

**6262.0200 FISHING REGULATIONS FOR INLAND WATERS.**

Subpart 1. **General inland fishing regulations.** Fish may be taken in inland waters by angling during the time specified for each of the following species, however, certain waters of the state are subject to experimental regulations, special regulations, or are closed for the taking and possession of fish. When the closing date of a season falls on a Saturday, the season will extend through the following Sunday.

Species and Open Season	Daily and Possession Limits
A. Largemouth and smallmouth bass.	6 in aggregate.
<p>(1) In all waters lying east and north of U.S. Highway 53 from Duluth to International Falls and Pelican and Ash Lakes, St. Louis County.</p> <p>Saturday two weeks prior to the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend to the last Sunday in February.</p> <p>From the second Monday in September to the end of the season, angling for smallmouth bass shall be limited to catch and release only. Any smallmouth bass must be immediately returned to the water and it shall be unlawful for anyone to have in possession, regardless of where taken, any smallmouth bass while on or fishing in inland waters.</p>	
<p>(2) In all other waters.</p> <p>Saturday of Memorial Day weekend to the last Sunday in February.</p>	

From the second Monday in September to the end of the season, angling for smallmouth bass shall be limited to catch and release only. Any smallmouth bass must be immediately returned to the water and it shall be unlawful for anyone to have in possession, regardless of where taken, any smallmouth bass while on or fishing in inland waters.

B. Brown trout.

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| <p>(1) In all streams in Houston, Fillmore, Mower, Dodge, Olmsted, Winona, Wabasha, and Goodhue Counties. April 1 to September 30.</p>                                          | <p>5 in aggregate with rainbow and brook trout and splake. No more than 1 may be over 16 inches in length. No harvest of trout is allowed from April 1 up to but not including the Saturday nearest April 15 and from September 15 to September 30. During these time periods, all trout must be immediately returned to the water and all hooks must be barbless.</p> |
| <p>(2) In all other streams, except those in part 6262.0300, subpart 6, item C, for St. Louis, Lake, Carlton, and Cook Counties. Saturday nearest April 15 to September 30.</p> | <p>5 in aggregate with rainbow and brook trout and splake. No more than 1 may be over 16 inches in length.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <p>(3) In lakes only:</p>                                                                                                                                                       | <p>5 in aggregate with rainbow and brook trout and splake. No more than 3 may be over 16 inches in length.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

Statewide.

Saturday two weeks prior to Saturday of Memorial Day weekend to October 31.

All lakes entirely within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

January 1, except when January 1 falls on a Sunday, Monday, or Tuesday, then opening day is the preceding Saturday (Saturday nearest January 1), to March 31.

All lakes entirely or partly outside the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Saturday nearest January 15 to March 31.

Lakes in Becker, Beltrami, Cass, Crow Wing, and Hubbard Counties, except Blue Lake in Hubbard County.

Closed for the winter season.

C. Brook trout and splake.

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| <p>(1) In all streams in Houston, Fillmore, Mower, Dodge, Olmsted, Winona, Wabasha, and Goodhue Counties.<br/>April 1 to September 30.</p>                                          | <p>5 in aggregate with rainbow and brown trout and splake. No more than 1 may be over 16 inches in length. No harvest of trout is allowed from April 1 up to but not including the Saturday nearest April 15 and from September 15 to September 30. During these time periods, all trout must be immediately returned to the water and all hooks must be barbless.</p> |
| <p>(2) In all other streams, except those in part 6262.0300, subpart 6, item B, for St. Louis, Lake, Carlton, and Cook Counties.<br/>Saturday nearest April 15 to September 30.</p> | <p>5 in aggregate with brown and rainbow trout. No more than 1 may be over 16 inches in length.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p>(3) In lakes only:</p>                                                                                                                                                           | <p>5 in aggregate with brown and rainbow trout. No more than 3 may be over 16 inches in length.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

Statewide.

Saturday two weeks prior to Saturday of Memorial Day weekend to October 31.

All lakes entirely within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

January 1, except when January 1 falls on a Sunday, Monday, or Tuesday, then opening day is the preceding Saturday (Saturday nearest January 1), to March 31.

All lakes entirely or partly outside the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Saturday nearest January 15 to March 31.

Lakes in Becker, Beltrami, Cass, Crow Wing, and Hubbard Counties, except Blue Lake in Hubbard County.

Closed for the winter season.

