



*South Dakota*  
**FISHING HANDBOOK  
2017**





**SD LEAST**

**UNLESS YOU'RE...**

**LOADING,**

**LAUNCHING** OR

**ON THE WATER**

**PULL YOUR PL**

**THE LAWS HAVE CHA**

**WANTED.COM**



**R  
UGS**



**ANGED. LEARN THEM.**

# CONSERVATION OFFICER DISTRICTS



## Licensing and Information: 605.223.7660

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 Ft. Pierre: 605.223.7700, 20641 SD Hwy 1806  
 Huron: 605.353.7145, 895 3rd Street SW  
 Mobridge: 605.845.7814, 909 Lake Front Drive

Pierre: 605.773.3387, 523 E. Capitol Ave.  
 Rapid City: 605.394.2391, 4130 Adventure Trail  
 Sioux Falls: 605.362.2700, 4500 S. Oxbow Ave.  
 Watertown: 605.882.5200, 400 West Kemp  
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## REGIONAL CONSERVATION OFFICER SUPERVISORS:

Western South Dakota – Jim McCormick, Rapid City (605.381.9500)  
 Central South Dakota – Dale Gates, Ft. Pierre (605.730.1560)  
 Southeast South Dakota – Marty Pennock, Sioux Falls (605.201.3001)  
 Northeast South Dakota – Mike Klosowski, Watertown (605.881.7529)

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## Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Kelly Hepler, GFP Secretary    Tony Leif, Wildlife Division Director

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**Barry Jensen**, Vice Chair, White River

**Mary Anne Boyd**, Yankton

**Paul Dennert**, Columbia

**Gary Jensen**, Rapid City

**Russell Olson**, Wentworth

**Scott Phillips**, New Underwood

**Jim Spies**, Watertown

The South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks' mission is to provide sustainable outdoor recreational opportunities through responsible management of our state's parks, fisheries and wildlife by fostering partnerships, cultivating stewardship and safely connecting people with the outdoors.

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## **AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (pages 36-37)**

- Boat drain plugs must be opened or removed except when on the water, launching or loading or while in the boat ramp parking area.
- Bait and fish may not be transported away from the boat ramp parking area in water from a lake, river or stream.
- Red Swamp Crayfish are now listed as an aquatic invasive species in South Dakota.

## **POSSESSION LIMITS WHEN ICE FISHING AND CLEANING FISH ON THE ICE (page 24)**

- Anglers may now keep a possession limit for each fish species with them while ice fishing. Daily limits still apply.
- If there are no water-specific length restrictions for a species of fish, anglers may now clean and cook those fish while on the ice in accordance with daily and possession limits while on that lake.

## **EAST RIVER EXCEPTIONS TO STATEWIDE HARVEST LIMITS (page 16)**

- There are no longer length restrictions for largemouth and smallmouth bass taken from Campbell Slough, Enemy Swim, Pickerel Lake (Day County), Carthage Lake (Minor County), Dimock Lake (Hutchinson County), Vermillion Lake (McCook County) Hanson Lake (Hanson County) and Staum Lake (Beadle County).
- There is no longer a 15 inch minimum length restriction for walleye taken from Campbell Slough (Day County).

## **BAITFISH USE IN THE BLACK HILLS FISH MANAGEMENT AREA (page 26)**

- Anglers may now take baitfish and other legal types of bait from the Black Hills for non-commercial use.
- Anglers may now use baitfish and other legal types of bait in the Black Hills Fish Management Area.

## **SALMON SNAGGING (page 31)**

- Anglers may now snag salmon on Lake Oahe from October 1 - November 30.

## **SPEARFISHING (pages 32-33)**

- Waters open to spearing of game fish during legal seasons now includes Waubay and Bitter Lakes (Day County), Swan and Dry #2 Lakes (Clark County), Albert, Henry, Thompson and Whitewood Lakes (Kingsbury County).
- The game fish spearing season for inland waters is now May 1 - March 31.
- Game fish spearing hours are now one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.
- Crossbows may now be used to take game fish on inland and border waters during game fish spearing seasons.
- All inland waters, except those managed for muskies or otherwise closed to fishing, are now open to spearing of catfish and northern pike, May 1 - March 31.
- Middle Lynn Lake (Day County) is now closed to spearing of catfish and northern pike as it is a newly stocked muskie water.

# TO LEGALLY TRANSPORT FISH YOU MUST...

...not transport fish fillets unless those fillets can be readily counted.

...package frozen fish individually for transportation or when placed in public storage.

...tag and identify any fish placed in public storage.

...remember that individual pieces of fish constitute one fillet; two fillets are the equivalent of one fish.

## GENERAL LICENSING

No license may be refunded or transferred to another person after being issued. A fishing license is needed to take fish, turtles, bullfrogs or bait. A hoop net/trap or setline license, in addition to a valid resident fishing license, is required when using these methods. See Hoop Net and Setline Licenses in Resident License Section.

Additional licensing requirements exist for spearing and archery fishing for game fish. See resident and nonresident licensing sections.

### AGENT FEE

The maximum fee for each fishing license sold or replaced by a license agent or online is \$2. The agent's fee may not be charged when issuing the Game Fish Spearing and Archery Fishing Permit.

### BUYING LICENSES

Resident and nonresident fishing licenses may be purchased in South Dakota at many retail stores, bait shops and a few County Treasurer offices. When purchasing licenses over the counter you must have your state-issued ID with you.

Licenses may be purchased and printed from home. To purchase licenses online, visit [gfp.sd.gov](http://gfp.sd.gov). See Resident Hoop Net and Setline Licenses in the Resident Licensing section for details about purchasing these licenses.

### CARRYING/EXHIBITING LICENSES

A licensee shall exhibit the licensee's license or license authorization issued by the Department of Game, Fish and Parks upon request by a conservation officer or other law enforcement officer. A licensee who is 16 years of age or older who holds the license authorization, shall exhibit and provide for inspection a driver's license, a state-issued identification card or another form of valid identification for the purpose of verifying the identity of the licensee.

Persons hunting, fishing, trapping or engaging in any recreational activity on private land shall upon request exhibit their license to hunt, fish or trap. If unlicensed or engaged in another recreational activity, that person shall provide their first and last name, town/city and state/province of residence as shown on their driver's license, state-issued identification card or other form of valid identification to any person with legal authority to control access to the private land where the hunting, fishing, trapping or other recreational activity is occurring.

### DELINQUENT CHILD SUPPORT

South Dakota law prohibits the issuance or renewal of any hunting or fishing license if an

individual owes \$1,000 or more in past-due child support, unless the individual enters into a repayment agreement with the Department of Social Services for payment of the delinquent child support. There is a requirement to enter into a repayment agreement with the Department of Social Services even if the individual is presently making child support payments, or if child support is being withheld from wages or income. To enter into the required repayment agreement, individuals must contact the Department of Social Services, Division of Child Support; 700 Governors Drive, Kneip Building; Pierre, SD 57501; or call 605.773.6456.

### LOST LICENSES

Lost licenses may be replaced by any storefront license agent. License agents may charge the standard agent fee (\$2) for replacing general fishing licenses. In addition, licenses may be reprinted at home by the licensee at any time.

### REVOKED LICENSES

If a person is convicted of knowingly trespassing or violating a fishing law punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor, or substantially exceeding daily or possession limits, or violating any rule pertaining to fishing or possessing fish without a license or during a closed season, the person's fishing privileges will be revoked for one or more years and the person is prohibited from purchasing or applying for another fishing license during the period of revocation.

Those whose privileges are revoked in South Dakota may be subject to revocation or suspension in other states, including the home state of non-residents. Any person whose fishing privileges are currently revoked or suspended in any state or country may not apply for or buy a license or exercise the same privilege in South Dakota during the period of revocation or suspension. No person who has an unpaid and unsatisfied judgment issued for wildlife civil damages may purchase, attempt to purchase or possess any South Dakota hunting, fishing or trapping license.

### SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

All U.S. residents are required by federal and state law (SDCL 25-7A-56.2) to provide their Social Security Number when purchasing and applying for a license, even when purchased online. South Dakota continues to maintain the highest level of online security standards through the Payment Card Industry (PCI) to maintain customer safety when processing online transactions.



## GENERAL LICENSING

### TRIBAL WATERS

Non-tribal members fishing inland waters that overlay Indian trust property need a tribal fishing license. Non-tribal members fishing on the Missouri River and its impoundments need only the state

license. However, anglers fishing the Missouri River from tribal lands may need to purchase a tribal fishing license or access permit from the tribe to fish from shore.



**CARRY  
YOUR  
FISHING  
LICENSE  
ON YOUR  
SMARTPHONE.**

# RESIDENT LICENSING

## 2017 Resident Fees

The license period is December 15, 2016 through January 31, 2018

Annual Fishing.....	\$28
One-Day Fishing.....	\$8
Combination License.....	\$55
Senior Combination (65 and over).....	\$40
Junior Combination (16-18).....	\$27
Senior Annual Fishing (65 and over).....	\$12
Game Fish Spearing and Archery Fishing Permit.....	\$5

### RESIDENCY

To be eligible for a resident license, a person must meet all of the following criteria:

- Have a domicile within this state for at least 90 consecutive days immediately preceding the date of application for, purchasing, or attempting to purchase any hunting, fishing, or trapping license/permit. A domicile is a person's established, fixed, and permanent home to which the person, whenever absent, has the present intention of returning.
- Make no claim of residency in any other state or foreign country for any purpose.
- Claim no resident hunting, fishing, or trapping privileges in any other state or foreign country.
- Prior to any application for any license, transfer to this state the person's driver's license and motor vehicle registrations.

**EXCEPTIONS:** The following persons are deemed to be residents of this state as long as they continue to meet any of the conditions set forth below:

- Any person who previously had a domicile in this state who is absent due to business of the United States or of this state, or is serving in the armed forces of the United States or the spouse of an active duty military person;
- Any person who previously had a domicile in this state who is absent due to the person's regular attendance at a post-high school institution as a full-time student or due to the person's regular attendance in a medical or dental residency program;
- Any person in the active military of the United States or that person's spouse who is continuously stationed in this state;
- Any person who is a patient in any war veterans' hospital within this state;
- Any person who is an employee of the veterans' administration or any veterans' hospital in this state;
- Any person residing on restricted military reservations in this state;

- Any person attending regularly a post-high school institution in this state as a full-time student for 30 days or more immediately preceding the application;
- Any foreign exchange student over 16 years of age attending a public or private high school who has resided in the state for 30 days or more preceding the application;
- Any foreign exchange student who is between the ages of 12-16 years who has completed the GFP's course of instruction in the safe handling of firearms and has been issued a certificate of competency upon completion of instruction and who has resided in the state for 30 days or more preceding application for a license;
- Any person who is a minor dependent of a resident of this state; and
- For the purpose of acquiring resident small game and fishing licenses, any person who does not reside in South Dakota but who is a member of the South Dakota National Guard or of any other unit of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States that is located in South Dakota.

### TERMINATION OF RESIDENCY

A person (other than a person who fits into one of the above EXCEPTIONS) is deemed to have terminated their South Dakota resident hunting, fishing, and trapping status if the person does any of the following:

- Applies for, purchases, or accepts a resident hunting, fishing, or trapping license issued by another state or foreign country;
- Registers to vote in another state or foreign country;
- Accepts a driver's license issued by another state or foreign country; or
- Moves to any other state or foreign country and makes it the person's domicile or makes any claim of residency for any purpose in the other state or foreign country.

# RESIDENT LICENSING

However, a person who has lawfully acquired a resident hunting, fishing, or trapping license and who leaves the state after acquiring the license to take up residency elsewhere may continue to exercise all the privileges granted by the license until the license expires if the person's respective privileges are not revoked or suspended.

## MILITARY GENERAL FISHING AND HUNTING LICENSE

Any resident who is on active duty in the armed forces of the United States and who is stationed at a location outside the state may fish and hunt small game without payment of a fee or the applicable hunting and fishing license authorizing the activity. While engaged in the permitted activity, the resident shall possess and display appropriate military orders indicating the resident is on active duty stationed outside of South Dakota and a valid military identification card. This section does not apply to any person who is serving on active duty for training as a member of the armed forces reserve or National Guard.

## PROOF OF RESIDENCY

To buy a license, a resident age 16 or older needs a valid South Dakota driver's license or a state-issued and expiration-dated South Dakota ID card. Either can be obtained at a state driver's license office.

## DISABILITY LICENSE

The following residents may apply to the GFP License Office to receive a \$10 Disability Card that is equivalent to the Fishing License and Small Game License and is valid for four years.

- Persons who are paraplegics or otherwise permanently physically unable to walk;
- Persons blind or visually impaired;
- A person who has a developmental disability (fishing only), contact the GFP License Office at 605.223.7660, or visit [gfp.sd.gov](http://gfp.sd.gov);
- Resident veterans can qualify by one of four ways:
  1. If they receive a veterans allotment for a forty percent or more disability which is deemed a service-connected injury.
  2. If they have received the Department of Veterans Affairs "K" Award.
  3. If they have served on active duty in the armed forces of the United States or have served as a member of the armed forces reserve or National Guard, and the resident is forty percent or more disabled for the purposes of receiving Social Security benefits.
  4. If they were a Prisoner of War.

A person must apply on forms provided by GFP, and provide proof of South Dakota residency with the application. Information and applications are available from: GFP License Office; 20641 SD Hwy 1806; Ft. Pierre SD 57532; or call 605.223.7660.

