2005 Nebraska Fishing Guide

Fishing Regulations and Public Waters

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
2200 N. 33rd St. / P.O. Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503 (402) 471-0641

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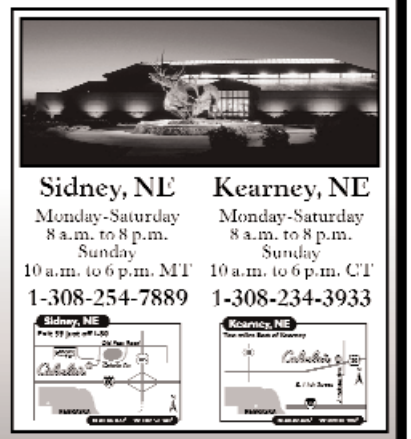

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NEBRASKA GAME & PARKS COMMISSION OFFICES

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***District 1**
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Phone: 308-763-2940 / Fax: 308-763-2943

***District 2**
524 Panzer St. / PO Box 508
Bassett, NE 68714-0508
Phone: 402-684-2921 / Fax: 402-684-2816

***District 3**
2201 N. 13th St.
Norfolk, NE 68701-2267
Phone: 402-370-3374 / Fax: 402-370-3256

***District 4**
301 E. State Farm Rd.
North Platte, NE 69101-0430
Phone: 308-535-8025 / Fax: 308-535-8028

District 5 (Fisheries Staff only)
Lincoln, NE; Field Shop
Phone: 402-471-7647 / Fax: 402-471-7649

***District 6**
1617 First Ave.
Kearney, NE 68847-6057
Phone: 308-865-5310 / Fax: 308-865-5309

***Omaha Metro Office**
1212 Bob Gibson Blvd.
Omaha, NE 68108-2020
Phone: 402-595-2144 / Fax: 402-595-2569

***Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium Outdoor Ed Center**
21502 W. Highway 31
Gretna, NE 68028-7264
Phone: 402-332-3901 / Fax: 402-332-5853

** Permits available over the counter*

General Regulations

NOTICE

This is a guide only. For sources, consult Nebraska statutes and official regulations.

CHANGES FOR 2005

Largemouth bass: Verdon Lake now has a 21-inch minimum length limit while Bennington Lake, Holmes Lake and Indian Creek WMA pond are total catch and release.

Channel and Blue catfish: Bennington Lake, Holmes Lake, Indian Creek WMA Pond and Skyview Lake now have a daily bag limit of three.

Northern pike: Goose Lake and Swan Lake now have a 28-inch to 34-inch protected slot length limit. North Platte I-80 Lake and Humphrey Pond no longer have a 30-inch minimum length limit.

Panfish: Bennington Lake, Holmes Lake, Indian Creek WMA Pond and Skyview Lake now have a daily bag limit of 10.

Bluegill: Pibel Lake, Yanney Park Pond and Cottonmill Lake no longer have an 8-inch minimum length limit. All other lakes that currently have length limits on either bluegill or redear sunfish have been modified to include all sunfish species in order to avoid confusion. Sunfish species and their hybrids include the following species: bluegill, green sunfish, pumpkinseed, orange-spotted sunfish and redear sunfish.

Archery: The boundary of the closed area below Gavins Point Dam is now described as that portion from Gavins Point Dam downstream to a line that extends from the east end of the south cement wall of the discharge canal northwest to the east end of the north wall of the stilling basin.

Paddlefish Archery: The season has been extended to 30 consecutive days starting on the second Saturday of July.

Baitfish: No live baitfish may be used or possessed on Holmes Lake, Skyview Lake and Ta-Ha-Zouka Park Lake.

Urban Fishing Areas: Two additional areas have been added to the Urban Fishing Program. They are: Bethphage Pond (Axtell) and Ta-Ha-Zouka Park Lake. Bethphage Pond will have total catch and release on largemouth bass while Ta-Ha-Zouka has a 21-inch minimum length limit. Both ponds will have a panfish daily bag limit of 10, and a channel catfish daily bag limit of three.

2005 PERMITS

Type of Permit	Permit Cost	Agent Fee	Total
RESIDENT ANNUAL FISH	$15.00	$1.00	$16.00
RESIDENT COMBINATION FISH-HUNT	25.00	1.00	26.00
RESIDENT 3-DAY	10.00	1.00	11.00
NONRESIDENT ANNUAL	45.00	1.00	46.00
NONRESIDENT 3-DAY	14.00	1.00	15.00
SPECIAL FISHING PERMIT			5.00
AQUATIC HABITAT STAMP			5.00
ANNUAL PARK ENTRY	17.00	.35	17.35
DUPLICATE PARK ENTRY	8.50	.35	8.85
DAILY PARK ENTRY	3.00	.35	3.35

WHO IS REQUIRED TO HAVE A PERMIT?

A fishing permit is required to take or attempt to take fish, bullfrogs, snapping turtles, tiger salamanders or mussels by any method, except for the owner or the guest of the owner of any totally private water body which **(1)** is located entirely on private land, **(2)** is entirely privately stocked, **(3)** does not connect by inflow or outflow with any outside water and **(4)** is not operated commercially. **A resident fishing permit** is required for all Nebraskans 16 years of age and older. **However, fee-exempt permits** are available to the following resident veterans: **(1)** 50 percent disabled as a result of service in the armed forces, **(2)** received a pension from the Veterans Administration as a result of a total and permanent disability not incurred in the line of duty in military service, or **(3)** is 65 years of age or older who served during a specific time period that qualifies them as a veteran. In addition, residents 70 years of age or older can receive a **fee-exempt permit**.The fishing permit must be carried by the holder while he/she is actively fishing.

Information and application forms for **fee-exempt fishing permits** are available from Game and Parks Commission offices across the state and also from permit agents.

A resident is a person who has resided in Nebraska continuously for at least 30 days and who has a bona fide intention of becoming a legal resident of this state. Others who may obtain a resident permit include: **(1)** military personnel officially stationed in Nebraska and on active duty here for at least 30 consecutive days; **(2)** nonresident students upon proof they have attended classes full time for at least 30 consecutive days at any Nebraska college, university, junior college, vocational school or any foreign exchange high school student; and **(3)** any person duly enrolled in and attending a civilian conservation center or similar government work or training facility for 30 consecutive days.

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A **nonresident fishing permit** is required of all people who are not residents of Nebraska, except those listed and those under 16 years of age who are accompanied by someone possessing a valid permit.

A **"special fishing permit"** is available for physically disabled or developmentally disabled persons who cannot cast or retrieve without assistance. This permit entitles the disabled person and one person assisting him or her to take, fish, catch, harvest or possess any aquatic organism in compliance with state law. If the person assisting doesn't possess a current fishing permit, they are restricted to one daily bag limit between the two anglers. An Aquatic Habitat Stamp is not required with this special permit. The annual permit is issued on a calendar year basis and costs $5 regardless of the age of the applicant. A "disabled person" means a person certified by a physician to have a permanent physical impairment or developmental disability that results in the inability to use fishing

equipment unassisted. Applications are available from the Game and Parks Commission headquarters in Lincoln or Commission offices in Alliance, Bassett, Kearney, Norfolk, North Platte, Omaha and Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium at Gretna. The application must be verified by a physician before a permit can be issued.

An **Educational Fishing Project Permit** can be obtained by instructors of any university, college, or high school from the Fisheries Division for his or her students, 16 years of age and older that are participating in an educational fishing project.

*See Boundary Waters section for permit requirements for fishing the waters of the Missouri River.

PARK ENTRY PERMIT

A vehicle Park Entry Permit is required to enter state park and state recreation areas to fish.

LIFETIME PERMITS

A Nebraska **lifetime hunting or fishing permit**, representing a lifetime of exciting outdoor experiences, is a valuable gift you can give yourself or a special friend or relative.

Three types of lifetime permits are available to Nebraska residents: Fishing, $300.00; Hunting, $260.00; and the Combination Hunting and Fishing, $520.00.

The permit is valid for the life of the person to whom it is issued, even if the holder moves from the state. Only Nebraska residents may purchase a lifetime permit, and only for themselves or for another Nebraska resident. Not included in the cost are some special stamps which must be purchased annually. Permits do not cover fees for big-game hunting.

Lifetime permits are available at Commission offices, Chadron State Park, Fort Robinson State Park, Wildcat Hills State Recreation Area (SRA) and the Calamus Fish Hatchery. Applications are also available from about 900 permit agents across the state.

AQUATIC HABITAT STAMP

An **Aquatic Habitat Stamp** is required of all residents and nonresidents, 18 years of age and older, who participate in activities that require a fishing permit. This includes three-day permits; however, an angler is required to purchase only one Aquatic Habitat Stamp per year.

Veterans 65 years and older and residents 70 and older who have a fee-exempt permit are exempt from purchasing an Aquatic Habitat Stamp. Anglers who have a Lifetime Fishing Permit also are exempt from the Aquatic stamp requirement. Although they are required to purchase an annual Nebraska Fishing Permit, anglers ages 16 and 17 are not required to have the Aquatic Habitat Stamp. Revenue from the sale of these stamps is used solely to enhance and restore aquatic habitat and quality fishing in Nebraska's reservoirs, lakes and streams.

PENALTY FOR NO FISHING PERMIT

Under Nebraska State Law the minimum fine if convicted of fishing without a permit is $75.00, court cost whether you appear or pay by waiver are $41.50, and damages assessed for each fish are from $20.00 to $50.00 depending on the species and size of fish. Maximum fine is $1,000 and/or six months jail time. It is important for anglers to purchase a fishing permit in order to support fisheries management across the state.

IT IS UNLAWFUL...

- to borrow or use the permit of another or lend your permit to another.
- to leave dead fish or any part thereof on the banks or in the water of any stream, lake or other body of water.
- to fish on any private land without landowner permission.
- to use a crossbow or similar device, except a handicapped person who has a medical certificate on file.

- to seine sport fish of any size.
- to use float lines.
- to leave fish in a trap for more than 24 hours.
- to release in public waters of the state any fish that did not originate in that body of water.
- to attempt to snag fish, except in areas designated. See section on Snagging for details.
- to use limb lines or set lines in any pond, lake or reservoir.
- to purchase or attempt to purchase a permit while under suspension or revocation in any state.
- to keep an externally foul-hooked fish.
- to consume and/or have an open container of alcohol at any state park, state recreation area or wildlife management area.

Fish Species Categorization

GAME FISH

Is defined to include all baitfish, commercial fish and sport fish:

SPORT FISH

The following fish species are designated as sport fish:

- all sunfish hybrids
- American eel
- black crappie
- blue catfish
- bluegill
- brown trout
- brook trout
- burbot
- channel catfish
- chinook salmon
- cutthroat trout
- flathead catfish
- goldeye
- grass pickerel
- green sunfish
- largemouth bass
- muskellunge
- northern pike
- orangespotted sunfish
- paddlefish
- pumpkinseed
- rainbow trout
- redear sunfish
- rock bass
- Sacramento perch
- sauger
- saugeye
- shovelnose sturgeon
- skipjack herring
- smallmouth bass
- spotted bass
- striped bass
- striped bass hybrid (wiper)
- tiger muskellunge
- walleye
- white bass
- white crappie

PANFISH

The following fish species are designated as panfish:

- black crappie
- white crappie
- yellow perch
- rock bass
- bluegill
- green sunfish
- pumpkinseed
- orangespotted sunfish
- redear sunfish
- all sunfish hybrids

SUNFISH

The following fish species are designated as sunfish:

- bluegill
- green sunfish
- pumpkinseed
- orangespotted sunfish
- redear sunfish
- all sunfish hybrids

COMMERCIAL FISH

The following fish species are designated as commercial fish:

- black bullhead
- yellow bullhead
- freshwater drum
- yellow perch

SEASONS

Hook-and-Line: Open year-round throughout the state, except as noted or as posted at an area.

Archery: Game fish may be taken from sunrise to sunset from July 1 through Dec. 31 statewide, except paddlefish in the Missouri River. Nongame fish may be taken year-round, sunrise to sunset and from Apr. 1 through Aug. 31, 24 hours a day, statewide. Paddlefish archery season begins on the 2nd Saturday of July and runs for 30 consecutive days. A valid Paddlefish Tag is required (see section on Paddlefish, pgs. 20-21). See section on Archery/Surface Spearing (pg. 12) for other exceptions. Length and bag limits apply for archery.

Snagging: The paddlefish snagging season is Oct. 1 through Oct. 30. A valid paddlefish tag is required. See section on Paddlefish Tags (pg. 22). All other waters of the state are closed to snagging at all times. See section on Snagging (pg. 9).

Surface Spearing: The entire state is open to the taking of nongame fish year-round, sunrise to sunset. Spearing is allowed 24 hours a day Apr. 1 through Aug. 31.

Underwater Spearing: Game fish may be taken from sunrise to sunset July 1 through Dec. 31. Nongame fish may be taken year-round, sunrise to sunset. See Underwater Spearing section (pg. 13) for open waters.

HOOK AND LINE LIMIT

Ponds, lakes or reservoirs - Anglers are limited to no more than two lines with a maximum of two hooks on each line with these being any type of attached line (rod and reel or fishing pole) on all lakes, ponds or reservoirs or in their inlets, outlets and canals within one-half mile of these water bodies with the exception of ice fishing line limits. This includes Lewis and Clark Lake from Gavins Point Dam upstream to the Santee boat ramp in Knox County, Nebraska.

Ice fishing - A total of five lines with two hooks on each line are permitted during ice fishing, unless restrictions are listed for a specific area in the Public Fishing Area section. Each ice fishing line must be under direct supervision and within unaided observation of the angler.

Rivers or streams - A total of 15 hooks are allowed ranging from 15 lines with a single hook attached or three lines with a maximum total of five hooks attached. These can be rod and reels, poles, bank lines or set lines which are in some way attached to the bank and not free-floating. Float lines are not legal in Nebraska. Float lines are defined as any line not attached to the shoreline or pole. All bank lines and set lines must contain identification to include name, address and fishing permit number or current driver's license number.

Snagging - Only one hook which has a gap between the point of the hook to the shank of not more than one-half inch is allowed.

Definition of a hook - one hook means a single, double or treble-pointed hook. All hooks attached to an artificial bait or lure shall be counted as one hook.

Note - Upon completion of fishing, all bank lines and set lines must be removed.

SNAGGING

Snagging of paddlefish and nongame fish is permitted only in the Missouri River under season dates and limits specified in the Paddlefish and Snagging of Nongame Fish (pg. 20) section. All other waters of the state are closed to snagging for all species at all times. All fish that are snagged accidentally or otherwise foul-hooked must be returned to the water immediately.

BAIT REGULATIONS

Baitfish, listed amphibians and crayfish may not be sold except by permit. For commercial purposes (bait dealers, private aquaculturists and nonresident fish dealers), refer to the official regulations supplied with your permit. The following regulation guidelines apply only to bait obtained for personal use. It is unlawful to take baitfish, listed amphibians or crayfish from any lake, reservoir or bayou unless otherwise stated below. Digging and trapping for bait or any other purpose is prohibited on all state-owned or controlled areas. Seining for baitfish, listed amphibians or crayfish is allowed on streams located on SRA's and WMA's unless the stream is listed as closed. All non-baitfish, of whatever size, taken while netting or seining for bait must immediately be returned to the waters from which taken. The bag and possession limit of baitfish and listed amphibians for personal use is 100.

Gizzard Shad and Alewife: May be taken for use as bait by legal dip nets from lakes, ponds, reservoirs, and below dams and other artificial obstructions for a distance of 200 yards below such obstructions. Live shad and alewife can only be used in the body of water in which they were captured (see section on cast nets). Shad and alewife may be taken by legal seine, or dip net in streams except those streams closed to the taking of baitfish or bait by such method. Bag and possession limit is 100.

Below Dams: The seining of baitfish, listed amphibians or crayfish is unlawful for a distance of 200 yards below any dam or spillway. In these waters baitfish, listed amphibians, and crayfish can be taken by legal baitfish dip nets for personal use only.

Restricted Species: It is unlawful to sell, transport or offer for sale as bait, any live carp, carpsucker, bullhead, buffalo, gar, quillback, gizzard shad, alewife or bowfin. Live fish of those species may be used for bait only in the same waters from which they are legally taken. Dead carp, carpsucker, bullhead, buffalo, gar,

Fish Species Categorization

BAITFISH

The following fish species are designated as baitfish:

- alewife
- bigmouth shiner
- brassy minnow
- creek chub
- emerald shiner
- fathead minnow
- gizzard shad
- golden shiner
- goldfish
- longnose dace
- plains killifish
- red shiner
- river shiner
- sand shiner
- stoneroller
- suckermouth minnow
- white sucker

The following amphibians and crustaceans are covered under the baitfish regulations:

- plains leopard frog
- northern leopard frog
- tiger salamander
- ringed crayfish
- papershell crayfish
- northern crayfish
- devil crayfish

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

The following fish species are designated as Threatened or Endangered in Nebraska and are not legal to possess:

- blacknose shiner
- finescale dace
- northern redbelly dace
- pearl dace
- pallid sturgeon
- lake sturgeon
- sturgeon chub

NON-GAME FISH

All species that do not appear on any of the above lists are considered non-game.

quillback, gizzard shad, alewife or bowfin may be transported for use as bait. Sport fish can be used for bait: **(1)** if they have been legally acquired from a licensed aquaculturist or a nonresident fish dealer. The angler must keep a legible receipt or invoice from the dealer listing the date, seller's name and address; and number and size of each species sold, or **(2)** if they are captured using hook and line and used at the body of water from which they were captured. In the latter case, the angler will be required to follow both length and bag limits that are enforced on that water body.

NO LIVE BAITFISH AREAS

The following areas do not allow the use or possession of live baitfish:

- Chalkrock Lake (Cedar County)
- Cottonmill Lake (Buffalo County)
- Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge (Garden County)
- Frye Lake (Grant County)
- Holmes Lake (Lancaster County)
- Olive Creek Lake (Lancaster County)
- Pibel Lake (Wheeler County)
- Valentine National Wildlife Refuge (Cherry County)
- Wagon Train Lake (Lancaster County)
- Wildwood Lake (Lancaster County)
- Yankee Hill Lake (Lancaster County)

White Perch: It is illegal to transport or possess live white perch away from the water body from which they were caught.

Dumping baitfish: It is illegal to release your baitfish or any fish caught from a different waterbody into public waters.

Exporting: Up to 100 legally captured baitfish and/or listed amphibians can be exported by a resident for personal use for fishing outside the state. No other baitfish taken from Nebraska waters may be transported out of the state in any manner, except baitfish artificially propagated in man-made impoundments by licensed aquaculturists.

Importing: It is unlawful to import or transport carp, carpsucker, buffalo, quillback, gar, gizzard shad, alewife or bowfin into the state for use as bait. Special permits are required for a person to import and sell bait or baitfish.

Baits and Scents: Cutbait is legal if the fish used has been legally acquired and the size, bag and possession limits for that species and water body have been followed. It is also legal to chum for fish using non-harmful baits. Anise oil and other scents that do not stun, kill or harm fish are permitted.

Leopard Frogs and Tiger Salamanders: All regulations that cover the legal use of baitfish also apply to the use of leopard frogs and tiger salamanders.

Crayfish: There is no limit on the number of crayfish a person may possess. Anyone over the age of 16 must have a bait dealers license in order to sell crayfish. Crayfish may be captured by hook and line, by hand or by legal fish nets and traps as described below.

Fish Nets and Traps: The possession or use of any nets, traps, electrical gear capable of stunning fish or other devices except the following is unlawful:

- Baitfish seines of one-fourth inch non-metallic square mesh only and not over 20 feet long and four feet deep.
- Baitfish dip nets of one-fourth inch non-metallic square mesh. Neither length nor width may exceed 36 inches.
- Baitfish and bait traps of one-fourth inch square mesh material with a length of 24 inches or less, a diameter of 16 inches or less and a throat one inch or less in diameter. All minnow traps shall be raised and the baitfish removed at least every 24 hours.
- Landing nets, made of non-metallic mesh, used only for landing fish caught on hook-and-line.

CAST NETS

Cast nets can be used to collect bait with the following restrictions:

- Only cast nets up to 10 feet in diameter with a mesh size no larger than three-eighths inches square measure are legal gear.
- Can only be used during the months of July, August, September, October and November.
- Can only be used to collect gizzard shad and alewife.
- Live gizzard shad and alewife may only be used for bait the same day they were captured in the same water body where they were collected.
- Cast nets can only be used on the following water bodies: Calamus Reservoir, Davis Creek Reservoir, Elwood Reservoir, Enders Reservoir, Farwell South Reservoir, Gallagher Canyon Reservoir, Harlan County Reservoir, Jeffrey Reservoir, Johnson Lake, Lake Maloney, Medicine Creek Reservoir, Lake McConaughy, Phillips Canyon Reservoir, Plum Creek Reservoir, Red Willow Reservoir, Sherman Reservoir, Sutherland Reservoir, Swanson Reservoir and the Tri County Canal from the diversion dam in Lincoln County to the J-2 return.

FISH STOCKING

It is unlawful to release any non-native fish, reptile or amphibian in waters of the state or to release any fish in any public waters in the state except those from which it came, without written authorization from the Game and Parks Commission.

NOTICE: DO NOT transfer any fish from one lake or stream to another. It is illegal to dump baitfish in a water body. You could be destroying your own fishing!

FREE FISHING DAY MAY 21

Free Fishing and Park Entry Day is intended to attract those who no longer fish or who have never fished and to give them an opportunity to do so without purchasing a permit. It is held on the Saturday prior to Memorial Day weekend. Anglers, both resident and non-resident, can take advantage of that day by taking a non-angler friend to any water body in the state and showing them how much fun fishing can be.

TROUT WATERS

It is unlawful to possess a dip/landing net or seine of any type on trout streams in Sioux, Scotts Bluff, Morrill, Garden and Keith counties that are tributaries to the North Platte River and Lake McConaughy, including: Pumpkin, Red Willow, Wildhorse, Stuckenhole,

Nine Mile, Tub Springs, Winter, Sheep, Dry Sheep, Spotted Tail, Dry Spotted Tail, Otter, Clear, Lonergan, Upper Dugout, Indian, Silvernail Drain and Cedar creeks.

It is unlawful to take or attempt to take sport or nongame fish by bow and arrow or spearing or to take or attempt to take by seine or trap any bait or minnows in any of the following trout streams:

Antelope County: Verdigre Creek and all tributaries.

Brown County: Bone Creek and all tributaries, Long Pine Creek and all tributaries, Plum Creek and all tributaries and Fairfield Creek.

Box Butte County: Niobrara River.

Cherry County: Middle Loup River and all tributaries, North Loup River and all tributaries, Schlagel Creek, Fairfield Creek, Snake River and all tributaries, Plum Creek and all tributaries.

Cheyenne County: Lodgepole Creek west of Brownson.

Dawes County: Chadron Creek, Big Bordeaux Creek, Little Bordeaux Creek, White River above Crawford, Niobrara River from Box Butte Reservoir west to the Wyoming line and all tributaries, Dead Horse Creek, Squaw Creek and White Clay Creek.

Garden County: Blue Creek.

Holt County: Steel Creek and North, Middle and South branches of Verdigre Creek.

Hooker County: Dismal River and all tributaries.

Keith County: Otter Creek, White Tail Creek and Lonergan Creek and all tributaries.

Kimball County: Lodgepole Creek and all tributaries.

Knox County: North, Middle and South Verdigre Creek and all tributaries above the town of Verdigre and Steel Creek.

Loup County: Gracie Creek.

Morrill County: Red Willow Creek, Cedar Creek, Greenwood Creek, Wildhorse Creek, Lawrence Fork Creek, Silvernail Drain, Indian Creek, Stuckenhole Creek and Pumpkin Creek below Highway 88.

Rock County: Long Pine Creek.

Scotts Bluff County: Nine Mile Creek, Winters Creek, Tub Springs, Wet Spotted Tail Creek, Dry Spotted Tail Creek, Sheep Creek, Dry Sheep Creek, Stuckenhole Creek, Akers Draw, Mitchell Drain, Moffat Drain, Alliance Drain and Bayard Drain.

Sheridan County: Snake River, Larabee Creek, White Clay Creek, Pine Creek, Deer Creek and Little Bordeaux Creek.

Sioux County: Sheep Creek Drain, Dry Sheep Creek Drain, Dry Spotted Tail Creek, Spotted Tail Creek, Niobrara River and all tributaries, White River, Soldier Creek and all tributaries, Monroe Creek, Sowbelly Creek and Hat Creek.

Webster County: Elm Creek.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

It is unlawful to take by seine, dip net or trap any baitfish in the following streams that contain threatened and endangered fish species:

Cherry County: Brush Creek west of Brownlee, and Gordon Creek west of Highway 61.

Dawes County: Niobrara River east of Box Butte Reservoir and west of Highway 385.

Keya Paha County: Cottonwood Creek, East Holt Creek and Holt Creek

Madison County: Taylor Creek west of Highway 81.

ARCHERY/SURFACE SPEARFISHING

Game fish may be taken by bow and arrow from July 1 through Dec. 31 from sunrise to sunset, statewide. Game fish may not be taken with surface spears. Nongame fish may be taken by archery or surface spear year-round statewide, sunrise to sunset between Sept.1 and Mar. 30 and 24 hours a day from Apr. 1 through Aug. 31.

Only hand-drawn longbows (including compound bows) are legal. A crossbow may be used by a handicapped person who has a medical certificate on file with the Game and Parks Commission. Arrows may have only one point, which must be barbed and must be attached by a line to the bow at the time the arrow is released.

