

CHAPTER 6264
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
EXPERIMENTAL FISHING WATERS; REGULATIONS

6264 0300 DESIGNATED EXPERIMENTAL
WATERS

6264 0400 DESIGNATED SPECIAL
MANAGEMENT WATERS

6264.0300 DESIGNATED EXPERIMENTAL WATERS.

Subpart 1 **General provisions.** While on or fishing in designated experimental waters, all fish for which size restrictions apply must be intact and measurable, regardless of where taken. Length of fish is determined by measuring from the tip of the nose to the tip of the tail when fully extended. Where possession of fish taken from a designated experimental water is restricted, possession includes personal possession and possession in a vehicle

[For text of subps 2 to 13, see M R]

Subp. 14 **Stieger Lake experimental regulations.** While on or fishing in Stieger Lake, angling for largemouth bass, muskellunge, northern pike, and walleye shall be limited to catch and release only, whereby any largemouth bass, muskellunge, northern pike, or walleye caught must be immediately returned to the water. Catch and release angling for largemouth bass, muskellunge, northern pike, and walleye shall be legal during the open season for these species in inland waters. It is unlawful for anyone to have in possession, regardless of where taken, any largemouth bass, muskellunge, northern pike, or walleye while on or fishing in Stieger Lake. Spearing is prohibited from December 1 through February 15.

Name	Location	County	End Date
Stieger	T 116, R.24, S.11,12,13,14	Carver	3/1/2003

Subp 15 **Waconia Lake experimental regulations.** All walleye in possession while on or fishing in Waconia Lake must be 16 inches or greater in length. Walleye less than 16 inches must be returned to the water immediately. All largemouth bass in possession while on or fishing in Waconia Lake must be less than 17 inches in length or greater than 21 inches in length. All largemouth bass which are 17 to 21 inches in length, inclusive, must be returned to the water immediately. A person's possession limit may not include more than one largemouth bass over 21 inches in length.

Name	Location	County	End Date
Waconia	T 116, R 24,25, S Various	Carver	3/1/2003

[For text of subps 16 to 24, see M R.]

Subp. 25 **Catch and release fishing on trout streams.** While on or fishing in the following waters, angling for trout shall be limited to catch and release only, whereby any trout caught must be immediately returned to the water. Catch and release angling for trout shall be legal during the open season for trout in inland streams. It is unlawful for anyone to have in possession, regardless of where taken, any trout while on or fishing in the following waters.

Name	Location	County	End Date
A. Middle Branch Whitewater R	T 107, R 11, S 35 and T 106, R 11, S 2,3,10, from the posted boundary at the point where a tributary enters the stream from		

		the west in the NW 1/4 NE 1/4, S.35 of T 107, R 11 upstream approximately 3 3 miles to the source in the SW 1/4 NE 1/4, S 10 of T 106, R 11	Olmsted	3/1/2000
B	Hay Cr	T.112, R 15, S 23, 24,26, from the posted boundary at the point where Hay Creek crosses the SW 1/4 SE 1/4 section line of S 24 upstream approximately 2 4 miles to the posted boundary in the NW 1/4 NE 1/4, S 26	Goodhue	3/1/2000

[For text of subs 26 to 35, see M.R.]

Subp. 36 **Bear Creek Reservoir experimental regulations.** All largemouth bass in possession while on or fishing in Bear Creek Reservoir must be 15 inches or greater in length. All largemouth bass less than 15 inches must be returned to the water immediately.

Name	Location	County	End Date
Bear Creek Reservoir	T 106, R 12, S 17	Olmsted	3/1/2001

Subp. 37 **Northern pike maximum size limits.** All northern pike in possession while on or fishing in the following waters must be less than 24 inches in length. All northern pike 24 inches or greater must be returned to the water immediately

Name	Location	County	End Date
A Big Birch	T.126,127, R 32,33, S Various	Todd, Stearns	3/1/2006
B Melissa	T 138, R 41, Various	Becker	3/1/2006
C Sallie	T 138, R 41, Various	Becker	3/1/2006

Subp. 38 **Big Stone Lake experimental regulations.** All walleye in possession while on or fishing in Big Stone Lake must be 14 inches or greater in length. All walleye less than 14 inches must be returned to the water immediately

Name	Location	County	End Date
Big Stone	T 121-124, R.46- 49 S Various	Big Stone	3/1/2004

Subp 39 **Lac qui Parle Lake Experimental regulations.** All walleye in possession while on or fishing in Lac qui Parle Lake must be 15 inches or greater in length. All walleye less than 15 inches must be returned to the water immediately

Name	Location	County	End Date
Lac qui Parle Lake	T.118-120, R 41,42,43 S. Various upstream to Marsh Lake Dam, including the Watson Sag (Chippewa River Diversion) upstream to the diversion dam	Laq qui Parle Chippewa	3/1/2004

Subp. 40 **Boys Lake experimental regulations.** All trout in possession must be 14 inches or greater in length while on or fishing in Boys Lake. All trout less than 14 inches must be returned to the water immediately. The possession limit on Boys Lake is two trout. While on or fishing in Boys Lake, only artificial lures and flies with single hooks may be used. No bait may be used or possessed while fishing in Boys Lake. Boys Lake is closed to winter fishing.

