

CHAPTER 6254
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MINNOWS

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MINNOWS

6254.0100 PERMITTED ACTIVITIES FOR TAKING MINNOWS.

Subpart 1 **Minnow retailer's license required for retail purposes.** A person possessing a valid minnow retailer's license, as provided by Minnesota Statutes, section 97C 501, may buy and possess any amount of minnows, for the purpose of reselling them at retail, and may transport minnows from the place of wholesale purchase to an established, stationary place of business located in the state and owned or operated by the licensee, where the minnows are sold at retail, or to a licensed private fish hatchery or aquatic farm

Subp. 2 **Required vehicle licenses.** The provisions in items A and B apply to license requirements on vehicles used to transport minnows

A A vehicle may not be used to contain or transport more than 12 dozen minnows in this state unless it is licensed for that purpose by the commissioner, except as provided by Minnesota Statutes, section 97C 501, subdivision 3. Vehicle licenses must be kept in the vehicle and must be available for inspection by the commissioner at all reasonable times. Minnow dealers and retailers may obtain vehicle licenses only for vehicles registered in this state. A motor vehicle licensed as a common carrier is not required to be licensed under the game and fish laws to transport minnows for another person

B Each vehicle licensed for the transport of minnows must be identified with the licensee's name and town of residence as it appears on the retailer's, dealer's, exporter's, or hauler's license. Required vehicle identification must be displayed so that it is readily visible from either side of the vehicle in letters and numbers not less than 2-1/2 inches high and with a three-eighths inch wide stroke. Required vehicle identification may be permanently affixed to vehicles or displayed on removable plates or placards placed on opposite doors of the vehicle or on tanks carried on the vehicle. In addition, vehicle identification for vehicles used to transport minnows out of the state must bear the exporting dealer's or hauler's license number

Subp 3 **Angling license requirement exemption.** A properly endorsed aquatic farm or private fish hatchery license allows the licensee to conduct activities provided by subparts 1 and 2 and exempts the licensee from angling license requirements when conducting activities specified under this part.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97C 505, and others at 19 SR 6*

History: *19 SR 484*

6254.0200 WATERS OPEN TO TAKING MINNOWS.

Minnows may be taken from all waters of the state, except that minnows may be taken from the waters described in items A to E only if the taker possesses a permit issued by the commissioner

A waters within the boundaries of wildlife management areas,

B waters within the boundaries of state parks,

C within 50 yards of any site where loons are nesting; and

D waters described in parts 6254 0300 and 6254 0400 where taking for commercial purposes is specifically prohibited or regulated by the commissioner

E. designated trout waters as provided by Minnesota Statutes, section 97C 505, subdivision 5.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97C 505, and others at 19 SR 6*

History: *19 SR 484*

6254.0400 WATERS WITH RESTRICTIONS ON EQUIPMENT USED FOR TAKING MINNOWS.

Taking minnows with a seine is prohibited in the waters described in items A and B, however, taking minnows by the use of traps or other legal means is permitted:

A Otter Creek in Mower County that portion of the main stream in T 101, R 17, S 28,29,30,31, and T.101, R 18, S 36 from the Nevada Road bridge in S 28 to the Iowa border, and

B Zumbro River in Wabasha County that portion of the main river in T.109, R 14, S 6,7,8,9,10,17 from the Village of Mazeppa to its junction with the South Branch of the Zumbro River

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97C 505, and others at 19 SR 6*

History: *19 SR 484*

6254.0500 ALLOWABLE METHODS FOR TAKING MINNOWS.

Minnows may be taken in traps subject to the conditions in items A to C

A Minnow traps must be identified in a permanent and legible manner. The traps of persons licensed to take minnows must display the name, town of residence, and aquatic farm or private fish hatchery license number of the minnow dealer to whom they belong. The traps of persons other than dealers and aquatic farm and private fish hatchery operators must display the name, full street address, and town of residence of the person to whom they belong. The required information must be displayed on a waterproof tag securely attached to the trap or be branded or stamped into a permanent portion of the trap. On leech traps, the required information may also be painted on the trap with oil base paint or indelible ink. Identification on nonsubmerged traps must be unobscured and located above the water surface.

B A single string of minnow traps, attached together, may not extend across more than one-half the width of any stream, nor may a single string of minnow traps be placed within 50 feet in any direction of any portion of another single string. In open water, an individually placed minnow trap may not be placed within 20 feet in any direction of any portion of another such trap, except that submerged traps may be set four traps at one site, set side by side within 12 inches of one another, at intervals of not less than 20 feet in any direction of any portion of other such minnow trap sets. A minnow dealer may not set a trap within 50 feet in any direction of any portion of another minnow dealer's trap

C. Minnow traps must be lifted and emptied of minnows and other fish as frequently as necessary to prevent the loss of minnows or other fish, provided that under no circumstances may minnow traps be emptied less frequently than once every 72 hours between April 1 and October 31 and once every seven days between November 1 and March 31. All traps must be removed from the water and shoreline immediately upon ceasing trapping operations.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97C 505, and others at 19 SR 6*

History: *19 SR 484*

6254.0600 REQUIREMENTS TO HOLD AND MOVE MORE THAN 24 DOZEN MINNOWS.

Subpart 1. **Restrictions apply to quantities of minnows in excess of 24 dozen.** This part applies only to quantities of minnows in excess 24 dozen.

Subp 2. **Water volume for handling and transporting minnows.** After being taken, minnows may not be moved in less water than the volume that will sustain them in good condition.

Subp 3 **Oxygen content and temperature requirements.** All containers used to hold minnows other than for transport must be provided with aerating equipment or with a contin-

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uous flow of water which at all times maintains sufficient dissolved oxygen to sustain the minnows in good condition, except that containers so equipped are not required for holding leeches. Leeches may not be held in any container in which the dissolved oxygen in the water or the temperature is not maintained at a level that will sustain the leeches in good condition. Minnows, including leeches, may be transported only in containers in which the dissolved oxygen in the water is maintained at a level that will sustain the minnows in good condition.

Subp. 4 **Inspection of minnow containers.** Minnows must be transported only in containers that permit inspection of the minnows by the commissioner at any time.

Subp. 5 **Required reporting.** Minnow dealers and exporting minnow dealers must report, on forms provided by the commissioner, for the previous calendar year. Reports must be submitted prior to February 1 of each year to the address identified on the form. A minnow dealer's license or exporting minnow dealer's license may not be renewed until the yearly report has been received.

Subp. 6 **Exemption from water volume, oxygen, and temperature requirements.** Subparts 2 and 3 do not apply to persons licensed as aquatic farm or private fish hatchery operators.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97C.505, and others at 19 SR 6*

History: *19 SR 484*