

# Manitoba

## ANGLERS' GUIDE 2023

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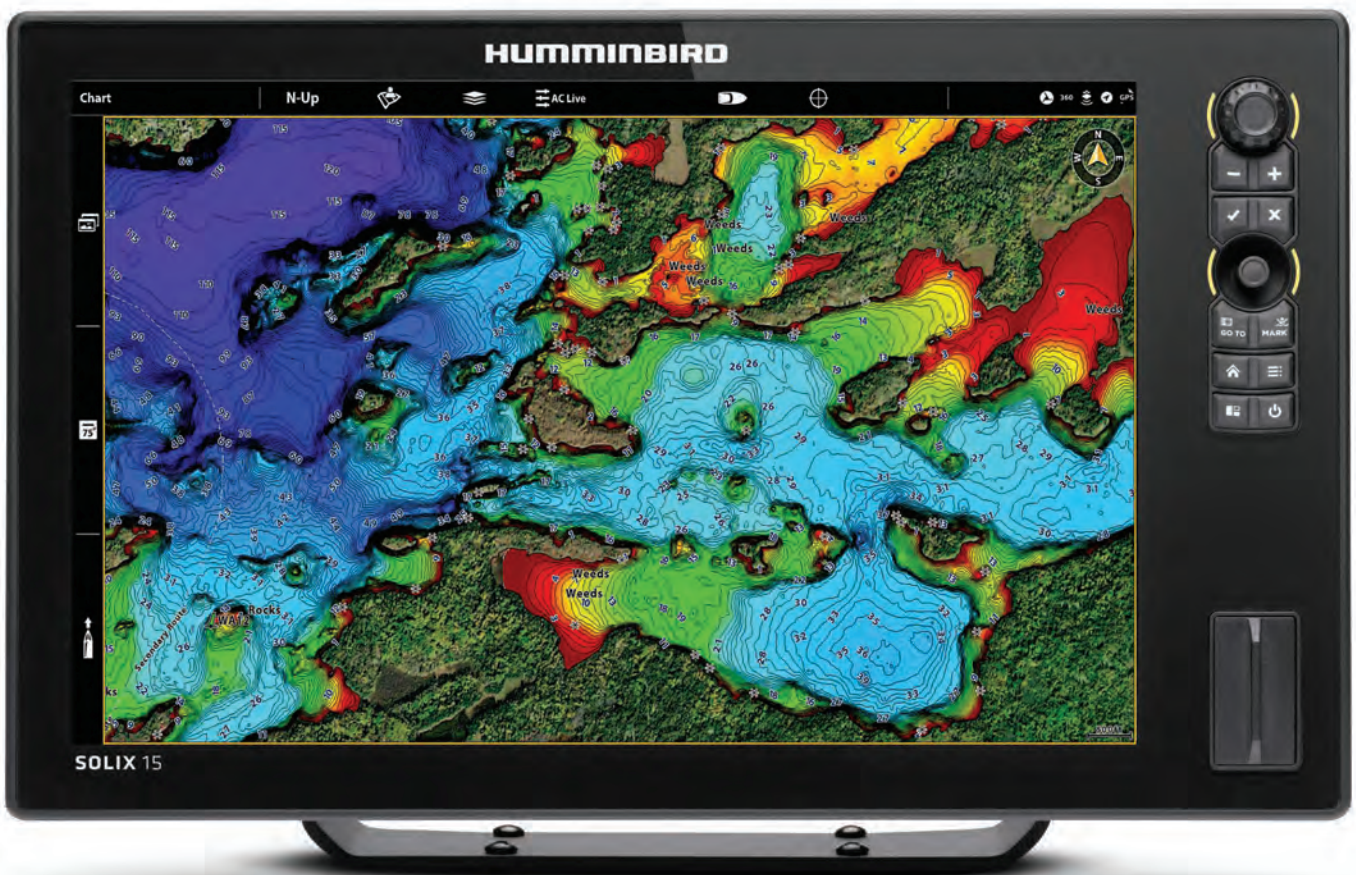
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A photograph of the exterior of the LOTW Sports Headquarters store. The store has large windows and a prominent logo above the entrance. The logo is an oval with a red border, containing the text "LOTW SPORTS HEADQUARTERS" and "FISHING - HUNTING - OUTDOORS" with illustrations of a deer, a fish, and a bird.

