

## MERRITT TRADING POST RESORT

Snake River

Merritt  
Reservoir

### OUR FISHING IS BACK

Merritt Reservoir — Nebraska's premier trophy fishery is one of the top trophy fisheries in the United States! Merritt is 11 miles long, has 2,906 surface acres of water and 44 miles of shoreline. It reaches depths of 104 feet.

Located in the heart of Nebraska's incredible Sandhills, Merritt's pure water, beautiful sand beaches and utter lack of development (other than Merritt Resort), make it truly a unique impoundment. Its pristine waters produce an outstanding prey base, which has maintained our trophy fishery.

**HUNDREDS** of Nebraska's Master Angler Award fish have come from Merritt Reservoir. It also claims the state record muskellunge, smallmouth bass and channel catfish, as well as six freshwater world line class records on catfish. Over the years, anglers from all over the U.S. have come here to get their trophy. To complete your angling trip, Merritt is adjacent to the Valentine Refuge lakes, which abound in northern pike, largemouth bass, yellow perch and world-class bluegill.

### Merritt Trading Post Resort

*The area concession at the lake, Merritt Trading Post Resort is strategically located on the southeast side of the dam. We can handle all of your needs and services for an eventful Sandhills experience. Modern cabins, hunting & fishing guide service, boat & pontoon rentals, groceries, bait, tackle, beer, ice, fish freezing, showers, RV hookups, fuel, licenses & park permits.*

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402-376-3437 or 402-376-2758  
Fax: 402-376-3870  
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# 1998

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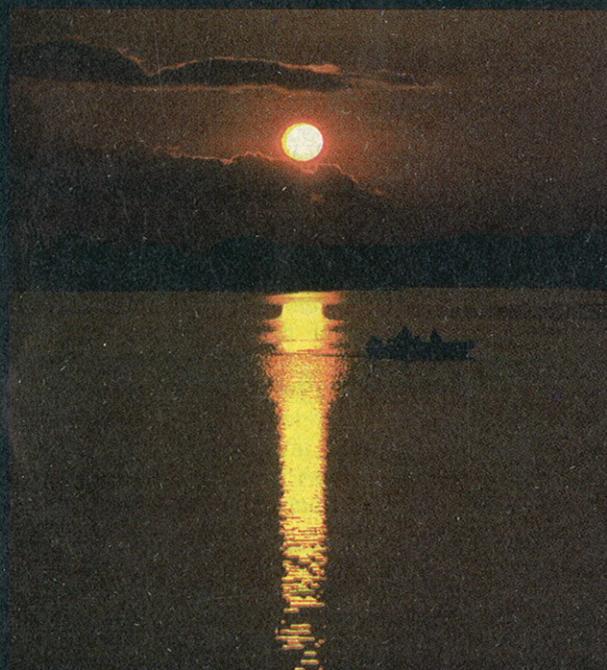
# 1999

## Guide

to

# Nebraska

## Fishing Regulations and Public Waters



Nebraska Game and Parks Commission  
2200 North 33rd Street / P.O. Box 30370  
Lincoln, NE 68503 (402) 471-0641

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Lincoln, NE 68503-0370  
Phone: 402-471-0641

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East Neb. Hwy. 2  
P.O. Box 725  
Alliance, NE 69301-0725  
Phone: 308-763-2940

### District 2

524 Panzer  
P.O. Box 508  
Bassett, NE 68714-0508  
Phone: 402-684-2921

### District 3

2201 N 13th St.  
Norfolk, NE 68701-2267  
Phone: 402-370-3374

### District 4

State Farm Road  
RR4, Box 136  
North Platte, NE 69101-9412  
Phone: 308-535-8025

### District 6

1617 1st. Ave  
Kearney, NE 68847-6057  
Phone: 308-865-5310

### Omaha Metro Office

Visitor Information Center  
1212 Deer Park Blvd.  
Omaha, NE 68108  
Phone: 402-595-2144

### Outdoor Education Center Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium

21502 W. Hwy. 31  
Gretna, NE 68028  
Phone: 402-332-3901



**Call Toll Free  
1-800-742-SNAP  
Operation  
Game Thief**

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### NOTICE

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

## PERMITS

RESIDENT ANNUAL FISH .....	\$12.75
RESIDENT COMBINATION FISH-HUNT .....	21.75
NONRESIDENT ANNUAL .....	35.00
NONRESIDENT 3-DAY .....	10.75
RESIDENT 3-DAY .....	8.25
SPECIAL FISHING PERMIT .....	5.00
AQUATIC HABITAT STAMP .....	5.00
ANNUAL PARK ENTRY* .....	14.00
DUPLICATE PARK ENTRY* .....	7.00
DAILY PARK ENTRY* .....	2.50

\* Prices subject to change

### Who Is Required To Have A Permit?

A fishing permit is required to take or attempt to take any fish, bullfrogs, snapping turtles, tiger salamanders, mussels or minnows by any method, except for the owner or the guest of the owner of any totally protected waterbody 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) is not operated commercially. A vehicle Park Entry Permit is required to fish on state park and state recreation areas. A resident fishing permit is required for all Nebraskans 16 years of age and older. However, fee-exempt permits are available to veterans 65 years of age and older, and all residents 70 years of age and older. A resident is a person who has resided in Nebraska continuously for at least 30 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) military personnel 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, vocational school or any foreign exchange high school student; 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 people who are not residents of Nebraska, except those listed and those under 16 years of age who are accompanied by someone possessing a valid permit.

Legislation passed by the 1997 Legislature authorized the Commission to issue a "Special Fishing Permit" for severely physically disabled or developmentally disabled persons. This permit entitles the disabled person and one person assisting him or her to take, hunt, fish, catch, harvest or possess any aquatic organism in compliance with state law. An Aquatic Habitat Stamp is not required with this special permit. The annual permit is issued on a calendar year basis and costs \$5 regardless of the age of the applicant. A "disabled person" means a person certified by a physician to have a permanent physical impairment or developmental disability that results in the inability to use fishing equipment unassisted. Applications are available from the Game and Parks Commission headquarters in Lincoln or Commission offices in Alliance, Bassett, Kearney, Norfolk, North Platte, Omaha, and Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium at Gretna. The application must be verified by a physician before a permit can be issued.

Information and application forms for fee-exempt fishing permits are available only from the Game and Parks Commission office in Lincoln. See Boundary Waters section for permit requirements for fishing the waters of the Missouri River.

### Lifetime Permits

Nebraska residents can enjoy a lifetime of fishing or hunting on a single permit and support outdoor recreation at the same time. Fees are: Lifetime Fish, \$257.50; Lifetime Hunt, \$224, or Lifetime Fish and Hunt, \$448. Revenue from these permits goes into a special fund, with the interest going annually to help support fisheries and wildlife management in Nebraska. For an application or more information, write to: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370.

### AQUATIC HABITAT STAMP

An Aquatic Habitat Stamp is required of all residents and nonresidents, 18 years of age and older, who participate in activities that require a fishing permit. This includes short-term (three-day) permits; however, an angler who buys more than one three-day fishing permit is required to purchase only one Aquatic Habitat Stamp per year.

Veterans 65 years and older and residents 70 and older who have a fee-exempt permit are exempt from purchasing an Aquatic Habitat Stamp. Anglers who have a Lifetime Fishing Permit also are exempt from the Aquatic stamp requirement. Although they are required to purchase an annual Nebraska Fishing Permit, anglers ages 16 and 17 are not required to have the Aquatic Habitat Stamp.

Revenue from the sale of these stamps is used solely to enhance and restore aquatic habitat and quality fishing in Nebraska's reservoirs, lakes and streams.

### FREE FISHING DAY

Legislation passed in 1996 authorized a Free Fishing and Park Entry Day in Nebraska. The day is designed to attract those who no longer fish or who have never fished and to give them an opportunity to do so without the need to purchase a license. Free Fishing and Park Entry Day is held the third Saturday of May. Anglers can take advantage of that day, invite a non-angler friend along and take them on a fishing trip on any water body in the state showing them how much fun fishing really is.

### SYNOPSIS OF CHANGES FOR 1998-1999

#### Regulations Now On Two-Year Cycle

Please note that Nebraska fishing regulations are now being established every two years. Therefore, all regulations listed in this booklet are valid through December 31, 1999.

#### Special Permits

Legislation passed with the emergency clause in February 1997 authorized special fishing permits for severely physically disabled or developmentally disabled persons.

#### Species Size & Bag Limit Changes

**Salmon and Trout** - Minimum length limits of 20 inches on brown trout and salmon and reduced daily bags and possession limits of 4 and 8, respectively, on all trout and salmon are intended to maximize predation on abundant alewife and create trophy salmonid fisheries in lakes Ogallala and McConaughy.

**Crappie** - A minimum length of 10 inches has been imposed on crappie at Sherman Reservoir and Papio No. 21.

**Bluegill** - A minimum length of 8 inches has been imposed on bluegill at Papio No. 21.

**Largemouth Bass** - Papio No. 21 has been added to the list of reservoirs managed with a 21-inch minimum length limit on largemouth bass.

**Wipers** - Summit and Willow Creek reservoirs have been added to waters with a three-fish daily bag with one over 18 inches, while Branched Oak Reservoir has been deleted

from this list with the new regulation being an 18-inch minimum length limit and a daily bag of one wiper. Bluestem Reservoir was removed from the three fish daily bag and one over 18 inches.

**Walleye** - The daily bag limit at Lake McConuaghy and Elwood Reservoir is restricted to only one walleye over 25 inches long. The statewide bag and possession limits are reduced to 4 and 8 walleye respectively.

**Northern Pike** - The 36-inch minimum length limit on northern pike in Branched Oak Reservoir will revert to the regional regulation of 24-inch minimum. A 30-inch minimum length limit is required for northern pike in Enders and Red Willow reservoirs with the goal to provide a high quality pike fishery.

**Paddlefish** - Individuals may submit only one application for an archery tag and one application for a snagging tag during the appropriate application periods. Preference will be given to individuals applying for a tag who did not receive a paddlefish tag the previous year.

### 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 landowner permission.
- to use a crossbow or similar device, with the exception of a handicapped person with a medical certificate on file.
- to seine game fish of any size.
- to leave minnows in a trap for more than 24 hours.
- to use drifting 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 release in public waters of the state any fish that did not originate from that body of water.
- to attempt to snag fish, except in areas designated. See section on Snagging for details.
- to keep a foul-hooked fish, which is any fish hooked externally behind the eye (or gill).
- to consume alcohol on any state park, state recreation area or wildlife management area.

### Game / Nongame Fish

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

### SEASONS

**Hook-and-Line** — Open year-round throughout the state, except as noted or as posted.

**Archery** — Game fish may be taken from sunrise to sunset from July 1 through Dec. 31 statewide, except paddlefish in the Missouri River. Nongame fish may be taken year-round, sunrise to sunset and from Apr. 1 through Aug. 31, 24 hours a day, statewide. Paddlefish archery season runs from the 2nd Saturday of July through the 4th Sunday of July. A valid Paddlefish Tag is required (see section on Paddlefish). See section on Archery/Surface Spearing for other exceptions. Hook and line limits apply for archery.

**Snagging** — The paddlefish snagging season runs from Oct. 1 through Oct. 30. A valid paddlefish tag is required. Please see section on Paddlefish Tag. All other waters of the state are closed to snagging at all times. See section on Snagging for details.

**Surface Spearing** — The entire state is open to the taking of nongame fish year-round, sunrise to sunset and between Apr. 1 and Aug. 31, 24 hours a day.

**Underwater Spearing** — Game fish may be taken from

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

**Cast Nets** — It is illegal to use or possess cast nets on Nebraska waters.

### BAG / POSSESSION

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 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. 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.

**Daily Bag** — Fish taken from midnight to midnight. No person may possess more than one day's limit of fish while on the water or actively engaged in fishing. Fish species subject to a bag and possession limit, but not a length limit, can be filleted prior to transport if the fillets are kept in one piece until cooked, so the bag and possession limits can be determined. Fish species subject to a length limit can only be gilled and gutted prior to transport.

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. Any fish placed on a stringer, in a container or not returned immediately to the water must be counted in the bag.

**Possession Limit** — This is the total number of a specific species of fish that a person may have in possession in

Statewide	Bag	Poss.
Trout (all species, note exceptions at Lake McConaughy, Lake Ogallala and US West lake)	7	14
Striped Bass & Hybrids/White Bass (combined) (no more than 1 fish over 18 inches long statewide, 3-fish daily bag limit at, Conestoga, Summit, Willow Creek and Calamus reservoirs) (Branched Oak 1 fish over 18 inches)	15	30
Muskellunge/Tiger Musky (combined)	1	2
Bait Minnows/Tiger Salamander	100	100
Shovelnose Sturgeon	10	20
Pallid and Lake Sturgeon	No Harvest Allowed	
Northern Pike	3	6
Bluegill, Black and White Crappie, Yellow Perch, Rock Bass and Green, Pumpkinseed, Orangespotted and Redear sunfish and their hybrids (singly or in aggregate)	30	60
Mussels and Clams	10	20
All other fish	No Limit	
Bullfrogs	8	16
Snapping Turtles	10	20
<b>Inland Waters</b>		
Largemouth, Smallmouth, Spotted Bass (combined) (only one fish in daily bag may exceed 21 inches in length)	4	8
Channel/Blue Catfish (combined)	10	20
Flathead Catfish	4	8
Paddlefish	1	2
Walleye/Sauger/Saugeye (in combination)	4	8
<b>Waters of the Missouri River</b>		
Largemouth, Smallmouth, Spotted Bass (combined)	5	10
Blue Catfish	1	1
Channel/Flathead Catfish (combined)	10	20
Paddlefish (tag required) (Gavins Point Dam to the mouth of the Big Sioux)	2	2
Walleye/Sauger/Saugeye (combined)	4	8

portable coolers, home freezers, registered in his name in a commercial cold storage locker or in any other way under his control. Fish or aquatic animals placed in public storage must be labeled with the owner's name, address, phone number, date of birth, signature, date taken, species and numbers involved and the name of recipient if they are transferred.

**Special Limits** — In the following state-owned lakes, the daily bag and possession limit is 10 fish in combination. Two Rivers SRA Carp Lake, Douglas County; Niobrara Park Lake, Knox County; Louisville SRA Lake No. 3, Cass County and Fremont SRA Lake No. 5 Dodge County. Note: Many cities limit the take to less than 10. In Zorinsky Lake, there is a daily bag limit of 10 panfish (bluegill and crappie) in combination.

**Catch and Release Lakes** — Wildwood Lake, Jenny Newman Lake, Two Rivers Lake No. 3 and Fremont Lake No. 1 are the only total catch-and-release lakes in the state. Jenny Newman Lake at Platte River State Park is open to children under the age of 16 from the 4th Saturday in April through the 4th Saturday in October from sunrise to 10 a.m. Tackle restrictions exist on Jenny Newman Lake, Two Rivers Lake No. 3, Fremont Lake No. 1 and US West Lake at Mahoney State Park. All artificial lure hooks must either be barbless or have the barbs crimped.

## LENGTH LIMITS

### Bass (Largemouth)

**15-inch minimum:** Statewide on all publicly owned, controlled or managed waters, except where other limits apply and parts of the Missouri River. There is a 12-inch minimum size limit on all black bass in the section of the Missouri River between Nebraska and Iowa and Nebraska and Missouri. There is a 15-inch minimum size limit on largemouth bass on the following Missouri River lakes and oxbows: DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge Lake, Washington County; Snyder Bend Lake, Dakota and Thurston counties and Lake Yankton, Cedar County.

**21-inch minimum:** Burchard Lake, Pawnee County; Zorinsky Lake, Douglas County; Skyview Lake, Madison County; Wehrspann Lake and Papio No. 21 Sarpy County and Willow Lake, Brown County.

**12-inch minimum:** Non-public waters except for totally private waters.

### Bass (Smallmouth and Spotted)

**12-inch minimum:** Statewide on all publicly owned, controlled or managed waters, except where other limits apply and parts of the Missouri River. There is a 12-inch minimum size limit on all black bass in the section of the Missouri River between Nebraska and Iowa and Nebraska and Missouri.

### Walleye, Sauger and Saugeye

**15-inch minimum:** Pawnee Lake, Lancaster County and all waters west of U.S. Hwy. 183 from the Kansas-Nebraska border north to its junction with U.S. Hwy. 20, west and north on Hwy. 183 to the Nebraska-South Dakota border, except for those regulated under the 18-inch size limit.

**18-inch minimum:** Merritt Reservoir, Cherry County; Elwood Reservoir, Gosper County; Harlan County Reservoir (including the Republican River upstream to the Oxford highway bridge), Harlan County; Branched Oak Reservoir, Lancaster County; Sherman Reservoir, Sherman County; and Calamus Reservoir, Loup County. **Note:** Only one fish longer than 25 inches is allowed in the bag at Merritt Reservoir, Cherry County; Sherman Reservoir, Sherman County; Calamus Reservoir, Loup and Garfield counties; Lake McConaughy, Keith County; and Elwood Reservoir, Gosper County.

### Northern Pike

**24-inch minimum:** All inland waters east of U.S. 281.

**30-inch minimum:** Enders Reservoir, Chase County, and Red Willow Reservoir, Frontier County.

### Muskellunge/Tiger Musky

**30-inch minimum:** Statewide.

### Bluegill

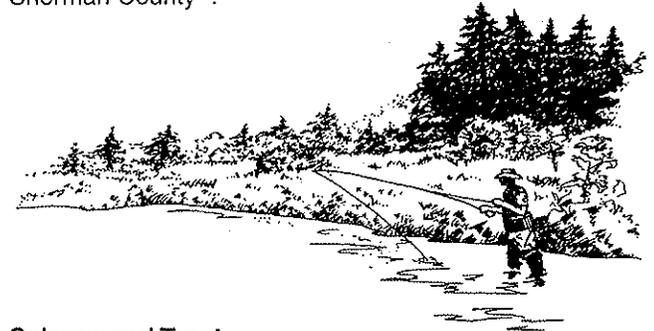
**8-inch minimum:** Stagecoach Reservoir, Lancaster County; Mormon Island Lakes No. 1, 2 and 3, Hall County; Wehrspann Lake and Papio No. 21, Sarpy County; Czechland Lake, Saunders County, and Zorinsky Lake, Douglas County.

### Striped Bass and Hybrids/ White Bass (combined)

Statewide on all publicly owned, controlled or managed waters, no more than 1 fish over 18 inches in length, 3-fish daily bag limit at Summit, Willow Creek, Conestoga and Calamus reservoirs. Branched Oak has a minimum length limit of 18-inches and a daily bag of one.

### Crappie

**10-inch minimum:** Branched Oak and Pawnee reservoirs, Lancaster County; Wehrspann Lake and Papio No. 21, Sarpy County; Czechland Lake, Saunders County, and Zorinsky Lake, Douglas County; Sherman Reservoir, Sherman County.



### Salmon and Trout

**20-inch minimum:** Lake McConaughy and Lake Ogallala (Keith County) on both chinook salmon and brown trout. Combination daily bag, which includes all salmon and trout, is 4 with a possession of 8.

**All Other Species** — None.

## LIMITS & FILLETING

Where length and bag limits apply, fish may not be filleted until fishing is completed for the day. Fish subject to a length limit cannot be possessed with more than the gills, viscera and scales removed while on the water, while wading or while engaged in fishing. Fillets must be kept in one piece until cooked, so bag and possession limits can be determined. Any fish in possession while actively fishing will be subject to length and bag limits that apply to the water being fished.

## HOOK AND LINE LIMIT

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 fishing, the limit is 5 hooks on a line or 15 hooks in the aggregate. Only 5 lines with 2 hooks on each line are permitted when ice fishing. Each ice fishing line used must be under the direct supervision and within the unaided observation of the angler. For snagging, only 1 hook may be used (see Paddlefish/Snagging Section).

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. The name, address and fishing permit number or current drivers license number of the angler must be attached to floats of all float lines, and to all limb lines and set lines. Float lines may be used only on streams, rivers and Lewis and Clark Lake. They cannot be attached to the bank, and such a line must have a float attached at each end. A total of 15 hooks may be used on streams and rivers, but only two hooks may be used on Lewis and Clark Lake (see Missouri River-South Dakota). Float lines must be personally attended. The use of glass floats is unlawful. Bag and possession limits are the same as for hook and line.

### ARCHERY/SURFACE SPEARFISHING

Game fish may be taken by bow and arrow from July 1 through Dec. 31 from sunrise to sunset, statewide. Game fish may not be taken with surface spears. Nongame fish may be taken by archery or surface spear year-round statewide, sunrise to sunset between Sept. 1 and March 30 and 24 hours a day from Apr. 1 through Aug. 31, .

Only hand-drawn longbows (including compound bows) are legal. A crossbow may be used by a handicapped person who has a medical certificate on file with the Game and Parks Commission's Fisheries Division. Arrows may have only one point, which must be barbed and must be attached by a line to the bow.

The following waters are closed year-round: All put-and-take lakes stocked by the Game and Parks Commission; Two Rivers, Louisville, Fort Kearny, Fremont, Mormon Island and Windmill state recreation areas; Platte River and E. T. Mahoney state parks, and trout streams (see Special Areas). For surface spearing, only hand spears are legal. All spearing devices must be barbed.

#### Paddlefish - Missouri River

Paddlefish may be taken by bow and arrow and possessed on open waters of the Missouri River only during the season beginning on the 2nd Saturday of July through the 4th Sunday of July. The area of the Missouri River open to archery paddlefish is from Gavins Point Dam downstream to the mouth of the Big Sioux River at mile marker 734, except

for a closed area that extends downstream from Gavins Point Dam to a line that extends from the east end of the south cement wall of the discharge canal northwest to the east end of the north wall of the stilling basin.

Paddlefish harvested by bow and arrow may be possessed only on the Missouri River that is open during the respective season in the area designated as open for harvest. All paddlefish archery anglers must obtain and have in their possession a paddlefish tag in addition to a fishing license (if required). Please see section on Paddlefish Tags. Any paddlefish landed must be tagged immediately in the dorsal fin with the angler's tag. Any paddlefish tag that is locked shut prior to attachment, altered or modified shall be void and will not be replaced. A harvest quota will be managed by issuing a limited number of free paddlefish tags with a limit of no more than two tags per person. Only the head, viscera and tail may be removed from archery-harvested paddlefish during transport until the place of residence is reached or the paddlefish is consumed.

#### Inland Waters

Paddlefish may be taken by archery in all inland water under regulations governing archery and surface spearing for game fish. The bag limit is one paddlefish and the possession limit is two paddlefish.

### UNDERWATER SPEARFISHING

Lawful spear guns include hand spears, rubber band-powered spear guns and spring-loaded spear guns. All spears used on powered spear guns must be attached to a lanyard no more than 20 feet long. 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 Dec. 31 in waters listed below. Bag, possession and size limits are the same as for hook and line, except that there is a daily bag of two walleye and a possession limit of four walleye in effect on all lakes listed below. Hours are sunrise to sunset.