The following waters are closed year-round: Two Rivers, Louisville, Fort Kearny, Fremont, Mormon Island and Windmill SRA's; Platte River and E. T. Mahoney state parks and trout streams (see Trout Waters pgs. 11-12). For surface spearing, only hand spears are legal. All spearing devices must be barbed.

UNDERWATER SPEARFISHING

Lawful spear guns include hand spears, rubber band-powered spear guns and spring-loaded spear guns. All spears used on powered spear guns must be attached to a lanyard no more than 20 feet long. Underwater spearfishing is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated swimming or water-ski jump area, boat dock, boat ramp or spillway.

Seasons

Game fish: July 1 through Dec. 31 in waters listed below. Bag, possession and length limits are the same as for hook and line, except that there is a daily bag limit of 2 walleyes and a possession limit of 4 walleyes in effect on all lakes listed below. Hours are sunrise to sunset.

Nongame fish: Open year-round in waters listed below. There are no size, bag or possession limits. Hours are sunrise to sunset.

Waters Open to all Species

- Privately owned lakes with permission of the lake owner
- Lake McConaughy, Keith County
- Lake Ogallala, Keith County
- Lake Minatare, Scotts Bluff County
- Box Butte Reservoir, Dawes County
- Lewis and Clark Lake, Knox County
- Harlan County Reservoir
- Enders Reservoir, Chase County
- Elwood Reservoir, Gosper County
- Hugh Butler (Red Willow) Reservoir, Frontier and Red Willow counties
- Harry Strunk (Medicine Creek) Reservoir, Frontier County
- Sutherland Reservoir, Lincoln County
- Maloney Reservoir, Lincoln County
- Jeffrey Canyon Reservoir, Lincoln County
- Johnson Reservoir, Gosper and Dawson counties
- Sherman Reservoir, Sherman County
- Swanson Reservoir, Hitchcock County
- Merritt Reservoir, Cherry County
- Calamus Reservoir, Loup and Garfield counties

Waters Open to Non-game Fish Species Only

- Buffalo County - Union Pacific SRA, War Axe SRA, Bassway Strip WMA, Bufflehead WMA, Kea Lake WMA, Kea West WMA, East Odessa WMA, Blue Hole East and West WMAs, West Elm Creek WMA, and North Kearney Rest Stop.
- Dawson County - Dogwood East and West WMAs, Cozad WMA, Cozad West WMA, Willow Island WMA, and East Gothenburg WMA
- Hall County - Cheyenne SRA, West Wood River WMA and Alda DOR
- Phelps County - Sandy Channel SRA

Diver's Flag

The diver's flag must be displayed on the water on a float or buoy when diving or underwater-powered spearfishing. Divers and underwater spearfishers must remain within 150 feet of the flag. The flag must be at least 12 inches square, with a red background and white diagonal stripe that is one-fifth the width

of the flag. The white stripe must run from the top of the hoist to the bottom of the flag. It is unlawful to display this flag when diving or spearfishing is not in progress.

BAG / POSSESSION

Bag and possession limits may vary between "Inland Waters" and "Waters of the Missouri River." For this purpose only, Inland Waters includes all waters of the state except the waters of the Missouri River. Waters of the Missouri River include all of the river within Nebraska and all reservoirs, oxbows, sloughs, chutes, backwaters and marshes that have annual surface water connection to the river and the first 300 yards upstream from the mouth of all tributary streams.

Any fish that is not to be counted in the bag limit must be returned immediately to the water with as little injury as possible. Any fish placed on a stringer or in a container, or not returned to the water must be counted in the bag. No culling or high-grading allowed.

Daily Bag: The daily bag limit is fish harvested from midnight to midnight. No person may possess more than one day's bag limit of fish while on the water or actively engaged in fishing.

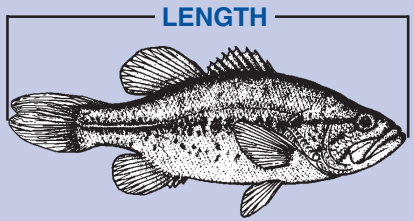
Possession Limit: This is the total number of a species of fish that a person may have in possession in portable coolers, home freezers, registered in his name in a commercial cold storage locker or in any other way under their control. Fish or aquatic animals placed in public storage or transferred must be labeled with the owner's name, address, phone number, date of birth, signature, date taken, species and numbers and the name of recipient if they are transferred.

Length Limit: The defined length of a fish species that can be legally taken.

The proper method to obtain the length of a fish is to lay the fish on its side with its mouth closed and the tail lobes pressed together. With a yard stick or tape measure under the fish, measure the length from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail. (Do not follow the contour of the fish, that will over estimate the length of the fish)

HOW TO MEASURE LENGTH OF A FISH

Lay the fish on its side with the mouth closed and the tail lobes pressed together. Measure the length from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail. (Do not follow the contours of the fish.)



Length Limits and Cleaning of Fish: Where length and bag limits apply, fish cannot be filleted until fishing is completed for the day and off the water. Fish species subject to a bag limit and possession limit, but not a length limit, can be filleted prior to transport if the fillets are kept in one piece until cooked, so the bag and possession limits can be determined. Fish species subject to a length limit cannot be possessed with more than the gills, viscera and scales removed while on the water, wading or engaged in fishing. Any fish in possession while actively fishing or on the water will be subject to length and bag limits that apply to the water being fished. Once off the water, the fish can be filleted for transportation and storage.

BULLFROGS

Bullfrog season runs Aug. 15 through Oct. 31. The bag limit is eight bullfrogs per person. They may be captured only by hand or by the use of a hand net or hook-and-line. Artificial light may be used when taking bullfrogs. Bullfrogs must measure 4½ inches from snout to vent or be released. Only the entrails may be removed prior to transport.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS

STATEWIDE

Be sure and check the "Special Regulations page 17 and "Nebraska's Public Fishing Waters" (page 46) section for special bag, possession and length limits on specific waterbodies.

SPECIES	Bag	Poss.
TROUT (ALL SPECIES)	7	14
STRIPED BASS, WHITE BASS & THEIR HYBRID (no more than 1 fish over 18 inches on all waters)	15	30
WALLEYE/SAUGER/SAUGEYE (in combination)	4	8
MUSKELLUNGE/TIGER MUSKIE	1	2
BAITFISH, TIGER SALAMANDERS AND LEOPARD FROGS (in combination)	100	100
SHOVELNOSE STURGEON*	10	20
PALLID AND LAKE STURGEON	No Harvest Allowed	
NORTHERN PIKE	3	6
PANFISH (see species list on page 7)	30	60
MUSSELS AND CLAMS	10	20
NON-GAME FISH SPECIES	No Limit	
BULLFROGS	8	16
SNAPPING TURTLES	10	20

INLAND WATERS

SPECIES	Bag	Poss.
LARGEMOUTH, SMALLMOUTH, SPOTTED BASS (COMBINED) (only one bass 21 inches or longer allowed in the daily bag)	4	8
CHANNEL CATFISH/BLUE CATFISH (COMBINED)	10	20
FLATHEAD CATFISH	4	8

WATERS OF THE MISSOURI RIVER

SPECIES	Bag	Poss.
LARGEMOUTH, SMALLMOUTH, SPOTTED BASS (COMBINED)	5	10
BLUE CATFISH	1	1
CHANNEL CATFISH	5	10
FLATHEAD CATFISH	5	10
PADDLEFISH (tag required)	2	2

* No harvest allowed on the Missouri River upstream from mouth of the Big Sioux River.

SNAPPING TURTLES

Snapping turtles may be taken year-round, and limits are 10 in the daily bag and 20 in possession. They may be taken only by hand, hand net, hook-and-line, bow-and-arrow or gaff hook.

MUSSELS (CLAMS)

Mussels may be taken year-round by hand, hand net or hook-and-line. The limit is 10 daily and 20 in possession.

DROUGHT AND NEBRASKA RESERVOIRS

Is it ever going to rain again? Will our reservoirs ever be full again? Many Nebraskans and Nebraska anglers are wondering what impacts the drought conditions are going to have on the fisheries in our reservoirs.

It is inevitable that fish populations will be impacted, because fish need water! Many Nebraska reservoirs have reached levels as low as 20% of capacity or even lower. A good way to visualize the impact that has on fish communities is to consider how many minnows can be kept alive in a 5-gallon minnow bucket compared to how many can be kept alive in a 1-gallon minnow bucket.

Fish in water-depleted reservoirs become stressed. In the worse case, the lack of water can be so severe that fish kills occur. Loss of habitat is a major impact as shallow water cover is left high and dry, and spawning habitats are reduced or eliminated. Young fish that do manage to hatch find very little shallow cover in which to hide and feed. Reservoir fish populations can also be depleted as fish exit the reservoir along with water that is released.

Prey fish populations are also impacted by low water levels. In some cases temporary drawdowns can be beneficial when over-abundant prey fish are pulled out of shallow water cover making them more vulnerable to predation. Therefore, temporary drawdowns are a tool that fisheries managers can use to reduce over-abundant prey populations. However, severe, prolonged drawdowns will result in long-term declines in prey populations and that means less food for predator fish.

Droughts come and go here on the Great Plains, and these cycles have been and will be repeated over and over again. As water levels are low, cottonwoods, willows, cockleburr and smartweed are growing on exposed reservoir substrates. When the water returns, this vegetation will be flooded and produce excellent habitat conditions for most fish species.

Fishing in drought-depleted Nebraska reservoirs can be good. Hungry fish concentrated in a smaller area means they are easier to catch. Anglers are able to take advantage of the good fishing and harvest some fish as those populations adjust to smaller habitats. Eventually fish populations and fishing suffer from low water conditions. Ironically reduced catches and poorer fishing likely will occur when water levels start to come back up. When the water returns, fish populations will be able to expand into ideal habitats, but for a time anglers can expect fishing to be more difficult as depleted populations are able to disperse into larger areas of ideal habitat. Eventually fish populations and fishing will boom following refilling, but that could take several years.

There are those who have said that water will be the issue of this century for western states. Changes in policy and water law may be beneficial to fish and wildlife. There is no doubt that low water levels impact our fisheries and fishing, but given enough time and precipitation things will get better.

Special Regulations

AREAS WITH SPECIAL DAILY BAG LIMITS

SPECIES BAG LIMIT

TROUT (All species)
- Daily Bag limit - 4
  Lake Ogallala
- Total Catch and Release
  Big Bourdeaux Creek WMA

STRIPED BASS, WHITE BASS AND THEIR HYBRID
- Daily Bag Limit - 3 (no more than one fish longer than 18 inches)
  Conestoga, Willow Creek and Elwood reservoirs
- Daily Bag Limit - 1
  Bridgeport SRA, Fremont SRA, Fort Kearny SRA, Louisville SRA and Windmill SRA
- Total Catch and Release
  Branched Oak Lake

NORTHERN PIKE
- Daily Bag Limit - 1
  Cottonmill Lake (Kearney)

PANFISH
- Daily Bag Limit - 10
  Please refer to the Public Waters Section for the individual water body.

BLUEGILL
- Total Catch and Release
  Please refer to the Public Waters Section for the individual water body.

LARGEMOUTH, SMALLMOUTH, SPOTTED BASS (combined)
- Total Catch and Release
  Please refer to the Public Waters Section for the individual water body.

CHANNEL AND BLUE CATFISH (combined)
- Daily Bag Limit - 5
  Niobrara River below the Spencer Dam
- Daily Bag Limit - 3
  Please refer to the Public Waters Section for the individual water body.
- Total Catch and Release
  Wildwood Lake

FLATHEAD CATFISH
- Total Catch and Release
  Branched Oak Reservoir

TOTAL CATCH AND RELEASE LAKES FOR ALL SPECIES
Bennington Lion Club Pond, Jenny Newman Lake (Platte River State Park), Tilden City Pond, and Two Rivers SRA Lake #3 and #4.

AREAS WITH SPECIAL LENGTH LIMITS

Bass (Largemouth)

12-inch minimum: That section of the Missouri River between Nebraska and Iowa and Nebraska and Missouri with the exception of Missouri River lakes and oxbows regulated with a 15-inch minimum length limit. Non-public waters except for totally private waters.

15-inch minimum: Statewide on all government or publicly-owned, controlled or managed waters, except where other limits apply, and parts of the Missouri River. This also includes the following Missouri River lakes and oxbows: DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge Lake, Washington County; Snyder Bend Lake, Dakota and Thurston counties; and Lake Yankton, Cedar County.

21-inch minimum: 21-inch minimum: Auburn Rotary Lake (Nemaha County), Buckskin Hills Lake (Dixon County), Burchard Lake (Pawnee County), Olive Creek Lake (Lancaster County), Skyview Lake (Madison County), Stagecoach Lake (Lancaster County), Swan Creek Lake 5A (Saline County), Ta-Ha-Zouka Park Lake (Norfolk), Wagon Train Lake (Lancaster County), Walnut Creek Recreation Area (Papio 21) and

Wehrspann Lake (Sarpy County), Willow Lake (Brown County), Verdon Lake, Yankee Hill Lake (Lancaster County), York Recharge Lake (York County) and Zorinsky Lake (Douglas County).

Note: The statewide bag limit only allows one bass 21-inches or longer. Catch and release largemouth bass lakes: Refer to Special Bag Limit Section.

Bass (Smallmouth and Spotted)

12-inch minimum: Statewide on all publicly owned, controlled or managed waters, except where other limits apply and parts of the Missouri River. There is a 12-inch minimum length limit on all black bass in the section of the Missouri River between Nebraska and Iowa and Nebraska and Missouri.

Walleye, Sauger and Saugeye

15-inch minimum: Statewide except for that portion of the Missouri River downstream of Gavins Point Dam and reservoirs with more restrictive length limits listed below. DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge Lake (Washington Co.) has a 15 inch minimum length. The daily bag limit of four fish can have only one over 22 inches in length with the exception of Elwood Reservoir which allows only one fish over 24 inches.

18-inch minimum: Harlan County Reservoir (including the Republican River upstream to the Highway 46 bridge), Harlan County; Sherman Reservoir, Sherman County; Calamus Reservoir, Loup and Garfield Counties.

Other special walleye length limits: Merritt Reservoir, the daily bag limit of four may include one walleye 15 to 18 inches and three over 18 inches or four over 18 inches, but only one walleye over 22 inches is allowed. Elwood Reservoir is regulated with a 15-inch minimum length limit in conjunction with an 18 to 24-inch protected slot limit with only one walleye over 24 inches allowed in the daily bag limit. At Branched Oak Lake the daily bag limit is one fish 22 inches or longer.

Special restrictions at Lake McConaughy can be found in the Nebraska's Public Fishing Areas section which begins on page 46.

Muskellunge/Tiger Muskie

40-inch minimum: Statewide.

Shovelnose Sturgeon

No harvest is allowed on that portion of the Missouri River upstream from the mouth of the Big Sioux River.

Northern Pike

28-inch maximum: Valentine National Wildlife Refuge

30-inch minimum: Alda DOR (Hall County), Blue Hole East WMA (Buffalo County), Grove Lake (Antelope County), Cottonmill Lake (Kearney County), Enders Reservoir (Chase County), Red Willow Reservoir (Frontier County), Maskenthine Reservoir (Stanton County), and Sherman Reservoir (Sherman County).

28-inch to 34-inch protected slot length limit: Goose Lake and Swan Lake (Holt County).

Crappie

10-inch minimum: Branched Oak Reservoir (Lancaster County), Cottonmill Lake (Buffalo County), Czechland Lake (Saunders County), Sherman Reservoir (Sherman County), Walnut Creek Recreation Area and Wehrspann* Lake (Sarpy County), Yanney Park Lake (Buffalo County), and Zorinsky* Lake (Douglas County).

***Note:** The length limit is not in effect during the month of April on Wehrspann and Zorinsky lakes.

Sunfish

8-inch minimum: Czechland Lake (Saunders County), Mormon Island Lakes No. 1, 2, and 3 (Hall County), Olive Creek Lake, Stagecoach Reservoir and Wagon Train Lake (Lancaster County), Walnut Creek Recreation Area (Sarpy County), Wildwood Lake (Lancaster County), Windmill SRA No. 4, and Yankee Hill Lake (Lancaster County).

Striped Bass and Hybrids/White Bass (combined)

18-inch minimum: Bridgeport SRA, Fremont SRA, Fort Kearny SRA, Louisville SRA and Windmill SRA.

Note: One over 18 inches in daily bag limit: Statewide

Total catch and release: Branched Oak Reservoir.

Flathead Catfish

Total catch and release - Branched Oak Reservoir.

Trout

20-inch minimum: Lake Ogallala (Keith County) on brown trout. Combination daily bag, which includes all trout species, is four with a possession limit of eight.

Total catch and release - Big Bordeaux Creek on Big Bordeaux Creek WMA.

Bullfrogs

4½-inch minimum: Statewide

All Other Species:

No length requirements.

ICE FISHING

When ice fishing, only five lines with no more than two hooks on each line are permitted. Each line or tip-up used while fishing public waters must be under the direct supervision and within the unaided observation of the angler. Holes made for ice fishing may not exceed 10 inches in diameter on any area controlled by the Game and Parks Commission.

A special $5 permit is required for a permanent shelter on state recreation and wildlife management area lakes. Applications and regulations are available from conservation officers, Commission offices or by mail from the Game and Parks Commission, Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503. This does not apply to temporary shelters used and removed each day.

AREAS OPEN TO THE USE OF ATV'S AND SNOWMOBILES FOR ICE FISHING

Snowmobiles, all-terrain and motorized off-highway amphibious vehicles may be operated on the frozen surface of the following designated lakes, unless otherwise posted as being closed: Bluestem, Branched Oak, Conestoga, Olive Creek, Pawnee, Stagecoach, Wagon Train, Enders, Medicine Creek, Red Willow, Swanson, Box Butte, Merritt, Oliver, Sherman, Elwood, Sutherland and Calamus Reservoirs; Fremont Lakes, Gallagher Canyon, Johnson Lake, Lake Maloney, Lake McConaughy, Lake Minatare, Lake Ogallala, Lewis and Clark Lake, Louisville Lakes, Rockford Lake, Summit Lake, Willow Creek Lake, Walgren Lake, Willow Lake (Brown County), Big Alkali Lake, and Cottonwood-Steverson Lake. These vehicles can be operated on the state park areas only from one-half hour before sunrise until 9:00 p.m. or as posted. It is recommended that these vehicles not be used unless the ice thickness is a minimum of eight inches.

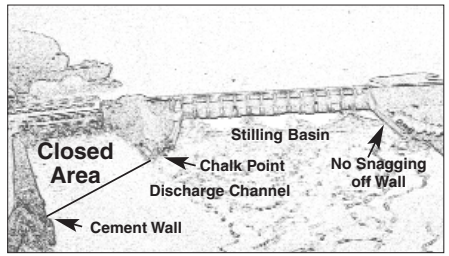
BORDER WATERS

Missouri River (South Dakota, Iowa and Missouri): Anglers holding a valid Nebraska, South Dakota, Iowa or Missouri sport fishing license or permit may fish all waters of the Missouri River in the state they are licensed, as well as those of the adjacent state. Waters of the Missouri River are defined to include all flowing portions and backwaters, sloughs and chutes that draw water from the Missouri River. Oxbows and backwaters separated from the Missouri River by land are included if the state boundary line passes through some part of such waters. Mouths of tributaries may only be fished in the state that the angler is licensed. Anglers may fish from either bank or boats. Anglers fishing in the state for which they do not hold a

fishing permit must abide by the more restrictive of the two state's regulations. Both Iowa and Missouri resident anglers can fish waters of Hamburg Bend WMA and the Nebraska portion of the Missouri River from the chute entrance (adjacent to Iowa) to the chute exit (adjacent to Missouri).

PADDLEFISH AND SNAGGING OF NONGAME FISH

Missouri River - Snagging of paddlefish and non-game fish is permitted from the Gavins Point Dam downstream to the mouth of the Big Sioux River at Mile Marker 734, except for a closed area that extends downstream from Gavins Point Dam to a line that extends from the east end of the south cement wall of the discharge canal northwest to the east end of the chalk point. However, snagging off the north wall of the stilling basin is prohibited. Paddlefish harvested by snagging may be possessed only on the Missouri River during the respective open season in the



designated open area. All inland waters are closed to paddlefish harvest. The snagging season runs only from Oct. 1 through Oct. 30. Legal hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. All snaggers must obtain and have in their possession an unfilled paddlefish tag in addition to a fishing permit and Aquatic Habitat Stamp (if required) while actively snagging. Applicants must be 12 years old by Oct. 1 in order to apply for a snagging permit (see section on Paddlefish Tags). A paddlefish must be tagged immediately in the dorsal fin with the angler's tag upon addition to the creel. Any paddlefish tag that is locked prior to attachment, altered or modified shall be void and **WILL NOT BE REPLACED.** Only one hook may be

used when snagging, and the gap between the point of the hook to the shank may not exceed one-half inch.

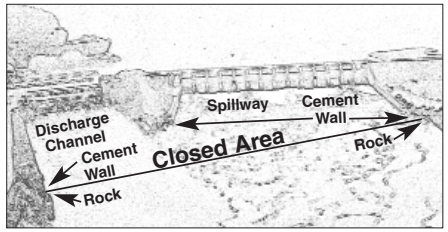
The daily bag and possession limits are the total number of tags issued to an individual. A harvest quota will be managed by issuing a limited number of paddlefish tags with a limit of no more than two tags per person. (Consult section on paddlefish tags pgs. 22-23). All paddlefish anglers are required to cast for and hook their own fish. All paddlefish between 35 and 45 inches long (measured along the center line of the fish, lying flat, including the entire eye to the natural fork of the tail), must be returned to the water immediately. The slot limit is designed to protect spawning-size fish.

It is unlawful to use a gaff hook or other penetrating device while landing snagged paddlefish. Immediate cleaning of a snagged paddlefish is restricted to the removal of only the snout, in front of the eye, and the viscera. Final processing may only be completed once the angler has reached their residence or prior to consumption. Anglers should be prepared to transport a large paddlefish with only the snout removed, if they choose to harvest a fish more than 45 inches in length.

PADDLEFISH - ARCHERY

Missouri River

Paddlefish may be taken by bow and arrow and possessed on open waters of the Missouri River only during the season that begins on the 2nd Saturday of July and runs for 30 consecutive days, with legal hours being sunrise to sunset. The area of the Missouri River open to archery paddlefish is from Gavins Point Dam downstream to the mouth of the Big Sioux River at mile marker 734, except for a closed area that extends downstream from Gavins Point Dam to a line that extends from the east end of the south cement wall of the discharge canal northwest to the east end of the north wall of the stilling basin. This area is open to



archers taking both game and non-game fish during the appropriate seasons.

Paddlefish harvested by bow and arrow may be possessed only on the Missouri River during the respective season in the designated open area. All paddlefish archery anglers must obtain and have in their possession a paddlefish tag in addition to a fishing permit and Aquatic Habitat Stamp (if required). Applicants must be 12 years old by the second Saturday of July to apply. See section on Paddlefish Tags on (pgs. 22-23). Any paddlefish landed must be tagged immediately in the dorsal fin with the angler's tag. Any paddlefish tag that is locked shut prior to attachment, altered or modified shall be void and **WILL NOT BE REPLACED**. A harvest quota will be managed by issuing a limited number of paddlefish tags with a limit of no more than two tags per person. Only the head, viscera and tail may be removed from archery-harvested paddlefish during transport until the place of residence is reached or the paddlefish is consumed.

NEBRASKA PADDLEFISH HARVEST TAGS

The paddlefish is a limited and precious resource, and it is important that the harvest be closely regulated. A tag will be required for both archers and snaggers who want to harvest a paddlefish (see "Paddlefish Archery" pg 21 and "Paddlefish Snagging" pg.20).

It is important to remember that one person can have no more than two tags for the archery season and two for the snagging season. These tags are non-transferable, they must be in possession while actively pursuing a paddlefish, and they must be immediately attached and locked shut to the dorsal fin of a harvested paddlefish. Archers will have a 30 consecutive day season, beginning on the **second saturday of July** and snaggers will have a 30-day season, **October 1- 30**.

Application Fee:

A $5.00 application fee must be submitted by each **resident and non-resident** applicant in order to be placed into the drawing for a paddlefish tag. This is a non-refundable fee. To apply for a paddlefish tag, fill out the form on page 23 or apply on-line at **www. outdoornebraska.org.** An angler may apply only once during each application period. Two applicants are allowed to submit a joint application (buddy permit) with priority given to the applicant with the least preference points.

Archery and Snagging Preference System

- **Preference.** During the first application period preference will be given to those that did not have a permit the previous year.

If all tags are taken in the first application period, there will be no second application period.

