

**97A.551 POSSESSING AND TRANSPORTING FISH.**

Subdivision 1. [Repealed, 1987 c 149 art 1 s 54]

Subd. 2. **Fish transported through state.** A person may not transport game fish or native rough fish taken in another state or country through the state during the closed season or in excess of the possession limit unless the fish are:

- (1) transported by common carrier; or
- (2) tagged, sealed, or marked as prescribed by the commissioner.

Subd. 3. **Shipping fish.** A person that has a license to take fish may make three shipments of fish in a license year to any person within or out of the state after obtaining a permit for each shipment from the commissioner. A shipment may not contain more than a possession limit of one species of fish per licensee.

Subd. 4. **Walleye; northern pike.** Walleye and northern pike may be possessed, transported, or shipped in a dressed or undressed condition.

Subd. 5. **Preparing and packing fish for transporting.** The commissioner may adopt rules for the preparation and packing of fish for transportation.

Subd. 6. **Registration.** The commissioner may, by rule, require persons taking, possessing, and transporting certain species of fish to possess an endorsement for and register the fish. A person may not possess or transport a fish species taken in the state for which a special fish-management registration is required unless the fish is registered or validated in a manner prescribed by the commissioner. The commissioner shall prescribe the manner of issuance and the type of endorsement as authorized under section 97C.087. Immediately upon reducing the fish to possession, the licensee must validate the license and the license must remain with the fish until the fish is registered. Species for which a special fish management registration is required must be transported undressed, except as otherwise prescribed by the commissioner.

*[See Note.]*

**History:** 1986 c 386 art 1 s 81; 1987 c 149 art 1 s 39; 1993 c 185 s 1; 1993 c 231 s 37; 1Sp2005 c 1 art 2 s 104; 2006 c 281 art 2 s 34; 2024 c 90 art 1 s 41; art 2 s 16

**NOTE:** The amendment to subdivision 6 by Laws 2024, chapter 90, article 1, section 41, is effective upon full implementation of the replacement electronic license system. The commissioner of natural resources must notify the revisor of statutes when the replacement electronic license system is fully implemented. Laws 2024, chapter 90, article 1, section 52.