

CHAPTER 6260
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMERCIAL FISHING OPERATIONS

6260 1800 COMMERCIAL FISHING ON LAKE
SUPERIOR

6260 2000 COMMERCIAL FISHING ON INLAND
WATERS

6260.1800 COMMERCIAL FISHING ON LAKE SUPERIOR.

Subpart 1 **Species, seasons, and limits.** The species of fish in this subpart may be taken in Lake Superior by licensed commercial operators according to this subpart

A Chubs, alewives, whitefish, menominee whitefish, smelt, and rough fish may be taken at any time Ciscoes may be taken from December 1 through October 31, except that ciscoes may be taken from November 1 through November 30 under a special permit approved by the commissioner

[For text of item B, see M R.]

C Lake trout may not be taken by commercial fishing except by permit Lake trout legally taken under permit must be sealed with a tag, provided by the commissioner, affixed through the mouth and out the gill. The tag must be affixed immediately upon removal from the water and before the boat is brought to shore No untagged lake trout may be possessed, bought, or sold by licensed commercial operators Lake trout of lawful size incidentally taken to commercial operations and dead when removed from the water may be possessed only if sealed with a tag, provided by the commissioner, affixed through the mouth and out the gill Untagged incidentally taken lake trout may not be possessed, bought, or sold by licensed commercial operators All incidentally taken live lake trout and all untagged dead lake trout must be returned to the water immediately

[For text of subp 2, see M R.]

Subp. 3. **Use of pound or trap nets.** Hoops and center leads of pound or trap nets used on Lake Superior may be of any length and diameter The webbing for pound or trap nets, including leads, may not exceed 2-1/2 inch stretch measure, or be of twine size less than 9 gauge or 70 pound strength Pound or trap nets may not be set within one-quarter mile of the mouth of any stream unless approved by the commissioner. Pound or trap nets may not be set in harbors from May 25 through March 31, except for St. Louis Bay, unless approved by the commissioner Commercial operators must notify the Lake Superior Fisheries Office within 48 hours if they are unable to lift and empty pound or trap nets at least once every 48 hours All net stakes, lines, and anchors must be removed from the lake bed within ten days of removing pound and trap nets Commercial operators must notify the Lake Superior Fisheries Office prior to setting pound or trap nets and at the beginning of each week that pound or trap nets are used The commissioner may deny the use of pound or trap nets during periods when such use would conflict with fisheries management activities Pound or trap nets must be marked with a tag which is at least 2-1/2 inches by five-eighths inch permanently bearing the owner's name and address and attached to the top rope of the back side of the pound or crib Trap nets set with anchors must have attached to the end farthest from shore one fluorescent orange or fluorescent red marker buoy constructed so that a minimum of 18 inches of buoy surface is visible above water in the absence of current or under the weight of nets and line The number of the owner's Lake Superior commercial fishing license must be plainly marked, in black, on the marker buoy The marker buoy must be marked with a fluorescent orange or fluorescent red flag, at least one foot square, attached to the top of a flag staff at least five feet long, and the buoy constructed so that the flag staff is supported in a vertical position All buoys and floats used in pound or trap net sets must be constructed of styrofoam, plastic, rubber, or other materials nonhazardous to navigation.

[For text of subs 4 and 5, see M R.]

Subp 6 **Net locations.** Gill nets may not be set within one-quarter mile of the shore in the area extending from the Superior entrance to Pigeon River, except under permit issued by the commissioner Gill nets set on the bottom may not be in water shallower than 50 fathoms if closer than one mile from the Minnesota shore and 40 fathoms if farther than one mile from the Minnesota shore except under permit

Subp 7. **Required reporting.** Commercial fishing operators must submit a record of their commercial fishing operations for each month of the calendar year. These reports must be submitted within ten days after the end of the month for which the report is made. Reports must be made regardless of whether fish are taken and regardless of whether any fishing operations have taken place. Separate records must be kept for each pound or trap net used in Lake Superior and St. Louis Bay. Reports for pound or trap nets must include the number of game fish kept and released, and must be submitted to the Lake Superior Office by the tenth day of each month for the preceding month, whether or not pound or trap nets were fished.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97A.045, 97C 835*

History: *20 SR 2287*

6260.2000 COMMERCIAL FISHING ON INLAND WATERS.

Subpart 1 [Repealed, 20 SR 2287]

[For text of subps 2 to 4, see M R]

Subp 5. **Use of crib nets.** Crib net design for inland waters is at the discretion of the operator, except that mesh size in cribs may not be larger than 2-1/2 inches, stretch measure for cribbing of bullheads and three inches stretch measure for cribbing of other rough fish species, or be of twine size smaller than 18 gauge or 150 pound strength. Wooden cribs must be constructed so that the sides and bottoms have no openings larger than 1-1/4 inches for bullheads and 1-1/2 inches for other rough fish species.

[For text of subps 6 to 10, see M.R]

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97C 345; 97C 811*

History: *20 SR 2287*