## ANNUAL FISHING LICENSE

Allows residents age 19-64 to fish throughout the license period. Residents age 16-18 are required to purchase the Junior Combination License and residents age 65 or older must purchase the Senior Fishing License or Senior Combination License to fish throughout the license period.

## COMBINATION LICENSE

Residents age 19-64 may purchase this license which combines fishing and small game hunting privileges.

## JUNIOR COMBINATION

Residents age 16-18 are required to purchase the Junior Combination License, which sells for the same fee as the annual fishing license and grants the same privileges as a combination of the Annual Fishing License and Small Game License. The Junior Combination License is valid through the end of the license period even if the licensee turns 19.

## SENIOR ANNUAL FISHING LICENSE

Allows residents age 65 or older to fish throughout the license period.

## SENIOR COMBINATION LICENSE

Residents age 65 or older may purchase this license which combines fishing and small game hunting privileges.

## YOUTH

Residents under age 16 do not need a license to fish and can take their own limits. For youth who possess a Youth Small Game License and turn 16 before the end of the license period, this license will serve as a fishing license for the remainder of that license period. Youth under age 16 do not need a game fish spearing and archery fishing permit to take game fish with a legal spear, legal speargun or legal bow and arrow.

## ONE-DAY FISHING LICENSE

The license begins at 12:01 a.m. and expires at midnight for the specified date on the license. License holders are allowed one daily limit of fish.

# RESIDENT LICENSING

## GAME FISH SPEARING/ARCHERY FISHING PERMIT

Allows anglers with a valid fishing license to take game fish with a legal spear, legal speargun or legal bow and arrow in those waters that are open to the spearing of game fish during established seasons. This permit is not required to take paddlefish during designated seasons.

## LAND OCCUPANTS

Land occupants and immediate family members (spouse and children residing at home or children residing on land owned or leased by qualifying

landowner) who are residents of South Dakota do not need a fishing license to fish in waters on their land. Appropriate daily and possession limits apply to fish taken from waters on private land.

## HOOP NET AND SETLINE LICENSES

Only South Dakota residents with a valid fishing license may purchase Hoop Net (\$10 each) and Setline (\$5 each) licenses by applying to the GFP Licensing Office in Ft. Pierre. Applications are available to be printed online at [gfp.sd.gov](http://gfp.sd.gov) or by calling 605.223.7660.

# NONRESIDENT LICENSING

## 2017 Nonresident Fees

The license period is December 15, 2016 through January 31, 2018

Annual Fishing.....	\$67
Annual Family Fishing.....	\$67
Youth Annual Fishing *see "nonresident youth" below.....	\$25
Three-Day Fishing.....	\$37
One-Day Fishing.....	\$16
Game Fish Spearing and Archery Fishing Permit.....	\$5

## ANNUAL FISHING LICENSE

Allows a nonresident to fish throughout the license period.

## ANNUAL FAMILY FISHING LICENSE

Allows a nonresident and immediate family (children under age 16 and spouse) to fish throughout the license period. The combined harvest of all family members covered by this license may not exceed one daily limit and one possession limit.

## TEMPORARY FISHING LICENSES

The 1-Day Fishing License begins at 12:01 a.m. and ends at midnight for the date stated on the license. The license holder is allowed one daily limit of fish. The 3-Day Fishing License begins at 12:01 a.m. for the date stated on the license and ends at midnight on the third day. The license holder is allowed one daily limit of fish for each day the license is valid, but may not exceed the possession limit as determined by species.

## NONRESIDENT YOUTH

Nonresidents under age 16 do not need a fishing license if one of their parents or a guardian has a valid South Dakota fishing license, and the youth's fish are included in the daily and possession limit of the parent or guardian. Nonresident youth under age

16 who wish to take their own limit of fish or are not with a licensed parent or guardian must purchase a nonresident youth license. The department takes the position that a "guardian" of a nonresident youth under the age of 16 is any person 18 years of age or older who is in the immediate physical presence of and exercising control of the nonresident youth at the time and place where the fishing activity is taking place. The youth license is valid through the end of the license period, even if the licensee turns 16.

## GAME FISH SPEARING AND ARCHERY FISHING PERMIT

Allows anglers with a valid fishing license to take game fish with a legal spear, legal speargun or legal bow and arrow in those waters that are open to the spearing of game fish during established seasons. This permit is not required to take paddlefish during designated seasons. Nonresident youth wishing to take their own limit must purchase a Game Fish Spearing and Archery Fishing Permit.

## BORDER WATERS

Individuals fishing on waters that border South Dakota must enter the water and return to shore from the state in which they are licensed and only fish in the waters of the state in which they are licensed. Anglers may not exceed the daily or possession limits established for border waters even if they possess licenses from both adjoining states.

Exceptions are:

**Minnesota** - Residents of states other than South Dakota or Minnesota may fish the MN/SD border waters if in possession of a valid nonresident fishing license issued by either state or if lawfully authorized to fish by either state. Anglers must comply with the laws and rules of the state in which they are licensed. Anglers may launch and/or fish from either shore and must transport their catch to the state in which they are licensed by the most direct route. South Dakota licensed anglers transporting their fish from the Minnesota side must return to South Dakota by the most direct route.

**Nebraska** - Any person possessing a valid fishing license or permit issued by South Dakota or Nebraska, or who is legally exempted from license or permit requirements, may fish from a boat or the shore with any legal method in the flowing portions of the Missouri River, including backwaters,

sloughs, and chutes that connect to the Missouri River proper within the boundary of South Dakota adjacent to Nebraska. These anglers may also fish with any legal method in the South Dakota portion of any oxbow lake that contains a common boundary with Nebraska. From Gavins Point Dam to 0.6 miles downstream, a nonresident Nebraska fishing permit is required for anyone who is not a resident of Nebraska or South Dakota when fishing from boat or either bank. Anglers fishing in the South Dakota-Nebraska border waters shall follow the laws and regulations of the state in which they are licensed or the state in which they are fishing, whichever are more restrictive.

**Iowa** - Any lawful angler may fish from boat or either bank in the South Dakota-Iowa border waters of the Big Sioux River if the angler complies with the laws of the state in which they are licensed or the state in which they are fishing, whichever are more restrictive.

**North Dakota** - Persons fishing on the Missouri River near the South Dakota-North Dakota border line must conform to all the laws of the state in which they are located or actively fishing. Possession of more than one day's limit on the water is prohibited in both states.

# FREE FISHING WEEKEND!

## MAY 19 - 21, 2017

Kick off the summer with a weekend by the water!  
Free fishing and park entrance, May 19 - 21, 2017.

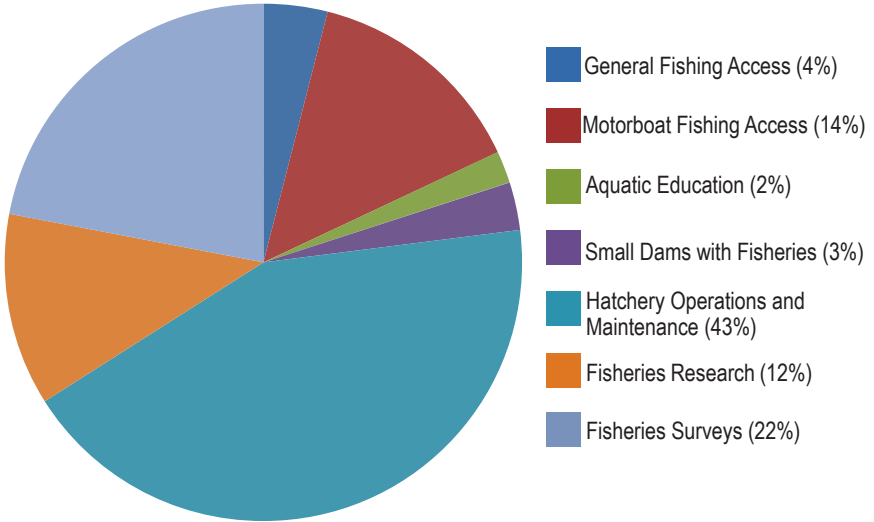
#SDINTHEFIELD | GFP.SD.GOV



Photo © Chad Coppess

# DINGELL-JOHNSON FUNDING ALLOCATION IN 2016

The Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act authorizes the United States Secretary of the Interior to cooperate with state fish and game departments, on sport fish restoration projects. States must meet federal standards for the conservation of fish and wildlife, which prohibits the diversion of license fees paid by anglers for any purpose other than the administration of the state's fish and wildlife department. Funds are collected through excise taxes on fishing equipment, tackle, electric outboard boat motors, sonar devices and motorboat and small engine fuel taxes. States must provide a 25 percent match to requested funds. The Dingell-Johnson funding allocation to South Dakota in 2016 totaled \$4,569,022. The following chart illustrates how those funds were allocated.



## USE CAUTION ON THE ICE



**SPEARFISHING IS INCREASING IN SOUTH DAKOTA. LARGE HOLES LEFT IN THE ICE CAN BE DANGEROUS. PLEASE MARK SPEARFISHING HOLES.**

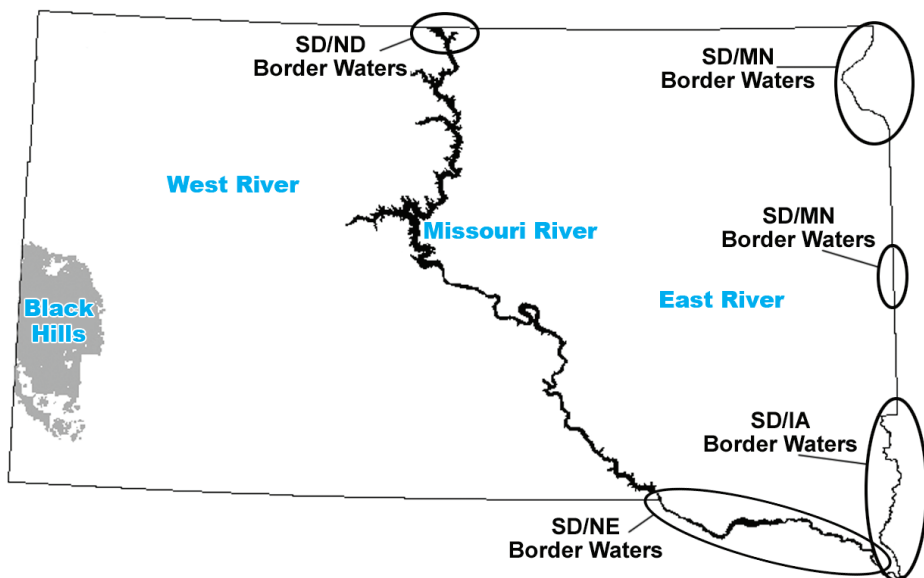
Photo © Lance Busse midwestfisherman.blogspot.com

# STATEWIDE HARVEST AND LENGTH LIMITS

**FISHERIES AREA EXCEPTIONS:** Refer to harvest limit exceptions for each fisheries area on the following pages to see if the waters you are fishing are different from these statewide limits. See border water sections for Minnesota, Iowa and Nebraska for border water limits.

Species <i>(Exceptions and East River border waters see next page)</i>	Daily Limit	Possession Limit
Walleye (includes Walleye/Sauger/Saugeye)	4 (only one 20" or longer)	8
Northern Pike	6	12
Muskellunge, Tiger Muskie	1 (minimum length 40")	2
Trout, Salmon, Splake (any combination)	5	10
Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass (any combination)	5	10
Perch	15	30
Crappie	15	30
Sunfish (Bluegill, Green, Pumpkinseed, Redear, Orangespotted in any combination)	15	30
White Bass/Rock Bass (each)	25	50
Catfish (any combination)	10	20
Sturgeon	Season Closed	
Paddlefish	Available by special permit only	
Smelt	5 gallons	No possession
Lake Herring/Lake Whitefish/Bullhead/Rough Fish	No limit	

## FISH MANAGEMENT AREAS



**STATEWIDE HARVEST LIMITS LISTED ON PAGE 15.**

- ALVIN LAKE**, Lincoln Co. (see also Nine Mile Creek) Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".
- BIG STONE LAKE**, Grant/Roberts Co. - See border waters section for harvest limits.
- BOIS DE SIOUX RIVER**, Roberts Co. - See border waters section for harvest limits.
- CAMPBELL LAKE**, Campbell Co. - Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".
- CLEAR LAKE**, Marshall Co. - Walleye: Minimum length 15". Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Only those less than 14" or 18" and longer may be taken; of those, no more than one may be 18" or longer.
- CORSICA LAKE**, Douglas Co. - Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".
- ELM LAKE**, Brown/McPherson Co. - Walleye: Minimum length 15".
- ENEMY SWIM LAKE**, Day Co. - Walleye: Minimum length 15".
- FIRESTEEL CREEK** (see also Mitchell Lake), Davison Co. from Mitchell Lake to 405th Ave. (Loomis Oil Rd) - Walleye: Minimum length 15". Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".
- HENDRICKS LAKE**, Brookings Co. See border waters section for harvest limits.
- HENRY LAKE**, Bon Homme Co. - Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".
- HERITAGE GPA PONDS, EAST AND WEST**, Bon Homme Co. - Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".
- HIDDENWOOD LAKE**, Walworth Co. - Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".
- HORSESHOE LAKE**, Day Co. - Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Only those less than 14" or 18" and longer may be taken; of those, no more than one may be 18" or longer.
- JONES LAKE**, Hand Co. - Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".
- LYNN AND MIDDLE LYNN LAKES**, Day Co. - Walleye: Daily limit 2; Minimum length 15".
- MARINDAHL LAKE**, Yankton Co. - Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".
- MCCOOK LAKE**, Union Co. - Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".
- MENNO LAKE**, Hutchinson Co. - Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".
- MITCHELL LAKE** (see also Firesteel Creek), Davison Co. - Walleye: Minimum length 15". Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".
- MUD LAKE**, Roberts Co. See border waters section for harvest limits.
- NINE MILE CREEK** from Alvin Lake to Sioux River, Lincoln Co. (See also Alvin Lake) - Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".
- OPITZ LAKE**, Day/Marshall Co. - Walleye: Daily limit 2; Minimum length 15".
- PICKEREL LAKE**, Day Co. - Walleye: Minimum length 15".
- POINSETT LAKE**, Hamlin/Brookings Co. - Walleye: Minimum length 15".
- REETZ LAKE**, Day Co. - Walleye: Daily limit 1; Minimum length 28". Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Only those less than 14" or 18" and longer may be taken; of those, no more than one may be 18" or longer.
- RICHMOND LAKE**, Brown Co. - Walleye: Minimum length 15". Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".
- ROY LAKE**, Marshall Co. - Walleye: Minimum length 15". Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Only those less than 14" or 18" and longer may be taken; of those, no more than one may be 18" or longer.
- SIMON LAKE**, Potter Co. - Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".
- TRAVERSE LAKE**, Roberts Co. - See border waters section for harvest limits.
- TRIPP LAKE**, Hutchinson Co. - Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".
- TWIN LAKE**, Minnehaha Co. - Walleye: Daily limit 1; Minimum length 28".
- WILMARTH LAKE**, Aurora Co. - Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".
- YANKTON LAKE**, Yankton Co. - Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".



