

## MERRITT TRADING POST RESORT



Merritt Reservoir — Nebraska's premier trophy fishery is one of the top 10 trophy fisheries in the United States! Merritt is 11 miles long, has 2,906 surface acres of water, with 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 forage base, which has maintained our trophy fishery.

**OVER 50%** of all Nebraska's Master Angler awards 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, perch, and world-class bluegill.

### Merritt Trading Post Resort

*The center of activity 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.*

HC 32 Box 23 / Valentine, NE 69201  
402-376-3437

# 1995 Guide to Nebraska Fishing Regulations & Public Waters



Nebraska  
Game and Parks  
Commission



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**STOP  
POACHING**

**CALL TOLL-FREE  
800-742-SNAP**

**OPERATION  
GAME THIEF**

## Permits

RESIDENT ANNUAL FISH .....	\$11.50
RESIDENT COMBINATION FISH-HUNT .....	19.50
NONRESIDENT ANNUAL .....	25.00
NONRESIDENT 3-DAY .....	7.50
RESIDENT 3-DAY .....	7.50
TROUT STAMP .....	5.00

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 body of water which (1) is located entirely on private land, (2) is entirely privately stocked, (3) does not connect by inflow or outflow with any outside water and (4) is not operated on a commercial basis.

### WHO IS REQUIRED TO HAVE A PERMIT?

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 90 days and who has a bona fide intention of becoming a legal resident of this state.

Others who may obtain a resident permit include: (1) servicemen officially stationed in Nebraska and on active duty here for at least 30 consecutive days; (2) nonresident students upon proof they have attended classes full time for at least 30 consecutive days at any Nebraska college, university, junior college, 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.

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 people fishing the waters of the Missouri River.

### LIFETIME PERMITS

Nebraska residents can now enjoy a lifetime of fishing or hunting on a single permit and support outdoor recreation at the same time. Fees are: Lifetime Fish, \$230; Lifetime Hunt, \$200; or Lifetime Fish and Hunt, \$400. Funds from these permits go into a special fund, with the interest each year going to help support fisheries and wildlife management in Nebraska. For an application or more information, write to: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, P.O. 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370.

## Trout Stamp

Everyone, 16 years of age or older, resident and nonresident alike, is required to have a \$5 Nebraska Trout Stamp, if they have trout taken in Nebraska in their possession. Holders of free permits are exempted, as are those who fish for trout in the put-and-take lake at Two Rivers State Recreation Area near Valley. Funds derived from the sale of this stamp are dedicated to the support of Nebraska's trout management programs. For more information, write to: Fisheries Division, Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370.

## Synopsis of Changes for 1995

### SIZE LIMITS

The daily bag limit for striped bass, white bass and their hybrids has been changed to include only one fish over 18 inches. Calamus Reservoir has been added to the list of reservoirs that have a daily bag limit of 3 fish.

All waters west of U.S. Highway 183 will be regulated with a 15-inch minimum size limit for walleye, sauger and saugeye with the exception of those currently managed under an 18-inch protective length limit. The area cover by the 18-inch size limit on Harlan County Reservoir has been extended upstream on the Republican River to the Oxford highway bridge.

Branched Oak Reservoir will be regulated with a 36-inch minimum length limit for northern pike with a daily bag of 1.

### BAG LIMITS

Black and white crappie, yellow perch, rock bass, bluegill and green, pumpkinseed, orangespotted and redear sunfish and their hybrids will have a daily bag limit of 30 either singly or in the aggregate.

### CATCH AND RELEASE

Jenny Newman Lake at Platte River State Park will be open to fishing by children during set hours. Wildwood Lake and Jenny Newman Lake are the only total catch and release lakes in the state. New tackle restrictions exist on these lakes. All artificial lure hooks must be either barbless or have the barbs crimped.

### NOTICE

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

### 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 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 possess live diploid grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*), also known as white amur. Anyone catching a grass carp must immediately kill or release it.
- 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.

*This agency receives federal funds. Under federal law, discrimination is prohibited on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex or handicap. If you believe you have been discriminated against, contact the Equal Opportunity Officer, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503, or the Office of Human Resources, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.*

## Seasons

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

**ARCHERY** — Game fish may be taken from July 1 through Dec. 31 from sunrise to sunset. Nongame fish may be taken year-round from sunrise to sunset and 24 hours per day April 1 through Aug. 31 in inland waters. See section on Archery/Surface Spearing for exceptions. Hook and line limits apply.

**SNAGGING** — Missouri River only ... downstream from Gavins Point Dam stilling basin and powerhouse discharge canal markers to the mouth of the Big Sioux River (Mile Marker 734) beginning Oct. 14 and ending Nov. 12 or when an estimated 1,600 paddlefish have been harvested, whichever comes first. All other waters of the state are closed to snagging at all times. See section on Snagging for details.

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

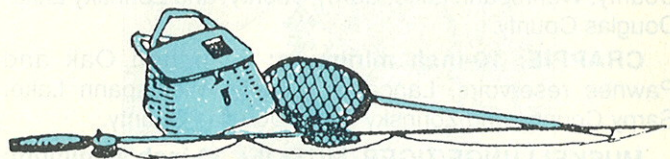
**UNDERWATER SPEARING** — Game fish may be taken from sunrise to sunset from July 1 through Dec. 31. Nongame fish may be taken year-round, sunrise to sunset. See Underwater Spearing section for open waters.

## Combined or Guide Bag and Possession Limits

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

Bag and possession limits may vary between "Inland Waters" and "Waters of the Missouri River." For this purpose only, "Inland Waters" include all waters of the state except the waters of the Missouri River and "Waters of the Missouri River" include all of the river within Nebraska and all reservoirs, oxbows, sloughs, chutes, backwaters and marshes that have annual surface water connection to the river and the first 300 yards upstream from the mouth of all tributary streams.

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



## 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 limits are 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. Only 1 hook may be used when snagging.

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 of the angler shall 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 must be personally attended. The use of glass floats is unlawful. Bag and possession limits are the same as for hook and line.

Note limitations listed in Special Areas.

**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 subject to a bag and possession limit, but not a size 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 subject to a size limit can only be gilled and gutted.

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** — Fish in a person's portable cooler, home freezer, registered in his name in a commercial cold storage locker or in any other way under his control. If given to another person, the fish must be tagged by the angler with the following information: the angler's signature; the angler's address; the total number of animals involved, by species; the date the fish or aquatic animals were taken; and the angler's permit number.

**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 Commission's Fisheries Division so biologists can record where the species was caught.

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

## Size Limits

Fish may not be filleted until fishing is completed for the day where size and bag limits apply. Fish subject to a size limit cannot be possessed while on the water, while wading or while engaged in fishing with more than the gills, viscera and scales removed. 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 size and bag limits that apply to the water being fished. Fish placed in public storage must be labeled with the owner's name, address, fishing license number, species and number of fish, and the date placed in storage.

**BASS (LARGEMOUTH): 12-inch minimum:** All private waters.

**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:** Buckskin Hills Lake, Dixon County; Zorinsky Lake, Douglas County; Skyview Lake, Madison County; Burchard Lake, Pawnee County; Wehrspann Lake, Sarpy County; and Willow Lake, Brown County.

**BASS (SMALLMOUTH, 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.

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

**CRAPPIE: 10-inch minimum:** Branched Oak and Pawnee reservoirs, Lancaster County; Wehrspann Lake, Sarpy County; and Zorinsky Lake, Douglas County.

**MUSKELLUNGE/TIGER MUSKIE: 30-inch minimum:** Statewide.

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

**36-inch minimum:** Branched Oak Reservoir, Lancaster County (Daily bag limit of 1).

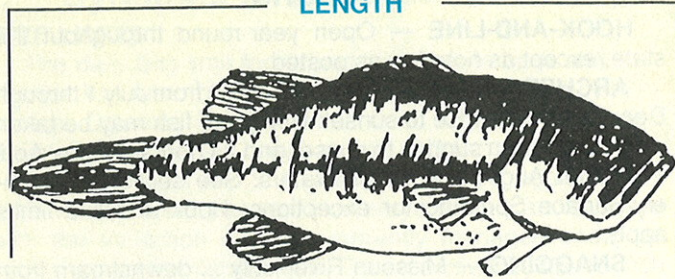
**WALLEYE: 15-inch minimum:** All waters west of U.S. Highway 183 from the Kansas-Nebraska border north to its junction with U.S. Highway 20 west and north on Highway 183 to the Nebraska-South Dakota border, except for those regulated under the 18-inch size limit.

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

**BULLFROG:** 4½ inches from snout to vent.

**ALL OTHER SPECIES:** None.

## LENGTH



## How To Measure Length Of Fish

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.

## 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 from inland waters, sunrise to sunset, and may be taken 24 hours a day from April 1 through Aug. 31.

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

The following areas 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 State Park and Mahoney State Park; and trout streams (see Special Areas). For surface spearing, only hand spears are legal. Any spearing device must be barbed.

## Underwater Spearfishing

Lawful spear guns include hand spears, rubberband-powered spear guns and spring-loaded spear guns. All spears used on powered spear guns must be attached to a lanyard with a maximum length of 20 feet. Underwater spearfishing is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated swimming or water ski jump area, boat dock, boat ramp or spillway.

## SEASONS

**Game fish** — July 1 through Dec. 31 in waters listed below. Bag and possession 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.

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

## OPEN WATERS

1. Privately owned lakes with permission of the lake owner
2. Lake McConaughy, Keith County
3. Lake Ogallala, Keith County
4. Lake Minatare, Scotts Bluff County
5. Box Butte Reservoir, Dawes County
6. Lewis and Clark Lake

7. Harlan County Reservoir
8. Enders Reservoir, Chase County
9. Swanson Reservoir, Hitchcock County
10. Hugh Butler (Red Willow) Reservoir, Frontier 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. A diver and underwater spearfisherman must remain within 150 feet of his flag. The flag must be at least 12 inches square, with a red background and white diagonal stripe that is one-fifth the width of the flag. The white stripe must run from the top of the hoist to the bottom of the flag. It is unlawful to display this flag when diving or spearfishing is not in progress.

### 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 of this guide, which follows. All other waters of the state are closed to snagging for all species at all times. Any game fish that are snagged accidentally or otherwise foul-hooked must be returned to the water immediately.



### Paddlefish and Snagging of Nongame Fish

#### Missouri River

Snagging of paddlefish and nongame fish is permitted in the Missouri River from the Gavins Point Dam stilling basin and powerhouse canal markers downstream to the mouth of the Big Sioux River (Mile Marker 734) from sunrise to sunset beginning the second Saturday of October and ending 30 days later or when an estimated 1,600 paddlefish have been harvested, whichever comes first. The quota shall be determined by creel survey estimates, and the season shall be closed when the quota is reached. Signs will be posted, and media outlets will be contacted to notify anglers of the season closure. Only one hook may be used when snagging, and the gap between the point of the hook to the shank may not exceed 1/2-inch. The daily bag limit is one paddlefish. All paddlefish between 35 and 45 inches long (measured along the center line of the fish, laying flat, including the entire eye to the fork the tail), must be returned to the water immediately. The slot limit is aimed at protecting the majority of spawning-size fish. It is recommended that a gaff not be used to land paddlefish because it may damage its gills.

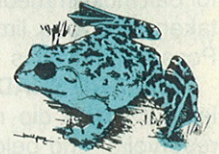
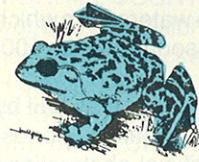
Paddlefish may be taken by bow and arrow in the Missouri River starting the second Saturday of July and ending the third

Sunday of July from the Gavins Point Dam stilling basin and powerhouse discharge canal markers downstream to the mouth of the Big Sioux River (Mile Marker 734).

### Inland Waters

Paddlefish may be taken by hook-and-line methods other than snagging year-round in all inland waters. The bag limit is one paddlefish, and the possession limit is two paddlefish.

Paddlefish may be taken by archery in all inland waters per regulations governing archery and surface spearing.



### Bullfrogs

Bullfrog season runs from August 15 through October 31. The bag limit is 8 bullfrogs per person. They may be taken only on a fishing permit by hand, hand net and hook-and-line. Artificial light may be used when taking bullfrogs. Bullfrogs must measure 4 1/2 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.



### 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 to place a permanent ice shelter on all state recreation area and wildlife management area lakes. Application forms and shelter regulations are available from conservation officers, Commission offices or by mail from the Parks Division, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370. This does not apply to temporary, portable shelters used and removed each day.

## Bait and Minnows

Bait fish may not be sold except by permit. For commercial purposes (bait vendors, private fish culturists 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, landing net 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 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 or bowfin may be transported for use as bait.

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

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

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

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

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

**CLOSED WATERS** — See Special Areas section.

## Special Area Regulations

**WILDWOOD LAKE** — Possession of any fish species while fishing this lake is prohibited. Wildwood Lake is designated as a "No Kill Lake." All species of fish caught must immediately be returned to the lake unharmed. All hooks on artificial lures must either be barbless or have the barbs crimped.

**SCHILLING WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (PLATTS-MOUTH)** — This area is open to fishing from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily from April 15 through Oct. 15 except when closed by the Commission by posting.

