

## 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, and 44 miles of shoreline. It reaches depths of 104 feet.

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

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

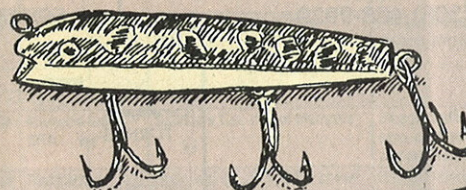
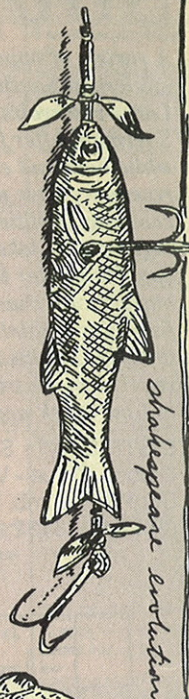
### Merritt Trading Post Resort

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

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

# 1997 Nebraska Guide To

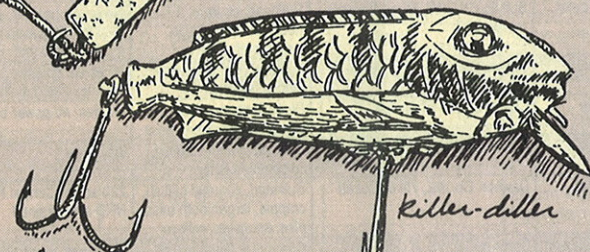
## Fishing Regulations and Public Waters



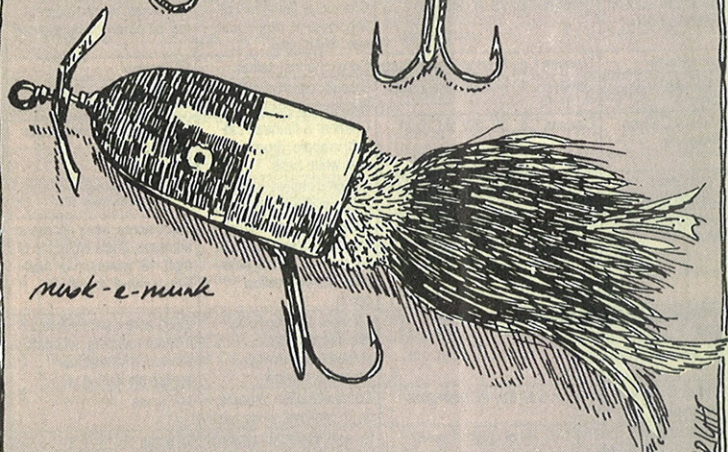
*creek darter*



*paw paw wotta-frog*



*killer-diller*



*musk-e-musk*



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

PR/11/11

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



#### NOTICE

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

### Permits

RESIDENT ANNUAL FISH .....	\$12.75
RESIDENT COMBINATION FISH-HUNT .....	21.75
NONRESIDENT ANNUAL .....	35.00
NONRESIDENT 3-DAY .....	10.50
RESIDENT 3-DAY .....	8.25
AQUATIC HABITAT STAMP .....	5.00
ANNUAL PARK ENTRY .....	14.00
DUPLICATE PARK ENTRY .....	7.00

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 commercially. A vehicle Park Entry Permit is required to fish on state park and state recreation areas.

#### 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) military service personnel officially stationed in Nebraska and on active duty here for at least 30 consecutive days; (2) nonresident students upon proof they have attended classes full time for at least 30 consecutive days at any Nebraska college, university, junior college, vocational school or any foreign exchange high school student; and (3) any person duly enrolled in and attending a civilian conservation center or similar government work or training facility for 30 consecutive days.

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

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

#### LIFETIME PERMITS

Nebraska residents can now enjoy a lifetime of fishing or hunting on a single permit and support outdoor recreation at the same time. Fees are: Lifetime Fish, \$257.50; Lifetime Hunt, \$224; or Lifetime Fish and Hunt, \$448. Revenue from these permits goes into a special fund, with the interest 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. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370.

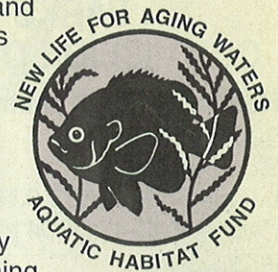
#### Aquatic Habitat Stamp

Beginning January 1, 1997, most anglers will be required to purchase a \$5 Aquatic Habitat Stamp with their permit to fish in Nebraska. Revenue from the sale of

those stamps, expected to be approximately \$1 million annually, will be used solely to enhance and restore aquatic habitat and quality fishing in Nebraska's reservoirs, lakes and streams.

The stamp will be required of all resident and nonresident anglers, 18 years and older, who participate in activities that require a Nebraska fishing permit, whether it is a three-day fishing permit, an annual fishing permit or an annual hunting/fishing combination permit. An angler who buys more than one three-day fishing permit is required to purchase only one Nebraska Aquatic Habitat Stamp per year.

Veterans 65 years and older and residents 70 and older who have a fee-exempt permit, as well as individuals who have lifetime permits are exempt from the Aquatic Habitat Stamp requirement. Though they are required to purchase an annual Nebraska Fishing Permit, anglers ages 16 and 17 are not required to purchase the Aquatic Habitat Stamp. The Nebraska Trout Stamp, once required of all anglers who catch and possess trout, was eliminated under the new law.



#### Free Fishing Day

As a result of legislation passed last spring, June 1, 1996 was Nebraska's first Free Fishing and Park Entry Day. The purpose of a Free Fishing Day is to attract people who no longer fish or who never have had an opportunity to experience this outdoor activity without the need to purchase a license. This year's Free Fishing and Park Entry Day is set for Saturday, May 17. Anglers can take advantage of that day, invite a non-angler friend along and show them how much fun fishing really is.

#### Synopsis of Changes for 1997

##### PERMITS

The Trout Stamp is no longer required for anglers who catch and harvest trout.

The Aquatic Habitat Stamp will be required in 1997 (see explanation on bottom of this page).

##### PADDLEFISH

The archery paddlefish season has been extended from 9 to 16 days. The paddlefish snagging season will run from October 1 through October 30.

The area of the Missouri River that is open to both archery and snagging of paddlefish is defined by a line that extends from the east end of the south cement wall of the discharge canal northwest to the east end of the north wall of the stilling basin below Gavins Point Dam downstream to the mouth of the Big Sioux River at mile marker 734.

A free tag is required for any person attempting to harvest a paddlefish by either archery or snagging. There will be a limited number of tags issued with no more than two tags allowed per person for archery and two for snagging.

Please consult the archery and snagging section in the fishing guide for further information.

##### FEES

The cost of a daily trout fishing tag at Two Rivers State Recreation Area was increased to \$4 to offset the costs of producing and transporting trout.

## SPECIAL USE AREAS

The open fishing hours on both Jenny Newman (Platte River State Park) and Marina Lake (Mahoney State Park) have been extended one hour, now closing at 10 a.m. rather than at 9 a. m.

## MISCELLANEOUS

Diploid (fertile) grass carp are now legal to possess and stock for vegetation control in private waters.

Anglers who use limb, float or set lines can use their drivers license number rather than their fishing license number to identify their tackle. This will allow them to use the same tags for several seasons.

Bighead carp have been added to the list of fish species that can be commercially harvested.

Fremont Lake #1 and Two Rivers Lake #3 are designated as catch-and-release lakes. All fish that are caught need to be released immediately unharmed. Only barbless hooks or hooks with flattened barbs are allowed to be used on these lakes.

Anglers using US West Lake located at E.T. Mahoney State Park will be required to use only barbless hooks or hooks with flattened barbs.

## It Is Unlawful...

- to borrow or use the permit of another or lend your permit to another.
- to leave fish or any part thereof on the banks of any stream, lake or other body of water.
- to fish on any private land without landowner permission.
- to use a crossbow or similar device, with the exception of a handicapped person with a medical certificate on file.
- to seine game fish of any size.
- to leave minnows in a trap for more than 24 hours.
- to use drifting float lines, except on rivers, streams and Lewis and Clark Lake. They must be personally attended, and name and address must be attached.
- to use glass floats on float lines.
- to attach limb lines with nails, or more than 12 inches above the water to trees on any lake or reservoir.
- to release in public waters of the state any fish that did not originate from that body of water.
- to attempt to snag fish, except in areas designated. See section on Snagging for details.
- to keep a foul-hooked fish.

## GAME / NONGAME FISH

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

## Seasons

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

**ARCHERY** — Game fish may be taken from sunrise to sunset from July 1 through Dec. 31 statewide, except paddlefish in the Missouri River. Nongame fish may be taken year-round, sunrise to sunset and unrestricted from April 1 through August 31, statewide. See section on Archery/Surface Spearing for exceptions. Hook and line limits apply.

**SNAGGING** — The area of the Missouri River that is open to snagging of paddlefish is defined by a line that extends from the east end of the south cement wall of the discharge canal northwest to the east end of the north wall of the stilling basin below Gavins Point Dam down-

stream to the mouth of the Big Sioux River at Mile marker 734. The season runs from Oct. 1 through Oct. 30. A valid paddlefish tag is required. All other waters of the state are closed to snagging at all times. See section on Snagging for details.

**SURFACE SPEARING** — The entire state is open to the taking of nongame fish year-round, sunrise to sunset and unrestricted between April 1 and 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.

**CAST NETS** — It is illegal to use cast nets on Nebraska waters.

## Bag / Possession and Size 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.

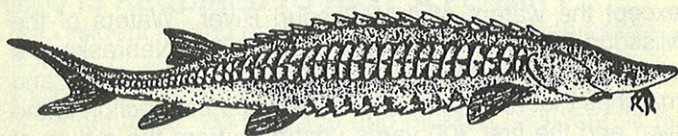
Bag and possession limits may vary between "Inland Waters" and "Waters of the Missouri River." For this purpose only, "Inland Waters" include all waters of the state except the waters of the Missouri River. "Waters of the Missouri River" include all of the river within Nebraska and all reservoirs, oxbows,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

Statewide	Bag	Poss.
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
Pallid and Lake Sturgeon	No Harvest Allowed	
Northern Pike	3	6
(Daily bag limit of 1 at Branched Oak Reservoir)		
Bluegill, Black and White Crappie, Yellow Perch, Rock Bass and Green, Pumpkinseed, Orangespotted and Redear sunfish and their hybrids (singly or in aggregate)	30	60
Mussels and Clams	10	20
All other fish	No Limit	
Bullfrogs	8	16
Snapping Turtles	10	20
<b>Inland Waters</b>		
Largemouth, Smallmouth, Spotted Bass (combined)	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 the Missouri River</b>		
Largemouth, Smallmouth, Spotted Bass (combined)	5	10
Blue Catfish	1	1
Channel/Flathead Catfish (combined)	10	20
Paddlefish (tag required)	2	2
(Gavins Point Dam to the mouth of the Big Sioux)		
Walleye/Sauger/Saugeye (combined)	4	8

**DAILY BAG** — Fish taken from midnight to midnight. No person may possess more than one day's limit of fish while on the water or actively engaged in fishing. Fish species subject to a bag and possession limit, but not a 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 species subject to a size limit can only be gilled and gutted prior to transport.

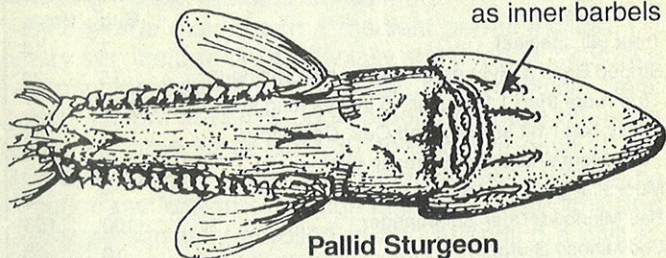
Any fish caught that is not to be counted in the bag limit must be immediately released into the water with as little injury as possible. Any fish placed on a stringer, in a container or not returned immediately to the water must be counted in the bag.

**POSSESSION LIMIT** — This is the total number of a specific species of fish that a person can have in possession in portable coolers, home freezers, registered in his name in commercial cold storage locker or in any other way under his control. Fish or aquatic animals placed in public storage must be labeled with the owner's name, address, phone number, date of birth, signature, date taken, species and numbers of animals involved and the name of recipient if they are transferred.



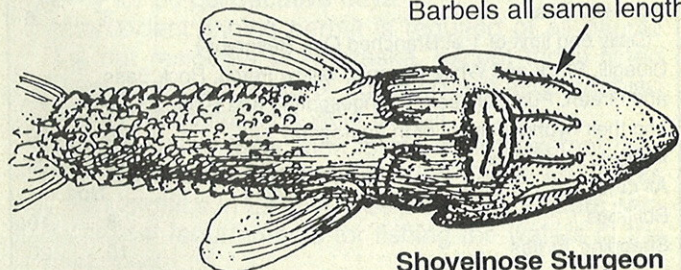
Lake Sturgeon

Outer barbels twice as long as inner barbels



Pallid Sturgeon

Barbels all same length



Shovelnose Sturgeon

**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 or the Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium 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.

**CATCH AND RELEASE LAKES** — Wildwood Lake, Jenny Newman Lake, Two Rivers Lake No. 3 and Fremont Lake No. 1 are the only total catch-and-release lakes in the state. Jenny Newman Lake, located at Platte River State Park, is open to children under the age of 16 from April 26 through Oct. 26 from sunrise to 10 a.m. (dates tentative to park scheduling). Tackle restrictions exist on Jenny Newman Lake, Two Rivers Lake No. 3, Fremont Lake No. 1 and US West Lake. All artificial lure hooks must either be barbless or have the barbs crimped.

### 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 with more than the gills, viscera and scales removed while on the water, while wading or while engaged in fishing. Fillets must be kept in one piece until cooked, so bag and possession limits can be determined. Any fish in possession while actively fishing will be subject to size and bag limits that apply to the water being fished.

### Hook and Line Limit

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

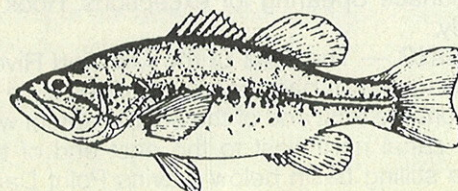
In stream fishing, the limit is 5 hooks on a line or 15 hooks in the aggregate. Only 5 lines with 2 hooks on each line are permitted when ice fishing. Each ice fishing line used must be under the direct supervision and within the unaided observation of the angler. For snagging, only 1 hook may be used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

One hook means a single, double or treble-pointed hook. All hooks attached to an artificial bait or lure are counted as one hook. These limits apply to all fishing, including rod and reel, poles, float lines, bank lines, setlines and all other types. The name, address and fishing permit number or current drivers license number of the angler must be attached to floats of all float lines, and to all limb lines and set lines. Float lines may be used only on streams, rivers and Lewis and Clark Lake. They cannot be attached to the bank, and such a line must have a float attached at each end. A total of 15 hooks may be used on streams and rivers, but only two hooks may be used on Lewis and Clark Lake (see Missouri River-South Dakota). Float lines must be personally attended. The use of glass floats is unlawful. Bag and possession limits are the same as for hook and line.

Note limitations listed in Special Areas.

### BASS (LARGEMOUTH):

**15-inch minimum:** Statewide on all publicly owned, controlled or managed waters, except where other limits apply and parts of the Missouri River. There is a 12-inch minimum size limit on all black bass in the section of the Missouri River between Nebraska and Iowa and Nebraska and Missouri. There is a 15-inch minimum size limit on largemouth bass on the following Missouri River



lakes and oxbows: DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge Lake, Washington County; Snyder Bend Lake, Dakota and Thurston counties and Lake Yankton, Cedar County.

**21-inch minimum:** Burchard Lake, Pawnee County; Zorinsky Lake, Douglas County; Skyview Lake, Madison County; Wehrspann Lake, Sarpy County and Willow Lake, Brown County.

**12-inch minimum:** All private waters.

**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.

**WALLEYE, SAUGER AND SAUGEYE:**

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

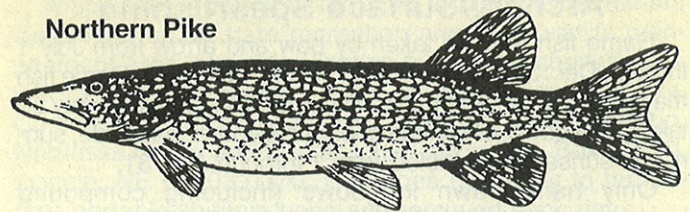
**18-inch minimum:** Merritt Reservoir, Cherry County; Elwood Reservoir, Gosper County; Harlan County Reservoir (including the Republican River upstream to the Oxford highway bridge), Harlan County; Branched Oak Reservoir, Lancaster County; Sherman Reservoir, Sherman County and Calamus Reservoir, Loup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

**NORTHERN PIKE:**

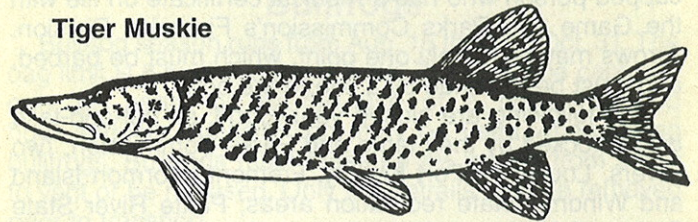
**24-inch minimum:** All inland waters east of U.S. Hwy. 281.

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

**Northern Pike**



**Tiger Muskie**



**MUSKELLUNGE/TIGER MUSKIE:**

**30-inch minimum:** Statewide.

**BLUEGILL:**

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

**STRIPED BASS and HYBRIDS/ WHITE BASS (COMBINED)**

Statewide on all publicly owned, controlled or managed waters, no more than 1 fish over 18 inches in length.

**CRAPPIE:**

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

**ALL OTHER SPECIES:**

None.