## 2017 EAST RIVER STREAM CLOSURES

**LAKE COUNTY** - The fishing season is closed March 1 - May 31 in Silver Creek between Lake Madison and Round Lake.

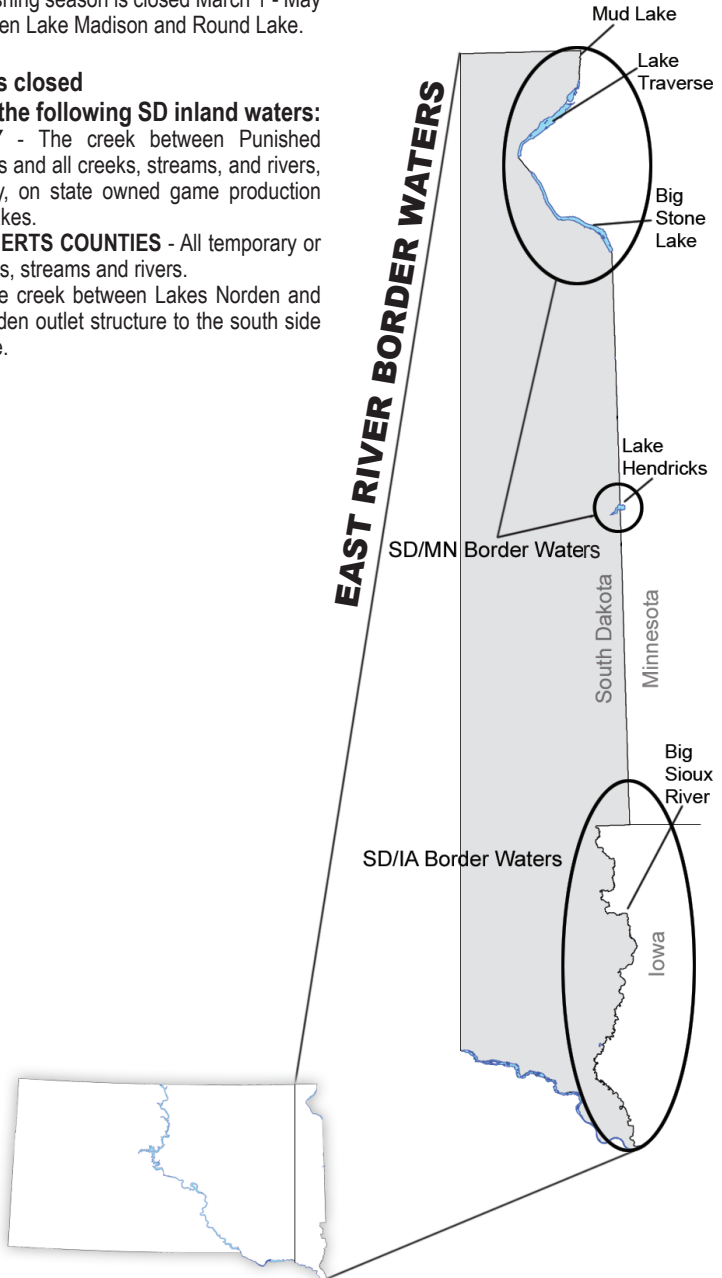
### The fishing season is closed

**March 1 - April 21 in the following SD inland waters:**

**CODINGTON COUNTY** - The creek between Punished Woman and Round lakes and all creeks, streams, and rivers, permanent or temporary, on state owned game production areas adjacent to both lakes.

**DAY, MARSHALL, ROBERTS COUNTIES** - All temporary or permanent flowing creeks, streams and rivers.

**HAMLIN COUNTY** - The creek between Lakes Norden and Mary from the Lake Norden outlet structure to the south side of the Highway 28 bridge.



*The map to the right identifies the East River Border Waters. Please refer to this map in conjunction with the tables provided on page 18.*

# EAST RIVER BORDER WATERS

## MINNESOTA-SOUTH DAKOTA BORDER WATERS

Species	Daily Limit	Possession Limit	Closed Season
Walleye (includes Walleye/Sauger/Saugeye)	4 (only one 20" or longer)	4	March 1 - April 21
Northern Pike	6	6	March 1 - April 21
Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass (any combination)	6	6	March 1 - April 21
Yellow Perch	15	30	No Closure
Crappie	10	10	No Closure
Sunfish (Bluegill, Green, Pumpkinseed, Redear, Orangespotted in any combination)	10	10	No Closure
White Bass	No Limit		No Closure
Rock Bass	20	20	No Closure
Bullhead	100	100	No Closure
Catfish (any combination)	5 (only one 24" or longer)	5	No Closure
Sturgeon/Paddlefish	Season Closed		
Rough Fish	No Limit		No Closure

## IOWA-SOUTH DAKOTA BORDER WATERS

Species	Daily Limit	Possession Limit
Walleye (includes Walleye/Sauger/Saugeye)	4 (only one 20" or longer)	8
Northern Pike	6	12
Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass (any combination)	5	10
Perch	15	30
Crappie	15	30
Sunfish (Bluegill, Green, Pumpkinseed, Redear, Orangespotted in any combination)	15	30
White Bass/Rock Bass (each)	25	50
Rough fish, Bullhead	No Limit	
Catfish (any combination)	15	30
Muskellunge/Tiger Muskie	1	2
Sturgeon	Season Closed	
Paddlefish	Available by special permit only.	
Trout/Salmon (any combination)	5	10

# 2017 MISSOURI RIVER HARVEST AND LENGTH LIMITS

## MISSOURI RIVER INLAND WATERS

**1 LAKE OAHÉ** - Walleye: Daily limit may include no more than one 20" or longer year-round.

**2 LAKE SHARPE** - Walleye: Minimum length limit 15", **except during July and August when there is no minimum length restriction.** Daily limit may include no more than one 20" or longer year-round.

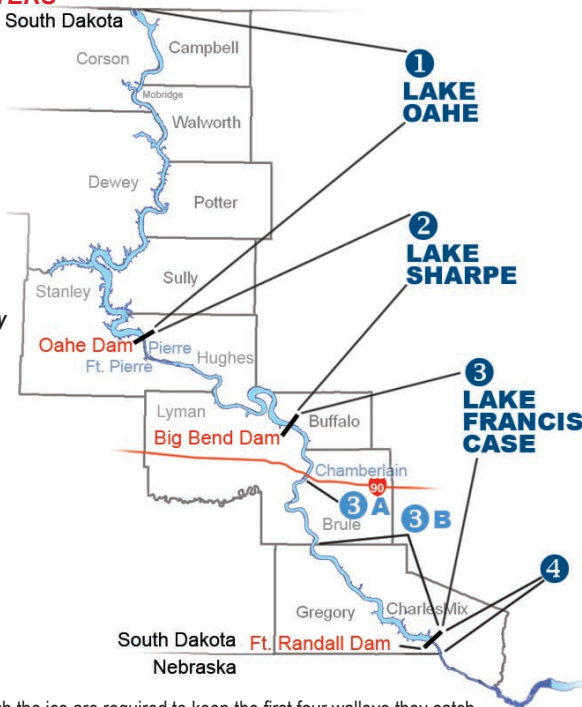
**3 LAKE FRANCIS CASE** - Walleye: Minimum length limit 15", **except during July and August when there is no minimum length restriction.** Daily limit may include no more than one 20" or longer year-round.

**3 A - CLOSED AREA** - Lake Francis Case closed area includes the waters between the railroad bridge and I-90 bridge causeway in Brule and Lyman counties. Waters are closed to fishing from Dec. 1 - April 30, except that shore fishing is allowed from the Brule County side of this area year-round.

**3 B - LAKE FRANCIS CASE** from the northern Gregory-Charles Mix County line downstream to Fort Randall Dam, size restrictions do not apply while fishing through the ice. Anglers fishing through the ice are required to keep the first four walleye they catch.

**4 MISSOURI RIVER FROM THE SD-NEBRASKA BORDER AT THE POINT WHERE THE RIVER BECOMES ENTIRELY IN SD UPSTREAM TO FORT RANDALL DAM**

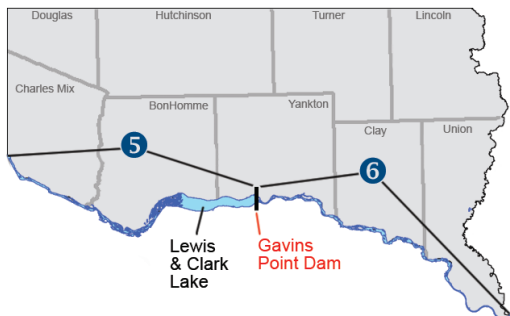
Walleye: Minimum length 15" year-round.  
Daily limit may include no more than one 20" or longer year-round.  
Cattfish: (any combination) - No daily or possession limit.  
White Bass: 15 daily limit, 30 possession limit.



## SOUTH DAKOTA-NEBRASKA BORDER WATERS

**5 Missouri River from Gavins Point Dam upstream to the SD-Nebraska border at the point where the river becomes entirely in SD**  
Walleye: Minimum length 15" year-round.

**6 Gavins Point Tailwaters downstream to the Missouri River-Big Sioux River confluence (river mile 734).** Nonresident anglers fishing from Gavins Point Dam to 0.6 miles downstream must have a Nebraska nonresident fishing license. South Dakota residents may fish with their South Dakota resident license.



## 2017 MISSOURI RIVER HARVEST AND LENGTH LIMITS

Species	Daily Limit	Possession Limit
Walleye	4 (only one 20" or longer)	8
Northern Pike	6	12
Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass (any combination)	5	10
White Bass/Rock Bass (each)	25	50
Perch	15	30
Crappie	15	30
Sunfish (Bluegill, Green, Pumpkinseed, Redear, Orangespotted in any combination)	15	30
Trout/Salmon (any combination)	5	10
Muskellunge/Tiger Muskie	1 (minimum length 40")	2
Smelt	5 gallons	No limit
Lake Herring/Lake Whitefish	No limit	
Bullhead	No limit	
Catfish (any combination)	No limit	
Sturgeon	Season Closed	
Paddlefish	Available by special permit only	
Rough Fish	No limit	

## NEBRASKA-SOUTH DAKOTA BORDER WATERS

Species	Daily Limit	Possession Limit
Walleye (length restrictions apply to some border waters)	4	8
Northern Pike	3	6
Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass (any combination)	5	10
Rock Bass	25	50
White Bass	15	30
Perch	15	30
Crappie	15	30
Sunfish (Bluegill, Green, Pumpkinseed, Redear, Orangespotted in any combination)	15	30
Channel Catfish	10	20
Flathead Catfish	5	10
Blue Catfish	1	1
Trout	7	7
Muskellunge/Tiger Muskie	1	2
Smelt	5 gallons daily	No Limit
Sturgeon	Season Closed	
Paddlefish	Available by special permit only	
Rough Fish	No Limit	

**STATEWIDE HARVEST LIMITS LISTED ON PAGE 15.**

**ANGOSTURA RESERVOIR**, Fall River Co. -

Walleye: Minimum length 15".

**BAD RIVER**, Catfish: No limit.

**BELLE FOURCHE RESERVOIR**, Orman Dam

in Butte County including the inlet canal up to the terminal drop structure above the Fisherman's Road Bridge - Walleye: Only those less than 15" or 18" and longer may be taken; of those, no more than one may be 18" or longer.

**BELLE FOURCHE RIVER**, Catfish: No limit.

**BISMARCK LAKE**, Custer Co. - Largemouth/ Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".

**BURKE LAKE**, Gregory Co. - Largemouth/ Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".

**CEDAR CREEK DAM #1 AND #2**, Bennett Co. at Lacreek NWR - Use and possession of live baitfish prohibited.

**CHEYENNE RIVER**, Catfish: No limit.

**CURLEW LAKE**, Meade Co. -

Walleye: Daily limit 2. Minimum length 15".  
Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".

**DURKEE LAKE**, Meade Co. - Largemouth/ Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".

**GRAND RIVER**, Catfish: No limit.

**LITTLE MISSOURI RIVER**, Catfish: No limit.

**MOREAU RIVER**, Catfish: No limit.

**MURDO LAKE**, Jones Co. - Largemouth/ Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".

**MURDO RAILROAD LAKE**, Jones Co.

Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".