Paddlefish Archery Harvest Tag Application Periods

First Application Period . . . . . April 1 - 30*

There will be no second drawing if all harvest tags are issued in the first drawing

Second Application Period ***(First or Second Tag)*** . . . . . .May 15 - 31*

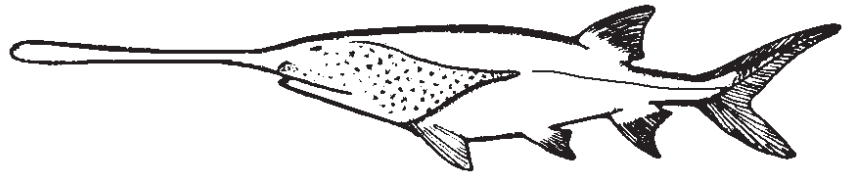
Paddlefish Snagging Harvest Tag Application Periods

First Application Period . . . . . July 1 - 31*

There will be no second drawing if all harvest tags are issued in the first drawing

Second Application Period ***(First or Second Tag)*** . . . . . August 15 - 31*

**All application periods begin at 1 p. m. Central Daylight Savings Time. Mailed applications must be received in the Lincoln office by 5 p. m. on the last day of the application period. On-line applications end at midnight.*



APPLICATION FOR PADDLEFISH HARVEST TAG

Cost: $5.00 per Application (Non-refundable)

Type of Paddlefish tag requested

❑ Paddlefish Archery Harvest Tag

❑ Paddlefish Snagging Harvest Tag

There will be no second drawing if all harvest tags are issued in the first drawing.

You may apply for all your permits on-line at:

www.outdoornebraska.org

First name Middle initial Last name

Address - Street / P.O. Box / Rural Route and Box Number

City State Zip

( )

Daytime Telephone Social Security Number (last 4 digits)

Date of birth - Month: _____ Day: _____ Year: _____ Sex: _____

Hair color: _____ Eye color: _____ Height: ___ ft.___ in. Weight: _____

❑ Buddy permit (please attach second application form along with fee and enclose in same envelope)

E-mail address

❑ VISA ❑ MasterCard

Card number: Exp. date

Please note that the applicant must be 12 years old by the second Saturday of July to apply for an archery tag and by October 1 to apply for a snagging permit.

Send this application to: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
2200 N 33rd St. P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370

General Information

FISH SALVAGE IN IRRIGATION CANALS

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) has implemented regulations affecting fish salvage activities on dewatered irrigation canals.

The following list summarizes the regulations for fish salvage of irrigation canals:

- Fish salvage is restricted to canals listed in the regulations.
- An application must be filled out, approved by NGPC, and carried by parties conducting fish salvage on canals.
- Stocking fish in any waterbody with fish salvaged from irrigation canals must be approved on the salvage application form.
- Salvaged sport fish taken for human consumption are subject to all statewide length, daily bag and possession limits.
- Salvaged baitfish must comply with bait collection regulations.
- All approved fish salvaged from irrigation canals must be reported to NGPC on the report form provided.

The following is a list of canals where the Commission may authorize salvage activities during dewatering:

- **PLATTE RIVER DRAINAGE;**
  Buffalo County: Kearney Canal
  Dawson County: Buffalo Creek Supply Canal, Cozad Irrigation Canal, Dawson County Irrigation Canal, Farmers and Merchant Canal
  Dawson and Buffalo Counties: Elm Creek Canal
  Dawson and Lincoln Counties: Gothenburg Canal, Orchard and Alfalfa Canal, Six-Mile Irrigation Canal, Thirty-Mile Irrigation Canal
  Gosper County: E67 Canal System
  Gosper and Phelps Counties: E65 Canal System
  Gosper, Phelps and Kearney Counties: Phelps County Canal System
  Keith and Lincoln Counties: Sutherland Supply Canal
  Lincoln County: Maloney Supply Canal

- **REPUBLICAN RIVER DRAINAGE:**
  Franklin County: Franklin Pump Canal
  Franklin and Harlan Counties: Naponee Canal
  Franklin, Harlan and Webster Counties: Franklin Canal
  Furnas and Harlan Counties: Cambridge Canal
  Hitchcock and Red Willow Counties: Culbertson Canal, Driftwood Canal System, Meeker Canal System
  Red Willow County: Red Willow Canal
  Red Willow and Furnas Counties: Bartley Canal, Frenchman-Cambridge Canal
  Webster and Nuckolls Counties: Courtland Canal, Superior Canal

- **LOUP RIVER DRAINAGE:**
  Custer, Valley and Sherman Counties: Middle Loup Public Power and Irrigation District 1,2,3 and 4
  Sherman and Howard Counties: Farwell Canal System - Main, Central and South
  Valley and Sherman Counties: Sherman Feeder Canal

Fish salvage application and report forms are available at NGPC district offices in Alliance, Bassett, Kearney, Lincoln, Norfolk and North Platte. Application forms must be approved by staff in the NGPC district office prior to any salvage efforts. More detailed information, including copies of salvage regulations, is available at all NGPC district offices.

WEST NILE VIRUS

With cases of West Nile Virus increasing in Nebraska, local governments and homeowners are considering a variety of measures to suppress mosquito populations that transmit the disease. Areas of standing water that are completely void of fish are mosquito-producing factories, thus it is important to eliminate standing water in buckets, tires, etc. In the case of shallow ponds, a non-native fish, *Gambusia* - AKA "mosquito fish" has been promoted as a mosquito-eating machine while in fact they are no more effective than several native fish species. The Fisheries Division of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission discourages the stocking of *Gambusia* and recommends the use of fathead minnows. Fathead minnows are native, efficient mosquito predators, and can be purchased from most bait dealers at a much lower price than *Gambusia*.

HELP WANTED

You can help fisheries managers by returning the tags from any tagged fish you catch. It will be returned along with data on where the fish was tagged.

FISH KILL REPORTS

Report dead or dying fish by notifying your local conservation officer, district Game and Parks Commission office or the 24-hour State Patrol pollution complaint number, (402) 471-4545, as soon as possible. Prompt notification will make it easier to determine the cause.

Keep the water safe and clean for future fishing. Report dumping/pollution activities to the Environmental Protection Agency at 1-800-223-0425.

PRIVATE WATERS

Permission from the landowner is required to access any body of water, or stream, located on private property. The issue of fishing private waters raises several questions. Although a private body of water may receive fish for stocking from the Game and Parks Commission, the owner controls access to it and anyone fishing it must have a valid fishing permit. What constitutes a private pond that does not require anglers to have a fishing permit? The only exception to the requirement of a fishing permit is when a body of water is entirely on private land, has been entirely stocked with private hatchery-reared fish, and does not connect by inflow or outflow with other waters outside the pond owner's property. An unlicensed angler who catches fish from such a body of water and wants to remove them from the premises must have a written statement from the pond owner listing the pond owner's name and the number of fish taken.

On a river or stream, when can a person legally enter private property without the owner's permission? After properly accessing a flowing body of water, an angler can fish while afloat in a tube, canoe or boat. An angler or canoeist in an unpowered vessel can enter private property without permission, only if it's necessary to portage around a fence or obstruction. Landowner permission is required to operate vehicles, such as all-terrain vehicles, along or in a stream.

URBAN FISHING PROGRAM WATERS

The Urban Fishing Program was created by the Commission in 1999 to improve fishing in Nebraska's urban areas. The program focuses on city park and state recreation area lakes which are accessible to large numbers of urban residents, particularly children. Program activities include aquatic habitat improvement, fishing access development, fish stocking, fish population management, and family fishing clinics. Special fishing regulations will be used on some waters

to help improve their fisheries and angler catch rates. In general, these regulations will reduce or restrict harvest of certain game species. Populations of these species should subsequently increase and provide anglers with higher catch rate opportunities.

It is vital that anglers follow the restrictive harvest regulations as these small urban water bodies cannot handle high harvest and maintain good catch rates. Program waters should become favorite destinations for adults wishing to teach children how to fish. Special fishing regulations are being placed on the following waters. (See Public Fishing Areas pgs. 46 - 71).

- Adams Park Pond (Omaha)
- Ansley City Lake
- Auble Pond (Ord)
- Auburn Rotary Club Lake
- Barnett Park Pond (McCook)
- Bennington Lion's Club Pond
- Benson Park Pond (Omaha)
- Bethphage Pond (Axtell)
- Cottonmill Lake (Kearney)
- Crystal Cove (South Sioux City)
- David City Park Ponds
- Fontenelle Park Pond (Omaha)
- Grand Island Eagle Scout Lake
- Grand Island Pier Lake
- Grand Island Such's Lake
- Hanscom Park Pond (Omaha)
- Hartwell Park Lake (Hastings)
- Henderson Park Lake
- Hitchcock Park Pond (Omaha)
- Holdrege City Lake
- Humboldt City Park Lake
- Humphrey Pond (Ogallala)
- Johnson Park Pond (Fremont)
- Laing Lake (Alliance)
- Lexington City Lake
- Lincoln Park Pond (Superior)
- Melham Park Lake (Broken Bow)
- Miller Park Pond (Omaha)
- North Platte I-80 Lake
- Neligh Park Pond (West Point)
- Pawnee City Pond
- Pawnee Park East (Columbus)
- Pawnee Park West (Columbus)
- Plattsmouth City Lake
- Ravenna Lake (Buffalo County)
- Steinhart Park Ponds (Nebraska City)
- Sutton Clark Pond
- Ta-Ha-Zouka Pond (Norfolk)
- Tilden City Pond
- Towl Park Pond (Omaha)
- Walnut Grove Park Pond (Omaha)
- Weeping Water Pond
- Wolbach City Pond
- Yanney Park Lake (Kearney)

KID'S FISHING CLINICS

Is your club or organization interested in hosting a kid's fishing clinic? The Commission's Aquatic Education program has all the materials necessary to teach youth in your community how much fun fishing can be. Fishing rods, bobbers, stickers and more are available from the Outdoor Education Center at Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium near Gretna, phone 402-332-3901.

Planning an outdoor adventure?

Find the answers to all of your fishing, hunting, wildlife, parks and outdoor recreation questions on the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission's web site at:

www.outdoornebraska.org

or call us at (402) 471-0641

Hunting Fishing and Parks Permits also available online

FISHING TACKLE LOANER PROGRAM

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission fishing tackle loaner program continues to grow. The program is a combined effort of the Parks and Fisheries Divisions. The Commission is hoping to introduce more Nebraskans to the fun of fishing by making fishing tackle available at 18 State Parks across the state. Spincast rod and reel combos, hooks, bobbers, weights and other tackle are available for park guests to use during their stay, at no charge. Would-be anglers of all ages may borrow the fishing tackle, but during periods of high demand, children are given priority. Anglers 16 years and older must have a current Nebraska fishing permit, and those 18 years and older must also have a current Aquatic Habitat Stamp.

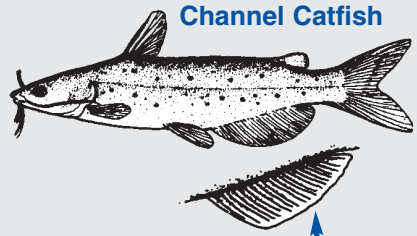
Anglers are asked to return the tackle promptly when finished fishing so others may use the equipment. Anglers should not keep the tackle at their campsite for the duration of their visit. Some parks loan the tackle out of their main office, while others have their campground hosts loan the equipment out. A few parks have bait you can use as well, but at most you will need to purchase your own bait or bring it with you.

The 18 participating park areas in Nebraska are:

- Alexandria SRA (Jefferson County)
- Branched Oak SRA - Area 1 and 4 campgrounds (Lancaster County)
- Calamus Reservoir SRA (Garfield County)
- Chadron State Park (Dawes County)
- Dead Timber SRA (Dodge County)
- Fort Kearny SRA (Kearney County)
- Fort Robinson State Park (Sioux County)
- Fremont SRA (Dodge County)
- Lake McConaughy Visitor Center (Keith County)
- Lewis and Clark SRA (Knox County)
- Louisville SRA (Cass County)
- Mahoney State Park (Sarpy County)
- Medicine Creek Reservoir SRA (Frontier County)
- Pawnee SRA (Lancaster County)
- Platte River State Park (Cass County)
- Ponca State Park (Dixon County)
- Victoria Springs SRA (Custer County)
- Willow Creek SRA (Pierce County)

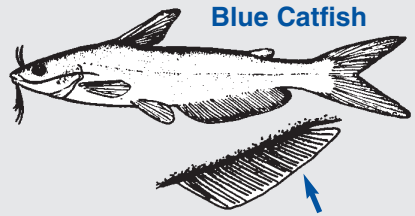
KNOW WHAT YOU CAUGHT

Channel Catfish



- Anal fin has 24 - 29 rays with outer margin rounded.
- Spots not present on large fish.

Blue Catfish



- Anal fin has more than 30 rays with outer margin straight.

Flathead Catfish

- Lower jaw extends past upper jaw.
- Square, unforked tail.

TOURNAMENTS, CONTESTS AND DERBIES

Tournament Registration - All fishing tournaments, derbies or contests held on publicly owned, controlled or managed waters, that require an entry fee to participate, must be registered with the Commission's Fisheries Division at least 45 days prior to the event. Voluntary information on other tournaments, such as club tournaments, are also welcome. A Fishing Tournament Approval Certificate must be present at the tournament site. Your tournament date will be listed on the Nebraska Game and Parks website.

Tournament Results - A "tournament results form" will be sent to the tournament director. This form must be completed and returned to the Commission's Fisheries Division within 30 days following the completion of the fishing tournament. Failure to return the form or provide the requested information will result in denial of future fishing tournament requests for at least one year.

Tagged fish - The use of tagged or otherwise marked fish are prohibited in any fishing tournament, derby or contest that are held on (1) waters owned or controlled by the Game and Parks Commission and (2) waters stocked by the Game and Parks Commission during the preceding 24 months, excluding private lakes not owned by the state or other governmental entity.

FISHING TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION FORM

Please print or type.

Organizer (club, sponsor or individual): _____

Organizer address: _____

Phone: _____

About the Tournament

Location: _____

Dates: _____ Hours: _____

Species counted for tournament scoring:

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____
5. _____ 6. _____
7. _____ 8. _____
9. _____ 10. _____

Disposition (please check one):

- ❑ Fish will be measured at boat and released
- ❑ Weighed in and then released *
- ❑ Weighed in and then harvested *
- ❑ Other (explain) _____

Awards will be based on (check one):

- ❑ Longest fish ❑ Heaviest fish ❑ Heaviest total catch
- ❑ Combination of number and length of fish
- ❑ Other (explain) _____

*Tournament must follow all length and bag limit regulations for that specific water body. No culling or high-grading allowed

Send to:

Fisheries Division
Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
PO Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370

TOXIC BLUE-GREEN ALGAE FACTS AND PRECAUTIONS

During the summer of 2004, the issue of toxic blue-green algae or cyanobacteria caught the attention of lake users across the state due to closures of various waterbodies to full body contact activities. It is very important that water users understand the facts about blue-green algae and how to avoid health-related problems that can occur with exposure to toxins that are sometimes produced by certain species.

Cyanobacteria, also know as blue-green algae, are single-celled aquatic organisms found in surface waters worldwide. They tend to thrive in stagnant and nutrient-rich (eutrophic) water where extreme algal densities can create undesirable water quality conditions. The algae communities of eutrophic waters may contain representatives from three especially notorious, bloom-forming blue-green algae; *Anabaena, Aphanizomenon*, and *Microcystis.* Under certain conditions these blue-greens are capable of producing toxins that can cause human and animal health problems ranging from skin irritation and gastrointestinal upset, to death from liver or respiratory failure.

Blue-green algal blooms typically occur during the months of July and August, but can occur earlier in the summer. During an intense algal bloom the water can range from neon-green, pea-green, blue-green to reddish-brown, imparts a disagreeable odor and taste, and can accumulate in bays or along the shoreline producing an area of foam, scum or a thick mat.

On waterbodies with severe blue-green algae blooms full-body contact and use by animals should be avoided. To help minimize potential health hazards the following procedures are advised:

- Be aware of areas with severe blue-green algal blooms.
- Don't wade, swim, ski, tube or jet ski in waters containing severe visible blue-green algal blooms.
- If someone does come into contact with water with a severe blue-green algal bloom, it is advised that the person rinse off with clean water as soon as possible.
- It is most important to avoid ingestion of water containing high concentrations of blue-green algae as the digestive process releases the toxins present within the algae.
- Blue-green algal toxins have been shown to accumulate in the internal organs of fish; however, it doesn't appear to be present in fish tissue. Additional testing is scheduled.

The likelihood of adverse symptoms as a result of exposure to blue-green algal toxins increases significantly with the duration of water contact and the density of the blue-green algal bloom. The severity of the illness appears to be directly related to the amount of water and algae ingested. Possible symptoms include: skin rash, mouth ulcers, ulcers inside of the nose, eye and/or ear irritations, blistering of the lips, sore throat, headaches, nausea, muscular pains, painful diarrhea, vomiting, central abdominal pain, seizures, liver failure and respiratory arrest.

For additional information, contact:

Brian McManus (NDEQ)
(402) 471-4223

Tadd Barrow (UNL Extension)
(402) 472-7783

Richard Holland (NGPC)
(402) 471-5501

HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF EXOTIC AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES

Aquatic nuisance species are defined as any waterborne, non-native organism that threatens the diversity or abundance of native species, the ecological stability of impacted waters, or threatens a commercial, agricultural, aquacultural or recreational activity.

These nuisance species have the potential to cause significant ecological problems because they have been introduced into habitat in which there are no natural pathogens, parasites or predators. Lack of these natural controls in new habitat may allow a nuisance species to grow at an exponential rate. If such nuisance species become established, they may disrupt ecological relationships in their new home. Introduced nuisance species may prey upon, or compete with native species, and they could transmit diseases to native species.

For anglers and boaters using the waters of Nebraska, it is very important that you take precautions to prevent the introduction or spread of exotic nuisance species. This is especially important to boaters who travel to waters that currently have exotic nuisance species not present in any Nebraska waters. Listed below are some procedures that should be followed:

- Inspect boat, trailer, and all boating equipment and remove any visible plant material and animals before leaving all water access sites.
- Drain water from the livewell and bilge on land at the water access site. Never release live bait into any waterbody, or transfer and release any aquatic animal from one waterbody into another.
- Wash mud off all waders since mud can be a means by which various organisms, especially parasites, gain access to a new watershed.

Zebra mussels can survive up to 2 weeks out of water, so after boating in infested waters and before transporting your boat either:

- rinse your boat and all equipment with hot tap water (over 104^{0} F); or
- spray your boat and trailer with a high pressure sprayer. (The hot-water sprayers at car washes can be used); or
- dry your boat and all equipment for at least 5 days; and
- be sure to run the water out of the lower unit.

There are a multitude of exotic aquatic nuisance species that are of concern across the United States. The list of potential problem exotic species is long but several species that are of immediate concern to Nebraska would be: zebra mussels, asian clams, eurasian water milfoil, curlyleaf pondweed, salt cedar *(Tamarisk)*, purple loosestrife, bighead carp, silver carp, snakehead, *Daphina lumhotzi (*zooplankton species) and rusty crayfish.

Under federal and/or state law, discrimination is prohibited on the basis of race, color, religion, age, gender, marital status, national origin, disability or political affiliation. If you think you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility or want more information, contact the Affirmative Action Officer, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Lincoln, NE, 402-471-0641; the Equal Opportunity Commission, Lincoln, NE, 402-471-2024, TTY / TDD 402-471-4693.

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Stopping Poachers

Nebraska Wildlife Crimestoppers

WILDLIFE CRIMESTOPPERS STOP POACHING 1-800-742-7627

Call 1-800-742-7627
to report game violations
You can remain anonymous and may be eligible for a cash reward.

WILDLIFE CRIMESTOPPERS STOP POACHING 1-800-742-7627

CONSERVATION OFFICERS

Headquarters

Ted Blume (Adm.)	Lincoln	(402) 471-5531
Craig Stover (Asst. Adm.)	Lincoln	(402) 471-5532
Wes Loos (Asst. Adm.)	Lincoln	(402) 471-5591
Dana Miller (Sup.)	Valentine	W (402) 376-3116
Murray Johnson	Lincoln	(402) 471-5003

Panhandle

Officer	City	Phone
Jim Zimmerman	Gering	H.(308) 436-7561
(District I Supervisor)		W (308) 763-2940
Raymond Still	Bridgeport	(308) 262-1075
Walt Meyer	Chadron	(308) 432-4398
Frank Miller	Valentine	(402) 376-1183
John Murphy	Crawford	(308) 665-2021
Dennis Thompson	Ogallala	(308) 284-6450
Dan Zuehlke	Ogallala	(308) 284-4815
Scott Brandt	Scottsbluff	(308) 635-1277
Heath Packett	Gordon	(308) 282-2553
Doug Pollard	Oshkosh	(308)772-9950

Northeast

Officer	City	Phone
Tom Zimmer	Norfolk	H (402) 371-6625
(District III Supervisor)		W (402) 370-3374
Marion Shafer	Norfolk	(402) 371-2031
Robert Kelly	Albion	(402) 395-2538
Ross Oestmann	Bloomfield	(402) 373-4412
Gary Ralston	Creighton	(402) 358-3892
Daniel Roberts	Fremont	(402) 721-7852
Jon Reeves	Kennard	(402) 427-7378
Eric Wiebe	Ponca	(402) 755-2566
Steve Oberg	Columbus	(402) 564-5937
Patrick George	O'Neill	(402) 482-5771
Dale Davis	Bassett	(402) 273-1700

Southwest

Officer	City	Phone
Roger Thompson	North Platte	H (308) 532-9175
(District IV Supervisor)		W (308) 535-8025
Dudley Sorensen	North Platte	(308) 532-0747

Southwest (cont.)

Officer	City	Phone
George Sund	Cambridge	(308) 697-4629
Matt Andrews	Elwood	(308) 785-3025
Dirk Greene	Imperial	(308) 882-5328
Virgil Gosch	McCook	(308) 345-2185
Rich Routh	Republican City	(308) 799-2085
Ray Dierking	Broken Bow	(308) 872-3078

Southeast

Officer	City	Phone
Duane Arp	Gretna	H.(402) 332-4954
(District V Supervisor)		W (402) 332-2965
Douglas Kramer	Lincoln	(402) 466-9001
Dina Barta	Lincoln	(402) 483-2358
Stacey Lewton	Lincoln	(402) 476-0436
William Krause	Auburn	(402) 274-3789
Jeremy Tenkley	Beatrice	(402) 228-1437
Mike Luben	Colon	(402) 443-4278
Levi Krause	Louisville	(402) 234-2212
Russell Mort	Nebraska City	(402) 873-5684
Jeff Clauson	Valley	(402) 359-5301
Sean McKeehan	Ashland	(402) 944-4174
Dan Evasco	Papillion	(402) 504 1368

South-central

Officer	City	Phone
Jerry Pecha	Kearney	H (308) 234-4411
(District VI Supervisor)		W (308) 865-5327
Terry Brentzel	Grand Island	(308) 384-8296
Tim Williams	Hastings	(402) 463-2535
Dale Johnson	Kearney	(308) 237-1079
Mark Reeves	Loup City	(308) 745-0748
Robert Finke	Milford	(402) 761-3537
Darin Gress	Hebron	(402) 768-2287
Richard Seward	Ord	(308) 728-3115
Randy Pomplun	Fullerton	(308) 536-2987

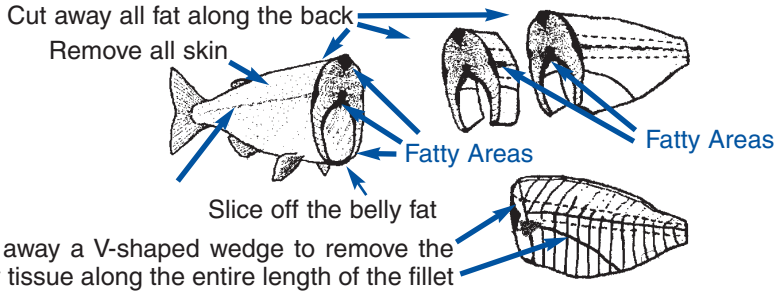
NOTE: Most listings are home phone numbers. If you need to report a game violation in progress and can't reach the officer, contact the sheriff's department in the county or call Wildlife Crimestoppers, 1-800-742-7627.

HOW TO WEIGH A FISH BY LENGTH (approximate weights shown)

| | | |

HOW TO MINIMIZE RISK BY CAREFULLY CLEANING YOUR FISH

Limited Consumption: Although fish consumption advisories have been issued for the water bodies listed here, please note that a person consuming an occasional meal of fish (less than one 8-ounce serving per week) from these waters is not considered to be subject to a significant health risk.



AQUATIC HABITAT WORK 2004-2005

Cunningham Reservoir (Douglas County) - Feasibility study by Army Corps of Engineers 85% complete. Funding to finish the feasibility study is subject to federal budget appropriations - status unknown.

Grove Lake (Antelope County) - Hydraulic dredging is in the third year of a four year project. Work is scheduled for completion at the end of 2005.

Holmes Lake (Lancaster County) - This project is approximately 80% complete and should be finished, refilled (subject to weather) and restocked by spring of 2005.

Lake Ogallala (Keith County) - A new oxygenation system has been installed in the North Basin to provide thermal and oxygen refuge for trout. It is being fine-tuned and monitored.

Sherman Reservoir (Sherman County) - A consultant firm has been hired to design and engineer this project. Preliminary design is expected to be completed by January 2005.

Walnut Grove Park Pond (Douglas County) - The City of Omaha Parks and Recreation Department is designing this project. Construction is expected to begin sometime during the 2004-2005 Fiscal Year.

Yankee Hill Reservoir (Lancaster County) - Construction is estimated to be 75% complete on this project. The project is scheduled to be finished by late winter, 2004.

Take me fishing
because you can think about work later.

FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES FOR 2005

At this time, there are no advisories that limit total consumption!

