

GAME, FORESTATION AND
PARKS COMMISSION
STATE OF NEBRASKA

REGULATIONS ON FISH
1949

The following regulations are prescribed by the Game, Forestation and Parks Commission, State of Nebraska, in accordance with Section 37-301, Revised Statutes, State of Nebraska, 1943, as amended by Session Laws, State of Nebraska, 1945 and 1947, and in accordance with Section 81-6505, Revised Statutes, State of Nebraska, 1943, and are effective from February 1, 1949 until further change by the Commission.

TROUT

OPEN SEASON: April 1 to November 1.
AREA OPEN: Entire State except streams closed (See below under Restricted Areas).
SIZE LIMIT: No size limit.
DAILY BAG LIMIT: Twenty pounds plus one trout but not more than ten trout.
POSSESSION LIMIT ANYTIME: Twenty pounds plus one trout but not more than ten trout.

BASS

(Large Mouth or Small Mouth or both)

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

WHITE BASS

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

CRAPPIE

(Black [Calico bass] or White or both)

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

SUNFISH

(Bluegill, Green or Pumpkinseed or all)

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

ROCK BASS

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

BULLHEADS

OPEN SEASON: No closed season.
AREA OPEN: Entire State.
SIZE LIMIT: No size limit.
DAILY BAG LIMIT: 15—Except in Cherry, Brown and Rock Counties where the limit is 25.
POSSESSION LIMIT ANYTIME: 15—Except in Cherry, Brown and Rock Counties where the limit is 25.

CATFISH

(Channel, Blue or Mud [Yellow] or all)

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

CATFISH (Commercial Fishing)

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

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

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

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

PERCH

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

PIKE

(Walleye or Sauger [sand] or both)

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

PIKE (Northern)

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

FRESHWATER DRUM (Sheepshead)

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

TOTAL BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT: No more than 25 game fish of all kinds combined may be taken in any one day, nor more than 25 game fish of all kinds combined be had in possession at any one time, excepting perch, no limit on perch.

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

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

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

I. Fishing in the three drainage ditches in Lincoln County, between Sutherland and North Platte, shall be alternated as follows, leaving one ditch open to fishing each year. These streams are closed to spearing and to seining of bait at all times.

No. 1 North Drain Ditch: Starting about two miles west and one mile north of Hershey and flowing east to the Platte River—is closed to fishing until April 1, 1950.

No. 2 Middle Drain Ditch: Starting just southeast of Hershey and flowing east, joining No. 1 ditch west of North Platte—is closed to fishing until April 1, 1951.

No. 3 South Drain Ditch: Starting south and east of Sutherland flowing east on the south side of South Platte River and flowing into the South Platte River about one mile east of Hershey—is open to fishing beginning April 1, 1949 and until November 1, 1949.

II. The main channel of the Nemaha River and the Little Nemaha River within one mile of the mouth of any of the tributaries running into said rivers in Richardson, Pawnee, Gage, Johnson, Nemaha, Otoe, and Lancaster Counties shall be closed to spearing and to seining for bait at all times. Bait seining, therefore, will be permitted in the tributaries one mile above the mouth of each tributary to the source.

III. The Cedar River and its tributaries in Holt, Garfield and Wheeler Counties is closed to the seining of bait at all times. Spearing of non-game fish is permitted from April 1, to December 1, only.

IV. The Niobrara River in Boyd and Holt Counties lying between the Spencer Power Dam and the State Highway bridge over the Niobrara on State Highway No. 281 is open to fishing but closed to spearing and seining for bait at all times.

V. The following streams are closed to spearing and to the seining for bait, at all times and closed to fishing from November 1 to April 1, until further change by the Commission.

Antelope County:

1. Verdigre Creek and all tributaries

Banner County:

1. Pumpkin Creek and all tributaries

Box Butte County:

1. Niobrara River

Brown County:

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

Cherry County:

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

Cheyenne County:

1. Cedar Creek

Custer County:

1. South Loup River above Arnold

Dawes County:

1. Chadron Creek
2. Big Bordeaux Creek
3. Little Bordeaux Creek
4. Squaw Creek
5. White River above Crawford
6. Niobrara River above Mirage Flats diversion dam at Old Dunlap and all tributaries
7. Dead Horse Creek
8. Deep Creek
9. White Clay Creek
10. West Ash Creek
11. Deadman Creek

Dundy County:

1. Buffalo Creek
2. Rock Creek

Garden County:

1. Blue Creek

Holt County:

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

Hooker County:

1. Dismal River and all tributaries

Keith County:

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

Kimball County:

1. Lodgepole Creek and all tributaries—west of Owasco Irrigation Canal Dam Located in Sec. 29, T15, R55W and approximately 100 feet east of State Highway No. 29

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Knox County:

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

Logan County:

1. South Loup River

Morrill County:

1. Cedar Creek
2. Red Willow Drain
3. Pumpkin Creek and all tributaries
4. Plum Creek
5. Wild Horse Creek
6. Lyman Drain
7. Miller Drain
8. Myrtle Hill Drain
9. North and South Drain
10. Suhr Drain
11. Silvernail Drain

Rock County:

1. Calamus River
2. Long Pine Creek

Scotts Bluff County:

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

Sheridan County:

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

Sioux County:

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

Thomas County:

1. Dismal River

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

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

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

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

STATE-OWNED LAKES

Special Fishing Regulations are in effect at the following State-Owned Lakes:

Arnold Lake, Custer County; Blue River Recreation Grounds, Seward County; Champion Lake, Chase County; Cottonmill Lake, Buffalo County; Cottonwood Lake, Cherry County; Crystal Lake, Adams County; Camp Hayes Lake, Hayes County; Dead Timber Recreation Grounds, Dodge County; Fremont Sand Pits, Dodge County; Jefferson County Recreation Ground; Bowman Lake, Sherman County; Memphis Lake, Saunders County; Niobrara Park Lake, Knox County; Pawnee Lake, Webster County; Pibel Lake, Wheeler County; Platteview Lake (Louisville), Cass County; State Part of Rat and Beaver Lake, Cherry County—(ONLY A SMALL PART OF THIS LAKE IS STATE-OWNED); Ravenna Lake, Buffalo County; Verdon Lake, Richardson County; Rock Creek Lake, Dundy County; Shell Lake, Cherry County; Walgren Lake, Sheridan County; Wellfleet Lake, Lincoln, County.

The following Regulations are in effect on State-Owned Lakes Only:

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

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

Throw Lines or floats are prohibited.

Digging or seining for bait on grounds is prohibited.

Motorboats are not permitted, except on Victory Lake at Fremont, and Cottonwood Lake at Kearney.

State Lake No. 4 of the Fremont Sandpits located along State Highway No. 30 about four miles west of Fremont in Sec. 13, T17N, R7E, Dodge County, shall be restricted to the use of artificial lures.

NOTES

Where "Entire State" is open, this does not include private lakes closed to the public or areas closed by an Federal or State Law or City Ordinance.

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

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

All reference to weights in these regulations means undressed weights with head, tail and fins attached.

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

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

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

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

The possession or use of any and all nets, traps, or other devices is illegal except Commercial Nets used under the provisions of Section 37-502, and minnow nets not over 20 feet long, 4 feet deep and of one-fourth inch mesh.

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

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

IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSON TO USE IN ANY LAKE, POND OR RESERVOIR AND THEIR INLETS AND OUTLETS WITHIN THE STATE MORE THAN TWO LINES IN STILL FISHING OR TROLLING BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 7 A.M. AND 7 P.M.

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

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

WINTER FISHING

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