**BURCHARD STATE 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 on the area.

**BUCKSKIN HILLS LAKE, SKYVIEW LAKE, ZORINSKY LAKE, BURCHARD LAKE, WEHRSPANN LAKE AND WILLOW LAKE** — These lakes are designated as catch-and-release lakes for largemouth bass. All bass caught must be immediately returned to the water, except that one fish that is 21 inches or longer may be kept in the daily bag.

**TWIN LAKES (Seward County)** — This wildlife management area is closed to all public use from Oct. 15 until the end of the dark goose season. East Twin Lake has a 15-inch minimum size limit on largemouth bass.

**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, MARINA LAKE (Cass County)** — Children under 16 years of age and handicapped adults are permitted to fish the entire lake, except the immediate marina area, from sunrise to 9 a.m. daily. Daily bag limit is two fish. There is an 18-inch size limit on largemouth bass.

**EUGENE T. MAHONEY STATE PARK, US WEST LAKE (Cass County)** — 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 per angler.

**PLATTE RIVER STATE PARK, JENNY NEWMAN LAKE (Cass County)** — Children less than 16 years old are permitted to fish the entire lake, except the immediate marina area, from sunrise to 9 a.m. daily April 29 to Oct. 30. Possession of any fish species while fishing this lake is prohibited. Jenny Newman Lake is designated as a "No Kill Lake." All species of fish caught must immediately be returned to the lake unharmed. All hooks on artificial lures 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 April 1 through April 20.

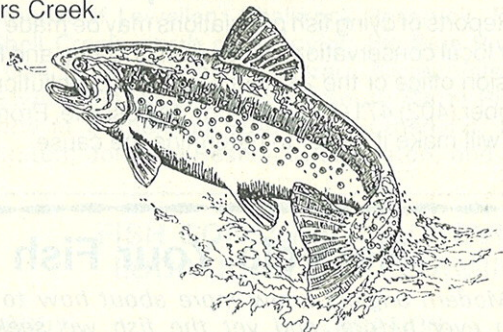
**NIOBRARA STATE PARK (Knox County)** — Largemouth bass fishing is limited to catch and release on two park lakes; possession is prohibited.

**TWO RIVERS STATE RECREATION AREA (Douglas County)** — Archery fishing, snagging, spearing, jigging, snaring and baiting are prohibited in all lakes. Lake No. 5 is designated as a put-and-take trout fishing lake and is subject to special regulations. A daily trout tag is required to attempt to take and to possess trout on the entire Two Rivers area. 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 Lakes, 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 from 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.  
**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.  
**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.  
**WEBSTER COUNTY:** Elm Creek.

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

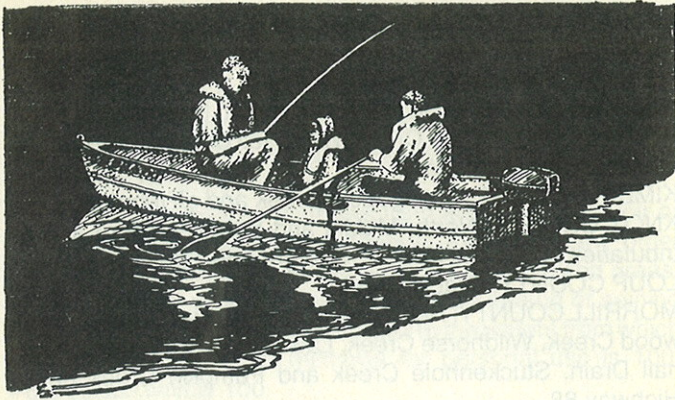
## Grass Carp

The triploid grass carp is approved for use in private waters for aquatic weed control by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. These fish are available from licensed fish culturists, but they must be certified as 100 percent triploid by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service inspection.

## Ethical Anglers

- Know and obey fishing regulations that are in place to protect our aquatic resources, and to spread the harvest among all anglers.
- Understand the need for a personal code of behavior since laws cannot cover all situations.
- Learn techniques to handle fish that will ensure survival if released to spawn and be caught again.
- Respect the rights of other anglers as well as the rights of property owners when access to water requires crossing private land.
- Ensure good fishing for future generations by limiting their catch, rather than focusing on catching 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.





## Boundary Waters

**MISSOURI RIVER (IOWA)** — Anglers holding a valid sport fishing permit from either Nebraska or Iowa may fish in the waters of the Missouri River lying between the two states. "Waters of the Missouri River" are defined to include all oxbows, sloughs, chutes and backwaters that draw water from the Missouri River proper. Oxbows, chutes and backwaters separated from the Missouri River by land are included only if the state boundary line passes through some part of such waters. Mouths of streams are not included. Fishing may be from boats or from the bank. All 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 nor attach any device or equipment to land under the jurisdiction of the state in which they are not licensed. Creel limits and methods of the state that licenses the sport fisherman shall apply.

## Game/Nongame Fish

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

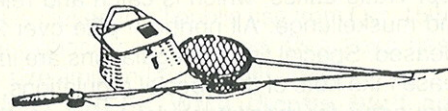
## Fish Stocking

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 taken therefrom, without written authorization from the Game and Parks Commission.

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

## 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 may catch. The tag will be returned to you, along with data on where the fish was tagged.

## Fish Kill Reports

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

## Recycle Your Fish

*Modern anglers know more about how to catch fish than ever before, and yet the fish we seek have not changed. They are as easy to catch as ever. As we fish our lakes and streams with sophisticated techniques and space-age tackle, we often create large populations of young, small fish. Yet, we anglers increasingly demand bigger fish . . . and more of them. A practical solution to our problem is voluntary catch and release. When we catch and release, it allows us to recycle fish, thus increasing our catch rate, plus it lets the fish we've recycled grow older and larger. As the logo shows, our fishing future is truly in our own hands.*



*Revised*

# FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES

The Nebraska Department of Health has issued consumption advisories for two new sites — Salt Creek, south of Lincoln from Bill Slough downstream to the Platte River and Box Butte Reservoir near Hemingford.

It also expanded the sites covered by two previous advisories — the Elkhorn River, around Norfolk from Cedar Creek upstream to Logan Creek, and the Platte River at its confluence with Clear Creek (western Butler County) downstream to the Missouri River. Previous advisories on fish from 16 other areas remain in effect (see table below). Fish from approximately 130 Nebraska stream segments and lakes have been tested since the Fish Consumption Program began in 1977.

## CANCER-CAUSING AGENTS

The primary contaminants in all but three of these waters are PCBs and dieldrin, both considered probable cancer-causing agents. PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) are a family of chemical compounds found in old electrical equipment, such as transformers and capacitors. Dieldrin is a pesticide of the organochlorine group. Most dieldrin uses were restricted beginning in 1974, and all use ended in 1987. Dieldrin is a long-lasting chemical, however, and remains in the environment.

## HOW GREAT IS THE CANCER RISK?

Advisories for cancer-causing chemicals in fish are issued when concentrations reach a risk level of 1 in 10,000. This means under a worst-case scenario, the chemicals 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 the fish every week for 70 years to produce that one case of cancer. According to one study, drinking one-half gallon of whole milk each week produces the same cancer risk.

## THE MERCURY RISK

The advisory on Box Butte Reservoir is for mercury contamination. Last year, advisories for mercury were issued for both Oliver and Merritt reservoirs, and those advisories remain in effect. Mercury poses a risk of developmental problems in the unborn, in infants and children. The advisories are meant primarily for pregnant or nursing women and infants and children under 15 years of age. The source of the mercury contamination has not been determined, but one hypothesis is that mercury may be occurring naturally.

## GOOD NEWS

Of sites tested in 1993, 15 showed no fish contamination that would warrant a consumption advisory under Nebraska protocol. These sites are the North Platte River, southeast of Lewellen; Chalkrock Reservoir, Fordyce; Calamus Reservoir, Burwell; Shell Creek, north of Schuyler; Big Blue River, Barenston and Beatrice; Branched Oak Lake, Malcolm; Niobrara River, Valentine; Big Indian Reservoir, Wymore; Elwood Reservoir, Elwood; South Platte River, Big Springs to Ogallala; Cooling Pond at Sutherland Reservoir, Sutherland; Kory-Keystone Confluence, south of Paxton; Johnson Reservoir, Lexington, and Lake Ogallala, Ogallala.

# BARBLESS HOOKS WORK BEST FOR CATCH & RELEASE

With catch-and-release fishing growing in popularity, anglers should anglers really consider using barbless hooks.

Such hooks can reduce the time needed to return fish to the water. In fact, some fish may be released without ever being removed from the water. Most anglers won't notice a loss of hook-ups or landed fish when using barbless hooks.

Modifying your hooks for barbless fishing is easy! Simply pinch down the barbs with a pair of needle-nose pliers. You might also consider removing excessive numbers of hooks on plugs and spinners and replacing treble hooks with single ones.

Don't attempt to remove a hook that is deeply imbedded in a fish's gullet. A fish's chance for survival will be much better if you simply cut the line as close to the hook as possible.



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## FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES LOCATIONS & CONTAMINANTS

WATER BODY	LOCATION	PRIMARY CONTAMINANT
Beaver Creek	Albion	Dieldrin
Big Nemaha River	Preston	PCBs, Dieldrin
Box Butte Reservoir	Hemingford	Mercury
Carter Lake	Omaha	PCBs
Elkhorn River	Waterloo & Norfolk	PCBs, Dieldrin
Lake McConaughy	Ogallala	PCBs
*Merritt Reservoir	Valentine	Mercury
Missouri River	Omaha & Plattsmouth	PCBs, Dieldrin
Missouri River	Rulo	Dieldrin
*Oliver Reservoir	Kimball	Mercury
Papillion Creek	Bellevue	PCBs, Dieldrin
West Papillion Creek	Ralston	PCBs, Dieldrin
Platte River	North Bend to Missouri River	PCBs, Dieldrin
Salt Creek	Lincoln to Platte River	PCBs, Dieldrin
South Platte River	Paxton	PCBs
Sutherland Reservoir	Sutherland	PCBs
West Fork, Big Blue River	Dorchester	Dieldrin

\* No cancer risk level involved. Mercury advisory is for pregnant or nursing women, infants and children under 15.



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Treat someone special in your life to the gift that truly keeps on giving . . . a Nebraska Lifetime Permit. Available only to Nebraska residents, it is the ultimate gift for any fisherman or hunter. And, it's an investment in the future as well, since all funds go into escrow with the annual interest used to help support fisheries and wildlife management programs.

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Lifetime Hunt only	\$200.00

- Attractive engraved brass permit plate
- Handsome carrying case
- Supply of cards to mount needed wildlife stamps
- Gift card on request

The following information is needed on each person for each permit ordered — Name, address, city, state, zip, date of birth, sex, height, weight, color of hair, color of eyes and the signature of the applicant. Send with your check or money order to: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503.

## The Sport Fish Restoration Program

The present Sport Fish Restoration Program began in 1950 with passage of the Dingell-Johnson Act, which created 10% manufacturing excise tax on fishing rods, reels, creels and artificial lures. In 1984, the Wallop-Breaux Amendment broadened the tax base to include all fishing tackle items, motorboat fuel taxes and import duties on fishing tackle and boats.

The Sport Fish Restoration Program is an outstanding example of a "user pays, user benefits" or "user-fee" program. Through this program, a cooperative effort between the federal government and state agencies was forged that invests anglers' tax dollars in state sport fishing development projects.

YOUR  
PURCHASE  
SUPPORTS



In 1985, under old DJ funding, \$38 million were available nationwide. In 1986, with implementation of the WB amendment, funding increased to \$122 million. Today, this fund provides \$200 million per year to the states.

Funds are distributed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, with the amount of money allocated to each state is determined by a formula which considers the number of paid sport fishing license holders and the land and water area in the state. Once a state project is approved, Sport Fish Restoration Funds are set aside to cover up to 75% of the estimated cost. The rest of the project costs are paid from funds derived from license sales.

### How are Nebraska funds spent?

Project funded with Sport Fish Restoration funds in 1994 included:

**Fish Management** covers most management activities on the state's public reservoirs, lakes, ponds and rivers, including fish population surveys and analysis, angler surveys, renovations and regulation evaluations. Notable activities in 1994 included the renovations of Frye Lake (243 A), Swan Lake (235 A), and the evaluations of bluegill, crappie, largemouth bass and walleye size limit regulations. Also under this program is continued investigation of the Lake McConaughy management program which has been expanded to include an aggressive attempt to revitalize the lake's trout fishery along with our ongoing monitoring of walleye and

white bass populations.

**Research** involves the bulk of the division's river and stream investigations, with most concentrated on the Missouri and Platte rivers. Under a third party agreement, the University of Nebraska is investigating the impact of alewife on major game fish species like rainbow trout in Lake Ogallala.

**Hatcheries:** Presently three hatcheries, Calamus, North Platte and Valentine, are operated with Sport Fish Restoration Funds. The North Platte Hatchery is undergoing a major renovation project that will improve water delivery and draining systems.

**Education:** While not a major budget item, education programs for the public, especially to children, are very important. Last year, 64 fishing clinics and courses were conducted with 5,268 participants. Work also continues with school teachers and volunteer instructors across the state with aquatic related projects conducted in the classroom and through clinics.

**Facility Enhancement:** Two similar programs deal with the maintenance and improvement of fishing areas on park and wildlife management areas. These activities include road and boat ramp maintenance and construction, fish cleaning stations, and improved angler access, especially handicap accessible areas.