**NEW UNDERWOOD LAKE**, Pennington Co.

Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".

**NEW WALL DAM**, Pennington Co. Largemouth/ Smallmouth Bass: Only those less than 14" or 18" and longer may be taken; of those, no more than one may be 18" or longer.

**NEWELL LAKE**, Butte Co. -

Walleye: Daily limit of 2, Minimum length 15".  
Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass: Only those less than 14" or 18" and longer may be taken; of those, no more than one may be 18" or longer.

**ORMAN DAM**, Butte Co. - See *Belle Fourche Reservoir*

**RICHLAND DAM**, Jones Co. - Largemouth/ Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".

**SHADEHILL RESERVOIR**, Perkins Co. - Walleye: Minimum length 15".

**SHERIDAN LAKE**, Pennington Co. - Largemouth/ Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".

**STOCKADE LAKE**, Custer Co. - Largemouth/ Smallmouth Bass: Minimum length 15".

**WAGGONER LAKE**, Haakon Co. - Largemouth/ Smallmouth Bass: Only those less than 14" or 18" and longer may be taken; of those, no more than one may be 18" or longer.

**WHITE RIVER**, Catfish: No limit.

**ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES**

Two protected sturgeon species are native to the Missouri River system. The pallid sturgeon is listed as both a federal and state endangered species and the shovelnose is federally listed as threatened due to the similarity in appearance to the pallid. The season is closed year-round on all sturgeon species in South Dakota.

**Pallid Sturgeon**



**Shovelnose Sturgeon**



**ENDANGERED SPECIES**

Least terns and piping plovers are shorebirds on the Federal Endangered Species List. They nest on sandy shores and islands along the Missouri River. It is against state and federal laws to disturb or harass these bird species as disturbing them during the nesting season can lead to nest failure. Most large colonies are fenced to protect the camouflaged nests and young birds from harm, but smaller colonies may not be fenced. Please avoid disturbing these rare birds at nesting sites.

**Least Tern**



**Piping Plover**



Least Tern Image © USFWS  
Piping Plover Image © Doug Backlund

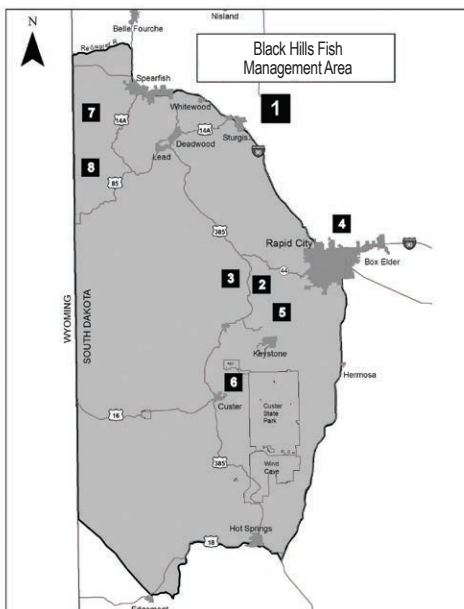
STATEWIDE HARVEST LIMITS LISTED ON PAGE 15.

Color designates portion of stream or waters with special rules.

**1 - BLACK HILLS FISH MANAGEMENT AREA**

This area includes all waters of the Black Hills within the following boundary: Beginning at the junction of the SD-WY state line and the Redwater River (inclusive) to US 85, then south on US 85 to I-90, then southeast on I-90 to US 16T (Campbell St.) in Rapid City, then south on US 16T (Campbell St.) to SD 79, then south on SD 79 to Maverick Junction near Hot Springs, then westerly on U.S. 18 to Edgemont, then northwest along the Burlington Northern Railroad to the SD-WY state line, then north along the state line to the Redwater River.

**TROUT:** Only one trout 14" or longer may be included in the daily limit. No high grading of trout is permitted in the management area.



**2 - RAPID CREEK (PENNINGTON CO.)**

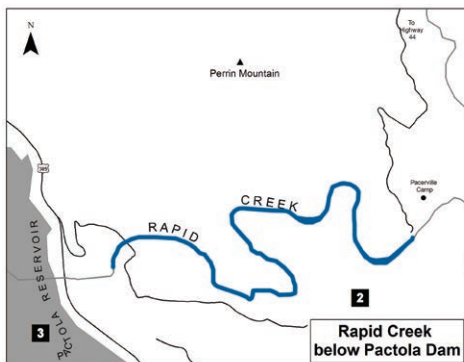
The area below Pactola Dam, including the stilling basin, downstream to the footbridge at Placerville Camp (about 2.5 miles).

**TROUT:** Catch and release only.

**BAIT:** Artificial lures only. Use or possession of organic bait within 100 feet of stream is prohibited.

**3 - PACTOLA RESERVOIR (PENNINGTON CO.)**

**NO MAP -** Daily limit for lake trout or splake is one and minimum size for either species is 24".



**4 - RAPID CREEK (PENNINGTON CO.)**

The area in Rapid City from Park Drive downstream to Jackson Boulevard.

**TROUT:** Catch and release only.

**BAIT:** Artificial lures only. Use or possession of organic bait within 100 feet of stream is prohibited.



**5 - SHERIDAN LAKE (PENNINGTON CO.)**

*NO MAP* - Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass:  
Minimum length 15".

**6 - STOCKADE LAKE (CUSTER CO.)**

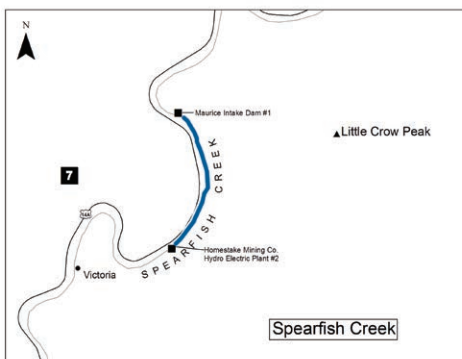
*NO MAP* - Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass:  
Minimum length 15".

**7 - SPEARFISH CREEK (LAWRENCE CO.)**

The area from Homestake Hydro Plant No. 2 downstream to the face of the Maurice Intake Dam (about one mile).

**TROUT:** Catch and release for rainbow trout. Standard harvest limits are in place for other trout.

**BAIT:** Artificial lures only. Use or possession of organic bait within 100 feet of stream is prohibited.

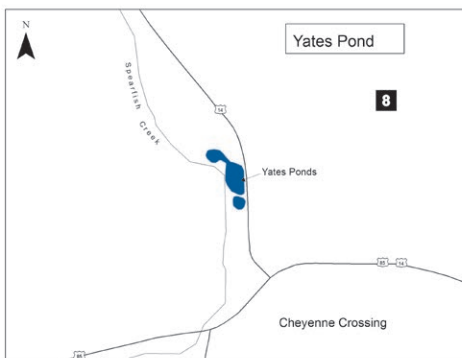


**8 - YATES PONDS**

**CHEYENNE CROSSING (LAWRENCE CO.)**

**TROUT:** Catch and release only.

**BAIT:** Artificial lures only. Use or possession of organic bait within 100 feet of pond is prohibited.



**9 - BISMARCK LAKE (CUSTER CO.)**

*NO MAP* - Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass:  
Minimum length 15".

# GENERAL DEFINITIONS

## ACCESS AND TRESPASS

Public waters in South Dakota are open to fishing. Most waters in the Black Hills are within boundaries of the Black Hills National Forest and accessible from adjacent public lands. Land in the Black Hills Fire Protection District not posted as "no trespassing" can be crossed to access waters for fishing.

Public waters throughout the remainder of South Dakota are located where private land predominates. These public waters must be accessed from an appropriate public access point or with permission from the adjoining landowner. Contact the nearest GFP office if you have questions about access to fishing waters.

## ARTIFICIAL LIGHTS

Both submersible and non-submersible artificial lights may be used while fishing with legal methods.

## ARTIFICIAL LURES

Artificial lures include flies, jigs, spoons, spinners and plugs made of metal, plastic, wood, hair, feathers, and other inedible materials. Artificial lures do not include fish eggs, moldable scented baits, naturally occurring foods or man-made food.

## CIVIL DAMAGE LIABILITY

Besides criminal penalties, people illegally taking, killing or possessing game fish may be civilly liable to the state for damages of \$50 for each fish with an established daily limit of less than 25, and \$200 for each paddlefish. Under certain situations, the amount may double. Any person who has a judgment issued for not paying civil damages will lose their fishing, hunting and trapping privileges until the judgment is paid in full.

## GAME FISH

Includes all species belonging to the paddlefish, salmon/trout (including splake, lake trout, lake herring and whitefish), sturgeon, pike, catfish (including bullheads), sunfish (including largemouth bass, smallmouth bass and crappies), perch (including walleye and sauger) and bass families (including white bass). Season dates, limits and restrictions are established for all game fish. The season is closed for all sturgeon species in SD inland and border waters.

## ROUGH FISH

All fish species not game fish or baitfish nor otherwise protected are rough fish. Smelt are a rough fish, but a season and limits have been established.

## FISHING

Includes the taking, capturing, killing or fishing for fish of any variety in any manner.

## FOUL-HOOKED FISH

Foul-hooked fish are those inadvertently snagged in body areas other than the mouth with conventional lures by anglers using normal fishing methods. Intentional snagging of fish is prohibited, except for paddlefish. Foul-hooked fish may be kept as part of the legal limit. Foul-hooked paddlefish may only be kept by anglers with paddlefish permits during the established paddlefish seasons.

## HARASSMENT

No one may intentionally interfere with other people lawfully engaged in taking or attempting to take fish, or engage in an activity specifically intended to harass or prevent the lawful taking of fish.

## LANDING AIDS

Landing nets, gaffs, and similar devices may be used to land fish, which are in the process of being caught by legal methods. Gaffs and other penetrating devices cannot be used to land snagged paddlefish.

## FISH CLEANING RESTRICTIONS

Where and when water specific size limits apply, any species of game fish in possession while a person is on the water, ice, or fishing must be whole with the head, skin, and fins attached. Only gills, entrails, eyes, and scales may be removed. These provisions do not apply to the statewide daily limit of one walleye over 20 inches.

## DAILY LIMITS

The number of fish that may be taken from 12:01 a.m. to midnight. When fishing multiple waters in a day, cumulative harvest of a species may not exceed the standard statewide daily limit. A person may possess no more than one day's limit of fish while on the water or actively engaged in fishing. However, persons on the ice are allowed to keep a possession limit of fish taken in accordance with the daily limit and transportation regulations.

## LENGTH LIMITS

Water specific restrictions on lengths of fish that anglers are allowed to harvest. All fish in possession while on the water or ice or actively engaged in fishing must comply with all laws and regulations in effect for that particular body of water.

## POSSESSION LIMITS

The maximum number of a particular species of fish, taken accordingly to the daily limit, that a person may have under their control (including those in their immediate possession, in a portable cooler, home freezer, or registered in their name at a wildlife processing facility/cold storage locker). Fish taken during a previous year in South Dakota and still in possession count towards the possession limit of



## GENERAL DEFINITIONS

the current license year. However, fish taken under another state's valid license do not apply to South Dakota's possession limits, unless taken on a South Dakota border water.

### ORGANIC BAIT

In some waters it is illegal to use "organic bait." Organic bait includes worms, baitfish, salmon eggs, corn, marshmallows, insects, moldable scented bait or naturally occurring or manmade food intended to be used as bait.

### PARTY FISHING

Two or more persons who mutually agree to fish by angling from a single watercraft as a party or who mutually agree to fish by angling from shore or on ice as a party and who maintain visual and unaided vocal contact may take more than one daily limit of fish. However, the total number of fish taken by the party may not exceed the aggregate daily limit for all members of the party who are licensed to take and possess fish by angling. The party fishing provisions do not apply to any person who fishes in more than one party in one day. Anglers using spearing/archery equipment must each take their respective limit of fish and at no time may they pursue a combined daily limit for a group.

### PROHIBITED BAIT

No person may use carp, goldfish and game fish, except bullhead and cleanings of game fish, in hook and line fishing. Any species of game fish in possession while a person is on the water or fishing must be whole with the head, skin and fins attached. Only eyes, gills, entrails and scales (cleanings) may be removed from game fish and used as bait. No parts, including cleanings, of any carp, goldfish, or aquatic invasive species (AIS) of fish may be used as bait. Other rough fish may be used as bait.

### PROTECTED SPECIES

State and federally listed threatened and endangered species cannot be taken or possessed. This includes, pallid sturgeon, shovelnose sturgeon, Topeka shiner, sicklefin chub, banded killifish, finescale dace, blacknose shiner sturgeon chub, northern redbelly dace, longnose sucker, northern pearl dace, lined snake, false map turtle, Eastern hognose snake, scaleshell mussel and Higgins eye mussel, winged mapleleaf mussel. All waters of the state, including waters bordering with other states, are closed to the harvest of freshwater mussels. Except for threatened or endangered species, shells from mussels found dead may be possessed.

### SNAGGING

Snagging is a method used by fishermen to intentionally hook fish in body areas other than the mouth with specially rigged and weighted hooks or conventional hooks or lures fished in a manner involving rapid, intermittent jerking of the hook or lure through the water. Snagging is illegal except in designated, liberalized fishing waters or for permitted paddlefish anglers during the established season, or during the established salmon snagging season on Lake Oahe.

### STATE RECORD FISH

Anglers who catch a fish that they feel may qualify as a state record are encouraged to visit the website ([gfp.sd.gov/fishing-boating/state-fish-records.aspx](http://gfp.sd.gov/fishing-boating/state-fish-records.aspx)) to view the guidelines along with the state record fish application.