Water Body	Location	Pollutant of Concern
Birdwood Lake	North Platte	Mercury
Box Butte Reservoir	Hemingford	Mercury
Carter Lake	Omaha	PCBs
Cottonwood Lake	Merriman	Mercury
Crystal Cove Lake	S. Sioux City	Mercury
Czechland Lake	Prague	Mercury
East Hershey Lake	North Platte	Mercury
Elkhorn River	Waterloo	Dieldrin, PCBs
Elkhorn River	O'Neill	Mercury
Elwood Reservoir	Elwood	Mercury
Iron Horse Trail Lake	DuBois	Mercury
*Lake Hastings	Hastings	PCBs
Liberty Cove lake	Lawrence	Mercury
Logan Creek	Lyons	PCBs, Dieldrin
Loup R. Power Canal	Genoa	PCBs
Maloney Reservoir Outlet	North Platte	PCBs
Maskenthine Lake	Stanton	Mercury
Missouri River	Omaha to Rulo	PCBs, Dieldrin
North Platte River	Oshkosh	Mercury
North Platte River	Bridgeport	PCBs, Dieldrin & DDE
North Platte River	North Platte	Mercury
Oliver Reservoir	Kimball	Mercury
Omaha Creek	Homer	PCBs, Dieldrin
Papillion Creek	Bellevue	PCBs, Dieldrin
*Phillips Canyon Reservoir	Lexington	Mercury
Platte River	North Bend to Missouri River	PCBs, Dieldrin
Prairie Lake	Juniata	Mercury
Rockford Lake	Beatrice	Mercury
Salt Creek	Lincoln to Platte River	PCBs, Dieldrin
Shell Lake	Merriman	Mercury
South Platte River	Paxton	PCBs
Standing Bear Lake	Omaha	Mercury
Sutherland Outlet Canal	Sutherland	PCBs
Sutherland Reservoir	Sutherland	PCBs
W. Fork Big Blue River	Dorchester	Dieldrin
W. Papillion Creek	Ralston	Dieldrin, PCBs
Wehrspann Lake	Millard	Mercury
*Wolf Wildcat Lake	Virginia	Mercury
Zorinsky Lake	Omaha	Mercury
*Added in 2004		

CATCH AND RELEASE WORKS

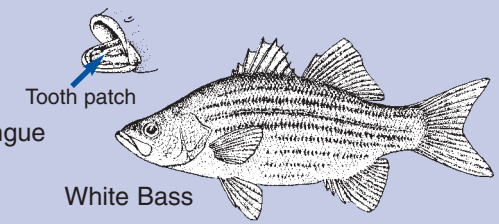
Catch-and-release fishing only works when the fish you release survive. By using proper techniques, you give fish the best chance of survival. Here are a few guidelines:

- Do not play the fish to exhaustion.
- Wet hands and keep fish in water as much as possible when handling and removing the hook.
- Remove the hook gently. Do not squeeze the fish or put your fingers into the gills.
- Barbless hooks reduce handling time and make it simpler to remove the hook, often by backing it from the fish's mouth without lifting the fish from the water.
- Release the fish only after its equilibrium is maintained. If necessary, hold fish gently upright until it can swim away.
- Remove deeply imbedded hooks by use of a hemostat or hook removal device if at all possible. This is presently considered the best method to ensure higher survival of deeply-hooked fish.

KNOW WHAT YOU CAUGHT

White Bass

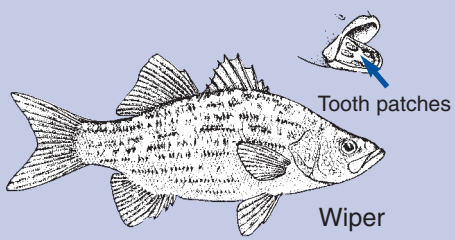
- Anal fin spines stair-stepped
- Broken lateral stripes
- One tooth patch on base of tongue



White Bass

Wiper

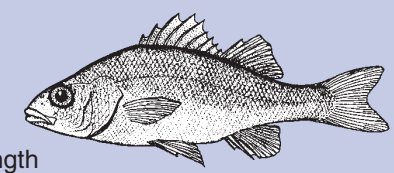
- Broken horizontal lines
- Usually two tooth patches on base of tongue



Wiper

White Perch

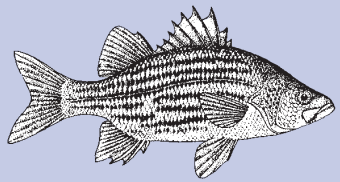
- Second and third anal spine same length
- Sides plain, no stripes



White Perch

Yellow Bass

- Has yellow cast
- Six or seven lateral stripes, three are above lateral line
- Lines are broken toward tail
- Second and third anal spine same length

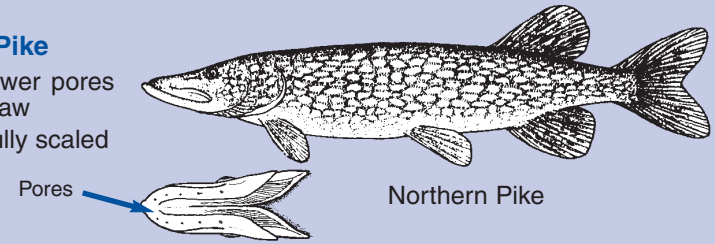


Yellow Bass

KNOW WHAT YOU CAUGHT

Northern Pike

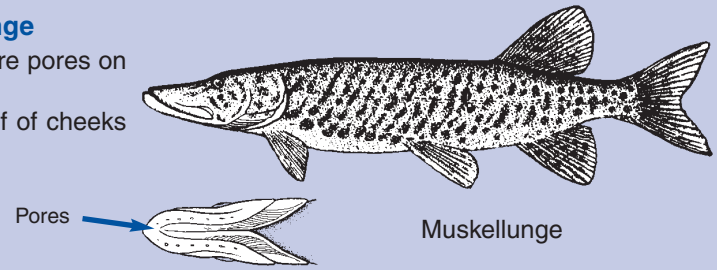
- Five or fewer pores on lower jaw
- Cheeks fully scaled



Northern Pike

Muskellunge

- Six or more pores on lower jaw
- Upper half of cheeks scaled

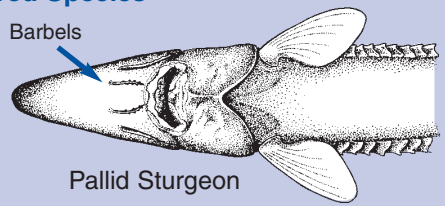


Muskellunge

KNOW WHAT YOU CAUGHT

Pallid Sturgeon - An Endangered Species

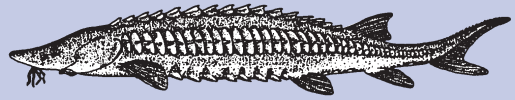
- Illegal to possess
- Outer barbels twice as long as inner barbels
- Base of barbels "U" shaped inner two set out in front



Pallid Sturgeon

Lake Sturgeon - A Threatened Species

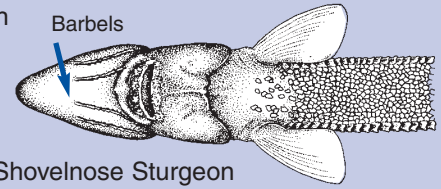
- Illegal to possess
- Short snout turns up at end
- Barbels are not fringed



Lake Sturgeon

Shovelnose Sturgeon

- Nebraska's most common sturgeon
- Barbels all the same length
- Barbels straight across
- Smallest Nebraska sturgeon, rarely exceeds 4 pounds



Shovelnose Sturgeon

If you make an outstanding catch, it may qualify for either a Game and Parks Commission State Record or a Master Angler Award. Application forms are available from any Commission office, conservation officer or permit vendor. Rules include:

STATE RECORD RULES

1. Fish MUST be caught in accordance with Nebraska Fishing Regulations by rod and reel (not set lines or limb lines), underwater spear-fishing, surface spearing, or archery and **MUST** be taken from Nebraska waters.
2. Accredited or certified weigh scales **MUST** be used to weigh the fish. A commercial measuring tape or stick should be used to measure the fish. The fish should be measured, from the tip of the mouth (closed) to the tip of the tail (tail lobes pressed together) with the fish laying flat on the tape.
3. Only fish that exceed current record by at least one ounce, are eligible for a new State Record.
4. Two witnesses, one of which **MUST** be a permanent employee of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, must witness the weighing and measuring of the fish and sign the application.
5. The angler **MUST** display a Nebraska fishing permit to the Game and Parks employee that witnesses the weight.
6. One clear photograph showing a close-up sideview of the fish, and one clear photograph showing the angler with the fish **MUST** accompany the completed application form. All photographs become the property of the Commission.
7. The species of fish **MUST** be verified by a Nebraska Game and Parks fisheries biologist. The fish **MUST** be preserved flat until species is verified.
8. The Commission reserves the right to collect fish scale, tissue or spine samples to check fish identification, and to refuse any questionable application submitted.
9. The Commission reserves the right to revoke state records if the record holder is found in possession of illegal fishing gear or has been cited for repeated fishing violations that cast suspicion on the authenticity of the record catch.
10. No fish caught from any aquaculture or commercial put-and-take facility is eligible.
11. The application must be submitted within 30 days of the date the fish is caught.

MASTER ANGLER

1. All fish must be taken from Nebraska waters.
2. If a fish is caught from private waters, a valid fishing permit is required to receive the award.
3. Fish must be taken by hook-and-line. Fish caught on banklines are not eligible. Fish must be legally hooked, played and landed by the applicant for the award.
4. The catch must be verified. This may be done by an employee of the Game and Parks Commission, a permit vendor, a witness or a photograph.
5. Anglers 16 years of age or older must possess a current Nebraska fishing permit and enter the permit number on the application.
6. Only fish immediately released are eligible for an award based on length. Any fish kept in a livewell or on a stringer must meet the minimum weight requirement to receive an award.
7. Anglers may receive only one award based on weight per year for each species. There is no limit on the number of catch-and-release awards.
8. Anglers who release a Master Angler fish will receive a “Catch and Release Master Angler” pin in addition to the Master Angler certificate.
9. Minimum weights must be met to qualify for a Master Angler Award for a harvested fish.
10. Minimum lengths are used strictly for Master Angler Awards for a fish that was caught and released.

THE MINIMUM SIZE REQUIREMENTS ARE:

American Eel	24 in. or 1lb.
Bass	
Largemouth	20 in. or 5 lbs.
Rock	11 in. or 1 lb.
Smallmouth	18 in. or 3 lbs.
Spotted	18 in. or 3 lbs.
Striped	32 in. or 10 lbs.
Striper (hybrid)	24 in. or 8 lbs.
White	17 in. or 2.5 lbs
Bluegill	10 in. or 1 lb.
Buffalo	26 in. or 10 lbs.
Bullhead	15 in. or 2 lbs.
Burbot	16 in. or 1 lb.
Carp	32 in. or 15 lbs.
Catfish	
Blue	40 in. or 30 lbs.
Channel	30 in. or 12 lbs.
Flathead	32 in. or 15 lbs
Crappie	15 in. or 2 lbs.
Drum	22 in. or 5 lbs.
Gar	40 in. or 8 lbs.
Goldeye	16 in. or 1.5 lbs.
Muskellunge/Tiger Muskie	40 in. or 15 lbs.
Paddlefish	*45 in.
Perch	
Yellow	13 in. or 1.25 lbs.
White	12 in. or 1 lb.
Northern Pike	36 in. or 10 lbs.
Sauger	21 in. or 3 lbs.
Saugeye	23 in. or 5 lbs.
Shovelnose Sturgeon	28 in. or 2.5 lbs.
Sucker	18 in. or 2 lbs.
Sunfish	10 in. or 1 lb.
Trout	
Brook	14 in. or 1 lb.
Brown	22 in. or 4 lbs.
Rainbow	23 in. or 5 lbs.
Walleye	28 in. or 8 lbs.

*From front of eye to natural fork of tail

MASTER ANGLER / STATE RECORD APPLICATION

Please print legibly. See rules.

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Fishing Permit No. _____ Under 16 _____

Species of fish _____ Weight: ____ lbs. ____ oz. Length: in. _____

Date caught _____ Released: Yes _____ No _____

Name of lake or stream _____ County where located _____

Method of fishing: ___ Rod & Reel ___ Archery ___ Surface spearfishing ___ Underwater spearfishing

Type of bait or lure _____

Where weighed or measured _____

Address _____ City _____ Phone _____

Weight or length witnessed by:

1. _____
Signature Address

2. _____
Signature Address

3. _____
Notary Public (for State Record only)

4. _____
Game & Parks Commission official species verification (for State Record only)

Species may be verified after State Record application is received. See State Record rules.

Mail to: Fisheries Division, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370

NEBRASKA RECORD FISH

ROD AND REEL

ALEWIFE - 3.52 oz; Joe Dodd, Johnstown Ne; 9/22/2001; Merritt reservoir; Heddon Sonar.

BASS

KENTUCKY SPOTTED - 3 lbs 12 oz; Jerry Miller, North Platte Ne; 3/19/1990; I-80 sandpit (Lincoln Co.); Spinnerbait.

LARGEMOUTH - 10 lbs. 11 oz; Paul Abegglen Sr., Columbus Ne; 10/2/1965; Sandpit near Columbus.

ROCK - 2 lbs. 4 oz.; Edna Zuege, Haigler Ne; 5/6/1972; Farm pond (Dundy Co.).

SMALLMOUTH - 7 lbs. 4 oz.; Dennis Swanson, Omaha Ne; 9/16/2000; Missouri River (Knox Co.); Crawfish.

STRIPED - 64 lbs. 15 7/8 oz.; Gene Baker,; Sutherland Ne; 8/17/93; Sutherland Reservoir; Shad.

STRIPED HYBRID - 20 lbs. 1 oz.; Steve Lytle, McCook Ne; 8/1/1999; Red Willow Reservoir; Golden shiner.

WHITE - 5 lbs.; Jim Kilcoin, Aurora Ne; 11/12/1983; Gavins Point Tailwaters; Minnow.

YELLOW - 1 lbs. 7 oz.; John Ogle, Omaha Ne; 7/4/1993; Louisville Lake #2; Minnow.

BLUEGILL - 2 lbs. 13 oz.; Gary Ralston, Creighton Ne; 4/26/1977; Grove Lake; Nightcrawler.

BOWFIN - 8 lbs.; Ronald Evenson, Omaha Ne; 8/7/1982; Dead Timber Lake; Spinner.

BUFFALO

BIGMOUTH - 44 lbs. 14.5 oz.; Shayne Miller, Kearney Ne; 5/17/1991; Johnson Lake inlet; Mr. Twister.

BLACK - 41 lbs.; Bob Eaton, Omaha Ne; 4/29/1982; Carter Lake; Corn.

SMALLMOUTH - 56 lbs. 3 oz. Jeffrey Johnson Fremont Ne; 6/3/1998 Fremont lake #20; Turkey liver.

BULLHEAD - 3 lbs. 15 oz.; La Verne Heermann, Oakdale Ne 6/28/1984 Farm pond (Boyd Co.); Nightcrawler.

BURBOT - 6 lbs. 9 oz.; Todd Schmidt, Norfolk Ne; 2/7/1998; Missouri River (Cedar Co.); Minnow.

CARP

BIGHEAD - 46 lbs. 8 oz. Phil Rainforth, Bellevue Ne; 8/7/2000; Offutt AFB Lake; Kast Master

COMMON - 33 lbs. 12 oz.; Toni Baete, Beatrice Ne; 5/12/1983; Farm pond (Gage co.) ; Dough ball

GRASS - 64 lbs.; Malik Solunovic, Lincoln Ne; 8/29/2004; Wilson Creek 2X; Shad Rap.

CARPSUCKER

QUILLBACK - 13 lbs. 10 oz. Patrick Fox Jr., Omaha Ne; 6/3/01 Missouri River; worm.

RIVER - 13 lbs. 4 oz.; Dennis Hardin, Omaha Ne; 8/29/1999; Sandpit, (Cass Co.); Dough ball

CATFISH

BLUE - 100 lbs. 8 oz.; Raynold Promes, Wynot Ne; 11/29/1970; Missouri River (near Wynot); snagging.

CHANNEL - 41 lbs. 8 oz.; John Cunning, Valentine Ne; 7/26/1985; Merritt reservoir; Nightcrawler.

FLATHEAD - 80 lbs.; William Swanson, Silver Creek Ne; 6/14/1988; Loup power canal (Genoa); Carp.

CHUB

CREEK - 9.5 oz.; Taylor Walker, Parks Ne; 3/4/2001; Rock Creek Lake; Mr. Twister w/bacon

CRAPPIE

BLACK - 4 lbs. 8 oz..; Allen Paap Jr., Nebraska City Ne; 6/15/2003; Farm pond (Otoe Co); Roadrunner.

WHITE - 4 lbs. 1 oz.; Elsie Jensen, Broken Bow Ne; 5/18/1980; Red Willow Reservoir; Swedish minnow.

DRUM

FRESHWATER - 28 lbs. 4 oz. Vincent Prazak, Clarkson Ne; 10/1/1971; Missouri river (below Gavins Point); snagging.

EEL

AMERICAN - 5 lbs.; George Sweisberger, South Sioux City Ne; 8/2/1983; Missouri River ; Worm.

GAR

LONGNOSE - 20 lbs. 7 oz.; John Ernst, Columbus Ne; 7/14/1991; Wagners Lake (Platte Co.); Jitterbug.

SHORTNOSE - 19 lbs.; Ronald Hardin, Omaha Ne; 6/29/1974; Private lake (Cass Co.); Sunfish

GOLDEYE - 3 lbs. 15.5 oz.; Gary Kumm, Bloomfield Ne; 8/13/1988; Lewis & Clark Lake; Minnow.

GOLDFISH - 3 lbs. 7 oz.; Josh Lee, Lincoln Ne; 6/22/03; Pawnee Lake; Corn.

HERRING

SKIPJACK - 2 lbs.; Daniel Kaup, Norfolk Ne; 9/20/1992; Gavins Point Dam; Lindy rig.

MUSKELLUNGE - 41 lbs. 8 oz; Jared Haddix, Sidney Ne; 8/9/1992; Merritt Reservoir; Shad Rap

MUSKY

TIGER - 33 lbs. 5 oz.; Andrew Dorsey, Johnson Lake, Ne; 4/15/01; Johnson Lake; Rat-L-Trap.

PADDLEFISH - 93 lbs. Kathy Reiman, Yankton Sd.; 10/28/1998; Missouri River (Gavins Point Tailwaters); snagging.

PERCH

SACRAMENTO - 2 lbs. 8 oz.; John Bush, Valentine Ne; 6/20/1971; Clear lake; Spinner

WHITE - 2 lbs. 2 oz.; Kori Crom, Bellevue Ne; 7/20/2000; Cass Co. Sandpit; Worm.

YELLOW - 2 lbs. 10.75 oz.; John Skrdla, Stuart Ne 2/11/1984; Hackberry Lake; Mousie.

PICKEREL

GRASS - 5.75 oz. 12/20/96; Trevor Bailey, Norfolk Ne; 12/20/1996; Cameron Lake; Minnow.

PIKE

NORTHERN - 30 lbs. 1 oz.; Steven Morris, Scottsbluff Ne; 10/7/1997; Terry's Pit; Twister tail.

PUMPKINSEED - 11.25 oz. Mitchell Pebley, Alliance Ne; 3/19/1993; Box Butte Reservoir; Teardrop/waxworm.

SALMON

CHINOOK 2 lbs. 8 oz.; Rick Heppner, Norfolk Ne; 9/14/1985; Lewis & Clark Lake; Jig.

COHO 5 lbs. 12 oz.; Lyle Fry; Gering Ne; 7/3/1971; Lake McConaughy; Flatfish.

KOKANEE 4 lbs. 2 lbs. Neal Dunbar, North Platte Ne; 7/11/1971; Lake McConaughy.

SAUGER - 8 lbs. 5 oz.; Betty Tepner, Plainview Ne .; 10/22/1961; Missouri River.

SAUGEYE - 8 lbs. 14 oz.; Shawn Ackles, Cotesfield Ne; 5/26/2003; Calamus Reservoir; Spinner bait.

SHAD

GIZZARD - 4 lbs. 7.75 oz.; Joe Ringbauer, Alliance Ne; 3/26/1989; Box Butte Reservoir; Silver spoon.

SHINER

GOLDEN - 14 oz.; Tom Rosencrans, Omaha Ne; 4/10/1992; Two Rivers SRA trout lake; Corn.

STONECAT - 5 oz.; Arvid Larsen, Norfolk Ne; 6/22/1998; North Fork Elkhorn River; Nightcrawler.

STURGEON

SHOVELNOSE - 4 lbs. 5 oz.; Richie Pietryga, Omaha Ne; 4/23/2000; Platte River (Sarpy Co.); Minnow.

SUCKER

SUCKER 2 lbs. 8 oz.; Betty Jensen, Lexington Ne; 7/3/1982; Lake Ogallala; Worm.

BLUE - 18 lbs. 14 oz.; Bob Thoene, Hartington Ne; 11/16/1986; Missouri River; snagging.

LONGNOSE - 2 lbs. 7 oz.; Brian Moreland, Gretna Ne; 6/20/2004; Sutherland Supply Canal; Nightcrawler.

SHORTHEAD REDHORSE - 2 lbs. 6 oz.; Benny Brezenski, North Platte Ne; 4/12/2002; Lake Maloney; Nightcrawler.

WHITE - 3 lbs. 3 oz.; Dustin Noble; North Platte Ne; 2/13/2003; North Platte River; Power bait.

SUNFISH

GREEN - 1 lbs. 8 oz.; Chad Hoefs, Lincoln Ne; 5/16/1999; Cuming Co. farm pond; Waxworm.

HYBRID - 1 lbs. 15 oz. Jana Bottorff-Engh Gillette Wy 5/30/1993; Farm pond (Holt Co.) Nightcrawler

ORANGE SPOTTED - 0.85 oz. 6/2/01; Ben Nosal, Columbus Ne; 6/2/2001; Sandpit (Platte Co.); Minnow.

REDEAR - 1 lbs. 10 oz.; Charles Jones, Eckley Co 6/8/1989 Rock Creek Lake; Worm

TROUT

BROOK - 5 lbs. 1 oz.; Joe Gray, North Platte Ne; 11/3/1965; Pawnee springs.

BROWN - 20 lbs. 1 oz.; Denny Doolittle, Valentine Ne; 7/26/1973; Snake River; Grasshopper.

CUTTHROAT - 5 lbs. 7 oz.; Arthur Larsen, Evergreen Co.; 9/18/1992; Lake Ogallala; Jig.

RAINBOW - 14 lbs. 2 oz.; Frank Aloy, North Platte Ne; 3/18/1975; NPPD Canal; Nightcrawler.

WALLEYE - 16 lbs. 2 oz.; Herbert Cutshall, Ogallala Ne; 7/5/1971; Lake McConaughy; Red Thin Fin.

BOW AND ARROW

BASS

KENTUCKY SPOTTED - 2 lbs.; Dustin Noble, North Platte Ne; 8/29/2003; Private Sandpit (Lincoln Co.).

LARGEMOUTH - 8 lbs. 14 oz.; Jerry Grasmick, Scottsbluff Ne; 6/18/1966; Sandpit (Scotts Bluff Co.).

ROCK - 1 lbs. 6 oz.; Harlan Worden, North Platte Ne; 5/8/1972; Hershey (I-80 Lake).

SMALLMOUTH - 3 lbs 5oz..; Marlyn Wiebelhaus, Wynot Ne; 7/8/2004; Missouri River (Cedar Co.).

STRIPED - 8 lbs. 5 oz.; Michael Dorris, Arthur Ne; 4/14/1973; Lake McConaughy.

STRIPED HYBRID - 8 lbs. 12 oz.; Lonnie Miller, Hastings Ne; 9/16/1997; Harlan Co. Reservoir.

WHITE - 3 lbs.; Lonnie Miller, Hastings Ne; 4/14/1973; Harlan Co. Reservoir.

BLUEGILL - 1 lbs. 6 oz.; David Clancy, Hastings Ne; 7/1/1995; Farm Pond (Webster County).

BUFFALO

BIGMOUTH - 64 lbs.; Joe Slavik, Omaha Ne; 6/8/2000; Sandpit (Dodge Co.).

BULLHEAD - 1 lbs. 11 oz.; Cory Hardin, Rushville Ne; 7/13/1978; Smith Lake.

CARP

BIGHEAD - 57 lbs. 1 oz.; Shane Severeide, Sioux City Ia; 6/4/2003; Missouri River (Cedar Co.).

COMMON - 46 lbs.; Dirk Gage, Overland Park Ks.; 7/3/1999; Sandpit (Buffalo Co.).

GRASS - 61 lbs.; Donavon Uhing, Blair Ne; 6/3/2002; Private Lake (Washington Co.).

HYBRID GRASS - 43 lbs. 3 oz.; Gary Martin, Jr.; Overland Park Ks; 6/13/1992; Sandpit (Cass Co.).

CARPSUCKER

QUILLBACK 11 lbs. 2 oz.; Tim Smith, Benkelman Ne; 7/4/1984; Sandpit (Dundy Co.).

RIVER CARPSUCKER 7 lbs. 4 oz.; Quinton Wagoner, Broadwater Ne; 6/1/1989; North Platte River.

CATFISH

CHANNEL - 21 lbs. 12 oz.; Mike Lacey, Gering Ne; 7/23/1982; Lake Minatare.

FLATHEAD - 46 lbs. 2 oz.; Jim Floral, Lincoln Ne; 10/13/1984; Bluestem.