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A wide-angle photograph of the interior of the LOTW Sports Headquarters store. The store is filled with fishing equipment, including rods, reels, and tackle. A large wooden structure made of logs is in the foreground, with the LOTW logo on it. The store is well-lit and has a rustic, outdoor theme.

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As Minister of Manitoba Natural Resources and Northern Development, I welcome you to another year of fishing in Manitoba.

Over the past two years, the department has been working hard to transform angling regulations in Manitoba to become a leader in recreational fisheries management and to address the growing pressure on our province's recreational fisheries. Fishing regulations are a vital management tool to ensure

our fisheries remain healthy and your fishing experience remains of the highest quality. I am pleased to be able to share with you a suite of new angling regulations that will provide anglers with more fishing opportunities, simplified and streamlined regulations, and enhanced protection of Manitoba's valuable fish populations.

Throughout the 2023 Anglers' Guide, you will note significant changes to the management of recreational fishing in the province. Changes include new angling licence types and fees, such as a new one-day angling licence; licence exemptions for seniors and active military members and veterans who reside in Manitoba; and the ability to carry your angling licence electronically. Additional changes include new possession limits and size restrictions, year-round fishing opportunities for certain species, and area and species-specific closures to protect spawning fish.

I encourage you to review the new angling regulations to ensure you are familiar with the changes and to help you plan your next fishing adventure.

On behalf of the Manitoba government, I wish you a safe and fun-filled angling season! Please enjoy the many benefits that a day of fishing in Manitoba has to offer.

Honourable Greg Nesbitt

Minister, Natural Resources and Northern Development

## What's New for 2023

The regulations in this guide take effect on April 1, 2023. The following regulations are new for 2023.

- Changes to angling licence fees (page 4)
- One-day angling licence (page 4)
- One annual angling licence (page 4)
- No licence required for Manitoba seniors (page 4)
- No licence required for active military members and veterans who reside in Manitoba (page 4)
- Residency definitions (page 4)
- No longer required to sign an angling licence (page 4)
- Ability to carry a licence on an electronic device (page 4)
- Ice fishing shelters must be removed by March 15 in Area B in the Southern Fishing Division (page 5)
- A person's valid Customer Identification Number (CID#) and phone number, or full name and phone number must be marked clearly on the outside of their ice fishing shelter, in block letters at least five centimetres in height (page 5)
- Changes to possession limits and size restrictions (page 9)
- Single possession limit for each species (page 9)
- Year-round fishing for certain species (pages 13-15, 17 and 21)

**Front Cover** – Walleye from Lake Winnipeg

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Regulations are also available online at [www.manitobafisheries.com](http://www.manitobafisheries.com).

New regulations are in **bold type**.

**This publication is available in alternate formats, upon request.**

- Changes to waterbody specific regulations (13-15, 17 and 21)
- Assiniboine River downstream of the Portage Diversion to Highway 240 - closed to all fishing from the first Monday in April to and including the second Friday in May (page 14)
- Dauphin Lake - all inflowing tributaries and those parts of Dauphin Lake within 1 km of their mouths, excluding the Vermilion Reservoir, are closed to all fishing, including dip netting from March 1 to and including May 12. The remaining parts of Dauphin Lake remain open in March and are closed to all fishing from April 1 to and including May 12 (page 14)
- Lake Winnipeg - walleye season closed from the first Monday in April to and including the third Friday in May (page 15)
- Red River and its tributaries to the first impassable barrier between Lockport Dam and Lake Winnipeg - closed to all fishing from the first Monday in April to and including the second Friday in May (page 15)
- Stephenfield Lake - all walleye shorter than 35 cm must be released (page 15)

## Summary of Regulations

Recreational fishing in Manitoba is governed by regulations made under The Provincial Fisheries Act and the Fisheries Act of Canada. **This guide provides a summary of those regulations.** The actual regulations in force, not necessarily those in this guide, shall apply. Regulations other than those under the Fisheries Act of Canada may also apply while fishing, e.g. regarding Aquatic Invasive Species, the use of boats, motors, vehicles, etc. For more details on regulations contact your local Manitoba Natural Resources and Northern Development Office (see page 12).