### UNATTENDED LINES

Each line used must be under the direct supervision and within the unaided observation of the legal user at all times.

## NON-COMMERCIAL BAIT REGULATIONS

*These rules pertain to the taking of bait by licensed anglers for personal use.*

### IMPORTATION OF BAIT PROHIBITED

Anglers may not import bait into South Dakota.

### RELEASE OF BAIT PROHIBITED

It is illegal to empty receptacles containing bait into public waters.

### LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

Residents age 16 and over and all nonresidents need a fishing license to take, possess or transport bait.

### TRANSPORTATION OF BAIT

Bait may not be transported in water taken from a

lake, pond, stream or river.

### LEGAL BAIT SPECIES

Species that may be taken as bait by lawful anglers are: fathead minnow, white sucker, creek chub, flathead chub, Western silvery minnow, plains minnow, golden shiner, emerald shiner, spottail shiner, gizzard shad, tiger salamander (all subspecies), leopard frog (all subspecies), crayfish (all native species), freshwater shrimp and leeches. Live gizzard shad may not be transported away from the water in which they were taken.

# NON-COMMERCIAL BAIT REGULATIONS

## LIMITS

The limits for baitfish (all species combined), crayfish (all species combined), freshwater shrimp and leeches are 144 daily and possession each. The limits for tiger salamander (all subspecies combined) and leopard frog (all subspecies combined) are 24 daily and possession each. Bait limits only apply to bait legally taken from waters of the state. Limits do not apply to bait purchased from bait dealers.

## WATERS CLOSED TO TAKING OF BAIT

All creeks, streams or rivers, permanent or temporary in Aurora, Beadle, Bon Homme, Brown, Clay, Davison, Edmunds, Faulk, Hand, Hanson, Hutchinson, Jerauld, Lincoln, McCook, McPherson, Miner, Minnehaha, Moody, Sanborn, Spink, Turner, Union, Yankton counties (except that portion of Lake Lewis and Clark and the Missouri River above Gavins Point Dam in Yankton and Bon Homme counties) and these individual waters: Brookings County – Interstate, Beadle County – Byron and Mud, Butte County – Newell, Deuel County – Alice, Edmunds County – Mina, Pennington County – Pactola and Sheridan, Yankton County – Yankton, are closed to the taking of all bait species by the use of seines, nets and traps. Legal baitfish may be taken in these waters by hook and line methods.

All other public waters, except those where baitfish use is restricted and those posted as game fish rearing ponds or special waterfowl management areas, are open to the taking of bait by lawful anglers.

## LEGAL SEINES, NETS AND TRAPS

Legal equipment for the non-commercial taking of bait includes:

- seines up to 30' long and 6' deep
- dip nets up to 30" in diameter
- lift nets up to 4' square
- cast nets up to 24' in diameter
- traps no larger than 12" in diameter, 36" long and with rigid entrances no wider than one inch

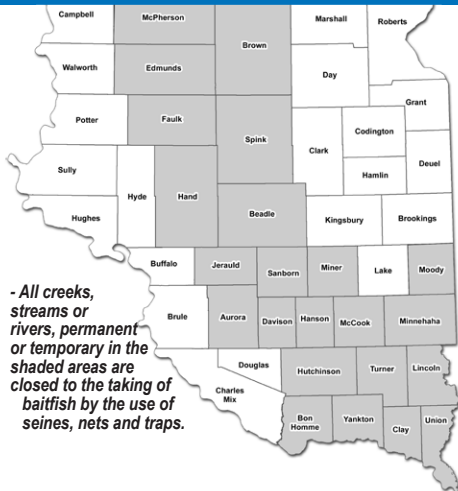
No equipment for taking bait shall contain mesh larger than 3/8" square.

## TRAP MARKING

Bait traps must be clearly marked on the top of the trap with the user's name and address.

## LOST TRAPS

Lost or stolen bait traps must be reported to a GFP Conservation Officer within five days of discovering the loss.



- All creeks, streams or rivers, permanent or temporary in the shaded areas are closed to the taking of baitfish by the use of seines, nets and traps.

## TRAP SETTING

Bait traps may not be set to block more than one-half the width of a stream. Any trap throats exposed above the surface of the water must be blocked by a solid shield or mesh to prevent the entrapment of waterfowl.

## TRAP CHECKING

To prevent unnecessary fish loss, traps must be checked and emptied at least once every 48 hours May 15 - Sept. 14 and at least once every 96 hours Sept. 15 - May 14.

## PROTECTED SPECIES

Any game fish or threatened and endangered species taken in bait traps, nets or seines shall be immediately returned to the waters from which taken.

## ROUGH FISH

Rough fish taken in bait traps may be destroyed provided they are buried or disposed of in a manner conforming to public health, pollution and refuse laws.

## FRESHWATER MUSSELS

All waters of the state, including waters bordering with other states, are closed to the harvest of freshwater mussels. Except for threatened or endangered species, dead mussel shells may be possessed. A person may not buy, sell, barter, or trade any species of freshwater mussels or their shells.

# BOATING REGULATIONS

The South Dakota Boating Handbook is available from GFP Division of Wildlife Offices and from County Treasurer offices or online at [gfp.sd.gov/fishing-boating/boating/default.aspx](http://gfp.sd.gov/fishing-boating/boating/default.aspx).

## BOATS

Boats and canoes longer than 12' and motorboats of any length, including those using electric trolling motors, must be licensed and properly numbered to operate on public waters. Boat licensing, transferring ownership and replacing lost boat license stickers is handled through County Treasurer offices.

Boats are licensed for a one-year period. Fees are based on boat length and propulsion type. Boats licensed in another state may operate in South Dakota for up to 60 consecutive days. Nonresident boats in South Dakota for more than 60 consecutive days during any calendar year must be licensed in South Dakota. Also, nonresident boats docked in South Dakota marinas for a contract period of more than 60 consecutive days during any calendar year must be licensed in South Dakota.

## ACCIDENT REPORTING

The operator of a boat involved in an accident resulting in damage to a boat or other property to an apparent extent of \$1,000 or more to any one person's property or \$2,000 or more total damage in any one accident, or resulting in death or injury to a person, must immediately by the quickest means of communication notify the nearest law enforcement officer of the accident. Notice is not required of any person who is physically incapable of giving immediate notice. If there is another occupant in the boat at the time of the accident, that occupant shall make the notice if capable of doing so.

## BOATING RESTRICTIONS

Most boat ramps that have no wake zones are posted. A complete listing of public water safety zones by county may be found online at

[legis.sd.gov/Rules/DisplayRule.aspx?Rule=41:04:02](http://legis.sd.gov/Rules/DisplayRule.aspx?Rule=41:04:02)

The following South Dakota waters have boating or boat motor restrictions. On waters with motor restrictions, boats with motors exceeding the maximum horsepower can be operated with alternate motors under the maximum horsepower.

**AURORA COUNTY:** Wilmarth Lake, no wake zone.

**BEADLE COUNTY:** Staum Dam, no wake zone.

**BON HOMME COUNTY:** Lake Henry, no wake zone.

**BROOKINGS COUNTY:** East Oakwood Lake Waterfowl Refuge, no boating Oct. 20 - Dec. 31.

**BROWN COUNTY:** Willow Dam Wildlife Management Area, no motor boats or motor vehicles; Putney Slough Game Production Area, no boating Oct. 15 - Dec. 31 in Secs. 7, 8, 17 and 18 in T124N, R61W; Richmond Lake, no wake zone during any time at which the water level reaches the height of eighteen inches or more over the level of the top of the spillway.

**CLARK COUNTY:** Reid Lake, no boating Oct. 20 - Dec. 31.

**CODINGTON COUNTY:** McKilligan Lake, no boating during waterfowl seasons; Horseshoe Lake, no motors during waterfowl seasons; Long Lake in Secs. 11, 12, 13 and 14 of T117N, R55W, no boating year-round; Blythe Slough in portions of Secs. 27 and 28 of T117N, R55W, no boating from March 1 - Aug. 31.

**CUSTER COUNTY:** Sylvan and Legion lakes electric motors only; Center Lake, no wake zone

**DAY COUNTY:** Hillebrand's and Spring lakes and Swan Pond, no boating; Waubay Lake, no boating in Windgate Arm.

**DAVISON COUNTY:** Lake Mitchell, no wake zone during any time at which the water level reaches the height of 12" or more over the level of the top of the spillway. Once in effect, no wake zone shall remain in effect until such time as the water level of the lake drops to the level of 6" over the level of the top of the spillway.

**DEUEL COUNTY:** Lake Oliver, no wake zone.

**EDMUNDS COUNTY:** Mina Lake, no wake zone during any time at which the water level reaches the height of 18" or more over the level of the top of the spillway.

**FALL RIVER COUNTY:** Cold Brook and Cottonwood reservoirs, electric motors only.

**HAND COUNTY:** Wall Lake, no motors during waterfowl seasons.

**HANSON COUNTY:** Hanson Lake, no wake zone when lake elevation is 12" or greater over the spillway elevation.

**HUGHES COUNTY:** Hipple Lake west of the buoy, electric motors only.

**HUTCHINSON COUNTY:** Silver Lake, no boating during a Conservation Order and during any open season for migratory waterfowl, inclusive; Dimock, Tripp and Menno lakes, no wake zone.

**JERAULD COUNTY:** Crow Lake, lying west of the north/south section lines between Secs. 22 and 23 and Secs. 26 and 27, T106N, R66W, no motors Oct. 20 - Dec. 31.

## BOATING REGULATIONS

**KINGSBURY COUNTY:** Spirit Lake and Whitewood Lake Waterfowl Refuge, no boating Oct. 20 - Dec. 31.

**LAKE COUNTY:** Meandered portion of Milwaukee Lake in Sec. 33 of T107N, R51W, and Sec. 4 of T106N, R51W, no motors Oct. 20 - Dec. 31; Long Lake, no wake zone (except the months of July and August).

**LINCOLN COUNTY:** Lake Alvin and Lake Lakota, no wake zone; Rollings Game Production Area, electric motors only.

**MCCOOK COUNTY:** Island Lake, see Minnehaha Co.; the waters of Lehrman Game Production Area in section 32, T103N, R56W are a "no boating zone" during a Conservation Order and during any open season for migratory waterfowl, inclusive.

**MEADE COUNTY:** Bear Butte Lake, no motors over 25 hp.

**MINNEHAHA COUNTY:** Clear Lake, no boating Oct. 20 - Dec. 31; Island Lake, no boating north of 248th St. (McCook County Road 6 and Minnehaha County Road 110) Oct. 20 - Dec. 31; Loss Lake, no wake zone; The waters within the manmade and natural connection between the north and south basins of Twin Lakes in Section 17, Range 52W, Township 103N are a no wake zone.

**MOODY COUNTY:** Lake Campbell, no wake zone south of 220th St. (Moody County Road 1); Battle Creek, no wake zone from Lake Campbell south to the steel bridge one mile south of 221st St. (Moody County Road 2).

**PENNINGTON COUNTY:** Deerfield Reservoir, no wake zone.

**ROBERTS COUNTY:** Secs. 20, 28, 29, 32 and 33 of T128N, R49W of Cottonwood Lake Waterfowl Refuge, no boating zone during waterfowl seasons; and Secs. 11, 12 and 14 of T127N, R48W of Mud Lake, only boats using electric motors during waterfowl seasons.

**STANLEY COUNTY:** No boating zone on Lake Sharpe south of the Lake Oahe Powerhouse from the "T-Dike" south to a signed point 2,100' downstream inside the buoys; the waters inside Oahe Marina are a no wake zone; the waters from the mouth of the Bad River upstream to the pedestrian footbridge are a no wake zone.

**TURNER COUNTY:** Swan Lake, no motors on waters south and west of Christian Camp.

**YANKTON COUNTY:** Marindahl Lake, no wake zone; Lake Yankton, electric motors only.

For additional boating rules and guidelines on Black Hills lakes, contact the Black Hills National Forest office at 605.255.4515.

## PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES (PFDs)

- All vessels (to include all inflatable type rafts or float tubes) being operated on public waters of this state must have at least one wearable USCG-approved PFD for each person on board or being towed. Inflatable PFDs are not approved for persons being towed.
- All vessels 16' or longer, except canoes and kayaks, must also carry on board one USCG-approved throwable device.
- All children under seven years of age must wear a PFD on any vessel operating at greater than "slow, no wake speed" unless they are below deck or in an enclosed cabin. Inflatable PFDs are not approved for children under 16 years of age.
- A personal watercraft may not be operated unless each person on board is wearing a USCG-approved PFD. Inflatable PFDs are not approved for use on personal watercraft.
- A Type V hybrid PFD is acceptable only if it is worn at all times except when the person is below deck or in an enclosed cabin.

- Besides being USCG-approved, all PFDs must be:
  - In good and serviceable condition.
  - Readily accessible, which means you are able to put the PFD on quickly in an emergency.
  - Of the proper size for the intended wearer.Sizing for PFDs is based on body weight and chest size.