CRAPPIE

BLACK - 1 lbs. 14 oz.; Tim McQuade, North Platte Ne; 6/1/1974; Shoup Lake.

WHITE - 2 lbs. 13 oz.; David Medinger, Bellwood Ne; 6/2/1973; Sandpit (Butler Co.).

DRUM

FRESHWATER - 20 lbs.; Gerald Tramp Crofton Ne 6/15/1982 Gavins Point Tailwaters.

GAR

LONGNOSE - 22 lbs. 7.7 oz**;** Lonnie Goble, Hastings Ne; 6/20/1995; Willow Bend.

SHORTNOSE - 7 lbs. 8 oz.; Tyson Kier, Kearney Ne; 6/6/2001; Sandpit (Buffalo Co.).

SPOTTED 2 lbs. 15 oz. Jim Foral, Lincoln Ne; 8/19/2003; Salt Creek.

GOLDEYE - 2 lbs. 1 oz.; Bill Schwarting, Fremont Ne; 5/17/1985; Platte River (Dodge Co.).

GOLDFISH - 15 oz.**;** Jesse Cobb, Kearney Ne; 5/30/2000; Salt Creek.

MUSKY

TIGER - 13 lbs. 14 oz.; Brent Wesemann, Pierce Ne; 7/3/1988; Willow Creek Reservoir.

PADDLEFISH - 86 lbs.; Gene Haswell, Omaha Ne; 4/16/1972; Sandpit (Cass Co.).

PERCH

YELLOW - 1 lbs. 2 oz.; Tim McQuade, North Platte Ne; 4/19/1975; Cody Lake.

PIKE

NORTHERN - 21 lbs. 14 oz.; Todd Knecht, Wood River Ne; 7/15/1998; Rock Creek Lake.

SHAD

GIZZARD - 5 lbs. 5 oz.; Marlyn Wiebelhaus, Wynot Ne; 5/11/2001; Missouri River (Cedar Co.).

SUCKER

BIGMOUTH BUFFALO - 53 lbs.**;** Mark Millet, Fremont Ne; 5/27/1993; Sandpit; (Dodge Co.).

WHITE - 3 lbs. 6 oz.**;** Robert Jacobs Oshkosh Ne 6/20/1997 Lake Ogallala

SUNFISH

GREEN - 9.6 oz.; Mike Gutzmer, Columbus Ne; 7/2/2004; Private Sandpit.

HYBRID - 9.9 oz.; Harlin Welch, Ainsworth Ne; 7/28/2003; Sandpit (Brown Co.).

TROUT

BROWN - 9 lbs. 13 oz.; John Whittle, Dalton Ne; 7/1/1990; Cline Fish Hatchery Lake.

CUTTHROAT - 2 lbs. 3 oz.; Todd Burnham, Hastings Ne; 8/24/1991; Platte River.

RAINBOW - 11 lbs.**;** Kevin Pierce, Ogallala Ne; 10/19/1986; NPPD Canal.

WALLEYE - 11 lbs. 1 oz.**;** Bradley Heck, Brady Ne; 4/11/1970; Jeffrey Reservoir.

UNDERWATER POWERED SPEARFISHING

ALEWIFE - 3 oz; Dustin Noble, North Platte Ne; 6/5/2004; Lake McConaughy.

BASS

HYBRID STRIPED - 12 lbs.; Dustin Noble, North Platte Ne; 7/25/2004; Lake Ogallala.

KENTUCKY SPOTTED - 2 lbs. 12.5 oz.; Dustin Noble, North Platte Ne; 8/12/1999; Sandpit (Lincoln Co.).

LARGEMOUTH - 7 lbs. 4 oz.; Richard Buckley, McCook Ne; 7/6/1988; Sandpit (Red Willow Co.).

ROCK - 1 lbs. 4 oz.**;** Terry Robbins, Alliance Ne; 7/10/1982; Box Butte Reservoir.

SMALLMOUTH - 5 lbs. 12.5 oz.; Dennis Girard, Alliance Ne; 7/6/1997 Box Butte Reservoir.

STRIPED - 26 lbs. 15.5 oz.; Walter Salazar, Denver Co.; 7/27/2000; Lake McConaughy.

WHITE - 1 lbs. 13 oz.**;** Mark Wiezorek, North Platte Ne; 7/20/1997; Lake McConaughy.

BLUEGILL - 15 oz.**;** Anthony Nason, Alliance Ne; 7/3/1993; Box Butte Reservoir.

BUFFALO

BIGMOUTH - 11 lbs. 13 oz.; James Weekly, Omaha Ne; 6/18/1997; Private Lake (Douglas Co.).

BLACK - 27 lbs.**;** Matthew Donelan, Omaha Ne; 5/22/1982; Sandpit (Saunders Co.).

SMALLMOUTH - 13 lbs. 4 oz; Vince Willits, Silver Creek Ne; 7/5/1982; Sandpi (Hamilton Co.).

BULLHEAD
BLACK - 1 lb.12 oz.; Dustin Noble North Platte Ne; 7/5/2004; Lake Ogallala.

CARP
COMMON - 37 lbs.14 oz.; Dustin Noble, North Platte Ne; 7/6/2003; Sandpit (Dawson Co.).
GRASS 6 lbs. 4 oz.; Dustin Noble, North Platte Ne; 7/20/2004; Private Sandpit (Chase Co.).

CARPSUCKER
QUILLBACK 6 lbs. 6 oz.; Michael Dorris, Arthur Ne; 6/17/1978; Lake McConaughy.
RIVER - 9 lbs.14 oz.; Dustin Noble, North Platte Ne; 7/4/2004; Private Sandpit (Dawson Co.).

CATFISH
CHANNEL - 25 lbs. 10 oz.; Anthony Nason, Alliance Ne; 7/7/1997; Box Butte Reservoir.
FLATHEAD - 31 lbs. 5 oz.; Dustin Noble, North Platte Ne; 8/5/2001; Sandpit (Lincoln Co.).

CHUB
CREEK - 4 oz. Dustin Noble, North Platte Ne; 9/4/2003 Private Sandpit (Lincoln Co.).

CRAPPIE
BLACK - 2 lbs. 5 oz.; Dustin Noble, North Platte Ne; 7/9/2004; Private Sandpit (Lincoln Co.).
WHITE - 1 lb.**;** Dustin Noble, North Platte Ne; 8/4/2002; Private Sandpit (Lincoln Co.).

DRUM
FRESHWATER - 16 lbs.; Dustin Noble, North Platte Ne; 7/10/2004; Private Sandpit (Buffalo Co.).

GAR
LONGNOSE - 2 lbs. 12 oz.; Dustin Noble, North Platte Ne; 6/8/2002; Cozad I-80 Pit.

GOLDEYE - 1 lbs. 5.5 oz George Fritton, Silver Creek Ne; 7/5/1982; Sandpit.

MUSKY
TIGER - 13 lbs. 9 oz; Delbert Babitzke, Garden City Ks.; 8/18/1990; Lake McConaughy.

PERCH
YELLOW - 1 lbs. 11.5 oz.; Le Roy Adamson, Alliance Ne; 7/15/1980; Box Butte Reservoir.

PIKE
NORTHERN - 13 lbs. 12 oz.; Albert Cherry, St. Edwards Ne; 8/8/1975; Lake McConaughy.

SHAD
GIZZARD - 3 lbs. 3 oz.; Dustin Noble, North Platte Ne; 7/14/2004; Lake Ogallala.

SHINER
GOLDEN - 3 oz Dustin Noble, Wauneta Ne; 7/23/2000; Sandpit (Lincoln Co.).

SUCKER
SUCKER - 3 lbs. 1 oz.; Jack Miettinen, North Platte Ne; 9/11/1976; Lake Ogallala.
SHORTHEAD REDHORSE - 2 lbs. 9.5 oz Dustin Noble, North Platte Ne; 7/4/2003; Lake McConaughy.
WHITE - 4 lbs. 3 oz**;** Jason Richardson, North Platte Ne; 8/8/2003; Private Pond (Lincoln Co.).

SUNFISH
GREEN - 9.9 oz.**;** Brian Janucik, Gretna Ne; 7/26/1999; Private Lake (Douglas Co.).
HYBRID - 12 oz. James Weekly, Omaha Ne; 7/17/1997; Private Lake.

TROUT
BROWN - 5 lbs. 5 oz.**;** Dustin Noble, North Platte Ne; 7/4/2003; Lake Ogallala.
RAINBOW - 3 lbs. 9 oz.**;** Michael Bansall, Grand Island Ne; 7/7/1983; Lake McConaughy.

WALLEYE - 13 lbs. 11 oz.**;** Richard Fish, Kearney Ne; 6/7/1970; Lake McConaughy.

SURFACE SPEARFISHING

BUFFALO
BIGMOUTH - 14 lbs.; Jordan Paden, Fremont Ne; 6/4/2002; Sandpit (Dodge Co.).
SMALLMOUTH - 12 lbs. 7 oz.; Drew Case, Lincoln Ne; 5/12/2001; South Bend Lake.

CARP
BIGHEAD - 14 lbs. 5 oz.**;** Mike Wiebelhaus, Norfolk Ne; 8/27/2003; Missouri River (Knox Co.).
COMMON - 21 lbs.**;** Joshua Kreitman, Ulysses Ne; 6/2/1998; Big Alkali Lake.
GRASS - 25 lbs.**;** Tim Kreutzer, Roggen Co.; 7/19/2000; Oliver Reservoir.

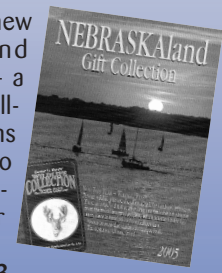
CARPSUCKER
QUILLBACK - 6 lbs. 6 oz.; Michael Dorris**,** Arthur Ne; 6/17/1978; Lake McConaughy.
RIVER - 3 lbs. 9 oz; Mathew Dorris, Lemoyne Ne; 6/24/1997, Lake McConaughy.

GAR
LONGNOSE - 17 lbs. 6 oz.**;** David Werth, South Bend Ne; 6/13/1984; Sandpit (Cass Co.).
SHORTNOSE - 3 lbs. 15 oz.; Mike Wiebelhaus, Norfolk Ne; 8/27/2003; Missouri River (Knox Co.).

SHAD
GIZZARD - 2 lbs. 2 oz.**;** Drew Case, Lincoln Ne; 5/15/2002; Camp Kataki Lake.

Note: for additional information on Nebraska's Record Fish check the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission website at **www.outdoornebraska.org**

Looking for that extra-special gift-



Check the new NEBRASKAland Gift Collection – a catalog of all-Nebraska items for those who enjoy the outdoors. For your free copy, call **1-800-632-5263** e-mail **lhain@ngpc.state.ne.us**, or write to Gift Collection, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, PO Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503.

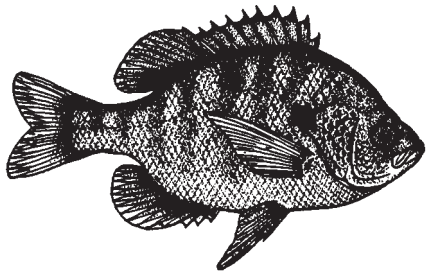
OPEN 24 HOURS

outdoornebraska.org

Check out our 3,000 page website for information on all of Nebraska's parklands, fishing, hunting and other outdoor activities year-round. Buy permits online!

NEBRASKA
GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION
2200 N 33rd St · Lincoln, NE 68503
402-471-0641

Nebraska's Public Fishing Areas



Panhandle

The Panhandle is a haven for trout anglers. Rainbows, browns and brooks abound in the many Pine Ridge and North Platte valley cold-water streams. This area also contains several reservoirs and sandhill lakes that provide excellent walleye, tiger muskie, northern pike and panfish fishing.

DISTRICT I - PANHANDLE
Alliance Office
Al Hanson,
Fisheries Supervisor
(308) 763-2940
Fax (308) 763-2943

Box Butte County

Kilpatrick Lake - 160 acres, 22W, 1S of Alliance; Privately owned, but managed by NGPC, special regulations listed at the lake, summer die off in 2004 due to low water levels, currently no fishing opportunity.

Laing Lake - 10 acres, Alliance, W. 18th Street & Box Butte Avenue; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Dawes County

Bourdeaux Creek - SE of Chadron; Brook and brown trout; Total catch and release for all trout species on that portion of the creek located on the WMA. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks or hooks with flattened barbs are allowed. Public access on Big Bourdeaux Creek WMA.

Box Butte Reservoir SRA - 1,600 acres, 10N of Hemingford; Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth & smallmouth bass, pike, walleye, yellow perch, rock bass; Subject to severe summer drawdown, primitive camping, all boats allowed.

Chadron City Reservoirs - 20 acres in 2 ponds, 5½S of Chadron; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, yellow perch, rainbow trout; non-powered boats allowed, public access.

Chadron Creek - S of Chadron; Brook and brown trout; Private access, permission required; public access at Chadron State Park.

Chadron State Park Pond - 2 acres, 9S of Chadron; Rainbow trout; Boats not allowed, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier.

Grabel Ponds - 6 acres in 4 ponds, Ft. Robinson SP; Rainbow trout, largemouth bass, bluegill, rock bass, channel catfish; No more than two lines with two hooks per line can be used ice fishing.

Ice House Ponds - 6 acres in 3 ponds, Ft. Robinson SP; Largemouth bass, bluegill; No more than two lines with two hooks per line can be used ice fishing.

Soldier Creek - 3W of Crawford; Brook, rainbow and brown trout; Public access at Fort Robinson State Park and Soldier Creek Wilderness Area.

Whitney Lake - 900 acres, 1½W of Whitney; Channel catfish, crappie, walleye, yellow perch, white bass; Private irrigation reservoir, access limited.

Wood Reserve Pond - 2 acres in 4 ponds, Ft. Robinson SP; Rainbow trout; located on Soldier's Creek Wilderness Area.

White River - W of Fort Robinson; Brown and rainbow trout; Public access at Fort Robinson State Park; private access, permission required.

Deuel County

Chappell Interstate Lake - 30 acres, ½S of Chappell, I-80 Exit 85 - Wheatland Drive; Black crappie, bluegill, channel catfish, walleye, largemouth bass, yellow perch; Owned and controlled by the city of Chappell, open to public fishing.

Goldeneye WMA - 7 acres, 1S, 3W of Big Springs; Black crappie, bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, yellow perch.

Garden County

Crane Lake - 128 acres, Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge, 22N of Oshkosh; Yellow perch; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; No baitfish allowed, only dead smelt. No camping, Open to fishing Nov. 1st - Feb. 15th. Fishing allowed during daylight hours only. Fisherman must be OFF the lake no later 1 hour after sunset. No boats or float tubes allowed.

Island Lake - 711 acres, Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge, 22N of Oshkosh; Bluegill, crappie, largemouth bass, yellow perch, walleye; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; No baitfish allowed, only dead smelt. No camping, electric motors only, area open one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset.

Smith Lake - 225 acres, Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge, 26N of Oshkosh; Bluegill, black crappie, largemouth bass, yellow perch; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; No baitfish allowed, only dead smelt. No camping, open to fishing Nov. 1st - Feb. 15th. Fishing allowed during daylight hours only. Fisherman must be OFF the lake no later than 1 hour after sunset, No boats or float tubes allowed.

Kimball County

Lodgepole Creek - Kimball to Wyoming border; Brown and rainbow trout; Private access, permission required. Subject to low water or no water.

Oliver Reservoir SRA - 270 acres, 10W of Kimball; Bluegill, crappie, largemouth bass, yellow perch, walleye, channel catfish, carp, tiger muskie; All boats, primitive camping, wheelchair accessible fishing pier.

Morrill County

Bridgeport SRA - 78 acres in 5 lakes, NW edge of Bridgeport; Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye, yellow perch, rainbow trout (NW lake), wiper (Middle lake); Wiper - 18" minimum length limit, daily bag limit of one, Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; primitive camping, all boats allowed on middle pit, all other pits electric trolling motors only.

Greenwood Creek - SE of Bridgeport; Brown and rainbow trout; Private access, permission required.

Red Willow Creek - E of Bayard; Brown and rainbow trout; Private access, permission required.

Silvernail Drain - E of Northport; Brown and rainbow trout; Private access, permission required.

Wildhorse Creek - N of Bayard; Brown trout; Private access, permission required.

Scotts Bluff County

Buffalo Creek WMA - 7 acres, 5S, 1½W of Melbeta; Largemouth bass, yellow perch, crappie, channel catfish, rainbow trout; No more than two lines with two hooks per line can be used ice fishing. Access via 1-mile foot trail.

Cochran Lake - 45 acres, 2SW of Melbeta; Carp, channel catfish; Private lake managed by NGPC.

Lake Minatare SRA - 2,300 acres, 12NE of Scottsbluff; Channel catfish, crappie, smallmouth bass, white bass, walleye, wiper, yellow perch; Waters within 150 feet of the dam are closed to fishing from sunset to sunrise beginning 12:01 a.m. March 1st and ending 12 p.m. April 30th. Camping, all boats allowed, closed Oct. 15 - Jan. 14 or as posted, subject to severe drawdowns.

Lake Winters Creek - 235 acres, N of Minatare; Channel catfish, yellow perch, bluegill, largemouth bass; Electric trolling motors only, closed Oct. 15 - Jan. 14 or as posted. Area open sunrise to sunset only, renovated in 2004, no fishing opportunity in 2005. Subject to severe drawdowns.

Morrill Sandpits - 25 acres in 3 lakes, 3S of Morrill; Black crappie, bluegill, largemouth bass, rainbow trout, yellow perch, channel catfish; county owned, permission required, check with city of Morrill, no boating or camping allowed.

Nine Mile Creek - E of Minatare; Brown and rainbow trout; Private access, permission required; public access at Nine Mile Creek WMA.

Stuckenhole Creek - W of Bayard; Brown and rainbow trout; Private access, permission required.

Terry's Pit - 7 acres, Terrytown; Largemouth bass, channel catfish, rainbow trout.

Winters Creek - NE of Scottsbluff; Brown and rainbow trout; Private access, permission required.

Spotted Tail Creek - NW of Mitchell; Brown and rainbow trout; Private access, permission required.

Sheridan County

Isham Dam - 26 acres, NW of Hay Springs; Bluegill, bullhead, largemouth bass, yellow perch, crappie, channel catfish; Private lake, permission required, all boats allowed.

Larabee Creek - N of Rushville; Brook and brown trout; Private access, permission required.

Pine Creek - 20S of Rushville; Brown trout; Private access property, permission required.

Smith Lake WMA - 290 acres, 23S of Rushville; Bluegill, black crappie, bullhead, largemouth bass, yellow perch, pike, walleye; Primitive camping, motor boats limited to 5 mph (no wake).

Walgren Lake SRA - 100 acres, 5SE of Hay Springs; Bluegill, crappie, bullhead, largemouth bass, pike, walleye, yellow perch; Primitive camping, motor boats limited to 5 mph (no wake), wheelchair-accessible fishing pier.

White Clay Creek - NW of Rushville; Brown trout; Private access, permission required.

Sioux County

Carter P. Johnson Lake - 15 acres, Ft. Robinson SP; Rainbow trout, largemouth bass, rock bass, crappie, channel catfish; No more than two lines with two hooks per line can be used for ice fishing. Electric trolling motor only, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier.

Dry Sheep Creek - NW of Morrill; Brown and rainbow trout; Private access, permission required.

Dry Spotted Tail Creek - NW of Mitchell; Brown and rainbow trout; Private access, permission required.

Gilbert-Baker Pond - 2 acres, 10N of Harrison; Rainbow trout; Located on the east portion of Gilbert-Baker WMA.

Hat Creek - NE of Harrison; Brook trout; Private access, permission required.

Monroe Creek - 4½N of Harrison; Brook trout; Private access, permission required; public access on Gilbert-Baker WMA.

Niobrara River - Sioux Co.and Dawes Co., Brown and rainbow trout; Private access, permission required; extremely low water in summer.

Sheep Creek - NW of Morrill; Brown and rainbow trout; Private access, permission required.

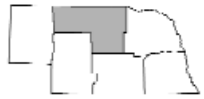
Sowbelly Creek - NE of Harrison; Brook trout; Private access, permission required.

Tub Springs - NE of Mitchell; Brown and rainbow trout; Private access, permission required.

NORTH-CENTRAL

The Sandhills region contains most of the natural lakes that occur in the state. These shallow, but very productive lakes provide excellent fishing for northern pike, yellow perch and bluegill.

DISTRICT II - SANDHILLS
Bassett Office
Joel Klammer,
Fisheries Supervisor
(402) 684-2921;
Fax (402) 684-2816



Blaine County

Milburn Diversion (Middle Loup River) - 2 NW of Milburn; Carp, channel catfish; Middle Loup River access.

Boyd County

Hull Lake - 6 acres, ½W, 2S 1W 1¼S of Butte; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, crappie.

Brown County

Cozad Lake (South Pine WMA) - 80 acres, 11S, 2 W of Long Pine; Bluegill, yellow perch, largemouth bass.

Keller Park SRA - 7 acres in 5 ponds, 11S of Springview; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, rainbow trout; ponds No. 4 and 5 have catchable trout, camping.

Long Lake SRA - 155 acres, 8½W, 21S of Ainsworth; Bullheads, pike, yellow perch; Motor boats limited to 5 mph (no wake).

Long Pine Creek - Long Pine; Brown and rainbow trout; Long Pine SRA - W of Long Pine; Long Pine WMA - 1N, ¼W of Long Pine; Pine Glen WMA - 2E, 8¼N of Long Pine; Remainder of stream is private access, permission required.

Plum Creek - W of Johnstown; Brown and rainbow trout; Public access at Bobcat WMA (10N, 1W, ½N of Ainsworth) and Plum Valley WMA (½W of Johnston on US 20, 1.25 S on county road). One acre pond on Plum Valley WMA stocked with rainbow trout. Rest of stream privately owned, permission required.

Tower Lake (Yellowthroat WMA) - 75 acres, 12.5S, 1.5E of Ainsworth; Bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch, black crappie.

Willow Lake - 313 acres, 18½S 12½W, 1N of Ainsworth; Bluegill, bullhead, carp, crappie, largemouth bass, yellow perch; Largemouth bass - 21" minimum length limit. Primitive camping, motor boats limited to 5 mph (no wake), snowmobiles and ATV's allowed on ice.

Calamus River - Brown Co. and Loup Co.; Carp, channel catfish, pike; Private access, permission required, canoe sites and camping.

Cherry County

Big Alkali WMA - 842 acres, 16S, 4W, 1½S of Valentine; Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch; All boats allowed, ramp, camping, fishing camp. Snowmobile and ATV's allowed on ice.

Boardman Creek - 35SW of Valentine; Brown and rainbow trout; Private access, permission required.

Clear Lake - 425 acres, 16S, 6W 8S of Valentine to Refuge H.Q.; Black bullhead, bluegill, northern pike, largemouth bass, yellow perch; Northern pike - 28" maximum length limit. Possession of baitfish prohibited, dead smelt allowed. Possession of fish not taken from refuge waters unlawful. No camping, electric motors only. Refuge open sunrise to sunset. Aquatic vegetation hampers summer fishing.

Cottonwood Lake SRA - 34 acres, ½E, ½S of Merriman; Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch; Primitive camping, aquatic vegetation hampers summer fishing, all boats allowed.

Cottonwood-Steverson Lake WMA - 680 acres, 30N, 2E of Hyannis; Bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch, muskie, carp, walleye, black crappie; Concrete boat ramp, boats limited to 5mph (no wake), snowmobile and ATV's allowed on ice.

Dewey Lake - 550 acres, 16S, 6W 8S of Valentine to Refuge H.Q.; Bluegill, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch; Northern pike - 28" maximum length limit. Possession of baitfish prohibited, dead smelt allowed. Possession of fish not taken from refuge water unlawful. No camping, electric motors only. Refuge open sunrise to sunset. Aquatic vegetation hampers summer fishing.

Duck Lake - 66 acres, 16S, 6W 8S of Valentine to Refuge H.Q.; Bluegill, bullhead, largemouth bass, yellow perch. Possession of baitfish prohibited, dead smelt allowed. Possession of fish not taken from refuge waters unlawful. No camping, electric motors only. Refuge open sunrise to sunset. Aquatic vegetation hampers summer fishing.

Hackberry Lake - 680 acres, 16S, 6W 8S of Valentine to Refuge H.Q.; Bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch; Northern pike - 28" maximum length limit. Possession of baitfish prohibited, dead smelt allowed. Possession of fish not taken from refuge waters unlawful. Fish population renovated in summer of 2004. No camping, electric motors only. Refuge open sunrise to sunset. Aquatic vegetation hampers summer fishing.

Home Valley Lake - 220 acres, 30N, 2½E, 1N of Hyannis; Bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch, black crappie, walleye, carp; Part of the Cottonwood-Steverson WMA, 5 mph/no wake, portage route from Cottonwood-Steverson Lake. Snowmobile and ATV's allowed on ice. Access to the north side of lake via private property, permission is required.

Merritt Reservoir SRA - 2,900 acres, 26SW of Valentine; Bluegill, yellow perch, bullhead, channel catfish, black crappie, largemouth and smallmouth bass, muskie, pike, walleye, white bass, yellow perch, carp; The daily bag limit of four walleye may include one walleye 15-18" and three over 18" or four over 18" but only one walleye over 22" inches is allowed. Camping available, all boats allowed.

Middle Loup River - Hooker, Thomas, Blaine and Custer counties; Upper river - brown and rainbow trout, Lower - carp, channel catfish; Public access at Milburn and Arcadia diversions; rest private access, permission required.