### Angling Licence Fees

(GST and an administration fee will be added to all angling licences)

<b>Manitoba Resident (Age 16 to 64)</b>	
<b>One-Day</b> .....	\$8.00
<b>Annual</b> .....	\$22.00
<b>Senior (Age 65 and Older)</b> .....	No Licence Required
<b>Active Military Member or Veteran</b> .....	
	No Licence Required
<b>Canadian Resident (Age 16 and Older)</b>	
<b>One-Day</b> .....	\$12.00
<b>Annual</b> .....	\$36.00
<b>Non-Canadian Resident (Age 16 and Older)</b>	
<b>One-Day</b> .....	\$19.00
<b>Annual</b> .....	\$55.00

## Angling Licences

All persons, except those exempt below, who engage in angling, dip netting, cast netting, seining, minnow trapping, spear fishing, and bow fishing, must have a Manitoba Angling Licence on their person. Licences may be printed or carried on an electronic device and anglers must be able to show their angling licence to an Officer, upon request.

The Annual Angling Licence is valid from May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024. Angling Licences are not transferrable or refundable. The time of licence validity has no impact on season dates. See pages 13-15, 17 and 21 for more information.

### RESIDENCY DEFINITIONS:

#### Manitoba Resident

A person whose primary residency is in Manitoba and has lived in Manitoba for a period of at least six consecutive months during the 12 months immediately before applying for a licence.

#### Canadian Resident

- A person whose primary residence is in Canada, but not in Manitoba and has lived in Canada for a period of at least six consecutive months during the 12 months immediately before applying for a licence; or
- A person who is a Canadian citizen; or
- A person who has permanent resident status in Canada.

#### Non-Canadian Resident

A person who is not a Manitoba or Canadian resident.

### LICENCE EXEMPTIONS

The following people may angle without an angling licence:

#### Manitoba Resident Seniors

A Manitoba resident 65 years of age or older does not require an angling licence, but must be able to show proof of age and Manitoba residency when asked by an officer.

#### Manitoba Resident Active Military Members and Veterans

A Manitoba resident who is an active military member or a veteran of the Canadian Armed Forces does not require an angling licence, but must be able to show proof of Manitoba residency and one of the following documents when asked by an officer:

- Canadian Forces Identification Card (NDI 20)
- Record of Service Card (NDI 75)
- Canadian Armed Forces Veterans' Service Card (NDI 75)

#### Manitoba Resident Youth

Any youth under the age of 16 who has permanently resided in Manitoba for at least six months, has all the privileges of holding an angling Licence, including their own limit of fish. All other regulations apply. Proof of age is required when checked by an Officer.

#### Canadian Resident or Non-Canadian Resident Youth

Any Canadian resident or non-Canadian resident youth under the age of 16, must fish with a licence holder, or someone exempt from holding an angling licence, and their catch must be applied to the limit of that person. A Canadian resident or non-Canadian resident youth under the age of 16 who wishes to have their own limit of fish, must buy an angling licence.

### STATUS INDIANS

Status Indians do not require an angling licence. They are exempt from angling regulations including seasons, limits, and gear restrictions when fishing for food. Proof of status is required when checked by an Officer (see page 8).

### PURCHASE AN ANGLING LICENCE

There are three options to purchase an Angling Licence:

- Online at [www.manitobaelicensing.ca](http://www.manitobaelicensing.ca)
- In-person at select issuers. A list of issuers is available online. Call ahead to ensure angling licences are sold.
- By phone at 1-877-880-1203. Allow 10 business days for delivery of angling licence. Please provide your correct mailing address.

Angling licences must be carried on you when fishing, either a printed hard copy or on an electronic device and produced when requested by an Officer.

**First time customers:** An account will need to be created, no matter which method you use to purchase your angling licence. You will be provided with a Customer Identification Number (CID#) to use for all your future orders. When purchasing an angling licence, please ensure you select the correct residency.