**Acquisitions:** The amount spent on this program varies considerably from year to year, depending on what areas become available. In 1993, Frye Lake near Hyannis was purchased and developed. In 1994 a motorboat access project was scheduled for the Missouri River in Dixon County (Mulberry Bend).

**Construction Contracts:** This program includes projects completed by private companies, such as the construction of boat ramps, lake rehabilitation projects like those on East Twin and Stagecoach lakes, and the Belmont Diversion fish ladder. A major lake rehabilitation project was scheduled for Branched Oak Lake in the fall of 1994.

Nebraska's Sport Fish Restoration Funds are used exclusively to benefit anglers. Without these excise tax funds the number of activities to improve fishing opportunities for Nebraska anglers would be greatly reduced. All construction and improvement projects funded by the Sport Fish Restoration Program should be identified with an informational sign informing anglers how their money has been spent.

# Practice Selective Harvest

Catch-and-release is now commonly practiced by many avid anglers in Nebraska. Anglers and fisheries biologists both recognize that this practice can improve the quality of the fisheries and the sport.

Fish are a renewable resource than can be harvested reasonably and wisely. So what are the best and wisest uses of our fishery resources? Releasing all fish we catch on all waters? Trying to harvest our legal limit every time? The best approach lies between these two extremes in a practice called "selective harvest."

Selective harvest is a term coined by writers of *In-Fisherman* Magazine to describe the best practice of catch-and-release that allows for the wisest harvest of the fisheries resources, while maintaining and improving their quality.

The first principle of selective harvest is moderation. The days of filling the freezer with bags of fish fillets (that may stay there until freezer-burned and useless) should be a thing of the past. Instead, harvest only what can be used fresh.

The second principle is selection. In any fish community certain species and sizes of fish are more abundant than others, therefore they are better able to withstand a higher harvest. For example, panfish species such as bluegill, crappie, and perch are usually more abundant than larger game fish such as bass, walleye and pike. Consequently, they are better candidates for harvest. Remember, too, that small and medium-size fish of any species are almost always more abundant than larger fish

and can be selectively harvested.

Trophy fish of any species are difficult to catch, not because they are smart but because they are rare. These large fish are valuable in any population. Large fish are usually the best brood fish and are probably the best genetic stock in the population. Also, it's important to anglers that some trophy fish are present (all of us hope to catch that "big one" every time we cast a line). Consequently, large trophies of any species (including panfish) are the best candidates for release. Fortunately Nebraska anglers can release these trophies and still be recognized by our Master Angler program (be sure to check out that section in the fishing guide).

In summary, when we want to harvest a few fish for a meal of fresh fish, we should selectively harvest the more abundant panfish species and the more abundant small and medium-size fish of any species. Large trophy fish of all species should be admired and released. Of course, be sure to obey all fishing regulations, especially size limit regulations. Releasing fish that are "too small," undesirable or required by law to be released may be practicing catch-and-release and is one thing that all anglers can do to improve the quality of our fishing in Nebraska while still enjoying a fine meal of fish now and then.

## Attention, Advertisers!

As a service to Nebraska anglers, advertising space is being offered in the *Nebraska Fishing Guide*. If you are interested in placing an ad, please contact us for more information and a rate sheet. Call 1-402-471-5493 or drop a note to the Information & Education Division, Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370.

### BOWKER'S CATFISH BAIT

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## THE CLASSIFIEDS

### Sporting Goods

Hunting, fishing, archery supplies; clothing, boots, collectors' guns — **Bedlan's Sporting Goods**, 1318 E St., Fairbury, 402-729-6112.

### Collectibles

Back issues of Upland Game Bird, Habitat and Trout stamps — write or call, Permits Section, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370, 402-471-0641.

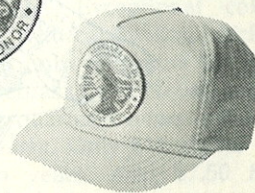
### NEBRASKALand Gifts

NEBRASKALand Magazine, books, T-shirts, sweatshirts, cups, stationery notes and more. Write for free catalog to Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370 or call 1-800-NEB-LAND (632-5263).

### Outdoor Organizations

Help protect our outdoors. Report violations to the Operation Game Thief hotline — 1-800-742-SNAP. You can remain anonymous. To join OGT or make a tax-deductible donation, write to Nebraska Wildlife Protectors, P.O. Box 726, Broken Bow, NE 68822-0726.

## Nebraska Wildlife Habitat Donors



For years, hunters and trappers have contributed to the acquisition and improvement of wildlife habitat through their purchase of Nebraska Habitat Stamps. Now, through this special program, all outdoor enthusiasts can make a contribution to wildlife and proudly wear the Nebraska Habitat Donor Patch and/or cap.

Patches and caps are available for each year (beginning in 1990). Please specify year when ordering.

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Mail with your check or money order to:  
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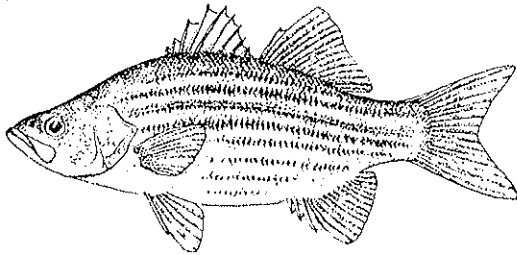
# KNOW WHAT YOU CAUGHT

**Attention Anglers:** It is illegal and potentially harmful to move fish from one water body to another.

## The Good

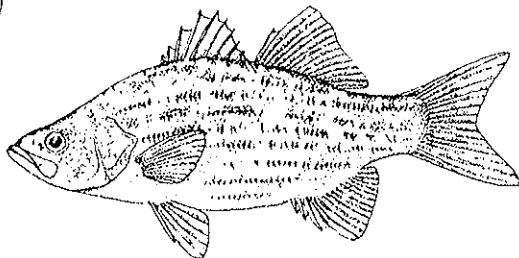
### White Bass

- Stripes faint, only one extends to tail
- Anal fin spines stair-stepped
- Back of tongue has one tooth patch



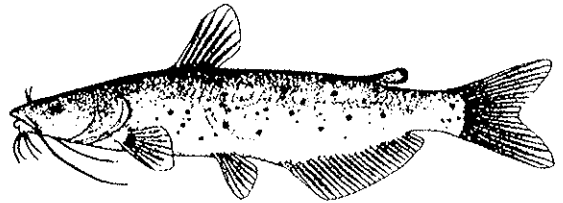
### Wiper

- Back of tongue has two distinct tooth patches
- Stripes distinct, usually broken, several extended to tail



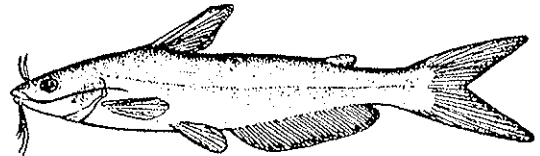
### Channel Catfish

- Anal fin has 24-29 rays with outer margin rounded
- spots not present on larger fish



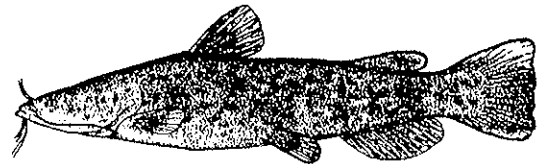
### Blue Catfish

- Anal fin has 30 rays with margin straight



### Flathead Catfish

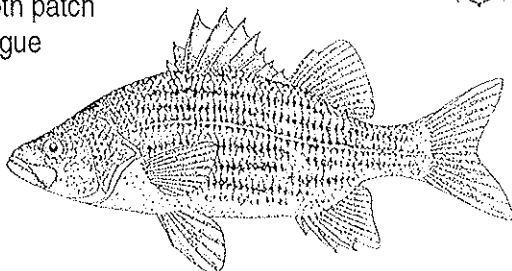
- Lower jaw extends past upper jaw
- Square, unforked tail



## The Bad

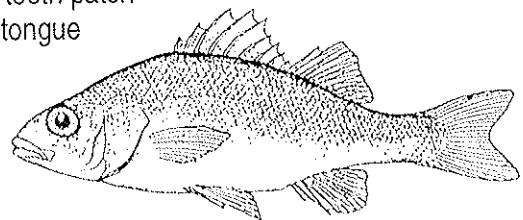
### Yellow Bass

- Stripes distinct, broken above anal fin
- Color silvery yellow
- No tooth patch on tongue



### White Perch

- No lateral stripes
- Silver / gray blue cast on head
- No tooth patch on tongue



# We MUST Return To Habitat Of "Good Old Days"

Remember "the good old days" when you could fish your secret "honey hole" on the river and fill a gunny sack with a limit of 5 to 10-pound catfish?

"Why don't we have fishing like that anymore?" you ask. Mostly because we don't have rivers and streams like that anymore. Much of the good river and stream fishing we remember occurred before they were channelized, dried up or otherwise degraded with mud and pollutants from their watersheds. The "good old days" of rivers and streams really happened 30 years ago.

To once again produce and support abundant riverine sport fish, such as catfish, paddlefish and sauger, we must allow the rivers and streams to return to some semblance of their original state. Toward that end, there are efforts to create a mile-wide corridor in which the Missouri River can again meander and flood, creating snags, holes, sandbars, chutes, backwaters and cut banks that all the habitat riverine fish evolved in and require. Every stretch of naturally running water in the state can stand some alterations that would produce and hold more fish, thereby making fishing better.

Remember when you could fill a five-gallon bucket with crappie bigger than your hand or bring home a cooler full of walleye or white bass from your favorite lake? For most people the good lake fishing they remember really occurred on reservoirs, and most of those reservoirs were built in the last few decades. Good fishing on those bodies of water has been relatively recent.

Many of the big reservoirs in western Nebraska were built for irrigation. The remaining reservoirs were built primarily for flood control, with hydropower and recreation only occasionally included. Instead of addressing flood control problems at their sources, we built reservoirs to catch the problems downstream. And, if flooding was a problem, as it must have been to justify construction of many reservoirs, then watershed erosion and associated pollution was inevitable.

Consequently, while our rivers and streams were being degraded, we shifted our attention and fishing efforts to these new reservoirs. As each new reservoir passed its prime, we moved to an even newer one still in its prime. The quandary we now face is that few new reservoirs are being built that have long-term fishing potential. So, we don't have any new reservoirs to shift

to. Furthermore, since reservoirs are really nothing more than man-made interruptions in rivers and streams, all the problems that rivers and streams experienced have now collected in our reservoirs and are diminishing their fisheries. Most of the good fishing these reservoirs had to offer occurred during their first years, before watershed problems had sufficiently accumulated to noticeably affect their fisheries.

It's ironic that many of these reservoirs produced their best fisheries when they were least productive. Initially, many of the nutrients that were cycled into fish flesh originated in these new reservoirs' basins. They began as grass, weeds, shrubs, trees and other terrestrial plants before the reservoir basins were flooded. After flooding they slowly decayed, releasing large quantities of nutrients, many of which eventually were assimilated into fish flesh through the food chain. By contrast, the nutrients that washed in during storms often came in such large quantities and so quickly that they could not be incorporated into the fish food chain. These nutrients produced massive algae blooms or attached to soil particles that settled on the bottom as organic sludge. There, they were often resuspended by wind-generated wave action or powerboat prop wash.

To develop better fishing in our lakes, reservoirs, rivers and streams, we must reclaim the best parts of what has been lost. The long-term solution, of course, is better watershed management, which not only will slow the aging process in our reservoirs, but also will improve our rivers and streams. While this is happening, however, we must rejuvenate our surface waters to improve living conditions (habitat) for game fish.

We must be innovative in our attempts to solve water shortage problems. Paying for improvements in water delivery in irrigation canals, such as has been done on Box Butte Reservoir, is a win-win situation. More water is kept in the reservoir for fish, while the same amount is delivered to the irrigators, instead of seeping into the ground before it arrives. The less water that leaves the reservoir, the fewer fish that will escape and die. Building fish ladders such as has been done on the Belmont Diversion of the North Platte River above Lake McConaughy, may provide the opportunity for migrating fish like channel catfish to move up-

stream, spawn and resupply depleted fisheries. The technology exists to reduce watershed erosion even further. Furthermore, the technology exists to treat the symptoms of watershed erosion, namely muddy water, nutrient loading and silting in the reservoirs.

Fish habitat rehabilitation should not be thought of as just one of several ways to improve fishing, it should be thought of as the best way. It is by far the quickest, most permanent and most dramatic way to improve fishing. Applying more regulations or stocking more fish will not overcome the limits imposed by poor water clarity, low dissolved oxygen or no water at all. To produce more fish, the carrying capacity of the body of water the fish live in must first be increased.