**HOW TO MEASURE 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. Do not follow the contours of the fish. (Approximate weights shown)*

Black Crappie	Length (inch)	6	9	12	13	14	15	16	17	18											
	Weight (lbs.)	0.1	0.4	1.1	1.4	1.8	2.3	2.8	3.5	4.2											
Bluegill	Length (inch)	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15										
	Weight (lbs.)	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.9	1.2	1.6	2.1	2.7	3.4										
Channel Catfish	Length (inch)	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	Weight (lbs.)	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.2	1.4	1.7	2.1	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.6	5.3	6.0	6.9	7.8	8.8	9.9	11.0	
Largemouth Bass	Length (inch)	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24							
	Weight (lbs.)	0.9	1.1	1.5	1.8	2.3	2.8	3.3	4.0	4.7	5.5	6.4	7.4	8.5							
Northern Pike	Length (inch)	12	18	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39		
	Weight (lbs.)	0.4	1.3	3.1	3.5	4.0	4.5	5.0	5.6	6.2	6.8	7.5	8.3	9.1	9.9	10.8	11.8	12.8	13.5		
Rainbow Trout	Length (inch)	06	09	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27		
	Weight (lbs.)	0.1	0.3	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.4	1.7	2.1	2.5	2.9	3.4	4.0	4.6	5.2	6.0	6.8	7.7	8.6		
Walleye	Length (inch)	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	Weight (lbs.)	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.3	1.5	1.9	2.2	2.7	3.1	3.7	4.2	4.9	5.6	6.4	7.2	8.1	9.1	10.2	11.4	
White bass	Length (inch)	06	09	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20									
	Weight (lbs.)	0.1	0.4	0.9	1.1	1.4	1.7	2.1	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.1									
Wiper	Length (inch)	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	Weight (lbs.)	0.9	1.1	1.4	1.8	2.1	2.6	3.1	3.7	4.3	5.0	5.8	6.7	7.7	8.7	9.9	11.1	12.4	13.9	15.4	
Flathead Catfish	Length (inch)	12	18	24	26	28	30	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48	50	52	55		
	Weight (lbs.)	0.7	2.4	5.9	7.5	9.4	11.7	14.3	17.3	20.6	24.3	28.5	33.1	38.2	43.8	50.0	56.7	63.9	76		

## Archery/Surface Spearfishing

Game fish may be taken by bow and arrow from July 1 through Dec. 31 from sunrise to sunset, statewide. Game fish may not be taken with surface spears. Nongame fish may be taken by archery or surface spear year-round statewide, sunrise to sunset, unrestricted April 1 through Aug. 31.

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

The following 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. All spearing devices must be barbed.

### Paddlefish - Missouri River

Paddlefish may be taken by bow and arrow and possessed on open waters of the Missouri River only during the season beginning on the second Saturday of July and running through the fourth Sunday of July. The area of the Missouri River that is open to archery paddlefish is from the Gavins Point Dam downstream to the mouth of the Big Sioux River at mile marker 734, except for a closed area that extends downstream from the Gavins Point Dam to a line that extends from the east end of the south cement wall of the discharge canal northwest to the east end of the north wall of the stilling basin. Paddlefish harvested by bow and arrow can be possessed only on the Missouri River that is open during the respective season in the area designated as open for harvest. All paddlefish archery anglers must obtain and have in their possession a paddlefish tag in addition to a fishing license (if required). Any paddlefish landed must be tagged immediately in the dorsal fin with the anglers tag. Any paddlefish tag that is locked shut prior to attachment, altered or modified shall be void and will not be replaced. A harvest quota will be managed by issuing a maximum of 200 free paddlefish tags with a limit of no more than two tags per person. Only the head, viscera and tail may be removed from archery harvested paddlefish during transport until the place of residence is reached or the paddlefish is consumed.

### Inland Waters

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

## Underwater Spearfishing

Lawful spear guns include hand spears, 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, possession and size limits are the same as for hook and line, except that there is a daily bag of two

walleye and a possession limit of four walleye in effect on all lakes listed below. Hours are sunrise to sunset.

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

### OPEN WATERS

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

### DIVER'S FLAG

The diver's flag must be displayed on the water on a float or buoy when diving or underwater-powered spearfishing. Divers and underwater spearfishermen must remain within 150 feet of the flag. The flag must be at least 12 inches square, with a red background and white diagonal stripe that is one-fifth the width of the flag. The white stripe must run from the top of the hoist to the bottom of the flag. It is unlawful to display this flag when diving or spearfishing is not in progress.

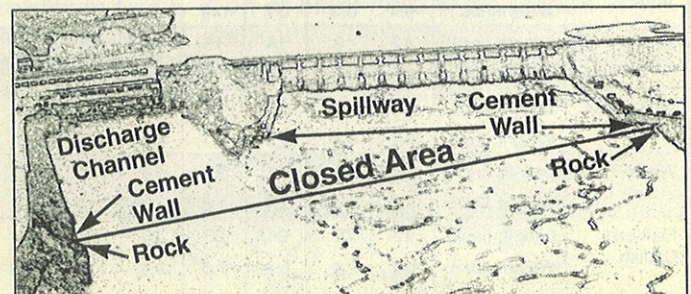
## Snagging

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

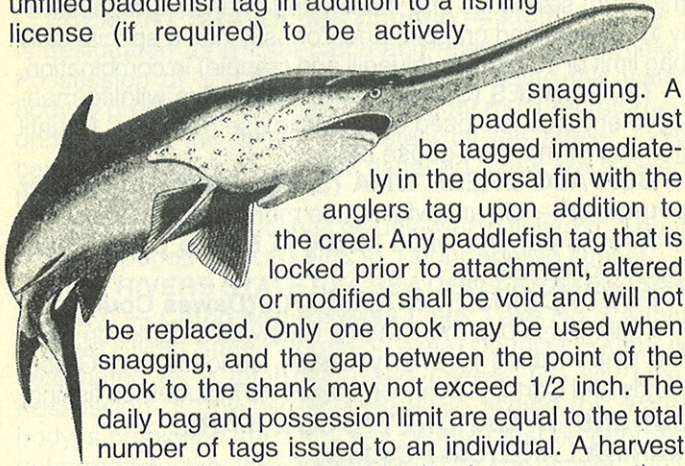
## Paddlefish and Snagging of Nongame Fish

### Missouri River

Snagging of paddlefish and nongame fish is permitted in the Missouri River from the Gavins Point Dam downstream to the mouth of the Big Sioux River at Mile Marker 734, except for a closed area that extends downstream



from the Gavins Point Dam to a line that extends from the east end of the south cement wall of the discharge canal northwest to the east end of the north wall of the stilling basin. Paddlefish harvested by snagging may be possessed only on the Missouri River during the respective open season in the area designated as open for harvest. The snagging season begins Oct. 1st and ends on Oct. 30 with legal hours running from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. All snaggers must obtain and have in their possession an unfilled paddlefish tag in addition to a fishing license (if required) to be actively



snagging. A paddlefish must be tagged immediately in the dorsal fin with the anglers tag upon addition to the creel. Any paddlefish tag that is locked prior to attachment, altered or modified shall be void and will not be replaced. Only one hook may be used when snagging, and the gap between the point of the hook to the shank may not exceed 1/2 inch. The daily bag and possession limit are equal to the total number of tags issued to an individual. A harvest quota will be managed by issuing not more than 1,200 free paddlefish tags with a limit of no more than two tags per person (Consult section on paddlefish tags, see page 22). It is required that paddlefish anglers cast for and hook their own fish. All paddlefish between 35 and 45 inches long (measured along the center line of the fish, lying flat, including the entire eye to the natural fork of the tail), must be returned to the water immediately. The slot limit is designed to protect the majority of spawning-size fish. It is unlawful to use a gaff hook or other penetrating device while landing snagged paddlefish. Immediate cleaning of a snagged paddlefish is restricted to the removal of only the snout anterior of the eye and the viscera. Final processing can only be completed once the angler has reached their residence or prior to consumption.

### 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.

### Bullfrogs

Bullfrog season runs from Aug. 15 through Oct. 31. The bag limit is 8 bullfrogs per person. They may be captured only by hand, or by the use of a hand net and hook-and-line. Artificial light may be used when taking bullfrogs. Bullfrogs must measure 4½ 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.

### Bait and Minnows

Bait fish may not be sold except by permit. For commercial purposes (bait vendors, private aquaculturists and nonresident fish dealers), please refer to the official regulations supplied with your permit. The following regulation guidelines apply only to bait obtained for personal use.

It is unlawful to take minnows from any lake, reservoir or bayou. Digging, seining and trapping for bait or any other purpose is prohibited on all state-owned or controlled areas. All game fish, of whatever size, taken while netting or seining for bait must immediately be returned to the waters from which taken. The bag limit of minnows for personal use is 100. Possession limit is 100.

**ATTENTION ANGLERS - We need your help!!!**  
Please help keep your lakes and streams clean. Don't throw empty bait containers or lure packages on the shoreline or sink pop cans in the bottom of the lake. It is everyone's duty to keep Nebraska's shorelines clean.

**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, gizzard shad or bowfin. Live fish of those species may be used for bait only in the same waters from which they are legally taken. Dead carp, carpsucker, buffalo, gar, quillback, gizzard shad or bowfin may be transported for use as bait.

Game fish can be used for bait: 1) if they have been legally acquired from a licensed aquaculturist or a non-resident fish dealer. The angler must keep a legible receipt or invoice from the dealer listing the date, seller's name and address; and number and size of each species sold; 2) if they are captured using hook and line and used at the body of water from which they were captured. In the latter case, the angler will be required to follow both size and bag limits that are enforced on that waterbody.

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

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

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

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

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

1. Minnow seines of one-fourth inch non-metallic square mesh only and not over 20 feet long and 4 feet deep.
2. Minnow dip nets of one-fourth inch non-metallic square mesh. Neither length nor width may exceed 36 inches.
3. Minnow and bait traps of one-fourth inch square mesh material with a length of 24 inches or less, a diameter of 16 inches or less and a throat 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

**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.

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

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

**SKYVIEW LAKE, ZORINSKY LAKE, BURCHARD LAKE, WEHRSPANN LAKE AND WILLOW LAKE** —

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. Wehrspann and Zorinsky have minimum size limits of 8 inches and 10 inches respectively for bluegill and crappie, and Zorinsky has a special daily bag limit of 10 panfish (bluegill and crappie) in combination.

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

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

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

**EUGENE T. MAHONEY STATE PARK, MARINA LAKE (Cass County)** —

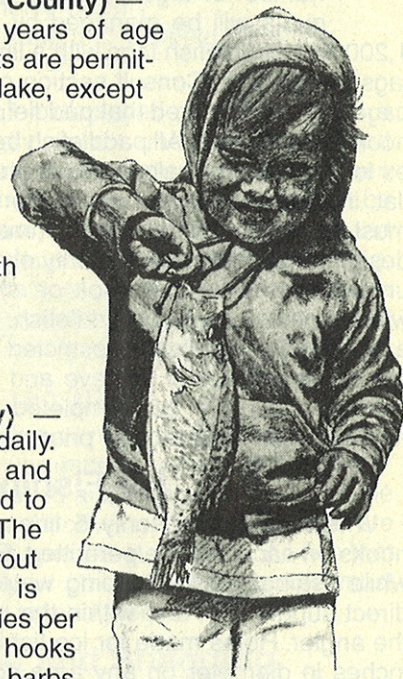
Children under 16 years of age and handicapped adults are permitted to fish the entire lake, except the immediate marina area, from sunrise to 10 a.m. daily. Daily bag limit is two fish. There is an 18-inch size limit on largemouth bass.

**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 of each species per angler. Only barbless hooks or hooks with flattened barbs are allowed to be used on this lake.

**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 10 a.m. daily, April 26 to Oct. 26. Possession of any fish species, other than bait minnows while fishing this lake is prohibited. The lake is designated a "No Kill Lake." All species must immediately be returned to the lake unharmed. With the exception of bait hooks, all artificial lure hooks must either be barbless or have the barbs crimped.

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



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

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

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

**FREMONT SRA (Dodge County)** — Fremont Lake 1 is designated as a total catch-and-release (no kill) lake. Possession of any fish species while fishing this water body is prohibited, thus any fish caught must be returned unharmed to the lake immediately by the angler. Only barbless hooks or hooks with flattened barbs are allowed to be used on this lake.

Fremont Lake 20: It shall be unlawful to fish from a boat during a period from 10 a.m. to 1 hour prior to sunset.

**TWO RIVERS STATE RECREATION AREA (Douglas County)** — **Catch and Release Lake:** Lake No. 3 within the Two Rivers State Recreation Area, Douglas County, is designated as a total catch and release (no kill) lake. Possession of any fish species while fishing this water body is prohibited, thus any fish caught must be returned unharmed to the lake immediately by the angler. Only barbless hooks or hooks with flattened barbs are allowed to be used on this lake. Archery fishing, spearing, jigging and baiting are prohibited in all lakes. Lake No. 5 is designated as a put-and-take trout fishing lake and is subject to special regulations. A daily trout tag is required to attempt to take and to possess trout on the entire Two Rivers area. Cost of the tag is \$4 which allows the harvest of four trout. Check at area office.

**CRESCENT LAKE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE** — Fishing is permitted during daylight hours in Island Lake year-round. Electric-type outboard motors only are permitted on lakes open to fishing. The use of internal combustion motors is prohibited. The possession or use of live or dead minnows and the possession of any fish not taken from refuge waters are unlawful. However, frozen or dead smelt may be used for bait. Overnight camping is not permitted.

**VALENTINE NATIONAL REFUGE** — Fishing is permitted year-round during daylight hours, unless otherwise posted. Electric-type outboard motors only are permitted on lakes open to fishing. The use of internal combustion motors is prohibited. Possession or use of live or dead minnows and possession of any fish not taken from refuge waters are unlawful. However, frozen or dead smelt may be used for bait. There is a 15-inch size minimum on black bass on all refuge lakes, except Watts 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.

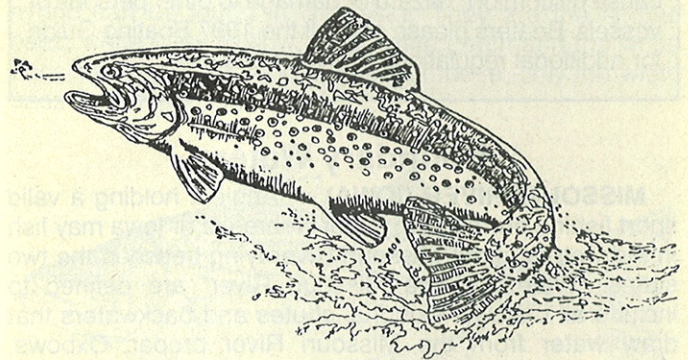
**BROWN COUNTY:** Bone Creek and all tributaries, Long Pine Creek and all tributaries, Plum Creek and all tributaries and Fairfield Creek.

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

**Attention Anglers and Boaters** - With increased usage of Nebraska's public waters, the chances for user conflicts also increase. Since Nebraska has limited aquatic resources, we need to share this resource and respect others while on the water. With this in mind, it is important to follow one of Nebraska's boating regulations stated as follows: It is unlawful to operate a vessel in excess of 5 mph within 30 yards of any vessel, harbor, marina, landing pier, anchorage, bathing beach, drifting or trolling fisherman, or anchored boat. In all cases, speed must be reduced so that wash or wake will not cause discomfort, hazard or damage to other persons or vessels. Boaters please consult the 1997 Boating Guide for additional regulations and information.

## Boundary Waters

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

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

**MISSOURI RIVER (South Dakota)** — Nebraska or South Dakota residents holding a valid sport fishing permit from their home state may fish that part of the Missouri River that constitutes the legal boundary between the two states. This includes Lewis and Clark Lake, Gavins Point Dam and its tailwaters. However, anglers must conform to the regulations of the state in which they are fishing unless the regulations of their home state are more restrictive. Then, the angler must conform to the more restrictive regulations. At Lewis and Clark Lake it is unlawful for any person to use more than two lines with more than two hooks on each line; this restriction applies to all water area from Gavins Point

Dam upstream to the Santee boat ramp in Knox County, Nebraska. In no case may an angler licensed in only one state fish in tributaries in the other state. Fishing is permitted from boat or bank.

**MISSOURI RIVER (Missouri)** — Anglers holding a valid sport fishing permit from either Nebraska or Missouri may fish with hook-and-line, including personally attended jugs or floats, on the flowing portion of the Missouri River lying within the boundary of Nebraska or Missouri. In no case may the angler licensed in only one state fish in the tributaries, bayous or backwaters of the Missouri River in the other state. Anglers may not fish from or attach any device or equipment to land under the jurisdiction of the state in which they are not licensed. Creel limits and methods of the state that licenses the sport fisherman shall apply.

## Fish Stocking

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

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

## Tournaments/Contests/Derbies

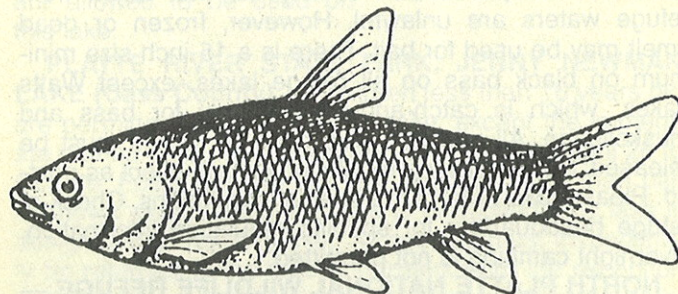
When they involve tagged or otherwise marked fish, fishing tournaments, derbies or contests are prohibited on (1) waters owned or controlled by the Game and Parks Commission and (2) waters stocked by the Game and Parks Commission during the preceding 24 months, excluding private lakes not owned by the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

## Help Wanted

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

## Fish Kill Reports

Reports of dead or dying fish can 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.



## Grass Carp

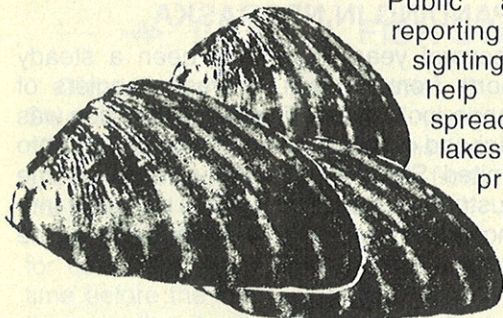
The diploid (fertile) grass carp is now approved by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission for use in private waters for aquatic weed control

## Ethical Anglers

- Know and obey fishing regulations that protect our aquatic resources and spread the harvest among all anglers.
- Follow a personal code of behavior since laws cannot cover all situations.
- Learn techniques to handle fish that will ensure survival if released to be caught again.
- Respect property owners rights' when access to water requires crossing private land.
- Ensure good fishing for future generations by limiting the 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.

## ZEBRA MUSSEL ALERT

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



Public assistance in reporting zebra mussel sightings is essential to help prevent its spread to other inland lakes and rivers. The primary method of transfer is boats carrying mussels from infested waters.

Frequently inspect your boat, motor and trailers for zebra mussels, especially if boating on the Missouri River or waters east of the Missouri. Dry your boat out or power-wash it before relaunching. Zebra mussels are tough organisms and survive extended periods out of the water if in a moist environment. If you think you have a zebra mussel, save it and send it to your nearest district office for identification.