D. Rainbow trout, including steelhead.

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| <p>(1) In all streams in Houston, Fillmore, Mower, Dodge, Olmsted, Winona, Wabasha, and Goodhue Counties. April 1 to September 30.</p>                                          | <p>5 in aggregate with brown and brook trout and splake. No more than 1 may be over 16 inches in length. No harvest of trout is allowed from April 1 up to but not including the Saturday nearest April 15 and from September 15 to September 30. During these time periods, all trout must be immediately returned to the water and all hooks must be barbless.</p> |
| <p>(2) In all other streams, except those in part 6262.0300, subpart 6, item A, for St. Louis, Lake, Carlton, and Cook Counties. Saturday nearest April 15 to September 30.</p> | <p>5 in aggregate with brook and brown trout and splake. No more than 1 may be over 16 inches in length.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

- (3) In lakes only: 5 in aggregate with brook and brown trout and splake. No more than 3 may be over 16 inches in length.

Statewide.

Saturday two weeks prior to Saturday of Memorial Day weekend to October 31.

All lakes entirely within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

January 1, except when January 1 falls on a Sunday, Monday, or Tuesday, then opening day is the preceding Saturday (Saturday nearest January 1), to March 31.

All lakes entirely or partly outside the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Saturday nearest January 15 to March 31.

Lakes in Becker, Beltrami, Cass, Crow Wing, and Hubbard Counties, except Blue Lake in Hubbard County.

Closed for the winter season.

- E. Lake trout. 2

Statewide.

Saturday two weeks prior to Saturday of Memorial Day weekend to September 30.

All lakes entirely within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

January 1, except when January 1 falls on a Sunday, Monday, or Tuesday, then opening day is the preceding Saturday (Saturday nearest January 1), to March 31.

All lakes lying entirely or partly outside the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Saturday nearest January 15 to March 31.

F. Walleye and sauger. 6 in aggregate.

Saturday two weeks prior to the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend to the last Sunday in February.

G. Northern pike. 3

Saturday two weeks prior to the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend to the last Sunday in February.

The limit also applies to the taking by dark house spearing.

H. Muskellunge (including muskellunge-northern pike hybrid).

The first Saturday in June to December 1.

(1) In all inland waters not listed in subitem (2). 1 in aggregate. The minimum size limit is 48 inches in length.

(2) In the following lakes in Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington Counties: 1 in aggregate. The minimum size limit is 40 inches in length.

Lake:	County:
Bryant	Hennepin
Bush	Hennepin
Calhoun	Hennepin
Cedar	Hennepin
Cedar	Scott
Clear	Washington
Crystal	Dakota
Crystal	Hennepin

	Eagle	Carver
	Elmo	Washington
	Gervais	Ramsey
	Island	Ramsey
	Isles	Hennepin
	Johanna	Ramsey
	Nokomis	Hennepin
	Orchard	Dakota
	Phalen	Ramsey
	Pierson	Carver
	Silver	Ramsey
	Wasserman	Carver
	Weaver	Hennepin
I.	Rock bass. Continuous.	30
J.	White (striped) bass. Continuous.	30
K.	Crappies. Continuous.	10
L.	Sunfish. Continuous.	20
M.	Flathead and channel catfish. Continuous.	5 in aggregate. No more than 1 may be over 24 inches and no more than 2 may be flathead catfish.
N.	Perch. Continuous.	100 to November 30, 2000. 20 daily, 50 in possession, December 1, 2000, to November 30, 2001.

20 daily, 40 in possession, December 1, 2001, and thereafter.

- O. Bullheads. 100  
Continuous.
- P. Sturgeon. 0  
Closed.
- Q. Carp, bowfin, redhorse, sheepshead, No limits.  
suckers, burbot, gar, whitefish, goldeyes,  
tullibeas, buffalo, smelt.  
Continuous.

Subp. 2. **Taking of smelt from inland waters.** Rainbow smelt may be taken by licensed anglers and those exempt from licensing at any time by angling and dip net. Smelt may be taken in inland lakes by minnow seines, not more than 25 feet in length or four feet in depth. Live smelt may not be possessed or transported.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 14.388; 97A.045; 97C.005; 97C.025; 97C.041; 97C.045; 97C.325; 97C.371; 97C.375; 97C.395; 97C.401; 97C.405; 97C.411; 97C.415; 97C.811*

**History:** *18 SR 83; 19 SR 2222; 20 SR 2287; 22 SR 292; 23 SR 348; 23 SR 373; 24 SR 1849; 25 SR 1964; 27 SR 1017; 30 SR 394; 32 SR 1039; 34 SR 1165; 35 SR 1396; 37 SR 1664*

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