### HOW TO WEIGH A FISH BY LENGTH

*Lay the fish on a flat surface with the mouth closed and tail lobes pressed together. Measure the length from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail. Do not follow the contours of the fish. (Approximate weights shown)*

Black Crappie	Length (inch)	6	9	12	13	14	15	16	17	18										
	Weight (lbs.)	0.1	0.4	1.1	1.4	1.8	2.3	2.8	3.5	4.2										
Bluegill	Length (inch)	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15									
	Weight (lbs.)	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.9	1.2	1.6	2.1	2.7	3.4									
Channel Catfish	Length (inch)	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Weight (lbs.)	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.2	1.4	1.7	2.1	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.6	5.3	6.0	6.9	7.8	8.8	9.9	11.0
Largemouth Bass	Length (inch)	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24						
	Weight (lbs.)	0.9	1.1	1.5	1.8	2.3	2.8	3.3	4.0	4.7	5.5	6.4	7.4	8.5						
Northern Pike	Length (inch)	12	18	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	
	Weight (lbs.)	0.4	1.3	3.1	3.5	4.0	4.5	5.0	5.6	6.2	6.8	7.5	8.3	9.1	9.9	10.8	11.8	12.8	13.5	
Rainbow Trout	Length (inch)	6	9	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
	Weight (lbs.)	0.1	0.3	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.4	1.7	2.1	2.5	2.9	3.4	4.0	4.6	5.2	6.0	6.8	7.7	8.6	
Walleye	Length (inch)	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Weight (lbs.)	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.3	1.5	1.9	2.2	2.7	3.1	3.7	4.2	4.9	5.6	6.4	7.2	8.1	9.1	10.2	11.4
White bass	Length (inch)	6	9	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20								
	Weight (lbs.)	0.1	0.4	0.9	1.1	1.4	1.7	2.1	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.1								
Wiper	Length (inch)	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Weight (lbs.)	0.9	1.1	1.4	1.8	2.1	2.6	3.1	3.7	4.3	5.0	5.8	6.7	7.7	8.7	9.9	11.1	12.4	13.9	15.4
Flathead Catfish	Length (inch)	12	18	24	26	28	30	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48	50	52	55	
	Weight (lbs.)	0.7	2.4	5.9	7.5	9.4	11.7	14.3	17.3	20.6	24.3	28.5	33.1	38.2	43.8	50.0	56.7	63.9	76	

**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, Knox County
7. Harlan County Reservoir
8. Enders Reservoir, Chase County
9. Swanson Reservoir, Hitchcock County
10. Hugh Butler (Red Willow) Reservoir, Frontier and Red Willow counties
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
19. Calamus Reservoir, Loup and Garfield counties

### Diver's Flag

The diver's flag must be displayed on the water on a float or buoy when diving or underwater-powered spearfishing. Divers and underwater spearfishermen must remain within 150 feet of the 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.

### SNAGGING

Snagging of paddlefish and nongame fish only is permitted in the Missouri River under season dates and limits specified in the Paddlefish and Snagging of Nongame Fish section. All other waters of the state are closed to snagging for all species at all times. All fish that are snagged accidentally or otherwise foul-hooked must be returned to the water immediately.

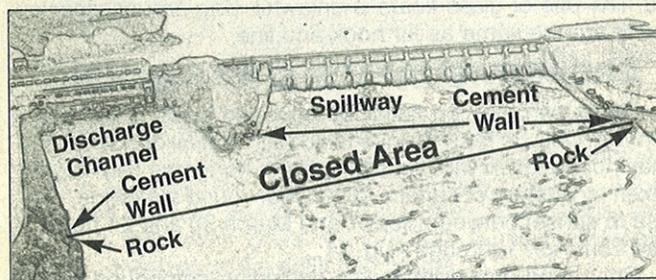
### PADDLEFISH & SNAGGING OF NONGAME FISH

**Missouri River** — Snagging of paddlefish and nongame fish is permitted in the Missouri River from the Gavins Point Dam downstream to the mouth of the Big Sioux River at Mile Marker 734, except for a closed area that extends downstream from Gavins Point Dam to a line that extends from the east end of the south cement wall of the discharge canal northwest to the east end of the north wall of the stilling basin. Paddlefish harvested by snagging may be possessed only on the Missouri River during the respective open season in the area designated as open for harvest.

The snagging season runs only from Oct. 1 through Oct. 30. Legal hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. All snaggers must obtain and have in their possession an unfilled paddlefish tag in addition to a fishing license and Aquatic Habitat Stamp (if required) to be actively snagging. Please see section on Paddlefish Tags. A paddlefish must be tagged immediately in the dorsal fin with the anglers tag upon addition to the creel. Any paddlefish tag that is locked prior to attachment, altered or modified shall be void and will not be replaced. Only one hook may be used when snagging, and the gap between the point of the hook to the shank may not exceed one-half inch.

The daily bag and possession limits are equal to the total number of tags issued to an individual. A harvest quota will

be managed by issuing a limited number of free paddlefish tags with a limit of no more than two tags per person. (Consult section on paddlefish tags on page 29). All paddlefish anglers are required to cast for and hook their own fish. All paddlefish between 35 and 45 inches long (measured along the center line of the fish, lying flat, including the entire eye to the natural fork of the tail), must be returned to the water immediately. The slot limit is designed to protect the majority of spawning-size fish.



It is unlawful to use a gaff hook or other penetrating device while landing snagged paddlefish. Immediate cleaning of a snagged paddlefish is restricted to the removal of only the snout, anterior of the eye and the viscera. Final processing may only be completed once the angler has reached his residence or prior to consumption. Anglers should be prepared to transport a large paddlefish with only the snout removed, if they choose to harvest a fish more than 45 inches in length.

### ICE FISHING

When ice fishing, only 5 lines with no more than 2 hooks on each line are permitted. Each line or tip-up used while fishing public standing waters must be under the direct supervision and within the unaided observation of the angler. Holes made for ice fishing may not exceed 10 inches in diameter on any area controlled by the Game and Parks Commission.

A special \$5 permit is required for a permanent shelter on state recreation and wildlife management area lakes. Applications and regulations are available from conservation officers, Commission offices or by mail from the Game and Parks Commission, Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503. This does not apply to temporary shelters used and removed each day.

### BAIT AND MINNOWS

Bait fish may not be sold except by permit. For commercial purposes (bait vendors, private aquaculturists and nonresident fish dealers), please refer to the official regulations supplied with your permit. The following regulation guidelines apply only to bait obtained for personal use. It is unlawful to take minnows from any lake, reservoir or bayou. Digging, seining and trapping 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. The bag limit of minnows for personal use is 100. Possession limit is 100.

**Gizzard Shad** — 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. Live shad can only be used in the body of water in which they were captured. Shad may be taken by legal minnow seine, or dip net in any number in streams except those streams closed to the taking of minnows or bait by such method. (See Special Areas).

**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. Individuals may take minnows for personal use as bait using a legal minnow dip net within a 200-yard distance below any dam, spillway or other artificial obstruction.

**Restricted Species** — It is unlawful to sell, transport or offer for sale as bait, any live carp, carpsucker, buffalo, gar, quillback, gizzard shad or bowfin. Live fish of those species may be used for bait only in the same waters from which they are legally taken. Dead carp, carpsucker, buffalo, gar, quillback, gizzard shad or bowfin may be transported for use as bait. Game fish can be used for bait: (1) if they have been legally acquired from a licensed aquaculturist or a nonresident fish dealer. The angler must keep a legible receipt or invoice from the dealer listing the date, seller's name and address; and number and size of each species sold, or (2) if they are captured using hook and line and used at the body of water from which they were captured. In the latter case, the angler will be required to follow both size and bag limits that are enforced on that water body.

**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 aquaculturists.

**Importing** — It is unlawful to import or transport carp, carpsucker, buffalo, quillback, gar, gizzard shad or bowfin into the state for use as bait. Special permits are required for a person to import and sell bait or bait minnows.

**Baits and Scents** — Cutbait is legal if the fish used has been legally acquired and the size, bag and possession limits for that species and water body have been followed. It is also legal to chum for fish using non-harmful baits. Anise oil and other scents that do not stun, kill or harm fish are permitted.

**Crayfish** — There is no limit on the number of crayfish a person may possess, nor is a fishing license required. Anyone over the age of 16 must have a bait vendor's license in order to sell crayfish. Crayfish may be captured by hook and line, by hand or by legal fish nets and traps as described below.

**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 nor 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 of 16 inches or less and a throat 1 inch 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.

## BULLFROGS

Bullfrog season runs Aug. 15 through Oct. 31. The bag limit is 8 bullfrogs per person. They may be captured only by hand or by the use of a hand net and hook-and-line. Artificial light may be used when taking bullfrogs. Bullfrogs must measure 4fi inches from snout to vent or be released. Only the entrails may be removed prior to transport.

## SNAPPING TURTLES

Snapping turtles may be taken year-round, and limits are 10 in the daily bag and 20 in possession. They may be taken only by hand, hand net, hook-and-line, bow-and-arrow or gaff hook.

## MUSSELS (CLAMS)

Mussels may be taken year-round by hand, hand net or hook-and-line. The limit is 10 daily and 20 in possession.

## SPECIAL AREA REGULATIONS

**Burchard WMA Lake** — It is unlawful to fish in this Pawnee County lake during the waterfowl hunting season, beginning Oct. 15 until the close of dark goose season each year, except bank fishing from the face of the dam is permitted during this closed period as posted by signs.

**Wildwood Lake** — Possession of any fish species, other than bait minnows, while fishing this lake is prohibited. This lake is designated a No Kill Lake. All species must immediately be returned to the lake unharmed.

**Schilling Waterfowl Management Area** This area is open to fishing from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily from Apr. 15 through Sept. 15 except when closed by the Commission by posting.

**Skyview Lake, Zorinsky Lake, Burchard Lake, Wehrspann Lake, Papio No. 21 and Willow Lake** All bass caught must be immediately returned to the water, except that one fish 21 inches in length or longer may be kept in the daily bag. Wehrspann, Papio No. 21 and Zorinsky have minimum size limits of 8 inches and 10 inches respectively for bluegill and crappie, and Zorinsky has a special daily bag limit of 10 panfish (bluegill and crappie) in combination.

**Twin Lakes WMA (Seward County)** — This wildlife management area is closed to all public use from Oct. 15 until the end of the dark goose season.

**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.

**Eugene T. Mahoney State Park (Cass County) Marina Lake:** Children under 16 years of age and handicapped adults are permitted to fish the entire lake, except the immediate marina area, from sunrise to 10 a.m. daily. Daily bag limit is two fish. There is an 18-inch size limit on largemouth bass. **US West Lake:** Fishing is permitted daily. Largemouth bass and bluegill fishing is limited to catch and release. The daily bag limit on all trout and channel catfish is three fish of each species per angler. Only barbless hooks or hooks with flattened barbs may be used on this lake.

**Platte River State Park (Cass County) Jenny Newman Lake:** Children less than 16 years old are permitted to fish the entire lake, except the immediate marina area, from sunrise to 10 a.m. daily, the fourth Saturday of April to the fourth Sunday of October. Possession of any fish species, other than bait minnows while fishing this lake is prohibited. The lake is designated a No Kill Lake. All species must immediately be returned to the lake unharmed. With the exception of bait hooks, all artificial lure hooks must either be barbless or have the barbs crimped.

**Clear Lake (Brown County)** — It is unlawful to have in possession or use for bait any minnows, alive or dead, while fishing this lake. Further, it is unlawful to have in possession any live fish other than those taken from this lake.

**Sherman Reservoir (Sherman County)** — Sherman Dam and the area paralleling the shoreline at the dam extending 150 feet lakeward shall be closed to fishing from sunset to sunrise Apr. 1 through Apr. 20.

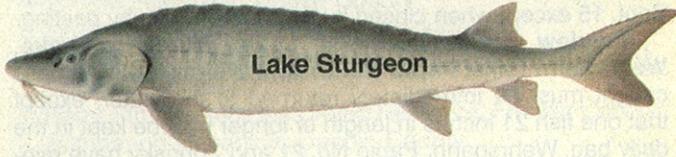
**Enders Reservoir (Chase County)** — It is unlawful to fish or boat inside the Game Refuge during the waterfowl hunting season.

**Niobrara State Park (Knox County)** — Largemouth bass fishing is limited to catch-and-release on two park lakes; possession is prohibited.

**Fremont SRA (Dodge County)** — Lake No. 1 is designated as a total catch-and-release (no kill) lake. Possession of any fish species while fishing this water body is prohibited, and any fish caught must be returned unharmed to the lake imme-

### THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

Lake sturgeon and pallid sturgeon. Season closed. If caught, return to the water immediately. Anglers who catch either of these species are asked to notify the Game and Parks Commissions Fisheries Division or the Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium, so biologists can record where the species was caught.

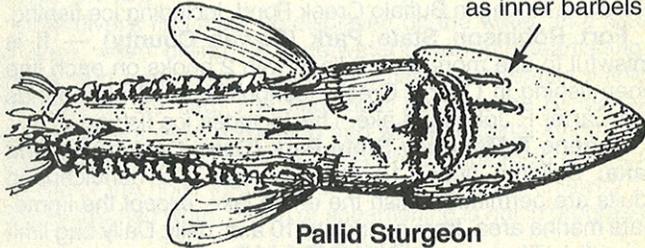


Lake Sturgeon

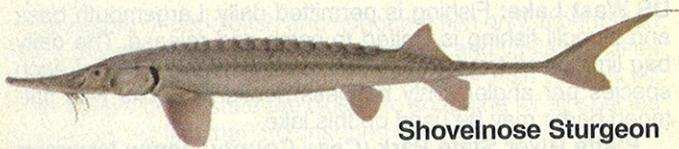


Pallid Sturgeon

Outer barbels twice as long as inner barbels

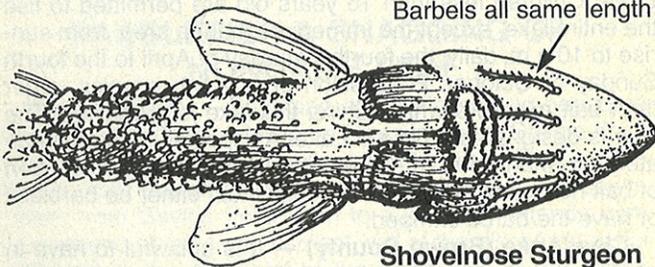


Pallid Sturgeon



Shovelnose Sturgeon

Barbels all same length



Shovelnose Sturgeon

### PALLID STURGEON ALERT

Anglers should be on the look out for tagged pallid sturgeon when fishing Nebraska rivers and streams. The pallid sturgeon is an endangered species at both the state and national levels, and recovery efforts are under way throughout the Missouri River Basin.

Cooperating with the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Game and Parks Commission stocked 412 pallid sturgeon, 10 inches long, in the lower Platte River in October 1997. Each fish has a numbered yellow tag attached to the left pectoral fins. The tags have a Missouri Conservation Department mailing address, but anglers are urged to help with the recovery effort by reporting the tag number, the date caught and released, and the location where caught and released. **Please do NOT** remove the tag.

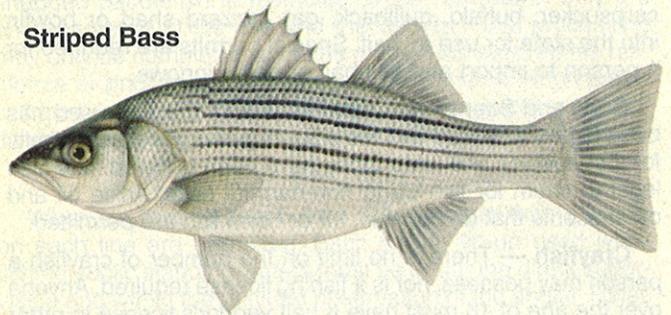
It is most important to remember to return any pallid sturgeon caught to the water as soon as possible. While tag information may be sent to the address on the tag, it should also be sent to the Fisheries Division, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, PO Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370.

### NEBRASKA'S TEMPERATE BASS

Currently four species of temperate bass and one hybrid can be found in Nebraska — the striped bass, white bass, yellow bass, white perch and white bass/striped bass hybrid (wiper). Of these, only the white bass is native to Nebraska.

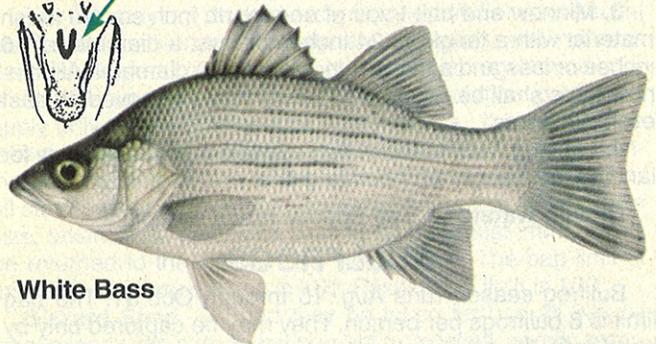
The striped bass, a species native to the Atlantic Coast, was introduced into several of Nebraska's larger reservoirs including Lake McConaughy, during the 1960s and early 1970s. The goal was to create a trophy striper fishery that would utilize an abundant shad prey base. Now only a remnant striper population remains, with Lake McConaughy containing the highest number. Natural reproduction is limited, and no stockings are occurring.

Striped Bass



Historically, the white bass was found in Nebraska with populations in the Missouri and lower Platte rivers. The first reservoir stocking of white bass occurred in 1944 with adults introduced into Lake McConaughy. Since then white bass have been introduced into most major reservoirs in the state and provide excellent fishing opportunity.

1 Tooth Patch



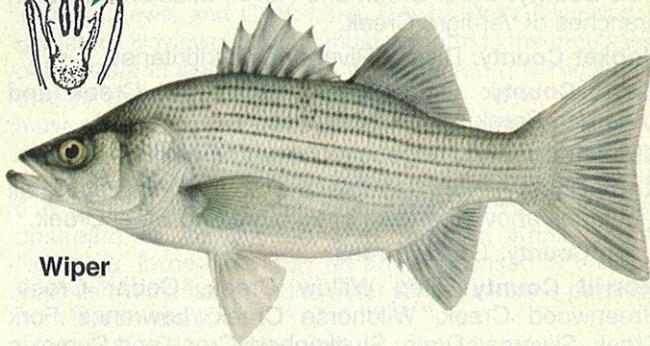
White Bass

The wiper, a white bass/striped bass hybrid, has grown in popularity among Nebraska anglers because of its fighting ability. Wipers have been introduced into reservoirs across the state that contain abundant shad populations, the main diet of wipers. It is difficult to distinguish a wiper from a white bass when they are small, but wipers have two tooth patches on the tongue, and white bass have only one. Once wipers reach 12 to 15 inches identifying them based on external characteristics becomes easier. The wiper's stripes also are much more distinct than those found on white bass. Wipers have tremendous growth potential as shown by the current

← **IMPORTANT FISH TO IDENTIFY CONT.** →

state record of nearly 18 pounds. Stocking of wipers is expensive, and if anglers want to enjoy battling a trophy wiper, it is important for them to not treat a wiper like a white bass, which has more limited growth potential. Instead treat wipers like a trophy fish and practice catch-and-release. The excitement that they provide on the end of the line is what wiper fishing is all about.

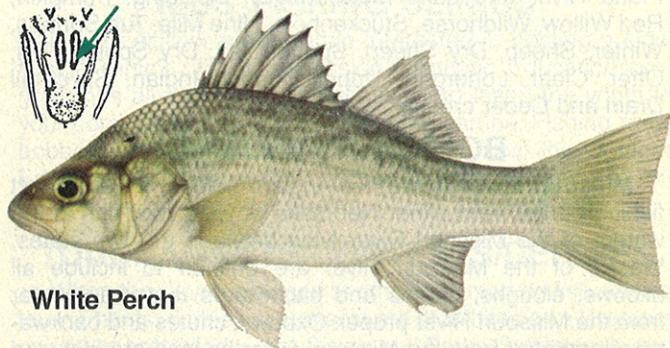
2 Tooth Patches



**Wiper**

The white perch is a member of the temperate bass family that Nebraska wishes it didn't have. Several characteristics makes them detrimental to sport fishing. White perch are aggressive, highly prolific, have limited growth potential and are not a preferred prey by any predators. Thus, when they are present, fish populations are dominated by stunted white perch. White perch were brought to Nebraska from New Jersey in 1964 as an experiment to improve fishing in alkaline lakes in the Sandhills. They were inadvertently introduced into Wagon Train Lake near Lincoln in 1964, apparently mixed in with a stocking of largemouth bass fry. During the 1970s their populations expanded, and they have become permanently established in Salt Creek and the Platte River. Both Wagon Train and Stagecoach lakes were renovated in the mid-1970s to eliminate white perch. Currently Branched Oak and Holmes lakes are the only two public lakes with high densities of white perch. Anglers shouldn't have any problem distinguishing this species from white bass or wipers, since it has no tooth patches or stripes.

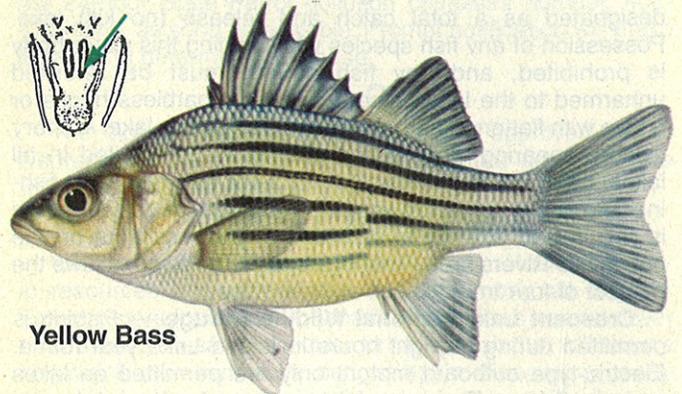
No Tooth Patches



**White Perch**

The yellow bass is another member of the temperate bass family considered undesirable. It has detrimental characteristics similar to the white perch, but fortunately it has not taken over any lake into which it has gained access. Apparently it was transferred via an illegal introduction from Iowa. Currently, there are populations in Louisville SRA Lake #2 and Glenn Cunningham Lake in Omaha. Yellow bass, as

No Tooth Patches



**Yellow Bass**

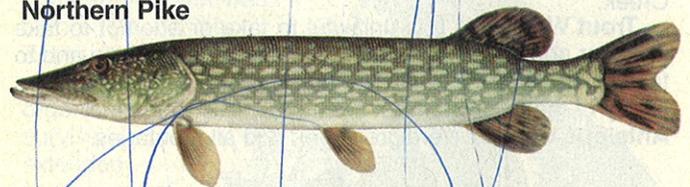
the name indicates, are a silvery yellow color. Their stripes are very distinct, and, as with the white perch, they have no tooth patch. It is important for anglers to be able to identify their catch, and more important for them to understand that it is illegal and potentially harmful to move fish from one body of water to another.

**NEBRASKA PIKE**

Nebraska has been home to four species of pike and one hybrid. Historically, only northern pike and grass pickerel inhabited the the state. Chain pickerel were stocked into two lakes near North Platte in the 1960's but they no longer exist in Nebraska. Muskellunge were introduced into Merritt and Elwood reservoirs and Watts Lake, and the tiger musky (a northern pike x muskellunge hybrid) has been stocked across the state.

Muskellunge and tiger musky, the largest members of the family, have scales on only the upper half of the cheek and opercle. Both the cheek and opercle are fully scaled on pickereles; grass pickerel are common to northern Nebraska streams and seldom exceed 12 inches in length. Northern pike have scales on the entire cheek but only on the upper half of the opercle. They are widely distributed and especially common in Sandhill lakes.

**Northern Pike**



**Muskellunge**



**Tiger Musky**



diately. Only barbless hooks or hooks with flattened barbs may be used on this lake. **Lake No. 20:** It shall be unlawful to fish from a boat from 10 a.m. to 1 hour before sunset.

**Two Rivers SRA (Douglas County) — Lake No. 3** is designated as a total catch and release (no kill) lake. Possession of any fish species while fishing this water body is prohibited, and any fish caught must be returned unharmed to the lake immediately. Only barbless hooks or hooks with flattened barbs may be used on this lake. Archery fishing, spearing, jigging 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 attempt to take and to possess trout on the entire Two Rivers area. Cost of the tag is \$4 which allows the harvest of four trout. Check at area office.