## PRIVATE WATERS

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

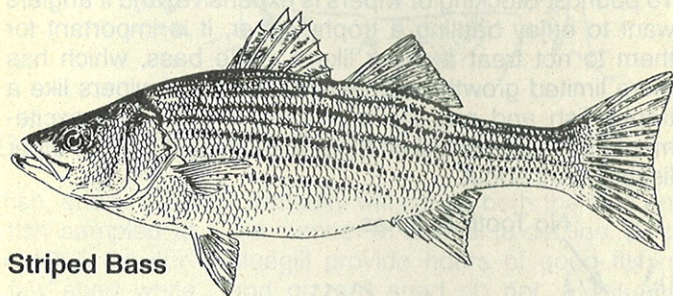
Each year, the owners of new or newly renovated private ponds across the state apply to the Commission to

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

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

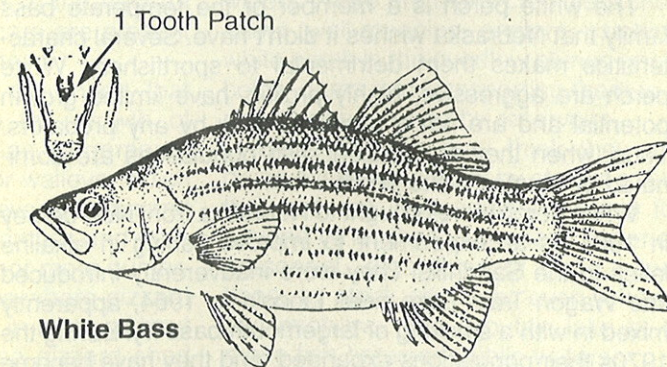
## Nebraska's Temperate Bass

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



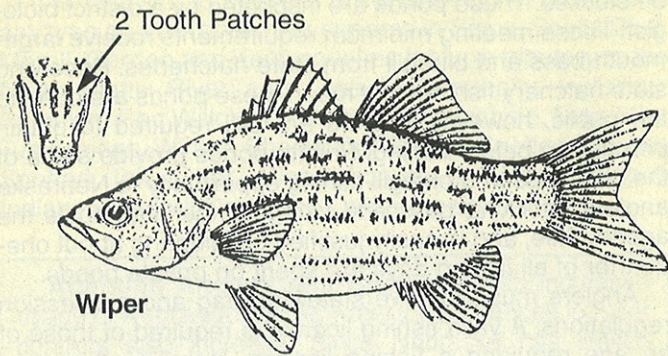
Striped Bass

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

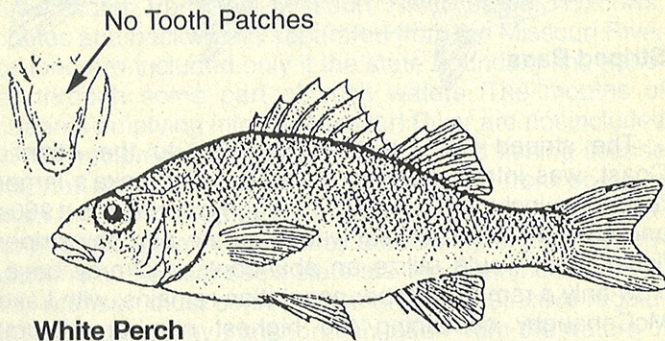


White Bass

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



The wiper, a white bass/striped bass hybrid, has grown in popularity among Nebraska anglers because of its fighting ability. Wipers have been introduced into reservoirs across the state that contain abundant shad populations, the main diet of wipers. It is difficult to distinguish a wiper from a white bass when they are small, but wipers have two tooth patches and white bass have only one. Once wipers reach 12 to 15 inches identifying them based on external characteristics becomes easier. The wiper's stripes also are much more distinct than those found on white bass. Wipers have tremendous growth potential as shown by the current state record of nearly 18 pounds. Stocking of wipers is expensive, and if anglers want to enjoy battling a trophy wiper, it is important for them to not treat a wiper like a white bass, which has more limited growth potential. Instead treat wipers like a trophy fish and practice catch-and-release. The excitement that they provide on the end of the line is what wiper fishing is all about.

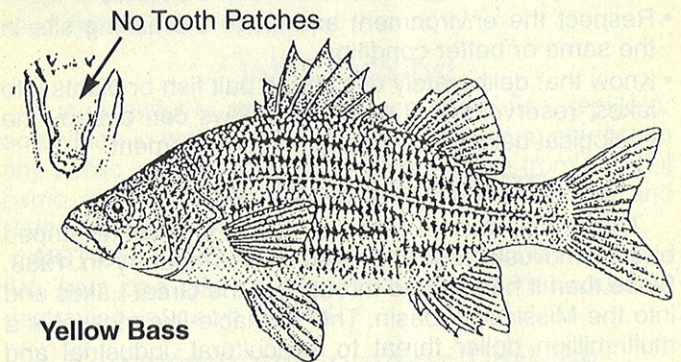


The white perch is a member of the temperate bass family that Nebraska wishes it didn't have. Several characteristics makes them detrimental to sportfishery: White perch are aggressive, highly prolific, have limited growth potential and are not a preferred prey by any predators. Thus, when they are present, fish populations are dominated by stunted white perch.

White perch were brought to Nebraska from New Jersey in 1964 as an experiment to improve fishing in alkaline lakes in the Sandhills. They were inadvertently introduced into Wagon Train Lake near Lincoln in 1964, apparently mixed in with a stocking of largemouth bass fry. During the 1970s their populations expanded, and they have become permanently established in Salt Creek and the Platte River. Both Wagon Train and Stagecoach lakes were renovated in the mid-1970s to eliminate white perch. Currently Branched Oak and Holmes lakes are the only two public lakes with high densities of white perch. Anglers shouldn't have any problem distinguishing this species from white bass or wipers, since it has no tooth patches or stripes.

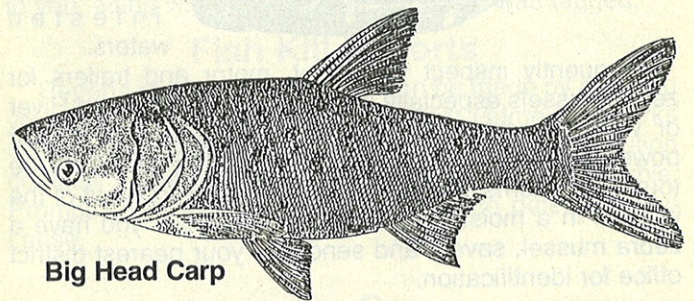
The yellow bass is another member of the temperate bass family considered undesirable. It has detrimental characteristics similar to the white perch, but fortunately it has not taken over any lake into which it has gained access. Apparently it was transferred via an illegal introduction from Iowa. Currently, there are populations in Louisville Lake #2 and Glenn Cunningham Lake in Omaha. Yellow bass, as the name indicates, are a silvery yellow color. Their stripes are very distinct and, as with the white perch, they have no tooth patch.

It is important for anglers to be able to identify their catch, and more important for them to understand that it is illegal and potentially harmful to move fish from one waterbody to another.



### BIGHEAD CARP POPULATIONS ARE EXPANDING IN NEBRASKA

In the past several years there has been a steady increase in reports from eastern Nebraska anglers of catches of a strange-looking fish. The fish in question was identified as a bighead carp, an exotic fish introduced into the southern United States in the early 1970s by the aquaculture industry. Since that time it has escaped into the wild, has moved through river systems and up the Missouri River.



The bighead carp has a very large head that can account for almost one third of its length and small eyes set low on the head. The mouth is slit-like in appearance and does not resemble mouths of other fish more commonly caught. The lateral line on the side of the fish starts very high, dips sharply downward then extends to the tail. Scales are small for the size of the fish, mostly dark gray above fading to off-white below with a smattering of darker blotches across the back. The flesh of bighead carp is white, firm and bony like other carp members; however, if scored and deep fat fried the flesh is quite palatable. Most harvest of bighead carp is currently by archers. This fish species feeds primarily on zooplankton and other microscopic organisms but occasionally takes a worm or other bait offered by an angler.

Currently bighead carp can be found in the quiet waters of the Missouri River and its tributaries. The first reported catch in Nebraska was on July 1, 1987, near Omaha. Nebraska's largest reported bighead carp weighed 56 pounds and was taken by an archer near Peru. Bighead carp also have been reported in Salt Creek, below some of the Salt Valley reservoirs and in the lower reaches of the Platte and Nemaha rivers.

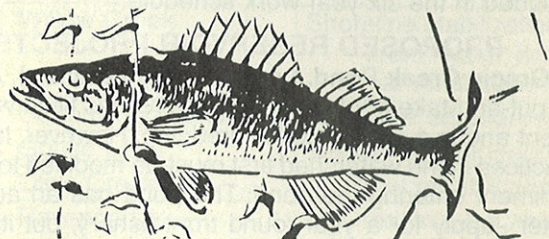
The effect of this new exotic species is not known, but since it is a zooplankton feeder, biologists are concerned about its effect on native species with similar food requirements such as the young-of-the-year of all fish species, minnows and paddlefish. Only time will tell its long-term effect on native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

### Walleye Management in Nebraska

Current surveys show that walleye are the most popular fish among Nebraska anglers. The Fisheries Division of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission devotes much of its resources to the management of this species and is investigating several questions relating to walleye management. Many anglers will recall that in 1992, following a series of public meetings in 1991, minimum size limits for walleye were implemented on selected reservoirs. Evaluations of these regulations are ongoing, but it is time to begin judging the success of these regulations.

Eighteen reservoirs are being evaluated. Preliminary results indicate that walleye populations have responded favorably in some cases, negatively in other reservoirs and not at all in others. More specific information should be available in 1997.

Many other issues in walleye management in the state are also being examined. Fishing for walleyes during the spawn continues to be a hot topic among Nebraska walleye anglers. We are gathering data that will show whether the early spring fishing has a negative effect on walleye populations. Evaluations are also beginning on the success of walleye fingerling stockings. Additional projects include a genetic inventory of walleye populations in Nebraska, and, possibly, a hooking mortality investigation of sauger caught from deep water in the Missouri River. Fisheries managers will benefit from the results of these projects, and walleyes and walleye fishing in the state should be maintained and improved as a result. Anglers also will be able to use this information in the pursuit of and appreciation for their favorite fish.



### ILLEGAL FISH STOCKING: WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?

Gizzard shad are back in Stagecoach Lake a mere four years after the Game and Parks Commission spent \$10,000 to eliminate them from the lake and another \$165,000 in fishing permit revenues to create habitat for desirable fish. It's just a matter of time before the shad infest the lake to the point that it will require yet another costly renovation.

We know how the shad did not get back into the lake. They did not come in as eggs on ducks' feet or ospreys' talons. And they did not arrive in the bills of pelicans. These are entertaining myths. But myths are all they are. The shad in Stagecoach did not come from the creek or ponds in its watershed.

Anglers sometimes unwittingly introduce unwanted fish when they empty a minnow bucket after a day of fishing, or when bait escapes a hook and survives. However, gizzard shad are too delicate to survive much handling. The gizzard shad in Stagecoach and many other lakes were stocked intentionally.

A few shad might not seem important until the lake's past is considered. At the time of Stagecoach's 1991 renovation, carp and gizzard shad comprised 96 percent by number of all the fish present and 97 percent by weight. Just four years after renovation and

restocking with game fish, shad made up 61 percent of the fish sampled at Stagecoach during the 1995 fall survey. There are never "a few" shad, white perch, carp or other undesirable fish in a small lake for very long. They multiply rapidly and become a problem quickly.

Unfortunately, this scenario is common in many Nebraska lakes. Zorinsky Lake in Omaha had a good bluegill fishery that is now in jeopardy because of gizzard shad. Furthermore, white perch and European rudd are showing up in many more lakes in the eastern part of the state, and carp are present in lakes across the state.

Some anglers are convinced that gizzard shad improve the growth of predatory fish such as largemouth bass, channel catfish or walleye, which is true in lakes of several thousand acres. However, bass, catfish and walleye are neither larger nor more numerous in the smaller lakes where gizzard shad are present than in lakes without them, primarily because gizzard shad grow rapidly in these small, fertile reservoirs and are too large to be eaten by most predator fish for more than a few weeks each year.

In addition, these hordes of shad eat organisms needed by panfish, particularly bluegill. As a result, gizzard shad

eventually will cause both the size and the number of bluegill to decline. Since bluegill provide hours of good fishing and gizzard shad do not, a valuable bluegill fishery is being sacrificed for an uncatchable prey fish. Bass also will decline as shad dominate the food needed by young largemouths.

White perch, another problem fish, also might have entered Branched Oak Lake because of anglers. A major problem with white perch is that anglers often mistake them for white bass or wipers. There are many credible stories about well-meaning anglers catching white perch in the overflow plunge pools below dams and transporting them to a private pond or nearby reservoirs.

While anglers may think they are doing everyone a favor by stocking fish, they are not. It is against the law for anyone other than authorized fisheries personnel, regardless of good intentions, to stock any fish, even leftover bait minnows, into a public lake or to move fish between public waters.

But the most important point is that this unauthorized stocking of unwanted fish into new or recently renovated waters is cancelling the expensive efforts to create desirable panfish fisheries while failing to improve the quality of predator fisheries.

## New Life for Aging Waters

On February 23, 1996, the Nebraska Legislature passed a bill that created the first state Aquatic Habitat Stamp in the country. This stamp, to be purchased by most Nebraska anglers starting January 1, 1997, will be used to enhance and restore aquatic habitat in the state's waters. Below are the reservoirs and natural lakes where those funds will be spent over the next six years, pending approval by the Natural Resources and Appropriations Committees of the 1997 Nebraska Legislature.

At six sessions held across the state during July 1996, 164 anglers listened to Game and Parks Commission recommendations for candidate projects, added to the list with their own suggestions and then voted on priority projects in each district. With one exception (Enders Reservoir), at least the top two priorities from each of the six districts and up to the top four district priorities were included in the six-year work schedule.

### PROPOSED RESERVOIR PROJECTS

**Gracie Creek Pond, Loup County (2 acres).** A popular put-and-take trout fishery, this pond has filled with sediment and is a candidate for dredging. However, land use practices in the watershed first must be modified to reduce sediment entering the pond. The pond has an adequate water supply for a year-round trout fishery, but its abundant carp population reduces water clarity and limits its capacity for trout. Removal of the carp and design and engineering for a sediment control dike are planned.

**Lake Maloney, Lincoln County (1,600 acres).** A smooth basin provides little fish-attracting structure. Solutions include building a 100-foot rock breakwater jetty in the main recreation area on Peck's Point and stabilizing more than 300 feet of eroding shoreline around Goose Island. The improvements will take place during two scheduled reservoir draw-downs.

**Olive Creek Reservoir, Lancaster County (175 acres).** Muddy water, a silt-filled basin with a maximum depth of only nine feet and a large carp population plague this lake. Total rehabilitation would include lowering the water level, eliminating the existing fish population, building a sediment/nutrient dike, removing 300,000 cubic yards of sediment and building islands and two miles of riparian buffer strips along the inlet stream. Environmental Trust Funds and a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 1135 grant are possible and will be needed to fund half the project.

**Pibel Lake, Wheeler County (27 acres).** Shallow water, excessive aquatic vegetation and fish kills limit this fishery. Solutions include lowering the water level, removing 60,000 cubic yards of sediment and building two 100-foot-long combination earth and rock riprap jetties to reduce shoreline erosion and improve angler access to deep water.

**Willow Creek Reservoirs, Pierce County (700 acres).** Wind-driven shoreline erosion afflicts an otherwise good fishery. Solutions include stabilizing 650 feet of shoreline with rock riprap and a 75-foot-long, solid rock breakwater jetty and stabilizing stream banks in the watershed to improve water quality in the reservoir. The jetty also would improve angler access to deep water.

**Lake Ogallala, Keith County (320 acres).** Lake Ogallala once produced large rainbow trout, but the lake began to decline when the discharge pattern from Lake McConaughy was altered. Water passing from

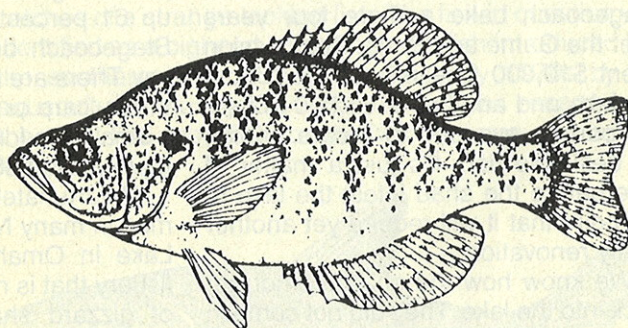
McConaughy through Kingsley Dam into Lake Ogallala no longer is favorable for trout. The proposed remedy is installing an aeration unit.

**Rock Creek Lake, Dundy County (50 acres).** Habitat in the upper reaches of the lake, the best redear sunfish lake in Nebraska, has been damaged by intrusion of sandy sediment from the watershed. Remedies include controlling inflow of sediment and removing 24,000 cubic yards of basin sediment.

**Sherman Reservoir, Sherman County (2,600 acres).** Shoreline erosion is a major problem. Treatments include building 500 feet of solid rock breakwater jetties and protecting 4,000 feet of shoreline with rock riprap.

**Yankee Hill Lake, Lancaster County (208 acres).** Total rehabilitation is planned for this state recreation area reservoir. The process includes a partial drawdown of the lake, eliminating the existing fish community, excavating and sculpting the basin, building islands armored with rock riprap, building a sediment/nutrient dike above the reservoir, building 6,100 feet of permeable offshore breakwaters and planting 15.2 acres of buffer strips to stabilize eroded stream banks.

**Enders Reservoir, Chase County (1,700 acres).** Low water hampers this fishery. The solution is to negotiate with irrigation districts to raise the minimum pool storage whenever possible. Although the project cannot be scheduled for a specific year, it should have priority. The cost of the project is unknown, but funding could come from a combination of Aquatic Habitat Funds, Game Cash Funds and Environmental Trust Funds.



### PROPOSED NATURAL LAKE PROJECTS

**Cottonwood and Steverson lakes, Cherry County (679 acres).** Carp dominate these connected lakes acquired by the Commission in 1996. Remedies include eliminating existing fish with rotenone and restocking with largemouth bass, bluegill, black crappie and yellow perch.

**Ravenna Lake, Buffalo County (16 acres).** This oxbow lake, with a maximum depth of five feet, is subject to fish kills. Solutions include building a dike to prevent floods from bringing in undesirable fish species and silt, increasing its depth by draining or hydraulic dredging to remove 115,000 cubic yards of silt, eliminating the existing fish community and restocking desirable species.

**Shell Lake, Cherry County (162 acres).** Shallow water and excessive vegetation make winterkills a problem for this Sandhills lake. A solution is dredging 150,250 cubic yards of sediment from 12 acres of the lake to increase its depth to 10 to 12 feet.

