

**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.

Except as provided in part 6264.0400, subparts 35, 36, 37, and 117, the following restrictions apply.

- (1) In all streams in Houston, Fillmore, Mower, Dodge, Olmsted, Winona, Wabasha, and Goodhue Counties. January 1 to October 15. 5 in aggregate with rainbow and brook trout and splake. No more than 1 may be over 16 inches in length. Angling for trout is limited to catch and release only from January 1 up to but not including the Saturday nearest April 15 and from September 15 to October 15. During these time periods, all trout 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 these waters. All legal methods of taking trout are allowed.
- (2) In all other streams, except those in part 6262.0300, subpart 6, item C, for St. Louis, Lake, Carlton, and Cook Counties. 5 in aggregate with rainbow and brook trout and splake. No more than 1 may be over 16 inches in length.  
Saturday nearest April 15 to September 30.
- (3) In lakes only: 5 in aggregate with rainbow and brook 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.

C. Brook trout and splake.

Except as provided in part 6264.0400,  
subparts 35, 36, 37, and 117, the  
following restrictions apply.

- (1) In all streams in Houston, Fillmore, Mower, Dodge, Olmsted, Winona, Wabasha, and Goodhue Counties. January 1 to October 15. 5 in aggregate with rainbow and brown trout and splake. No more than 1 may be over 16 inches in length. Angling for trout is limited to catch and release only from January 1 up to but not including the Saturday nearest April 15 and from September 15 to October 15. During these time periods, all trout 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 these waters. All legal methods of taking trout are allowed.

(2) In all other streams, except those in 5 in aggregate with brown and rainbow part 6262.0300, subpart 6, item B, for trout. No more than 1 may be over 16 inches St. Louis, Lake, Carlton, and Cook in length.  
 Counties.  
 Saturday nearest April 15 to  
 September 30.

(3) In lakes only: 5 in aggregate with brown and rainbow trout. 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.

D. Rainbow trout, including steelhead.

Except as provided in part 6264.0400,  
 subparts 35, 36, 37, and 117, the  
 following restrictions apply.

- (1) In all streams in Houston, Fillmore, Mower, Dodge, Olmsted, Winona, Wabasha, and Goodhue Counties. January 1 to October 15. 5 in aggregate with brown and brook trout and splake. No more than 1 may be over 16 inches in length. Angling for trout is limited to catch and release only from January 1 up to but not including the Saturday nearest April 15 and from September 15 to October 15. During these time periods, all trout 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 these waters. All legal methods of taking trout are allowed.
- (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. 5 in aggregate with brook and brown trout and splake. No more than 1 may be over 16 inches in length.
- (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.

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| (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

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| I. | Rock bass.<br>Continuous.  | 30  |
| J. | White (striped) bass.<br>Continuous.   | 30  |
| K. | Crappies.<br>Continuous.   | 10  |
| L. | Sunfish.<br>Continuous.  | 20  |
| M. | Flathead and channel catfish.<br>Continuous.   | 5 in aggregate. No more than 1 may be over 24 inches and no more than 2 may be flathead catfish.  |
| N. | Perch.<br>Continuous.  | 100 to November 30, 2000.<br>20 daily, 50 in possession, December 1, 2000, to November 30, 2001.<br>20 daily, 40 in possession, December 1, 2001, and thereafter. |
| O. | Bullheads.<br>Continuous.  | 100   |
| P. | Sturgeon.<br>Closed.   | 0   |
| Q. | Carp, bowfin, redhorse, sheepshead, suckers, burbot, gar, whitefish, goldeyes, tullibeas, buffalo, smelt.<br>Continuous. | No limits.  |

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; 84.027; 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; 39 SR 5*

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