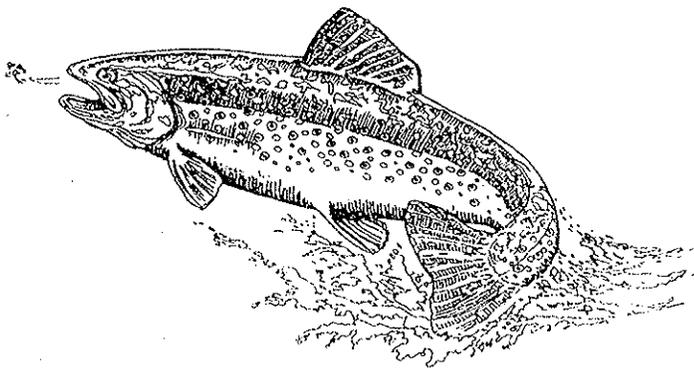
**Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge** — Fishing is permitted during daylight hours in Island Lake year-round. Electric-type outboard motors only are permitted on lakes open to fishing. The use of internal combustion motors is prohibited. The possession or use of live or dead minnows and the possession 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.

**Valentine National Refuge** — Fishing is permitted year-round during daylight hours, unless otherwise posted. Electric-type outboard motors only 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. There is a 15-inch size minimum on black bass on all refuge lakes, except Watts Lake, which is catch-and-release only for bass and muskellunge. All northern pike over 28 inches must be released. Special fishing regulations are in effect as posted. Please take note of the special regulations. Check at refuge headquarters for specific regulation information. Overnight camping is not permitted.

**North Platte National Wildlife Refuge** — Lake Minatare and Lake Winters Creek are open to fishing Jan. 15 through Sept. 30 or as posted. Waters within 150 feet of the dam at Lake Minatare are closed to fishing from sunset to sunrise from March 1 through April 30. There is a 15-inch minimum size limit on walleye in Lake Minatare and Lake Winters Creek.

**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:** Bone Creek and all tributaries, Long Pine Creek and all tributaries, Plum Creek and all tributaries and 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:** Red Willow Creek, Cedar Creek, Greenwood Creek, Wildhorse Creek, Lawrence Fork Creek, Silvernail Drain, Stuckenhole Creek and Pumpkin Creek below Highway 88.

**Rock County:** Long Pine Creek.

**Scotts Bluff County:** Nine Mile Creek, Winters Creek, Tub Springs, Wet Spotted Tail Creek, Dry Spotted Tail Creek, Sheep Creek, Dry Sheep Creek, Stuckenhole Creek, Akers Draw, Mitchell Drain, Moffett Drain, Alliance Drain and Bayard Drain.

**Sheridan County:** Snake River, Larrabee Creek, White Clay Creek, Pine Creek, Deer Creek and Little Bordeaux Creek.

**Sioux County:** Sheep Creek Drain, Dry Sheep Creek Drain, Dry Spotted Tail Creek, Spotted Tail Creek, Niobrara River and all tributaries, White River, Soldier Creek and all tributaries, Monroe Creek, Sowbelly Creek and Hat Creek.

**Webster County:** Elm Creek.

It is unlawful to possess a dip/landing 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.

## 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. The mouths of streams emptying into the Missouri River are not included in this reciprocal agreement, thus a valid fishing license for that state is required. Fishing may be from boats or from the bank. All anglers 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 to 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 anglers 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. Anglers may not fish from or 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 that licenses the sport angler shall apply.

## FISH STOCKING

It is unlawful to release any non-native fish, reptile or amphibian in waters of the state or to release any fish in any public waters in the state except those from which it came, 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 could be destroying your own fishing!

## KIDS' FISHING CLINICS

Is your club or organization interested in hosting a kids' fishing clinic? The Commission's Aquatic Education program has all the materials necessary to teach the youth in your community how much fun fishing can be. Fishing rods, bobbers, stickers and more are available from the Outdoor Education Division at the Outdoor Education Center at Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium near Gretna, phone 402-332-3901.

## 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 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.

## HELP WANTED

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

## FISH KILL REPORTS

Report dead or dying fish 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.

## GRASS CARP

The diploid (fertile) grass carp is now approved by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission for use in private waters for aquatic weed control

## ETHICAL ANGLERS

Know and obey fishing regulations that protect our aquatic resources and spread the harvest among all anglers. Follow a personal code of behavior since laws cannot cover all situations. Learn techniques to handle fish that will ensure survival if released to be caught again. Respect property owners' rights when access to water requires crossing private land. Ensure good fishing for future generations by limiting the harvest, rather than focusing on harvesting the limit. Cooperate and act courteously with all resource users, including other anglers, swimmers and boaters. Respect the environment and leave the fishing site in the same or better condition. Know that deliberately discarding bait fish or plants into lakes, reservoirs and other waterways can destroy the ecological balance of the aquatic environment.

## ZEBRA MUSSEL ALERT

The zebra mussel, a small black and white striped bivalve mollusk, first appeared in this country in 1988. Since then it has spread throughout the Great Lakes and into the Mississippi River basin. This barnacle-like mussel is a multi-million dollar threat to agricultural, industrial and municipal water delivery systems. It is also a threat to native mussels and maybe to sport fisheries. Public assistance in reporting zebra mussel sightings is essential to help prevent its spread to other inland lakes and rivers.

The primary method of transfer is from boats carrying mussels from infested waters. Inspect your boat, motor and trailers frequently for zebra mussels, especially if boating on the Missouri River or waters east of the Missouri. Dry your boat out or power-wash it before relaunching.

Zebra mussels are tough organisms and survive extended periods out of the water if in a moist environment. If

you think you have a zebra mussel, save it and send it to the nearest NGPC district office for identification.



## PRIVATE WATERS

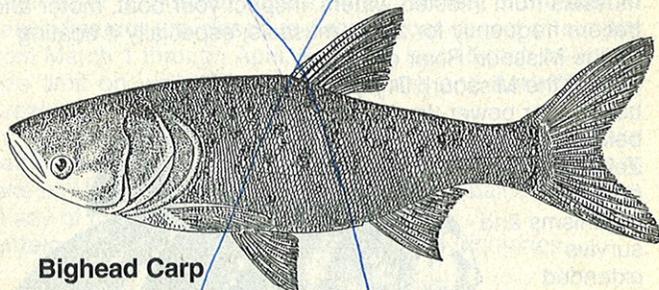
The issue of fishing private water raises several common questions. What constitutes a private pond that doesn't require anglers to have a valid fishing license? The only exception to the requirement of a valid license is when a body of water is entirely on private land, has been entirely privately stocked with private hatchery-reared fish, and doesn't connect by inflow or outflow with other waters outside the pond owner's property. An unlicensed angler who catches fish from such a body of water and wants to remove them from the premises must have a written statement from the pond owner listing the pond owner's name and the number of fish taken.

Each year, the owners of new or newly renovated private ponds across the state apply to the Commission to be stocked. These ponds are inspected by a district biologist. Those meeting minimum requirements receive largemouth bass and bluegill from state hatcheries. Receiving state hatchery fish doesn't mean these ponds are open to the public, however. Anglers are still required to obtain permission before fishing. Private ponds provide some of the best bass and bluegill fishing opportunity to Nebraska anglers. Stocking bass and bluegill fingerlings costs the agency little, and is easily justified considering about one-quarter of all licensed angler days are spent on private ponds.

Anglers must observe statewide bag and possession regulations. A valid fishing license is required of those of an age requiring a fishing license, including the pond owner. If they wish, pond owners may restrict anglers to more restrictive regulations. It is important for anglers to remember that it is a privilege to fish private ponds, and they must respect the land they are on and the pond in which they are fishing.

### BIGHEAD CARP EXPANDING RANGE

In the past several years there has been a steady increase in reports from eastern Nebraska anglers of catches of a strange-looking fish. The fish in question was identified as a bighead carp, an exotic fish introduced into the southern U.S. in the early 1970s by the aquaculture industry. Since that time, it has escaped into the wild, moved through river systems and up the Missouri River. The bighead carp has a very large head that can account for almost one third of its length and small eyes set low on the head. The mouth is slit-like in appearance and does not resemble mouths of other fish more commonly caught. The lateral line on the side of the fish starts very high, dips sharply downward then extends to the tail. Scales are small for the size of the fish, mostly dark gray above fading to off-white below with a smattering of darker blotches across the back. The flesh of bighead carp is white, firm and bony like other carp members; however, if scored and deep fat fried the flesh is quite palatable.



Bighead Carp

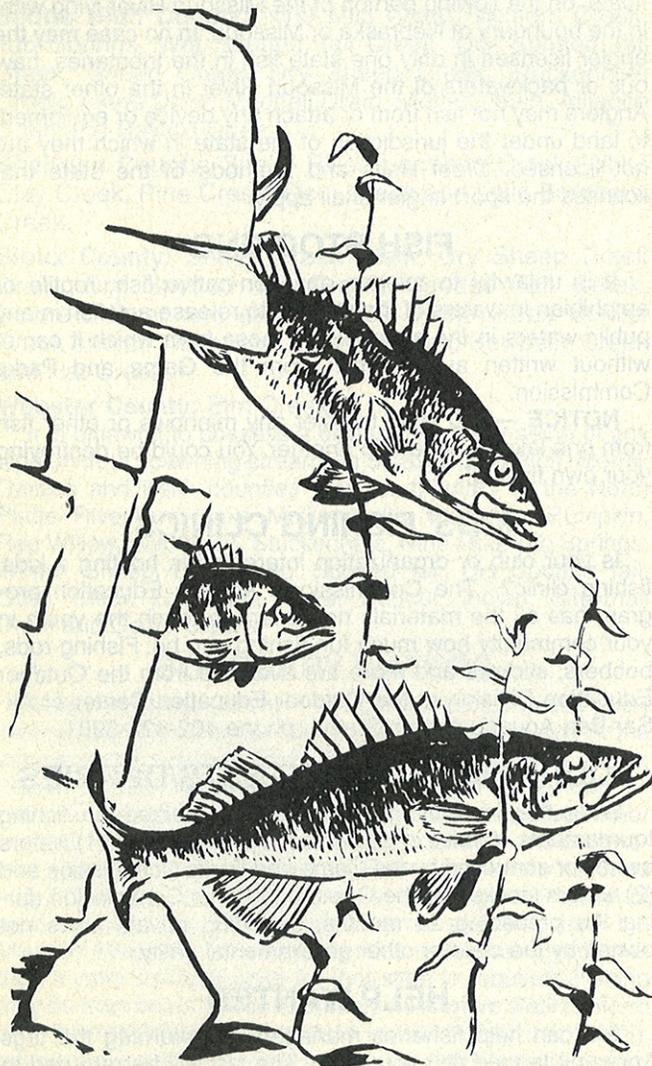
Most harvest of bighead carp is currently by archers. This fish species feeds primarily on zooplankton and other microscopic organisms but occasionally takes a worm or other bait offered by an angler. Currently bighead carp can be found in the quiet waters of the Missouri River and its tributaries. The first reported catch in Nebraska was on July 1, 1987, near Omaha. Nebraska's largest reported bighead carp weighed 56 pounds and was taken by an archer near Peru. Bighead carp also have been reported in Salt Creek, below some of the Salt Valley reservoirs and in the lower reaches of the Platte and Nemaha rivers.

The effect of this new exotic species is not known, but since it is a zooplankton feeder, biologists are concerned about its effect on native species with similar food requirements, such as the young-of-the-year of all fish species, minnows and paddlefish. Only time will tell its long-term effect on native populations, but it does remind us of the need for caution when considering the introduction of an exotic organism.

### CLOSE THE DAM DURING WALLEYE SPAWNING?

Early spring walleye fishing is a tradition for many Nebraska anglers. After suffering through a long winter of "cabin fever," they feel this may be their only opportunity each year to catch a big walleye. Others worry that fishing for walleyes at this time might harm the population, when spawning females are removed or disturbed. Just what are the facts? Can anglers continue to take advantage of this early-season fishing opportunity, or do walleye populations need protection during spawning?

Like most species of freshwater fish, walleyes have a tremendous reproductive capacity. One big female can produce over 200,000 eggs. Therefore, a walleye population can be maintained when only a few females spawn successfully. However, production of small walleyes, what biologists call "recruitment," is unpredictable. Big year-classes (young produced in a given year) usually occur only once every 3 to 5 years in walleye populations. Habitat conditions, water levels, weather, predator populations, food availability, and competition from other fish (including other walleyes) all affect recruitment. The biggest year-classes are usually produced when there is a low to moderate population of spawners. Surprisingly, an abundance of large spawners usually limits the survival of small walleyes, due to competition and cannibalism. Maximum numbers of large spawners are not needed to maintain a population.



Data collected from Nebraska reservoirs show that fishing during spawning has no negative impact on walleye populations. For example, in 1990, if every female harvested at Harlan County Reservoir during spawning had been full of eggs, anglers would have removed only 2% of the walleye eggs produced. Another 4% of the eggs were removed to produce walleyes for stocking in Nebraska reservoirs. Thus 94% of all walleye eggs produced at Harlan County Reservoir that spring were spawned — more than enough to maintain the population.

Walleyes are broadcast spawners. Males escort a female as she randomly broadcasts her eggs over a spawning area. Rock substrates are the best habitat for walleye spawning, so spawners tend to concentrate on rock dam faces. However, not all walleyes spawn on the dam. Some fish travel up feeder streams, while others spawn on any areas of rock or gravel they find. Angler activity does not inhibit walleye spawning. Fish continue to spawn in the presence of humans. In fact, walleyes are much more interested in spawning than feeding at this time.

Angler surveys show that comparatively few large females are harvested during the spawning period. The greatest number of female walleyes caught from Nebraska reservoirs are taken in May and June — after they have spawned. Walleye fishing is actually better during early summer than during spawning, and more people are fishing during that time. It really makes no difference when a big female is removed from the population — in April just hours before she spawns or June when she is months from spawning again. Once she is harvested, she will not have the opportunity to spawn again. If big females need protection in Nebraska, more could be protected by closing the season during Memorial Day weekend that during the spawning season.

Dam closures during walleye spawning are in effect at Lake Minatare and Sherman Reservoir. Both were implemented to eliminate illegal activity — snagging and dip netting. Since most anglers pursue spawning walleyes after dark, these illegal and unethical activities are relatively easy to get away with. At Minatare and Sherman, local anglers and conservation officers felt it was easier to eliminate these activities by closing the dams at night. However, walleye populations at neither reservoir have shown increases in recruitment during these closures. Snagging and dip-netting are already illegal and unethical. It would be better if all anglers obey the regulations so everyone can have an opportunity to fish for walleyes during early spring along the dam faces.

## FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR LAKE OGALLALA AND LAKE MCCONAUGHY

During the fall of 1997, Lake Ogallala was treated with rotenone to remove the existing fish community, which was dominated by carp, suckers and alewife. The lake was restocked with 20,000, 8-inch rainbow trout; 20,000, 10-inch brown trout, and 3,000, 10-inch chinook salmon. The brown trout include two fish-eating strains (Seeforellen and Wild Rose) used in Lake Michigan. Chinook salmon can be identified by their silver, deeply-forked tail and black mouth.

Current regulations limit the harvest of salmonids at Lake Ogallala and Lake McConaughy to 4 fish per day and 8 in possession. In addition, brown trout and chinook salmon must exceed 20 inches to be kept. These restrictions were implemented to help control and better utilize the abundant alewife population, including fish that pass from

McConaughy to Ogallala. Chinook salmon are fragile fish, so anglers are encouraged to remove hooks with pliers or hemostats outside the boat, without touching the fish.

In the spring of 1998, an aeration system is scheduled for installation in Lake Ogallala. It will maintain oxygen sufficient to support salmonids in the lake year-round. This project, like the renovation, is funded in part by Aquatic Habitat Stamp revenue.

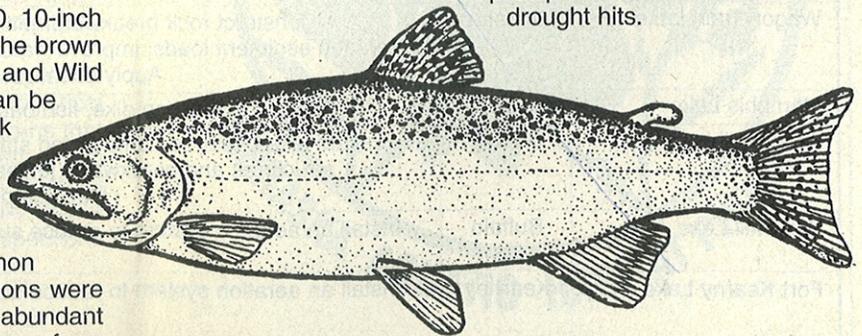
At Lake Ogallala, the University of Nebraska Department of Fisheries and Wildlife will evaluate the benefits of the renovation and improved water quality to the salmonid fishery. Included will be an evaluation of trout and salmon movement. If they find that salmonids continue to move out of Lake Ogallala, plans call for installation of an electric fish repellent system to keep fish from swimming down the North Platte River and the Sutherland Canal. Fisheries managers hope to keep predators in Lake Ogallala to utilize alewife and provide a fishery as good or better than it once was. Trout would continue to be stocked in the canal to maintain that fishery as well.

At Lake McConaughy, stocking of hybrid striped bass will continue in 1998. Plans also call for stocking brown trout and chinook salmon, if sufficient numbers of eggs can be obtained from other states. Again, the objective is to gain control of the alewife population through increased predation. This should benefit other species, like white bass and walleye, since reduced alewife numbers should allow zooplankton populations to recover.

The lack of zooplankton, specifically large Cladocerans, needed by most species of young fish, can be blamed for poor recruitment experienced in recent years. Three consecutive years of stocking rainbow trout into McConaughy were unsuccessful, presumably because of zooplankton unavailability. If zooplankton do recover, rainbow trout stocking efforts should be more effective. Chinook salmon and brown trout will be reared to sizes that do not rely on zooplankton. Young chinooks depend heavily on terrestrial insects for food, but hopefully once young alewives become available at both lakes, chinooks and brown trout will take advantage of them.

Stocking chinook salmon into Lake McConaughy is a gamble. In some years, when water levels are low, there may be salmon mortality due to low oxygen and/or high temperatures. When these conditions occur, stocking will be put on hold. So, in some years and perhaps for several years in a row, Lake McConaughy may be out of the salmon business. These conditions may be complicated by requirements established for relicensing by FERC.

Currently, McConaughy's watershed appears to be in a pattern of high precipitation. Conditions suitable for supporting salmon exist, at least for the time being. Chinook salmon are a short-lived fish (4-5 years), so if the lake loses the ability to support salmon, it can come back completely within 4-5 years. Droughts and wet periods tend to run in stretches of several years, so hopefully there will be several years of high precipitation before the next drought hits.




**NEBRASKA AQUATIC HABITAT PLAN**


put on lake guide

**New Life for Aging Waters**

The first two years of the eight-year Nebraska Aquatic Habitat Program were approved by the Natural Resources and Appropriations committees of the 1997 Legislature,

allowing funds from the sale of Aquatic Habitat Stamps to be used for habitat enhancement and restoration projects in the state's waters.

**AQUATIC HABITAT WORK SCHEDULED FOR JULY 1997 - JUNE 1998**

Water Body	County	Work Description
Lake Minatare	Scottsbluff	Design submerged rock reefs near dam and inlet areas to enhance walleye spawning habitat
Smith Lake	Sheridan	Design and engineer lake dredging to increase lake depths and reduce winter fish kills
Cottonwood/Steverson Lakes	Cherry	Apply chemical toxicant (rotenone) to eliminate the existing carp fishery and restock with desirable game fish
Shell Lake	Cherry	Design dredging project to deepen a 30-acre area by six feet to increase deep water available for fish to reduce fish kill problems
Gracie Creek Pond	Loup	Coordinate project with BOR in which the NGPC would apply chemical toxicant (rotenone) to eliminate the existing carp fishery, which will improve water clarity and increase pond capacity for trout
Fremont Lakes 1 & 3	Dodge	Install aeration systems to reduce summer stratification problems, which will increase the amount of water volume that can support fish
Lewis and Clark Lake	Knox	Expand the size of two existing rock breakwater jetties to reduce shoreline erosion and increase angler access
Willow Creek Lake	Pierce	Design a rock breakwater jetty, place rock on eroding shorelines and stabilize watershed stream banks to improve water quality
Pibel Lake	Wheeler	Excavate lake bottom sediment, reconstruct existing islands, construct breakwater jetties and re-contour eroding shorelines to increase lake depth, improve water quality and angler access
Rock Creek Lake	Dundy	Design a dredging project to remove 15 acre-feet of sediment from the in upper reaches of the lake and construct a sediment control structure
Lake Ogallala	Keith	Apply chemical toxicant (rotenone) to remove rough fish population and install an aeration system to increase dissolved oxygen levels to restore the trout fishery
Lake Maloney	Lincoln	Design and coordinate with NPPD the construction of a rock breakwater jetty to reduce shoreline erosion and increase angler access, along with increasing depth on the adjacent holding pond to establish a bass-bluegill-crappie fishery
Louisville Lake 1A	Cass	Install an aeration system to reduce summer stratification problems, which will increase the amount of water volume that can support fish
Louisville Lake 2	Cass	Apply chemical toxicant (rotenone) to remove rough fish, construct a flood-control dike to reduce the chance of future rough fish infestation from flood events and install an aeration system to increase the amount of water volume that can support fish
Cunningham Lake	Douglas	Design sediment/nutrient dikes, islands, offshore breakwaters and breakwater jetties
Hitchcock Park Pond	Douglas	Assist the City of Omaha with the excavation of sediment to increase lake depth, construct a jetty and island and install an aeration system to improve water quality and aquatic habitat
Two Rivers Lakes 1-3	Douglas	Install an aeration system to reduce summer stratification problems, which will increase the amount of water volume that can support fish
Two Rivers Trout Lake	Douglas	Increase lake depths by removing lake bottom organic accumulation and update the current hypolimnetic aeration system to improve water quality and the amount of water volume that can support fish
Branched Oak Lake	Lancaster	Design offshore breakwaters, breakwater jetties, sediment/nutrient dikes and islands
Olive Creek Lake	Lancaster	Design a sediment/nutrient dike, islands, offshore breakwaters and breakwater jetties
Wagon Train Lake	Lancaster	Construct rock breakwater jetties, islands and a wetland control structure to reduce watershed sediment loads, improve water quality, increase aquatic habitat and angler access. Apply chemical toxicant (rotenone) to remove rough fish populations
Memphis Lake	Saunders	Design flood protection dike, fish barrier, lake basin excavation and shoreline stabilization
Cottonmill Lake	Buffalo	Excavate lake basin, re-contour and stabilize shorelines, construct islands, wave attenuation structures and breakwater jetties to increase lake depth, reduce watershed sediment loads, improve water quality, aquatic habitat and angler access
Windmill Lake 4	Buffalo	Install an aeration system to reduce summer stratification problems, which will increase the amount of water volume that can support fish
Fort Kearny Lake 4	Kearney	Install an aeration system to reduce summer stratification problems, which will increase the amount of water volume that can support fish

lake guide

**AQUATIC HABITAT WORK SCHEDULED FOR JULY 1998 - JUNE 1999**

Water Body	County	Work Description
Lake Minatare	Scottsbluff	Construct submerged rock reefs near dam and inlet areas to enhance walleye spawning habitat
Merritt Reservoir	Cherry	Stabilize eroding shoreline with rock rip rap and bioengineering methods to reduce erosion, improve water quality, aquatic habitat and angler access
Willow Creek Lake	Pierce	Construct a rock breakwater jetty, place rock on eroding shorelines and stabilize watershed stream banks to improve water quality
Pibel Lake	Wheeler	Excavate lake bottom sediment, reconstruct existing island, construct breakwater jetties and re-contour eroding shorelines to increase lake depth, improve water quality and angler access
Lake Ogallala	Keith	Install electric fish barrier at river and irrigation canal gates to prevent trout and salmon from leaving the lake (Tentative to design plans)
Louisville Lake 2	Cass	Apply chemical toxicant (rotenone) to remove rough fish, install an aeration system to increase the amount of water volume that can support fish and construct a flood control dike to reduce the chance of future rough fish infestation from flood events
Benson Park Pond	Douglas	Assist City of Omaha with the excavation of bottom sediments, construct a jetty and island and install an aeration system to increase lake depth, improve water quality, aquatic habitat and angler access
Cunningham Lake	Douglas	Design sediment/nutrient dikes, islands, offshore breakwaters and breakwater jetties.
Two Rivers Lake 4	Douglas	Install an aeration system to reduce summer stratification problems, which will increase the amount of water volume that can support fish
Two Rivers Trout Lake	Douglas	Continue with removal of lake bottom organic build up, installation of a new hypolimnetic aeration system to improve water quality and the amount of water volume that can support fish
Olive Creek Lake	Lancaster	Construct a sediment/nutrient dike, islands, offshore breakwaters and breakwater jetties to increase lake depth, reduce watershed sediment loads, improve water quality and increase aquatic habitat
Wagon Train Lake	Lancaster	Construct rock breakwater jetties, islands, and a wetland control structure to increase lake depth, reduce watershed sediment loads, improve water quality, increase aquatic habitat, angler access and apply chemical toxicant (rotenone) to remove rough fish population
Verdon Lake	Richardson	Repair eroding dike and drop structure, excavate basin, construct breakwater jetty, island, re-contour shorelines to increase lake depth, improve water quality, aquatic habitat and angler access
Ravenna Lake	Buffalo	Excavate the basin to increase lake depth, apply chemical toxicant (rotenone) to remove rough fish populations and construct a flood control dike to prevent further rough fish infestation