**Smith Lake, Sheridan County (290 acres).** This lake has produced trophy bluegills. Despite aeration and nine-

foot maximum depth, fish kills are a problem, and the lake's potential will not be realized if fish kills continue. A solution is to dredge 290,400 cubic yards of sediment to deepen 30 acres of the lake by six feet.

**Cottonwood Lake, Cherry County (34 acres).** Excessive vegetation makes fishing difficult and limits largemouth bass predation on bluegills, resulting in poor growth in both species. The solution is to create a relatively plant-free area by dredging 83,700 cubic yards of silt from 12.5 acres, increasing the depth to eight to 10 feet.

**Goose Lake, Holt County (200 acres).** This shallow Sandhills lake is subject to invasion by carp and other rough fish, and to periodic low oxygen levels, resulting in fish kills. Solutions include installing two fish barriers and an aeration unit. Dredging could be considered in the future.

**Crescent Lake, Garden County (982 acres).** Carp infest this Sandhills lake, and it has no public fishing access. Solutions include purchasing an access through private property (with Game Cash Funds), installing a fish barrier, removing the present fish population and restocking with game fish.

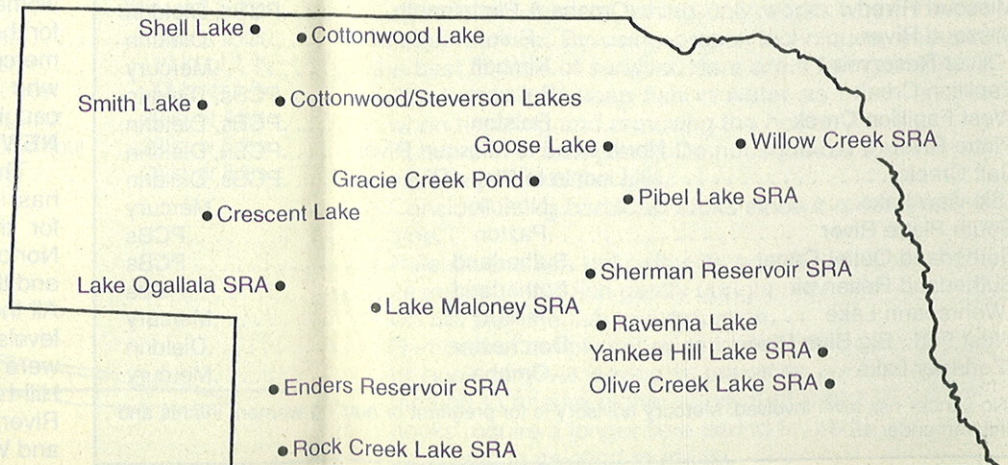
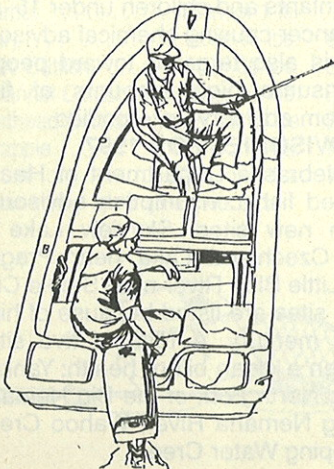
### CONTINGENCIES

Significantly modifying a lake or reservoir is a huge, costly undertaking involving moving sediments by the thousands of cubic yards, large rocks by the thousands of tons and water by the hundreds of acre-feet. Before a project is even started, design and engineering will need to be completed, and costs generally run at least 15 percent of the total project cost.

Obviously, a \$5 Aquatic Habitat Stamp generating \$1 million per year will not go far, but with help from other funding sources, such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Section 319 Clean Water Act, Corps of Engineers Section 1135 grants, Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund grants and Fish America grants and cooperative endeavors with Natural Resource Districts, cities and counties, more than \$2 million per year could be available.

Even if more than enough revenue is available, the ability of the Game and Parks Commission to stay on schedule will be affected by weather conditions and other logistical constraints. Heavy equipment will not be able to excavate basins that remain wet because of precipitation. Flexibility will be needed. We also must be able to react to opportunities that occur, such as U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Nebraska Public Power District draw-downs and inspections and irrigation district water needs.

AQUATIC HABITAT PLAN WORK SCHEDULE		
Year	Water Body	Work Description
1997	Cottonwood/Steverson	Fish renovation
	Gracie Creek Pond	Fish renovation
	Lake Maloney	Design & engineering
	Olive Creek	Design & engineering
	Pibel Lake	Total rehabilitation
	Ravenna Lake	Design & engineering
	Shell Lake	Dredging
	Smith Lake	Design & engineering
	Willow Creek	Design & engineering
1998	Lake Maloney	Breakwater jetty
	Lake Ogallala	Aeration
	Olive Creek	Total rehabilitation
	Ravenna Lake	Flood protection
	Smith Lake	Dredging
1999	Willow Creek	Shoreline stabilization, break-water jetty, stream stabilization
	Cottonwood Lake	Design & engineering
	Goose Lake	Design & engineering
	Olive Creek	Total rehabilitation
	Ravenna Lake	Dredging, backhoe or dozing & fish renovation
	Rock Creek Lake	Design & engineering
2000	Smith Lake	Dredging
	Cottonwood Lake	Dredging
	Crescent Lake	Design & engineering, fish renovation & fish barrier
	Goose Lake	Fish barrier & aeration
	Lake Maloney	Island stabilization
	Rock Creek Lake	Dredging
	Sherman Reservoir	Design & engineering
2001	Yankee Hill Lake	Design & engineering
	Sherman Reservoir	Breakwater jetties
2002	Yankee Hill Lake	Total rehabilitation
	Sherman Reservoir	Shoreline protection
	Yankee Hill Lake	Total rehabilitation





## FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES

The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ), with assistance from the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, has collected and analyzed fish tissue samples from Nebraska lakes and streams since 1977. Beginning in 1990, the NDEQ adopted an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) method of assessing human risks associated with the consumption of fish flesh. The EPA methodology has set standards that have prompted the Nebraska Department of Health to issue several fish consumption advisories over the past six years. Currently there are 31 advisories statewide, including 14 lakes and 17 segments on 13 different streams. Since 1990, 48 stream segments and 50 lakes have had fish samples collected and analyzed for contaminants. A total of 343 fish samples have been collected during this six-year period.

### CANCER-CAUSING AGENTS

The primary contaminants of concern have been polychlorinated biphenyl compounds (PCBs), the pesticide dieldrin and organic mercury. PCBs are a class of aromatic compounds produced and marketed in the U.S. since 1929. Before 1971, they were used as plasticizers, heat

transfer fluids, hydraulic fluids, lubricants and wax extenders. Since 1971 PCBs have been limited to use in closed electrical systems (capacitors and transformers). The production of PCBs was discontinued in the U.S. in 1977, and their importation was greatly reduced in 1979 and completely stopped in 1982. Before 1979 the disposal of PCB compounds was not subject to federal regulation. Of the approximately 1.25 billion pounds purchased by U.S. industry, about 60 percent are still in use in capacitors, 36 percent are in landfills or dumps and about 4 percent had been destroyed by incineration or degraded in the environment.

Dieldrin was once widely applied to corn fields as a pest control agent, and it has been used to treat wood products for termite protection. The legal use of dieldrin in the U.S. was halted in 1974, except for its use as a means of subterranean termite control. In 1985 importation of Dieldrin ceased, and in 1987 its registration was cancelled. Dieldrin remains in the environment as it is extremely persistent. This carcinogen is believed to emanate from both agricultural and urban runoff.

Mercury occurs naturally in the earth's soil, but is also present in the atmosphere

from both natural and man-induced sources. Degassing of the earth crust can release up to 6,000 pounds of mercury into the atmosphere annually, and emissions of mercury from industrial discharges (chlorine alkali industry) and wastes (coal and municipal refuse incinerators) also contribute. The primary industrial uses of mercury are in the manufacture of batteries, vapor discharge lamps, rectifiers, fluorescent bulbs, switches, thermometers, and industrial control instruments. The products usually end up in landfills or incinerators. Mercury also has been used as a slimicide in the pulp and paper industry, as an antifouling and mildew-proofing agent in paints and as an antifungal seed dressing. Of the existing sources of mercury, it is widely accepted that atmospheric deposition of both natural and man-induced mercury is the major contributor both in our state and nationwide. Cycling of mercury in the environment is facilitated by the volatile nature of its metallic form and by bacterial transformation of metallic and inorganic forms to stable mercury compounds, particularly in bottom sediments. It is the stable or organic mercury (methyl-mercury) that is detected in fish tissue and is harmful to humans.

### HOW GREAT IS THE CANCER RISK?

Advisories for high levels of cancer-causing chemicals (PCBs and dieldrin) in fish are issued when concentrations reach a risk level of 1 in 10,000. That means under 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 fish from an advisory lake every week for 70 years to produce that one case of cancer. Thus these advisories are targeted toward and affect a very small part of the population of fish consumers in the state. Mercury is not a cancer risk but because of the way it reacts in the human body advisories for high mercury levels are targeted toward pregnant and nursing women, infants and children under 15. As for the cancer causing chemical advisory, mercury is also targeted toward people who consume high amounts of fish caught from advisory waterbodies.

### NEW ADVISORIES FOR 1997

The Nebraska Department of Health has issued fish consumption advisories for three new sites: Skyview Lake in Norfolk, Czechland Lake near Prague and the Little Blue River near Steele City. All those sites are listed because of high levels of mercury. A total of five sites were given a clean bill of health: Yankee Hill Lake, North Fork of the Big Nemaha River, Big Nemaha River, Wahog Creek and Weeping Water Creek.

### 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
*Czechland Lake	Prague	Mercury
Elkhorn River	Waterloo & Norfolk	PCBs, Dieldrin
Jeffrey Reservoir	Brady	PCBs
*Lake McConaughy	Ogallala	Mercury
Lake Ogallala	Ogallala	PCBs, Dieldrin
*Liberty Cove Lake	Lawrence	Mercury
*Little Blue River	Steele City	Mercury
Loup River Power Canal	Genoa	PCBs
*Merritt Reservoir	Valentine	Mercury
Midway Canyon Reservoir	Cozad	PCBs
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
*Skyview Lake	Norfolk	Mercury
South Platte River	Paxton	PCBs
Sutherland Outlet Canal	Sutherland	PCBs
Sutherland Reservoir	Sutherland	PCBs
*Wehrspann Lake	Millard	Mercury
West Fork, Big Blue River	Dorchester	Dieldrin
*Zorinsky Lake	Omaha	Mercury

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

## State Record Rules

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

## Master Angler

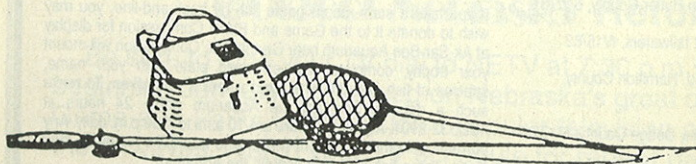
If you take an outstanding catch, it may qualify for a Game and Parks Commission Master Angler Award. Application forms are available from any Commission office, conservation officer or permit vendor. Rules include:

- All fish must be taken from Nebraska waters.
- Fish must be taken by hook-and-line. Fish caught on banklines are not eligible. Fish must be hooked, played and landed by the applicant for the award.
- The catch must be verified. This may be done by an employee of the Game and Parks Commission, a permit vendor, a witness or a photograph.
- Anglers 16 years of age or older must possess a current Nebraska fishing permit and enter the permit number on the application.
- Only fish immediately released are eligible for an award based on length. Any fish kept in a livewell or on a stringer must meet the minimum weight requirement to receive an award.
- **Anglers may receive only one award based on weight per year for each species. There is no limit on the number of catch and release awards.**
- Anglers who release a Master Angler fish will receive a "Catch and Release Master Angler" pin in addition to the Master Angler certificate.
- **Minimum weights must be met to qualify for a Master Angler Award for a harvested fish.**
- **Minimum lengths are used strictly for Master Angler Awards for a individual fish that was caught and released.**

### The minimum weight and length requirements are:

American Eel . . . . . 24 in. or 1lb.	Gar . . . . . 40 in. or 8 lbs.
Largemouth Bass . 20 in. or 5 lbs.	Goldeye . . . . . 16 in. or 1 ½ lbs.
Spotted Bass . . . .18 in. or 3 lbs.	Musky/Tiger Musky . . . . .
Rock Bass . . . . . 11 in. or 1 lb.	. . . . . 35 in. or 10 lbs.
Smallmouth Bass . 18 in. or 3 lbs.	Paddlefish . . . . . *45 in.
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 2 ½ 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.	Saugeye . . . . . 23 in. or 5 lbs.
Bullhead . . . . . 15 in. or 2 lbs.	Shovelnose Sturgeon . . . . .
Burbot . . . . . 16 in. or 1 lb.	. . . . . 28 in. or 2 ½ lbs.
Carp . . . . . 32 in. or 15 lbs.	Sucker . . . . . 18 in. or 2 lbs.
Blue Catfish . . . . 40 in. or 30 lbs.	Sunfish . . . . . 10 in. or 1 lb.
Channel Catfish . 30 in. or 12 lbs.	Brook Trout . . . . . 14 in. or 1 lb.
Flathead Catfish . 32 in. or 15 lbs	Brown Trout . . . . 22 in. or 4 lbs.
Crappie . . . . . 15 in. or 2 lbs.	Rainbow Trout . . . 23 in. or 5 lbs.
Drum . . . . . 22 in. or 5 lbs.	Walleye . . . . . 28 in. or 8 lbs.

\*From front of eye to natural fork of tail



## Master Angler / State Record Application

Please print legibly. See rules.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fishing Permit No. \_\_\_\_\_ Under 16 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Species of fish \_\_\_\_\_  
 Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. \_\_\_\_\_ oz. Length: \_\_\_\_\_ in.  
 Date caught \_\_\_\_\_ Released: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of lake or stream \_\_\_\_\_  
 County where located \_\_\_\_\_  
 Method of fishing: \_\_\_\_\_ Hook & Line \_\_\_\_\_ Archery  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Surface spearfishing \_\_\_\_\_ Underwater spearfishing

Type of bait or lure \_\_\_\_\_  
 Where weighed or measured \_\_\_\_\_

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

Weight or length witnessed by:

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 since it reduces handling time.
- Release the fish only after its equilibrium is maintained. If necessary, hold fish gently upright until it can swim away.
- Do not play the fish to exhaustion.
- Removal of deeply imbedded hooks by use of a hemostat or hook removal device is presently considered the best method to ensure higher survival of released fish. Modern hooks require a longer time period to rust so their presence can result in delayed mortality.

# NEBRASKA RECORD FISH

## HOOK AND LINE

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

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

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

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

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

**BASS - SMALLMOUTH ... 6 lbs. 1.½ oz.**  
Wally Allison, North Platte, Merritt Reservoir, 5/17/78

**BASS - STRIPED ... 64 lbs. 15.78 oz.**  
Gene Baker, Sutherland, Sutherland Reservoir, 8/17/93

**BASS - STRIPED HYBRID (WIPER) ... 15 lbs. 11 oz.** 7 14  
Reggie Bosshamer, Riverdale, Harlan Co. Res. 6/28/96, slab spoon

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**GIZZARD SHAD ... 4 lbs. 7¾ oz.**  
Joe Rinbauer, Alliance, Box Butte Reservoir, 3/26/89, silver spoon

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

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

**GRASS PICKEREL ... 4 oz.**  
Chuck Furlay, Norfolk, private pond, Rock Co. 12/30/95, minnow

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

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

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

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

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

**PERCH - WHITE ... 2 lb.**  
Bryan Juhas, Omaha, sandpit, Sarpy Co., 5/14/95, nightcrawler

**PERCH - YELLOW ... 2 lbs. 10¼ oz.**  
John D. Skrdla, Stuart, Hackberry Lake, 2/11/84

**PUMPKINSEED ... 11¼ oz.**  
Jim Johnson, Minatare, Box Butte Reservoir, 9/23/87, worm/nightcrawler

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## BOW AND ARROW

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

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

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

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

**BASS - STRIPED HYBRID ... 4 lbs. 14 oz.**  
John Don Clancy, Hastings, Harlan Co Reservoir spillway, 8/5/95

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**NORTHERN PIKE ... 21 lbs. 4 oz.**  
Allen Spichal, Scottsbluff, Lake Minatare, 5/2/70

**QUILLBACK ... 11 lbs. 2 oz.**  
Tim Smith, Shenkelman, 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

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

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

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

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

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

**UNDERWATER POWERED SPEARFISHING**

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

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

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

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

**BASS - STRIPED ... 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**PERCH - YELLOW ... 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**SURFACE SPEARFISHING**

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

**GIZZARD SHAD ... 1 lb. 15 oz.**  
Robert Adamson, Alliance, Bridgeport SRA, Morrill Co., 6/27/94

**CARP ... 2 lbs. 6 oz.**  
Mark Schafer, Alliance, Frye Lake, Grant Co., 7/1/94

## RECORD FISH DISPLAY

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

## 🐟 VOLUNTARY RELEASE—WHAT IT DOES AND DOESN'T ACCOMPLISH 🐟

Not many years ago, when a fish was caught by an angler the only future it had was in the bottom of a frying pan. Only a few trout anglers gave a second thought to releasing fish, especially large fish. The bigger the fish, the more meat there was to enjoy.

Recently, over-exploitation by anglers has been recognized as a problem limiting the quality of many sport fish species, even panfish like crappie and bluegill. Size limits are now a common fisheries management practice used to maintain a harvest of fish deemed "appropriate" to take. Compliance with size limits continues to improve as anglers see the benefits that result. In fact, many anglers now practice catch-and-release exclusively, regardless of size limits.