**Returning customers:** To purchase an angling licence, you will require your Customer Identification Number (CID#) in order to access your existing account whether done online, by phone, or in-person at a participating issuer. You were assigned a CID# when you purchased a previous angling licence or other licence/permit. Online accounts can also be accessed by using your registered secondary identification number and password.

For more information, visit: [www.manitobaelicensing.ca](http://www.manitobaelicensing.ca) or call 1-877-880-1203.

## FAMILY FISHING WEEKENDS

Summer and Winter Family Fishing Weekends will be held on June 9-11, 2023 and February 17-19, 2024, across Manitoba (excluding federal parks). During these weekends, people wishing to fish may do so without acquiring a licence. All other rules and regulations apply. Please note specific lake regulations. For more information, call 204-945-6784.

## BORDER WATERS

Anglers who are on or in the immediate vicinity of lakes or rivers that cross a Manitoba border may have only a Manitoba limit of fish.

Anglers may have either a Manitoba or Ontario Angling Licence (or be exempt from holding one) to fish on all of Davidson Lake, Frances Lake, Garner Lake, High Lake, Mantario Lake, Moar Lake and Ryerson Lake.

Anglers who have an Ontario Angling Licence may fish on the Manitoba portion of Artery Lake without a Manitoba Angling Licence.

Anglers may have either a Manitoba or Saskatchewan Angling Licence (or be exempt from holding one) to fish on all of Lake of the Prairies upstream from the Shellmouth Dam.

## COMPETITIVE FISHING EVENTS

Persons and organizations holding fishing derbies or tournaments that have 25 or more participants must apply for a free Competitive Fishing Event (CFE) Licence four weeks prior to the event. To apply for a CFE Licence visit: [www.manitobaelicensing.ca](http://www.manitobaelicensing.ca).

All participants must have a Manitoba Angling Licence unless exempt. All walleye, sauger, trout, smallmouth bass, and channel catfish entered must be released. All fish caught and retained for use in a CFE are considered to be in possession and part of the angler's daily limit. Event organizers and all participants must adhere to the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Regulation under The Water Protection Act. Further restrictions may be imposed. Set fines for AIS offences are in effect.

## NATIONAL PARKS

A Manitoba Angling Licence is not valid for fishing in National Parks. Contact Parks Canada for details on fishing licences and regulations in National Parks. [www.pc.gc.ca](http://www.pc.gc.ca).

## LAKE INFORMATION FOR ANGLERS

The Manitoba government launched an interactive website called Lake Information for Anglers that provides valuable fisheries information in an accessible format. Anglers can access the site to view lake contour data, fish assessment data, boat launch photos and fish stocking records.

Lake Information for Anglers is a great tool to help plan your next fishing adventure to one of Manitoba's world class fishing destinations. To view the site visit: [www.manitobafisheries.com](http://www.manitobafisheries.com).

# General Regulations

## FISHING METHODS

Recreational fishing includes angling, spear fishing, bow fishing, dip netting, cast netting, seining, and minnow trapping. Techniques are those generally accepted by anglers. Under no circumstances may explosives, firearms, clubs, snagging, snaring, poisons, etc. be used.

## BARBLESS HOOKS

In Manitoba, anglers must use barbless hooks. A barbless hook is a hook with no barbs or barbs that have been compressed to be in complete contact with the shaft of the hook. Barbless hooks may have barbs on the shank for holding bait. When you are fishing, the hooks attached to all your lines, whether in use or not, must be barbless. Barbed hooks may be kept in the tackle box.

## ANGLING AND ICE FISHING

Angling is fishing with a hook and line. The use of any unusual or special gimmicks is often illegal and best avoided. Hooks or lures must not be spring-loaded.

Anglers may use only one rod and line, except during ice fishing when two may be used. Only two hooks or lures may be used per line. Anglers must, when fishing in open water keep their line in sight at all times and when ice fishing stay within 50 m of the line.