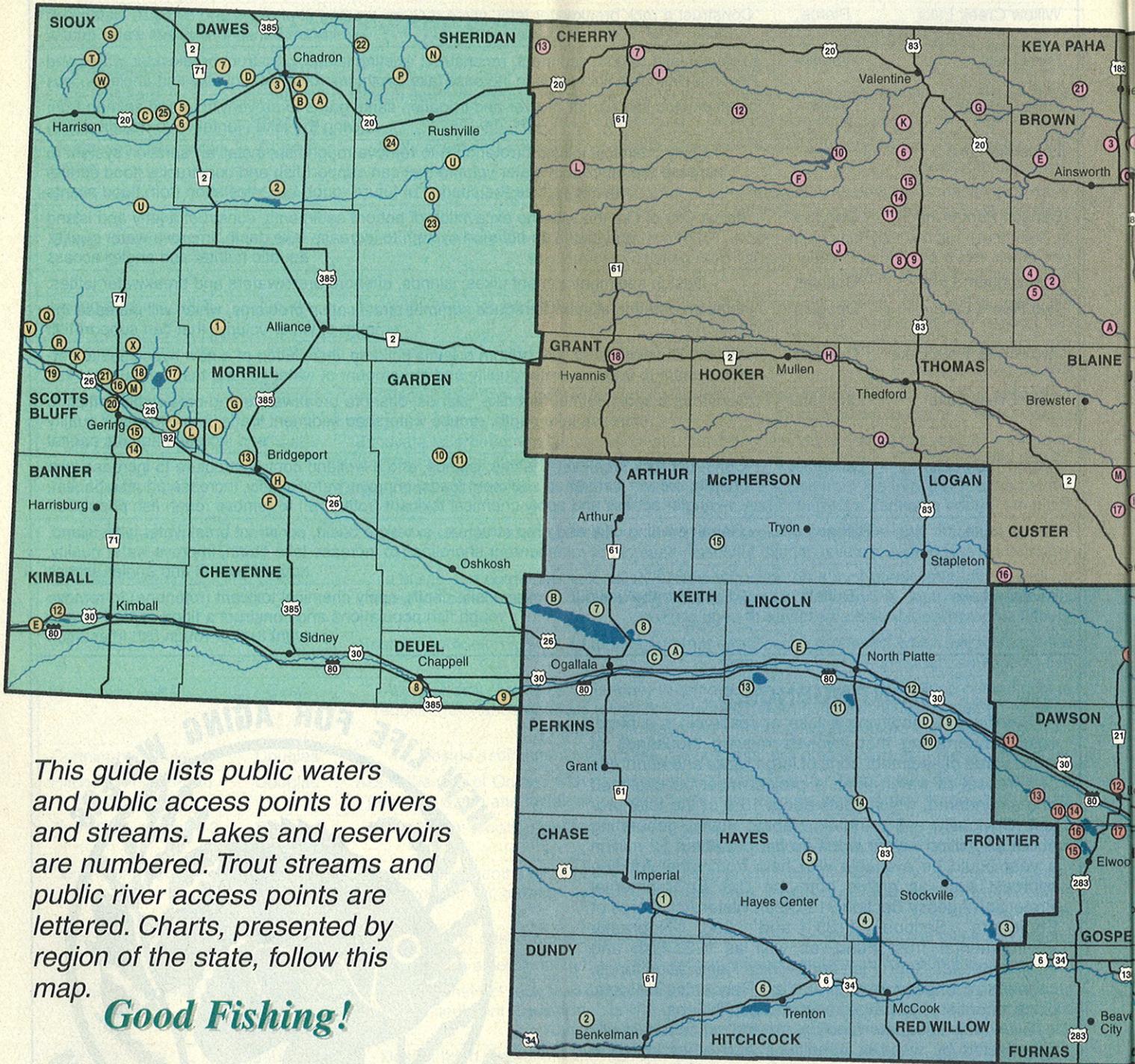
**CONTINGENCIES**

Significantly modifying a lake or reservoir is a huge, costly undertaking that involves moving thousands of cubic yards of sediment, tons of large rocks and hundreds of acre-feet of water. First, a project must be designed and engineered, which costs about 15% of the total project. Obviously, a \$5 Aquatic Habitat Stamp generating about \$1 million a year won't go far, but about \$2 million a year could be available with help from other funding sources, such as grants from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Section 319 Clean Water Act, Corps of Engineers Section 1135 and 206, Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund, as well as U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration funds, cooperative endeavors with Natural Resources districts, cities, counties and private angler organizations.

Even with adequate funding, staying on schedule will be affected by weather conditions and other logistical constraints. Heavy equipment can't excavate basins that remain wet because of rain. Flexibility is needed, along with the ability to react to opportunities that occur, such as Army Corps of Engineers and Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation Districts lake draw downs for inspections and their water needs.



# NEBRASKA *land*



*This guide lists public waters and public access points to rivers and streams. Lakes and reservoirs are numbered. Trout streams and public river access points are lettered. Charts, presented by region of the state, follow this map.*

**Good Fishing!**



**PANHANDLE**



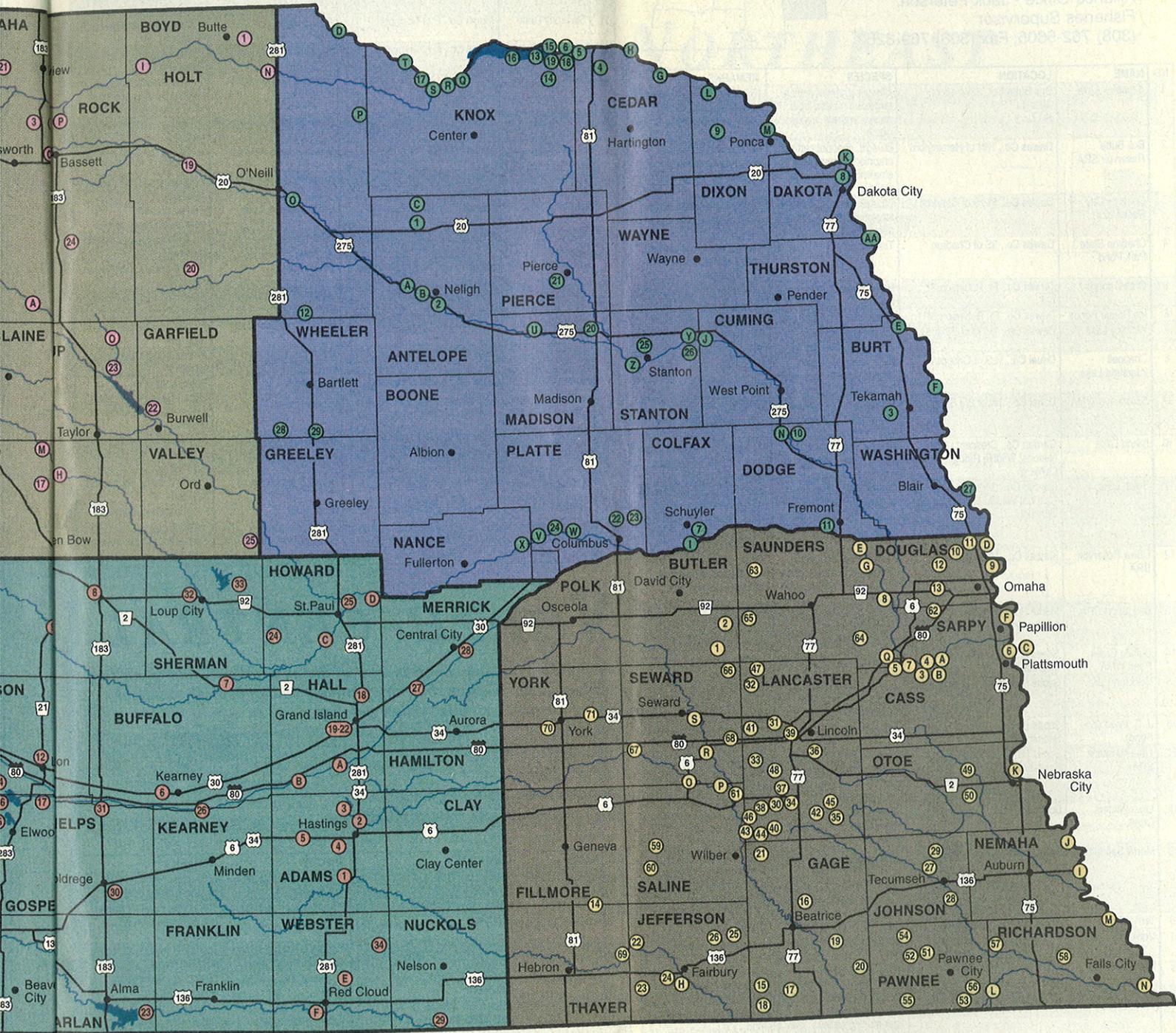
**NORTH-CENTRAL**



**NORTHEAST**

# Guide To Good Fishing

*lake guide*



**SOUTHWEST**



**SOUTH-CENTRAL**

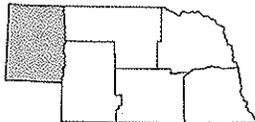


**SOUTHEAST**

# PANHANDLE

The Panhandle is a haven for trout fishermen. Rainbows and browns abound in the many Pine Ridge and North Platte valley cold-water streams. This area also contains several reservoirs and sandhill lakes that provide excellent walleye, tiger musky, northern pike and panfish fishing.

DISTRICT I - PANHANDLE  
Alliance Office - Jack Peterson,  
Fisheries Supervisor  
(308) 762-5605; Fax (308) 762-8262



NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
1	Kilpatrick Lake	Box Butte Co., 22W, 1S of Alliance	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger musky, walleye, yellow perch	160 acres, privately owned, but managed by NGPC, permission required.
2	Box Butte Reservoir SRA	Dawes Co., 10N of Hemingford	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth & smallmouth bass, pike, walleye, yellow perch	1,600 acres, subject to severe summer drawdown, primitive camping, all boats allowed
3	Chadron City Reservoirs	Dawes Co., 5 1/2 S of Chadron	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, yellow perch, trout	22 acres, no boats allowed, public access
4	Chadron State Park Pond	Dawes Co., 9S of Chadron	Trout	2 acres, boats not allowed, limited wheelchair accessible fishing pier
5	Grabel ponds	Dawes Co., Ft. Robinson SP	Rainbow trout, largemouth bass	4 ponds (1, 1.2 & 2 acres)
6	Ice House Ponds	Dawes Co., Ft. Robinson SP	Bluegill, largemouth bass	3 ponds (1, 2 and 3 acres)
7	Whitney Lake	Dawes Co., 1 1/2 W of Whitney	Channel catfish, crappie, perch, walleye, white bass	900 acres, private irrigation reservoir, access limited
8	Chappell Interstate Lake	Deuel Co., 1/2 S of Chappell	Black crappie, bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, walleye, yellow perch	30 acres
9	Goldeneye WMA	Deuel Co., 3W of Big Springs	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, yellow perch	17 acres
10	Island Lake	Garden Co., Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge, 22N of Oshkosh	Bluegill, crappie, largemouth bass, yellow perch, walleye	711 acres, no minnows, dead smell allowed, no camping, electric motors only
11	Smith Lake	Garden Co., Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge, 22N of Oshkosh	Bluegill, black crappie, largemouth bass, yellow perch	225 acres, no minnows, dead smell allowed, no camping, electric motors only. Opening to fishing pending by USFWS renovated in 1996.
12	Oliver Reservoir SRA	Kimball Co., 10W of Kimball	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tiger musky, walleye, yellow perch	270 acres, all boats, primitive camping, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
13	Bridgeport SRA	Morrill Co., NW edge of Bridgeport	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, pike, rainbow trout, walleye	78 acres in 5 lakes, primitive camping, all boats allowed on middle pit
14	Buffalo Creek Pond WMA	Scotts Bluff Co., 5S, 1 1/2 W of Melbeta	Largemouth bass, rainbow trout	7 acres, access via 1-mile foot trail
15	Cochran Lake	Scotts Bluff Co., 2SW of Melbeta	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger musky, yellow perch	45 acres
16	J. C. Pond (Zoo Pond)	Scotts Bluff Co., City of Scottsbluff	Rainbow trout	5 acres, open to public
17	Lake Minatare SRA	Scotts Bluff Co., 12NE of Scottsbluff	Channel catfish, crappie, smallmouth bass, white bass, walleye, vipers, yellow perch	2,300 acres, camping, all boats allowed, closed Oct. 1-Jan. 15
18	Lake Winters Creek	Scotts Bluff Co., N of Minatare	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, walleye, yellow perch	235 acres, non-powered boats only, closed Oct. 1-Jan. 15
19	Morrill Sandpits	Scotts Bluff Co., 3S of Morrill	Black crappie, largemouth bass, rainbow trout, yellow perch	25 acres in three lakes, county owned, permission required, check with Morrill City Manager or Scotts Bluff Co., no boating or camping
20	Terry's Pit	Scotts Bluff Co., Terrytown	Largemouth bass, trout	7 acres
21	University Lake	Scotts Bluff Co., 7NW of Scottsbluff	Largemouth bass, yellow perch	30 acres
22	Isham Dam	Sheridan Co., NW of Hay Springs	Bluegill, bullheads, largemouth bass, yellow perch	26 acres, private/permission required, all boats allowed
23	Smith Lake WMA	Sheridan Co., 23S of Rushville	Bluegill, bullheads, largemouth bass, pike, tiger musky, walleye, yellow perch	290 acres, primitive camping, power boats limited to 5 mph
24	Walgren Lake SRA	Sheridan Co., SSE of Hay Springs	Bluegill, bullheads, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye, yellow perch	100 acres, primitive camping, boat speed limit, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
25	Carter P. Johnson Lake	Sioux Co., Ft. Robinson SP	Rainbow trout	15 acres electric fishing motor only
A	Bourdeaux Creek	Dawes Co., SE of Chadron	Brown trout	Private access, permission required
B	Chadron Creek	Dawes Co., S of Chadron	Brook & brown trout	Private access, permission required, public access at Chadron SP

Lake guide

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
C	Soldier Creek	Dawes Co., 3W of Crawford	Brook, brown & rainbow trout	Public access at Fort Robinson State Park and Fort Robinson Wood Reserve
D	White River	Dawes/Sioux Cos., W of Fort Robinson	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required; public access at Ft. Robinson SP
E	Lodgepole Creek	Kimball Co., Kimball to Wyoming border	Brown trout	Private access, permission required
F	Greenwood Creek	Morrill Co., SE of Bridgeport	Brown trout	Private access, permission required
G	Red Willow Creek	Morrill Co., E of Bayard	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
H	Silvernail Drain	Morrill Co., E of Northport	Brown trout	Private access, permission required
I	Wildhorse Creek	Morrill Co., N of Bayard	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
J	Nine Mile Creek	Scotts Bluff Co., E of Minatare	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required, public access at Nine Mile Creek WMA
K	Spotted Tail Creek	Scotts Bluff/Sioux Cos., NW of Mitchell	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
L	Stuckenhole Creek	Scotts Bluff Co., W of Bayard	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
M	Winters Creek	Scotts Bluff Co., NE of Scottsbluff	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
N	Larabie Creek	Sheridan Co., N of Rushville	Brook & brown trout	Private property, permission required
O	Pine Creek	Sheridan Co., 20S of Rushville	Brown trout	Private access, permission required
P	White Clay Creek	Sheridan Co., NW of Rushville	Brown trout	Private access, permission required
Q	Dry Sheep Creek	Sioux Co., NW of Morrill	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
R	Dry Spotted Tail Creek	Sioux Co., NW of Mitchell	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
S	Hal Creek	Sioux Co., NE of Harrison	Brook trout	Private access, permission required
T	Monroe Creek	Sioux Co., 4 1/2 N of Harrison	Brook trout	Public access on Gilbert-Baker WMA; also private access, permission required
U	Niobrara River	Sioux, and Dawes Cos., N part of Panhandle District	Brown & rainbow trout	Extremely low water in summer, private, permission required
V	Sheep Creek	Sioux Co., NW of Morrill	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
W	Sowbally Creek	Sioux Co., NE of Harrison	Brook trout	Private access, permission required
X	Tub Springs	Sioux Co., NE of Mitchell	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required

# NORTH-CENTRAL

The Sandhills region contains most of the natural lakes that occur in the state. These shallow, but very productive lakes provide excellent fishing for northern pike, yellow perch and bluegill.



DISTRICT II - SANDHILLS  
Bassett Office  
Joel Klammer, Fisheries Supervisor  
(402) 684-2921; Fax (402) 684-2816

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
1	Hull Lake WMA	Boyd Co., 1/2 W, 2S 1W 1 1/4 S of Butte	Bluegill, catfish, largemouth bass	512 acres, primitive camping, no drinking water
2	Clear Lake	Brown Co., 18 1/2 S, 9W, 1N of Ainsworth	Bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch	194 acres, privately owned, but managed by NGPC under a MOU.
3	Keller Park SRA	Brown Co., 11S of Springview	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, trout	5 ponds, pond No. 4 & 5 have catchable trout, camping
4	Long Lake SRA	Brown Co., 8 1/2 W, 21S of Ainsworth	Bullheads, pike, yellow perch	155 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph
5	Willow Lake WMA	Brown Co., 18 1/2 S 12 1/2 W, 1N of Ainsworth	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, yellow perch	313 acres, primitive camping, 21-inch minimum on largemouth bass, power boats limited to 5 mph
6	Big Alkali WMA	Cherry Co., 16S, 4W, 1 1/2 S of Valentine	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch	842 acres, all boats allowed, ramp, camping, fishing camp
7	Cottonwood Lake SRA	Cherry Co., 1/2 E, 1/2 S of Merriman	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch	34 acres, primitive camping, vegetation hampers summer fishing, all boats allowed
8	Lee's Lake	Cherry Co., 4 1/2 E, 1 1/4 N, 1 1/2 NW of Brownlee	Bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch	84 acres, privately owned, but managed by NGPC under a MOU open in 1998

\*All waters in this District have a 15" minimum size limit on walleye unless otherwise stated.

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
9	Lee's Alkali Lake	Cherry Co., 4 1/2 E, 11 1/4 N, 2 1/4 NW of Brownlee	Bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch	70 acres, privately owned, but managed by NGPC under a MOU open in 1998
10	Merritt Reservoir SRA	Cherry Co., 26SW of Valentine	Bluegill, bullheads, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth & smallmouth bass, musky, pike, walleye, white bass, yellow perch	2,900 acres, camping available, all boats allowed, 18-inch minimum on walleye with only 1 fish allowed over 25 inches
11	Rat and Beaver WMA	Cherry Co., 30S, 7W of Valentine	Bullhead, carp, pike, yellow perch	450 acres in 2 lakes, permission required for access
12	Schoolhouse Lake	Cherry Co., 24S of Nenzel	Black crappie, bluegill, bullhead, largemouth bass	105 acres, private access, permission required
13	Shell Lake WMA	Cherry Co., 3N, 4E, 8N of Gordon	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch	160 acres, lake dredged in 1997, power boats limited to 5 mph
14	Valentine Refuge	Cherry Co., 16S, 6W 8S of Valentine to H.Q.	Black bullhead, bluegill, pike, yellow perch Bluegill, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch Bluegill, bullhead, largemouth bass, yellow perch Bluegill, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch Black bullhead, bluegill, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch Bluegill, largemouth bass, musky, yellow perch Bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch	Minnows prohibited, dead smelt allowed. Possession of fish not taken from refuge waters unlawful. No camping, electric motors only. All refuge lakes subject to summer aquatic weed growth. Possession of largemouth bass and muskellunge are prohibited on Watts Lake. Size limits on some species; check current regulations.
15	Willow Lake WMA	Cherry Co., 23 1/2 S, 3W of Valentine	Carp, pike, yellow perch	354 acres
16	Arnold Lake SRA	Custer Co., 1/2S of Arnold	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	4 acres, lake dredged in 1997, managed out of Dist. IV office
17	Victoria Springs Lake SRA	Custer Co., 6E of Anselmo	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, rainbow trout	5 1/2 acres, cabins and camping, electric motors only
18	Frye Lake WMA	Grant Co., 1N, 1 1/2E of Hyannis	Bluegill, carp, largemouth bass, tiger musky, yellow perch, crappie	243 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph, managed by Dist. I
19	Atkinson SRA	Holt Co., 1/2W of Atkinson	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, pike	5 acres, primitive camping, electrical hookups, Elkhorn River access
20	Swan Lake	Holt Co., 26S, 1/2W of Atkinson	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, northern pike, yellow perch	235 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph, leased for fishing only
21	Cub Creek Lake	Keya Paha Co., 8 1/2W of Springview	Bluegill, catfish, largemouth bass, tiger musky, walleye, yellow perch	27 acres, electric fishing motors only, primitive camping, NRD lake
22	Calamus Reservoir SRA	Loup Co., 2W 5NW of Burwell	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike, walleye, wiper, yellow perch	5,200 acres, modern/primitive camping, 5 mph boating on upper lake, 18-inch minimum on walleye with only 1 fish allowed over 25 inches, daily bag limit 3 on wipers, with no more than 1 fish over 18 inches
23	Gracie Creek Pond	Loup Co., N side of Calamus Reservoir 12N, 4E of Taylor	Rainbow trout	2 acre pond, put and take trout stocking, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
24	Twin Lakes WMA	Rock Co., 16S, 21 1/2 E, 2S of Bassett	Crappie, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch	160 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph, no boat ramp
25	Davis Creek Reservoir	Valley Co., 5S, 1E of North Loup	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye, yellow perch	1,145 acres, water level fluctuates dramatically due to irrigation
A	Calamus River	Brown Co. and Loup Co.	Carp, channel catfish, pike	Private access, permission required, canoe sites and camping
B	Long Pine SRA	Brown Co., W of Long Pine	Brown & rainbow trout	Long Pine Creek access
C	Long Pine WMA	Brown Co., W and N of Long Pine	Brown & rainbow trout	Public access to Long Pine Creek, remainder of stream is private access, permission required
D	Pine Glen WMA	Brown Co., 2E, 8 1/4 N of Long Pine	Brown & rainbow trout	Long Pine Creek access
E	Plum Creek	Brown Co., W of Johnstown	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
F	Boardman Creek	Cherry Co., 35SW of Mullen	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
G	Fairfield Creek	Cherry/Brown Cos., 8N, 2E of Wood Lake to forks or 2 1/2W of Norden Road on S side of Niobrara River to mouth of creek	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required, vehicle access difficult, most areas accessible by long hike
H	Middle Loup River	Cherry, Hooker, Thomas, Blaine & Custer counties	Upper river - rainbow trout, Lower - carp channel catfish	Public access at Milburn & Arcadia diversions; rest private access, permission required
I	Niobrara River	Cherry, Brown, Keya Paha & Boyd Co.	Channel catfish, sauger	Private access, permission required
J	North Loup River	Cherry, Blaine & Loup counties	Upper river - brown & rainbow trout, Lower - carp, channel catfish	Private access, permission required
K	Schlagel Creek WMA	Cherry Co., 16S, 4W, 4N of Valentine	Brown trout	Private access, permission required except on Schlagel Creek WMA

lake guide

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
L	Snake River (Upper Reach)	Cherry Co., near Gordon	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
M	Milburn Diversion	Custer Co., Milburn	Carp, channel catfish	Middle Loup River access
N	Spencer SRA	Holt Co., 18N of O'Neill	Channel catfish, sauger	Primitive camping, Niobrara River access
O	Gracie Creek	Loup Co., NW portion of Calamus Reservoir	Rainbow trout	Two miles of stream above Gracie Creek pond
P	Coon Creek	Rock Co., NE of Bassett	Brown trout	Private access, permission required
Q	Dismal River	Thomas, Blaine & So. Hooker Cos.	Brown & rainbow trout, channel catfish	Private access, permission required

# NORTHEAST

Anglers in the northeast find exciting fishing action at popular Lewis & Clark Lake, as well as many small farm ponds, catfish and trout streams and the mighty Missouri River.