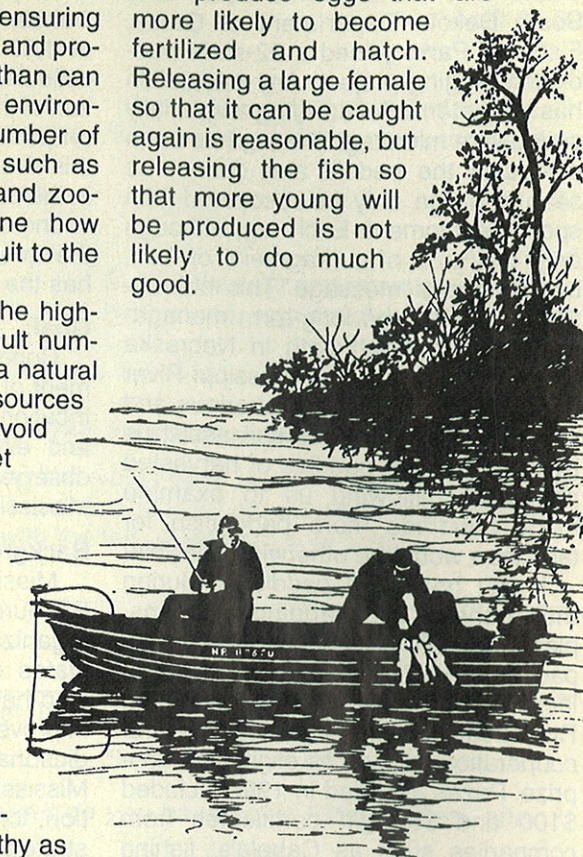
What should anglers expect to accomplish from releasing legal fish, particularly large fish? By releasing a fish, an angler makes it possible for another angler, or even himself, to catch the same fish at a still larger size at a later date. In spring, many anglers release large fish, particularly females, and especially walleyes, because they believe the removal of eggs carried by big "sows" will reduce the number of

young walleyes produced, ultimately resulting in fewer fish.

Nature maintains itself by ensuring that most species of fish carry and produce many times more eggs than can possibly be supported by the environment. Much more than the number of fertilized eggs, other factors, such as water level, water discharge and zooplankton densities, determine how many young walleyes will recruit to the population.

In fact, most fish produce the highest number of young when adult numbers are relatively low. This is a natural response to available food resources and space. Fish tend to fill the void available to them and meet what is called their carrying capacity. Of course, if fish populations are so sparse that males and females have a hard time finding each other to reproduce they will produce few young, but if a dense adult population exists, few young will be produced because there is little space to accommodate them. In addition, large, old females tend to produce eggs that are not as healthy as

those produced by younger fish. Young fish produce eggs that are more likely to become fertilized and hatch. Releasing a large female so that it can be caught again is reasonable, but releasing the fish so that more young will be produced is not likely to do much good.



### Attention Anglers!

Do you have a good quality picture of your Master Angler fish or your last successful fishing trip? The Fisheries Division is looking for pictures to use on our Internet World Wide Web server. Please send in your pictures along with the following information: Nebraska lake or stream where the fish was caught, species, date caught, lure or bait used, length(s) and weight(s) of fish, the names of all persons in the photograph, a statement "this picture may be used by Nebraska Game and Parks for informational purposes" and a return address if you would like the picture returned. Pictures selected can be viewed at our WWW site. The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission is on the Internet. Check out our "Fishing Resources" page for the latest fishing reports, information on regulations, seasons, what's new, Nebraska's public fishing lakes, our "Fish of the Week" feature, fish consumption advisories and many other features.

Our address is

<http://www.ngpc.state.ne.us/fish/fishing.html>

### Outdoor Nebraska Returns!

Be sure to tune your TV dial to NETV at 7:30 p.m. (CST) Thursdays, beginning January 9. Keep up on Nebraska's great outdoors when the Game and Parks Commission's popular television program returns to the airwaves. Watch your TV schedule for repeat days and times.

## THE CLASSIFIEDS

### Sporting Goods

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Back issues of Upland Game Bird, Habitat and Trout stamps, write or call Permits Section, 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. Big special on NEBRASKAland books, \$2.00 each — Country Cookbook, Photographing Nebraska, A Wildflower Year, Historic Places, Walk in the Woods! Write for free catalog to Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370 or call 1-800-NEB-LAND.

### 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.

## ↔ INTERJURISDICTIONAL PADDLEFISH TAGGING STUDY ↔

Beginning in 1995, the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks joined a 22-state paddlefish tagging project. Any paddlefish has the potential of carrying a specially coded wire microtag. The tag has been placed in the paddle and cannot be seen and can only be recovered with special equipment. Each tag, although only the size of a fragment of hair, bears a coded "message." This information is vital for the long-term management of paddlefish both in Nebraska and across the entire Mississippi River Basin. Tag recovery is a laborious and expensive task. Anglers can assist us by turning in the paddles of harvested paddlefish, allowing us to examine many hundreds more paddlefish for tags than would be otherwise possible.

If you harvest a paddlefish during the archery or snagging seasons, please cut off the last 8 inches of the paddle and turn it in at one of the collection sites posted at the Missouri River boat ramps. In exchange for your cooperation, you will be eligible to win a prize. Prizes awarded in 1995 included \$100 and \$50 gift certificates from companies such as Cabela's, fishing tackle and hats. Why, besides a chance

for a prize, is it worth your effort to turn in a paddle? Nebraska and South Dakota have based their harvest quota of 1,600 paddlefish per year on data collected exclusively from our joint section of the Missouri River. Because data on paddlefish movement in and out of this river reach has not been available in the past, this study could provide the sound scientific data required to raise the quota. Remember, any paddlefish has the potential to be carrying a tag.

### Goal:

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

### Background:

Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Association (MICRA) is an organization of Mississippi River Basin states and their cooperating entities who have agreed to develop efforts to improve the management of interjurisdictional fisheries resources of the Mississippi River Basin. The association, formed in 1991, has developed a strategic plan for the management of paddlefish and sturgeon species and

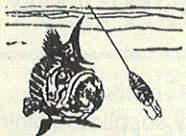
have begun implementation of that plan. A major component of the plan is to improve the paddlefish information base.

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

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

### Results:

Approximately 160 tagged paddlefish were recovered during the 1995 snagging season. Nebraska and South Dakota distributed more than 100 tag recovery prizes during a public meeting at Yankon, S.D., on March 21, 1996.



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## ATTENTION, ADVERTISERS!

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

## NEBRASKA PADDLEFISH TAGGING SYSTEM

Major changes in how both the archery and snagging paddlefish seasons are handled take effect in 1997. The paddlefish is a limited and precious resource and it is important that the harvest be closely regulated. However, past management methods did not produce quality fishing. One change for 1997 is a tag that will be required for both archers and snaggers who want to harvest a paddlefish (see "Archery" and Snagging," pg. 7-8). A total of 200 archery tags and 1,200 snagging tags will be available through a drawing.

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

To apply for a paddlefish tag, the archer or snagger must fill out the form at right. The application and drawing dates are as follows:

<b>Paddlefish Application Dates</b>	
Initial Archery Application Dates (First Tag Only)	April 1 - 30
Initial Archery Paddlefish Drawing	May 15
Archery Open Application (First or Second Tag - first come, first served, applications postmarked no earlier than June 1)	June 1 through end of archery season
Initial Snagging Application Date (First Tag Only)	July 1 - 31
Initial Snagging Paddlefish Drawing	August 15
Snagging Open Application (First or Second Tag - first come, first served, applications postmarked no earlier than Sept. 1)	Sept. 1 through end of snagging season

### Application for Free Paddlefish Harvest Tag

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

**What type of fishing permit do you have now? Please check one.**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Resident     | <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3-day Resident      | <input type="checkbox"/> Fee-exempt          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Non-resident | <input type="checkbox"/> None (under age 16) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3-day Non-resident  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please list) |

Fishing Permit Number \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**Type of Paddlefish Tag**

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

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

## Join the Fight!

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



### SUPPORT Operation Game Thief!

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**REMEMBER . . .**  
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There's a whole lot of fun going on at Nebraska's great state parks. For a 48-page color brochure and any other information you need, call 1-800-826-PARK (7275) to leave your name and address. Or, write to: State Parks, Game and Parks Commission, PO Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370.

# LIFETIME PERMITS



## The Gift That Keeps Giving

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Catch Yourself A Winner!

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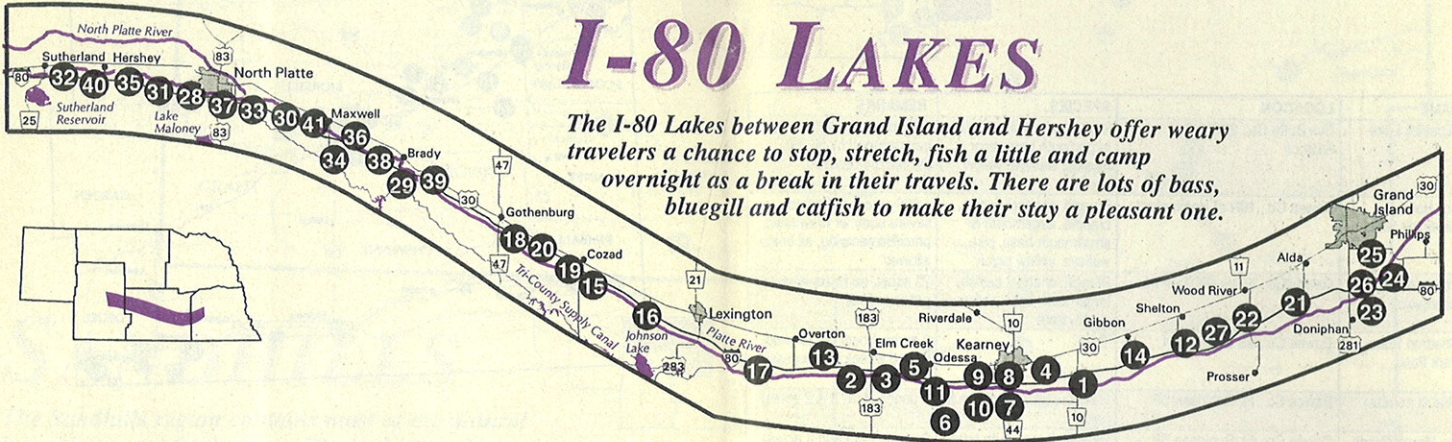
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**Mail to:**  
**NEBRASKAland Magazine, c/o Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503**

# NEBRASKA 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, alphabetically. **Good Fishing!**



## I-80 LAKES

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

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

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
22	Cheyenne SRA	Hall Co., Wood River Inter., NW quadrant	Restocked in 1997	17 acres, primitive camping, renovation in fall of 1996
23	Grand Island East bound Rest Area	Hall Co., 3E of Grand Island Interchange, S of I 80	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, largemouth bass	6 acres No boats allowed
24	Mormon Island DOR (East)	Hall Co., Grand Island Inter., N of I 80, 1 1/2 E	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tiger muskie	22 acres, access on foot from Mormon Island SRA, 8" minimum on bluegill
25	Mormon Island SRA (Middle)	Hall Co., NE quadrant, Grand Island Inter.	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger muskie	19 acres, access on foot from Mormon Island SRA, 8" minimum on bluegill
26	Mormon Island SRA (West)	Hall Co., NE quadrant, Grand Island Inter.	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye	42 acres, modern camping, 8" minimum on bluegill
27	West Wood River WMA	Hall Co., Wood River Inter., 1/2 S, 1W, N across overpass, 1/4 W	Restocked in 1997	15 acres, renovation in fall of 1996
28	Birdwood WMA	Lincoln Co., North Platte Inter., 1/2 S, 3 1/2 W, 1N, NW across overpass	Channel catfish, large mouth & rock bass, perch, rainbow trout in winter	20 acres
29	Brady Interchange WMA	Lincoln Co., Brady Inter., SE quadrant	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	25 acres
30	Crystal Lake	Lincoln Co., Maxwell Inter., 3/4 N, 2W, 1/2 N, 3 1/2 W, 1/2 S across overpass	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	6 1/2 acres
31	East Hershey WMA	Lincoln Co., North Platte Inter., 1/2 S, 7 3/4 W, 1 1/2 N, NE across overpass	Channel catfish, large mouth bass, perch, rock & smallmouth bass	20 acres
32	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
33	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
34	Fl. McPherson WMA	Lincoln Co., Maxwell Inter., SE quadrant	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, largemouth bass	30 acres, primitive camping
35	Hershey WMA	Lincoln Co., Hershey Inter., SE quadrant	Channel catfish, large mouth & rock bass, perch, pike, walleye	53 acres
36	Maxwell Rest Stop DOR	Lincoln Co., Maxwell Inter., 3E	Bluegill, crappie, largemouth bass	5 acres
37	North Platte City Lake	Lincoln Co., North Platte Inter., SE quadrant	Channel catfish, large mouth & rock bass, walleye	26 acres
38	West Brady WMA	Lincoln Co., Brady Inter., 3/4 N, 3W across overpass	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth & smallmouth bass	5 1/2 acres
39	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
40	West Hershey WMA	Lincoln Co., Hershey Inter., 1/2 W	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	6 acres, private access
41	West Maxwell WMA	Lincoln Co., Maxwell Inter., 3/4 N, 3/4 W, 1/4 S	Channel catfish, rock & smallmouth bass	7 acres

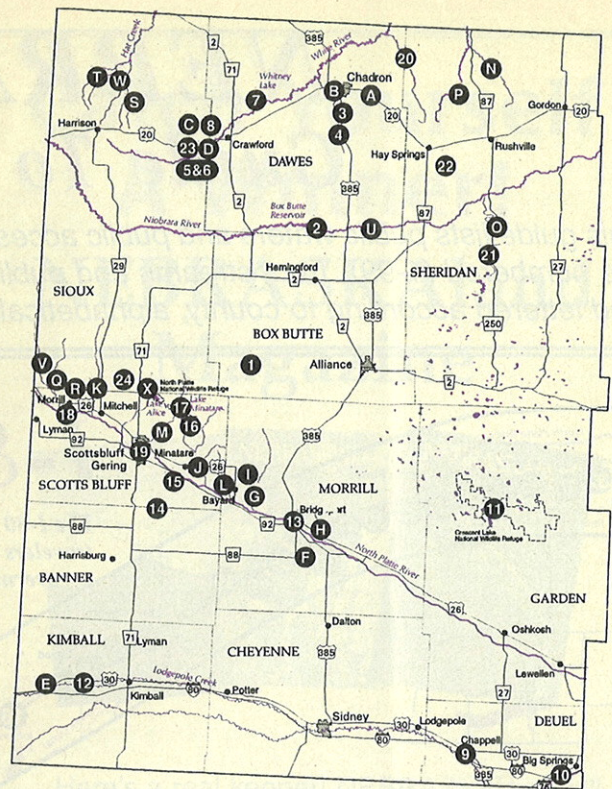
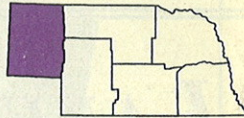


# PANHANDLE

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

## DISTRICT I - PANHANDLE

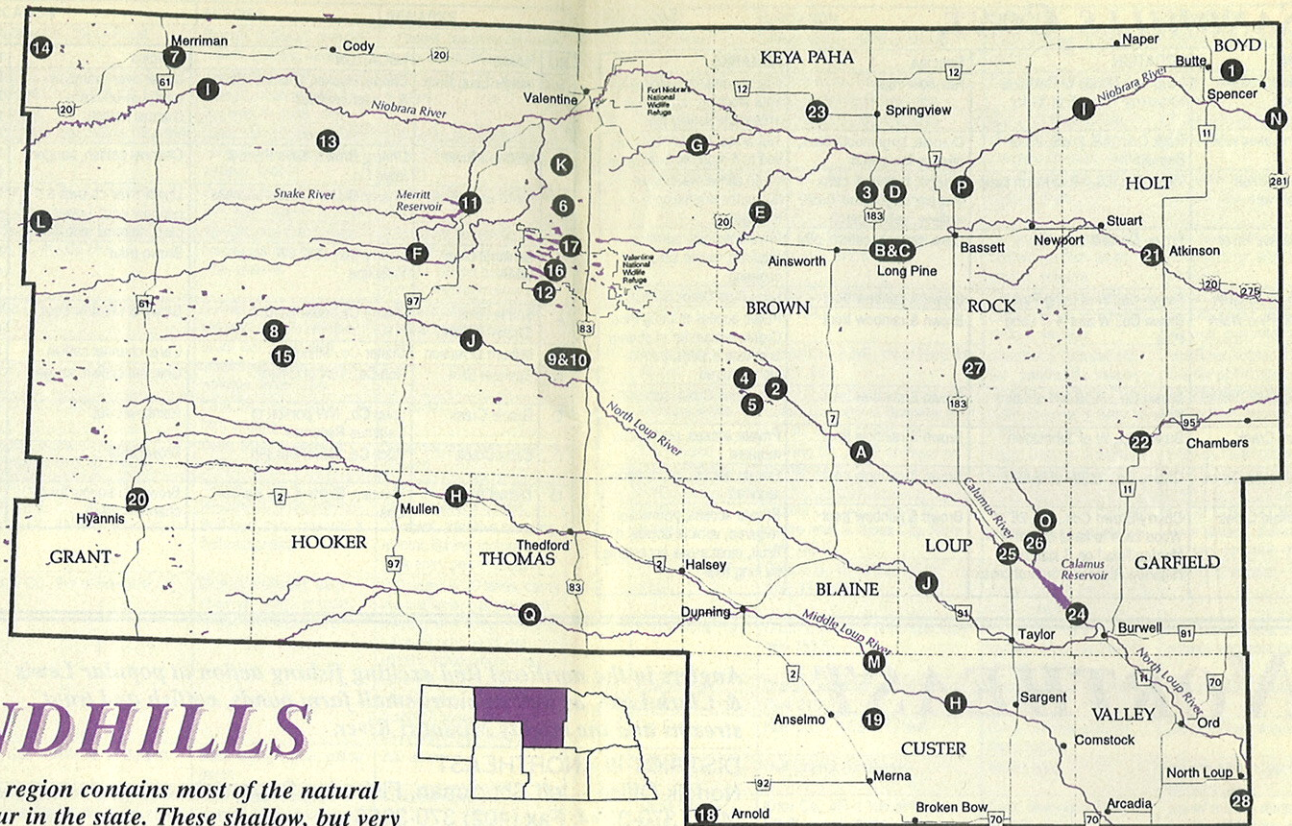
Alliance Office - Jack Peterson, Fisheries Supervisor  
(308) 762-5605; Fax (308) 762-8262



NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
1	Kilpatrick Lake	Box Butte Co., 22W, 1S of Alliance	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger muskie, walleye, yellow perch	160 acres, privately owned, but managed by NGPC, permission required.
2	Box Butte Reservoir SRA	Dawes Co., 10N of Hemingford	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth & smallmouth bass, pike, walleye, yellow perch	1,600 acres, subject to severe summer drawdown, primitive camping, all boats allowed
3	Chadron City Reservoirs	Dawes Co., 5 1/2 S of Chadron	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, yellow perch, trout	22 acres, no boats allowed, public access
4	Chadron State Park Pond	Dawes Co., 9S of Chadron	Trout	2 acres, boats not allowed, limited wheelchair accessible fishing pier
5	Grabel ponds	Dawes Co., Ft. Robinson SP	Rainbow trout, largemouth bass	4 ponds (1, 1, 2 & 2 acres)
6	Ice House Ponds	Dawes Co., Ft. Robinson SP	Bluegill, largemouth bass (occasional rainbow trout stockings)	3 ponds (1, 2 and 3 acres)
7	Whitney Lake	Dawes Co., 1 1/2 W of Whitney	Channel catfish, crappie, perch, walleye, white bass	900 acres, private irrigation reservoir, access limited
8	Wood Reserve Pond	Dawes Co., Ft. Robinson SP	Rainbow Trout	3 1/2-acre ponds
9	Chappell Interstate Lake	Deuel Co., 1/2 S of Chappell	Black crappie, bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, walleye, yellow perch	30 acres
10	Goldeneye WMA	Deuel Co., 3W of Big Springs	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, yellow perch	17 acres
11	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.
12	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, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
13	Bridgeport SRA	Morrill Co., NW edge of Bridgeport	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, pike, rainbow trout, walleye	78 acres in 5 lakes, primitive camping, all boats allowed on middle pit
14	Buffalo Creek WMA	Scotts Bluff Co., 5S, 1 1/2 W of Melbeta	Largemouth bass, rainbow trout	7 acres, access via 1-mile foot trail
15	Cochran Lake	Scotts Bluff Co., 2SW of Melbeta	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger muskie, yellow perch	45 acres
16	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
17	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
18	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
19	Terry's Pit	Scotts Bluff Co., Terrytown	Largemouth bass, trout	7 acres
20	Isham Dam	Sheridan Co., NW of Hay Springs	Bluegill, bullheads, largemouth bass, yellow perch	26 acres, private/permission required, all boats allowed
21	Smith Lake WMA	Sheridan Co., 23S of Rushville	Bluegill, bullheads, large-mouth bass, pike, tiger muskie, walleye, yellow perch	290 acres, primitive camping, power boats limited to 5 mph
22	Walgren Lake SRA	Sheridan Co., 5SE of Hay Springs	Bluegill, bullheads, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye, yellow perch	100 acres, primitive camping, boat speed limit, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
23	Carter P. Johnson Lake	Sioux Co., Ft. Robinson SP	Rainbow trout	15 acres electric fishing motor only
24	University Lake	Sioux Co., 7NW of Scottsbluff	Largemouth bass, yellow perch	30 acres
A	Bourdeaux Creek	Dawes Co., SE of Chadron	Brown trout	Private access, permission required

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

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



# SANDHILLS

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

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

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
1	Hull Lake	Boyd Co., ½W, 2S 1W 1¼S of Butte	Bluegill, catfish, largemouth bass	5 ½ acres, primitive camping, no drinking water
2	Clear Lake	Brown Co., 18½S, 9W, 1N of Ainsworth	Bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch	194 acres, privately owned, but managed byNGPC under a MOU.
3	Keller Park SRA	Brown Co., 11S of Springview	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, trout	5 ponds, pond No. 4 & 5 have catchable trout, camping
4	Long Lake SRA	Brown Co., 8½W, 21S of Ainsworth	Bullheads, pike, yellow perch	155 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph
5	Willow Lake WMA	Brown Co., 18½S 12 ½W, 1N 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
6	Big Alkali WMA	Cherry Co., 16S, 4W, 1½S of Valentine	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch	842 acres, all boats allowed, ramp, camping, fishing camp
7	Cottonwood Lake SRA	Cherry Co., ½E, ½S of Merriman	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch	34 acres, primitive camping, vegetation hampers summer fishing, all boats allowed
8	Jack Rabbit Lake	Cherry Co., 9E, 1S of Whitman	Bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch	34 acres, privately owned, but managed by NGPC under a MOU open in 1998
9	Lee's Lake	Cherry Co., 4½E, 1¼N, 1½NW of Brownlee	Bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch	84 acres, privately owned, but managed by NGPC under a MOU open in 1998
10	Lee's Alkali Lake	Cherry Co., 4½E, 1¼N, 2½NW of Brownlee	Bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch	70 acres, privately owned, but managed by NGPC under a MOU open in 1998
11	Merritt Reservoir SRA	Cherry Co., 26SW of Valentine	Bluegill, bullheads, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth & smallmouth bass, muskie, pike, walleye, white bass, yellow perch	2,900 acres, camping available, all boats allowed, 18' minimum on walleye with only 1 fish allowed over 25"
12	Rat and Beaver WMA	Cherry Co., 30S, 7W of Valentine	Bullhead, carp, pike, yellow perch	450 acres in 2 lakes, permission required for access
13	Schoolhouse Lake	Cherry Co., 24S of Nenzel	Black crappie, bluegill, bullhead, largemouth bass	105 acres, private access, permission required
14	Shell Lake	Cherry Co., 3N, 4E, 8N of Gordon	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch	160 acres, aquatic vegetation hampers summer fishing, power boats limited to 5 mph
15	Speckle Meir Lake	Cherry Co., 21N, 14W of Mullen	Bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch	80 acres, privately owned, but managed by NGPC under a MOU open in 1998

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
16	Valentine Refuge	Cherry Co., 16S, 6W 8S of Valentine to H.Q.	Black bullhead, bluegill, pike, yellow perch	Minnnows 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.
	Clear Lake (425 acres)		Bluegill, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch	
	Dewey Lake (550 acres)		Bluegill, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch	
	Duck Lake (66 acres)		Bluegill, bullhead, largemouth bass, yellow perch	
	Hackberry Lake (680 acres)		Bluegill, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch	
	Pelican Lake (798 acres)		Black bullhead, bluegill, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch	
	Watts Lake (230 acres)		Bluegill, largemouth bass, muskie, yellow perch	
	West Long Lake (62 acres)		Bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch	
17	Willow Lake WMA	Cherry Co., 23½S, 3W of Valentine	Carp, pike, yellow perch	354 acres
18	Arnold Lake	Custer Co., ½S of Arnold	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	4 acres, very weedy in summer, managed out of Dist. IV office
19	Victoria Springs Lake SRA	Custer Co., 6E of Anselmo	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, rainbow trout	5 ½ acres, cabins and camping, electric motors only
20	Frye Lake	Grant Co., 1N, 1 ½E of Hyannis	Bluegill, carp, largemouth bass, tiger muskie, yellow perch, crappie	243 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph, managed by Dist. I
21	Atkinson SRA	Holt Co., ½W of Atkinson	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, pike	5 acres, primitive camping, electrical hookups, Elkhorn River access
22	Swan Lake	Holt Co., 26S, ½W of Atkinson	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, northern pike, yellow perch	235 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph
23	Cub Creek Lake	Keya Paha Co., 8½W of Springview	Bluegill, catfish, largemouth bass, tiger muskie, walleye, yellow perch	27 acres, electric fishing motors only, primitive camping
24	Calamus Reservoir SRA	Loup Co., 2W 5NW of Burwell	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike, walleye, wiper, yellow perch	5,200 acres, modern/primitive camping, 5 mph boating on upper lake, 18' minimum on walleye with only 1 fish allowed over 25", daily bag limit 3 on wipers, with no more than 1 fish over 18"
25	Horseshoe Bend	Loup Co., 12N of Taylor	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	34 acres, leased lake, privately owned and managed by NGPC

# SANDHILLS CONT.

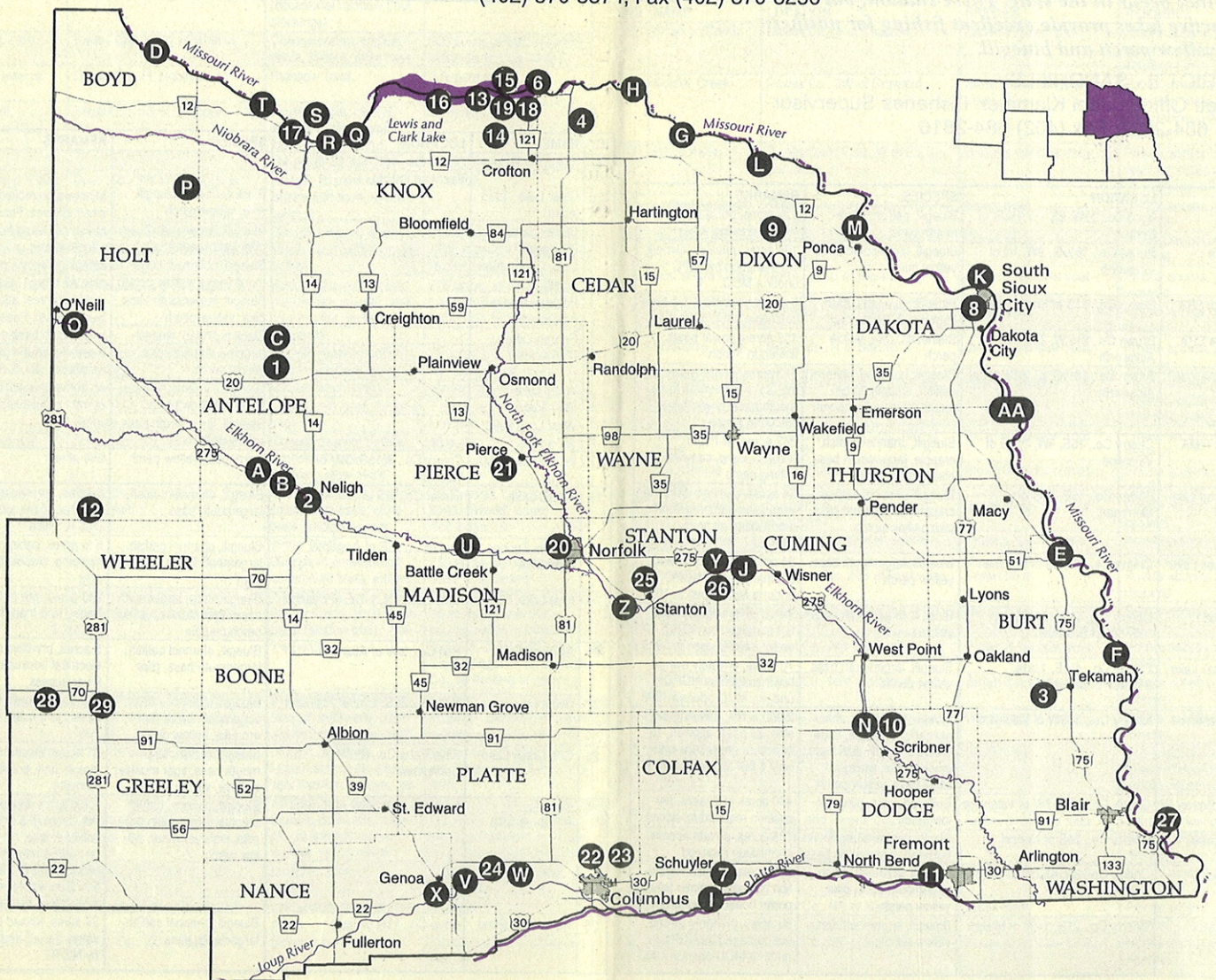
NO	NAME	LOCATION	Species	REMARKS
26	Gracie Creek Pond	Loup Co., N side of Calamus Reservoir 12N, 4E of Taylor	Rainbow trout	2 acre pond, put and take trout stocking, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
27	Twin Lakes WMA	Rock Co., 16S, 2 1/2E, 2S of Bassett	Crappie, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch	160 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph, no boat ramp
28	Davis Creek Reservoir	Valley Co., 5S, 1E of North Loup	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye, yellow perch	1,145 acres, water level fluctuates dramatically due to irrigation
A	Calamus River	Brown Co. and Loup Co.	Carp, channel catfish, pike	Private access, permission required, canoe sites and camping
B	Long Pine SRA	Brown Co., W of Long Pine	Brown & rainbow trout	Long Pine Creek access
C	Long Pine WMA	Brown Co., W and N of Long Pine	Brown & rainbow trout	Public access to Long Pine Creek, remainder of stream is private access, permission required
D	Pine Glen WMA	Brown Co., 2E, 8 1/4N of Long Pine	Brown & rainbow trout	Long Pine Creek access
E	Plum Creek	Brown Co., W of Johnstown	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
F	Boardman Creek	Cherry Co., 35SW of Mullen	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
G	Fairfield Creek	Cherry/Brown Cos., 8N, 2E of Wood Lake to forks or 2 1/2W of Norden Road on S side of Niobrara River to mouth of creek	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required, vehicle access difficult, most areas accessible by long hike

NO	NAME	LOCATION	Species	REMARKS
H	Middle Loup River	Cherry, Hooker, Thomas, Blaine & Custer counties	Upper river - rainbow trout, Lower - carp channel catfish,	Public access at Milburn & Arcadia diversions; rest private access, permission required
I	Niobrara River	Cherry, Brown, Keya Paha & Boyd Co.	Channel catfish, sauger	Private access, permission required
J	North Loup River	Cherry, Blaine & Loup counties	Upper river - brown & rainbow trout, Lower - carp, channel catfish	Private access, permission required
K	Schlagel Creek WMA	Cherry Co., 16S, 4W, 4N of Valentine	Brown trout	Private access, permission required except on Schlagel Creek WMA
L	Snake River (Upper Reach)	Cherry Co., near Gordon	Brown & rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
M	Milburn Diversion	Custer Co., Milburn	Carp, channel catfish	Middle Loup River access
N	Spencer SRA	Holt Co., 18N of O'Neill	Channel catfish, sauger	Primitive camping, Niobrara River access
O	Gracie Creek	Loup Co., NW portion of Calamus Reservoir	Rainbow trout	Two miles of stream above Gracie Creek pond
P	Coon Creek	Rock Co., NE of Bassett	Brown trout	Private access, permission required
Q	Dismal River	Thomas, Blaine & So. Hooker Cos.	Brown & rainbow trout, channel catfish	Private access, permission required

# NORTHEAST

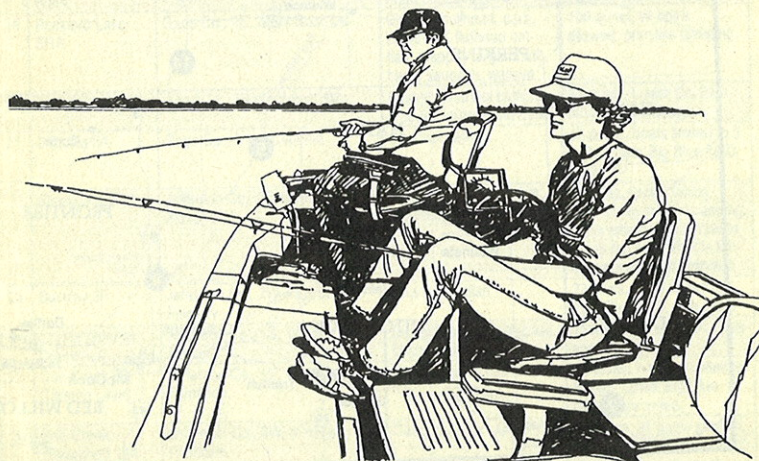
Anglers in the northeast find exciting fishing action at popular Lewis & Clark Lake, as well as many small farm ponds, catfish and trout streams and the mighty Missouri River.

DISTRICT III - NORTHEAST  
 Norfolk Office - Jeff Shuckman, Fisheries Supervisor  
 (402) 370-3374; Fax (402) 370-3256