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# NEBRASKA RECORD FISH

## HOOK AND LINE

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

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

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

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

**SMALLMOUTH BASS** . . . . . 6 lbs. 1½ oz.  
Wally Allison, North Platte, Merritt Reservoir, 5/17/78

**STRIPED BASS** . . . . . 64 lbs. 15½ oz.  
Gene Baker, Sutherland, Sutherland Reservoir, 8/17/93

**STRIPED BASS HYBRID** . . . . . 13 lbs. 14 oz.  
Kirk Ulrey, Oberlin, KS, Red Willow Reservoir, 4/23/94

**WHITE BASS** . . . . . 5 lbs.  
Jim Kilcain, Aurora, Gavins Point Tailwaters, 11/12/83

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

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

**BIGMOUTH BUFFALO** . . . . . 44 lbs. 14½ oz.  
Shayne Miller, Kearney, Johnson Lake, 5/17/91

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

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

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

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

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

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

**GRASS CARP** . . . . . 46 lbs.  
Jason Redman, Polk, Hamilton County Sandpit, 5/5/94

**BLUE CATFISH** . . . . . 100 lbs. 8 oz.  
Raynold Promes, Wynot, Missouri River near Wynot, 11/29/70

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

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

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

**BLACK CRAPPIE** . . . . . 4 lbs. 2 oz.  
Joe L. Citta, Hershey, Red Willow Reservoir, 5/30/81

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

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

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

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

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

**GOLDEYE** . . . . . 3 lbs. 15½ oz.  
Gary Kumm, Bloomfield, Lewis & Clark, 8/13/88

**SKIPJACK HERRING** . . . . . 1 lb. 10 oz.  
Scott Wessel, Wayne, Gavins Point Tailwaters, 8/23/87

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

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

**TIGER MUSKIE** . . . . . 24 lbs. 8 oz.  
P.B. Brewer, Jr., Littleton, CO., Oliver Reservoir, 5/21/93

**PADDLEFISH** . . . . . 91 lb. 8 oz.  
Warren Yelkin, Lincoln, Gavins Point Dam Tailwaters, 11/18/78

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

**WHITE PERCH** . . . . . 1 lb. 8 oz.  
Ronnie Davis, Lincoln, Branched Oak Lake, 4/4/93

**YELLOW PERCH** . . . . . 2 lb. 10½ oz.  
John D. Skrdla, Stuart, Hackberry Lake, 2/11/84

**NORTHERN PIKE** . . . . . 29 lbs. 12 oz.  
Gary Jones, Royal, Grove Lake, 7/6/84

**PUMPKINSEED** . . . . . 10½ oz. & 11¼ oz.  
Jim Johnson, Minatare, Box Butte Reservoir, 9/23/87  
Mitchell Pebley, Alliance, Box Butte Reservoir, 3/19/93

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

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

**COHO SALMON** . . . . . 5 lbs. 12 oz.  
Lyle Fry, Gering, Lake McConaughy, 7/3/71

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

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

**GIZZARD SHAD** . . . . . 4 lbs. 7¼ oz.  
Joe Ringbauer, Alliance, Box Butte Reservoir, 3/26/89

**SHOVELNOSE STURGEON** . . . . . 3 lbs. 14½ oz.  
Wayne Williams, Shubert, Missouri River (Richardson County) 4/29/91

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

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

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

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

**HYBRID SUNFISH** . . . . . 1 lb. 9 oz.  
Jane Bofforff-Engl, Gillette, WY, farm pond, 5/30/93

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

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

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

**RAINBOW TROUT** . . . . . 14 lbs. 2 oz.  
Frank Aloï, North Platte, Keith County canal, 3/18/75

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

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

## BOW AND ARROW

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

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

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

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

**STRIPED BASS HYBRID** . . . . . 3 lbs. 10½ oz.  
Patrick Pierce, North Platte, Tri-County Canal, 7/4/94

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

**BLUEGILL** . . . . . 14 oz.  
Michael J. Christiansen, North Platte, Thomas County farm pond, 6/13/75

**BIGMOUTH BUFFALO** . . . . . 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

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

**GRASS CARP** . . . . . 36 lbs. 12 oz.  
Matt Gideon, Parks, Rock Creek SRA, 5/13/93

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

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

**CHANNEL CATFISH** . . . . . 21 lbs. 12 oz.  
Mike Lacey, Gering, Lake Minatare, 7/23/82

**FLATHEAD CATFISH** . . . . . 46 lbs. 2 oz.  
Jim Foral, Lincoln, Bluestem Creek, Sprague, 10/13/84

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

**WHITE CRAPPIE** . . . . . 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** . . . . . 22 lbs.  
Gary Trofholz, Columbus, Polk County sandpit, 6/13/74

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

**TIGER MUSKIE** . . . . . 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

**YELLOW PERCH** . . . . . 1 lb. 2 oz.  
Tim McQuade, North Platte, Cody Lake, 4/19/75

**NORTHERN PIKE** . . . . . 21 lbs. 4 oz.  
Allen Spilchak, 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** . . . . . 3 lbs. 3 oz.  
Mike Lauby, Lexington, Platte River, Dawson County, 7/14/74

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

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

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

**RAINBOW TROUT** . . . . . 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

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

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

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

**SMALLMOUTH BASS** . . . . . 4 lbs. 10 oz.  
Paul Wiezorek, North Platte, Lake McConaughy, 9/21/93

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

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

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

**SMALLMOUTH BUFFALO** . . . . . 13 lbs. 4 oz.  
Vince Willis, Silver Creek, Merrick County sandpit, 7/5/82

**CARP** . . . . . 35 lbs.  
Steven Bixenman, Colby, KS, Hitchcock County sandpit, 6/7/88

**CHANNEL CATFISH** . . . . . 23 lbs. 9½ oz.  
Anthony Nason, Alliance, Box Butte Reservoir, 7/6/91

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

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

**GOLDEYE** . . . . . 1 lb. 5½ oz.  
Geo. (Mike) Fritton, Silver Creek, Merrick Co. sandpit, 7/5/82

**YELLOW PERCH** . . . . . 1 lb. 11½ oz.  
Leroy Adamson, Alliance, Box Butte Reservoir, 7/15/80

**NORTHERN PIKE** . . . . . 13 lbs. 12 oz.  
Albert Cherry, St. Edward, Lake McConaughy, 8/8/75

**QUILLBACK** . . . . . 6 lbs. 6 oz.  
Michael Dorris, Arthur, Lake McConaughy, 6/17/78

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## SURFACE SPEARFISHING

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

## 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 may also contact the Aquarium.*

## 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 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 awards per year based on length.
- 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 or lengths for a Master Angler Award include:

American Eel . . . . .	24 in. or 1 lb.	Crappie . . . . .	15 in. or 2 lbs.
Largemouth Bass . . . . .	20 in. or 5 lbs.	Drum . . . . .	22 in. or 5 lbs.
Kentucky Spotted Bass . . . . .		Gar . . . . .	40 in. or 8 lbs.
	18 in. or 3 lbs.	Goldeye . . . . .	16 in. or 1½ lbs.
Rock Bass . . . . .	11 in. or 1 lb.	Musky/Tiger Musky . . . . .	35 in. or 10 lbs.
Smallmouth Bass . . . . .	18 in. or 3 lbs.	Paddlefish . . . . .	45 in. or 50 lbs.
Striped Bass . . . . .	32 in. or 10 lbs.	Yellow Perch . . . . .	13 in. or 1¼ lbs.
Striper Hybrid . . . . .	20 in. or 5 lbs.	White Perch . . . . .	12 in. or 1 lb.
White Bass . . . . .	17 in. or 5 lbs.	Northern Pike . . . . .	36 in. or 10 lbs.
Bluegill . . . . .	10 in. or 1 lb.	Sauger . . . . .	21 in. or 3 lbs.
Buffalo . . . . .	26 in. or 10 lbs.	Shovelnose Sturgeon . . . . .	
Bullhead . . . . .	15 in. or 2 lbs.		28 in. or 2½ lbs.
Burbot . . . . .	16 in. or 1 lb.	Sucker . . . . .	18 in. or 2 lbs.
Carp . . . . .	32 in. or 15 lbs.	Sunfish . . . . .	10 in. or 1 lb.
Blue Catfish . . . . .	40 in. or 30 lbs.	Brook Trout . . . . .	14 in. or 1 lb.
Channel Catfish . . . . .	30 in. or 12 lbs.	Brown Trout . . . . .	22 in. or 4 lbs.
Flathead Catfish . . . . .		Rainbow Trout . . . . .	23 in. or 5 lbs.
	32 in. or 15 lbs.	Walleye . . . . .	28 in. or 8 lbs.

### VOLUNTARY WATERFOWL STAMP



Buy Nebraska's voluntary waterfowl stamp, and help provide critical habitat for waterfowl and wetland other species. Unsigned stamps, featuring the work of Neal Anderson, are available for \$6 from Game and Parks offices or by mail from the Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503.

## 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:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

Address

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

Address

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Notary Public (for State Record only)

4. \_\_\_\_\_

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

## 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.
- Consider using barbless hooks.
- 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.



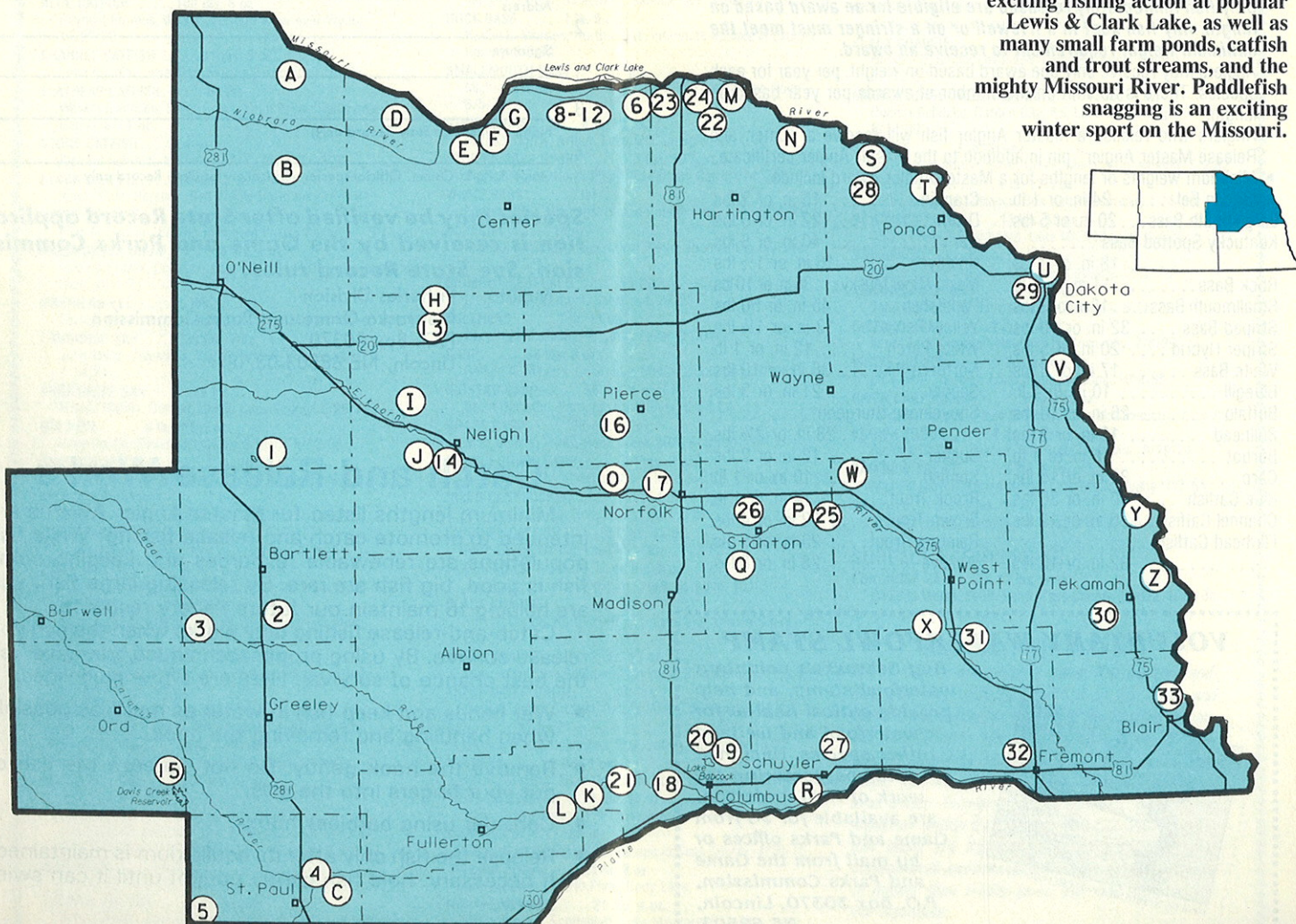


# NEBRASKAland Guide To Good Fishing

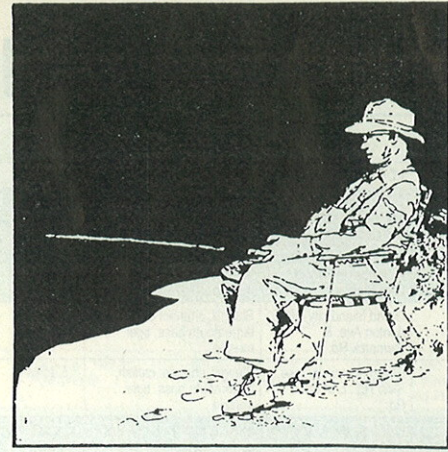
*This guide lists public waters and public access points to rivers and streams. Lakes and reservoirs are numbered (1-99). Trout streams and public river accesses are lettered (A-Z). Maps are numbered and lettered according to county, from north to south and west to east. Good fishing!*

## The Northeast

Fishermen 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. Paddlefish snagging is an exciting winter sport on the Missouri.



NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
1	Goose Lake	Holt Co., 18NW, SE of Bartlett	Bass, bluegill, pike, yellow perch	200 acres
2	Pibel Lake SRA	Wheeler Co., 9S, 1E of Bartlett	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass, pike	25 acres, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only
3	Lake Ericson	Wheeler Co., 1/2S of Ericson	Bass, bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, pike	70 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph
4	North Loup SRA	Howard Co., 3N of St. Paul	Bass, bluegill, channel catfish, crappie	7 acres, just north of the Loup River on Hwy. 281
5	Farwell South Reservoir	Howard Co., 4W, 3S of Farwell	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, walleye	40 acres, power boats not allowed
6	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
7	Niobrara SP	Knox Co., 1W of Niobrara	Bass & bluegill in lagoon; channel & flathead catfish in river	Park entry permit required
8	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
9	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
10	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
11	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
12	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
13	Grove Lake	Antelope Co., 2N of Royal	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike	50 acres, primitive camping, power boats limited to 5 mph
14	Penn Park Lake	Antelope Co., Neligh city lake, SW edge	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	8 acres, renovated in 1994
15	Davis Creek Reservoir	Valley Co., 6S, 2E of North Loup	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye and yellow perch	1,145 acres, water level fluctuates dramatically due to irrigation
16	Willow Creek SRA	Pierce Co., 2SW of Pierce	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike, tiger muskie, walleye, wipers	700 acres, camping, motorboats limited to 5 mph on west half of lake, 3 wheelchair accessible fishing piers
17	Skyview Lake	Madison Co., Norfolk	Bass, bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, pike, tiger muskie, walleye	50 acres, 21" minimum on largemouth bass, wheelchair accessible fishing pier, electric fishing motors only
18	Loup Canal	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
19	Lake North	Platte Co., 3N of Columbus	Carp, channel catfish, crappie, drum, walleye	200 acres, camping
20	Lake Babcock	Platte Co., 1W, 3N of Columbus	Bullhead, carp, channel & flathead catfish	600 acres, power boats not allowed
21	Looking Glass WMA	Platte Co., 1S of Monroe	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	Two small lakes, 3-4 acres each
22	Chalkrock Lake WMA	Cedar Co., 5N, 1/2E of Hwy. 81 & 12 Jct.	Bass, bluegill, channel catfish, tiger muskie, walleye	44 acres, boats limited to 5 mph
23	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
24	Gavins Point Dam Tailwaters	Cedar Co., 1S, 4W of Yankton, SD	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, drum, eel, paddlefish, smallmouth bass, sauger, white bass, walleye	All boats allowed, life jackets must be worn at all times in tailwaters area, wheelchair accessible fishing piers
25	Red Fox Lake WMA	Stanton Co., 1/4S of Pilger on Hwy. 15	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	25 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, primitive ramp
26	Maskenthine Reservoir	Stanton Co., 2NW of Stanton	Bass, bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, pike, walleye	98 acres, primitive camping, boats limited to 5 mph
27	Schuyler City Lake	Collax Co., In city park	Bass, bluegill, channel catfish, crappie	18 acres
28	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, 21 inch minimum on largemouth bass
29	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
30	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
31	Dead Timber SRA	Dodge Co., 5NW of Scribner, 1/2E	Bullhead, carp, channel & flathead catfish	20 acres, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only, Park entry permit required
32	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, Park entry permit required
33	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



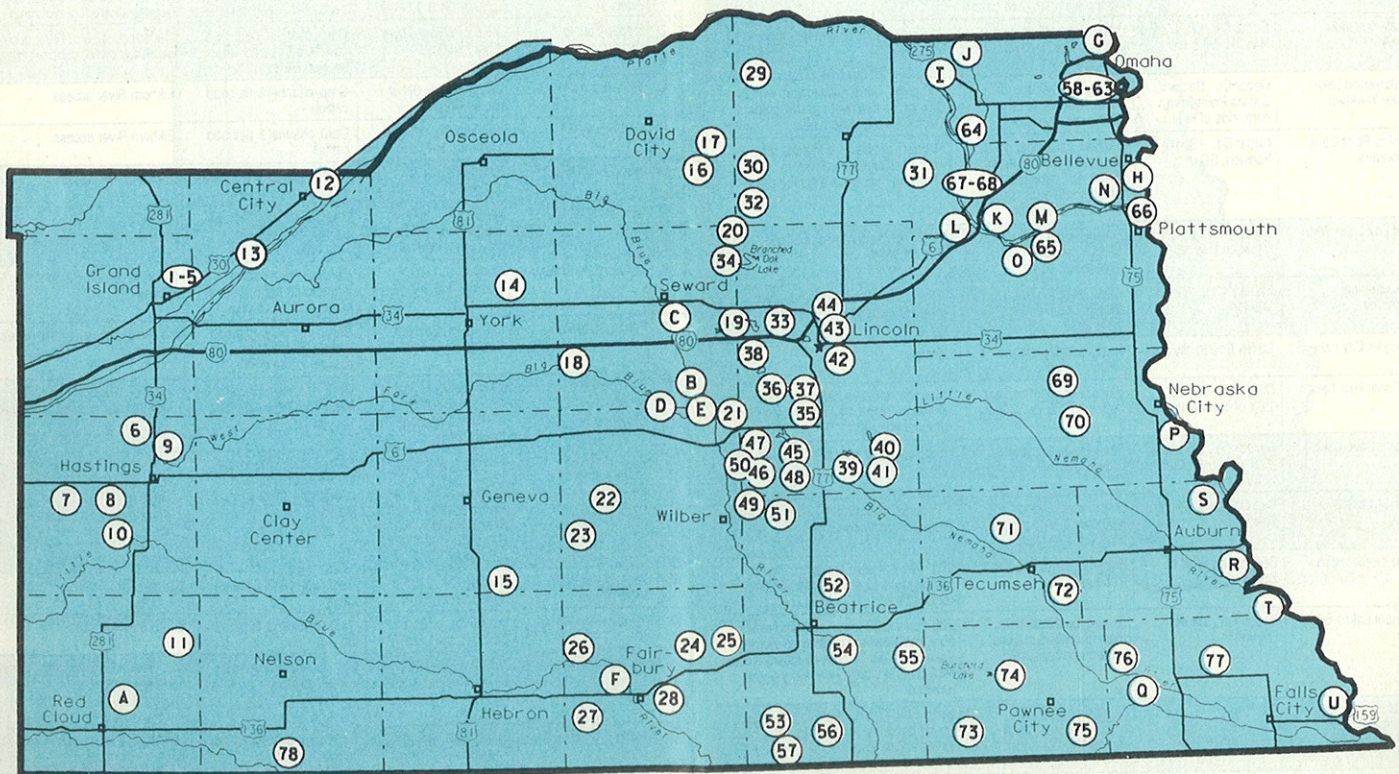
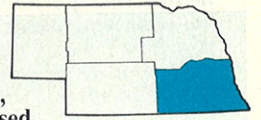
NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
A	Sunshine Bottoms Ramp (Boyd County)	Boyd Co., 3E, 4N of Lynch	Carp, channel catfish, drum, goldeye, sauger, smallmouth bass, walleye	Public access to Missouri River
B	Steel Creek	NE Holt County	Brown trout	Private access, permission required
C	Loup Junction	Howard Co., 2 1/2N, 2E, 1/2N of St. Paul	Carp, channel catfish	Loup River access
D	Verdel Landing	Knox Co., 2E, 2N of Verdel	Carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth & smallmouth bass, pike	Mo. River access
E	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
F	Ferry Landing SRA	Knox Co., 2 1/2E, 1 1/2N of Niobrara, NE River mile 841.0	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, sauger, walleye	Boat ramp, access to Missouri River
G	Bazile Creek WMA	Knox Co., 4E, 1 1/2N 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
H	Verdigre Creek	Antelope Co., East Branch, NE of Royal above Grove Lake	Brown & rainbow trout	Public access available as posted
I	Hackberry Creek WMA, Elkhorn River	Antelope Co., 1 1/2E, 1/2N of Clearwater	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
J	Red Wing WMA	Antelope Co., SSW of Neligh	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
K	Prairie Wolf WMA	Nanca Co., 1S of Genoa	Carp, channel catfish	Loup River access
L	George Syas WMA	Nanca Co., 2S, 1 1/2E of Genoa	Carp, channel catfish	Loup River access
M	St. Helena Access	Cedar Co., 6 1/2E, 1N of Hwy. 81 & 121 Jct.	Channel & flathead catfish, paddlefish, sauger, walleye	Mo. River access, Cedar County public access allowed, gravel ramp
N	Cedar County Access	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
O	Yellowbanks WMA	Madison Co., 3N of Battle Creek	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
P	Red Fox WMA	Stanton Co., 1S of Pilger on Hwy. 15	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
Q	Wood Duck WMA	Stanton Co., 3SW of Stanton	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
R	Whitetail WMA	Collax Co., 1/2W of Schuyler on US 30, 3S on county road	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, sauger	Platte River access
S	Mulberry Bend WMA	Dixon Co., 1E of Maskell on Hwy. 12 and 2 1/2N	Carp, channel catfish, largemouth & smallmouth bass, paddlefish, pike	Ramp to be completed in '94, Mo. River access
T	Ponca State Park	Dixon Co., 2 1/2N of Ponca, River mile 753.5	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, drum, paddlefish, sauger, walleye	Mo. River access, public access, concrete ramp
U	Scenic Park Access	Dakota Co., 1/2E 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
V	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
W	Black Island WMA, Elkhorn River	Cuming Co., 2 1/2E of Pilger on county road	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
X	Powder Horn WMA	Dodge Co., 4NW of Scribner on Hwy. 275	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
Y	Hightree Marina	Burt Co., 1/2N 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
Z	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

# The Southeast

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
1	Suchs Lake	Grand Island city lake, Harrison St., S of Burlington RR	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger muskie	4.3 acres
2	L.E. Ray Lake	Grand Island city lake, N of Husker Hwy. & East Blaine	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger muskie	30.1 acres
3	Pier Lake	Grand Island city lake, Ashton Ave. & Bismarck Rd.	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger muskie	8.3 acres
4	Wastewater Pond	Grand Island city lake, Swift Rd., E of Stuhr Rd.	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger muskie	7.5 acres
5	Detention Cell	Hall Co., 1N of Grand Island	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass	35 acres; Dept. of Roads area, dewatered 1994
6	Hastings NW Dam	Adams Co., 1N of Hastings Airport	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	63 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph, very turbid
7	32-Mile D, Roseland Lake	Adams Co., 4 1/2 W, 1 1/2 S of Juniata	Bullhead, carp, channel catfish	66 acres, Little Blue NRD, boats limited to 5 mph, very turbid
8	32-Mile H, Prairie Lake	Adams Co., 1 1/2 E, 4 1/2 S of Juniata	Channel catfish	65 acres, Little Blue NRD, boats limited to 5 mph, very turbid
9	Lake Hastings	Adams Co., N edge of Hastings	Bullhead, channel catfish, crappie	63 acres, all boats allowed
10	Crystal Lake SRA	Adams Co., 2N, 1W of Ayr	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	10 acres, electric fishing motors only, winter-killed 1993, restocked
11	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
12	Hord Lake SRA	Merrick Co., 2E of Central City	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tiger muskie	23 acres in 2 lakes, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only, old sandpits
13	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
14	Waco Basin WMA	York Co., 1W, 1 1/2 N of Waco	Black bullhead	15 acres
15	Bruning Pit	Fillmore Co., 2 1/2 E, 1N of Bruning	Bullhead, carp, channel catfish	258 acres, Little Blue NRD, very turbid
16	Redtail WMA	Butler Co., 1E of Dwight	Bluegill, crappie, channel catfish, largemouth bass	26 acres, walk-in access only
17	Timber Point	Butler Co., 1S, 2E of Brainard	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tiger muskie	28 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Platte South NRD
18	Smith Creek	Seward Co., 2N, 2W, 1/4 N of Beaver Crossing	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	21 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Upper Big Blue NRD, turbid
19	Twin Lakes WMA	Seward Co., 2 1/2 N, 1/2 W of Pleasant Dale	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tiger muskie, walleye	210 acres in east lake, 60 acres in west lake, electric fishing motors only, area closed during waterfowl seasons

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
20	Meadowlark	Seward Co., 6 1/2 W, 1N of Agnew	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	55 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Platte South NRD
21	Walnut Creek 2A	Saline Co., 1 1/2 E, 3 1/2 N of Crete	Bluegill, bullhead, channel & flathead catfish, largemouth bass	26 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Big Blue NRD
22	Swan Creek 2A WMA	Saline Co., 14W, 3N of Wilber	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	16 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph
23	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 in 1995
24	Cub Creek Watershed 12A	Jefferson Co., 3W, 4 1/2 S of Plymouth	Carp, channel catfish	27 acres, all boats allowed, very turbid, Lower Big Blue NRD
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, very turbid
26	Alexandria SRA	Jefferson Co., 2S, 3E of Alexandria	Bluegill, bullheads, carp, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	43 acres, electric fishing motors only, primitive camping
27	Buckley 3F	Jefferson Co., 7W, 4 1/2 S of Fairbury	Channel catfish	22 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Little Blue NRD, very turbid
28	Crystal Springs Lakes	Jefferson Co., 1S, 1W of Fairbury	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie	18 acres in 3 lakes, no boats allowed
29	Czechland Lake	Saunders Co., 1N, 1/4 W of Prague	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	85 acres, Lower Platte North NRD, boats limited to 5 mph, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
30	Red Cedar	Saunders Co., 5N, 2 1/2 W of the north edge of Valparaiso	Bass, bluegill, channel & flathead catfish, saugeye	50 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Platte South NRD
31	Memphis Lake SRA	Saunders Co., 1/2 W of Memphis	Bluegill, buffalo, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	45 acres, row boats and electric motors only, shallow
32	Wildwood Lake	Lancaster Co., 1W, 1 1/2 N of Agnew	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye	103 acres, electric fishing motors only, Lower Platte South NRD, catch and release fishing only for all species, all hooks on lures need to be barbless or flattened

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.