Niobrara River - Brown, Keya Paha and Boyd Co.; Channel catfish, sauger, carp; Private access, permission required.

North Loup River - Blaine and Loup counties; Upper river - brown and rainbow trout, Lower - carp, channel catfish; Private access, permission required.

Pelican Lake - 798 acres, 16S, 6W 8S of Valentine to Refuge H.Q.; Bullhead, bluegill, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch; Northern pike - 28" maximum length limit. Possession of baitfish prohibited, dead smelt allowed. Possession of fish not taken from refuge waters unlawful. No camping, electric motors only. Refuge open sunrise to sunset. Aquatic vegetation hampers summer fishing.

Rat and Beaver WMA - 450 acres in 2 lakes, 30S, 7W of Valentine; Bullhead, crappie, bluegill, carp, pike, yellow perch; no direct public access, permission across private land required for access.

Schlagel Creek WMA (Schlagel Creek) - 16S, 4W, 4N of Valentine; Brown trout; Private access, permission required except on Schlagel Creek WMA.

Schoolhouse Lake - 105 acres, 24S of Nenzel; Black crappie, bluegill, bullhead, largemouth bass; Private access, permission required.

Shell Lake - 160 acres, 3N, 4E,8N of Gordon; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, pike, yellow perch; Aquatic vegetation hampers summer fishing, power boats limited to 5 mph (no wake).

Snake River (Upper Reach) - near Gordon; Brown and rainbow trout; Private access, permission required.

Valentine Mill Pond - 20 acres, North edge of Valentine; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish.

Watts Lake - 230 acres, 16S, 6W 8S of Valentine to Refuge H.Q.; Bluegill, largemouth bass, muskie, yellow perch; Catch and release only for largemouth bass and muskellunge. Possession of baitfish prohibited, dead smelt allowed. Possession of fish not taken from refuge waters unlawful. No camping, electric motors only. Refuge open sunrise to sunset. Aquatic vegetation hampers summer fishing.

West Long Lake - 62 acres, 16S, 6W 8S of Valentine to H.Q.; Bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch, pike; Northern pike - 28" minimum length limit. Possession of baitfish is prohibited, dead smelt allowed. Possession of fish not taken from refuge waters unlawful. No camping, electric motors only. Refuge open sunrise to sunset. Aquatic vegetation hampers summer fishing.

Willow Lake FWS -354 acres, 23½S, 3W of Valentine; Carp, pike, yellow perch; Northern pike - 28" maximum length limit. Possession of baitfish prohibited, dead smelt allowed. Possession of fish not taken from refuge waters unlawful. No camping, electric motors only. Refuge open sunrise to sunset. Aquatic vegetation hampers summer fishing.

Fairfield Creek - 8N, 2E of Wood Lake to forks or 2½W of Norden Road on S side of Niobrara River to mouth of creek; Brown and rainbow trout; Private access, permission required, vehicle access difficult, most areas accessible by long hike.

Custer County

Arnold Lake SRA - 4 acres, ½S of Arnold, west side of Hwy. 40; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Dense aquatic vegetation in summer, renovated in 2004.

Melham Park Lake - 4 acres, Broken Bow, north of Memorial Drive, east of N. 5th Avenue; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Victoria Springs Lake SRA - 6 acres, 6E of Anselmo off Rt. S21A; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, rainbow trout in October; Cabins and camping, electric motors only.

Grant County

Defair Lake WMA - 70 acres, 1E, 2S, 1/2E of Hyannis; Largemouth bass, yellow perch.

East Hyannis Lake (Avocet WMA) - 120 acres, 1E of Hyannis; Largemouth bass, yellow perch. Shallow lake, dense vegetation in summer.

Frye Lake - 243 acres, 1N, 1½E of Hyannis; Bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch, channel catfish, walleye, black crappie; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; No live baitfish can be used or possessed. Power boats limited to 5 mph (no wake).

Holt County

Atkinson SRA - 5 acres, ½W of Atkinson; Bluegill, channel catfish, carp, largemouth bass, pike; Primitive camping, electrical hookups. Elkhorn river access.

Spencer WMA (Niobrara River) - 18N of O'Neill; Channel catfish, carp, sauger; Bag limit on channel catfish is 5 from the dam downstream to the Missouri River. Primitive camping, Niobrara River access below dam.

Overton Lake - 135 acres, 21S, 5E of Newport; Largemouth bass, yellow perch, bluegill. Leased for ice fishing only, open December 1st through March 15th. Closed to public use the remainder of the year. Renovated in 2003, limited fishing until 2005.

Swan Lake - 235 acres, 26S, ½W of Atkinson; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, northern pike, yellow perch; Northern pike - 28" to 34" protected slot limit. Primitive boat ramp; Power boats limited to 5 mph, private lake leased for fishing only.

Keya Paha County

Cub Creek Lake - 27 acres, 8½W of Springview; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, walleye, yellow perch; Electric fishing motors only, primitive camping, NRD lake.

Loup County

Calamus Reservoir SRA - 5,200 acres, 2W 5NW of Burwell; Channel catfish, black crappie, pike, muskie, walleye, wiper, yellow perch, white bass, carp; Walleye - 18" minimum length limit with only 1 fish over 22" allowed in the daily bag limit. Modern/primitive camping, boating on upper lake limited to 5 mph (no wake).

Gracie Creek - N side of Calamus Reservoir; Rainbow trout; Private access, permission required except on two miles of stream above Gracie Creek pond.

Gracie Creek Pond - 2 acres, N side of Calamus Reservoir 12N, 4E of Taylor; Rainbow trout, carp; Put and take trout stocking, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier.

Rock County

Twin Lakes WMA - 160 acres, 16S, 2½E, 2S of Bassett; Black crappie, largemouth bass, pike, bluegill, yellow perch; Boats limited to 5 mph (no wake), primitive boat ramp.

Thomas County

Bessey Fish Pond - 3 acres, 1W, 1/4S of Halsey - Bessey National Forest; Bluegill, rainbow trout in October, channel catfish, largemouth bass; No motorized boating, fish cleaning station, fishing pier.

Dismal River - Blaine and So. Hooker Cos.; Brown and rainbow trout, channel catfish, carp; Private access, permission required.

Valley County

Auble Pond - 5 acres, Bussell Park Rd, and G Street - Ord; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake, check signs for more restrictive city regulations.

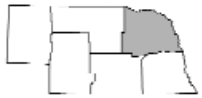
Burwell Lake (Ladybird) - 3 acres, 1E of Burwell; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish.

Davis Creek Reservoir - 1,145 acres, 5S, 1E of North Loup; Bluegill, bullhead, carp, white bass, wiper, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye, yellow perch; Water level fluctuates dramatically due to irrigation.

NORTHEAST

Anglers in the northeast find exciting fishing action at popular Lewis and Clark Lake, as well as many small farm ponds, catfish and trout streams and the mighty Missouri River.

DISTRICT III - NORTHEAST
Norfolk Office
Jeff Schuckman,
Fisheries Supervisor
(402) 370-3374;
Fax (402) 370-3256



Missouri River (Federal access areas) - Nebraska Shoreline of River; Buffalo, carp, channel and flathead catfish, drum, paddlefish, sauger, walleye; Walleye, and sauger - 15" minimum length limit from Gavins Point Dam upstream to South Dakota border. Public access points to Missouri River, camping available, area boundaries posted, river miles 691.3-691.9, 693.0-693.4, 694.5-695.3, 695.2-697.4, 697.7-699.6, 701.1-701.5.

Antelope County

East Branch Verdigre Creek (Grove Lake WMA) - NE of Royal above Grove Lake; Brown and rainbow trout; Public access available as posted, rainbow trout stocked on weekly basis.

Grove Lake - 50 acres, 2N of Royal; Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, northern pike, rainbow trout (winter); Northern pike - 30" minimum length limit. Primitive camping, power boats limited to 5 mph (no wake) Dredging to continue through 2005, access may be impacted.

Hackberry Creek WMA (Elkhorn River) - 1½E, ½N of Clearwater; Carp, channel and flathead catfish; Elkhorn River access.

Penn Park Lake - 8 acres, Neligh city lake, southeast of the Hwy. 14 and Hwy. 275 interchange; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, carp; City regulations in place. Catch and release on largemouth bass.

Red Wing WMA (Elkhorn River) - 5SW of Neligh; Carp, channel and flathead catfish; Elkhorn River access.

Boyd County

Sunshine Bottoms Ramp (Missouri River) - 3E, 4N of Lynch; Carp, channel catfish, drum, goldeye, sauger, smallmouth bass, walleye; Public access to Missouri River.

Burt County

Decatur Boat Ramp (Missouri River) - South of Hwy. 51 bridge; Carp, channel and flathead catfish, drum; Public access to Missouri River, concrete ramp.

Pelican Point SRA (Missouri River) - 5E, 4N of Tekamah, River mile 672.8; Buffalo, carp, channel and flathead catfish, drum, sauger, walleye; Missouri River access, public access ramp, primitive camping.

Summit Lake SRA - 190 acres, 4½W, ½S of Tekamah; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish, walleye; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; Motorboats limited to 5 mph (no wake), fish-cleaning station.

Cedar County

Brooky Bottom Park (Missouri River) - 4NE of Wynot, River mile 784.9; Carp, channel and flathead catfish, drum, paddlefish, sauger, walleye; Missouri River access, public access allowed, concrete ramp.

Chalkrock Lake WMA - 44 acres, 5N, 1½E of Hwy. 81 and 12 Jct.; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; No live baitfish can be used or possessed. Motorboats limited to 5 mph (no wake).

Cottonwood Lake (Lake Yankton) - 250 acres, Below Gavins Point Dam, north side of river; Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, pike, walleye; Largemouth bass - 15" minimum length limit. Border water area with S. Dakota, open to Nebr. permit holders, electric trolling motor only.

Gavins Point Dam Tailwaters (Missouri River) - 1S, 4W of Yankton, SD; Buffalo, carp, channel and flathead catfish, white bass, crappie, drum, paddlefish, smallmouth bass, sauger, walleye, goldeye; Paddlefish - special regulations, check guide. All boats allowed, wheelchair-accessible fishing piers, access to Missouri River, From Gavins Point Dam to 0.6 miles downstream a nonresident Nebraska fishing license is required of anglers who are not residents of Nebraska or South Dakota when fishing from boat or either bank.

St. Helena Access (Missouri River) - 6½E, 1N of Hwy. 81 and 121 Jct.; Channel and flathead catfish, paddlefish, freshwater drum, sauger, walleye; Missouri River access, public access allowed, concrete ramp.

Colfax County

Schuyler City Lake - 18 acres, Schuyler - south edge off Hwy. 15 on Higgins Drive; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish, crappie; Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Whitetail WMA (Platte River) - ½W of Schuyler on US 30, 3S on county road; Carp, channel and flathead catfish, sauger; Platte River access.

Cuming County

Black Island WMA (Elkhorn River) - 2½E of Pilger on county road; Carp, channel and flathead catfish; Elkhorn River access.

Neligh Park (West Point) - Adjacent to Cuming Co. fairgrounds; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; check for city ordinances. Urban Fishing Program Lake.

Dakota County

Crystal Cove Lake - 30 acres, NE of Hwy. 20 and 77 intersection in S. Sioux City, entrance on W. 39th St.; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish, pike, rainbow trout in winter; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10 in combination; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. electric trolling motors only, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier, Urban Fishing Program Lake.

Scenic Park Access (Missouri River) - ½E of Hwy. 77 bridge near S. Sioux City, River mile 732.0; Carp, channel and flathead catfish, freshwater drum; City of S. Sioux City, Missouri River access, public access allowed, concrete ramp.

Dixon County

Buckskin Hills Lake - 75 acres, 2W, 3S, ½W of Newcastle; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, walleye; Largemouth bass - 21" minimum length limit. Primitive camping, motorboats limited to 5 mph (no wake) owned by Lewis and Clark NRD.

Mulberry Bend WMA (Missouri River) - 1E of Maskell on Hwy. 12 and 2 1/2N; Carp, channel catfish, largemouth and smallmouth bass, paddlefish, pike, sauger, walleye; Missouri River access, concrete ramp.

Ponca State Park (Missouri River) - 2½N of Ponca, River mile 753.5; Carp, channel and flathead catfish, drum, paddlefish, sauger, walleye; Missouri River access, public access, concrete ramp.

Powder Creek Reservoir - 107 acres, 2E, 4S of Newcastle; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; motorboats limited to 5 mph (no wake).

Dodge County

Dead Timber SRA - 20 acres, 5NW of Scribner, 1½E; Bullhead, carp, channel and flathead catfish, largemouth bass, bluegill, crappie; Primitive camping, electric trolling motors only.

Fremont Lakes SRA - 280 acres in 19 lakes, 3W of Fremont; Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, muskie (lakes 7 and 8), wipers (lakes 15 and 20); Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; Muskie - 40" minimum length limit; Wipers - 18" minimum length limit, daily bag limit of one. Camping available, gas-powered boating on Victory Lake and Lake #20 only, all others electric trolling motors only.

Johnson Park Lake - 10 acres, 1E of Fremont; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish -daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Electric trolling motors only; Former Hwy. 275 bypass lake #2, park to be developed over next several years.

Powder Horn WMA (Elkhorn River) - 4NW of Scribner on Hwy. 275; Carp, channel and flathead catfish; Elkhorn River access.

Greeley County

Spalding Lake - 24 acres, south edge of Spalding; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish, northern pike, carp; motorboats limited to 5 mph (no wake), lake dewatered periodically, Cedar River access.

Wolbach City Pond - 3 acres, Wolbach - north edge of town off Hwy. 22 on Bluff St.; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass and bluegill - total catch and release; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; check signs for more restrictive city ordinances. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Holt County

Dry Creek WMA (Elkhorn River) - 1½SE of O'Neill; Carp, channel and flathead catfish; Elkhorn River access.

Goose Lake - 237 acres, 18N, 5E of Bartlett; Largemouth bass, bluegill, northern pike, yellow perch; Northern pike - 28" to 34" protected slot limit; renovated and restocked in 2003, fishing opportunity limited in 2005.

Steel Creek - Brown and rainbow trout; Private access, permission required.

Knox County

Bazile Creek WMA (Missouri River) - 4E, 1½N of Niobrara, River mile 838.8; Carp, channel and flathead catfish, smallmouth bass, northern pike, sauger, walleye; Walleye and sauger - 15" minimum length limit. Missouri River access, gravel road to ramp gets muddy with heavy rains, ramp subject to flooding.

Bloomfield Area (Lewis and Clark SRA) - 30,000 acres, 8W, 7N of Crofton on Lewis and Clark Lake, River mile 819.5; Carp, channel catfish, crappie, drum, sauger, walleye, white bass, smallmouth bass; Walleye and sauger - 15" minimum length limit. No more than two lines with two hooks on each line allowed from Gavins Point Dam upstream to the Santee boat ramp in Knox County. Concrete boat ramp, primitive camping.

Ferry Landing (Missouri River) - 2½E, 1½N of Niobrara, River mile 841.0; Carp, channel and flathead catfish, northern pike, sauger, walleye; Walleye and sauger - 15" minimum length limit. Boat ramp, access to Missouri River.

Hideaway Acres Marina (Lewis and Clark Lake) - 30,000 acres, 7N, ½W of Crofton on Lewis and Clark Lake, River mile 812.5; Carp, channel catfish, crappie, drum, sauger, walleye, white bass, smallmouth bass; Walleye and sauger - 15" minimum length limit. No more than two lines with two hooks on each line allowed from Gavins Point Dam upstream to the Santee boat ramp in Knox County. Concrete ramp - access through private development, ramp is public, marina is private, small parking lot.

Lewis and Clark Lake SRA (Weigand and Burbach Park) - 30,000 acres, 7N, 4W of Crofton; Carp, channel catfish, crappie, drum, sauger, walleye, white bass, smallmouth bass; Walleye and sauger - 15" minimum length limit; no more than two lines with two hooks on each allowed from Gavins Point Dam upstream to the Santee boat ramp in Knox County. Modern and primitive camping, all boats allowed, two boat ramps, fish cleaning station.

Miller Creek Area (Lewis and Clark SRA) - 30,000 acres, 10W, 6N of Crofton on Lewis and Clark Lake, River mile 821.0; Carp, channel catfish, crappie, drum, sauger, walleye, white bass, smallmouth bass; Walleye and sauger - 15" minimum length limit. No more than two lines with two hooks on each line allowed from Gavins Point Dam upstream to the Santee boat ramp in Knox County. Concrete boat ramp - impacted by low water levels, primitive camping.

Niobrara SP - 7 acres in 2 ponds, 1W of Niobrara; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10 in combination; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Access to Niobrara River.

Niobrara Townsite Boat Ramp (Missouri River) - N of old Niobrara townsite on county road, River mile 844.0; Buffalo, carp, crappie, pike, sauger, smallmouth bass, walleye; Walleye and sauger - 15" minimum length limit. Missouri River access, double-wide concrete ramps - not usable during periods of low water levels, ample parking.

South Shore Area (Lewis and Clark SRA) - 30,000 acres, 8N of Crofton, on Lewis and Clark Lake, River mile 811.5; Carp, channel catfish, crappie, drum, sauger, walleye, white bass, smallmouth bass; Walleye and sauger - 15" minimum length limit. No more than two lines with two hooks on each line allowed from Gavins Point Dam upstream to the Santee boat ramp in Knox County. Boat ramp closed, shore fishing access, day use only.

Verdel Landing WMA (Missouri River) - 2E, 2N of Verdel; Carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth and smallmouth bass, pike; Walleye and sauger - 15" minimum length limit. Missouri River access, double-wide boat ramp, ample parking.

Madison County

Skyview Lake - 50 acres, Norfolk - north of Business Hwy. 275, W of Hwy. 81 on Maple Avenue; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass - 21" minimum length limit; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10 in combination; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. No live baitfish can be used or possessed. Wheelchair-accessible fishing pier, electric trolling motors only, renovated in 2004.

Ta-Ha-Zouka Park Lake - 5 acres, Norfolk - south edge of Norfolk just east of Hwy. 81 and just north of the Elkhorn River; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish, rainbow trout (seasonal stockings); Largemouth bass - 21" minimum length limit; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. No live baitfish can be used or possessed. Renovated in 2004, Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Tilden City Pond - 1 acre, Tilden - Horseshoe Bend Memorial Park - SW corner of town on 5th St.; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Total catch and release all species. Urban Fisheries Program Lake, check signs for more restrictive city ordinances.

Yellowbanks WMA (Elkhorn River) - (Elkhorn River) - 3N 2½W of Battle Creek; Carp, channel and flathead catfish; Elkhorn River access.

Nance County

Prairie Wolf WMA (Loup River) - 1S of Genoa; Carp, channel catfish; Loup River access.

Loup Canal (Loup River) - Genoa to Columbus; Carp, channel and flathead catfish, drum; Tailrace at Columbus, stilling basin W of Genoa, and tailwaters below Monroe and Columbus powerhouses most productive. Loup River diversion canal.

Pierce County

Willow Creek SRA - 700 acres, 2SW of Pierce; Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye, sauger, wiper; Wiper - daily bag limit of 3 with no more than one fish over 18". Wheelchair-accessible fishing pier, boats limited to 5mph (no wake) on west half of lake.

Platte County

George Syas WMA (Loup River) - 2S, 1½E of Genoa; Carp, channel catfish; Loup River access.

Lake Babcock - 600 acres, 1W, 3N of Columbus; Bullhead, carp, channel and flathead catfish; Boats limited to 5 mph (no wake), may be closed to boating during waterfowl season; shallow lake, owned by Loup Public Power.

Lake North - 200 acres, 3N of Columbus; Carp, channel catfish, crappie, drum, walleye; Camping, shallow lake, owned by Loup Public Power, all boats allowed.

Looking Glass WMA - 7 acres in 2 lakes, 1S of Monroe; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass.

Pawnee Park East - 2 acres, Columbus - south edge, use west park entrance then cross under Hwy. 81 on park road; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake, City of Columbus.

Pawnee Park West - 2 acres, Columbus - south edge, west side of Hwy. 81, south off 8th St.; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake, City of Columbus.

Wilkinson WMA - 1 acre in 2 ponds 1½ S of Platte Center.; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Renovated in 2004.

Stanton County

Maskenthine Reservoir - 98 acres, 2NW of Stanton; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, pike, walleye; Northern pike - 30" minimum length limit. Camping, boats limited to 5mph (no wake), wheelchair-accessible fishing pier, owned by Lower Elkhorn NRD.

Red Fox WMA - 25 acres, 1½S of Pilger on Hwy. 15; Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; Boats limited to 5 mph (no wake), primitive boat ramp.

Red Fox WMA (Elkhorn River) - 1S of Pilger on Hwy. 15; Carp, channel and flathead catfish; Elkhorn River access.

Wood Duck WMA - 50 acres, 3SW of Stanton; Carp, channel and flathead catfish, largemouth bass, crappie; Elkhorn River access, access road to river closed during hunting season, shallow lakes and oxbow marshes open to fishing in new addition.

Washington County

DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge - 760 acres, 6E of Blair on Hwy. 30; **Refuge entrance fee permit required**; Bluegill, buffalo, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye; All anglers shall conform with the regulations of the state in which they are licensed, either Nebraska or Iowa, and federal refuge regulations as posted. 5 mph speed limit for boats (no wake), open from early Jan. through late Feb. for ice fishing, no more than two lines with two hooks per line can be used for ice fishing in DeSoto NWR Lake; April 15th - Oct. 14th for open-water fishing, area open ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.

Wheeler County

Lake Ericson - 70 acres, 1/2S of Ericson; Largemouth bass, bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, pike; Power boats limited to 5 mph (no wake), boat ramp in NW corner, lake and dam managed by Lake Ericson Corporation.

Pibel Lake SRA - 20 acres, 9S, 1E of Bartlett; Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; No live baitfish can be used or possessed. Primitive camping, power boats limited to 5 mph (no wake).

SOUTHWEST

Southwest Nebraska offers large reservoirs, rivers, canals and smaller lakes for the enjoyment of anglers and campers. Anglers can try for many species, including channel catfish, bluegill, walleye, crappie, yellow perch and bass. Most areas have both modern and primitive camping facilities available.

DISTRICT IV - SOUTHWEST
North Platte Office
Darrol Eichner,
Fisheries Supervisor
North Platte
(308) 535-8025;
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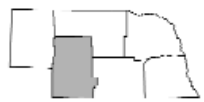

Chase County

Enders Reservoir SRA - 1,200 acres, 5E, 4½S of Imperial; Channel and flathead catfish, largemouth bass, crappie, walleye, white bass, wiper, northern pike, carp; Northern pike - 30" minimum length limit. Primitive camping, all boats allowed, severe summer drawdown, it is unlawful to fish or boat inside the Game Refuge during the waterfowl hunting season.

Dundy County

Rock Creek Lake SRA - 50 acres, 4N, 1W of Parks; Channel catfish, largemouth bass, yellow perch, rainbow trout (seasonal), redear sunfish; Primitive camping, electric fishing motors only.

Frontier County

Medicine Creek SRA (Harry Strunk Lake) - 1,850 acres, 2W, 7N of Cambridge; Channel and flathead catfish, crappie, walleye, largemouth bass, white bass, wiper, carp; Primitive and modern camping, all boats allowed, subject to severe summer drawdowns.

Red Willow SRA (Hugh Butler Lake) - 1,630 acres, 11N of McCook; Channel and flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye, white bass, wiper, northern pike, carp; Northern pike - 30" minimum length limit. Modern camping, all boats allowed, subject to severe summer drawdowns.

Hayes County

Frenchman WMA - 20 acres in 3pits, ½N of Palisade; Crappie, bluegill, channel catfish, northern pike, largemouth bass.

Hayes Center Lake WMA - 50 acres, 12NE of Hayes Center; Bullhead, largemouth bass, bluegill, channel and flathead catfish, crappie, northern pike; Electric fishing motors only.

Hitchcock County

Swanson Reservoir SRA - 5,000 acres, 2W of Trenton; Channel and flathead catfish, carp, crappie, drum, walleye, wiper, white bass; All boats allowed, subject to severe summer drawdowns.

Keith County

Humphrey Pond - 3 acres, Ogallala, east edge of town on Hwy. 30; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish, carp, northern pike; Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Lake McConaughy SRA - 30,000 acres, 10N of Ogallala; Channel catfish, bullhead, pike, yellow perch, smallmouth bass, striped bass, white bass, walleye, wiper; Walleye bag limit allows only one fish over 22", It is unlawful to possess a walleye on that portion of Otter Creek from the junction at the lake shore of the lake upstream to and including the culvert under Hwy. 92. Modern and primitive camping, all boats allowed, subject to severe summer drawdowns.

Lake Ogallala SRA - 650 acres, 10N of Ogallala; Channel catfish, rainbow trout, brown trout, walleye, white bass, yellow perch, carp; Combination bag limit on all trout is 4 with a possession limit of 8; Brown trout-20" minimum length limit. Modern/primitive camping, all boats allowed, except that no boats are allowed in the north basin due to aeration lines, wheelchair accessible fishing pier.

Otter Creek - 12E of Lewellen; Brown and rainbow trout; Private property, permission required.

North Platte River - Keystone to Paxton; Rainbow and brown trout; Private access, permission required.

Sutherland Supply Canal - Keith and Lincoln County; Brown and rainbow trout; Access via Central Public Power District road.

