

KIND OF FISH	INLAND WATERS OF THE STATE (defined below)				BOUNDARY RIVERS
	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH	MISSISSIPPI,## MISSOURI AND BIG SIOUX RIVERS
Black Bass+ (Largemouth, Smallmouth, Spotted combined)	Continuous	Comb. 3	Comb. 6	See below+ a, b, d	Continuous open season: aggregate daily bag limit 5, aggregate possession 10. See below+ c.
Catfish***	Continuous	8 lake 15 stream***	30	None	Same as streams except no bag or possession limit in Mississippi River.
Frogs (except Bullfrogs)++++	Continuous	48	96	None	Same as inland waters.
Bullfrogs	Continuous	12	12	None	Same as inland waters.
Muskellunge or Hybrids (Tiger)	Continuous+++	1	1	40 inches	Same as inland waters.
Northern Pike	Continuous+++	3	6	None	Continuous open season: daily bag limit 5; possession limit 10; except daily bag limit 6, possession limit 12 on the Big Sioux River.
Paddlefish*	Continuous	2	4	None	Closed season in Missouri, Big Sioux rivers. Mississippi River*
Lake (rock) Sturgeon, Pallid Sturgeon	Closed	0	0		Same as inland waters.
Trout**	Continuous	5	10	None**	Same as inland waters.
Walleye++, Sauger and Saugeye combined	Continuous+++	Comb. 5++	Comb. 10++	None++	Continuous open season: aggregate daily bag limit 6++ ; aggregate possession limit 12++ Big Sioux River aggregate daily bag limit 4; aggregate possession limit 8
Yellow Perch	Continuous	25	50	None	Same as inland waters except no daily bag or possession limit on the Missouri River.
Bluegill, Crappie, Yellow Bass, White Bass, Rock Bass, Pumpkinseed	Continuous			None	Mississippi River and connected backwaters: daily bag limit of 25 and possession limit of 50 for each of the following: crappie, rock bass; bluegill, and pumpkinseed combined; white and yellow bass combined.
#All other fish species	Continuous	None	None	None	Same as inland waters.

**Inland waters** of the state include all interior lakes and streams including: Green Island Lake and Sloughs (Jackson County), Middle and Upper Sabula (Jackson County) and Lake Odessa (Louisa County).

This is not a complete list of all fishing regulations. For more information, see the “2003 - 2004 Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Regulations” in stores or on the DNR’s website [www.iowadnr.com](http://www.iowadnr.com)

This information is available in alternative formats upon request by contacting the DNR at 515-281-5918 (TDD number 515-242-5967), or by writing the DNR at 502 East 9th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319-0034.

**SNAGGING IS NOT** permitted in the following areas: 1. Des Moines River from directly below Saylorville Dam to the Southeast 14th Street bridge in Des Moines; 2. Cedar River in Cedar Rapids from directly below the 5 in 1 Dam under I-380 to the 1st Avenue bridge; 3. Cedar River in Cedar Rapids from directly below the “C” Street Roller Dam to 300 yards downstream; 4. Iowa River from directly below the Coralville Dam to 300 yards downstream; 5. Chariton River from directly below Lake Rathbun Dam to 300 yards downstream; 6. Spillway area from directly below the Spirit Lake outlet to the confluence at East Okoboji Lake; 7. Northeast bank of the Des Moines River from directly below the Ottumwa Dam, including the catwalk, to the Jefferson Street Bridge. Snagging from the South Market Street bridge is also prohibited; 8. Missouri River and the Big Sioux River from the I-29 bridge to the confluence with the Missouri River.

**\*PADDLEFISH.** Paddlefish snagging is permitted in all waters of the state, except the Missouri River and Big Sioux River, and any tributary of these streams within 200 yards immediately upstream of its confluence with the Missouri or Big Sioux rivers, where the season is closed year-round. Snagging for paddlefish on the Mississippi River is restricted to the area within 500 yards below the navigation dams and their spillways. The open season on the Mississippi River is Jan. 1 to April 15. Paddlefish snagging is not permitted in the eight areas closed to snagging (see paragraph above).

**\*\*SPECIAL TROUT REGULATIONS.** A 14-inch minimum length limit applies on all trout in Spring Branch Creek, Delaware County, from the spring source to county highway D5X as posted, and on brown trout only in portions of Bloody Run Creek, Clayton County, where posted. All trout caught from the posted portion of Waterloo Creek, Allamakee County; Hewett and Ensign creeks (Ensign Hollow), Clayton County; South Pine Creek, Winneshiek County, and McCloud Run, Linn County, and brown trout caught from French Creek, Allamakee County must be released alive immediately. Fishing in the posted areas of Waterloo Creek, Bloody Run Creek, South Pine Creek, Spring Branch Creek, French Creek, Hewett Creek, Ensign Creek (Ensign Hollow) and McCloud Run must be by artificial lure only. Artificial lure means lures that do not contain or have applied to them any natural or human-made substance designed to attract fish by the sense of taste or smell.

**\*\*\*CATFISH.** Stream catfish daily bag and possession limits apply at the federal flood control impoundments of Rathbun, Red Rock, Saylorville and Coralville lakes.