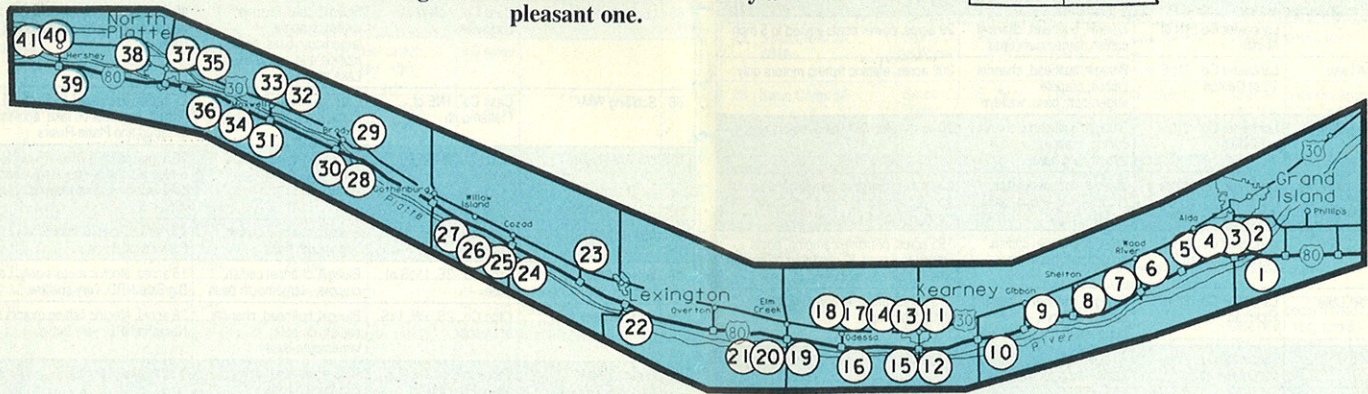
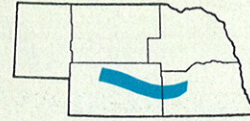


NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
33	Pawnee Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 2N, 1/2W of Emerald	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, drum, largemouth & white bass, walleye	740 acres, modern camping, primitive camping, all boats allowed, 10' minimum on crappie
34	Branched Oak Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 1/2E, 4N of Malcolm	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye, white perch, wiper	1,800 acres, modern & primitive camping, 5 mph boating (no wake) 750 ft. from dam & 600 ft. from all shores, wheelchair accessible fishing pier, daily bag limit 3 on wipers with no more than 1 fish over 18", 10" minimum on crappie, 18" minimum on walleye, 36" minimum on northern pike with a daily bag limit of 1
35	Cottontail	Lancaster Co., 1N of Martell	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass	29 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph
36	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
37	Killdeer Lake WMA	Lancaster Co., 2 1/2N of Martell	Bluegill, bullheads, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	20 acres, electric fishing motors only
38	Conestoga Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 1 1/2N of Denton	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye, wiper	230 acres, primitive camping, all boats allowed, daily bag limit 3 on wipers with no more than 1 fish over 18"
39	Stagecoach Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 1 1/2S, 1/2W of Hickman	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, pike	195 acres, primitive camping, boats limited to 5 mph, 8" minimum on bluegill, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
40	Wagon Train Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 2E of Hickman	Bluegill, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye	315 acres, primitive camping, boats limited to 5 mph
41	Hedgefield Lake WMA	Lancaster Co., 2W, 1/2N of Panama	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass	44 acres, electric fishing motors only
42	Holmes Lake	Lancaster Co., 70th & Normal Blvd. in Lincoln	Bluegill, carp, channel, blue & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, saugeye, trout (seasonal), walleye	100 acres, non-powered boats only, city of Lincoln lake, trout stocked in fall and winter, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
43	Bowling Lake	Lancaster Co., 3rd & Baker, NW Airport, Lincoln	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	12 acres, non-powered boats only, city of Lincoln lake, shallow, turbid; wheelchair accessible fishing pier
44	Oak Lake	Lancaster Co., 1-180 & Sun Valley Blvd., NW Lincoln	Bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, green sunfish	47-acre, city of Lincoln lake, shallow, subject to winter kill
45	Bluestem Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 2 1/2W of Sprague	Bluegill, crappie, flathead & channel catfish, largemouth bass, saugeye, walleye, wiper	326 acres, primitive camping, all boats allowed, daily bag limit 3 on wipers with no more than 1 fish over 20"
46	Merganser	Lancaster Co., 6E, 2S, 1/4E of Crete	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	41 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph
47	Wild Plum	Lancaster Co., 4 1/2E, 2S, 1/2W of Crete	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	16 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph
48	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
49	Teal Lake WMA	Lancaster Co., 4 1/2E, 4N of Wilber	Bluegill, bullhead, channel & flathead catfish, largemouth bass	29 acres, electric fishing motors only, subject to frequent fish kills due to low levels
50	Tanglewood	Lancaster Co., 3 1/2E, 2 1/2S of Crete	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	33 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Platte South NRD
51	Clatonia 3A	Gage Co., 1N of Clatonia	Channel catfish	46 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Big Blue NRD, turbid
52	Bear Pierce Cedar 2A	Gage Co., 2N, 2E of Hwy. 77 & Hwy. 136 Junction	Channel catfish	24 acres, turbid & shallow, Lower Big Blue NRD
53	Arrowhead WMA	Gage Co., 3E, 1/2S of Diller	Bullhead, carp, channel catfish	77 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph, very turbid & shallow
54	Rockford Lake SRA	Gage Co., 7E, 2S of Beatrice	Bluegill, bullhead, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, saugeye, walleye	150 acres, all boats allowed, primitive camping
55	Wolf Wildcat #12	Gage Co., 7S of Virginia	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	42 acres, Lower Big Blue NRD, limited access
56	Big Indian 11A	Gage Co., 3S, 3W of Wymore	Bullhead, channel catfish	76 acres, primitive camping, all boats allowed, very turbid, Lower Big Blue NRD
57	Diamond Lakes WMA	Gage Co., 3 1/2W of Odell	Bullhead, channel & flathead catfish	43 acres in 2 lakes, electric fishing motors only, very turbid
58	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, first stocked in 1987
59	Zorinsky Lake	Douglas Co., 156th & F Sts. in Omaha	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tiger muskie, walleye	255 acres, city of Omaha lake, 21" minimum on largemouth bass, 8" minimum on bluegill, 10" minimum on crappie, special bag limits in effect, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
60	Glenn Cunningham Lake	Douglas Co., 96th & State in Omaha	Bluegill & channel catfish, bullhead, largemouth, yellow & white bass	390 acres, no-wake power boating, camping, city of Omaha lake, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
61	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
62	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

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
63	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, 21" minimum on largemouth bass, 8" minimum on bluegill, 10" minimum on crappie, special bag limits in effect, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
64	Two Rivers SRA	Douglas Co., 3 1/2E, 1S, 1W of Yutan	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pickerel, tiger muskie in lakes #1, 2, 3 & 4; trout in lake #5; carp & bullhead in carp lake	15 acres in 6 lakes, primitive and modern camping, non-powered boats only, no boats on lake #5, access point to Platte River, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
65	Louisville SRA	Cass Co., 1/2NW of Louisville	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; tiger muskie and yellow bass in Lake #2	40 acres, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only, access point Platte River
66	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, access to Missouri and Platte Rivers
67	US West Lake	Cass Co., Mahoney State Park	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, trout (seasonal)	10 acres, catch & release only for bass & bluegill, check Park Regulations for other species, trout stocked in fall and winter
68	Marina Lake	Cass Co., Mahoney State Park	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	4 1/2 acres, special restrictions - check Park Regulations
69	Wilson Creek 2X WMA	Otoe Co., 3E, 1 1/2S of Otoe	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	15 acres, electric motors only, Lower Big Blue NRD, very shallow
70	Wilson Creek 4F	Otoe Co., 2S, 1W, 1/4S of Dunbar	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	38 acres, electric fishing motors only, Nemaha NRD, very turbid
71	Osage Lakes Nos. 1 & 2 WMA	Johnson Co., 3N, 2W, 3/4N of Tecumseh	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	1 acre lake (3 ponds)
72	Twin Oaks WMA	Johnson Co., 2E, 4S of Tecumseh	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	1 1/2 acres (2 ponds)
73	Pawnee Prairie WMA	Pawnee Co., 6S, 2E, 2S of Burchard	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	7 ponds, 1-3 acres in size
74	Burchard Lake	Pawnee Co., 3E, 1/2N of Burchard	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass, walleye, yellow perch	150 acres, boating limited to 5 mph; primitive camping, area closed during waterfowl season, except face of dam, 21" minimum on largemouth bass
75	Iron Horse Trail Lake	Pawnee Co., 1/2N, 2W of DuBois	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye	85 acres, all boats allowed, camping, picnicking, Nemaha NRD, turbid
76	Kirkman's Cove	Richardson Co., 1N, 2W of Humboldt	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye	160 acres, Nemaha NRD, turbid, all boats allowed
77	Verdon Lake	Richardson Co., 1/2W of Verdon	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	30 acres, electric motors only, primitive camping, subject to summer kill
78	Superior City Lake	Nuckolls Co., W edge of Superior	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	1 acre
A	Elm Creek	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 three times during year
B	Blue Bluffs	Seward Co., 1/2N, 1E, 2S of Milford	Carp, channel catfish	Access point to Big Blue River
C	Blue Valley	Seward Co., 1/2S of Seward	Carp, channel catfish	Access point to Big Blue River
D	Blue River SRA	Saline Co., 5N of Dorchester	Carp, channel catfish	Access point to Big Blue River
E	Shady Trail	Saline Co., 1W, 4N, 1/2W, 1/2N of Crete	Carp, channel catfish	Access point to Big Blue River
F	Fairbury	Jefferson Co., S edge of Fairbury	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Access point to Little Blue River below Fairbury dam
G	Dodge Park	Douglas Co., 11000 N River Rd. in Omaha	Buffalo, carp, catfish, crappie	Access point to Missouri River
H	Haworth Park	Douglas Co., Bellevue	Buffalo, carp, catfish, crappie	Access point to Missouri River
I	Platte River Access	Douglas Co., 4W of Valley, SE corner of Hwy. 14 bridge	River species	1.9 acres, access to Platte River
J	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
K	Schramm Park SRA	Sarpy Co., 6S I-80 & Hwy. 31 Junction	Carp, channel, flathead & blue catfish, sauger, walleye	Access point to Platte River
L	Hwy. 6 Bridge	Sarpy Co., E of Ashland	River species	Access point to Salt Creek
M	Hwy. 50 Bridge	Cass Co., Louisville	River species	Access point to Platte River
N	Schilling WMA	Cass Co., 1NE of Plattsmouth	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, sturgeon	Access point to Missouri and Platte rivers
O	Louisville SRA	Cass Co., 1/2NW of Louisville	River species	Access point to Platte River
P	River View Marina SRA	Otoe Co., E of Nebraska City	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, sturgeon	Access to Missouri River, ramp, primitive camping
Q	Kinter's Ford WMA	Pawnee Co., S of Humboldt	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Access point to Big Nemaha River
R	Brownville SRA	Nemaha Co., 1E of Brownville	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, sturgeon	Access to Missouri River, ramp, primitive camping
S	Peru	Nemaha Co., Peru	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, sturgeon	Access point to Missouri River
T	Indian Cave SP	Richardson Co., 4E of Barada	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, sturgeon	Access point to Missouri River
U	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