## ICE FISHING SHELTERS

Ice fishing shelters must be removed on or before March 10, 2024 on the Red River, on or before March 15 in Area B of the Southern Division (see map on page 12), on or before March 31 in the rest of the Southern Division and by April 15 in the Northwest, North Central and Northeast Divisions, or when requested to do so by a Conservation Officer due to unsafe ice conditions. **All ice fishing shelters left unattended must clearly display on the outside of the shelter in block letters at least 5 cm in height, the owner's full name or Customer Identification Number, and phone number.** Shelters must be stored or disposed of away from the shore and on private property. Manitoba Parks and Protected Spaces Branch requires that ice fishing shelters in provincial parks meet size, location and use standards and may not be used for overnight sleeping accommodation. For more information including specific details, please contact your local Manitoba Natural Resources and Northern Development Office.

## NOTE:

- **Open fires** are prohibited in Burning Permit Areas of Manitoba from April 1 to November 15, unless the fire is in an approved fire pit. If approved fire pits are not available, shore lunches and other meals must be cooked over a camp stove. For more information on Burning Permit Areas, contact your Manitoba Natural Resources and Northern Development office.
- **Littering** is prohibited (under the Environment Act) and regulations are enforced by officers.
- **Open liquor** (including beer) is prohibited in boats, vehicles and ice fishing shelters (under the Liquor and Gaming Control Act) and regulations are enforced by Officers.

## BAIT

Night crawlers and earthworms may be used as bait in all fishing divisions in Manitoba. Within Canada, they may be transported into Manitoba in a sterile medium such as paper mulch, but not in soil. Anglers wanting to import night crawlers or earthworms into Canada must obtain a permit. To obtain a permit or for more information, contact the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. Dispose of unused worms in the trash.

Leeches, frogs and salamanders (water dogs) may also be used as bait in all divisions. However, they may not be imported.

### Possession of crayfish is prohibited.

Offal (fish cleaning remains) may be used as bait in all divisions.

Frozen or preserved bait fish may be imported into Manitoba and used in all fishing divisions. However, anglers importing frozen or preserved bait fish into Canada may require permit(s). For more information, contact the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

### Live bait fish may not be imported into Manitoba.

Live bait fish may not be used or possessed in the Northwest, North Central and Northeast Divisions, including the Bloodvein and Gammon rivers. Live bait fish may be used and possessed in the Southern Division, except in the following areas:

- Stocked Trout Waters
- Duck Mountain Provincial Forest and Park
- Turtle Mountain Provincial Park
- Porcupine Provincial Forest
- Whiteshell Provincial Park
- Winnipeg River (from Seven Sisters Dam to the Ontario border)
- Atikaki and South Atikaki Provincial Parks

Those anglers in possession of purchased live bait fish must have a Live Bait Fish Transfer and Use Receipt issued by the dealer which is valid for three days only. Anglers may catch their own bait fish, but must kill them before transporting them away from the water where they were caught.

Only the following fish may be used as bait:

- |                                      |                                    |           |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| • chub                               | • trout-perch                      | • sculpin |
| • stickleback                        | • tullibee (cisco)                 | • darter  |
| • mudminnow                          | • fathead minnow                   | • dace    |
| • sucker, except<br>bigmouth buffalo | • bluntnose minnow                 |           |
|                                      | • shiner, except<br>carmine shiner |           |

No angler may be in possession of more than 4 litres of bait fish of which no more than 15 dozen can be live bait fish (excluding suckers and tullibee, which have no limit).

Yellow perch, goldeye, and mooneye, that have been caught by angling, may also be used as bait and may be used as live bait fish where use of live bait fish is allowed. Anglers may only possess a legal limit of these species. Common carp, goldfish, and rainbow smelt, except for purchased frozen smelt, may not be used as bait.

**Note: dispose of bait possessed in an Aquatic Invasive Species Control Zone before leaving the shore.**

## AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS)

Set fines for AIS offences are in effect. To stop the spread of AIS, you must:

1. **CLEAN** i.e., remove AIS and aquatic plants (i.e., weeds) before leaving the shore of the waterbody.
2. **DRAIN** all water from the watercraft and water-related equipment before leaving the shore. All drain plugs must be kept out while transporting watercraft over land.
3. **DRY** completely or decontaminate water-related equipment before placing into another waterbody.
4. **DISPOSE** of bait possessed in an AIS Control Zone prior to leaving the shore, regardless of a three-day Live Bait Fish Transfer and Use Receipt.
5. **DECONTAMINATE** IF watercraft or water-related equipment were used last in an AIS Control Zone and before placing into another waterbody.