Name	Location	County	End Date
Boys Lake	T 62, R 2, S.5,8	Cook	3/1/2004

Subp. 41 **Farm Island Lake experimental regulations.** All walleye in possession while on or fishing in Farm Island Lake must be less than 16 inches or greater than 19 inches in length. All walleye which are 16 to 19 inches in length, inclusive, must be returned to the water immediately.

Name	Location	County	End Date
Farm Island	T 45,46, R.27 Various	Aitkin	3/1/2004

Subp. 42 **Smallmouth bass maximum size limits.** All smallmouth bass in possession while on or fishing in the following waters must be less than 11 inches in length. All smallmouth bass 11 inches or greater must be returned to the water immediately.

Name	Location	County	End Date
A. Flour	T.64, R 1W, S.1,2,11,12; R 1E, S 5,6	Cook	3/1/2004
B. Hungry Jack	T 64,65, R.1 S.2-4,35	Cook	3/1/2004
C. Two Island	T.62, R.1, S 3-5,8,9	Cook	3/1/2004

Subp. 43. **Lake of the Woods experimental regulations.** The possession limit for northern pike taken from the following waters is three. All northern pike in possession while on or fishing in the following waters must be less than 30 inches or greater than 40 inches in

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length. All northern pike which are 30 to 40 inches, inclusive, must be returned to the water immediately. A person's possession limit may not include more than one northern pike greater than 40 inches in length

Name	Location	County	End Date
A. Lake of the Woods	T.162-168, R.32-37 S. Various	Lake of the Woods	3/1/2006
B. Rainy River	T.162, R.31, S.19 from the U.S. Coast Guard lighthouse at Wheeler's Point upstream to the Koochiching County line in T.160, R.30, S.12	Lake of the Woods	3/1/2006
C. Wmter Road River	T.161, R.31, S.20 upstream to the headwaters	Lake of the Woods	3/1/2006
D. Baudette River	T.161, R.31, S.35 upstream to the headwaters	Lake of the Woods	3/1/2006
E. Warroad River	T.163, R.36, S 28 upstream to the headwaters	Roseau	3/1/2006

Subp. 44 Moccasin Lake experimental regulations. While on or fishing in Moccasin Lake, angling for largemouth bass shall be limited to catch and release only, whereby any largemouth bass caught must be immediately returned to the water. Catch and release angling for largemouth bass shall be legal during the open season for largemouth bass in inland waters. It is unlawful for anyone to have in possession, regardless of where taken, any largemouth bass while on or fishing in Moccasin Lake.

Name	Location	County	End Date
Moccasin Lake	T.141, R.29, S.28,32,33	Cass	3/1/2003

Subp. 45. Moose Lake experimental regulations. All largemouth bass in possession while on or fishing in Moose Lake must be less than 12 inches in length. All largemouth bass 12 inches and greater must be immediately returned to the water.

Name	Location	County	End Date
Moose Lake	T.128, R.32, S.15,22	Todd	3/1/2005

Subp. 46. Portage Lake experimental regulations. While on or fishing in Portage Lake, angling for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass shall be limited to catch and release only, whereby any largemouth or smallmouth bass caught must be immediately returned to the water. Catch and release angling for largemouth and smallmouth bass shall be legal during the open season for largemouth and smallmouth bass in inland waters. It is unlawful for

anyone to have in possession, regardless of where taken, any largemouth or smallmouth bass while being on or fishing in Portage Lake.

Name	Location	County	End Date
Portage Lake	T.141, R.31, S.23-26	Cass	3/1/2003

Subp. 47. **Sunfish possession limits.** Effective May 11, 1996, while on or fishing in the following waters the daily and possession limit for sunfish is ten.

Name	Location	County	End Date
A. Carnelian	T 122, R.29, S.13, 14	Stearns	3/1/2002
B. Ox Yoke	T.139, R.30, S.10, 15	Cass	3/1/2002
C. Pleasant	T.123, R.29, S.1,2	Stearns	3/1/2002
D. Sanburn	T.139, R.30, S.22, 26,27	Cass	3/1/2002

Subp. 48. **Sunfish possession limits and catch and release fishing for northern pike and largemouth bass.** Effective May 11, 1996, while on or fishing in the following waters the daily and possession limit for sunfish is ten, and angling for northern pike and largemouth bass shall be limited to catch and release only, whereby any northern pike or largemouth bass caught must be immediately returned to the water. Catch and release angling for northern pike and largemouth bass shall be legal during the open season for these species in inland waters. It is unlawful for anyone to have in possession, regardless of where taken, any northern pike or largemouth bass while on or fishing in the following waters.