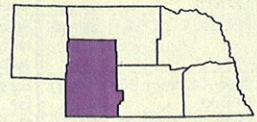
NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
0	Grove Lake	Antelope Co., 2N of Royal	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike	50 acres, primitive camping, power boats limited to 5 mph
1	Penn Park Lake	Antelope Co., Neligh city lake, SW edge	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, carp	8 acres
2	Summit Lake SRA	Burt Co., 4 1/2 W, 1/2 S of Tekamah	Bass, bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, pike, walleye, wipers	190 acres, motorboats limited to 5 mph, fish cleaning station
3	Chalkrock Lake WMA	Cedar Co., 5N, 1 1/2 E of Hwy. 81 & 12 Jct.	Bass, bluegill, channel catfish, tiger muskie, walleye	44 acres, boats limited to 5 mph
4	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
5	Gavins Point Dam Tailwaters	Cedar Co., 1S, 4W of Yankton, SD	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, drum, eel, paddlefish, smallmouth bass, sauger, walleye, white bass	All boats allowed, wheelchair accessible fishing piers
6	Schuyler City Lake	Collax Co., In city park	Bass, bluegill, channel catfish, crappie	18 acres
7	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
8	Buckskin Hills Lake	Dixon Co., 2W, 3S, 1/2 W of Newcastle	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, walleye	75 acres, primitive camping, boats limited to 5 mph
9	Dead Timber SRA	Dodge Co., 5NW of Scribner, 1 1/2 E	Bullhead, carp, channel & flathead catfish	20 acres, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only, park entry permit required
10	Fremont Lakes SRA	Dodge Co., 3W of Fremont	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike	280 acres in 20 lakes, camping available, gas-powered boating on Victory Lake and Lake 20 only, all others electric fishing motors only. Lake #1 - Catch and release on all fish species, barbless hooks only, park entry permit required.
11	Goose Lake	Holt Co., 18NW, 5E of Bartlett	Bass, bluegill, pike, yellow perch	200 acres
12	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
13	Hideaway Acres Marina	Knox Co., 7N, 1/2 W of Crofton on Lewis & Clark Lake, River mile 812.5	Carp, channel catfish, crappie, drum, sauger, walleye, white bass	Concrete ramp
14	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
15	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
16	Niobrara SP	Knox Co., 1W of Niobrara	Bass & bluegill in lagoon; channel & flathead catfish in river	Park entry permit required
17	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
18	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
19	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
20	Willow Creek SRA	Pierce Co., 2SW of Pierce	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, large mouth bass, pike, tiger muskie, walleye, wipers	700 acres, camping, motorboats limited to 5 mph on west half of lake, 3 wheelchair accessible fishing piers
21	Lake Babcock	Platte Co., 1W, 3N of Columbus	Bullhead, carp, channel & flathead catfish	600 acres, power boats not allowed
22	Lake North	Platte Co., 3N of Columbus	Carp, channel catfish, crappie, drum, walleye	200 acres, camping
23	Looking Glass WMA	Platte Co., 1S of Monroe	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	Two small lakes, 3-4 acres each
24	Maskenthine Reservoir	Stanton Co., 2NW of Stanton	Bass, bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, pike, walleye	98 acres, primitive camping, boats limited to 5 mph. Wheelchair accessible fishing pier
25	Red Fox Lake WMA	Stanton Co., 1 1/2 S of Pilger on Hwy. 15	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	25 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, primitive ramp
26	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
27	Lake Ericson	Wheeler Co., 1/2 S of Ericson	Bass, bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, pike	70 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph
28	Pibel Lake SRA	Wheeler Co., 9S, 1E of Bartlett	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike	25 acres, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only
29	Hackberry Creek WMA, Elkhorn River	Antelope Co., 1 1/2 E, 1/2 N of Clearwater	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
B	Red Wing	Antelope Co., 5SW of Neligh	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
C	WMA Verdigre Creek	Antelope Co., East Branch, NE of Royal above Grove Lake	Brown & rainbow trout	Public access available as posted
D	Sunshine Bottoms Ramp (Boyd County)	Boyd Co., 3E, 4N of Lynch	Carp, channel catfish, drum, goldeye, sauger, smallmouth bass, walleye	Public access to Missouri River
E	Hightree Marina	Burt Co., 1/2 N of Hwy. 51 bridge, east side of Decatur, River mile 691.4	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, drum	Mo. River access, private access, fee, concrete ramp
F	Pelican Point SRA	Burt Co., 5E, 4N of Tekamah, River mile 672.8	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, drum, sauger, walleye	Mo. River access, public access ramp, primitive camping
G	Cedar County Access	Cedar Co., 4NE of Wynot, River mile 784.9	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, drum, paddlefish, sauger, walleye	Cedar County, Mo. River access, public access allowed, concrete ramp
H	St. Helena Access	Cedar Co., 6 1/2 E, 1N of Hwy. 81 & 121 Jct.	Channel & flathead catfish, paddlefish, sauger, walleye	Mo. River access, Cedar County public access allowed, gravel ramp
I	Whitetail WMA	Collax Co., 1/2 W of Schuyler on US 30, 3S on county road	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, sauger	Platte River access
J	Black Island WMA, Elkhorn River	Cuming Co., 2 1/2 E of Pilger on county road	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
K	Scenic Park Access	Dakota Co., 1/2 E of Hwy. 77 bridge near S. Sioux City, River mile 732.0	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, drum, paddlefish	City of S. Sioux City, Mo. River access, public access allowed, concrete ramp
L	Mulberry Bend WMA	Dixon Co., 1E of Maskell on Hwy. 12 and 2 1/2 N	Carp, channel catfish, largemouth & smallmouth bass, paddlefish, pike	Mo. River access
M	Ponca State Park	Dixon Co., 2 1/2 N of Ponca, River mile 753.5	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, drum, paddlefish, sauger, walleye	Mo. River access, public access, concrete ramp
N	Powder Horn WMA	Dodge Co., 4NW of Scribner on Hwy. 275	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
O	Dry Creek	Holt Co., 1 1/2 SE of O'Neill	Carp, channel and flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
P	Steel Creek	Holt County (northeast)	Brown trout	Private access, permission required
Q	Bazile Creek WMA	Knox Co., 4E, 1 1/2 N of Niobrara, NE River mile 838.8	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, sauger, walleye	Gravel road to ramp gets muddy with heavy rains, ramp subject to flooding
R	Ferry Landing SRA	Knox Co., 2 1/2 E, 1 1/2 N of Niobrara, NE River mile 841.0	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, sauger, walleye	Boat ramp, access to Missouri River
S	Niobrara Townsite Boat Ramp	Knox Co., N of old Niobrara townsite on county road, NE River mile 844.0	Buffalo, carp, crappie, pike, sauger, smallmouth bass, walleye	Double-wide concrete ramps, ample parking
T	Verdel Landing	Knox Co., 2E, 2N of Verdel	Carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth & smallmouth bass, pike	Mo. River access
U	Yellowbanks WMA	Madison Co., 3N of Battle Creek	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
V	George Syas WMA	Nance Co., 2S, 1 1/2 E of Genoa	Carp, channel catfish	Loup River access
W	Loup Canal	Nance & Platte counties, Genoa to Columbus	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, drum	Tailrace at Columbus, stilling basin W of Genoa, and tailwaters below Monroe and Columbus powerhouses most productive. Loup River diversion canal
X	Prairie Wolf WMA	Nance Co., 1S of Genoa	Carp, channel catfish	Loup River access
Y	Red Fox WMA	Stanton Co., 1S of Pilger on Hwy. 15	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
Z	Wood Duck WMA	Stanton Co., 3SW of Stanton	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Elkhorn River access
AA	Missouri River (Federal access areas)	Nebraska shoreline, River mile 691.3-691.9 River mile 693.0-693.4 River mile 694.5-695.3 River mile 695.2-697.4 River mile 697.7-699.6 River mile 701.1-701.5	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, drum, paddlefish, sauger, walleye	Public access points to Missouri River, camping available, area boundaries posted



# SOUTHWEST

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

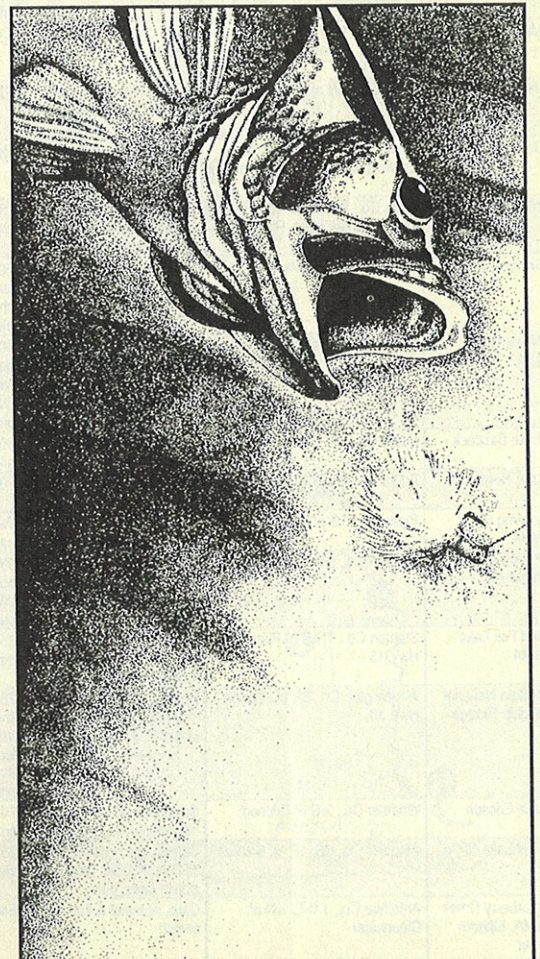
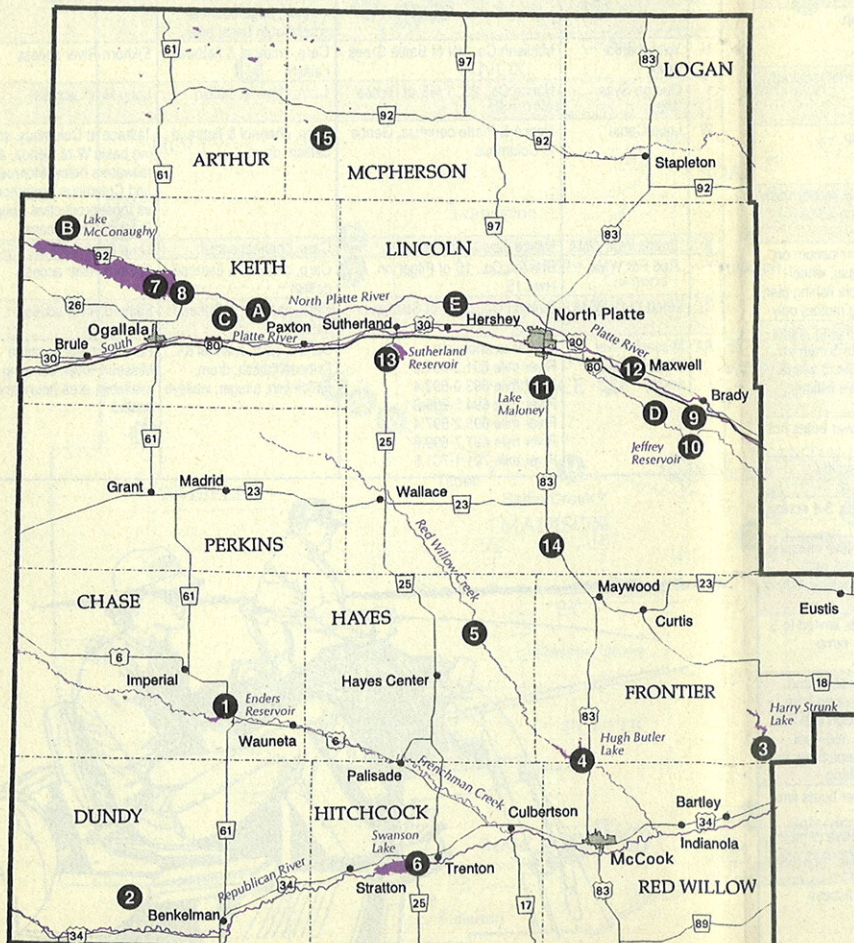


## DISTRICT IV - SOUTHWEST

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

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
1	Enders Reservoir SRA	Chase Co., 5E, 4 1/2 S of Imperial	Channel & flathead catfish, crappie, walleye, white bass, wiper	1700 acres, primitive camping, all boats allowed, severe summer drawdown
2	Rock Creek Lake SRA	Dundy Co., 4N, 1W of Parks	Bluegill, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, rainbow trout, redear	50 acres, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only
3	Medicine Creek SRA (Harry Strunk Lake)	Frontier Co., 2W, 7N of Cambridge	Channel & flathead catfish, crappie, walleye, white bass	1,850 acres, primitive and modern camping, all boats allowed
4	Red Willow SRA (Hugh Butler Lake)	Frontier Co., 11N of McCook	Channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye, white bass, wiper	1,630 acres, modern camping, all boats allowed
5	Hayes Center Lake WMA	Hayes Co., 12NE of Hayes Center	Bullhead, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, pike	50 acres, electric fishing motors only
6	Swanson Reservoir SRA	Hitchcock Co., 2W of Trenton	Channel catfish, crappie, drum, walleye, white bass	5,000 acres
7	Lake McConaughy SRA	Keith Co., 10N of Ogallala	Channel catfish, perch, rainbow trout, smallmouth bass, striped bass, tiger muskie, white bass, walleye, wiper	30,000 acres, modern and primitive camping, all boats allowed
8	Lake Ogallala SRA	Keith Co., 10N of Ogallala	Channel catfish, rainbow trout, walleye, white bass, yellow perch	590 acres, modern/primitive camping, all boats allowed, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
9	Chester Island WMA	Lincoln Co., 2S, 1/2W of Brady	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	4.2 acres (4 sandpits)
10	Jeffrey Reservoir	Lincoln Co., 5S, 3W of Brady	Channel catfish, walleye, white bass	900 acres, all boats allowed

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
11	Lake Maloney SRA	Lincoln Co., 6S of North Platte	Channel & flathead catfish, carp, drum, walleye, white bass, wiper	1,600 acres, primitive camping, all boats allowed, wheelchair accessible fishing pier on inlet in 1995
12	Pawnee Slough WMA	Lincoln Co., 2W of Maxwell	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth & rock bass	30 acres
13	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, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
14	Wellfleet Lake	Lincoln Co., 1/2SW of Wellfleet	Bluegill, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	50 acres, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only
15	Diamond Bar	McPherson Co., 18W 3S Tryon	Largemouth bass, northern pike, yellow perch	120 acre, shallow Sandhill lake, privately owned, but managed by NGPC under an MOU
A	North Platte River	Keith & Lincoln Co.s, Keystone to Paxton	Rainbow trout	Private access, permission required
B	Otter Creek	Keith Co., 12E of Lewellen	Brown & rainbow trout	Private property, permission required
C	Sutherland Supply Canal	Keith & Lincoln Cos.	Brown & rainbow trout	Access via Central Public Power District road
D	CNPPID Canal (Tri County)	Lincoln Co., North Platte to Lexington	Channel & flathead catfish, walleye, white bass, wiper	Power boats limited to 5 mph, 15" minimum on wall-eye
E	North River WMA	Lincoln Co., 2 1/2N of Hershey	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, pike	Encompasses 2 miles of North Platte River

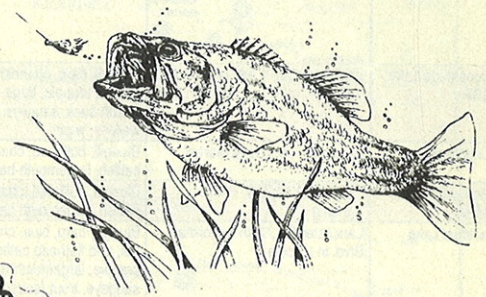
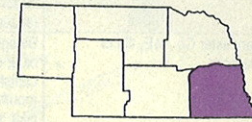
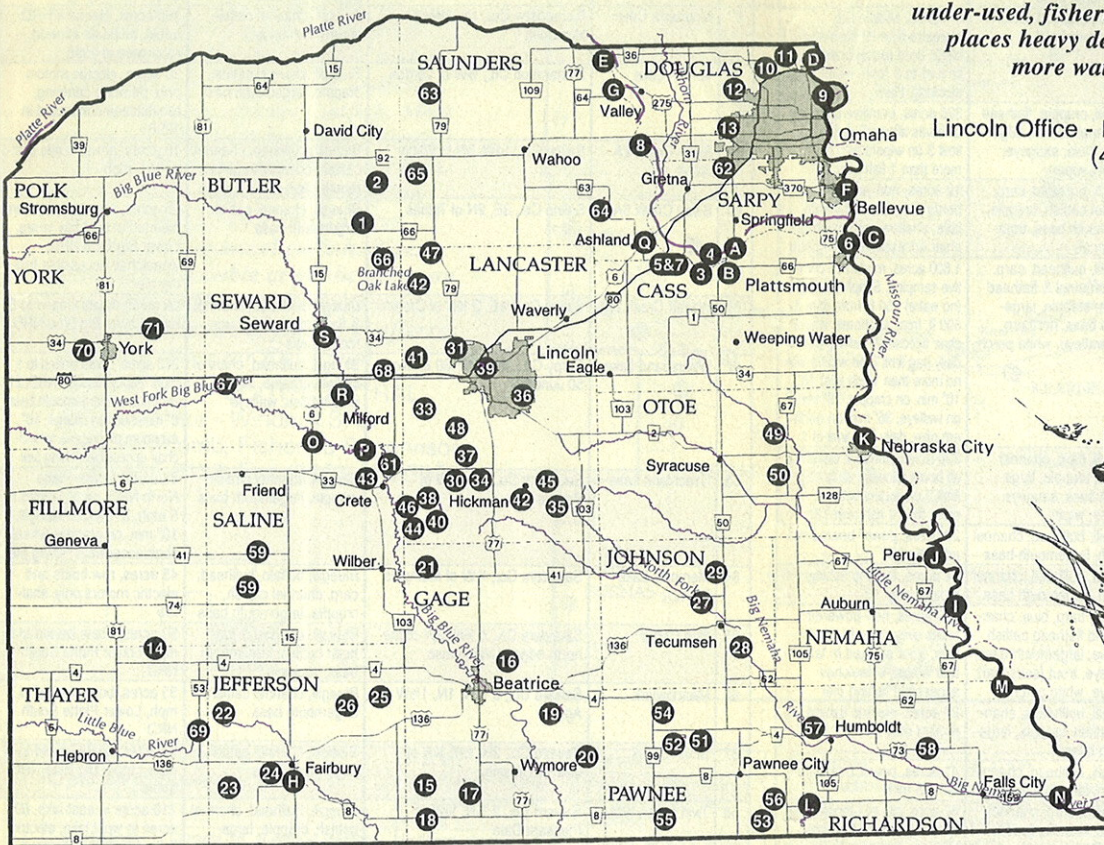


# SOUTHEAST

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

DISTRICT V - SOUTHEAST

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



NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
1	Redtail WMA	Butler Co., 1E of Dwight	Bluegill, crappie, channel catfish, largemouth bass	17 acres, walk-in access only
2	Timber Point	Butler Co., 1S, 2E of Brainard	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tiger muskie	28 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Platte South NRD
3	Jenny Newman	Cass Co., Platte River SP	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, yellow perch	4 1/2 acres, total catch and release, open to fishing for children 15 years old or younger. Open to fishing from April 26 - Oct. 26 from sunrise to 10 a.m. All hooks on artificial lures need to be barbless or have barbs crimped.
4	Louisville SRA	Cass Co., 1/2NW of Louisville	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; tiger muskie and yellow bass in Lake #2, carp in Lake #3	40 acres in 5 lakes, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only, access point Platte River
5	Marina Lake	Cass Co., Mahoney State Park	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	4 1/2 acres, special restrictions open sunrise to 10 a.m. check for open dates
6	Schilling WMA	Cass Co., 1NE of Plattsmouth	Carp, channel catfish in Platte & Missouri Rivers	25 acres, open April 15-Sept. 30, hours posted, no boats on lake
7	US West Lake	Cass Co., Mahoney State Park	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, trout (seasonal)	10 acres, catch & release only for bass & bluegill, check regulations for other species, trout stocked in fall and winter, barbless hooks only
8	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	32 acres in 7 lakes, primitive and modern camping, non-powered boats only, no boats on lake #5, access point to Platte River, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
9	Carter Lake	Douglas Co., Abbott Drive & Cartor Blvd. in Omaha	Bluegill, buffalo, bullhead, carp, catfish, crappie, drum, largemouth bass, pike, walleye	300 acres, all boats allowed, city of Omaha lake, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
10	Glenn Cunningham Lake	Douglas Co., 96th & State in Omaha	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, largemouth, walleye, yellow & white bass	390 acres, no-wake power boating, camping, city of Omaha lake, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
11	Papio D-4	Douglas Co., 1/4N of NE 36 & 98th St., northwest Omaha	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	30 1/2 acres, Papio/Missouri NRD