For more information, visit: [Manitoba.ca/StopAIS](http://Manitoba.ca/StopAIS)

## WHY ANGLERS SHOULD PREVENT THE SPREAD OF AIS

Zebra mussels and spiny waterflea are two AIS present in a few water bodies in Manitoba. They can have profound negative impacts on aquatic food webs.

Zebra mussels consume large quantities of algae helping to increase water clarity whereas, spiny waterflea are predators on small invertebrates. Overall, they can decrease food ability for economical and recreational important fish species.

Minnesota studies show fish growth rates decrease in water bodies where zebra mussels or spiny waterflea are present. In zebra mussel invaded water bodies, walleye behaviour changed drastically due to increased water clarity and alterations to their preferred habitat.

AIS can spread two main ways, by 1) natural water movement, or 2) human-caused transport. The overland movement of motorized and non-motorized watercraft and water-related equipment are the primary means of spreading AIS.

Once AIS establish in a water body they cannot generally be eradicated. Fortunately, **the human-caused spread of AIS is preventable.**

Help protect Manitoba's fisheries and aquatic resources. When leaving a water body, Clean, Drain and Dry watercraft and water-related equipment – every time.

The AIS open-water and winter (ice-covered) season checklists are step-by-step resources that can help you prevent the spread of AIS. Please see pages 18-19, visit [Manitoba.ca/StopAIS](http://Manitoba.ca/StopAIS) or call toll free 1-877-867-2470 for more information.



## DIP NETTING, CAST NETTING, SEINING, AND MINNOW TRAPPING

An angling licence is required while dip netting, cast netting, seining, or minnow trapping. In most waters these activities are allowed at any time of the year. Check for closures on specific waters in the divisional sections of this guide.

Species that may be kept include suckers (except bigmouth buffalo), common carp, cisco (tullibee), chub, shiners (except carmine shiners), darters, dace, fathead minnow, bluntnose minnow, mudminnow, trout-perch, stickleback, and sculpin. All other species must be released immediately. Live fish may not be transported away from the waters where they were caught. Fish must be dead before transporting. Water from the waterbody may not be transported away from the shore.

Dip nets may not be larger than one square metre. Seine nets and cast nets may not be larger than three square metres. Minnow traps must not be larger than 65 cm long and 35 cm in diameter, and must have the fisher's name and address marked on them.

## SPEAR FISHING

Spear fishing is the taking of fish with a handheld spear or spear gun (pneumatic or rubber band powered) while swimming. The spear must be barbed. Spear fishing is allowed in all areas of the province open to angling. For safety reasons do not spear fish near areas used for swimming, boat launching, or docking.

Species-specific seasons, limits and licence requirements apply. Fisher's may possess only one limit of fish, whether taken by spear fishing or angling.

You may not spear fish for lake sturgeon, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, muskellunge, arctic grayling, arctic char, brown trout, rainbow trout, brook trout, splake or other trout hybrids. Only face mask, flippers and snorkel may be used to take the following species (i.e. no scuba equipment): walleye, sauger, northern pike, channel catfish, black crappie, mooneye, goldeye, lake trout and lake whitefish.

Scuba or snorkelling equipment may be used for species other than those listed above. For safety courses and information please contact your local scuba dealer.

## BOW FISHING

Bow fishing (the shooting of fish with archery equipment) is permitted for common carp and suckers only (except bigmouth buffalo). An angling licence is required. A fish arrow and at least 20-kg test line must be used. Using a crossbow to fish is illegal.

## FISHWAYS (FISH LADDERS)

Fishways are used to assist fish passage through, over or around barriers. Please respect these structures when in use and do not disturb the fish. Remember, it is a violation to fish (including dip netting, cast netting, seining and minnow trapping) within 23 metres of a fishway.