# I-80 Lakes

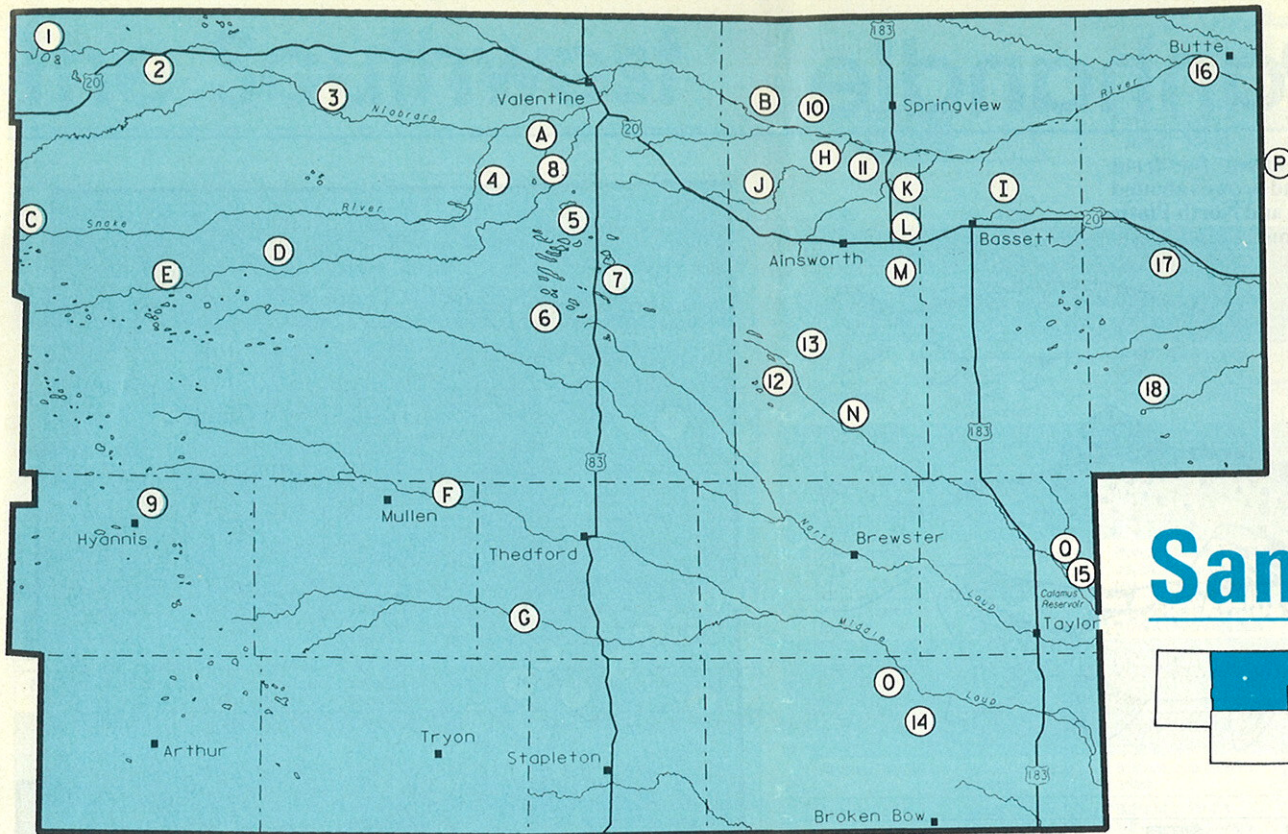
The I-80 Lakes between Grand Island and Hershey offer weary travelers a chance to stop, stretch, fish a little and camp overnight as a break in their travels. There are lots of bass, bluegill and catfish to make their stay a pleasant one.



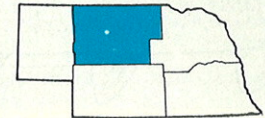
NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
1	Grand Island East-bound Rest Area	Hall Co., 3E, S of I-80	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	6 acres
2	Mormon Island DOR (East)	Hall Co., Grand Island Inter., N of I-80, 1 1/2 E	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tiger muskie	22 acres, access on foot from Mormon Island SRA, 8" minimum on bluegill
3	Mormon Island SRA (Middle)	Hall Co., N of I-80, 1E, Grand Island Inter.	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tiger muskie	19 acres, access on foot from Mormon Island, 8" minimum on bluegill
4	Mormon Island SRA (West)	Hall Co., NE quadrant, Grand Island Inter.	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, largemouth bass, walleye	42 acres, modern camping, 8" minimum on bluegill
5	Alda DOR	Hall Co., Alda Inter., NE quadrant	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, largemouth bass	12 acres
6	Cheyenne SRA	Hall Co., Wood River Inter., NW quadrant	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tiger muskie	17 acres, primitive camping
7	West Wood River WMA	Hall Co., Wood River Inter., 1/2S, 1W, N across overpass, 1/4W	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tiger muskie	15 acres
8	War Axe SRA	Buffalo Co., Shelton Inter., NE quadrant	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, largemouth & rock bass	14 acres, primitive camping
9	Windmill SRA	Buffalo Co., Gibbon Inter., NE quadrant	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, rainbow trout in winter	Four 2-acre lakes, one 7-acre lake; modern camping, power boats not allowed
10	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
11	Bullehead WMA	Buffalo Co., Kearney Inter., 1N to 11th St., 3E, 1S, 1/2E	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	15 acres
12	Kearney WMA	Buffalo Co., Kearney Inter., SW quadrant	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	20 acres
13	Kea West WMA	Buffalo Co., Kearney Inter., 1N to 11th St., 1 1/4W, 1S to overpass approach, turn left	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	8 acres
14	North Kearney Rest Area DOR	Buffalo Co., Kearney Inter., 1 3/4W on I-80 to rest stop	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye	7 acres
15	South Kearney Rest Area DOR	Buffalo Co., Kearney Inter., 1 3/4W on I-80 to rest stop	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, redear	3/4 acre
16	East Odessa WMA	Buffalo Co., Odessa Inter., 4E on S side	Bullheads, carp, largemouth bass	7 acres
17	Union Pacific SRA	Buffalo Co., Odessa Inter., NE quadrant	Channel catfish, rock & smallmouth bass	15 acres, primitive camping, renovated 1994
18	Coot Shallows WMA	Buffalo Co., Odessa Inter., 3/4N, 1 3/4W	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, northern pike	12 acres, renovated 1994
19	Blue Hole WMA	Buffalo Co., Elm Creek Inter., 1 1/2S, 1 1/2E on canal road	Carp, channel catfish, largemouth bass	34 acres (2 lakes)
20	Blue Hole WMA (East lake)	Buffalo Co., Elm Creek Inter., SW quadrant	Carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	37 acres

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
21	West Elm Creek WMA	Buffalo Co., Elm Creek Inter., 5W	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth & rock bass	8 1/2 acres
22	Dogwood WMA	Dawson Co., Lexington Inter., 5 1/2 E, 2 1/2 S over overpass, 1/4 E	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth & rock bass	7 acres
23	Darr WMA	Dawson Co., Darr Inter., NW quadrant	Channel catfish, rock & smallmouth bass	13 acres
24	Cozad WMA	Dawson Co., Cozad Inter., SE quadrant	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, largemouth & rock bass	18 acres
25	West Cozad WMA	Dawson Co., Cozad Inter., 1N to Hwy. 30, 1 3/4 W, 3/4 S across overpass, 1/4 N & E	Carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	18 acres
26	Willow Island WMA	Dawson Co., Cozad Inter., 5 1/4 W of Cozad on Hwy. 30, 3/4 S across overpass	Carp, channel catfish, largemouth bass	24 acres
27	East Gothenburg WMA	Dawson Co., Gothenburg Inter., 1/2 S, 1 1/2 E, 3 1/2 NE & E	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	15 acres
28	West Gothenburg WMA	Lincoln Co., Brady Inter., 3 1/2 E on Hwy. 30, 1/4 S across tracks	Channel catfish, largemouth & rock bass	15 acres
29	West Brady WMA	Lincoln Co., Brady Inter., 3/4 N, 3W across overpass	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth & smallmouth bass	5 1/2 acres
30	Brady Interchange WMA	Lincoln Co., Brady Inter., SE quadrant	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	25 acres
31	Ft. McPherson WMA	Lincoln Co., Maxwell Inter., SE quadrant	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, largemouth bass	30 acres, primitive camping
32	Maxwell Rest Stop DOR	Lincoln Co., Maxwell Inter., 3E	Bluegill, crappie, largemouth bass	5 acres
33	West Maxwell WMA	Lincoln Co., Maxwell Inter., 3/4 N, 3/4 W, 1/4 S	Channel catfish, rock & smallmouth bass	7 acres
34	Crystal Lake	Lincoln Co., Maxwell Inter., 3/4 N, 2W, 1/2 N, 3 1/2 W, 1/2 S across overpass	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	6 1/2 acres
35	Fremont Slough WMA	Lincoln Co., North Platte Inter., 1 1/2 S, 4 3/4 E, 1/4 N, right turn across canal, 1/4 N under overpass, 1/4 E	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	30 acres
36	North Platte City Lake	Lincoln Co., North Platte Inter., SE quadrant	Channel catfish, largemouth & rock bass, walleye	26 acres
37	Birdwood WMA	Lincoln Co., North Platte Inter., 1/2 S, 3 1/2 W, 1N, NW across overpass	Channel catfish, largemouth & rock bass, perch, rainbow trout in winter	20 acres
38	East Hershey WMA	Lincoln Co., North Platte Inter., 1/2 S, 7 3/4 W, 1 1/2 N, NE across overpass	Channel catfish, largemouth bass, perch, rock & smallmouth bass	20 acres
39	Hershey WMA	Lincoln Co., Hershey Inter., SE quadrant	Channel catfish, largemouth bass, perch, pike, walleye	53 acres
40	West Hershey WMA	Lincoln Co., Hershey Inter., 1/2 W	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	6 acres, private access
41	East Sutherland WMA	Lincoln Co., Hershey Inter., 1/4 S, 3W, 1/2 N, NE across overpass	Bullheads, channel catfish, largemouth & rock bass, perch	27 acres

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



# The Sandhills

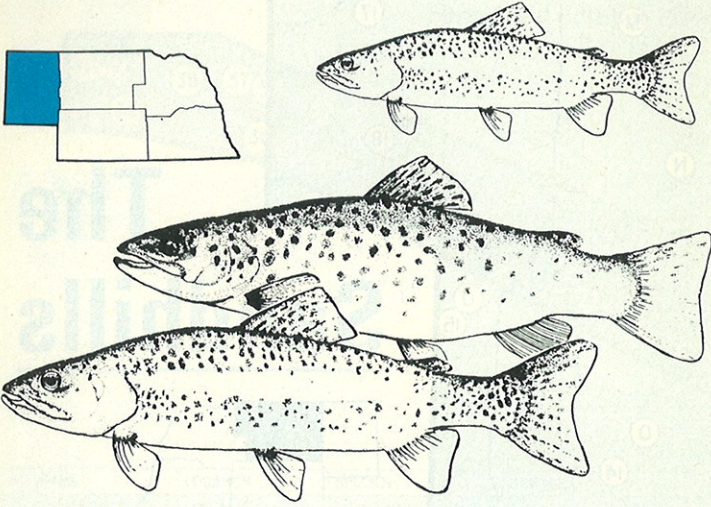
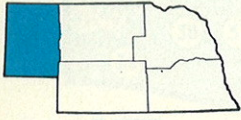


NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
1	Shell Lake	Cherry Co., 15NE of Gordon	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch, walleye	160 acres, aquatic vegetation hampers summer fishing, partial winterkill 1993-94
2	Cottonwood Lake SRA	Cherry Co., 1/2E of Merriman	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch	34 acres, primitive camping, vegetation hampers summer fishing, all boats allowed
3	Schoolhouse Lake	Cherry Co., 18S of Cody	Black crappie, bluegill, largemouth bass	105 acres, private access, permission required
4	Merritt Reservoir SRA	Cherry Co., 26SW of Valentine	Bluegill, bullheads, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth & smallmouth bass, muskie, walleye, white bass, yellow perch	2,900 acres, camping available, all boats allowed, 18" minimum on walleye with only 1 fish allowed over 25"
5	Willow Lake WMA	Cherry Co., 22S of Valentine	Carp, pike, yellow perch	354 acres
6	Rat and Beaver WMA	Cherry Co., 30S, 7W of Valentine	Carp, pike, yellow perch	450 acres in 2 lakes, permission required for access
7	Valentine Refuge	Cherry Co., 13S, 12W of Valentine	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, muskie, 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
8	Big Alkali WMA	Cherry Co., 13S, 4W of Valentine	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch	842 acres, all boats allowed, ramp, camping, fishing camp
9	Frye Lake	Grant Co., 1N, 11/2E of Hyannis	Bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch	243 acres, renovated 1994, power boats limited to 5 mph
10	Cub Creek Lake	Keya Paha Co., 9W of Springview	Bluegill, catfish, largemouth bass, tiger muskie, walleye, yellow perch	33 acres, electric fishing motors only, primitive camping
11	Keller Park SRA	Brown Co., 11S of Springview	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, trout	5 ponds, pond No. 4 & 5 have catchable trout, camping
12	Long Lake SRA	Brown Co., 81/2W, 20S of Ainsworth	Bullheads, pike, yellow perch	50 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph.
13	Willow Lake WMA, Brown Co.	Brown Co., 181/2S, 12W of Ainsworth	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, yellow perch	313 acres, primitive camping, 21" minimum on largemouth bass, power boats limited to 5 mph
14	Victoria Springs Lake SRA	Custer Co., 7E of Anselmo	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, rainbow trout	51/2 acres, cabins and camping, electric motors only