For other specific regulations see the publication South Dakota Boating Handbook available at regional offices or online at

[gfp.sd.gov/fishing-boating/boating/default.aspx](http://gfp.sd.gov/fishing-boating/boating/default.aspx)

## AREAS CLOSED TO FISHING

Designated No Fishing Zones:

- Blue Dog Lake State Fish Hatchery Ponds
- Cleghorn Springs State Fish Hatchery Ponds
- McNenny State Fish Hatchery Ponds
- D.C. Booth Fish Hatchery Ponds
- Gavins Point National Fish Hatchery Ponds

No Fishing Zones when posted:

- Whitlocks Bay Fish Spawning Station
- Big Stone Rearing Ponds
- Other natural rearing ponds posted by GFP
- GFP Outdoor Campus Ponds - fishing only allowed during GFP organized events

## FELT SOLE WADERS PROHIBITED

External felt sole footwear including boots and waders may not be used in the waters of the State. This type of waders/boots can be a pathway for transmission of aquatic invasive species as the

absorbent felt material can trap sediment and organic material which may include didymo (rock snot) cells, disease spores or invertebrate larvae.

## FISH IMPORTATION

A person may not import live fish or any fish reproductive product into South Dakota without a valid importation permit issued by GFP unless they are fishing on any border waters or they

are importing fish designated for aquaria use. Importation permits will not be issued to anglers wishing to import baitfish for fishing in South Dakota inland waters.

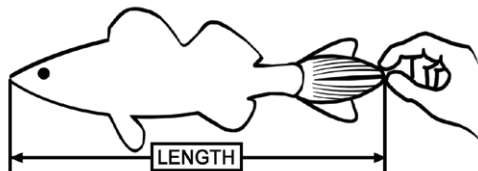
## FISH MEASUREMENT

Where and when size limits apply, individuals on the water or actively engaged in fishing must leave all game fish whole with head, skin and fins attached. Only gills, entrails, scales and eyes may be removed. This restriction also applies to ice fishing.

Where and when water specific size limits apply, any species of game fish in possession while a person is on the water, ice, or fishing must be whole with the head, skin, and fins attached. Only gills, entrails, eyes, and scales may be removed. These provisions do not apply to the statewide daily limit of one walleye over 20 inches.

### HOW TO MEASURE A FISH

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



**LENGTH** means the total length of a fish in inches, as measured in a straight line along a flat surface, from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail, except when measuring paddlefish.

## FISHING TOURNAMENTS / SPECIAL EVENTS

A fishing tournament is any organized competitive angling event involving 20 or more boats or 50 or more people in a non-boating situation, conducted on public waters for the purpose of awarding prizes or for personal gain or promotional consideration and requires a Fishing Tournament Permit.

Approval will not be given to hold a catch and release tournament for salmon or a tournament for walleye where fish are taken into possession and later released from June 1 - Sept. 15.

Junior fishing clinics for youths under age 17 are not considered to be fishing tournaments but require

a Fishing Tournament Permit if an admission fee or registration fee is charged or if there are more than 50 participants.

Sponsors or organizers must apply for the Fishing Tournament Permit. Applications for all tournaments must be submitted at least 30 days before the event.

Applications are available online at [gfp.sd.gov/fishing-boating/fish-tournaments.aspx](http://gfp.sd.gov/fishing-boating/fish-tournaments.aspx), at GFP offices or by writing Game, Fish and Parks, 523 E. Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501, for application and fishing tournament rules.

## GENERAL RESTRICTIONS

Individuals may not:

- Deposit refuse in public waters.
- Place fish or fish cleanings on shorelines or in public waters.
- Stock baitfish or empty bait containers into public waters.
- Release fish, reptiles, amphibians, mollusks or crustaceans not native to South Dakota into public waters without written authorization from GFP.
- Release fish or fish eggs into public waters, unless they were taken from those same waters, without written authorization from GFP.
- Possess, use or maintain trammel nets, gill nets or seines (except legal minnow seines).
- Sell, buy or barter game fish, except those taken by hoop net, setline or trap when allowed. Lawfully taken fish that have been mounted may be sold.
- Lend his or her license to another person or aid someone in securing a license fraudulently.
- Use explosives, electrical devices or poisonous or stupefying drugs to take fish.
- Use a firearm to shoot fish, frogs or turtles.

## HOOP NETS, TRAPS AND SETLINES

South Dakota residents with a valid fishing license may purchase licenses to use hoop nets, traps and setlines on the entire Missouri River and setlines on western tributaries of the Missouri River and Angostura, Belle Fourche and Shadehill

Reservoirs. Licenses are only available through the GFP Licensing Office, 20641 SD Hwy 1806, Ft. Pierre, SD 57532. A complete set of rules accompany the license and can also be viewed at [gfp.sd.gov/licenses/docs/SetlineHoopNetsTrapRegs%202-9-15.pdf](http://gfp.sd.gov/licenses/docs/SetlineHoopNetsTrapRegs%202-9-15.pdf).

## HIGH GRADING

High grading (culling) causes fish mortality because of extra handling and the presence of warm surface water in livewells and other fish holding devices. Regulations restricting high grading do not preclude catch and release or selective harvest, but prohibit exchanging a fish held in a livewell, on a stringer, or with other fish holding devices, with a recently-caught fish. The elimination of high grading does not restrict fishing

opportunity, but only restricts what happens with the fish after they are caught. Anglers can help reduce unnecessary fish mortality by not high grading. High grading is restricted for certain species and in certain locations.

**WALLEYE** - High grading is prohibited statewide, including border waters.

**TROUT** - High grading of all trout species is prohibited in the Black Hills Fish Management Area.

## HOOK AND LINE RESTRICTIONS

- A line is defined as a length of string or cord to which a hook or artificial lure is attached for the purpose of catching fish.
- Two lines and three hooks per line may be used for open-water fishing whereas four lines may be used for fishing through the ice.
- Only two lines may be used in the South Dakota-Minnesota Border Waters year-round.
- A legal bow and arrow, legal crossbow, legal spear, or legal speargun is to be counted as one

line when anglers are using multiple lines.

- Only one end of each line may be equipped with hooks. An artificial lure constitutes one hook, regardless of the number of gang hooks attached.
- Anglers may use umbrella rigs (also known as spider rigs or Alabama rigs), however, for those with more than three leaders, only three of the leaders may be outfitted with a hook.

## ICE HOUSES

Each fish house, shanty or other shelter utilized on the ice for the purpose of ice fishing or spearing must display the name and address of the owner in letters at least two inches high on the outside of the shelter. Portable shelters removed from the ice daily are exempt from the marking requirements.

The door must permit entry at all times, except when unoccupied and locked from the outside. Shelters must be removed from the ice by midnight on the last day of February, statewide. Shelters may be used after the removal date if they are removed from the ice daily.

## PUBLIC LANDS RESTRICTIONS

- Walk-In Areas are closed to fishing except with landowner permission.
- No one may enter, use or occupy lands owned, leased, managed, or controlled by GFP if it interferes with the management of the area, the posted purpose for which the land was acquired or if the lands are posted against such entry or use.
- Camping is only permitted in established campgrounds.
- No one may use a motor vehicle for the purposes of fishing, hunting or trapping on any land under the control of the South Dakota Commissioner of School and Public Lands, except for roads, trails or parking areas designated and signed by GFP.
- Only people using a state park, state recreation area, state nature area or state lakeside use area for lawful fishing, hunting, trapping, snowmobiling, boating or camping may enter any of the above areas from 11 p.m. - 6 a.m., May 1 - Sept. 30, and from 9 p.m. - 6 a.m., Oct. 1 - April 30.
- Only persons engaged in lawful fishing, boating, hunting or trapping may enter any of the following areas from 11 p.m. - 6 a.m. year-round: Public Shooting Areas, Game Production Areas, Wildlife Refuges, Lake and Fishing Access Areas, and Public Water Access Areas.

## PADDLEFISH

Anglers interested in pursuing paddlefish have three options: a spring snagging season on Lake Francis Case, a summer archery season or a fall snagging season in the Missouri River below Gavins Point Dam, near Yankton, SD. The fishery below Gavins Point Dam is managed jointly with the state of Nebraska. Anglers wishing to participate in these seasons must apply for a permit issued by lottery drawing. The application deadline for permits issued for seasons below Gavins Point Dam is in April for the archery season and May for the snagging season. The application deadline for permits issued for the Lake Francis Case season is in February.

### SNAGGING

**Open Area:** Lake Francis Case from Fort Randall Dam upstream to Big Bend Dam and in the White River from the mouth upstream to HWY 47 bridge.

**Season:** May 1 - 31.

**Landing Aids:** Landing nets and similar devices.  
No gaffs allowed.

**Season Limit:** One per valid permit and tag.

**Size Restrictions:** None.

**Daily Paddlefish Snagging Hours:** 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.

**Permit Fee:** \$25 residents (350 issued),  
nonresident permits will not be issued for this season.

**Open Area:** Missouri River from Gavins Point Dam downstream to the mouth of the Big Sioux River (river mile 734) and on the Big Sioux River from the mouth upstream to the I-29 bridge.

**Season:** Oct. 1 - 31.

**Landing Aids:** Landing nets and similar devices.  
No gaffs allowed.

**Season Limit:** One per valid permit.

**Size Restrictions:** Any paddlefish taken measuring between 35"-45" inclusive, from front of the eye to the natural fork of the tail, must be immediately released to the water where it is caught.

**Daily Paddlefish Snagging Hours:** 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

**Permit Fee:** \$25 residents (1,550 issued)  
\$25 nonresidents (50 issued).

### ARCHERY

**Open Area:** Missouri River from Gavins Point Dam downstream to the mouth of the Big Sioux River (river mile 734).

**Season:** June 1 - 30.

**Method:** Hand-drawn bow and arrow only.

**Landing Aids:** Landing nets, gaffs and similar devices.

**Season Limit:** One per valid permit.

**Size Restrictions:** None.

**Daily Paddlefish Archery Hours:** Sunrise to sunset

**Permit Fee:** \$25 residents (255 issued)  
\$25 nonresidents (20 issued).

## SALMON

### SNAGGING

**Open Area:** Lake Oahe from Oahe Dam to the North Dakota border

**Season:** October 1 - November 30.

**Species:** Salmon only. All other fish species snagged must be immediately released.

**Restrictions:** Only one line with one hook may be used to snag salmon.

## SPEARING AND ARCHERY

The spearing/archery seasons allow licensed anglers to take fish with legal spear, legal speargun, legal crossbow or legal bow and arrow, with some restrictions for specific seasons and dates for game fish and rough fish. To take game fish by these methods in areas open to the taking of game fish, licensed anglers must have a Game Fish Spearing and Archery Fishing Permit in their possession. Permits are available for purchase through the Game, Fish and Parks online licensing process or wherever fishing licenses are sold.

### DEFINITIONS

**Spear:** A shaft with a sharp, barbed point or points propelled by muscle power.

**Speargun:** A muscle-loaded device propelling a spear attached to a lanyard no more than 20' long.

**Bow and Arrow:** A hand-drawn bow that has an arrow with at least one barbed point attached to the bow by a line.

**Crossbow:** A bow mounted crosswise on a stock equipped with a functional mechanical safety device that discharges a projectile with at least one barbed point attached to the crossbow by a line.

### SPEARING/ARCHERY HOURS

One-half hour before sunrise to sunset. Refer to the nongame fish section for specific time periods when nongame fish may be taken 24 hours per day on South Dakota inland and border waters.

### LIMITS

Length limits are the same as for hook and line fishing. Daily and possession limits are the same as, and in combination with, hook and line limits. Rough fish taken by spearing or archery must be retained.

### DIVER-DOWN FLAG

Divers and anyone using an underwater air supply, including a snorkel, must display a diverdown flag firmly attached to a securely anchored float, rubber tube, diver or boat while diving. The flag must be at least 12" by 15" and must be red with a white diagonal strip running from the upper left corner to the lower right corner. Divers must also stay within 75' of the flag. Diver-down flags are not required in areas where motorboat or sailboat operation is prohibited.

### RESTRICTIONS

• Underwater spearfishing is not permitted within 100 yards of designated swimming or waterskiing

areas, boat docks, power intake tubes or spillways.

- Underwater diving is not permitted where placement of the diver-down flag would restrict boat access at public access ramps or watercraft navigation.
- Boats using internal combustion engines may not be operated within 75' of a diver-down flag unless the boat is part of or related to the diving activity.
- Artificial light may be used to take game fish and rough fish by legal methods.

### GAME FISH POSSESSION

People actively engaged in spearfishing/bowfishing may not possess speared game fish in areas not open to the spearing of game fish.

### GAME FISH

Game fish may be taken with crossbows, legal spear guns, legal spears, and legal bow and arrow in the following areas with the restrictions listed.

### ROUGH FISH SEASONS AND DATES

Nongame fish, excluding protected species, may be taken by legal spear, legal speargun, legal bow and arrow, or legal crossbow in the following waters during the dates listed:

- **South Dakota Inland Waters Season:** Year-round any time of day or night.
- **South Dakota - Minnesota Border Waters Season:** Year-round any time of day or night.
- **South Dakota-Nebraska Border Waters Season:** Year-round sunrise to sunset, except from April 1 - Aug. 31 with no time restrictions. Method: spear and bow and arrow only.
- **South Dakota-Iowa Border Waters Season:** Year-round any time of day or night.

## DIVER DOWN FLAGS

Boaters and divers are encouraged to exhibit courtesy on the water.