Name	Location	County	End Date
A. Fladmark	T.135, R.42, S 13, 14,24	Otter Tail	3/1/2002
B. Twenty One	T.135, R.42, S.16, 21	Otter Tail	3/1/2002

Statutory Authority: *MS s 14.38; 97C.001; 97C.005*

History: *20 SR 2248; 20 SR 2252(NO. 42)*

6264.0400 DESIGNATED SPECIAL MANAGEMENT WATERS.

Subpart 1. **General provisions.** While on or fishing in designated special management waters, all fish for which size restrictions apply must be intact and measurable, regardless of where taken. Length of fish is determined by measuring from the tip of the nose to the top of the tail when fully extended. Where possession of fish is restricted, possession includes personal possession and possession in a vehicle

Subp. 2. **Hay Creek special management regulations.** While on or fishing in Hay Creek, angling for trout shall be limited to catch and release only, whereby any trout caught must be immediately returned to the water. Catch and release angling for trout shall be legal during the open season for trout in inland streams. It is unlawful for anyone to have in possession, regardless of where taken, any trout while on or fishing in Hay Creek. All legal methods of taking trout are allowed, except that barbed hooks are prohibited. A hook from which the barb has been removed by crimping or filing is allowed.

Name	Location	County
Hay Creek	T.112, R.15, S.26,27, from the posted boundary in the NW 1/4 NE 1/4, S.26 upstream approximately 1.8 miles to the posted boundary in the SW 1/4 SE 1/4 S.27	Goodhue

Subp. 3. **Winter trout stream season.** The following waters are open to angling during a winter trout season from January 1 through March 31. The following restrictions apply to the winter season. While on or fishing in the following waters, angling for trout shall be limited to catch and release only, whereby any trout caught must be immediately returned to the water. It is unlawful for anyone to have in possession, regardless of where taken, any trout while on or fishing in the following waters. All legal methods of taking trout are allowed, except that barbed hooks are prohibited. A hook from which the barb has been removed by crimping or filing is allowed.

Name	Location	County
A. Middle Branch Whitewater River	T.107, R.10, S.9, 16,17,20, from the upstream side of State Highway 74 bridge in the SW 1/4 SE 1/4, S.9 upstream approximately 2.9 miles to the confluence with Trout Run, SE 1/4 SE 1/4, S.20	Winona
B. South Branch Whitewater River	T.107, R.10, S.3,10,11, 14, from the confluence with the Whitewater River in the SW 1/4 SE 1/4, S.3 upstream approximately 2.0 miles to the downstream side of Winona County Highway 37 bridge in the NW 1/4 NE 1/4, S.14	Winona
C. Beaver Creek	T.108, R.10, S.19,20, 21, and T.108, R.11, S.24, from the Whitewater Wildlife Management Area Sanctuary boundary at the north section line of S.21 to T.108, R.10 upstream approximately 3.9 miles to the source in the NE 1/4 NW 1/4, S.24 of T.108, R.11	Winona, Wabasha
D. Hay Creek	T.112, R.15, S.23,24,26,27, from the posted boundary at the point where Hay Creek crosses the SW 1/4 SE 1/4 section line of S.24 upstream approximately	

4.2 miles to the posted
boundary in the SW 1/4 SE
1/4, S.27

Goodhue

Subp. 4. **Mille Lacs Lake special management regulations.** While on or fishing in Mille Lacs Lake, a person's possession limit may not include more than one walleye over 20 inches in length. Mille Lacs Lake is closed to the taking of fish between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. daily during the period commencing at 10 p.m. on the Monday following the Saturday two weeks prior to the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend and ending at 12:01 a.m. on Monday, four weeks after the date of commencement. During the above referenced closure, no person shall be on the waters of Mille Lacs Lake while having in possession any equipment whereby fish may be taken. Spearing is prohibited from December 1 through April 30. A person may not have a spear in possession while on or fishing in Mille Lacs Lake during this period.

Name	Location	County
Mille Lacs	T.42-45, R.25-28, S. Various	Aitkin, Mille Lacs

Subp. 5. **Trout minimum length limits.** All trout in possession while on or fishing in the following waters must be 18 inches or greater in length. All trout less than 18 inches in length must be returned to the water immediately. The possession limit on the following waters is one trout. While on or fishing in the following waters, only artificial lures and flies with single hooks may be used. No bait may be used or possessed while fishing on the following waters. The following waters are closed to winter fishing.

Name	Location	County
A. Thrush	T.63, R.1W, S.31	Cook
B. Turnip	T.64, R.1E, S.24	Cook

Statutory Authority: *MS s 14 38; 97C.001; 97C.005*

History: *20 SR 2248*