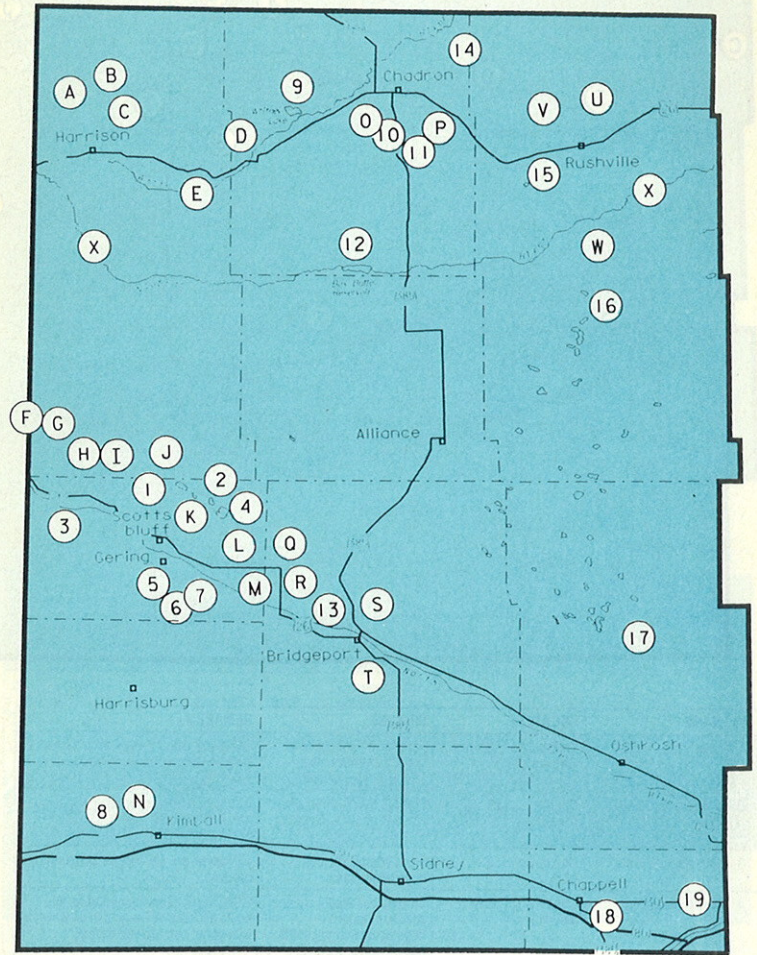
NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
15	Calamus Reservoir SRA	Loup Co., 7NW of Burwell	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike, walleye, wiper, yellow perch	5,200 acres, modern/primitive camping, 5 mph boating on upper lake, 18" minimum on walleye with only 1 fish allowed over 25", daily bag limit 3 on wipers with no more than 1 fish over 18". Gracie Creek pond has wheelchair accessible fishing pier
16	Hull Lake	Boyd Co., 3W, 2S of Butte	Bluegill, catfish, largemouth bass	51/2 acres, primitive camping, no drinking water
17	Atkinson SRA	Holt Co., 1/2W of Atkinson	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, pike	5 acres, primitive camping, electrical hookups, Elkhorn River access
18	Swan Lake	Holt Co., 25S, 3W of Atkinson	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, northern pike, yellow perch	235 acres, renovated in 1994
A	Schlagel Creek WMA	Cherry Co., 13S, 4W of Valentine	Brown trout	Private access, permission required except on Schlagel Creek WMA
B	Fairfield Creek	Cherry Co., 8N, 2E of Wood Lake to forks or 21/2W 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
C	Snake River (Upper Reach)	Cherry Co., near Gordon	Brown and rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
D	Boardman Creek	Cherry Co., 40N, 7 to 19W of Mullen	Brown and rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
E	North Loup River	Cherry Co.	Upper river - brown & rainbow trout, Lower - carp, channel catfish	Private access, permission required
F	Middle Loup River	NE Hooker County	Upper river - rainbow trout, Lower - channel catfish, carp	Public access at Milburn & Arcadia diversions; rest private access, permission required
G	Dismal River	So. Hooker Co., Thomas, Blaine Co.	Brown and rainbow trout, channel catfish	Private access, permission required
H	Niobrara River	Brown Co., N part of District	Channel catfish, sauger	Private access, permission required
I	Coon Creek	Brown Co., NE of Bassett	Brown trout	Private access, permission required
J	Plum Creek	Brown Co., W of Johnstown	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
K	Pine Glen WMA	Brown Co., 2E, 81/4N of Long Pine	Brown & rainbow trout	Long Pine Creek access
L	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
M	Long Pine SRA	Brown Co., W of Long Pine	Brown & rainbow trout	Long Pine Creek access
N	Calamus River	Brown Co.	Carp, channel catfish, pike	Private access, permission required, canoe sites/camping
O	Milburn Diversion	Custer Co., Milburn	Carp, channel catfish	Middle Loup River access
P	Spencer SRA	Holt Co., 18N of O'Neill	Channel catfish, sauger	Primitive camping, Niobrara River access
Q	Gracie Creek	Loup Co., NW portion of Calamus Reservoir	Rainbow trout	Two miles of stream above Gracie Creek pond

# The 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.

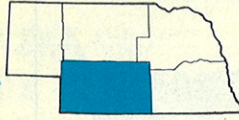


NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
1	University Lake	Sioux Co., 7NW of Scottsbluff	Bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch	30 acres
2	Lake Winters Creek	Scotts Bluff Co., N of Minatare	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, walleye, yellow perch	235 acres, non-powered boats only, closed Oct. 1-Jan. 15, 15' minimum on walleye
3	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
4	Lake Minatare SRA	Scotts Bluff Co., 12NE of Scottsbluff	Channel catfish, crappie, smallmouth bass, white bass, walleye, wipers, yellow perch	2,300 acres, camping, all boats allowed; closed Oct. 1-Jan. 15, 15' minimum on walleye
5	Terry's Pit	Scotts Bluff Co., Gering	Largemouth bass, trout	7 acres
6	Buffalo Creek WMA	Scotts Bluff Co., 5S, 1 1/2W of Melbeta	Largemouth bass, rainbow trout	7 acres, access via 1-mile foot trail
7	Cochran Lake	Scotts Bluff Co., 2SW of Melbeta	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger muskie, yellow perch	45 acres
8	Oliver Reservoir SRA	Kimball Co., 10W of Kimball	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tiger muskie, walleye, yellow perch	270 acres, all boats, primitive camping, 15' minimum on walleye, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
9	Whitney Lake	Dawes Co., 1 1/2W of Whitney	Channel catfish, crappie, perch, walleye, white bass	900 acres, private irrigation reservoir, access limited
10	Chadron City Reservoirs	Dawes Co., 5 1/2S of Chadron	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, yellow perch, trout	22 acres, no boats allowed, public access
11	Chadron State Park Pond	Dawes Co., 9S of Chadron	Trout	2 acres, boats not allowed, limited wheelchair accessible fishing pier
12	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
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	Isham Dam	Sheridan Co., NW of Hay Springs	Bluegill, bullheads, largemouth bass, yellow perch	26 acres, private/permission required, all boats allowed
15	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
16	Smith Lake WMA	Sheridan Co., 23S of Rushville	Bluegill, bullheads, largemouth bass, pike, tiger muskie, walleye, yellow perch	265 acres, primitive camping, power boats limited to 5 mph
17	Island Lake	Garden Co., Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge, 22N of Oshkosh	Bluegill, crappie, largemouth bass, yellow perch, walleye	711 acres, no minnows, dead smelt allowed, no camping, electric motors only, other refuge lakes closed or insignificant for fishing
18	Chappell Interstate Lake	Deuel Co., 1/2S of Chappell	Black crappie, bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, walleye, yellow perch	30 acres
19	Goldeneye WMA	Deuel Co., 3W of Big Springs	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, yellow perch	17 acres



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

# The 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.

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
1	Lake McConaughy SRA	Keith Co., 10N of Ogallala	Channel catfish, perch, rainbow trout, smallmouth bass, striped bass, tiger muskie, white bass, walleye	30,000 acres, modern and primitive camping, all boats allowed, 15" minimum on walleye
2	Lake Ogallala SRA	Keith Co., 10N of Ogallala	Rainbow trout, yellow perch	590 acres, modern/primitive camping, all boats allowed, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
3	Enders Reservoir SRA	Chase Co., 5E, 4 1/2S of Imperial	Channel & flathead catfish, crappie, walleye, white bass	1700 acres, primitive camping, all boats allowed, 15" minimum on walleye, severe summer drawdown
4	Rock Creek Lake SRA	Dundy Co., 4N, 1W of Parks	Bluegill, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, rainbow trout	50 acres, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only
5	Pawnee Slough WMA	Lincoln Co., 2W of Maxwell	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth & rock bass	30 acres
6	Sutherland Reservoir SRA	Lincoln Co., 2S of Sutherland	Channel catfish, walleye, white bass, wiper, yellow perch	3,000 acres, ice fishermen use caution due to heated discharge from power plant, primitive camping, all boats allowed, 15" minimum on walleye, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
7	Lake Maloney SRA	Lincoln Co., 6S of North Platte	Channel & flathead catfish, drum, walleye, white bass, wiper	1,600 acres, primitive camping, all boats allowed, 15" minimum on walleye, wheelchair accessible fishing pier on inlet in 1995
8	Chester Island WMA	Lincoln Co., 2S, 1/2W of Brady	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	4.2 acres (4 sandpits)
9	Jeffrey Reservoir	Lincoln Co., 5S, 3W of Wellfleet	Channel catfish, walleye, white bass	900 acres, all boats allowed, 15" minimum on walleye
10	Wellfleet Lake	Lincoln Co., 1/2SW of Wellfleet	Bluegill, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	50 acres, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only
11	Hayes Center Lake WMA	Hayes Co., 12NE of Hayes Center	Bullhead, channel & flat-head catfish, crappie, pike	50 acres, electric fishing motors only
12	Medicine Creek SRA (Harry Strunk Lake)	Frontier Co., 2W, 7N of Cambridge	Channel & flathead catfish, crappie, hybrid striped, walleye, white bass	1,850 acres, primitive and modern camping, all boats allowed, 15" minimum on walleye
13	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, 15" minimum on walleye
14	Swanson Reservoir SRA	Hitchcock Co., 2W of Trenton	Channel catfish, crappie, drum, walleye, white bass	5,000 acres, 15" minimum on walleye
15	Arnold Lake	Custer Co., 1/2S Arnold	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	4 acres, very weedy in summer
16	Ansley Lake	Custer Co., W of Ansley	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	4 acres, no power boating
17	Pressey WMA	Custer Co., 3W Oconto	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	2.5 acres
18	Buffalo Creek	Dawson Co., 6E, 7N of Cozad	Bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike, saugeye, walleye	220 acres, Central Platte NRD area

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
19	Midway Canyon Reservoir	Dawson Co., 8S, 2W of Cozad	Channel & flathead catfish, crappie, drum, walleye, white bass	609 acres, all power boats allowed, 15" minimum on walleye
20	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, 15" minimum on walleye
21	Lexington City Lake	Dawson Co., N edge Lexington	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass,	3 acres
22	Lake Helen	Dawson Co., N edge Gothenburg	Carp, channel catfish	20 acres
23	Plum Creek Canyon Reservoir	Dawson Co., 8S, 3.5E Cozad	Channel catfish, crappie, drum, walleye, white bass	252 acres
24	Johnson Lake SRA	Gosper Co., 7S of Lexington	Channel & flathead catfish, drum, striped bass, walleye, white bass, wiper	2,800 acres, primitive and modern camping, all boats allowed, 2 wheelchair accessible fishing piers, 15" minimum on walleye
25	Elwood Reservoir WMA	Gosper Co., 3N of Elwood	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike, walleye, yellow perch	1,200 acres, bank fishing limited except at entrance, power boats limited to 5 mph, 18" minimum on walleye
26	Phillips Canyon Reservoir	Gosper Co., 8S, 1E Lexington	Channel catfish, crappie, drum, walleye, white bass	142 acres
27	Sherman Reservoir SRA	Sherman Co., 4E, 1N of Loup City	Channel catfish, crappie, pike, walleye, white bass	2,600 acres, primitive camping, all boats allowed, extreme summer drawdowns, 18" minimum on walleye with only 1 fish allowed over 25"
28	Bowman Lake	Sherman Co., 1/2W of Loup City	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	20 acres, winter killed 1993, restocked
29	Ravenna Lake SRA	Buffalo Co., 1SE of Ravenna	Bullhead, carp, channel catfish	30 acres, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only
30	Cottonmill Lake	Buffalo Co., 1W, 1/2N of Kearney on Hwy. 30	Bullhead, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	No power boating
31	Sandy Channel WMA	Buffalo Co., 2S of Elm Creek, I-80 Interchange	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, rock bass	52 acres in 6 lakes, electric fishing motors only
32	Ft. Kearny SRA	Keamey Co., 3/4E, 1N of Ft. Kearny SHP	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	6 gravel pit lakes, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
33	Harlan County Reservoir/Corps of Engineers	Harlan Co., S of Alma and Republican City	Channel & flathead catfish, pike, walleye, white bass, wiper	13,500 acres, modern and primitive camping, all boats allowed, 18" minimum on walleye
34	Holdrege City Lake	Phelps Co., 1/2N of Holdrege	Bluegill, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	5 acres
A	Otter Creek	12E of Lewellen	Brown & rainbow trout	Private property, permission required
B	North Platte River	Keystone to Paxton	Rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
C	CNPPID Canal	North Platte to Gothenburg	Channel & flathead catfish, walleye, white bass, wiper	Power boats limited to 5 mph, no access, 15" minimum on walleye
D	North River WMA	Lincoln Co., 2 1/2N of Hershey	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, pike	Encompasses 2 miles of North Platte River