**BE COURTEOUS. BE SAFE.**



# SPEARING AND ARCHERY

## GAME FISH SEASONS AND DATES

Season/Location	Dates	Waters	Species
Statewide*  <i>*For exceptions see Waters</i>	May 1 - March 31	All inland waters except for Lynn, Middle Lynn and Amsden (Day County), Lake Sinai and Twin Lake east of U.S. Hwy 81 (Brookings County), Twin Lake west of U.S. Hwy 81 (Kingsbury County), and North Island and South Island Lakes (McCook and Minnehaha Counties), from areas of the Missouri River closed to the spearing of game fish and from areas closed to fishing	Northern pike and all catfish species
Missouri River Inland Waters	May 1 - March 31	<b>Francis Case</b> – from Ft. Randall Dam to Brule/Bufalo County line. <b>Sharpe</b> – from Big Bend Dam to the upstream edge of the US Hwy 14/34/83 Bridge. <b>Oahe</b> – from Oahe Dam to SD/ND border.	All game fish species except paddlefish and sturgeon
Eastern SD	May 1 - March 31	Waubay and Bitter Lakes (Day County), Swan and Dry #2 Lakes (Clark County), Albert, Henry, Thompson and Whitewood Lakes (Kingsbury County).	All game fish species except paddlefish and sturgeon
Western SD	May 1 - March 31	Angostura, Belle Fourche (Orman Dam) and Shadehill Reservoirs	All game fish species except paddlefish and sturgeon
Black Hills	May 1 - March 31	Pactola Reservoir	All game fish species except trout and salmon
SD/NE Border Waters	July 1 - Nov. 30	Lewis and Clark Lake from Gavins Point Dam upstream to the South Dakota-Nebraska state line where the river is entirely within South Dakota.	All game fish species except paddlefish and sturgeon
SD/MN Border Waters	Nov. 15 - Feb. 26	All boundary waters except the Bois De Sioux River	Northern pike and all catfish species

## TURTLES, SMELT AND BULLFROG REGULATIONS

*A valid fishing license is required to take turtles, smelt and bullfrogs.*

### TURTLES (all species except false map)

**Season:** Year-round

**Daily Limit:** 2 of each species

**Possession Limit:** 4 of each species

**Legal Methods:** Hook and line, legal minnow seines, gaff hooks, legal spears, or legal turtle trap. Traps with mesh less than 4" square must have an opening at least 6" in diameter leading from it or an entrance opening suspended at or above the water level.

Traps must be clearly marked with the owner's name and address. It is illegal to buy, sell, barter or trade any species of turtle, including parts thereof. A person may not export snapping turtles for any purpose other than personal consumption.

### SMELT

**Season:** Year-round

**Limit:** 5 gallons daily, no possession limit

**Legal Methods:** Smelt may be taken by hook and line, dip nets, lift nets, cast nets and seines. Dimensions and mesh sizes of legal equipment are the same as those specified for the taking of bait.

**Restriction:** Live smelt cannot be transported.

### BULLFROGS

**Season:** Year-round

**Daily Limit:** 15

**Possession Limit:** 30

**Restriction:** Frogs may not be taken with firearms.

# TRANSPORTATION, STORAGE AND GIFTING

## DEFINITIONS

**Public Storage:** Public storage is any business that stores game birds, game fish or game animals for a fee or a convenience and has a South Dakota sales tax license. No person may place into public storage any game bird, game fish or game animal unless the game bird, game fish or game animal has attached to it a tag showing the owner's name and address, the number and species of bird, fish or animal and the date the bird, fish or animal was placed in storage.

**Domicile:** A person's established, fixed and permanent home to which the person, whenever absent, has the present intention of returning.

**Wildlife Processing Facility:** Any person or entity that has a South Dakota sales tax license to operate a business that receives, possesses or has in custody any wild animal belonging to another person for purposes of picking, skinning, cleaning, freezing, processing or storage.

## RECORDS REQUIRED

No wildlife processing facility may:

- Receive or have in custody any wild animal unless accurate records are maintained that can identify each wild animal received by, or in the custody of, the facility by the name of the person from whom the wild animal was obtained, and show the number of each species; the date each wild animal was received; the name and address of the owner of each wild animal that was received; the date each wild animal was disposed of; and the name of the person or business to whom each wild animal was delivered, or
- Destroy any records required to be maintained under this section for a period of one year following receipt of each wild animal, or
- Allow any wild animal, or parts thereof, to leave the facility without a receipt bearing the name of the facility, number and species of wild animals and the name of the owner of each wild animal.

## INSPECTION

No wildlife processing facility may prevent any department representative from entering the facilities during normal business hours and inspecting any wild animal, records and the premises of the facility.

## TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE OF FISH

No person may transport dressed fish from the waters of this state to the person's domicile unless those fish can be readily counted. Frozen fish shall be packaged individually when transported or when placed in public storage. Any fish placed in public storage shall be identified and tagged.

**NOTE:** Two filets are the equivalent of one fish.

## SHIPPING BY COMMON CARRIER

A person may ship his or her own lawfully possessed fish by common carrier. The container with the fish inside must have affixed to the outside of the container a clearly visible statement containing the following information:

- Name, address and license number of the person shipping the fish.
- The number and species of fish in the container.
- The date of shipment.
- The name and address of the person to whom the fish has been shipped.

## TRANSPORTATION PERMIT

Transportation permits allow one person to transport another person's legally taken fish. Transportation permits are not given as a means of allowing a person to exceed his or her possession limit. Permits will not be issued before they are needed. Follow these steps to obtain a permit:

- Contact a Conservation Officer or regional office to arrange a meeting place and time.
- All persons involved must meet with the officer and bring their fishing licenses and fish to be transported.

## SALE OF FISH

Except where provided, no person may barter, sell or offer for sale at any time or knowingly purchase any fish taken or killed in any of the waters of this state. Lawfully taken fish that have been mounted may be sold.

## GIFTING WILDLIFE AND FISH

A licensee may gift game and fish, or any part of game and fish, to another person if each of the following conditions is met:

- The game/fish was lawfully taken, caught or killed; and
- The number or amount of game/fish gifted does not place the recipient in violation of any season, daily or possession limit established for the species of game/fish being gifted; and
- If gifting to an unlicensed person, the licensee shall gift the game/fish at the domicile of the recipient. For the purpose of this rule, gift means the voluntary transfer of game/fish from any person to another without fee or consideration.

*Additional advisories may have been issued after the time this publication was printed. For more information about waters not included in the list of current consumption advisories, please visit [doh.sd.gov/food/fish-advisories.aspx](http://doh.sd.gov/food/fish-advisories.aspx).*

# FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES

The purpose of this information is not to discourage you from eating fish. It is intended as a guide to help you select sizes and species of fish low in mercury. By following these recommendations, you and your family can enjoy the benefits of eating fish. The South Dakota Dept. of Health, Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources, and GFP cooperate to test fish for metals, pesticides and PCBs. More than 100 of South Dakota's most popular fishing waters have been tested for fish contaminants and as a result, fish consumption advisories have been issued for elevated mercury levels on waters listed below.

## GUIDELINES FOR WATERS WITH ADVISORIES

**GENERAL:** Includes men, children over seven years of age, and women who do not fit into the category entitled, "high risk." Fish consumption may exceed the recommended rate for a period of time as long as consumption averages to one seven-ounce meal per week. A seven-ounce portion is roughly the size of two decks of playing cards.

**High Risk:** Includes any woman who is pregnant, plans to become pregnant or is nursing. The consumption recommendation is based upon a woman weighing approximately 140 pounds. Fish consumption should not exceed the recommendation of seven ounces per month (12 meals/year).

**Children:** Includes children less than seven years of age. Fish consumption should not exceed the recommendation of four ounces per month (12 meals/year).

## MERCURY FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES

LAKE	COUNTY	SPECIES
Elm Lake	Brown County	Walleye (>25 inches)
Newell Lake	Butte County	Walleye (>18 inches) Northern Pike (>18 inches)
Reid Lake	Clark County	Walleye (>23 inches)
Swan Lake	Clark County	Walleye (>21 inches)
Long Lake	Codington County	Walleye (>17 inches)
Pudwell Dam	Corson County	Walleye (>18 inches) Black Crappie (>12 inches)
Hazeldon	Day County	Walleye (>21 inches)
Lardy Lake	Day County	Walleye (>25 inches)
Lynn Lake	Day County	Walleye (>18 inches)
Bitter Lake	Day County	Walleye (all sizes) Northern Pike (>30 inches)
Lake Minnewasta	Day County	Walleye (>18 inches)
Middle Lynn Lake	Day County	Walleye (>18 inches)
Opitz Lake	Day County	Northern Pike (>26 inches)
Lake Isabel	Dewey County	Northern Pike (>25 inches) Largemouth Bass (>17 inches)
Twin Lakes	Kingsbury and Brookings Counties	Walleye (>18 inches) Northern Pike (>19 inches)
North Island Lake	Minnehaha and McCook Counties	Walleye (>18 inches) Smallmouth Bass (>18 inches)
Twin Lakes	Minnehaha County	Walleye (all sizes)
New Wall Lake	Pennington County	White Crappie (>13 inches) Largemouth Bass (>16 inches)
Coal Springs Reservoir	Perkins County	Northern Pike (>25 inches)
Lake Hurley	Potter County	Largemouth Bass (>18 inches)
Lake Roosevelt	Tripp County	Largemouth Bass (>18 inches) Northern Pike (>24 inches)
Hazeldon	Day County	Walleye (>21 inches)



# AIS FISH

**EUROPEAN RUDD**

**SNAKEHEAD**

**COMMON CARP**

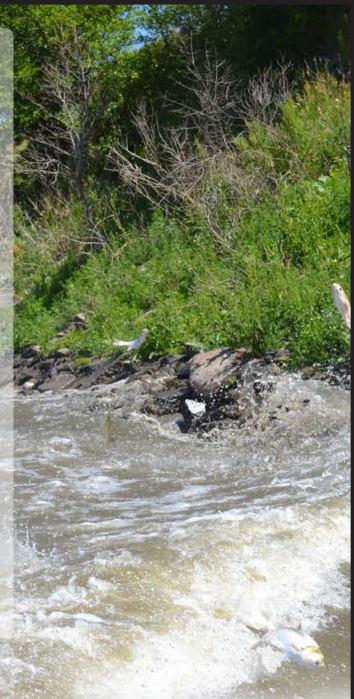
**GRASS CARP**

**BLACK CARP**

**SILVER CARP/BIGHEAD CARP**

**WESTERN MOSQUITOFISH**

These species can directly and indirectly compete with game fish for food, space and cover. Jumping silver carp can potentially injure boaters or water skiers.



# AIS INVERTEBRATES

**ZEBRA MUSSEL**

**QUAGGA MUSSEL**

**RUSTY CRAYFISH**

**ASIAN CLAM**

**NEW ZEALAND MUDSNAIL**

**RED-RIMMED MELANIA**

**RED SWAMP CRAYFISH**

Many of these species eat large amounts of plankton which is then unavailable for young game fish. They may also clog municipal water pipes and equipment.



## AIS PLANTS

**BRITTLE NAIAD**

**DIDYMO**

**CURLYLEAF PONDWEED**

**FLOWERING RUSH**

**EURASIAN WATER MILFOIL**

**PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE**

These species can form dense mats which allows them to out-compete native plants and also limits boating and fishing.



Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) can have negative effects to South Dakota waters, including: reducing game fish populations, impacting water quality and interfering with recreational boating.

### RESTRICTIONS

A person may not possess, transport, sell, purchase or propagate an AIS except for:

- A person authorized by GFP to stock triploid grass carp for pond management purposes;
- A person in the process of removing an AIS from a boat, motorboat or equipment;
- In the case of fish and crayfish species, only dead specimens may be transported or possessed.
- External felt sole footwear (boots and waders) may not be used in South Dakota waters.

### WATERCRAFT RESTRICTIONS

A person may not launch or attempt to launch a boat, motorboat or boat trailer of any kind into the waters of the state with an aquatic invasive species attached or onboard.

Except for emergency response boats, all trailered boats shall have all drain plugs, bailers, valves or other devices used to control the drainage of water opened or removed except while in a boat ramp parking area, or while being launched or loaded.

### WATERCRAFT INSPECTIONS

A department representative may require the removal of aquatic vegetation from boats, motors, trailers and associated equipment.

Any boat, motorboat or boat trailer is subject to inspection by a department representative.

Should an aquatic invasive species be found during inspection, a department approved decontamination will be required prior to launching.

### FISH AND BAIT TRANSPORTATION RESTRICTIONS

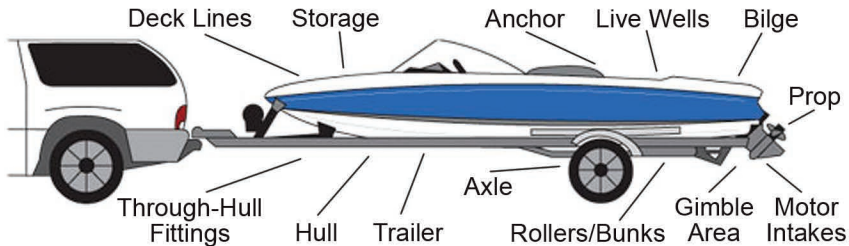
Bait and fish may not be transported away from the boat ramp parking area in water from a lake, river or stream.