## DISTRICT III - NORTHEAST

Norfolk Office  
 Jeff Schuckman, Fisheries Supervisor  
 (402) 370-3374; Fax (402) 370-3256



NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
1	Grove Lake WMA	Antelope Co., 2N of Royal	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike	50 acres, primitive camping, power boats limited to 5 mph
2	Penn Park Lake	Antelope Co., Neligh city lake, SW edge	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, carp	8 acres
3	Summit Lake SRA	Burt Co., 4 1/2W, 1/2S of Tekamah	Bass, bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, pike, walleye, wipers	190 acres, motorboats limited to 5 mph, fish cleaning station, daily bag limit of 3 wipers, with no more than 1 over 18 inches
4	Chalkrock Lake WMA	Cedar Co., 5N, 1 1/2E of Hwy. 81 & 12 Jct.	Bass, bluegill, channel catfish, tiger musky, walleye	44 acres, boats limited to 5 mph
5	Cottonwood Lake (Lake Yankton)	Cedar Co., Below Gavins Point Dam, north side of river	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike, walleye	250 acres, border water area with S. Dakota, open to Nebr. permit holders, electric fishing motors only
6	Gavins Point Dam Tailwaters	Cedar Co., 1S, 4W of Yankton, SD	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, drum, eel, paddlefish, smallmouth bass, sauger, walleye, white bass	All boats allowed, wheelchair accessible fishing piers
7	Schuyler City Lake	Colfax Co., In city park	Bass, bluegill, channel catfish, crappie	18 acres
8	Crystal Cove Lake	Dakota Co., NE of Hwy. 20 & 77 intersection in S. Sioux City	Bass, bluegill, channel catfish, pike	30 acres, no power boats allowed, South Sioux City
9	Buckskin Hills Lake	Dixon Co., 2W, 3S, 1/2W of Newcastle	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, walleye	75 acres, primitive camping, boats limited to 5 mph, NRD
10	Dead Timber SRA	Dodge Co., 5NW of Scribner, 1 1/2E	Bullhead, carp, channel & flathead catfish	20 acres, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only, park entry permit required
11	Fremont Lakes SRA	Dodge Co., 3W of Fremont	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike	280 acres in 20 lakes, camping available, gas-powered boating on Victory Lake and Lake 20 only, all others electric fishing motors only. Lake #1 - Catch and release on all fish species, barbless hooks only, park entry permit required
12	Goose Lake WMA	Holt Co., 18NW, 5E of Bartlett	Bass, bluegill, pike, yellow perch	200 acres
13	Bloomfield Area	Knox Co., 8W, 7N of Crofton on Lewis & Clark Lake, River mile 819.5	Carp, channel catfish, crappie, drum, sauger, walleye, white bass	Concrete ramp
14	Hideaway Acres Marina	Knox Co., 7N, 1/2W of Crofton on Lewis & Clark Lake, River mile 812.5	Carp, channel catfish, crappie, drum, sauger, walleye, white bass	Concrete ramp
15	Lewis & Clark Lake SRA	Knox Co., 15N of Crofton	Carp, channel catfish, crappie, drum, sauger, walleye, white bass	30,000 acres, modern and primitive camping on state and federal areas, all boats allowed
16	Miller Creek Area	Knox Co., 10W, 6N of Crofton on Lewis & Clark Lake, River mile 821.0	Carp, channel catfish, crappie, drum, sauger, walleye, white bass	Concrete ramp
17	Niobrara SP	Knox Co., 1W of Niobrara	Bass & bluegill in lagoon; channel & flathead catfish in river	Park entry permit required
18	South Shore Area	Knox Co., 8N of Crofton, on Lewis & Clark Lake, River mile 811.5	Carp, channel catfish, crappie, drum, sauger, walleye, white bass	Concrete ramp
19	Weigand Area	Knox Co., 4W, 7N of Crofton on Lewis & Clark Lake, River mile 816.0	Carp, channel catfish, crappie, drum, sauger, walleye, white bass	Concrete ramp, modern fish cleaning station

lake guide

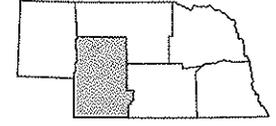
NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
20	Skyview Lake	Madison Co., Norfolk	Bass, bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, pike, tiger musky, walleye	50 acres, 21-inch minimum on largemouth bass, wheelchair accessible fishing pier, electric fishing motors only
21	Willow Creek SRA	Pierce Co., 2SW of Pierce	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, large mouth bass, pike, tiger musky, walleye, wipers	700 acres, camping, motor-boats limited to 5 mph on west half of lake, 3 wheelchair accessible fishing piers daily bag limit of 3 wipers, with no more than 1 over 18 inches
22	Lake Babcock	Platte Co., 1W, 3N of Columbus	Bullhead, carp, channel & flathead catfish	600 acres, power boats not allowed, Loup Public Power
23	Lake North	Platte Co., 3N of Columbus	Carp, channel catfish, crappie, drum, walleye	200 acres, camping, Loup Public Power
24	Looking Glass WMA	Platte Co., 1S of Monroe	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	Two small lakes, 3-4 acres each
25	Maskenthine Reservoir	Stanton Co., 2NW of Stanton	Bass, bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, pike, walleye	98 acres, primitive camping, boats limited to 5 mph. Wheelchair accessible fishing pier, Lower Elkhorn NRD
26	Red Fox Lake WMA	Stanton Co., 1 1/4 S of Pilger on Hwy. 15	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	25 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, primitive ramp
27	DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge	Washington Co., 6E of Blair on Hwy. 30	Bluegill, buffalo, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye	760 acres, 5 mph speed limit for boats, open from early Jan. through late Feb. for ice fishing, mid-April through late September for open-water fishing
28	Lake Ericson	Wheeler Co., 1/2 S of Ericson	Bass, bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, pike	70 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph
29	Pibel Lake SRA	Wheeler Co., 9S, 1E of Bartlett	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike	25 acres, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only
A	Hackberry Creek WMA, Elkhorn River	Antelope Co., 1 1/2 E, 1/2 N of Clearwater	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
B	Red Wing	Antelope Co., 5SW of Neligh	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
C	WMA Verdigre Creek	Antelope Co., East Branch, NE of Royal above Grove Lake	Brown & rainbow trout	Public access available as posted
D	Sunshine Bottoms Ramp (Boyd County)	Boyd Co., 3E, 4N of Lynch	Carp, channel catfish, drum, goldeye, sauger, smallmouth bass, walleye	Public access to Missouri River
E	Hightree Marina	Burt Co., 1/2 N of Hwy. 51 bridge, east side of Decatur, River mile 691.4	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, drum	Mo. River access, private access, fee, concrete ramp
F	Pelican Point SRA	Burt Co., 5E, 4N of Tekamah, River mile 672.8	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, drum, sauger, walleye	Mo. River access, public access ramp, primitive camping
G	Cedar County Access	Cedar Co., 4NE of Wynot, River mile 784.9	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, drum, paddlefish, sauger, walleye	Cedar County, Mo. River access, public access allowed, concrete ramp
H	St. Helena Access	Cedar Co., 6 1/2 E, 1N of Hwy. 81 & 121 Jct.	Channel & flathead catfish, paddlefish, sauger, walleye	Mo. River access, Cedar County public access allowed, gravel ramp
I	Whitetail WMA	Collax Co., 1/2 W of Schuyler on US 30, 3S on county road	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, sauger	Platte River access
J	Black Island WMA, Elkhorn River	Cuming Co., 2 1/2 E of Pilger on county road	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
K	Spenic Park Access	Dakota Co., 1/2 E of Hwy. 77 bridge near S. Sioux City, River mile 732.0	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, drum, paddlefish	City of S. Sioux City, Mo. River access, public access allowed, concrete ramp
L	Mulberry Bend WMA	Dixon Co., 1E of Maskell on Hwy. 12 and 2 1/2 N	Carp, channel catfish, largemouth & smallmouth bass, paddlefish, pike	Mo. River access
M	Ponca State Park	Dixon Co., 2 1/2 N of Ponca, River mile 753.5	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, drum, paddlefish, sauger, walleye	Mo. River access, public access, concrete ramp
N	Powder Horn WMA	Dodge Co., 4NW of Scribner on Hwy. 275	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
O	Dry Creek	Holt Co., 1 1/2 SE of O'Neill	Carp, channel and flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
P	Steel Creek	Holt County (northeast)	Brown trout	Private access, permission required
Q	Bazile Creek WMA	Knox Co., 4E, 1 1/2 N of Niobrara, NE River mile 838.8	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, sauger, walleye	Gravel road to ramp gets muddy with heavy rains, ramp subject to flooding
R	Ferry Landing SRA	Knox Co., 2 1/2 E, 1 1/2 N of Niobrara, NE River mile 841.0	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, sauger, walleye	Boat ramp, access to Missouri River
S	Niobrara Townsite Boat Ramp	Knox Co., N of old Niobrara townsite on county road, NE River mile 844.0	Buffalo, carp, crappie, pike, sauger, smallmouth bass, walleye	Double-wide concrete ramps, ample parking
T	Verdel Landing	Knox Co., 2E, 2N of Verdel	Carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth & smallmouth bass, pike	Mo. River access

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
U	Yellowbanks WMA	Madison Co., 3N of Battle Creek	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
V	George Syas WMA	Nance Co., 2S, 1 1/2 E of Genoa	Carp, channel catfish	Loup River access
W	Loup Canal	Nance & Platte counties, Genoa to Columbus	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, drum	Tailrace at Columbus, stilling basin W of Genoa, and tailwaters below Monroe and Columbus powerhouses most productive. Loup River diversion canal
X	Prairie Wolf WMA	Nance Co., 1S of Genoa	Carp, channel catfish	Loup River access
Y	Red Fox WMA	Stanton Co., 1S of Pilger on Hwy. 15	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
Z	Wood Duck WMA	Stanton Co., 3SW of Stanton	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
AA	Missouri River (Federal access areas)	Nebraska shoreline, River mile 691.3-691.9 River mile 693.0-693.4 River mile 694.5-695.3 River mile 695.2-697.4 River mile 697.7-699.6 River mile 701.1-701.5	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, drum, paddlefish, sauger, walleye	Public access points to Missouri River, camping available, area boundaries posted

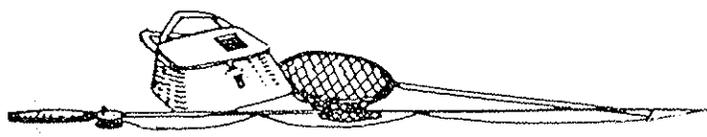
# SOUTHWEST

Southwest Nebraska offers large reservoirs, rivers, canals and smaller lakes for the enjoyment of anglers and campers. Anglers can try for many species, including channel catfish, bluegill, walleye, crappie, perch and bass. Most areas have both modern and primitive camping facilities available.

DISTRICT IV - SOUTHWEST  
North Platte Office  
Monte Madsen, Fisheries Supervisor  
(308) 535-8025; Fax (308) 535-8028



NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
1	Enders Reservoir SRA	Chase Co., 5E, 4 1/2 S of Imperial	Channel & flathead catfish, crappie, walleye, white bass, wiper	1700 acres, primitive camping, all boats allowed, severe summer drawdown. 30-inch minimum length on northern pike
2	Rock Creek Lake SRA	Dundy Co., 4N, 1W of Parks	Bluegill, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, rainbow trout, redear	50 acres, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only
3	Medicine Creek SRA (Harry Strunk Lake)	Frontier Co., 2W, 7N of Cambridge	Channel & flathead catfish, crappie, walleye, white bass	1,850 acres, primitive and modern camping, all boats allowed
4	Red Willow SRA (Hugh Butler Lake)	Frontier Co., 11N of McCook	Channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye, white bass, wiper	1,630 acres, modern camping, all boats allowed. 30-inch minimum length on northern pike
5	Hayes Center Lake WMA	Hayes Co., 12NE of Hayes Center	Bullhead, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, pike	50 acres, electric fishing motors only
6	Swanson Reservoir SRA	Hitchcock Co., 2W of Trenton	Channel catfish, crappie, drum, walleye, white bass	5,000 acres
7	Lake McConaughy SRA	Keith Co., 10N of Ogallala	Channel catfish, perch, rainbow trout, smallmouth bass, striped bass, tiger musky, white bass, walleye, wiper	30,000 acres, modern and primitive camping, all boats allowed, walleye bag limits allow only 1 fish over 25 inches. Combination bag limit on all trout and salmon is 4 with a possession limit of 8. Minimum length limits of 20 inches on brown trout and chinook salmon
8	Lake Ogallala SRA	Keith Co., 10N of Ogallala	Channel catfish, rainbow trout, walleye, white bass, yellow perch	590 acres, modern/primitive camping, all boats allowed, wheelchair accessible fishing pier. Combination bag limit on all trout and salmon is 4 with a possession limit of 8. Minimum length limits of 20 inches on brown trout and chinook salmon
9	Chester Island WMA	Lincoln Co., 2S, 1/2 W of Brady	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	4.2 acres (4 sandpits)
10	Jeffrey Reservoir	Lincoln Co., 5S, 3W of Brady	Channel catfish, walleye, white bass	900 acres, all boats allowed
11	Lake Maloney SRA	Lincoln Co., 6S of North Platte	Channel & flathead catfish, carp, drum, walleye, white bass, wiper	1,600 acres, primitive camping, all boats allowed, wheelchair accessible fishing pier on inlet in 1995
12	Pawnee Slough WMA	Lincoln Co., 2W of Maxwell	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth & rock bass	30 acres



lake guide

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
13	Sutherland Reservoir SRA	Lincoln Co., 2S of Sutherland	Channel catfish, walleye, white bass, wiper, yellow perch, drum	3,000 acres, ice fishermen use caution due to heated discharge from power plant, primitive camping, all boats allowed, wheelchair accessible, fishing pier
14	Wellfleet Lake	Lincoln Co., 1/2SW of Wellfleet	Bluegill, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	50 acres, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only
15	Diamond Bar	McPherson Co., 18W 3S Tryon	Largemouth bass, northern pike, yellow perch, bluegill	120 acre, shallow Sandhill lake, privately owned, but managed by NGPC under an MOU
A	North Platte River	Keith & Lincoln Cos., Keystone to Paxton	Rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
B	Oller Creek	Keith Co., 12E of Lewellen	Brown & rainbow trout	Private property, permission required
C	Sutherland Supply Canal	Keith & Lincoln Cos.	Brown & rainbow trout, walleye	Access via Central Public Power District road
D	CNPPID Canal (Tri County)	Lincoln Co., North Platte to Lexington	Channel & flathead catfish, walleye, white bass, wiper	Power boats limited to 5 mph, 15-inch minimum on walleye
E	North River WMA	Lincoln Co., 2 1/2N of Hershey	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, pike	Encompasses 2 miles of North Platte River

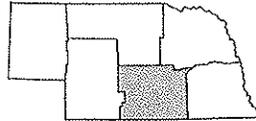
# SOUTH-CENTRAL

A variety of opportunities await anglers in South-central Nebraska. Large reservoirs, like Harlan and Sherman, offer fishing for walleye, white bass and channel catfish. Most reservoirs have modern and primitive camping facilities and allow all boating. Smaller lakes provide angling opportunity for largemouth bass, bluegill and channel catfish. River fishing is available at public areas on the Loup, Platte and Republican rivers. Stream trout fishing is offered at Elm Creek near Red Cloud.

## DISTRICT VI - SOUTH-CENTRAL

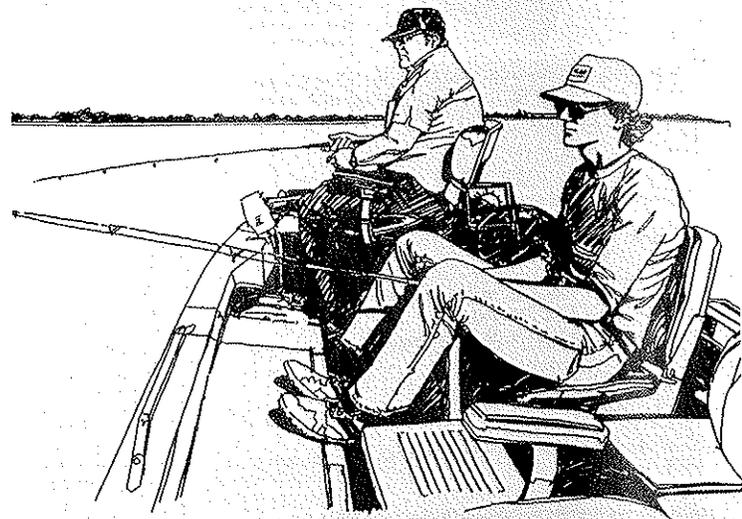
Kearney Office

Brad Newcomb, Fisheries Supervisor  
(308) 468-5132; Fax (308) 865-5330



NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
1	Crystal Lake SRA	Adams Co., 2N, 1W of Ayr	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger musky	10 acres, electric motors only, winter-killed 1993, restocked
2	Lake Hastings	Adams Co., N edge of Hastings	Bullhead, channel catfish, crappie	63 acres, all boats allowed
3	Hastings NW Dam	Adams Co., 1N of Hastings Airport	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	63 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph, very turbid
4	32-Mile H, Prairie Lake	Adams Co., 1 1/2E, 4 1/2S of Juniata	Channel catfish	65 acres, Little Blue NRD, boats limited to 5 mph, turbid
5	32-Mile D, Roseland Lake	Adams Co., 4 1/2W, 1 1/2S of Juniata	Bullhead, carp, channel catfish	66 acres, Little Blue NRD, boats limited to 5 mph, turbid
6	Cottonmill Lake	Buffalo Co., 1W, 1/2N of Kearney on Hwy. 30	Bullhead, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	No power boating, scheduled for renovation/restocking for 1997-98, special regulations (city)
7	Ravenna Lake SRA	Buffalo Co., 1SE of Ravenna	Bullhead, carp, channel catfish, goldfish	30 acres, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only
8	Ansley Lake	Custer Co., W of Ansley	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	4 acres, no power boating
9	Pressey WMA	Custer Co., 3W Oconto	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	2.5 acres
10	Gallagher Canyon Reservoir SRA	Dawson Co., 8S of Cozad	Channel & flathead catfish, crappie, drum, walleye, white bass	182 acres, primitive camping, all power boats allowed
11	Lake Helen	Dawson Co., N edge Gothenburg	Carp, channel catfish	20 acres
12	Lexington City Lake	Dawson Co., N edge Lexington	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	3 acres
13	Midway Canyon Reservoir	Dawson Co., 6S, 2W of Cozad	Channel & flathead catfish, crappie, drum, walleye, white bass	609 acres, all power boats allowed
14	Plum Creek Canyon Reservoir	Dawson Co., 8S, 3 1/2E Cozad	Channel catfish, crappie, drum, walleye, white bass	252 acres
15	Elwood Reservoir WMA	Gosper Co., 3N of Elwood	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, flathead catfish, largemouth & rock bass, pike, walleye, yellow perch	1,200 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, 18 inch minimum on walleye, with a bag limit of only 1 fish over 25 inches, summer drawdown
16	Johnson Lake SRA	Gosper Co., 7S of Lexington	Channel & flathead catfish, crappie, drum, striped bass, walleye, white bass, wiper	2,800 acres, primitive and modern camping, all boats allowed, 2 wheelchair accessible fishing piers
17	Phillips Canyon Reservoir	Gosper Co., 8S, 1E Lexington	Channel catfish, crappie, drum, walleye, white bass	142 acres

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
18	Scout Lake	Hall Co., 1N of Grand Island	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass, carp, crappie	55 acres, 10 inch panfish special bag limit (city)
19	L.E. Ray Lake	Hall Co., Grand Island city lake, N of Husker Hwy. & East Blaine	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger musky	30 1/2 acres, special city regulations
20	Pier Lake	Hall Co., Grand Island city lake, Ashton Ave. & Bismarck Rd.	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	8 3/4 acres
21	Suchs Lake	Hall Co., Grand Island city lake, Harrison St., S of Burlington Railroad	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	4.3 acres
22	Wastewater Pond	Hall Co., Grand Island city lake, Swift Rd., E of Stur Rd.	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger musky	7.5 acres
23	Harlan Co. Reservoir/Corps of Engineers	Harlan Co., S of Alma and Republican City	Channel & flathead catfish, crappie, pike, walleye, white bass, wiper	13,500 acres, modern and primitive camping, all boats allowed, 18-inch min. on walleye, summer drawdown
24	Farwell South Reservoir	Howard Co., 4W, 3S of Farwell	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, walleye	40 acres, power boats not allowed
25	North Loup SRA	Howard Co., 3N of St. Paul	Bass, bluegill, channel catfish, crappie	7 acres, just north of the N. Loup River on Hwy. 281
26	Fl. Kearny SRA	Kearney Co., 3 1/2E, 1N of Fl. Kearny SHP	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	7 gravel pit lakes, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
27	Bader Memorial County Park	Merrick Co., 1 1/2 S of Chapman	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth & rock bass	12 acres in 7 lakes, primitive camping, electric motors only, old sandpits
28	Hord Lake SRA	Merrick Co., 2E of Central City	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tiger musky	23 acres in 2 lakes, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only, old sandpits. Lease expires in 1998
29	Superior City Lake	Nuckolls Co., W edge of Superior	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	1 acre
30	Holdrege City Lake	Phelps Co., 1/2N of Holdrege	Bluegill, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	5 acres
31	Sandy Channel WMA	Phelps Co., 2S of Elm Creek, I-80 Interchange	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	52 acres in 6 lakes, electric fishing motors only
32	Bowman Lake	Sherman Co., 1/2W of Loup City	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	20 acres
33	Sherman Reservoir SRA	Sherman Co., 4E, 1N of Loup City	Channel catfish, crappie, flathead catfish, pike, walleye, white bass	2,600 acres, primitive camping, all boats allowed, summer drawdowns, 18-inch min. on walleye with only 1 fish allowed over 25-inch 10-inch crappie length limit
34	Liberty Cove	Webster Co., 2S, 2 1/2 W of Lawrence	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, pike	36 acres, Little Blue NRD, fishing pier with gravel access
A	Loch Linda WMA	Hall Co., 10S, 3W of Grand Island	Carp, channel catfish	Access to Platte River
B	Martins Reach WMA	Hall Co., 4S, 2W of Wood River	Carp, channel catfish	Access to Platte River
C	Harold W. Anderson WMA	Howard Co., 2N, 3E of Dannebrog	Carp, channel catfish	Access to Middle Loup River
D	Loup Junction WMA	Howard Co., 2 1/2 N, 2E, 1/2 N of St. Paul	Carp, channel catfish	Loup River access
E	Elm Creek WMA	Webster Co., 4E, 2N of Red Cloud	Brown & rainbow trout	1/2 mile of stream on public land, rest on private land, permission required, trout stocked two times during year
F	Indian Creek WMA	Webster Co., 1S of Red Cloud	Carp, channel catfish, white bass	Access to Republican River



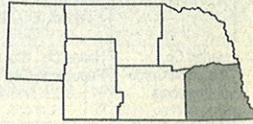
# SOUTHEAST

Fishing opportunity is increasing in the Southeast. NRD lakes are adding hundreds of acres of fishing water to the area. Farm ponds, streams and rivers are important, but under-used, fisheries. A large and growing population places heavy demand on existing public areas, and more water is needed to meet their demands.