Lincoln County

Birdwood WMA - 20 acres, North Platte Inter., ½S, 3½W, 1N, NW across overpass; Channel catfish, largemouth and rock bass, bluegill, yellow perch, rainbow trout in winter.

Brady Interchange WMA - 25 acres, Brady Inter., SE quadrant; Bluegill, channel catfish, grass carp, crappie, largemouth bass.

Chester Island WMA - 4 acres in 4 pits , 2S, ½W of Brady; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass.

CNPPID Canal (Tri County) - North Platte to Lexington; Channel and flathead catfish, walleye, white bass, wiper, smallmouth bass; Power boats limited to 5 mph.

Crystal Lake - 7 acres, Maxwell Inter., ¾N, 2W, ½N, 3½W, ½S across overpass; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass.

East Hershey WMA - 20 acres, North Platte Inter., ½S, 7¾W, 1½N, NE across overpass; Channel catfish, largemouth bass, bluegill, yellow perch, rock bass.

East Sutherland WMA - 27 acres, Hershey Inter., ¼S, 3W, ½N, NE across overpass; Northern pike, channel catfish, hybrid sunfish, largemouth and rock bass, yellow perch, bluegill.

Fremont Slough WMA - 30 acres, North Platte Inter., 1½S, 4¾E, ¼N, right turn across canal, ¼N under overpass; Bluegill, channel catfish, carp, largemouth bass.

Ft. McPherson DOR - 30 acres, Maxwell Inter., SE quadrant; Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, largemouth bass.

Hershey WMA - 53 acres, Hershey Inter., SE quadrant; Channel and flathead catfish, largemouth and rock bass, yellow perch, northern pike, walleye, bluegill.

Jack Harkreader Pond - 8 acres, South of Lake Maloney inlet; Smallmouth bass,channel catfish, rock bass, bluegill; wheelchair-accessible fishing pier.

Jeffrey Reservoir - 900 acres, 5S, 3W of Brady; Channel and flathead catfish, carp, crappie, bluegill, freshwater drum, walleye, white bass, wiper; All boats allowed.

Lake Maloney SRA - 1,600 acres, 6S of North Platte; Channel and flathead catfish, carp, crappie, bluegill, freshwater drum, walleye, white bass, smallmouth bass, wiper; Camping, all boats allowed, wheelchair accessible fishing pier on inlet.

Maxwell Rest Stop DOR - 55 acres, Maxwell Inter., 3E; Bluegill, crappie, channel catfish, largemouth bass; No boats allowed.

North Platte I-80 City Lake - 26 acres, North Platte I-80 inter., exit 177, south on Hwy. 83, first left turn; Channel catfish, largemouth and rock bass, bluegill, wiper, walleye, northern pike. Primitive boat ramp, fishing pier.

North River WMA (Platte River) - 2½N of Hershey; Carp, channel and flathead catfish; Encompasses 2 miles of North Platte River.

Pawnee Slough WMA - 30 acres, 2W of Maxwell on Hwy. 30; Bluegill, crappie, channel catfish, largemouth and rock bass.

Sutherland Reservoir SRA -3,000 acres, 2S of Sutherland; Channel catfish, walleye, white bass, wiper, yellow perch, freshwater drum; Ice fishermen use caution due to heated discharge from power plant, primitive camping, all boats allowed, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier.

Wellfleet Lake - 50 acres, ½SW of Wellfleet; Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; Primitive camping, electric fishing motors only.

West Brady WMA - 6 acres, Brady Inter., ¾N, 3W across overpass; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass.

West Gothenburg WMA - 15 acres, Brady Inter., 3½E on Hwy. 30, ¼S across tracks; Channel catfish, largemouth and rock bass, bluegill, redear sunfish.

West Hershey WMA - 6 acres, Hershey Inter., ½W; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Access across private land.

West Maxwell WMA - 7 acres, Maxwell Inter., ¾N, ¾W, ¼S; Channel catfish, rock and largemouth bass, bluegill, grass carp.

McPherson County

Diamond Bar - 120 acres, 18W 3S Tryon; Largemouth bass, northern pike, bullhead, yellow perch, bluegill, black crappie; Shallow sandhill lake, privately owned, but managed by NGPC under an MOU.

Red Willow County

Barnett Park Pond - 5 acres, E edge McCook; Bluegill, largemouth bass, channel catfish; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

SOUTH-CENTRAL

A variety of opportunities await anglers in South-central Nebraska. Large reservoirs, like Harlan and Sherman, offer fishing for walleye, white bass and channel catfish. Most reservoirs have modern and primitive camping facilities and allow all boating. Smaller lakes provide angling opportunity for largemouth bass, bluegill and channel catfish. River fishing is available at public areas on the Loup, Platte and Republican rivers. Stream trout fishing is offered at Elm Creek near Red Cloud.

DISTRICT VI - SOUTH-CENTRAL
Kearney Office
Brad Newcomb,
Fisheries Supervisor
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Fax (308) 865-5309

Adams County

32-Mile D, Roseland Lake - 66 acres, 4½W, 1½S of Juniata; Bullhead, carp, channel catfish; Owned by the Little Blue NRD, boats limited to 5 mph (no wake), turbid.

32-Mile H, Prairie Lake - 65 acres, 1½E, 4½S of Juniata; Channel catfish, carp, bullhead; Owned by the Little Blue NRD, walk in access only, turbid.

Crystal Lake SRA - 10 acres, 2N, 1W of Ayr; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Electric motors only, summer drawdowns.

Hartwell Park Lake - 3 acres, E Forest blvd. Hastings; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Rainbow trout (seasonal) Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Lake Hastings - 63 acres, N edge of Hastings, west of Hwy. 281; Bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie; Special city boating regulations.

Buffalo County

Bassway Strip WMA - 39 acres in 2 lakes, Minden Inter., ¼S on Hwy. 10, left on county road back toward I-80; Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; Bassway East - 30 surface acres Walk in access only; Platte River access, improved boat ramp on west lake, boating restricted to 5 mph (no wake).

Blue Hole WMA (East lake) - 34 acres, Elm Creek Inter., 1½S, 1½E on canal road; Bluegill, carp, northern pike, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; Northern pike - 30" minimum length limit; NPPD area.

Blue Hole WMA (West lake) - 37 acres, Elm Creek Inter., SW quadrant; Bluegill, carp, sauger, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; Platte River access, boating restricted to 5 mph (no wake), north channel of Platte river connects to lake.

Bufflehead WMA - 15 acres, Kearney Inter., 1N to 11th St., 3E, 1S, ½E; Bluegill, yellow perch, rock bass, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Improved boat ramp, boating restricted to 5 mph (no wake).

Coot Shallows WMA - 12 acres, Odessa Inter., ¾N, 1¾W; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, crappie; Improved boat ramp, boating restricted to 5 mph (no wake).

Cottonmill Lake - 43 acres, 1W, ½N of Kearney on Hwy. 30, N of Hwy. 30 off Cottonmill Avenue; Largemouth bass, bluegill, crappie, channel catfish, northern pike; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Crappie - 10" minimum length limit; Northern pike - 30" minimum length limit; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; No live baitfish allowed. Improved boat ramp, boating restricted to 5 mph (no wake) Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

East Odessa WMA - 7 acres, Odessa Inter., 4E on S side of I-80; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Platte River access.

Kea Lake WMA - 20 acres, Kearney Inter., SW quadrant; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Improved boat ramp, handicap accessible ramp access, boating restricted to 5 mph (no wake).

Kea West WMA - 8 acres, Kearney Inter., 1N to 11th St., 1¼W, 1S to overpass approach, turn east; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, crappie, rock bass, yellow perch; Primitive boat ramp.

Lighthouse Point Lake - 15 acres, NW Kearney - 20th Ave; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish. Public access through Ted Baldwin Park.

North Kearney Rest Area DOR - 7 acres, Kearney Inter., 1¾W on I-80 to rest stop; Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; No boats allowed.

Ravenna Lake SRA - 116 acres, 1SE of Ravenna, N of Hwy. 2; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit is 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit is 3. Primitive camping, electric fishing motors only, gravel boat ramp, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier, Urban Fisheries Program Lake, Area managed by the county.

South Kearney Rest Area DOR - 1 acre, Kearney Inter., 1¾W on I-80 at east bound rest stop; Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, redear sunfish; No boats allowed.

Union Pacific SRA - 15 acres, Odessa Inter., NE quadrant; Channel catfish, bluegill, rock, smallmouth and largemouth bass; Primitive camping; Gravel boat ramp, electric motors only

War Axe SRA - 14 acres, Shelton Inter., NE quadrant; Bluegill, carp, yellow perch, channel catfish, largemouth bass, walleye; Primitive camping.

West Elm Creek WMA - 9 acres, Elm Creek Inter., 5W; Green sunfish, channel catfish; Access across private property.

Windmill SRA - 23 acres in 6 lakes, Gibbon Inter., NE quadrant; Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, rainbow trout in winter (lake #1), rock bass (lake #6), wipers (lake #3); Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; Wipers - 18" minimum length limit, daily bag limit of one; Sunfish - 8" minimum length limit on lake #4 only, area closed to archery fishing. Modern camping, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier (lake #2), electric trolling motors only, fish feeder - lakes #3 and #4.

Yanney Park Lake - 112 acres, Kearney - west of town on W 11th Street; Largemouth bass, bluegill, crappie, channel catfish; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Crappie - 10" minimum length limit; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Clay County

Sutton Clark Pond - 1 acre, Sutton - Glen Avenue and West Cedar Street; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Custer County

Ansley Lake - 4 acres, Ansley - west edge of town off Hwy. 2; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Improved boat ramp, electric motors only; Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Pressey WMA - 2 acres, 3N 1E Oconto; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass.

Dawson County

Cozad WMA - 18 acres, Cozad Inter., SE quadrant; Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, largemouth and rock bass; Improved boat ramp, boating restricted to 5 mph (no wake), access to Platte River. wheelchair-accessible ramp.

Darr WMA - 13 acres, Darr Inter., NW quadrant; Channel catfish, bluegill, largemouth and rock bass.

Dawson County Museum Pond - 3 acres, Lexington - 805 N Taft St.; Bluegill, largemouth bass, channel catfish; Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Dogwood WMA - 12 acres in 2 lakes, Lexington Inter., 5½E, 2½S across overpass, ¼E; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth and rock bass; Platte River access. Improved boat ramp on east lake, boating restricted to 5 mph (no wake).

East Gothenburg WMA - 15 acres, Gothenburg Inter., ½S, ½E, 3½SE and E; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Improved boat ramp, boating restricted to 5 mph (no wake).

Gallagher Canyon Reservoir SRA - 182 acres, 8S of Cozad; Channel and flathead catfish, wiper, crappie, drum, walleye, sauger, white bass; Primitive camping, boating restricted to 5 mph (no wake).

Lake Helen - 20 acres, N edge Gothenburg, west of Rt. 47 at 25th St.; Carp, wiper, channel catfish; Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Lexington City Lake - 3 acres, N edge Lexington, N. Adams St. (Rt. 21) and W. 13th St.; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Midway Canyon Reservoir - 609 acres, 6S, 2W of Cozad; Channel and flathead catfish, wiper, sauger, crappie, drum, walleye, white bass; All power boats allowed, public boat ramp on Road 418.

Plum Creek Canyon Reservoir - 252 acres, 8S, 3½E Cozad; Channel and flathead catfish, crappie, drum, walleye, sauger, wiper, white bass; All power boats allowed.

West Cozad WMA - 18 acres, Cozad Inter., 1N to Hwy. 30, 1¾W, ¾S across overpass, ¼N and E; Channel catfish, redear sunfish, largemouth bass, rock bass; renovated and restocked in 2003.

Willow Island WMA -24 acres, Cozad Inter., 5¼W of Cozad on Hwy. 30, ¾S across overpass; Carp, bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Lake connects to Platte River.

Gosper County

Elwood Reservoir WMA - 1,200 acres, 3N of Elwood; Bluegill, wiper, channel catfish, crappie, flathead catfish, white bass, largemouth and spotted bass, muskie, walleye; Wiper/white bass - daily bag limit of 3 with no more than 1 fish over 18"; Walleye - 15" minimum length limit with a 18 to 24" protected slot with only one over 24" allowed in the daily bag limit; Muskie - 40" minimum length limit. Bank access at entrance, boats limited to 5 mph (no wake), summer drawdown.

Johnson Lake SRA - 2,800 acres, 7S of Lexington; Channel and flathead catfish, crappie, drum, carp, walleye, sauger, white bass, wiper; Primitive and modern camping, all boats allowed, 2 wheelchair accessible fishing piers at inlet.

Phillips Canyon Reservoir - 142 acres, 8S, 1E, 1N Lexington; Channel catfish, crappie, drum, sauger, walleye, wiper, white bass; All boats allowed, unimproved access road - dry weather only.

Hall County

Alda DOR - 12 acres, Alda Inter., NE quadrant; Bluegill, carp, northern pike, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Northern pike - 30" minimum length limit. No boats allowed.

Crane Meadows Viewing Site Pond - 2 acres, 1½S 1E of Alda I-80 Interchange; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish. Subject to low water levels.

Cheyenne SRA - 7 acres, Wood River Inter., NW quadrant; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Primitive camping.

Cornhusker WMA - 1 acre, 4W of Grand Island; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3.

Grand Island East-bound Rest Area - 6 acres, 3E of Grand Island Interchange, S of I-80; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Renovated in summer of 2004; No boats allowed.

L.E. Ray Lake - 30 acres, Grand Island city lake, N of Husker Hwy. and East Blaine; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, muskie; Electric motors only.

Loch Linda WMA (Platte River) - 10S, 3W of Grand Island; Carp and channel catfish; Access to Platte River.

Martins Reach WMA (Platte River) - 4S, 2W of Wood River; Carp and channel catfish; Access to Platte River.

Mormon Island DOR (East) - 22 acres, Grand Island Inter., N of I-80, 1½E; Bluegill, channel catfish, muskie, crappie, largemouth bass; Sunfish - 8" minimum length limit; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Access on foot from Mormon Island SRA.

Mormon Island SRA (Middle) - 19 acres, NE quadrant, Grand Island Inter.; Bluegill, carp, channel catfish, largemouth bass, muskie; Sunfish - 8" minimum length limit; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3, no archery fishing allowed. Access on foot from Mormon Island.

Mormon Island SRA (West) - 42 acres, NE quadrant, Grand Island Inter.; Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; Sunfish - 8" minimum length limit; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; no archery fishing allowed. Modern camping, electric motors only, handicap accessible fishing pier.

Pier Lake - 9 acres, Grand Island city lake, Ashton Ave. and Bismarck Rd.; Bluegill, crappie, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Scout Lake - 55 acres, 1N of Grand Island,US Hwy. 281 and N. Broadwell Ave.; Bluegill, sauger, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass, carp, crappie; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10. Boating restricted to 5 mph (no wake), wheelchair-accessible fishing pier, hike-bike trail around lake. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Such's Lake - 4 acres, Grand Island city lake, Harrison St; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake, handicap accessible fishing pier.

Wastewater Pond - 8 acres, Grand Island city lake, Swift Rd., E of Stuhr Rd.; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, tiger muskie.

West Wood River WMA - 15 acres, Wood River Inter., ½S, 1W, N across overpass, ¼W; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish.

Hamilton County

Pioneer Trail Lake - 45 acres, 1.5E Aurora; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish. Seepage problems - low water conditions common.

Harlan County

Harlan Co. Reservoir/Corps of Engineers - 13,500 acres S of Alma and Republican City; Channel and flathead catfish, crappie, pike, walleye, white bass, wiper; Walleye - 18" minimum length limit with only one over 22" in the daily bag; Wiper/white bass - one over 18" in daily bag. Modern and primitive camping, all boats allowed, summer drawdown.

Three R's Pond - 2 acres, 2S, 1W of Orleans; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3.

Howard County

Farwell South Reservoir - 40 acres, 4W, 3S of Farwell; Carp, channel and flathead catfish, crappie, walleye; Power boats not allowed.

Harold W. Anderson WMA (Middle Loup River) - 2N, 3E of Dannebrog; Carp, channel catfish; Access to Middle Loup River.

Len Koziol WMA (Loup River) - 2½N, 2E, ½N of St. Paul; Carp, channel catfish; Loup River access.

North Loup SRA - 7 acres, 3N of St. Paul, just north of the North Loup River on Hwy. 281; Bass, bluegill, channel catfish, crappie.

Marsh Wren WMA - 1 acre; 3N, 3W of St. Paul; Largemouth bass, bluegill; Access to N. Loup River.

Kearney County

Bethphage Pond - 3 acres, 1/4N Axtell; built in 2004, Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish. Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Ft. Kearny SRA - 21 acres in 7 pits, ¾E, 1N of Ft. Kearny SHP; Bluegill, channel catfish, carp, crappie, largemouth bass, wipers (lake #4); Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; Wipers - 18' minimum length limit, daily bag limit of one, no archery fishing allowed. Modern camping, electric fishing motors only, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier on lake #7.

Minden Biological Learning Center Pond - 0.5 acres, West 5th Street Minden, at Minden High School; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish.

Merrick County

Bader Memorial County Park - 12 acres in 7 lakes, 1½S of Chapman; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3, primitive camping, no boats allowed, old sandpits.

Krance's Corner Pond - 2 acres, 5N Central City on Hwy. 14; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish. Shallow, subject to low water levels, occasionally dry.

Morman Trail - 1 acre, 1.5S, 2W Clarks; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish. Subject to low water levels.

Silver Creek City Pond - 4 acres, South on Hwy. 39; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish.

Nuckolls County

Lincoln Park Pond - 1 acre, W edge of Superior, W. 4th Street off Hwy. 14; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Largemouth bass and bluegill - total catch and release; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Phelps County

Holdrege City Lake (North Lake) - 10 acres, Holdrege - east of Hwy. 183 on 18th Avenue; Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, rainbow trout (winter); Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake, improved boat ramp, boating restricted to 5 mph (no wake), wheelchair-accessible fishing pier.

Sac Wilcox WMA - 2 acres in 3 lakes, 10E, 3S of Holdrege; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3.

Sandy Channel SRA - 52 acres in 6 lakes, 2S of Elm Creek I-80 Interchange; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth and rock bass, yellow perch, carp; electrofishing motors only, except lake # 8 (no wake, 5 mph) improved boat ramp on lake #8. wheelchair-accessible.

Sherman County

Beaver Creek Pond - 6 acres, 1NW Hazard; Carp, bullhead. Oxbow lake of Mud Creek. Shallow, subject to low water levels.

Bowman Lake SRA - 20 acres, ½W of Loup City on Hwy. 92; Bluegill, pike, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; Electric motors only.

Sherman Reservoir SRA - 2,845 acres, 4E, 1N of Loup City; Channel catfish, crappie, flathead catfish, pike, walleye, white bass; Walleye - 18" minimum length limit and only one over 22"; Crappie - 10" minimum length limit. Northern Pike - 30" minimum length limit. Primitive camping, all boats allowed, summer drawdowns, waters within 150 feet of the dam are closed to fishing from sunset to sunrise beginning 12:01 a.m. April 1st and ending 12 p.m. April 20th.

Webster County

Elm Creek WMA - 4E, 2N of Red Cloud; Rainbow trout; ½ mile of Elm Creek on public land, rest on private land, permission required, trout stocked two times during year (March and September).

Indian Creek WMA pond - 2 acres, 1S of Red Cloud; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish. Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3.

Indian Creek WMA - Republican River access; Carp, channel catfish, white bass.

Liberty Cove - 36 acres, 2S, 2½W of Lawrence; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Owned by the Little Blue NRD, fishing pier with gravel access, boating restricted to 5 mph (no wake).

Narrows WMA - (Republican River) - 4W of Red Cloud on Hyw. 136; Carp, channel catfish, white bass.

SOUTHEAST

Fishing opportunity is increasing in the Southeast. Aquatic Habitat Projects are improving hundreds of acres of fishing water in the area. Farm ponds, streams and rivers are important fisheries. In spite of potential for heavy fishing pressure, anglers will find plenty of opportunities to catch catfish, largemouth bass and bluegill in most waters.

DISTRICT V - SOUTHEAST
Lincoln
Jeff Jackson,
Fisheries Supervisor
(402) 471-7647; Fax
(402) 471-7649

Butler County

David City Park Ponds - 2 acres, South side of David City, east side of Hwy.15; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish, rainbow trout (winter); Largemouth bass and bluegill - total catch and release; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Homestead Lake - 38 acres, 1N ½W of Bruno; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Owned by the Lower Platte North NRD, boat ramp, water level may be low.

Oxbow Trail Lake - 43 acres, 1½E of Ulysses; Bluegill, channel catfish, bullhead, largemouth bass; Owned by the Upper Big Blue NRD, boats limited to 5 mph (no wake), turbid, dam leaks, water may be low. Concrete boat ramp.

Redtail WMA - 17 acres, 1E, 1/2N of Dwight; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Walk-in access only.

Timber Point - 28 acres, 1S, 2E of Brainard; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Boats limited to 5 mph, Lower Platte South NRD, current boat ramp in poor condition, water level may be low. Renovated fall of 2004.

Cass County

Hwy. 50 Bridge (Platte River) - 1N of Louisville; Carp, channel and flathead catfish, shovelnose sturgeon; Access to Platte River.

Jenny Newman - 4 acres, Platte River SP - 2S, 3W of Louisville; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, grass carp; Total catch and release for all species. Possession of any fish species other than baitfish while fishing this lake is prohibited. With the exception of bait hooks, all artificial lure hooks must be either be barbless or have the barbs crimped, family fishing lake, open to all children less than 16 years of age and adults assisting children, no fishing from dock.

Lied Platte River Hike Bike Bridge (Platte River) - South of South Bend; Carp, freshwater drum, channel catfish, shovelnose sturgeon; Fishing deck available, contact Platte River SP for more details.

Louisville SRA - 40 acres in 5 lakes, 1/2NW of Louisville; Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, wiper (lake #2); Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10 in combination; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; Wiper - 18" minimum length limit, daily bag limit of one. Modern camping, electric fishing motors only.

Louisville SRA (Platte River) - 1/2NW of Louisville; Carp, freshwater drum, channel and flathead catfish, shovelnose sturgeon; Foot access point to Platte River, concrete boat ramp just off of Hwy. 50 on north side of river.

Marina Lake - 4 acres, 4 acres, Mahoney SP; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Children under 16 years of age, handicapped adults and adults assisting kids fishing are permitted to fish the entire lake except the immediate marina area. Daily bag limit is two fish,except all largemouth bass must be released.

Platte River State Park (Platte River) - 2 S, 3 W of Louisville; Carp, channel and flathead catfish, freshwater drum, shovelnose sturgeon; Foot access to Platte River.

Plattsmouth City Lake - 3 acres, Plattsmouth -Hwy. 75 and Oak Hill Rd., 4th Avenue and S. 18th St.; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass and bluegill - total catch and release; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Schilling WMA (Missouri and Platte rivers) - 1 NE of Plattsmouth; Carp, freshwater drum, channel and flathead catfish, sturgeon; Access to Missouri and Platte rivers, area open to fishing from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily from April 15th through Sept. 15th except when closed by the Commission by posting.

US West Lake - 10 acres, Mahoney State Park; Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, rainbow trout (winter); Largemouth bass and bluegill - total catch and release; Channel catfish - daily bag limit is 3. Only barbless hooks or hooks with flattened barbs may be used.

Weeping Water Pond - 4 acres, S of Clinton Street - Weeping Water; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake, renovated in 2004.

Douglas County

Adams Park Pond - 3 acres, Northeast Omaha - Bedford Avenue and 33rd St.; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass and bluegill - total catch and release; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; Fishing restricted to children under 16, adults with a child that is actively fishing and adults 65 and older. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Bennington Lake - 270 acres, 180th and Bennington Road; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; Ice fishing not allowed. Public access is only allowed on the jetty located 1/2W of 168th St. at the intersection of Highway 36 and Newport Landing.

Bennington Lions Club Pond - 11 acre, Bennington, 2nd Street; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; All species - total catch and release. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Benson Park Pond - 4 acres, Omaha - off 72nd St. at Military and Ames Ave. intersection; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish, rainbow trout (winter) Largemouth bass and bluegill - total catch and release; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; Fishing restricted to children under 16, adults with a child that is actively fishing and adults 65 or older. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Carter Lake - 300 acres, Abbott Drive and Carter Blvd. in Omaha; Bluegill, buffalo, bullhead, carp, channel and blue catfish, crappie, drum, largemouth bass, walleye; All boats allowed, City of Omaha lake, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier, concrete boat ramp, area open 5 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Dodge Park (Missouri River) - 11000 N River Rd. in Omaha; Buffalo, carp, channel and flathead catfish, crappie; Access point to Missouri River.

Elkhorn Crossing (Elkhorn River) - 1S, 3/4E of Hwy. 36 and County Rd. 92 junction; Carp, channel and flathead catfish, shovelnose sturgeon; Access to Elkhorn River, owned by the Papio/Missouri NRD.