**NOTE:** Silver and bighead carp that jump into a boat or are netted from the air using a dip net may be kept.

# AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES INFESTED WATERS

WATER BODY	AIS FISH	AIS INVERTEBRATES	AIS PLANTS
Angostura Reservoir		Asian Clam	Curlyleaf Pondweed
Big Sioux River (Below Falls Park in Sioux Falls)	Bighead Carp Grass Carp Silver Carp		
Big Stone Lake			Curlyleaf Pondweed
Canyon Lake			Curlyleaf Pondweed
Cascade Springs		Red-Rimmed Melania	
Castle Creek (Below Deerfield Reservoir)			Didymo
Hot Springs City Limits		Red-Rimmed Melania	
Interstate Lake (Brookings)	European Rudd		
James River	Bighead Carp Grass Carp Silver Carp		
Lake Alice	European Rudd		Curlyleaf Pondweed
Lake Byron	Bighead Carp Silver Carp		
Lake Faulkton			Flowering Rush
Lake Francis Case	European Rudd		Curlyleaf Pondweed Eurasian Watermilfoil
Lake Louise			Flowering Rush
Lake Madison	European Rudd		
Lake Mitchell			Curlyleaf Pondweed
Lake Oahe	European Rudd		Curlyleaf Pondweed Eurasian Watermilfoil
Lake Sharpe	European Rudd		Curlyleaf Pondweed Eurasian Watermilfoil Purple Loosestrife
Lake Vermillion	European Rudd		
Lewis and Clark Lake	European Rudd	Zebra Mussels Asian Clam	Curlyleaf Pondweed Eurasian Watermilfoil
McCook Lake		Zebra Mussels	Brittle Naiad Curlyleaf Pondweed
Mina Lake	European Rudd		
Missouri River (Below Gavins Point Dam)	Bighead Carp Grass Carp Silver Carp	Asian Clam	
Newell Reservoir	European Rudd		
Pactola Reservoir	European Rudd		
Rapid Creek			Curlyleaf Pondweed Didymo Purple Loosestrife
Roy Lake			Curlyleaf Pondweed
Sheridan Lake	European Rudd		Curlyleaf Pondweed
Stockade Lake			Curlyleaf Pondweed
Vermillion River	European Rudd		
Vermillion River (Below East Vermillion SRA)	Bighead Carp Grass Carp Silver Carp		

# Before launching and before leaving... Inspect everything!



## GFP / B.A.S.S. BOAT WASH STATIONS

<b>ESTELLINE</b> Dale's Sinclair 402 State Ave	<b>PIERRE</b> Super Car Wash 1100 N Garfield Ave	<b>SIOUX FALLS</b> Shop'n Cart Car Wash 4309 E 12th St
<b>DESMET</b> Mr. Bill's Car Wash 109 4th St SW	<b>PIERRE</b> Truck-n-Car Wash 1513 E Wells Ave	<b>VERMILLION</b> Royal Car Wash 801 Stanford St
<b>FT PIERRE</b> Shur Shine Car Wash Deadwood Ave	<b>RAPID CITY</b> Annie's Pressure Wash 3100 S Hwy 79	<b>VERMILLION</b> Henderson's Ultimate 821 Princeton St
<b>HARTFORD</b> Sunnyside Carwash 201 E Hwy 38	<b>RAPID CITY</b> Parkway Car Wash 206 E Blvd N	<b>WATERTOWN</b> Cenex - C Store E Hwy 212
<b>MADISON</b> Super Wash 304 NE 2nd Street	<b>RAPID CITY</b> Zaug Wash 612 Timmons Blvd	<b>WATERTOWN</b> Super Wash 501 14th Ave NE
<b>MILBANK</b> Eastside Carwash E Hwy 12	<b>REDFIELD</b> Appel Oil Company 833 W 3rd St	<b>WATERTOWN</b> Westside Car Wash 715 3rd Ave NW
<b>MILBANK</b> Westside Truck and Car Wash 504 24th Ave	<b>SIOUX FALLS</b> Superwash - 12th St 2000 W 12th St	<b>WHITE RIVER</b> Gillen's Station Hwy 83 N 1st St
<b>MITCHELL</b> Mega Wash 1905 N Main St	<b>SIOUX FALLS</b> Wash World Car Wash 321 N Cliff Ave NE	<b>YANKTON</b> Classic Car Wash 600 W 23rd St
<b>MITCHELL</b> Mega Wash 800 E Kay Ave	<b>SIOUX FALLS</b> Clean Finish Car Wash 515 S Sycamore Ave	<i><b>If you are interested in the Boat Wash Program, contact South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks at 605.223.7706.</b></i>
<b>MITCHELL</b> Sportsman's Car Wash 601 E Spruce St	<b>SIOUX FALLS</b> Superwash - Marion Rd 801 S Marion Road	

# South Dakota Fish Identification

South Dakota is home to more than a hundred fish species. The following, by family, are those most commonly sought or encountered by anglers.

Illustrations copyright © by Joseph R. Tomelleri.

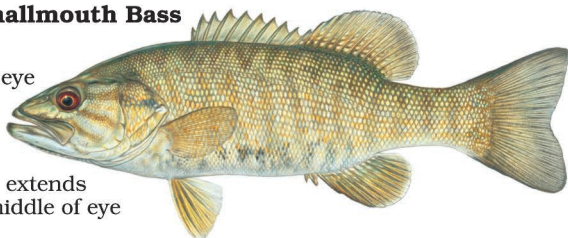
## SUNFISH FAMILY

### Largemouth Bass



Jaw extends past eye

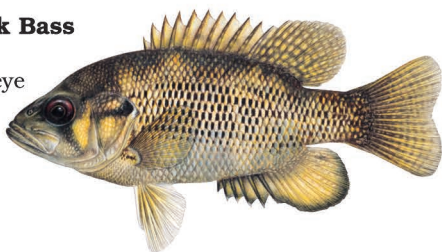
### Smallmouth Bass



Red eye

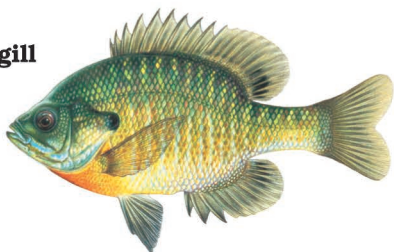
Jaw extends to middle of eye

### Rock Bass



Red eye

### Bluegill



Gill cover lobe black

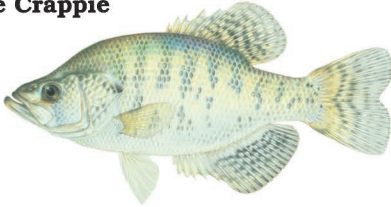


## **Pumpkinseed Sunfish**



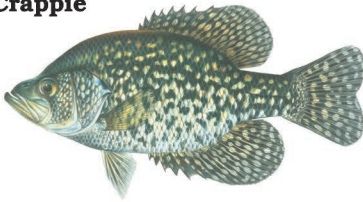
Gill cover lobe has red or orange spot at top

## **White Crappie**



Dorsal fin has 5 or 6 hard spines

## **Black Crappie**



Dorsal fin has 7 or 8 hard spines

## **CATFISH FAMILY**

### **Flathead Catfish**



Tail square and un-forked

Dark mottling on sides

### **Channel Catfish**



Deeply forked tail fin

Body marked with pigmented spots

### **Black Bullhead**



Most common bullhead in South Dakota

## PIKE FAMILY

### Northern Pike



Light markings on dark background

Rounded tail fins

### Muskellunge



Dark markings on light background

Pointed tail fins

### Tiger Muskellunge



Dark markings on light background

Rounded tail fins

Northern pike crossed with muskellunge

## STURGEON FAMILY

### Pallid Sturgeon



**Season closed for all sturgeon species**

Belly mostly naked

### Shovelnose Sturgeon



Belly covered by bony scalelike plates

## PADDLEFISH FAMILY

**Paddlefish**



## TEMPERATE BASS FAMILY

**White Bass**



## DRUM FAMILY

**Freshwater Drum**



## CODFISH FAMILY

**Burbot**



## MINNOW FAMILY

**Common Carp**



**Silver Carp**



**Bighead Carp**



## TROUT and SALMON

### Rainbow Trout

White mouth



Light body with dark spots

### Brown Trout



Large dark spots and red dots on brown body

Square tail

### Brook Trout

White leading edge on lower fins



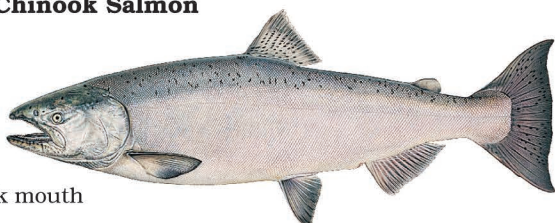
Light, wormlike markings on dark upper body

### Lake Trout



### Chinook Salmon

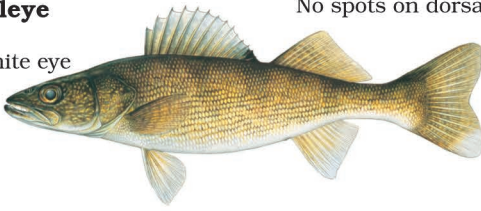
Dark mouth



## PERCH FAMILY

### Walleye

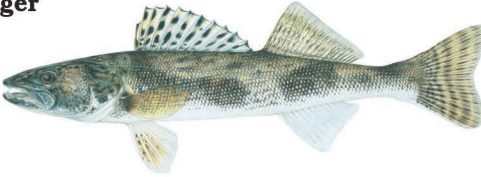
White eye



No spots on dorsal fin

White tip on bottom of tail fin

### Sauger



Spots on dorsal fin

Saddlelike markings on body

### Saugeye



Hybrid between walleye and sauger

### Yellow Perch



## SMELT FAMILY

### Rainbow Smelt



	EAST RIVER	WEST RIVER	MISSOURI RIVER	TOTAL
SHORE	89	66	38	193
BOAT	236	67	107	410
TOTAL	325	133	145	603



WE WANT TO GET  
**YOU**  
 TO THE  
**FISH**

South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks partners with municipalities and federal agencies to provide fishing access sites for both shore and boat anglers throughout the state. These access areas range from trails to the shoreline, to fishing piers, to large, concrete boat ramps with docks and restroom facilities.

SPECIES	STOCKED
Walleye	48,265,675
Saugeye	2,688,750
Yellow Perch	2,094,804
Rainbow Trout	195,828
Paddlefish Fry	100,744
Chinook Salmon (Oahe)	45,792
Largemouth Bass	14,130
Brown Trout	11,647
Redear Sunfish	11,450
Muskellunge	3,364
Northern Pike	3,208
Lake Sturgeon	3,036
Gizzard Shad	1,864
Smallmouth Bass	1,702
White Bass	776
Channel Catfish	685
Bluegill	600
Black Crappie	437
Lake Trout	400
White Crappie	233
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,445,125</b>

# WE WANT TO GET THE FISH TO YOU

Fish hatcheries in South Dakota give fisheries a boost. Quality fisheries exist in many waters; some of which could not be sustained without stocking.

Visit one of the hatcheries online or in person to see how we partner with nature and compliment natural fish production.

[gfp.sd.gov/fishing-boating/hatcheries/default.aspx](http://gfp.sd.gov/fishing-boating/hatcheries/default.aspx)





People have settled along the Missouri River since the last ice age. The people who occupied these lands had various cultures, beliefs, customs, and traditions. Artifacts of this past are present throughout. Pieces of pots, beads, stone tools, and many other artifacts represent an interconnected universe creating a link between all living things that still exist today. When one part of the link is disturbed, the entire system is affected.

## Respect the Past. Never Remove Artifacts.

Native American cultures near the river still hold important cultural and spiritual ceremonies which represent this interconnected universe. These ceremonies provide a link to the remnants of the past.

Artifacts must not be disturbed and should be protected by all of us. Everyone can help protect valuable resources by leaving sites alone and notifying law enforcement if they see anyone collecting items or digging.

Preserve our cultural resources.  
Call 1-866-NOSWIPE (667-9473)  
to report uncovered artifacts or vandalism.





# SUPPORT THE WORK OF GAME, FISH AND PARKS

Hunting, fishing and parks are central to the lives of many South Dakotans and these are the core activities that the South Dakota Parks and Wildlife Foundation supports. The Foundation works exclusively with the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) to acquire and manage wildlife production lands, provide outdoor educational opportunities like those found at the Outdoor Campuses in Rapid City and Sioux Falls, and help support and develop state parks and recreation areas throughout South Dakota.

In partnering with GFP, the Foundation brings private funds to public projects, making some projects feasible or funding enhanced services or opportunities. You can help support the Foundation's efforts to preserve and enhance South Dakota's rich outdoor heritage by making a tax deductible donation. For a minimum contribution of \$25, Friends of the Foundation receive a free, one-year subscription to the Conservation Digest and a window sticker declaring the donor a "Friend of Parks and Wildlife." Donors of \$1,000 or more receive a complimentary annual state park entrance license.

The Foundation is currently seeking gifts for additional land purchases and initial development of Good Earth State Park at Blood Run near Sioux Falls, repair of bridges on the Mickelson Trail and for construction of a new visitor's center and renovation of the existing Peter Norbeck Outdoor Education Center at Custer State Park.

If you have additional ideas or comments about other great places in South Dakota that should be conserved, please contact us at [PWF@state.sd.us](mailto:PWF@state.sd.us) or call 605.673.4017. To make a contribution to any project or become a Friend of Parks and Wildlife, visit [parkswildlifefoundation.org](http://parkswildlifefoundation.org).

The Foundation is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization and gifts to the Foundation are tax deductible for federal income tax purposes.



Photo © Sam Stukel

**THE LAWS HAVE CHANGED**

**TAKE YOUR BAIT  
NOT THE WATER  
IT'S THE LAWS**



**SD LEAST**

ANGED. LEARN THEM.



ER.  
AW!

TWANTED.COM

*South Dakota*

# TURN IN POACHERS

**TWO INDIVIDUALS WITH 82  
WALLEYE OVER THEIR LIMIT.  
PROTECT YOUR RESOURCES.  
MAKE THE CALL TO TIPS!**



**TIPS.SD.GOV | 1.888.OVERBAG**  
**(683-7224)**

This number is for reporting wildlife law violations only. Operators are not equipped to handle information requests or to transfer calls.