12	Standing Bear Lake	Douglas Co., 132nd & Military in Omaha	Bass, bluegill, catfish, crappie, drum, saugeye, trout (seasonal), walleye, yellow perch	135 acres, electric fishing motors only, city of Omaha lake, trout stocked in fall and winter, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
13	Zorinsky Lake	Douglas Co., 156th & F Sts. in Omaha	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, tiger 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
14	Bruning Pit	Fillmore Co., 2 1/2E, 1N of Bruning	Bullhead, carp, channel catfish	258 acres, Little Blue NRD, very turbid
15	Arrowhead WMA	Gage Co., 3E, 1/2S of Diller	Bullhead, carp, channel catfish	77 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph, very turbid & shallow
16	Bear Pierce Cedar 2A	Gage Co., 2N, 2E of Hwy. 77 & Hwy. 136 Junction	Channel catfish	24 acres, turbid & shallow, Lower Big Blue NRD
17	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
18	Diamond Lakes WMA	Gage Co., 3 1/2W of Odell	Bullhead, channel & flathead catfish	43 acres in 2 lakes, electric fishing motors only, turbid
19	Rockford Lake SRA	Gage Co., 7E, 2S of Beatrice	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, saugeye, walleye	150 acres, all boats allowed, primitive camping
20	Wolf Wildcat #12	Gage Co., 7S of Virginia	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	42 acres, Lower Big Blue NRD, limited access
21	Clatonia 3A	Gage Co., 1N of Clatonia	Channel catfish	46 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Big Blue NRD, turbid
22	Alexandria SRA	Jefferson Co., 2S, 3E of Alexandria	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	43 acres, electric fishing motors only, primitive camping. Lakes rehabilitated in 1996 to create two lakes with the fishery renovated and restocked
23	Buckley 3F	Jefferson Co., 7W 4 1/2S of Fairbury	Channel catfish	22 acres, boats limited to 5 mph. Blue NRD, very turbid
24	Crystal Springs Lakes	Jefferson Co., 1S, 1W of Fairbury	Bluegill, largemouth bass, channel catfish	18 acres in 3 lakes, no boats allowed
25	Cub Creek 9B (Leisure Lake)	Jefferson Co., 1E, 4S of Plymouth	Carp, channel catfish	25 acres, boating limited to 5 mph, Lower Big Blue NRD, very turbid
26	Cub Creek Watershed 12A	Jefferson Co., 3W, 4 1/2S of Plymouth	Carp, channel catfish	27 acres, all boats allowed, turbid, Lower Big Blue NRD

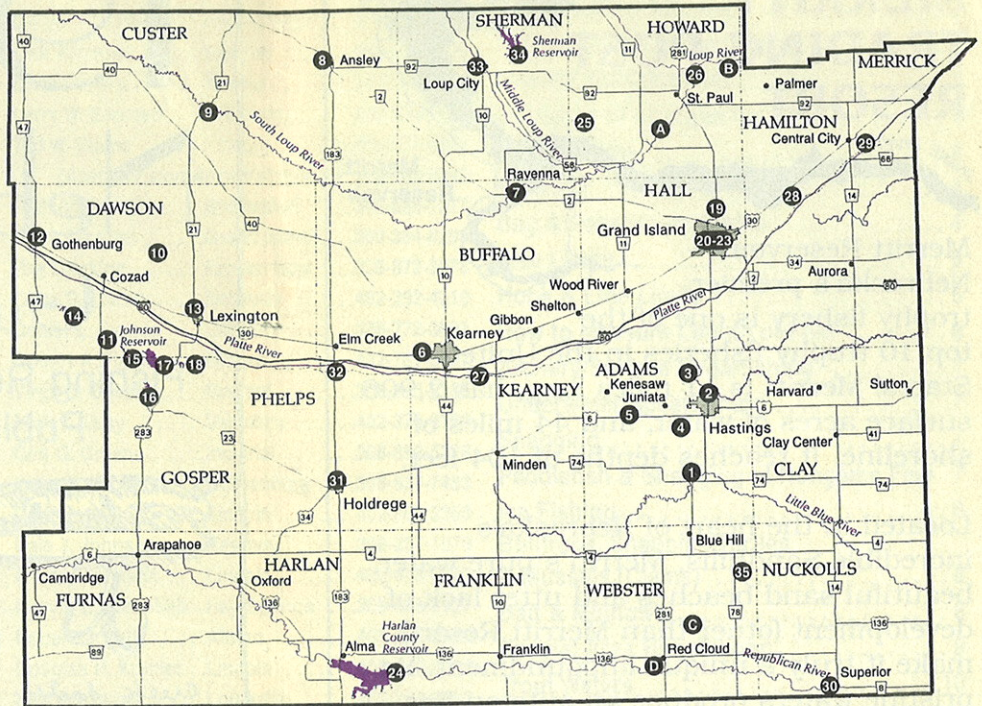
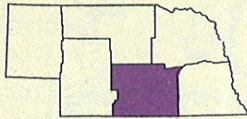
NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
27	Osage WMA	Johnson Co., 3N, 2W, ¼N of Tecumseh	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	4 1-acre ponds
28	Twin Oaks WMA	Johnson Co., 2E, 4S of Tecumseh	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	3 acres, 2 ponds
29	Werth Brothers Lake	Johnson Co., 1W, 3S, 1W of Cook	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	37 acres, Middle Big Nemaha Site 27 Nemaha NRD, boat ramp, boating limited to 5 mph, initial stocking 1995.
30	Bluestem Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 2 ½W 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"
31	Bowling Lake	Lancaster Co., 3rd & Baker, NW Airpark, Lincoln	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, trout (seasonal)	12 acres, non-powered boats only, city of Lincoln lake, shallow, turbid; wheelchair accessible fishing pier
32	Branched Oak Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., ½E, 4N of Malcolm	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, blue, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, northern pike, 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" min. on crappie, 18" min. on walleye, 36" min. on northern pike, daily bag limit of 1
33	Conestoga Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 1 ½N of Denton	Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, saugeye, walleye, wiper	230 acres, primitive camping, all boats allowed, daily bag limit 3 on wipers with no more than 1 fish over 18"
34	Cottontail	Lancaster Co., 1N of Martell	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass	29 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph
35	Hedgefield Lake WMA	Lancaster Co., 2W, ½N of Panama	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass	44 acres, electric fishing motors only
36	Holmes Lake	Lancaster Co., 70th & Normal Blvd. in Lincoln	Bluegill, carp, blue, channel, and flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, saugeye, trout (seasonal), walleye, white perch,	100 acres, non-powered boats only, city of Lincoln lake, trout stocked in fall and winter; wheelchair accessible fishing pier
37	Killdeer Lake WMA	Lancaster Co., 2½ of Martell	Bluegill, bullheads, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	20 acres, electric fishing motors only
38	Merganser	Lancaster Co., ½N, 1E, ¼N of Kramer	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass	41 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph
39	Oak Lake	Lancaster Co., I-180 & Sun Valley Blvd., NW Lincoln	Bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, green sunfish	47-acre, city of Lincoln lake, shallow, subject to winter kill
40	Olive Creek Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 2E, 1S of Kramer	Bluegill, carp, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	175 acres, primitive camping, power boats limited to 5 mph, very shallow, very turbid
41	Pawnee Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 2N, 1 ½W of Emerald	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, drum, largemouth & white bass, sauger, walleye	740 acres, modern camping, primitive camping, all boats allowed, 10" min. on crappie, 15" min. on sauger & walleye
42	Stagecoach Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 1 ½S, ½W of Hickman	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike	195 acres, primitive camping, boats limited to 5 mph, 8" minimum on bluegill, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
43	Tanglewood	Lancaster Co., ½N, 1W, ½S of Kramer	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	33 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Platte South NRD
44	Teal Lake WMA	Lancaster Co., 4 ½E, 4N of Wilber	Bluegill, bullhead, channel & flathead catfish, largemouth bass	29 acres, electric motors only, subject to frequent fish kills due to low levels
45	Wagon Train Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 2E of Hickman	Bluegill, carp, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye	315 acres, primitive camping, boats limited to 5 mph
46	Wild Plum	Lancaster Co., 1½N, ½W, of Kramer	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	16 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph
47	Wildwood Lake	Lancaster Co., 1W, 1 ½N of Agnew	Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye	103 acres, electric motors only, Lower Platte South NRD, catch/release only
48	Yankee Hill Lake SRA	Lancaster Co., 2 ½E, 1S of Denton	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye	208 acres, electric fishing motors only
49	Wilson Creek 2X WMA	Otoe Co., 3E, 1 ½S of Otoe	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	15 acres, electric motors only, Lower Big Blue NRD, very shallow
50	Wilson Creek 4F	Otoe Co., 2S, 1W, ¼S of Dunbar	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	38 acres, electric fishing motors only, Nemaha NRD, very turbid
51	Bowwood	Pawnee Co., 2S of Steinauer	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	6 ½ acres, electric motors only
52	Burchard Lake	Pawnee Co., 3E, ½N of Burchard	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, 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
53	Iron Horse Trail Lake	Pawnee Co., ½N, 2W of DuBois	Bluegill, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye	85 acres, all boats allowed, camping, picnicking, Nemaha NRD, turbid
54	Mayberry	Pawnee Co., 5N, 1 ¼E of Burchard	Bluegill, j	25 acres, electric motors only

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
55	Pawnee Prairie WMA	Pawnee Co., 6S, 2E, 2S of Burchard	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	5 acres - 7 ponds
56	Prairie Knoll	Pawnee Co, 2W, 2N DuBois	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	6 acres, electric motors only
57	Kirkman's Cove	Richardson Co., 1N, 2W of Humboldt	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	160 acres, Nemaha NRD, turbid, all boats allowed, renovated in 1995
58	Verdon Lake	Richardson Co., ½W of Verdon	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	30 acres, electric motors only, primitive camping, rehabilitation conducted in 1996
59	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
60	Swan Creek 5A	Saline Co., 3E, 2N of Tobias	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	95 acres, area development planned in next few years, Lower Big Blue NRD, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
61	Walnut Creek 2A	Saline Co., ½E, 3 ½N of Crete	Bluegill, bullhead, channel & flathead catfish, largemouth bass	26 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Big Blue NRD
62	Wehrspann Lake	Sarpy Co., 1N, 1W I-80 & Hwy. 50 Junction	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye	245 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Papio/Missouri NRD, 21" minimum on largemouth bass, 8" minimum on bluegill, 10" minimum on crappie, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
63	Czechland Lake	Saunders Co., 1N, ¼W of Prague	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	85-acres, Lower Platte North NRD, boats limited to 5 mph, 8" min. on bluegill, 10" min. on crappie, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
64	Memphis Lake SRA	Saunders Co., ½W of Memphis	Bluegill, buffalo, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	45 acres, row boats and electric motors only, shallow
65	Red Cedar	Saunders Co., 5 ½N, 2W of the north edge of Valparaiso	Bluegill, channel & flathead catfish, largemouth bass, saugeye	50 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Platte South NRD
66	Meadowlark	Seward Co., 6 ½W, 1N, 1 ½W of Agnew	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	55 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Platte South NRD
67	Smith Creek	Seward Co., 2N, 2W, ¼N of Beaver Crossing	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	21 acres, boats limited to 5 mph, Upper Big Blue NRD, turbid
68	Twin Lakes WMA	Seward Co., 2 ½N, ½W 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
69	Meridan	Thayer Co., 3S of Alexandria	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	1 acre, electric motors only
70	Recharge	York Co., 1 ½W of York	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	49 acres, boating limited to 5 mph, Upper Big Blue NRD
71	Waco Basin WMA	York Co., 1W, ½N of Waco	Black bullhead	15 acres
A	Hwy. 50 Bridge	Cass Co., Louisville	River species	Access point to Platte River
B	Louisville SRA	Cass Co., ½NW of Louisville	River species	Access point to Platte River
C	Schilling WMA	Cass Co., 1 NE of Plattsmouth	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, sturgeon	Access point to Missouri and Platte rivers, open April 15-Sept. 30
D	Dodge Park	Douglas Co., 11000 N River Rd. in Omaha	Buffalo, carp, catfish, crappie	Access point to Missouri River
E	Elkhorn Crossing	Douglas Co., 1S, ¼E of Hwy. 36 & County Rd. 92 Junction	River species	23 acres, access point to Elkhorn River, Papio/Missouri NRD
F	Haworth Park	Douglas Co., Bellevue	Buffalo, carp, catfish, crappie	Access point to Missouri River
G	Platte River Access	Douglas Co., 4W of Valley, SE corner of Hwy. 14 bridge	River species	1.9 acres, access to Platte River
H	Fairbury	Jefferson Co., S edge of Fairbury	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Access point to Little Blue River below Fairbury dam
I	Brownville SRA	Nemaha Co., 1E of Brownville	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, sturgeon	Access to Missouri River, ramp, primitive camping
J	Peru	Nemaha Co., Peru	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, sturgeon	Access point to Missouri River
K	River View Marina SRA	Otoe Co., E of Nebraska City	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, sturgeon	Access to Missouri River, ramp, primitive camping
L	Kinter's Ford WMA	Pawnee Co., S of Humboldt	Carp, channel & flathead catfish	Access point to Big Nemaha River
M	Indian Cave SP	Richardson Co., 4E of Barada	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, sturgeon	Access point to Missouri River
N	Rulo	Richardson Co. S Hwy. 159 Bridge near Rulo, River mile 497.8	Buffalo, carp, channel & flathead catfish, sturgeon	Access point to Missouri River, concrete ramp
O	Blue River SRA	Saline Co., 5N of Dorchester	Carp, channel catfish	Access point to Big Blue River
P	Shady Trail	Saline Co., 1W, 4N, ½W, ½N of Crete	Carp, channel catfish	Access point to Big Blue River
Q	Hwy. 6 Bridge	Sarpy Co., E of Ashland	River species	Access point to Salt Creek
R	Blue Bluffs	Seward Co., ½N, 1E, 2S of Milford	Carp, channel catfish	Access point to Big Blue River
S	Blue Valley	Seward Co., ½S of Seward	Carp, channel catfish	Access point to Big Blue River

# SOUTHCENTRAL

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

DISTRICT VI - SOUTHCENTRAL  
Gibbon Office - Windmill SRA  
Brad Newcomb, Fisheries Supervisor  
(308) 468-5132; Fax (308) 468-9929



NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
1	Crystal Lake SRA	Adams Co., 2N, 1W of Ayr	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger muskie	10 acres, electric motors only, winter-killed 1993, restocked
2	Lake Hastings	Adams Co., N edge of Hastings	Bullhead, channel catfish, crappie	63 acres, all boats allowed
3	Hastings NW Dam	Adams Co., 1N of Hastings Airport	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	63 acres, power boats limited to 5 mph, very turbid
4	32-Mile H, Prairie Lake	Adams Co., 1 1/2 E, 4 1/2 S of Juniata	Channel catfish	65 acres, Little Blue NRD, boats limited to 5 mph, turbid
5	32-Mile D, Roseland Lake	Adams Co., 4 1/2 W, 1 1/2 S of Juniata	Bullhead, carp, channel catfish	66 acres, Little Blue NRD, boats limited to 5 mph, turbid
6	Cottonmill Lake	Buffalo Co., 1W, 1/2N of Kearney on Hwy. 30	Bullhead, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	No power boating, scheduled for renovation/restocking for 1995/1996
7	Ravenna Lake SRA	Buffalo Co., 1SE of Ravenna	Bullhead, carp, channel catfish, goldfish	30 acres, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only
8	Ansley Lake	Custer Co., W of Ansley	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	4 acres, no power boating
9	Pressey WMA	Custer Co., 3W Oconto	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	2.5 acres
10	Buffalo Creek	Dawson Co., 6E, 7N of Cozad	Bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike, saugeye, walleye	220 acres, Central Platte NRD area, drained
11	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
12	Lake Helen	Dawson Co., N edge Gothenburg	Carp, channel catfish	20 acres
13	Lexington City Lake	Dawson Co., N edge Lexington	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	3 acres
14	Midway Canyon Reservoir	Dawson Co., 6S, 2W of Cozad	Channel & flathead catfish, crappie, drum, walleye, white bass	609 acres, all power boats allowed
15	Plum Creek Canyon Reservoir	Dawson Co., 8S, 3 1/2 E Cozad	Channel catfish, crappie, drum, walleye, white bass	252 acres
16	Elwood Reservoir WMA	Gosper Co., 3N of Elwood	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, flathead catfish, largemouth & rock bass, pike, walleye, yellow perch	1,200 acres, bank access at entrance, boats limited to 5 mph, 18" minimum on walleye, summer drawdown
17	Johnson Lake SRA	Gosper Co., 7S of Lexington	Channel & flathead catfish, crappie, drum, striped bass, walleye, white bass, wiper	2,800 acres, primitive and modern camping, all boats allowed, 2 wheelchair accessible fishing piers
18	Phillips Canyon Reservoir	Gosper Co., 8S, 1E Lexington	Channel catfish, crappie, drum, walleye, white bass	142 acres
19	Scout Lake	Hall Co., 1N of Grand Island	Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass, carp, crappie	55 acres
20	L.E. Ray Lake	Hall Co., Grand Island city lake, N of Husker Hwy. & East Blaine	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger muskie	30 1/2 acres
21	Pier Lake	Hall Co., Grand Island city lake, Ashton Ave. & Bismarck Rd.	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	8 3/4 acres

NO	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIES	REMARKS
22	Suchs Lake	Hall Co., Grand Island city lake, Harrison St., S of Burlington Railroad	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	4.3 acres
23	Wastewater Pond	Hall Co., Grand Island city lake, Swift Rd., E of Stuhr Rd.	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger muskie	7.5 acres
24	Harlan Co. Reservoir/Corps of Engineers	Harlan Co., S of Alma and Republican City	Channel & flathead catfish, crappie, pike, walleye, white bass, wiper	13,500 acres, modern and primitive camping, all boats allowed, 18" minimum on walleye, summer drawdown
25	Farwell South Reservoir	Howard Co., 4W, 3S of Farwell	Carp, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, walleye	40 acres, power boats not allowed
26	North Loup SRA	Howard Co., 3N of St. Paul	Bass, bluegill, channel catfish, crappie	7 acres, just north of the N. Loup River on Hwy. 281
27	Ft. Kearny SRA	Kearney Co., 3/4 E, 1N of Ft. Kearny SHP	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	6 gravel pit lakes, primitive camping, electric fishing motors only, wheelchair accessible fishing pier
28	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
29	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
30	Superior City Lake	Nuckolls Co., W edge of Superior	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	1 acre
31	Holdrege City Lake	Phelps Co., 1/2N of Holdrege	Bluegill, channel & flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	5 acres
32	Sandy Channel WMA	Phelps Co., 2S of Elm Creek, I-80 Interchange	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass	52 acres in 6 lakes, electric fishing motors only
33	Bowman Lake	Sherman Co., 1/2 W of Loup City	Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass	20 acres
34	Sherman Reservoir SRA	Sherman Co., 4E, 1N of Loup City	Channel catfish, crappie, flathead catfish, pike, walleye, white bass	2,600 acres, primitive camping, all boats allowed, summer drawdowns, 18" minimum on walleye with only 1 fish allowed over 25"
35	Liberty Cove	Webster Co., 2S, 2 1/2 W of Lawrence	Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, pike	36 acres, Little Blue NRD, fishing pier with gravel access
A	Harold W. Anderson WMA	Howard Co., 2N, 3E of Dannebrog	Carp, channel catfish	Access to Middle Loup River
B	Loup Junction	Howard Co., 2 1/2 N, 2E, 1/2 N of St. Paul	Carp, channel catfish	Loup River access
C	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 two times during year
D	Indian Creek	Webster Co., 1S of Red Cloud	Carp, channel catfish, white bass	Access to Republican River