek, Burwell, Loup County sandpit, 10/4/86
BROWN TROUT.....4 lbs. 8 oz.
Richard B. Roy, Alliance, Box Butte Reservoir, 8/29/74
RAINBOW TROUT.....3 lbs. 9 oz.
Michael Bansall, Grand Island, Lake McConaughy, 7/7/83
WALLEYE.....13 lbs. 11 oz.
Richard Fish, Kearney, Lake McConaughy, 6/7/70

SURFACE SPEARFISHING
LONGNOSE GAR.....17 lbs. 6 oz.
David L. Werth, South Bend, Cass County sandpit, 6/13/84

Help Wanted

You can help fisheries managers by returning the tags from any tagged fish you may catch. The tag will be returned to you, along with data on where the fish was tagged.

Tournaments/Contests/Derbies

When they involve tagged or otherwise marked fish, fishing tournaments, derbies, or contests are prohibited on (1) waters owned or controlled by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and (2) waters stocked by the Game and Parks Commission during the preceding 24 months, excluding private lakes not owned by the state or other governmental entity.

Record Fish Display

If you take a game fish by hook-and-line that breaks a state record, you may wish to donate it to the Game and Parks Commission for display at the Commission's Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium at Schramm Park State Recreation Area near Gretna. The Commission will mount the trophy, complete with engraved plate with your name, species of fish, weight, when and where it was taken. To make such a donation, contact the Aquarium within 24 hours at (402) 332-3901. Aquarium hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. Any current hook-and-line record-holder who would like to donate their trophy game fish should also contact the Aquarium.

Permits

RESIDENT ANNUAL FISH	$ 9.50 11.5
RESIDENT COMBINATION FISH-HUNT	17.50 19.5
NONRESIDENT ANNUAL	~~20.00~~ 25
NONRESIDENT 3-DAY ... $ RES	6.00 7.50
TROUT STAMP	5.00

A fishing permit is required to take or attempt to take any fish, including minnows, by any method, except the owner or invitee of any body of water which (1) is located entirely on private land, (2) is entirely privately stocked, (3) does not connect by inflow or outflow with any outside water, and (4) when such water is not operated on a commercial basis.

WHAT PERMIT IS REQUIRED?

A resident fishing permit is required for all Nebraskans 16 years of age or older. A "resident" is a person who has resided in Nebraska continuously for at least 90 days and who has a bona fide intention of becoming a legal resident of this state.

Others who may obtain a resident permit include: (1) servicemen officially stationed in Nebraska and on active duty here for at least 30 consecutive days; (2) nonresident students upon proof they have attended classes full-time for at least 30 consecutive days at any Nebraska college, university, junior college, or vocational school, and (3) any person duly enrolled in and attending a civilian conservation center or similar government work or training facility for 30 consecutive days.

A nonresident fishing permit is required of all persons who are not residents of Nebraska, except those listed and those under 16 years of age who are accompanied by a person possessing a valid permit.

See the section on "Boundary Waters" for permit requirements for persons fishing the waters of the Missouri River.

LIFETIME PERMITS

Nebraska residents can now enjoy a lifetime of fishing or hunting on a single permit and support outdoor recreation at the same time. Fees are: Lifetime Fish, $200; Lifetime Hunt, $200, or Lifetime Fish and Hunt, $400. Funds from these permits go into a special fund, with the interest each year going to help support fisheries and wildlife management in Nebraska. For an application or more information, write to: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, P.O. 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503.