Fontenelle Park Pond- 4 acres, Omaha - 45th and Ames Avenue at Fontenelle Blvd. (Fontenelle Park and Golf Course); Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass and bluegill - total catch and release. Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; Fishing restricted to children under 16, adults with a child that is actively fishing and adults 65 or older. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Glenn Cunningham Lake - 390 acres, 96th and State in Omaha; Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, largemouth bass, walleye, yellow and white bass, crappie; No-wake boating, boat ramp, camping, City of Omaha lake, area open 5 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Hanscom Park Pond - 1 acre, Omaha - 32nd Ave. and Center St.; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass and bluegill - total catch and release. Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; Fishing restricted to children under 16, adults with a child that is actively fishing and adults 65 or older. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Hitchcock Park Pond- 2 acres, Omaha - 42nd and Q St., south of I-80; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish, rainbow trout (winter); Largemouth bass and bluegill - total catch and release; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; Fishing restricted to children under 16, adults with a child that is actively fishing and adults 65 or older. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Miller Park Pond - 4 acres, Omaha - 30th St. and Redick Ave (Miller Park Golf Course - 6315 N. 30th St.); Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass and bluegill - total catch and release; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; Fishing restricted to children under 16, adults with a child that is actively fishing and adults 65 or older. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Papio D-4 - 30 acres, ¼N of NE 36 and 98th St., northwest Omaha; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, carp; Owned by the Papio/Missouri NRD, foot access only.

Platte River Access - 4W of Valley, SE corner of Hwy. 6 bridge; Carp, freshwater drum, channel and flathead catfish, shovelnose sturgeon; Access to Platte River.

Prairie View Lake - 42 acres, 2 W of Bennington, 180th and Hwy. 36; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Owned by Papio-Missouri NRD, boat ramp, boats restricted to 5 mph (no wake), area open 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Standing Bear Lake - 135 acres, 132nd and Military in Omaha; Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, freshwater drum, largemouth bass, rainbow trout (winter), walleye, carp; Electric fishing motors only, City of Omaha lake, trout stocked in fall and winter, concrete boat ramp, area open 5 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Towl Park Pond - 1 acre, Omaha - 92nd St. and West Center Rd. (enter at Paddock Rd. traffic light); Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass and bluegill - total catch and release; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; Fishing restricted to children under 16, adults with a child that is actively fishing and adults 65 or older. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Two Rivers SRA (Platte River) - 1½S of Venice; Carp, channel and flathead catfish, shovelnose sturgeon; Foot access to Platte River.

Two Rivers SRA - 32 acres in 7 lakes, 1½S of Venice; Bluegill, bullhead, carp, crappie, channel catfish, largemouth bass, grass pickerel, rainbow trout in lake #5; Lakes #3 and #4 are designated as total catch and release (no kill) lakes. Possession of any fish except baitfish while fishing lakes #3 and #4 is prohibited. Fish caught must be returned unharmed to the lake immediately. Only barbless or flattened-barb hooks allowed. Primitive and modern camping, non-powered boats only, no boats on lake #5, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier on lake #5, trout fishing in lake #5 is best from April 1st to early June, Open dates for trout fishing are April 1st through Oct. 15th unless otherwise posted. Trout fishing hours are 7 a.m. to sunset. A daily trout tag is required to attempt to take and to possess trout on the entire area. Cost of a tag is $4 which allows the harvest of four trout. Anglers may purchase up to 3 tags, and can possess up to 12 trout. An adult angler is allowed to have two children under 16 fish under their tag, but the group is still limited to four trout per tag. Check at park office. Archery fishing, spearing, and gigging are prohibited on all lakes.

Walnut Grove Park Pond - 1 acre, Millard - Q St. across from Millard South High School; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass and bluegill - total catch and release; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; Fishing restricted to children under 16, adults with a child that is actively fishing and adults 65 or older. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Zorinsky Lake Recreation Area - 255 acres, 156th and F Sts. in Omaha; Bluegill, bullhead, channel and blue catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye; Largemouth bass-21" minimum length limit; Crappie-10" minimum length limit except during the month of April; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10 in combination. City of Omaha lake, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier, concrete boat ramp, area open 5 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Fillmore County

Bruning Pit - 258 acres, 2½E, 1N of Bruning; Bullhead, carp, channel catfish; Owned by the Little Blue NRD, very turbid.

Gage County

Arrowhead WMA - 77 acres, 3E, ½S of Diller; Bullhead, carp, channel catfish; Electric trolling motors only, very turbid and shallow.

Bear Pierce Cedar 2A - 24 acres, 4N, 2E, ½S of Hwy. 77 and Hwy. 136 junction; Channel catfish, carp; Turbid and shallow, Lower Big Blue NRD.

Big Indian 11A - 76 acres, 3S, 3W of Wymore; Bullhead, bluegill, crappie, largemouth bass, channel catfish; Primitive camping, all boats allowed, very turbid, owned by the Lower Big Blue NRD, boat ramp.

Clatonia 3A - 46 acres, 1N of Clatonia; Channel catfish, bullhead; Boats limited to 5 mph, owned by the Lower Big Blue NRD, turbid.

Donald Whitney WMA - 43 acres in 2 lakes, 3½W of Odell; Bullhead, channel and flathead catfish; electric fishing motors only, turbid.

Rockford Lake SRA - 150 acres, 7E, 2S of Beatrice; Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel and flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; All boats allowed, concrete boat ramp, primitive camping.

Wolf Wildcat #12 - 42 acres, 7S of Virginia; Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; Owned by the Lower Big Blue NRD, primitive boat ramp.

Jefferson County

Alexandria Southwest WMA (Big Sandy Creek) - ½S, 1 E of Alexandria; Channel catfish, carp; Access to Big Sandy Creek.

Alexandria SRA - 43 acres in 2 lakes, 2S, 3E of Alexandria; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; electric fishing motors only, modern and primitive camping, no boat ramp.

Buckley 3F - 22 acres, 7W 4½S of Fairbury; Channel catfish; Boats limited to 5 mph. Owned by the Little Blue NRD, very turbid.

Crystal Springs Lakes - 6 acres in 3 lakes, 1S, 1W of Fairbury, Crystal Springs Rd, west of Frederick St.; Bluegill, largemouth bass, carp, channel catfish, rainbow trout in winter (middle lake); no boats allowed.

Cub Creek 9B (Leisure Lake) - 25 acres, 1E, 4S of Plymouth; Carp, channel catfish; Boating limited to 5 mph, owned by the Lower Big Blue NRD, very turbid.

Cub Creek Watershed 12A - 27 acres, 3W, 4½S of Plymouth; Carp, channel catfish; All boats allowed, turbid, owned by the Lower Big Blue NRD, boat ramp.

Fairbury Dam (Little Blue River) - S edge of Fairbury; Carp, channel and flathead catfish; Access point to Little Blue River below Fairbury dam.

Flathead WMA (Little Blue River) - 1S of Fairbury; Channel and flathead catfish, carp; Access to Little Blue River.

Rose Creek West WMA (Rose Creek) - 2S, 3½W, 2S of Fairbury; Channel catfish, carp, bullhead; Access to Rose Creek.

Rose Creek WMA (Rose Creek) - 2S, 2½W, 1½S of Fairbury; Channel catfish, carp, bullhead; Access to Rose Creek.

Johnson County

Osage WMA - 4 acres in 4 ponds, 3N, 2W, ¾N of Tecumseh; Bluegill, largemouth bass.

Twin Oaks WMA (Big Nemaha River) - 2 E, 2 S, ¾W of Tecumseh; Channel catfish, carp; Foot access to Big Nemaha River, ½-mile walk.

Twin Oaks WMA - 2 acres in 2 ponds, 2E, 4S of Tecumseh; Bluegill, largemouth bass.

Wirth Brothers Lake - 1W, 3S, 1W of Cook; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Owned by the Nemaha NRD (NRD entry permit required), boat ramp, boating limited to 5 mph, dam leaks, water level fluctuates.

Lancaster County

Bluestem Lake SRA - 326 acres, 2½W of Sprague; Bluegill, crappie, flathead and channel catfish, largemouth bass, walleye; Primitive camping, all boats allowed, boat ramp.

Bowling Lake - 12 acres, Lincoln - NW 48th St. and W. Cuming St. (Airpark); Bluegill, bullhead, carp, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, rainbow trout (winter); Non-powered boats only, Lincoln City lake, shallow, turbid; boat ramp.

Branched Oak Lake SRA - 1,800 acres, ½, 4N of Malcolm; Bluegill, carp, channel, blue and flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, wiper, walleye, white perch; Walleye-daily bag limit of one over 22"; Crappie-10" minimum length limit; Wiper and Flathead catfish - total catch and release. Modern and primitive camping, 5 mph boating (no wake) 750 ft. from dam and 600 ft. from all shorelines, several boat ramps available, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier.

Conestoga Lake SRA - 230 acres, 1½N of Denton; Bluegill, carp, freshwater drum, channel catfish, flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye, wiper; Wiper - daily bag limit of 3 with no more than one fish over 18". Primitive and modern camping, all boats allowed, boat ramp.

Cottontail - 29 acres, 1W of Martell; Bluegill, largemouth bass, crappie, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Electric trolling motors only, owned by the Lower Platte South NRD.

Hedgefield Lake WMA - 44 acres, 2W, ½N of Panama; Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass, crappie; Electric fishing motors only. Primitive boat ramp. Possibly being drained in 2005 for dam repair.

Holmes Lake - 100 acres, 70th and Normal Blvd. in Lincoln; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish, walleye, rainbow trout (seasonally in south basin); Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3; No live baitfish can be used or possessed. Electric trolling motors only, Lincoln city lake, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier, rehabilitation project completed in 2004, three boats ramps.

Jack Sinn WMA (Rock Creek) - 2S of Ceresco; Channel catfish, bullhead; Access to Rock Creek.

Killdeer Lake WMA - 20 acres, 2½N of Martell; Bluegill, bullheads, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; Electric fishing motors only.

Merganser - 41 acres, ½N, 1E, ¼N of Kramer; Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Boats limited to 5 mph, rock/gravel boat ramp, owned by the Lower Platte South NRD.

Oak Lake - 47 acres in 3 lakes, I-180 and Sun Valley Blvd., NW Lincoln; Bullhead, bluegill, largemouth bass, carp, channel catfish, crappie, green sunfish; City of Lincoln lakes, shallow, subject to fish kills, Urban Fisheries Program Lakes.

Olive Creek Lake SRA - 175 acres, 2E, 1S of Kramer; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, walleye; Largemouth bass - 21" minimum length limit; Sunfish - 8" minimum length limit; No live baitfish can be used or possessed. Primitive camping, boats limited to 5 mph, boat ramp, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier.

Pawnee Lake SRA - 740 acres, 2N, 1½W of Emerald; Carp, channel and flathead catfish, crappie, freshwater drum, largemouth and white bass, sauger, walleye; Crappie - daily bag limit of 10. Modern and primitive camping, all boats allowed, several boat ramps.

Stagecoach Lake SRA - 195 acres, 1½S, ½W of Hickman; Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye, wiper; Sunfish - 8" minimum length limit; Largemouth bass - 21" minimum length limit. Primitive and modern camping, boats limited to 5 mph, boat ramp, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier.

Tanglewood - 33 acres, ½N, 1W, ½S of Kramer; Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; Boats limited to 5 mph, owned by the Lower Platte South NRD.

Teal Lake WMA - 29 acres, 4½E, 4N of Wilber; Bluegill, bullhead, channel and flathead catfish, largemouth bass; Electric motors only, subject to frequent fish kills due to low water levels.

Wagon Train Lake SRA - 315 acres, 2E of Hickman; Bluegill, redear sunfish, channel catfish, largemouth bass, walleye, muskie; Largemouth bass - 21" minimum length limit; Sunfish - 8" minimum length limit. Muskie - 40" minimum length limit; No live baitfish can be used or possessed. Primitive and modern camping, boats limited to 5 mph, boat ramp, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier.

Wild Plum - 16 acres, 1½N, ½W, of Kramer; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Boats limited to 5 mph, owned by the Lower Platte South NRD.

Wildwood Lake - 103 acres, 1W, 1½N of Agnew; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, walleye; Largemouth bass and channel catfish - total catch and release; Sunfish - 8" minimum length limit; No live baitfish can be used or possessed. Boating restricted to 5 mph (no wake), boat ramp, primitive camping. Wheelchair-accessible fishing pier. Owned by Lower Platte South NRD.

Yankee Hill Lake WMA - 208 acres, 2½E, 1S of Denton; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass, walleye; Largemouth bass - 21" minimum length limit; Sunfish - 8" minimum length limit; No live baitfish can be used or possessed; Boating restricted to 5 mph (no wake), wheelchair accessible boat ramp, rehabilitation project in 2004, limited fishing available in 2005.

Nemaha County

Aspinwall Bend WMA (Missouri and Little Nemaha rivers) - ¾S of Nemaha; Channel catfish, carp; Access to Little Nemaha River and Missouri River.

Auburn Rotary Club Lake - 5 acres, Auburn - North edge of town, east of Hwy. 75 (7th and J St.); Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass - 21" minimum length limit; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Brownville SRA (Missouri River) - 1E of Brownville; Buffalo, carp, channel and flathead catfish, shovelnose sturgeon; Access to Missouri River, boat ramp, primitive camping.

Peru (Missouri River) - 1½ east of Peru Boat Ramp; Buffalo, carp, channel and flathead catfish, sturgeon; Access point to Missouri River, boat ramp.

Otoe County

Hamburg Bend WMA (Missouri River) -4SE of Nebraska City. South of OPPD power plant; Channel, blue, and flathead catfish, carp, sturgeon; Access to Missouri River - ½-mile walk.

Riverview Marina SRA (Missouri River) - E of Nebraska City; Buffalo, carp, channel and flathead catfish, shovelnose sturgeon; Access to Missouri River, boat ramp, primitive camping.

Steinhart Park Ponds - 5 acres in 2 ponds, Nebraska City - west edge of town, north of Business Hwy. 2 off Steinhart Park Rd.; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish, rainbow trout (winter in east pond); Largemouth bass and bluegill - total catch and release; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lakes.

Wilson Creek 2X WMA - 15 acres, 3E, 1½S of Otoe; Bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; Electric motors only, owned by the Lower Big Blue NRD, very shallow.

Wilson Creek 4F (Prairie Owl) - 38 acres, 2S, 1W, ¼S of Dunbar; Bluegill, bullhead, blue and channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; Electric fishing motors only, boat ramp, owned by the Nemaha NRD, very turbid.

Pawnee County

Bowwood WMA - 6 acres, 2S of Steinauer; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Electric motors only.

Burchard Lake - 150 acres, 3E, ½N of Burchard; Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye, yellow perch; Largemouth bass - 21" minimum length limit. Beginning Oct. 15th until the close of the dark goose season, fishing is restricted to the shoreline or on the ice (Check current Nebraska Hunt Guide). Boats limited to 5 mph; boat ramp, primitive camping.

Iron Horse Trail Lake - 85 acres, ½N, 2W of DuBois; Bluegill, channel and flathead catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye; Owned by the Nemaha NRD (NRD entry permit required), wheelchair accessible boat ramp, no personal watercraft allowed, primitive camping, no-wake boating (5 mph), boat ramp.

Mayberry WMA - 25 acres, 5N, 1¼E of Burchard; Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Electric motors only, walk-in access.

Pawnee City Pond - 1 acre, SW edge of Pawnee City, W side of Hwy. 65; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass and bluegill - total catch and release; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Pawnee Prairie WMA - 5 acres in 7 ponds, 6S, 2E, 2S of Burchard; Bluegill, largemouth bass; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; foot access only.

Prairie Knoll WMA - 6 acres, 2W, 2N DuBois; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Electric motors only.

Richardson County

Humboldt City Park Lake - 1 acre, Humboldt - S edge of town, W off Hwy. 105 at Railroad St.; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass and bluegill - total catch and release; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Indian Cave SP (Missouri River) - 4E of Barada; Buffalo, carp, channel and flathead catfish, shovelnose sturgeon; Access point to Missouri River, boat ramp.

Kinter's Ford WMA (Big Nemaha River) - S of Humboldt; Carp, channel and flathead catfish; Access point to Big Nemaha River.

Kirkman's Cove - 160 acres, 1N, 2W of Humboldt; Bluegill, crappie, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Owned by the Nemaha NRD (NRD entry permit required), turbid, 35 mph maximum on lower two-thirds of lake, no personal watercraft allowed.

Margrave WMA (Big Nemaha River) - 1½S, 2¾E of Preston; Channel catfish, carp; Foot access to Big Nemaha River, ½-mile walk.

Rulo (Missouri River) - South of Hwy. 159 Bridge near Rulo, River mile 497.8; Buffalo, carp, bullhead, channel and flathead catfish, sturgeon; Access Missouri River, boat ramp.

Verdon Lake SRA - 30 acres, ½W of Verdon; Bluegill, channel catfish, bullhead, largemouth bass; Largemouth bass - 21" minimum length limit, Electric trolling motors only, primitive camping.

Saline County

Blue River SRA (Big Blue River) - N of Dorchester; Carp, channel and flathead catfish; Access to Big Blue River.

Shady Trail (Big Blue River) - 1W, 4N, ½W, ½N of Crete; Carp, channel and flathead catfish; Access to Big Blue River.

Swan Creek 2A WMA- 16 acres, 14W, 3N of Wilber; Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; Boats limited to 5 mph (no wake).

Swan Creek 5A - 95 acres, 3E, 2N of Tobias; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Largemouth bass - 21" minimum length limit; Owned by the Lower Big Blue NRD, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier, boat ramp.

Walnut Creek 2A - 26 acres, ½E, 3½N of Crete; Bluegill, crappie, carp, bullhead, channel & flathead catfish, largemouth bass; Boats limited to 5 mph (no wake), owned by the Lower Big Blue NRD, shallow.

Sarpy County

Haworth Park (Missouri River) - Bellevue - Payne Drive off Hwy. 370; Buffalo, carp, channel and flathead catfish, crappie; Access to Missouri River, concrete boat ramp owned by city, there is a launching fee.

Haworth Park Pond - 1 acre, Bellevue; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Walnut Creek Reservoir Recreation Area - 100 acres, 1S, 1W of Papillion, 96th and Hwy. 370; Bluegill, redear sunfish, channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass; Largemouth bass - 21" minimum length limit; Sunfish - 8" minimum length limit; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Crappie - 10" minimum length limit. Owned by the Papio/Missouri NRD, area closes at 10 p.m., wheelchair-accessible fishing pier and island, boats restricted to 5 mph (no wake), boat ramp.

Wehrspann Lake Recreation Area - 245 acres, 1N, 1W I-80 & Hwy. 50 junction, 156th and Giles Rd.; Bluegill, bullhead, blue and channel catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, walleye; Largemouth bass - 21" minimum length limit; Crappie - 10" minimum length limit except during the month of April; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10. Boats limited to 5 mph (no wake), boat ramp, area closes at 10 p.m., owned by Papio/Missouri NRD, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier.

Saunders County

Catfish Run WMA (Salt Creek) - 3/4 E of Ashland; Carp, channel catfish, shovelnose sturgeon; Access to Salt Creek.

Brandle WMA (Platte River) - 5 W, 2 N of Cedar Bluff; Channel catfish, carp; Access to Platte River.

Czechland Lake - 85 acres, 1N, ¼W of Prague; Bluegill, channel catfish, bullhead, crappie, largemouth bass; Sunfish - 8" minimum length limit; Crappie - 10" minimum length limit. Owned by the Lower Platte North NRD, boats limited to 5 mph (no wake), boat ramp, wheelchair-accessible fishing pier.

Memphis Lake SRA -81 acres, ¼W of Memphis; Bluegill, redear sunfish, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Largemouth bass - total catch and release; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Row boats and electric motors only. Wheelchair-accessible fishing pier.

Red Cedar - 50 acres, 5½N, 2W of the north edge of Valparaiso; Bluegill, crappie, channel and flathead catfish, largemouth bass; Boats limited to 5 mph (no wake), boat ramp, owned by the Lower Platte South NRD.

Seward County

Blue Bluffs WMA (Big Blue River) - ½N, 1E, 2S of Milford; Carp, channel and flathead catfish; Access to Big Blue River.

Blue Valley (Big Blue River) - ½S of Seward; Carp, channel and flathead catfish; Access to Big Blue River.

Meadowlark - 55 acres, 4W, 1N, 1½W of Agnew; Bluegill, crappie, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Boats limited to 5 mph (no wake), boat ramp in poor condition, owned by the Lower Platte South NRD.

Smith Creek - 21 acres, 2N, 2W, ¼N of Beaver Crossing; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Boats limited to 5 mph (no wake), owned by the Upper Big Blue NRD, turbid.

Twin Lakes WMA - 270 acres in 2 lakes, 2½N, ½W of Pleasant Dale; Bluegill, bullhead, channel catfish, crappie, carp, largemouth bass, muskie, walleye; electric fishing motors only, boat ramp on east lake, area closed to all public use from Oct. 15th until the end of the dark goose season.

Thayer County

Little Blue East WMA (Little Blue River) - 4 E of Hebron; Channel and flathead catfish; Access to Little Blue River.

Little Blue WMA (Little Blue River) - 2E of Hebron; Channel and flathead catfish; Access to Little Blue River.

Meridian WMA - 1 acre, 3S of Alexandria; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Electric motors only.

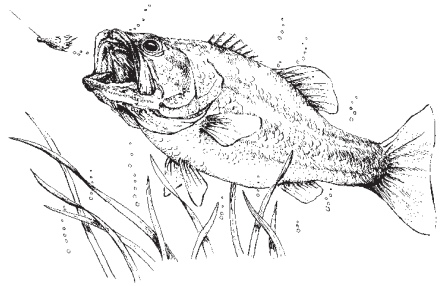
Meridian WMA (Little Blue River) - 3S of Alexandria; Channel and flathead catfish, carp; Access to Little Blue River.

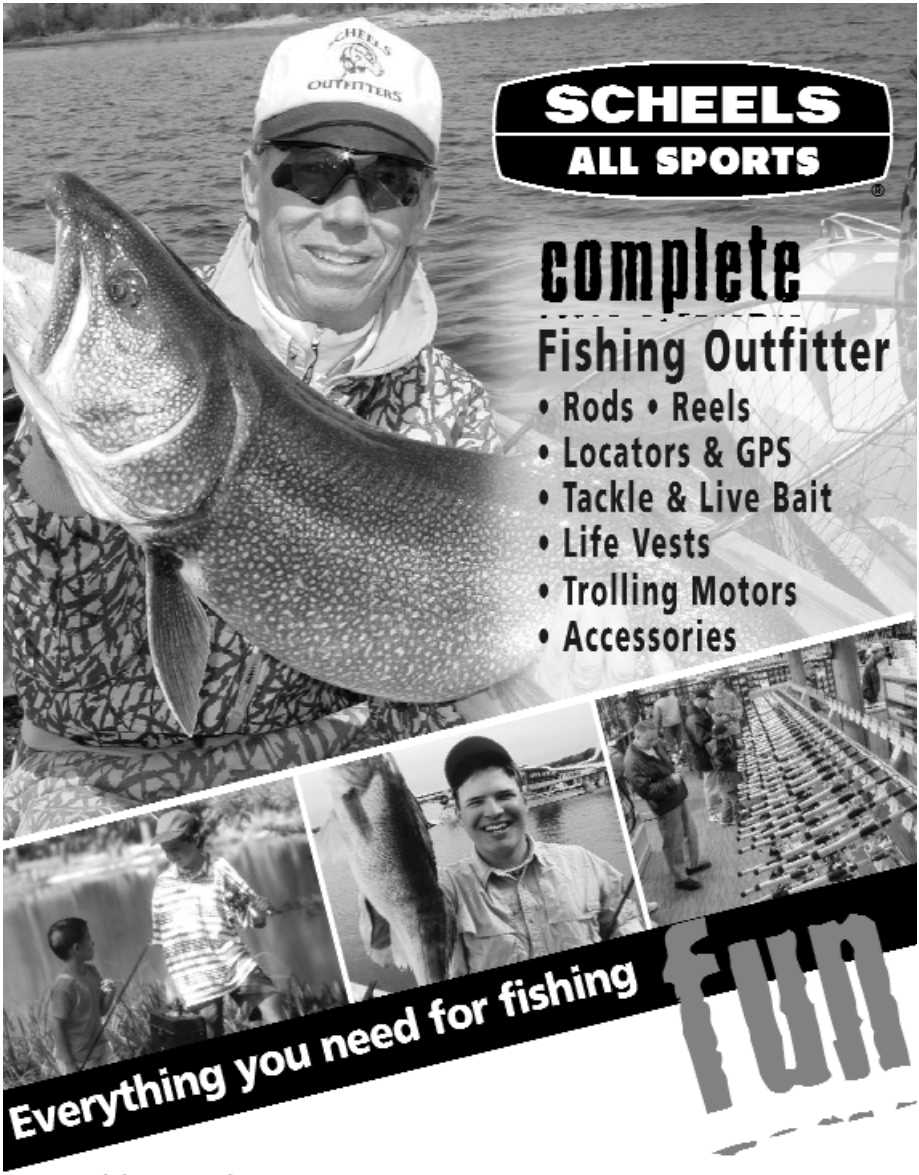
York County

Henderson Park Lake - 1 acre, Henderson; Largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish; Largemouth bass - total catch and release, Panfish - daily bag limit of 10, Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Urban Fisheries Program Lake.

Overland Trails Lake - 14 acres, 3E, 1½S of York; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Owned by the Upper Big Blue NRD, dam leaks, low water levels.

Recharge Lake - 49 acres, 1½W of York; Bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass; Largemouth bass - 21" minimum length limit; Panfish - daily bag limit of 10; Channel catfish - daily bag limit of 3. Boating limited to 5 mph (no wake), boat ramp, owned by the Upper Big Blue NRD.





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