**+BLACK BASS.** a) Public Lakes - 15-inch minimum length limit except as otherwise posted. There are 18 exceptions: 1. Lake Wapello, Davis County - catch and release only; 2. Brown’s Lake, Jackson County - catch and release only; 3. Swan Lake, Carroll County - 16 inch minimum; 4. Green Valley Lake, Union County - 22-inch minimum; 5. Lake Sugema,

Van Buren County - 12-18-inch fish must be immediately released alive; 6. Hawthorn Lake, Mahaska County - 12-16-inch fish must be immediately released alive; 7. Casey Lake, Tama County - 18-inch minimum; 8. Little Wall Lake, Hamilton County - 18-inch minimum; 9. Pleasant Creek Lake, Linn County - 18-inch minimum; 10. and 11. Lakes Ahquabi and Hooper, Warren County - 18-inch minimum; 12. and 13. Thomas Mitchell and Yellow Banks, Polk County - 18-inch minimum; 14. South Prairie Lake, Black Hawk County - 18-inch minimum; 15. Krumm Pond, Jasper County - 18-inch minimum; 16. Lake Hendricks, Howard County - 18-inch minimum; 17. Lake Keomah, Mahaska County - 18-inch minimum; 18. Big Creek Lake, Polk County - 18-inch minimum; 19. Ada Hayden Heritage Park, Story County - 18-inch minimum.

b) **Federal Flood Control Reservoirs** - 15-inch minimum length limit on Coralville, Rathbun, Saylorville and Red Rock reservoirs.

c) **Border Rivers** - 14-inch minimum length limit on the Mississippi River and a 12-inch minimum length limit on the Missouri River.

Associated chutes and backwaters of the border rivers are included where intermittent or constant flow occurs. No length limit on the Big Sioux River.

d) **Interior Streams and River Impoundments** - 12-inch minimum length limit except all black bass caught from the following stream segments must be released alive immediately:

1) Middle Raccoon River, Guthrie County, extending downstream from below Lennon Mills dam at Panora as posted to the dam at Redfield

2) Maquoketa River, Delaware County, extending downstream from below Lake Delhi Dam as posted to the first county gravel road bridge

3) Cedar River, Mitchell County, extending downstream from below the Otranto Dam as posted to the bridge on county road T26 south of St. Ansgar

4) Upper Iowa River, Winneshiek County, extending downstream from the Fifth Street bridge in Decorah as posted to the upper dam.

**++WALLEYE.** A 14-inch minimum length limit applies on walleye in the following lakes: West Okoboji, East Okoboji, Spirit Lake, Upper Gar, Minnewashta and Lower Gar in Dickinson County and Clear Lake in Cerro Gordo County. A 15-inch minimum length limit applies on walleye in Storm Lake, Buena Vista County, and Big Creek Lake, Polk County. You cannot take more than one walleye longer than 20 inches in length per day from the above lakes except in Clear Lake and Storm Lake where no more than one walleye above 22 inches in

length may be taken per day. A 15-inch minimum length limit applies on walleye in Black Hawk Lake, Sac County and Viking Lake, Montgomery County. The daily bag limit for walleye in the above lakes is three with a possession limit of six.

A 15-inch minimum length limit applies to walleye on all pools of the Mississippi River. In addition, all walleye caught from Mississippi River Pools 12 through 20, from 20 to 27 inches, must be immediately released alive, and, no more than one walleye above 27 inches may be taken per day on these pools.

**+++NATURAL LAKES.** Walleye and northern pike season on lakes West Okoboji, East Okoboji and Spirit is closed from Feb. 15 through April 30, 2004. Muskellunge and tiger muskie season in those lakes is closed Feb. 15 through May 20. Seasons are open the rest of the year.

**#ALL OTHER FISH SPECIES.** **Hybrid striped bass** (wipers). The daily bag limit for hybrid striped bass in Big Creek Lake, Polk County, is three with a possession limit of six. The minimum size limit for hybrid striped bass in Big Creek Lake is 18-inches.

**##CLOSED SEASON.** There is a **closed season** for all fishing on the Mississippi River in the tailwaters at three navigation dams from Dec. 1 of each year through March 15 of the following year. These closed fishing areas are:

- 1) from Dam 11 at Dubuque downstream to State Hwy. 61/151 Bridge
- 2) from Dam 12 at Bellevue downstream to the mouth of Mill Creek, near river mile 556.0, and
- 3) from Dam 13 at Clinton downstream to the downstream end of Stamp Island near river mile 521.5.

**ATTENTION TROUT ANGLERS**

Iowa residents and nonresidents regardless of age must pay the Trout Fee to either **fish for** or possess trout. Exception: Residents and nonresidents under 16 years old may **fish for** or possess trout without having paid the Trout Fee if they fish with a properly licensed adult who has paid the Trout Fee and together they limit their catch to the daily limit for one person.

**FISHING LICENSE INFORMATION**

<b>Resident</b>	
Fishing .....	\$17.50
7-Day .....	\$12.00
1-Day .....	\$8.00
Trout Fee .....	\$11.00
<b>Nonresident</b>	
Fishing .....	\$39.50
7-Day .....	\$30.50
3-Day .....	\$16.00
1-Day .....	\$9.00
Trout Fee .....	\$13.50

# Iowa Fishing Seasons 2004 and Bag Limits



**June 4, 5, 6, 2004**



*Water works wonders*  
FOR FISHING, BOATING, AND  
THE ENVIRONMENT

Valid Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2004