## DISTRICT V - SOUTHEAST

Lincoln Office

Randy Winter, Fisheries Supervisor  
(402) 471-5583; Fax (402) 471-5528



NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
1	Redtail WMA	Butler Co., 1E of Dwight	Bluegill, crappie, channel catfish, largemouth bass	17 acres, walk-in access only
2	Timber Point	Butler Co., 1S, 2E of Brainard	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tiger musky	28 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Platte South NRD lake
3	Jenny Newman	Cass Co., Platte River State Park	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, yellow perch	4 1/2 acres, total catch and release, open to fishing for children 15 years old or younger. Open to fishing from the fourth saturday of April till fourth saturday of October from sunrise to 10 a.m. All hooks on artificial lures need to be barbless or have barbs crimped.
4	Louisville SRA	Cass Co., 1/2NW of Louisville	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; yellow bass in Lake #2, carp in Lake #3	40 acres in 5 lakes, primitive camping, electric trolling motors only, access point to Platte River
5	Marina Lake	Cass Co., Mahoney State Park	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	4 1/2 acres, special restrictions open sunrise to 10 a.m. check for open dates
6	Schilling WMA	Cass Co., 1NE of Plattsmouth	Carp, channel catfish in Platte & Missouri Rivers	25 acres, open April 15-Sept. 30, hours posted, no boats on lake
7	US West Lake	Cass Co., Mahoney State Park	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, trout (seasonal)	10 acres, catch & release only for bass & bluegill, check regulations for other species, trout stocked in fall and winter, barbless hooks only. Wheelchair accessible fishing pier
8	Two Rivers SRA	Douglas Co., 3 1/2E, 1S, 1W of Yutan	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pickerel, tiger musky in lakes #1, 2, 3 & 4; trout in lake #5; carp & bullhead in carp lake	32 acres in 7 lakes, primitive and modern camping, non-powered boats only, no boats on lake #5, access point to Platte River, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
9	Carter Lake	Douglas Co., Abbott Drive & Carter Blvd. in Omaha	Bluegill, buffalo, bullhead, carp, catfish, crappie, drum, largemouth bass, pike, walleye	300 acres, all boats allowed, city of Omaha lake, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
10	Glenn Cunningham Lake	Douglas Co., 96th & State in Omaha	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, largemouth, walleye, yellow & white bass	377 acres, no-wake power boating, camping, city of Omaha lake, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
11	Papio D-4	Douglas Co., 1/4N of NE 36 & 98th St., northwest Omaha	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	30 1/2 acres, Papio/Missouri NRD lake
12	Standing Bear Lake	Douglas Co., 132nd & Military in Omaha	Bass, bluegill, catfish, crappie, drum, saugeye, trout (seasonal), walleye, yellow perch	135 acres, electric fishing motors only, city of Omaha lake, trout stocked in fall and winter, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
13	Zorinsky Lake	Douglas Co., 156th & F Sts. in Omaha	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tiger musky	255 acres, city of Omaha lake, 21-inch minimum on largemouth bass, 8-inch minimum on bluegill, 10-inch minimum on crappie, special bag limits in effect, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
14	Bruning Pit	Fillmore Co., 2 1/2E, 1N of Bruning	Bullhead, carp, channel catfish	258 acres, Little Blue NRD lake, very turbid
15	Arrowhead WMA	Gage Co., 3E, 1/2S of Diller	Bullhead, carp, channel catfish	77 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph, very turbid & shallow
16	Bear Pierce Cedar 2A	Gage Co., 2N, 2E of Hwy. 77 & Hwy. 136 Junction	Channel catfish	24 acres, turbid & shallow, Lower Big Blue NRD lake
17	Big Indian 11A	Gage Co., 3S, 3W of Wymore	Bullhead, channel catfish	76 acres, primitive camping, all power boating allowed, very turbid, Lower Big Blue NRD lake
18	Diamond Lakes WMA	Gage Co., 3 1/2W of Odell	Bullhead, channel catfish	43 acres in 2 lakes, electric trolling motors only, turbid
19	Rockford Lake SRA	Gage Co., 7E, 2S of Beatrice	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	150 acres, all power boating allowed, primitive camping

lake guide

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
20	Wolf Wildcat #12	Gage Co., 7S of Virginia	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	42 acres, Lower Big Blue NRD lake, limited access
21	Clatonia 3A	Gage Co., 1N of Clatonia	Channel catfish	46 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Big Blue NRD lake, turbid
22	Alexandria SRA	Jefferson Co., 3E 1S of Alexandria	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	43 acres, electric trolling motors only, primitive camping. Lakes rehabilitated in 1996 to create two lakes with the fishery renovated and restocked
23	Buckley 3F	Jefferson Co., 7W 4 1/2S of Fairbury	Channel catfish	22 acres, boats limited to 5 mph. Blue NRD lake, turbid
24	Crystal Springs Lakes	Jefferson Co., 1S, 1W of Fairbury	Bluegill, largemouth bass, channel catfish	18 acres in 3 lakes, no boats allowed
25	Cub Creek 9B (Leisure Lake)	Jefferson Co., 1E, 4S of Plymouth	Carp, channel catfish	25 acres, boating limited to 5 mph, Lower Big Blue NRD lake, very turbid
26	Cub Creek Watershed 12A	Jefferson Co., 3W, 4 1/2S of Plymouth	Carp, channel catfish	27 acres, all boats allowed, turbid, Lower Big Blue NRD lake
27	Osage WMA	Johnson Co., 3N, 2W, 3/4N of Tecumseh	Bluegill, largemouth bass	4 one-acre ponds
28	Twin Oaks WMA	Johnson Co., 2E, 4S of Tecumseh	Bluegill, largemouth bass	3 acres, 2 ponds
29	Wirth Brothers Lake	Johnson Co., 1W, 3S, 1W of Cook	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, northern pike	37 acres, South Branch Site 27 Nemaha NRD, ADA accessible boat ramp and parking, boating limited to 5 mph
30	Bluestem Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 2 1/2W of Sprague	Bluegill, crappie, flathead & channel catfish, largemouth bass	326 acres, primitive camping, all boats allowed, turbid
31	Bowling Lake	Lancaster Co., 3rd & Baker, NW Airpark, Lincoln	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, trout (seasonal)	12 acres, non-powered boats only, city of Lincoln lake, shallow, turbid; wheelchair accessible fishing pier
32	Branched Oak Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 1/2E, 4N of Malcolm	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, blue, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, northern pike, walleye, white perch, wiper	1,800 acres, 5 mph boating (no wake) 400 ft. from dam & 100 ft. from all shores, wheelchair accessible fishing pier, modern & primitive camping, daily bag limit 1 on wipers with a minimum length limit of 18 inches, 10-inch minimum on crappie, 18-inch minimum on walleye
33	Conestoga Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 1 1/2N of Denton	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, saugeye, walleye, wiper	230 acres, primitive camping, all power boats allowed, daily bag limit 3 on wipers with no more than 1 fish over 18 inches
34	Cottontail	Lancaster Co., 1N of Martell	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass	29 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph. Lower Platte South NRD lake
35	Hedgefield Lake WMA	Lancaster Co., 2W, 1/2N of Panama	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass	44 acres, electric fishing motors only
36	Holmes Lake	Lancaster Co., 70th & Normal Blvd. in Lincoln	Bluegill, carp, channel, and flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, trout (seasonal), white perch	100 acres, non-powered boats only, city of Lincoln lake, trout stocked in fall and winter; wheelchair accessible fishing pier
37	Killdeer Lake WMA	Lancaster Co., 2 1/2N of Martell	Bluegill, bullheads, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	20 acres, electric trolling-motors only
38	Merganser	Lancaster Co., 1/2N, 1E, 1/4N of Kramer	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass	41 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Platte South NRD lake
39	Oak Lake	Lancaster Co., I-180 & Sun Valley Blvd., NW Lincoln	Bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, green sunfish	47-acre, city of Lincoln lake, shallow, subject to winter kill
40	Olive Creek Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 2E, 1S of Kramer	Bluegill, carp, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	175 acres, primitive camping, power boats limited to 5 mph, very shallow, very turbid. Scheduled for renovation and rehabilitation for 1998-99
41	Pawnee Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 2N, 1 1/2W of Emerald	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, drum, largemouth & white bass, sauger, walleye	740 acres, modern camping, primitive camping, all boats allowed, 10-inch minimum on crappie, 15-inch minimum on sauger & walleye
42	Stagecoach Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 1 1/2S, 1/2W of Hickman	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	195 acres, primitive camping, boats limited to 5 mph, 8-inch minimum on bluegill, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
43	Tanglewood	Lancaster Co., 1/2N, 1W, 1/2S of Kramer	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	33 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Platte South NRD lake
44	Teal Lake WMA	Lancaster Co., 4 1/2E, 4N of Wilber	Bluegill, bullhead, channel & flathead catfish, largemouth bass	29 acres, electric motors only, subject to frequent fish kills due to low levels
45	Wagon Train Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 2E of Hickman	Bluegill, carp, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	315 acres, primitive camping, boats limited to 5 mph. Scheduled for renovation and rehabilitation for 1998-99
46	Wild Plum	Lancaster Co., 1 1/2N, 1/2W, of Kramer	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	16 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Platte South NRD lake

lake guide

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
47	Wildwood Lake WMA	Lancaster Co., 1W, 1 1/2N of Agnew	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye	103 acres, electric motors only, Lower Platte South NRD lake, catch/release only
48	Yankee Hill Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 2 1/2E, 1S of Denton	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye	208 acres, electric fishing motors only
49	Wilson Creek 2X WMA	Otoe Co., 3E, 1 1/2S of Otoe	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	15 acres, electric motors only, Nemaha NRD lake, very shallow
50	Wilson Creek 4F (Prairie Owl)	Otoe Co., 2S, 1W, 1/4S of Dunbar	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	38 acres, electric fishing motors only, Nemaha NRD lake, very turbid
51	Bowwood WMA	Pawnee Co., 2S of Steinauer	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	6 1/2 acres, electric motors only
52	Burchard Lake WMA	Pawnee Co., 3E, 1/2N of Burchard	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, yellow perch	150 acres, boating limited to 5 mph; primitive camping, area closed during waterfowl season, except face of dam, 21-inch minimum on largemouth bass
53	Iron Horse Trail Lake	Pawnee Co., 1/2N, 2W of DuBois	Bluegill, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	85 acres, 5 mph, no wake, No personal watercraft, camping, picnicking, Nemaha NRD, turbid
54	Mayberry WMA	Pawnee Co., 5N, 1 1/4E of Burchard	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger musky	25 acres, electric motors only
55	Pawnee Prairie WMA	Pawnee Co., 6S, 2E, 2S of Burchard	Bluegill, largemouth bass	5 acres - 7 ponds
56	Prairie Knoll WMA	Pawnee Co., 2W, 2N DuBois	Bluegill, largemouth bass	6 acres, electric motors only
57	Kirkman's Cove	Richardson Co., 1N, 2W of Humboldt	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	160 acres, Nemaha NRD, turbid, all boats allowed, 1996-98 no wake boating, after May 1998, 35 mph maximum on lower 2/3 of lake, no personal watercraft
58	Verdon Lake SRA	Richardson Co., 1/2W of Verdon	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	30 acres, electric motors only, primitive camping, rehabilitation conducted in 1997-1998
59	Swan Creek 2A WMA	Saline Co., 14W, 3N of Wilbar	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	16 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph
60	Swan Creek 5A	Saline Co., 3E, 2N of Tobias	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	95 acres, area development planned in next few years, Lower Big Blue NRD, wheelchair accessible fishing pier, turbid
61	Walnut Creek 2A	Saline Co., 1/2E, 3 1/2N of Crete	Bluegill, bullhead, channel & flathead catfish, largemouth bass	26 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Big Blue NRD lake, shallow
62	Wehrspann Lake	Sarpy Co., 1N, 1W I-80 & Hwy. 50 Junction	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye	245 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Papio/Missouri NRD lake, 21-inch minimum on largemouth bass, 8-inch minimum on bluegill, 10-inch minimum on crappie, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
63	Czechland Lake	Saunders Co., 1N, 1/4W of Prague	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	85-acres, Lower Platte North NRD, boats limited to 5 mph, 8-inch min. on bluegill, 10-inch min. on crappie, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
64	Memphis Lake SRA	Saunders Co., 1/2W of Memphis	Bluegill, buffalo, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	45 acres, row boats and electric motors only, shallow
65	Red Cedar	Saunders Co., 5 1/2N, 2W of the north edge of Valparaiso	Bluegill, channel & flathead catfish, largemouth bass	50 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Platte South NRD lake
66	Meadowlark	Seward Co., 6 1/2W, 1N, 1 1/2W of Agnew	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	55 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Platte South NRD lake
67	Smith Creek	Seward Co., 2N, 2W, 1/4N of Beaver Crossing	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	21 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Upper Big Blue NRD lake, turbid
68	Twin Lakes WMA	Seward Co., 2 1/2N, 1/2W of Pleasant Dale	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tiger musky, walleye	210 acres in east lake, 60 acres in west lake, electric trolling motors only, area closed during waterfowl seasons
69	Meridan	Thayer Co., 3S of Alexandria	Bluegill, largemouth bass	1 acre, electric motors only
70	Recharge	York Co., 1 1/2W of York	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	49 acres, boating limited to 5 mph, Upper Big Blue NRD lake
71	Waco Basin WMA	York Co., 1W, 1/2N of Waco	Black bullhead	15 acres
A	Hwy. 50 Bridge	Cass Co., Louisville	River species	Access point to Platte River
B	Louisville SRA	Cass Co., 1/2NW of Louisville	River species	Access point to Platte River
C	Schilling WMA	Cass Co., 1 NE of Plattsmouth	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, sturgeon	Access point to Missouri and Platte rivers, open April 15 -Sept. 30
D	Dodge Park	Douglas Co., 11000 N River Rd. in Omaha	Buffalo, carp, catfish, crappie	Access point to Missouri River
E	Elkhorn Crossing	Douglas Co., 1S, 3/4E of Hwy. 36 & County Rd. 92 Junction	River species	23 acres, access point to Elkhorn River, Papio/Missouri NRD lake

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
F	Haworth Park	Douglas Co., Bellevue	Buffalo, carp, catfish, crappie	Access point to Missouri River
G	Platte River Access	Douglas Co., 4W of Valley, SE corner of Hwy. 14 bridge	River species	1.9 acres, access to Platte River
H	Fairbury	Jefferson Co., S edge of Fairbury	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Access point to Little Blue River below Fairbury dam
I	Brownville SRA	Nemaha Co., 1E of Brownville	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, sturgeon	Access to Missouri River, ramp, primitive camping
J	Peru	Nemaha Co., Peru	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, sturgeon	Access point to Missouri River
K	River View Marina SRA	Otoe Co., E of Nebraska City	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, sturgeon	Access to Missouri River, ramp, primitive camping
L	Kinter's Ford WMA	Pawnee Co., S of Humboldt	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Access point to Big Nemaha River
M	Indian Cave SP	Richardson Co., 4E of Barada	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, sturgeon	Access point to Missouri River
N	Rulo	Richardson Co., S Hwy. 159 Bridge near Rulo, River mile 497.8	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, sturgeon	Access point to Missouri River, concrete ramp
O	Blue River SRA	Saline Co., 5N of Dorchester	Carp, channel catfish	Access point to Big Blue River
P	Shady Trail	Saline Co., 1W, 4N, 1/2W, 1/2N of Crete	Carp, channel catfish	Access point to Big Blue River
Q	Hwy. 6 Bridge	Sarpy Co., E of Ashland	River species	Access point to Salt Creek
R	Blue Bluffs	Seward Co., 1/2N, 1E, 2S of Milford	Carp, channel catfish	Access point to Big Blue River
S	Blue Valley	Seward Co., 1/2S of Seward	Carp, channel catfish	Access point to Big Blue River

# CATCH YOURSELF A WINNER!



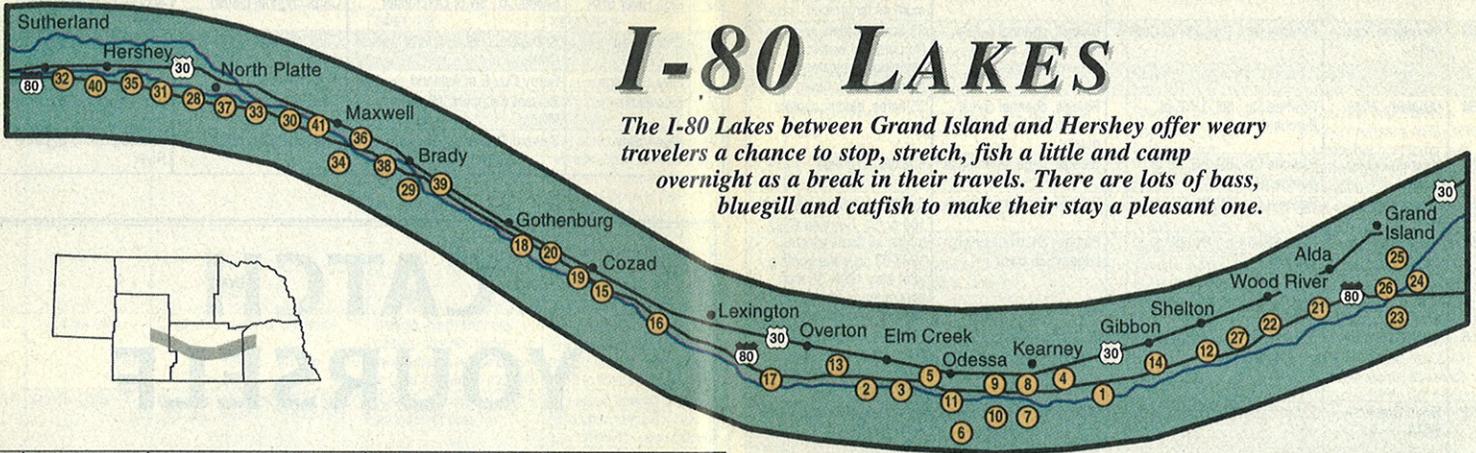
## NEBRASKALand Magazine

Here's a real keeper! NEBRASKALand will keep you in the know on the happenings in Nebraska's great outdoors. Exceptional color photos and entertaining articles highlight the only magazine by, for and about Nebraska and Nebraskans. Subscription includes the news edition, Outdoor Nebraska. Call toll-free: 800-NEB-LAND (632-5263) to use your VISA or MasterCard or check us out on line at [www.ngpc.state.ne.us/](http://www.ngpc.state.ne.us/)



# I-80 LAKES

The I-80 Lakes between Grand Island and Hershey offer weary travelers a chance to stop, stretch, fish a little and camp overnight as a break in their travels. There are lots of bass, bluegill and catfish to make their stay a pleasant one.



NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
1	Bassway Strip WMA	Buffalo Co., Minden Inter., 1/4S on Hwy. 10, left on county road back tracking toward I 80	Bluegill, bullheads, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	Four lakes 1 to 8 acres. Platte River access
2	Blue Hole WMA (West lake)	Buffalo Co., Elm Creek Inter., SW quadrant	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	37 acres Platte River access
3	Blue Hole WMA (East lake)	Buffalo Co., Elm Creek Inter., 1 1/2S, 1 1/2E on canal road	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	34 acres
4	Bufflehead WMA	Buffalo Co., Kearney Inter., 1N to 11th St., 3E, 1S, 1/2E	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	15 acres
5	Coot Shallows WMA	Buffalo Co., Odessa Inter., 3/4N, 13/4W	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, northern pike, yellow perch	12 acres
6	East Odessa WMA	Buffalo Co., Odessa Inter., 4E on S side	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, largemouth bass	7 acres Platte River access
7	Kearney WMA	Buffalo Co., Kearney Inter., SW quadrant	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	20 acres
8	Kea West WMA	Buffalo Co., Kearney Inter., 1N to 11th St., 11/4W, 1S to overpass approach, turn left	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, rock bass	8 acres
9	North Kearney Rest Area DOR	Buffalo Co., Kearney Inter., 13/4W on I 80 to rest stop	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye	7 acres
10	South Kearney Rest Area DOR	Buffalo Co., Kearney Inter., 13/4W on I 80 to rest stop	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, redear	3/4 acre
11	Union Pacific SRA	Buffalo Co., Odessa Inter., NE quadrant	Channel catfish, rock & smallmouth bass	15 acres, primitive camping
12	War Axe SRA	Buffalo Co., Shelton Inter., NE quadrant	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish & largemouth	14 acres, primitive camping
13	West Elm Creek WMA	Buffalo Co., Elm Creek Inter., 5W	Channel catfish, Redear sunfish & smallmouth bass	8 1/2 acres, access across private property
14	Windmill SRA	Buffalo Co., Gibbon Inter., NE quadrant	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, rainbow trout in winter	Four 2-acre lakes, one 7-acre lake, modern camping
15	Cozad WMA	Dawson Co., Cozad Inter., SE quadrant	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, largemouth & rock bass	18 acres
16	Darr WMA	Dawson Co., Darr Inter., NW quadrant	Channel catfish, largemouth, rock & smallmouth bass	13 acres
17	Dogwood WMA	Dawson Co., Lexington Inter., 5 1/2E, 2 1/2S over overpass, 1/4E	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth & rock bass	2 lakes, 5 & 7 acres Platte River access
18	East Gothenburg WMA	Dawson Co., Gothenburg Inter., 1/2S, 1/2E, 3 1/2NE & E	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	15 acres
19	West Cozad WMA	Dawson Co., Cozad Inter., 1N to Hwy. 30, 13/4W, 3/4S across overpass, 1/4N & E	Carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	18 acres
20	Willow Island WMA	Dawson Co., Cozad Inter., 5 1/4W of Cozad on Hwy. 30, 3/4S across overpass	Carp, channel catfish, largemouth bass	24 acres
21	Alda DOR	Hall Co., Alda Inter., NE quadrant	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, largemouth bass	12 acres No boats allowed

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
22	Cheyenne SRA	Hall Co., Wood River Inter., NW quadrant	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	17 acres, primitive camping
23	Grand Island East bound Rest Area	Hall Co., SE of Grand Island Interchange, S of I 80	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, largemouth bass	6 acres No boats allowed
24	Mormon Island DOR (East)	Hall Co., Grand Island Inter., N of I 80, 1 1/2E	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tiger musky	22 acres, access on foot from Mormon Island SRA, 8-inch minimum on bluegill
25	Mormon Island SRA (Middle)	Hall Co., NE quadrant, Grand Island Inter.	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger musky	19 acres, access on foot from Mormon Island, 8-inch minimum on bluegill
26	Mormon Island SRA (West)	Hall Co., NE quadrant, Grand Island Inter.	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	42 acres, modern camping, 8-inch minimum on bluegill
27	West Wood River WMA	Hall Co., Wood River Inter., 1/2 S, 1W, N across overpass, 1/4W	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	15 acres,
28	Birdwood WMA	Lincoln Co., North Platte Inter., 1/2S, 3 1/2W, 1N, NW across overpass	Channel catfish, large mouth & rock bass, perch, rainbow trout in winter	20 acres
29	Brady Interchange WMA	Lincoln Co., Brady Inter., SE quadrant	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	25 acres
30	Crystal Lake	Lincoln Co., Maxwell Inter., 3/4N, 2W, 1/2N, 3 1/2W, 1/2S across overpass	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	6 1/2 acres
31	East Hershey WMA	Lincoln Co., North Platte Inter., 1/2S, 73/4W, 1 1/2N, NE across overpass	Channel catfish, large mouth bass, perch, rock & smallmouth bass	20 acres
32	East Sutherland WMA	Lincoln Co., Hershey Inter., 1/4S, 3W, 1/2N, NE across overpass	Bullheads, channel catfish, largemouth & rock bass, perch	27 acres
33	Fremont Slough WMA	Lincoln Co., North Platte Inter., 1 1/2S, 4 3/4E, 1/4N, right turn across canal, 1/4N under overpass, 1/4E	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	30 acres
34	Fl. McPherson WMA	Lincoln Co., Maxwell Inter., SE quadrant	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, largemouth bass	30 acres, primitive camping
35	Hershey WMA	Lincoln Co., Hershey Inter., SE quadrant	Channel catfish, large mouth, rock & smallmouth bass, perch, pike, walleye	53 acres
36	Maxwell Rest Stop DOR	Lincoln Co., Maxwell Inter., 3E	Bluegill, crappie, largemouth bass	5 acres
37	North Platte City Lake	Lincoln Co., North Platte Inter., SE quadrant	Channel catfish, largemouth & rock bass, walleye	26 acres
38	West Brady WMA	Lincoln Co., Brady Inter., 3/4N, 3W across overpass	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth & smallmouth bass	5 1/2 acres
39	West Gothenburg WMA	Lincoln Co., Brady Inter., 3 1/2E on Hwy. 30, 1/4S across tracks	Channel catfish, largemouth & rock bass	15 acres
40	West Hershey WMA	Lincoln Co., Hershey Inter., 1/2W	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	6 acres, private access
41	West Maxwell WMA	Lincoln Co., Maxwell Inter., 3/4N, 3/4W, 1/4S	Channel catfish, rock & smallmouth bass	7 acres

\*All I-80 lakes are electric motor only unless otherwise indicated.

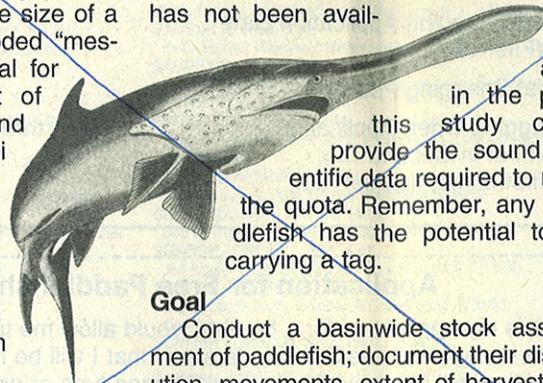
## 🐟 INTERJURISDICTIONAL PADDLEFISH TAGGING STUDY 🐟

Beginning in 1995, the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks joined a 22-state paddlefish tagging project. Any paddlefish has the potential of carrying a specially coded wire microtag. The tag has been placed in the paddle and cannot be seen and can only be recovered with special equipment.

Each tag, although only the size of a fragment of hair, bears a coded "message." This information is vital for the long-term management of paddlefish in Nebraska and across the entire Mississippi River Basin. Tag recovery is a laborious and expensive task. Anglers can assist us by turning in the paddles of harvested paddlefish, allowing us to examine many hundreds more paddlefish for tags than would be otherwise possible.

If you harvest a paddlefish during the archery or snagging seasons, please cut off the last 8 inches of the paddle and turn it in at one of the collection sites posted at the Missouri River boat ramps. In exchange for your cooperation, you will be eligible to win a prize. Prizes awarded in in past drawings have included a new Sea Ark boat, \$100 and \$50 gift certificates from companies such

as Cabela's, fishing tackle and hats. Why, besides a chance for a prize, is it worth your effort to turn in a paddle? Nebraska and South Dakota have based their harvest quota of 1,600 paddlefish per year on data collected exclusively from our joint section of the Missouri River. Because data on paddlefish movement in and out of this river reach has not been avail-



able in the past, this study could provide the sound scientific data required to raise the quota. Remember, any paddlefish has the potential to be carrying a tag.

### Goal

Conduct a basinwide stock assessment of paddlefish; document their distribution, movements, extent of harvest and exploitation by stock; and make observations of their habitat use in Mississippi River Basin mainstem rivers.

### Background

Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Association (MICRA) is an organization of Mississippi River Basin states and their cooperating entities who have agreed to develop efforts to improve

the management of interjurisdictional fisheries resources of the Mississippi River Basin. The association, formed in 1991, has developed a strategic plan for the management of paddlefish and sturgeon species and have begun implementation of that plan. A major component of the plan is to improve the paddlefish information base.

The paddlefish's historical distribution covered most of the larger rivers of the Mississippi River Basin, but little is known about its present distribution, movements or habitats. For example, there is concern that fish being harvested in one state may, in fact, have been produced far away in another state or river where the species may be listed as protected. Such information is essential to develop appropriate management measures to protect and restore the species.

MICRA has developed a special tagging system and is coordinating a multi-state, multi-year effort to assess paddlefish stocks in the basin and document their habitat use and movements on the Missouri River and between states and rivers across the basin.

### Results

In 1995 and 1996 anglers recovered more than 350 tagged paddlefish. Prizes will be awarded in annual drawings.



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## ATTENTION, ADVERTISERS!

Advertising is now accepted in all of the Game and Parks Commission's official regulation publications, the Fishing, Hunting and Boating guides. If you are interested in placing an ad in one or more of these publications, please request a rate card for the guide(s) you need information on. Write to: Advertising Manager, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, PO Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370, or call 402-471-5493. Or e-mail your request to: lhuff@ngpsun.ngpc.state.ne.us

**Get away from the humdrum  
cares of everyday living GO  
FISHING! And share your enjoy-  
ment, take a youngster along.**

# NEBRASKA PADDLEFISH ANGLING TAGS

Major changes in how both the archery and snagging paddlefish seasons were made in 1997. The paddlefish is a limited and precious resource, and it is important that the harvest be closely regulated. However, past management methods did not produce quality fishing. A tag will be required for both archers and snaggers who want to harvest a paddlefish (see "Archery" and Snagging," p. 7).

It is important to remember that one person can have no more than two tags for the archery season and two for the snagging season, or a total of four tags. These tags are non-transferable, they must be in possession while actively pursuing a paddlefish, and they must be immediately attached to the dorsal fin of a harvested paddlefish. Archers will have a 16-day season and snaggers will have a 30-day season.

To apply for a paddlefish tag, the archer or snagger must fill out the form at right. An angler may only apply once during each application period. Anglers who did not have a tag the previous year will receive preference over those who did. Two or more anglers can apply for buddy permits by including all applications in the same envelope and marking the appropriate box on the application. The application dates are as follows:

### Paddlefish Application Dates

Initial Archery Application Dates (First Tag Only)	Postmarked from April 1 - 30
Initial Archery Paddlefish Drawing	May
Archery Open Application (First or Second Tag, first come, first served)	June 1 through end of archery season applications postmarked no earlier than June 1
Initial Snagging Application Date (First Tag Only)	Postmarked from July 1 - 31
Initial Snagging Paddlefish Drawing	August
Snagging Open Application (First or Second Tag, first come, first served)	Sept. 1 through end of snagging season applications postmarked no earlier than Sept. 1)

### Application for Free Paddlefish Harvest Tag

This is my application for a tag that would allow me to harvest one paddlefish during a designated season. I understand that I will be required to complete a report form that will be sent with the tag. *(Please type or print)*

Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street, RR & Box, or PO Box)

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Drivers license number \_\_\_\_\_

If under 16, please enter your age \_\_\_\_\_

#### Type of Paddlefish Tag you are Applying for (check only one):

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Archery tag  | <input type="checkbox"/> First Snagging tag  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Second Archery tag | <input type="checkbox"/> Second Snagging tag |

#### Type of Paddlefish Tag

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single | <input type="checkbox"/> Buddy (please include additional applications) |
|---------------------------------|---|

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that the above information is correct and that I am applying for a free non-transferable paddlefish tag and that I understand that tags that are locked shut prior to attachment, altered or modified shall be void and will not be replaced.

*Send this application to:* Nebraska Game and Parks Commission  
Fisheries Division  
2200 N, 33rd St. PO Box 30370  
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370

## JOIN THE FIGHT!

Help the Nebraska Wildlife Protectors protect wildlife and our natural resources.



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Yes I want to join the fight. Send me information on how I can become a member of the Nebraska Wildlife Protectors.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**REMEMBER...**  
Report all violations.  
Call 1-800-742-SNAP (7627)

## CHANNEL CATFISH BECOMES NEBRASKA'S STATE FISH

Passage of LB106 during the 1997 legislative session authorized the governor of the state of Nebraska to designate official state items, including animals, plants, minerals and other things. On August 26, 1997 Governor Nelson named the channel catfish Nebraska's State Fish. Legislation to honor the channel catfish was championed by the fourth grade class from Valley, Nebraska and sponsored by Senator Carol Hudkins.



# NEBRASKA RECORD FISH

## HOOK AND LINE

**ALEWIFE ... 1.45 oz.**  
Howard Graham, Valentine, Merritt Reservoir, 5/25/94, leech

**AMERICAN EEL ... 5 lbs.**  
George Sweisberger, South Sioux City, Missouri River, 8/2/83, worm

**BASS - KENTUCKY SPOTTED ... 3 lbs. 12 oz.**  
Jerry R. Miller, North Platte, Lincoln Co., I-80 sandpit, 3/12/90

**BASS - LARGEMOUTH ... 10 lbs. 11 oz.**  
Paul Abegglen, Sr., Columbus, sandpit near Columbus, 10/2/65

**BASS - ROCK ... 2 lbs. 4 oz.**  
Edna Zuege, Haigler, Dundy Co. farm pond, 5/6/72

**BASS - SMALLMOUTH ... 6 lbs. 1.11 oz.**  
Wally Allison, North Platte, Merritt Reservoir, 5/17/78

**BASS - STRIPED ... 64 lbs. 15.7/8 oz.**  
Gene Baker, Sutherland, Sutherland Reservoir, 8/17/93

**BASS - STRIPED HYBRID (WIPEE) ... 17 lbs. 14 oz.**  
Reggie Bosshamer, Riverdale, Harlan Co. Res. 6/28/96, slab spoon

**BASS - WHITE ... 5 lbs.**  
Jim Kilcoin, Aurora, Gavins Point tailwaters, 11/12/83

**BASS - YELLOW ... 1 lb. 7 oz.**  
John Ogle, Omaha, Louisville Lake #2, 7/4/93, minnow

**BLUEGILL ... 2 lbs. 13 oz.**  
Gary Falston, Creighton, Grove Lake, 4/26/77, nightcrawler

**BOWFIN ... 8 lbs.**  
Ronald Evenson, Omaha, Dead Timber Lake, 8/7/82, spinner

**BULLHEAD ... 3 lbs. 14 oz.**  
Dick Dunn, Beatrice, Pawnee Co. farm pond, 7/22/74, chicken liver

**BUFFALO - BIGMOUTH ... 44 lbs. 14fi oz.**  
Shayne Miller, Kearney, Johnson Lake inlet, 5/17/91, Mr. Twister

**BUFFALO - BLACK ... 41 lbs.**  
Bob Eaton, Omaha, Carter Lake, 4/29/82, corn

**BUFFALO - SMALLMOUTH ... 45 lbs.**  
Bruce F. Baete, Beatrice, Big Blue River, 6/15/84, nightcrawler

**BURBOT ... 6 lbs. 5 oz.**  
Richard Smith, Coleridge, Gavins Point Dam, 4/3/94, minnow

**CARP ... 33 lbs. 12 oz.**  
Toni C. Baete, Beatrice, Gage Co. farm pond, 5/12/83, dough ball

**CARP - BIGHEAD ... 33 lbs. 12 oz.**  
John Sutherland, Max, North Platte River Keith Co., 7/1/95, crawdad

**CARP - GRASS CARP ... 40 lbs. 8 oz.**  
Alan David, Goodland KS, Rock Creek Lake, 5/4/97

**CATFISH - BLUE ... 100 lbs. 8 oz.**  
Raynold Promes, Wynot, Missouri River near Wynot, 11/19/70, snagging

**CATFISH - CHANNEL ... 41 lbs. 8 oz.**  
John Cuning, Valentine, Merritt Reservoir, 7/26/85, nightcrawler

**CATFISH - FLATHEAD ... 80 lbs.**  
William Swanson, Silver Creek, Loup Power Canal near Genoa, 6/14/88, carp

**CATFISH - STONE ... 4 oz.**  
Richard Schmidt, Norfolk, Elkhorn River, 8/12/93, nightcrawler

**CRAPPIE - BLACK ... 4 lbs. 4 oz.**  
Mark Dohn, Omaha, sandpit, Douglas Co., 4/26/97, minnow

**CRAPPIE - WHITE ... 4 lbs. 1 oz.**  
Elsie M. Jensen, Broken Bow, Red Willow Reservoir, 5/18/80, Swedish minnow

**FRESHWATER DRUM ... 28 lbs. 4 oz.**  
Vincent Prazak, Clarkson, Missouri River below Gavins Point Dam, 10/1/71, snagging

**GAR - LONGNOSE ... 20 lbs. 7 oz.**  
John Ernst, Columbus, Wagner's Lake (Platte County), 7/14/91, jitterbug

**GAR - SHORTNOSE ... 19 lbs.**  
Ronald Hardin, Omaha, lake in Cass Co., 6/29/74, sunfish

**GIZZARD SHAD ... 4 lbs. 7/11 oz.**  
Joe Rinbauer, Alliance, Box Butte Reservoir, 3/26/89, silver spoon

**GOLDEN SHINER ... 14 oz.**  
Tom Rosenkrans, Omaha, Two Rivers SRA, 4/10/92, corn

**GOLDEYE ... 3 lbs. 15fi oz.**  
Gary Kumm, Bloomfield, Lewis & Clark, 8/13/88, minnow

**GRASS PICKEREL ... 5fi oz.**  
Trevor Bailey, Norfolk, Cameron Lake, Rock Co., 12/20/96, minnow

**MUSKELLUNGE ... 41 lbs. 8 oz.**  
Jared Haddix, Sidney, Merritt Reservoir, 8/9/92, shad rap

**MUSKY - TIGER ... 26 lbs. 8 oz.**  
Steve Keys, Cheyenne, WY, Oliver Reservoir, 5/19/95, Panther Martin

**NORTHERN PIKE ... 30 lbs. 1 oz.**  
Steve Morris, Scottsbluff, Terry's Pil, Scottsbluff Co. 10/07/97

**PADDLEFISH ... 91 lbs. 8 oz.**  
Warren Yelkin, Lincoln, Gavins Point Dam tailwaters, 11/18/78, snagging

**PERCH - SACRAMENTO ... 2 lbs. 8 oz.**  
John A. Bush, Valentine, Clear Lake on Valentine National Wildlife Refuge, 6/20/71, spinner

**PERCH - WHITE ... 2 lb.**  
Bryan Juhas, Omaha, sandpit, Sarpy Co., 5/14/96, nightcrawler

**PERCH - YELLOW ... 2 lbs. 10fi oz.**  
John D. Skrdla, Stuart, Hackberry Lake, 2/11/84

**PUMPKINSEED ... 1/1 oz.**  
Jim Johnson, Minatare, Box Butte Reservoir, 9/23/87, worm/nightcrawler

Mitchell Pebley, Alliance, Box Butte Reservoir, 3/19/93, teardrop/waxworm

**QUILLBACK ... 12 lbs.**  
Norman Grabenstein, North Platte, Lake Maloney, 5/3/87

**SALMON - CHINOOK ... 2 lbs. 8 oz.**  
Rick Heppner, Norfolk, Lewis & Clark Lake, 9/14/85, jig

**SALMON - NORO ... 5 lbs. 12 oz.**  
Lyle Fry, Gering, Lake McConaughy, 7/13/71, flatfish

**SALMON - KOKANE ... 4 lbs. 2 oz.**  
Neal Dunbar, North Platte, Lake McConaughy, 7/11/71

**SAUGER ... 8 lbs. 5 oz.**  
Betty Tepner, Plainview, Missouri River near Niobrara, 10/22/61

**SAUGEYE ... 7 lbs. 10 oz.**  
James Chollar, Jr., Bellwood, Red Cedar Lake, Saunders Co., 6/11/95, white 1/8 oz. twister

**SHOVELNOSE STURGEON ... 4 lbs. 4 oz.**  
Sean D. Gellatly, Plattsmouth, Platte River, Cass Co., 5/15/96, nightcrawler

**SKIPJACK HERRING ... 2 lbs.**  
Daniel Kaup, Norfolk, Gavins Point Dam, 9/20/92

**BLUE - SUCKER ... 18 lbs. 14 oz.**  
Bob J. Thoen, Hartington, Missouri River, 11/16/86

**SUNFISH - GREEN ... 1 lb. 4 oz.**  
Jeff Knajdl, Riverdale, Buffalo County sandpit, 7/13/80

**SUNFISH - HYBRID ... 1 lb. 15 oz.**  
Jane Bottorff-Eng, Gillette, WY, farm pond, 5/30/93, nightcrawler

**SUNFISH - ORANGE SPOTTED ... 0.34 oz.**  
Gary Wulf, Central City, Hamilton County sandpit, 6/5/94

**SUNFISH - REDEAR ... 1 lb. 10 oz.**  
Charles I. Jones, Eckley, CO, Rock Creek Lake, 6/8/90, worm

**TROUT - BROOK ... 5 lbs. 1 oz.**  
Joe Gray, North Platte, Pawnee Springs near North Platte, 11/3/65

**TROUT - BROWN ... 20 lbs. 1 oz.**  
Denny Doolittle, Valentine, Snake River, 7/26/73, grasshopper

**TROUT - CUTTHROAT ... 5 lbs. 7 oz.**  
Arthur Larsen, Evergreen, CO, Lake Ogallala, 9/18/92, jig

**TROUT - RAINBOW ... 14 lbs. 2 oz.**  
Frank Alo, North Platte, canal, Keith Co. 3/18/75, nightcrawler

**WALLEYE ... 16 lbs. 2 oz.**  
Herbert J. Cutshall, Ogallala, Lake McConaughy, 7/5/71, red thin fin

## BOW AND ARROW

**BASS - LARGEMOUTH ... 8 lbs. 14 oz.**  
Jerry Gramsick, Scottsbluff, sandpit near Scottsbluff, 6/18/66

**BASS - ROCK ... 1 lb. 6 oz.**  
Harlan L. Worden, North Platte, Interstate 80 lake in Lincoln Co., 5/8/72

**BASS - SMALLMOUTH ... 3 lbs.**  
Michael Lange, Gibbon, Interstate 80 lake in Buffalo County, 6/5/71

**BASS - STRIPED ... 8 lbs. 5 oz.**  
Michael Dorris, Arthur, Lake McConaughy, 4/14/73

**BASS - STRIPED HYBRID ... 8 lbs. 10 oz.**  
Ryan Othling, Lincoln, Branched Oak Reservoir, 10/5/97

**BASS - WHITE ... 3 lbs.**  
Lonnie Miller, Hastings, Harlan County Reservoir, 4/14/73

**BLUEGILL ... 1 lb. 6 oz.**  
David Clancy, Hastings, Webster County farm pond, 7/1/95

**BUFFALO - BIGMOUTH ... 53 lbs.**  
Mark Millet, Fremont, sandpit, 5/27/93

**BULLHEAD ... 1 lb. 11 oz.**  
Cory Hardin, Rushville, Smith Lake, 7/13/78

**CARP ... 38 lbs. 8 oz.**  
Ronald A. Meyers, Columbus, Platte County lake, 5/9/85

**CARP - BIGHEAD ... 56 lbs. 4 oz.**  
Brent Denniston, Peru, Missouri River, 5/24/94

**CARP - GRASS CARP ... 46 lbs.**  
Jason Redman, Polk, Hamilton Co. sandpit, 5/5/94

**CARP - HYBRID GRASS ... 43 lbs. 3 oz.**  
Gary Martin, Jr., Overland Park, KS, Cass County sandpit, 6/13/92

**RIVER CARPSUCKER ... 7 lbs. 4 oz.**  
Quinton Wagoner, Broadwater, North Platte River, 6/1/89

**CATFISH - CHANNEL ... 22 lbs. 2 oz.**  
John Clancy, Hastings, Harlan Co. Reservoir, 7/23/96

**CATFISH - FLATHEAD ... 46 lbs. 2 oz.**  
John Clancy, Hastings, Republican River, Webster Co. 8/30/95

**CRAPPIE - BLACK ... 1 lb. 14 oz.**  
Tim McQuade, North Platte, Shoupe Lake, Cherry County, 6/1/74

**CRAPPIE - WHITE ... 2 lbs. 13 oz.**  
David Medinger, Bellwood, sandpit in Butler County, 6/2/73

**FRESHWATER DRUM ... 20 lbs.**  
Gerald Tramp, Crofton, Gavins Point tailwaters, 6/15/82

**GAR - LONGNOSE ... 22 lbs. 12 oz.**  
Lonnie Goble, Hastings, Willow Bend, Hamilton County, 6/20/95

**GOLDEYE ... 2 lbs. 1 oz.**  
Bill Schwarting, Fremont, Platte River, Dodge County, 5/17/85

**MUSKY - TIGER ... 13 lbs. 14 oz.**  
Brent J. Wesemann, Pierce, Willow Creek Reservoir, 7/3/88

**PADDLEFISH ... 86 lbs.**  
Gene R. Haswell, Omaha, sandpit in Cass County, 4/16/72

**PERCH - YELLOW ... 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, 7/14/84

**GIZZARD SHAD ... 3 lbs. 11 oz.**  
Roger DeKok, Kearney, Phelps County sandpit, 6/4/92

**SUCKER - WHITE ... 3 lbs. 6 oz.**  
Robert Jacobs, Oshkosh, Lake Ogallala, Keith Co., 6/20/97

**SUNFISH - GREEN ... 8 oz.**  
Marty Guthrie, McCook, sandpit near Bartley, 7/22/76

**TROUT - CUTTHROAT ... 2 lbs. 3 oz.**  
Todd Burnham, Hastings, Platte River (Keith County), 8/24/91

**TROUT - BROWN ... 9 lbs. 13 oz.**  
John Whittle, Dutton, Klein Fish Hatchery Lake, 7/1/90

**TROUT - RAINBOW ... 11 lbs.**  
Kevin Pierce, Ogallala, NPPD Canal in Keith County, 10/19/86

**WALLEYE ... 11 lbs. 1 oz.**  
Bradley M. Heck, Brady, Jeffrey Reservoir, 4/11/70

**UNDERWATER POWERED SPEARFISHING**

**BASS - KENTUCKY SPOTTED ... 2 lbs. 7 oz.**  
William Thompson, North Platte, Lincoln Co. sandpit, 8/17/73

**BASS - LARGEMOUTH ... 7 lbs. 4 oz.**  
Richard Buckley, McCook, Red Willow Co. sandpit, 7/6/88

**BASS - ROCK ... 1 lb. 4 oz.**  
Terry Robbins, Alliance, Box Butte Reservoir, 7/10/82

**BASS - SMALLMOUTH ... 5 lbs. 12fi oz.**  
Dennis Girard, Alliance, Box Butte Reservoir, 7/6/97

**BASS - STRIPED ... 25 lbs. 8 oz.**  
Mark Picker, Loveland, CO, Lake McConaughy, 7/1/89

**BASS - WHITE ... 1lb. 13 oz.**  
Mark Wieszorek, North Platte, Lake McConaughy, 7/20/97

**BLUEGILL ... 15 oz.**  
Anthony Nason, Alliance, Box Butte Reservoir, 7/3/93

**BLUEGILL X GREEN SUNFISH HYBRID ... 12 oz.**  
James Mathew Weekly, Omaha, Lake Aero, Douglas Co., 1/17/97

**BUFFALO - BLACK ... 27 lbs.**  
Matthew B. Donelan, Omaha, Saunders Co. sandpit, 5/22/82

**BUFFALO - SMALLMOUTH ... 13 lbs. 4 oz.**  
Vincent Willis, Silver Creek, Merrick Co. sandpit, 7/5/82

**CARP ... 36 lbs.**  
Steven Bixenman, Colby, KS, Hitchcock Co. sandpit, 6/7/88

**CATFISH - CHANNEL ... 25 lbs. 10 oz.**  
Anthony Nason, Alliance, Box Butte Reservoir 7/7/97

**CRAPPIE - BLACK ... 2 lbs. 2 oz.**  
Hershel D. Smith, Lexington, Dawson Co. sandpit, 12/19/82

**MUSKELLUNGE/TIGER MUSKY ... 13 lbs. 9 oz.**  
Delbert Babilzke, Garden City, KS, Lake McConaughy 8/18/90

**FRESHWATER DRUM ... 1 lbs. 3 oz.**  
James Mathew Weekly, Omaha, Douglas Co sandpit, 7/1/97

**GOLDEYE ... 1 lb. 5fi oz.**  
Geo. (Mike) Fritton, Silver Creek, Merrick County sandpit, 7/5/82

**PERCH - YELLOW ... 1 lb. 11fi 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

**GIZZARD SHAD ... 2 lbs. 14 oz.**  
Jerry Sack, North Platte, Lake McConaughy, 7/8/89

**SALMON - KOKANE ... 4 lbs. 2 oz.**  
John Williams, Omaha, Lake McConaughy, 8/26/72

**SUCKER - WHITE ... 3 lbs. 13 oz.**  
Bill Kilmek, Burwell, Loup County sandpit, 10/4/86

**SUCKER - RIVER CARPSUCKER ... 6 lbs. 13 oz.**  
Maryln Erickson, Rapid City, SD, Lake McConaughy, 7/16/89

**TROUT - BROWN ... 4 lbs. 8 oz.**  
Richard B. Roy, Alliance, Box Butte Reservoir, 8/29/74

**TROUT - RAINBOW ... 3 lbs. 9 oz.**  
Michael Bansall, Grand Island, Lake McConaughy, 7/7/83

**WALLEYE ... 13 lbs. 11 oz.**  
Richard Fish, Kearney, Lake McConaughy, 7/6/70

**SURFACE SPEARFISHING**

**BUFFALO - SMALLMOUTH ... 7 lbs.**  
Don Merrill, Omaha, Burt Co. Canal, 7/19/97

**CARP ... 11 lbs. 8 oz.**  
Chase Tabke, Maxwell, So. Channel Platte River, Lincoln Co., 5/17/97

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

**GIZZARD SHAD ... 1 lbs. 15 oz.**  
Robert Adonis, Alliance, Bridgeport SRA, Morrill Co., 6/27/84

**RIVER CARPSUCKER ... 3 lbs. 9 oz.**  
Mathew Dorris, Lemoyne, Lake McConaughy, 6/14/97

## 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 official. The fish may be gutted and frozen, but the head, fins and skin must remain intact until the species has been verified.
- Angler must display a Nebraska fishing permit to the individual verifying the application.
- Application forms are available from any Commission office or permit vendor.

## 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 for the award.
- The catch must be verified. This may be done by an employee of the Game and Parks Commission, a permit vendor, a witness or a photograph.
- Anglers 16 years of age or older must possess a current Nebraska fishing permit and enter the permit number on the application.
- **Only fish immediately released are eligible for an award based on length. Any fish kept in a livewell or on a stringer must meet the minimum weight requirement to receive an award.**
- **Anglers may receive only one award based on weight per year for each species. There is no limit on the number of catch and release awards.**
- Anglers who release a Master Angler fish will receive a "Catch and Release Master Angler" pin in addition to the Master Angler certificate.
- **Minimum weights must be met to qualify for a Master Angler Award for a harvested fish.**
- **Minimum lengths are used strictly for Master Angler Awards for a individual fish that was caught and released.**

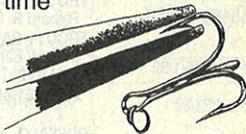
## CATCH AND RELEASE WORKS

Minimum lengths listed for Master Angler Awards are intended to promote catch-and-release fishing. While fish populations are renewable resources and keeping some fish is good, big fish are rare. By releasing large fish, you are helping to maintain our future fishery resources.

Catch-and-release fishing only works when the fish you release survive. By using proper techniques, you give fish the best chance of survival. Here are a few guidelines:

- Wet hands and keep fish in water as much as possible when handling and removing the hook.
- Remove the hook gently. Do not squeeze the fish or put your fingers into the gills.
- Barbless hooks reduce handling time and make it simpler to remove the hook, often by backing it from the fish's mouth without lifting the fish from the water.
- Release the fish only after its equilibrium is maintained. If necessary, hold fish gently upright until it can swim away.
- Do not play the fish to exhaustion.
- Removal of deeply imbedded hooks by use of a hemostat or hook removal device is presently considered the best method to ensure higher survival of released fish. Modern hooks require a longer time period to rust so their presence can result in delayed mortality.

### Crimping barsbs



## The minimum weight and length requirements are:

American Eel . . . . .	24 in. or 1 lb.	Gar . . . . .	40 in. or 8 lbs.
Largemouth Bass . . . . .	20 in. or 5 lbs.	Goldeye . . . . .	16 in. or 1 fi lbs.
Spotted Bass . . . . .	18 in. or 3 lbs.	Muskellunge/Tiger Musky . . . . .	35 in. or 10 lbs.
Rock Bass . . . . .	11 in. or 1 lb.	Paddlefish . . . . .	*45 in.
Smallmouth Bass . . . . .	18 in. or 3 lbs.	Yellow Perch . . . . .	13 in. or 1/1 lbs.
Striped Bass . . . . .	32 in. or 10 lbs.	White Perch . . . . .	12 in or 1 lb.
Striper Hybrid . . . . .	20 in. or 5 lbs.	Northern Pike . . . . .	36 in or 10 lbs.
White Bass . . . . .	17 in. or 2 fi lbs	Sauger . . . . .	.21 in. or 3 lbs.
Bluegill . . . . .	.10 in. or 1 lb.	Saugeye . . . . .	.23 in. or 5 lbs.
Buffalo . . . . .	.26 in. or 10 lbs.	Shovelnose Sturgeon . . . . .	28 in. or 2 fi lbs.
Bullhead . . . . .	.15 in. or 2 lbs.	Sucker . . . . .	10 in. or 1 lb.
Burbot . . . . .	.16 in. or 1 lb.	Sunfish . . . . .	10 in. or 1 lb.
Carp . . . . .	32 in. or 15 lbs.	Brook Trout . . . . .	14 in. or 1 lb.
Blue Catfish . . . . .	40 in. or 30 lbs.	Brown Trout . . . . .	22 in. or 4 lbs.
Channel Catfish . . . . .	30 in. or 12 lbs.	Rainbow Trout . . . . .	23 in. or 5 lbs.
Flathead Catfish . . . . .	32 in. or 15 lbs		
Crappie . . . . .	15 in. or 2 lbs.		
Drum . . . . .	22 in. or 5 lbs.		

\*From front of eye to natural fork of tail

## MASTER ANGLER / STATE RECORD APPLICATION

Please print legibly. See rules.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Fishing Permit No. \_\_\_\_\_ Under 16 \_\_\_\_\_

Species of fish \_\_\_\_\_

Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. \_\_\_\_\_ oz. Length: \_\_\_\_\_ in.

Date caught \_\_\_\_\_ Released: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Name of lake or stream \_\_\_\_\_

County where located \_\_\_\_\_

Method of fishing: \_\_\_\_\_ Hook & line \_\_\_\_\_ Archery  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Surface spearfishing \_\_\_\_\_ Underwater spearfishing

Type of bait or lure \_\_\_\_\_

Where weighed or measured \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Weight or length witnessed by:

- Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_
- Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_
- Notary Public (for State Record only) \_\_\_\_\_
- Game & Parks Comm. official species verification (for State Record only) \_\_\_\_\_

Species may be verified after State Record application is received by the Game and Parks Commission. See State Record rules.

Mail to: Fisheries Division, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370

### RECORD FISH DISPLAY

If you take a state-record game fish by hook-and-line, you may wish to donate it to the Game and Parks Commission for display at Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium near Gretna. The Commission will mount your 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 also may contact the Aquarium.

## FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES

### Fish Tissue Testing Program

Nebraska's Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), with assistance from the Game and Parks Commission, has collected and analyzed fish tissue samples from our lakes and streams since 1977. In 1990, DEQ adopted an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) method of assessing human risks related to the consumption of fish flesh. The EPA standards prompted the Nebraska Department of Health to issue several fish consumption advisories over the past seven years. There are 36 advisories statewide, including 16 lakes and 20 segments on 15 different streams. Since 1990, over 425 fish samples have been analyzed from collections on 53 stream segments and 59 lakes. The sample targets one predator species, usually a largemouth bass or walleye, and one bottom-feeder, either a channel catfish or common carp. So, these samples do not analyze all the major game fish species present in a specific water or the various sizes within a species.

### How Do We Compare With Surrounding States?

Nebraska has one of the most aggressive fish consumption advisory programs in the Midwest, testing for a variety of contaminants. Wyoming and South Dakota do not have fish tissue testing programs, so no advisories are issued. Differences among states in the way advisories are issued may lead to some confusion. The fact that Nebraska issued more advisories than neighboring states does not indicate poor water quality; rather it shows more stringent assessment techniques. It's unfortunate that a nationwide testing standard hasn't been adopted for uniform comparisons.

### What Are Nebraska's Primary Contaminants?

Three main contaminants show up in samples across the state — polychlorinated biphenyl compounds (PCBs), dieldrin (pesticide), and organic mercury. PCBs and dieldrin are both known carcinogens, while mercury poses risk of developmental problems in the unborn, infants and children.

PCBs are a class of aromatic compounds produced and marketed in the U.S. since 1929. Before 1971, they were used as plasticizers, heat transfer fluids, hydraulic fluids, lubricants and wax extenders. Since 1971, use has been limited to enclosed electrical systems (capacitors and transformers). U.S. production of PCBs was discontinued in the 1977; importation was greatly reduced in 1979 and stopped completely in 1982. Before 1979 disposal of PCB compounds was not subject to federal regulation. Of the approximately 1.25 billions pounds pur-

chased by U.S. industry, about 60% are still in use in capacitors, 36% are in landfills or dumps, and about 4% had been destroyed by incineration and degraded in the environment.

Dieldrin was once widely applied to cornfields for pest control and has been used to treat wood products for termite protection. Legal use of dieldrin in the U.S. was halted in 1974, except for use in subterranean termite control. In 1985, importing dieldrin ceased, and in 1987 its registration was canceled. Dieldrin is extremely persistent and remains in the environment. This carcinogen is believed to emanate from both agricultural and urban run-off.

Mercury is a naturally-occurring element, present at low levels in rocks, soil, sediment, air and water. In addition to natural sources, mercury can be released into the environment from mining operations, sanitary landfills, fossil fuel combustion, municipal incineration, industrial waste discharges and from certain fungicides. Mercury occurs in aquatic systems in three forms: elemental (metallic), organic, and inorganic (mercurous and mercuric salts) compounds. The organic form is the most toxic to both aquatic organisms and humans. In the environment, elemental mercury is oxidized to inorganic mercury which is then converted into the organic form (methyl mercury) by certain microorganisms. It poses a threat to humans, since it is stored in the tissues of aquatic organisms in the methylated form. Fish absorb methyl mercury from aquatic organisms they eat and the water they live in as it passes over their gills. Predacious fish such as walleye, northern pike and largemouth bass reside at the top of the aquatic food chain and tend to exhibit higher mercury concentrations than less predacious fish. Long-term exposure, even to small concentrations, will lead to higher concentrations in the flesh. Therefore, larger fish will typically have higher mercury concentrations than smaller fish.

While mercury is not a carcinogen, elevated levels in fish tissue is a concern, since it is known to cause developmental problems in unborn, infant, and young children. Based on scientific studies, Nebraska has adopted an "action level" of 0.25 mg/kg for mercury in fish tissue for women of child bearing age, infants and children under 15 years. The action level for mercury in Nebraska for the general population is 0.35 mg/kg. There are no known methods to effectively reduce mercury contamination in fish tissue. However, some studies underway are examining reduction of methyl mercury through a fillet marinade process prior to cooking.

### What Else Is Tested?

All fish tissue samples are tested for 4 heavy metals and 18 chemicals, including such well known contaminants as lead, chlordane, DDT and diazinon. None of these have been sampled in levels sufficient to prompt an advisory.

### How Great Is The Cancer Risk?

Advisories for high levels of cancer-causing chemicals (PCBs and dieldrin) in fish are issued when concentrations reach a risk level of 1 in 10,000. That means under the worst-case scenario, the contamination would cause one additional case of cancer per 10,000 people eating those fish. **Theoretically, each of those 10,000 people would have to eat five ounces of fish from an advisory area every week for 70 years to produce that one case of cancer.**

Mercury is not a cancer risk but, because of the way it reacts in the human body, advisories for mercury encourage all consumers to reduce fish consumption from waters listed, especially pregnant and nursing women, infants and children under 15. **These advisories target consumers who eat fish caught from advisory waters as a major part of their total diet.**

### What Waters Are Contaminated and Which Are Safe?

All bodies of water have not yet been tested because of budget constraints. Current advisories involve 16 lakes and 15 rivers/streams/canals across the state (see advisory chart). On the bright side, 40 lakes and 25 rivers/streams have received a clean bill of health (see p. 31).

### So, What's the Bottom Line?

Fish are an excellent source of protein and have been shown to have real health benefits, such as preventing heart diseases. Consumers should not eliminate fish from their diet, but should be aware of the advisories and not eat large amounts of fish from listed waters. Additionally, most chemical contaminants can be reduced by preparing the fish properly. Remove the skin and trim the fat from the belly flap area, the lateral lines and along the back to help reduce chemical concentrations. Broiling, grilling and baking are the best methods of removing additional fat in cooking. Mercury is distributed throughout a fish's muscle tissue (fillets), rather than in the fat and skin. So, the only way to reduce mercury intake is to reduce the amount of contaminated fish consumed.

### Additional Information

For more information, contact the following Nebraska agencies: Department of Environmental Quality: 402-471-4249; Game and Parks Commission: 402-471-5553, or Department of Health and Human Services: 402-471-0507,

## TESTED AND FOUND SAFE

### Rivers/Streams/Canals

- Big Blue River at Crete & Seward
- Cedar River at Cedar Rapids
- Loup River at Columbus
- Rock Creek at Waverly
- Shell Creek at Schuyler
- Wahoo Creek at Ashland
- Platte River at Cozad, Grand Island & Wood River
- Wood River at Chapman
- Aowa Creek at Ponca
- Bazile Creek at Niobrara
- Bow Creek at Wynot
- Muddy Creek at Preston
- N. Fork Big Nemaha River at Salem
- S. Fork Big Nemaha River at Salem
- Weeping Water Creek at Union
- Missouri River at Lynch
- Niobrara River at Verdel & Valentine (NWR)
- Long Pine Creek at Camp Witness
- North Platte River at Bridgeport, Hershey, Lewellen, McGrew, Melbeta & North Platte
- Frenchman River at Champion
- Medicine Creek at Stockville
- Republican River at McCook
- Keystone Canal at H-2 Check Dam
- Lake Maloney Outlet Canal at North Platte
- South Platte River at Big Springs, North Platte, Ogallala & above Tri-County Diversion

### Lakes/Reservoirs

- Big Indian Reservoir at Wymore
- Rockford Lake east of Beatrice
- Goose Lake in Holt County
- Willow Creek Lake near Pierce
- Calamus Reservoir NW of Burwell
- Sherman County Reservoir at Loup City
- Babcock Lake at Columbus
- Bluestem Lake at Sprague
- Branched Oak Lake at Malcolm
- Conestoga Lake at Emerald
- Holmes Lake at Lincoln
- Oak Lake at Lincoln
- Olive Creek Reservoir at Martell
- Pawnee Lake west of Lincoln
- Wagon Train Lake at Hickman
- Yankee Hill Lake SW of Lincoln
- Elwood Reservoir at Elwood
- Fort McPherson Lake at Maxwell
- Gallagher Canyon Reservoir at Cozad
- Hord Lake at Central City
- Johnson Lake at Lexington
- Buckskin Hills Lake at Newcastle
- Chalkrock Reservoir at Fordyce
- DeSoto Lake at Blair
- Glen Cunningham Lake at Omaha
- Lewis & Clark Lake north of Crofton
- Summit Lake at Tekamah
- Burchard Lake at Burchard
- Hackberry Lake SSW of Valentine
- Valentine Mill Pond NW of Valentine
- Lake Minatare NE of Scottsbluff
- Island Lake 40 N of Oshkosh
- Cochran Lake at Melbeta
- Enders Reservoir at Imperial
- Swanson Lake at Trenton
- Bennett Reservoir at Chappel
- Gerald Gentleman Pond at Sutherland
- Hershey Lake at Hershey
- Korty Diversion Pond at Sutherland
- Lake Maloney at North Platte

*lake guide*

# LIFETIME PERMITS



## The Gift That Keeps Giving

A Nebraska lifetime hunting or fishing permit is the most valuable gift you can give a special friend or relative. It represents a lifetime of exciting and pleasurable outdoor experiences.

There are three types of lifetime permits currently available to Nebraska residents. The lifetime fishing permit is \$257.50; the lifetime hunting permit is \$224.00; and the lifetime combination hunting and fishing permit is \$448.00.

As the name implies, the permit is valid for the life of the person to whom it is issued, even if the holder moves from the state and returns occasionally to hunt or fish. But, only Nebraska residents are eligible for lifetime permits.

Not included in the permit cost are special stamps that must be purchased annually — the Nebraska Habitat Stamp and federal Migratory Game Bird Stamp. The new Nebraska Aquatic Habitat Stamp is not required of Lifetime Permit holders. Big-game permits for hunting deer, antelope or wild turkey also must be purchased each year independent of the lifetime license.

It's easy to purchase a Nebraska lifetime hunting, fishing or combination permit. Simply obtain an application form from any Game and Parks Commission office or from any of 1,100 permit vendors across the state. Fill out the application and mail it with the proper amount to Game and Parks Commission, PO Box 30370, Lincoln, NE. 68503-0370.

A Lifetime Permit is the perfect birthday, Christmas or graduation gift. It truly is a gift that will last a lifetime.

lake guide

## NEBRASKA FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES

At this time, there are no advisories that limit total consumption!

Water Body	Location	Size	Fish Species Sampled	General Population	Sub-population	Pollutant of Concern	Year Issued
W.Fork Big Blue River	Dorchester	41.0 M	Carp	x		Dieldrin	1993
Elkhorn River	Waterloo & Norfolk	124.9 M	Carp	x		Dieldrin, PCBs	1993 & 1994
Beaver Creek	Albion	30.9 M	Ch. catfish	x		Dieldrin	1993
Platte River	North Bend to Missouri River	32.5 M	Carp	x		PCBs, Dieldrin	1993 & 1994
Missouri River	Omaha to Rulo	139.8 M	Ch. catfish	x		PCBs, Dieldrin	1993
Papillion Creek	Bellevue	8.2 M	Carp	x		PCBs, Dieldrin	1993
W. Papillion Creek	Ralston	7.9 M	Carp	x		Dieldrin, PCBs	1993
Big Nemaha River	Preston	20.0 M	Carp	x		PCBs, Dieldrin	1993
South Platte River	Paxton	14.6 M	Carp	x		PCBs	1993
Carter Lake	Omaha	300 A	Lm. bass	x		PCBs	1993
Lake McConaughy	Ogallala	35,000 A	Ch. catfish	x		PCBs	1993
Merritt Reservoir	Valentine	2,905 A	Lm. bass	x		Mercury	1993
Sutherland Reservoir	Sutherland	3,000 A	Ch. catfish	x		PCBs	1993
Oliver Reservoir	Kimball	240 A	Lm. bass	x		Mercury	1993
Salt Creek	Lincoln to Platte River	37.1 M	Carp	x		PCBs, Dieldrin	1994
Box Butte Reservoir	Hemingford	1,600 A	N. pike	x		Mercury	1994
Loup R. Power Canal	Genoa	15.2 M	Carp	x		PCBs	1995
Midway Canyon Reservoir	Cozad	500 A	Carp	x		PCBs	1995
Lake Ogallala	Ogallala	435 A	Ch. catfish	x		PCBs, Dieldrin	1995
Sutherland Outlet Canal	Sutherland	19.2 M	Ch. catfish	x		PCBs	1995
Jeffrey Reservoir	Brady	1,100 A	Ch. catfish	x		PCBs	1995
Liberty Cove lake	Lawrence	36 A	Lm. bass	x		Mercury	1995
Wehrspann Lake	Millard	245 A	Lm. bass		x	Mercury	1995
Zorinsky Lake	Omaha	255 A	Lm. bass	x		Mercury	1995
Little Blue River	Steele City	30.4 M	Carp	x		Mercury	1996
Czechland Lake	Prague	85 A	Carp	x		Mercury	1996
Skyview Lake	Norfolk	50 A	Lm. bass	x		Mercury	1996
Crystal Cove Lake	S. Sioux City	30 A	Lm. bass		x	Mercury	1997
Elkhorn River	O'Neill	55.3 M	Carp		x	Mercury	1997
Maskenthine Lake	Stanton	96 A	Lm. bass		x	Mercury	1997
Logan Creek	Lyons	32.3 M	Ch. catfish	x		PCBs, Dieldrin	1997
Omaha Creek	Homer	14.3 M	Ch. catfish	x		PCBs, Dieldrin	1997

**LIMITED CONSUMPTION:** Although fish consumption advisories have been issued for the water bodies listed here, please note that a person consuming an occasional meal of fish (less than one 5-ounce serving per week) from these waters is not considered to be subject to a significant health risk.

**KEY**  
**General Population.** = Advisory applies to all individuals  
**Sub-population.** = Advisory applies to women of child-bearing age, infants and children less than 15 years of age  
**M** = River or stream miles;  
**A** = Acres