## HANDLING, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE OF FISH

Live fish may not be transported away from the waters where they were caught, except under the authority of a permit issued by Fisheries Branch.

Fish must not be handled, transported or disposed of in a way that will allow it to spoil. Water from the waterbody may not be transported away from the shore or used to transport or store fish.

Fish must be transported and stored so that the number, species, and size of fish can be readily determined by a Conservation Officer. **Six square centimetres of skin must be left on each fillet.** Fish cannot be transported or stored in a solid frozen block of fillets or in a processed state such as canned.

If due to extenuating circumstances, you need to transport fish belonging to another angler, in addition to your own limit, you must obtain a Fish Transportation Loadslip from a Manitoba Natural Resources and Northern Development Office (see page 12).

Persons transporting fish into Manitoba that were caught outside Manitoba should obtain physical proof of the origin of the fish before it is transported.

## FISH REMAINS

Fish cleaning remains must not be left on beaches or shorelines. At sites such as boat launches, campgrounds, lodges, etc., fish remains must be placed in containers provided for that purpose.

## BUYING AND SELLING FISH

Fish harvested while angling may not be bought, sold, traded or bartered. **If you buy fish from a commercial fisher or retailer be sure to get a sales receipt or trade record at the time of sale.** You must carry this receipt with the fish as proof of purchase.

## MERCURY IN FISH

Although Manitoba has some of the cleanest waters in the world, all fish contain some mercury from natural sources. Human activities can cause further increases in these natural mercury levels. Fish from some areas may have elevated mercury levels.

For further information about mercury in fish and for recommended consumption rates, please visit: [manitobafisheries.com](http://manitobafisheries.com), or phone Manitoba Natural Resources and Northern Development at 204-945-6784.

## LICENCED OUTFITTERS

If you will be using an outfitter, please book with a licenced outfitter who is licenced to offer angling. A list of licenced outfitters is available online at [manitoba.ca/sd/permits\\_licenses\\_approvals/lic-res-tourism-operators/index.html](http://manitoba.ca/sd/permits_licenses_approvals/lic-res-tourism-operators/index.html)

## Do Not Litter

The fine for littering in Manitoba is \$204.

## Protection of Privacy Act

Personal information collected on angling licences falls under the authority of The Fisheries Act (Chapter F90), Fishing Licensing Regulation 124/97 and will be used only for existing program activities, surveys and enforcement by Manitoba Natural Resources and Northern Development.

It is protected by the Protection of Privacy provisions of The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

For questions about the collection, contact: 204-945-4170.

## For Your Information

Manitoba Conservation Officers play an important educational role in relation to angling regulations. Officers check anglers on a regular basis and also conduct roadside checkpoints. To help make your angling experience enjoyable, please be aware of Manitoba's angling and Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) regulations.

The following are some set, ticketable fines for common angling and AIS offences. Fines may be higher depending on the severity and/or frequency of the offences. Restitution will apply to those who are convicted of illegally removing fish from the environment.

Using barbed hooks .....	\$52
Fishing without a licence .....	\$298
Over limit.....	\$102 plus
Transport live fish away from the water.....	\$486
Unattended line .....	\$52
Failure to carry your licence while fishing.....	\$174
Possession of crayfish .....	\$102 plus
Possession of AIS (e.g. zebra mussels).....	\$1,296
Failure to dispose bait used in an AIS Control Zone .....	\$672
Bringing into Manitoba live bait .....	\$202

For more information on AIS set fines, visit [Manitoba.ca/StopAIS](http://Manitoba.ca/StopAIS)

## Fishing Regulations and Status Indian People

The Natural Resources Transfer Agreement, which forms part of the Constitution Act (1930), provides that Indian people have the right to fish for food on all unoccupied Crown lands and on any other lands to which they may have a right of access.

Recognizing the Treaty and constitutional rights of Indian people, Manitoba Natural Resources and Northern Development considers that status Indians:

- Do not require a licence to fish for food by angling or other means.
- Do not require an angling licence to fish for recreational purposes or to participate in a Competitive Fishing Event, but must follow all regulations when not fishing for food.
- Are not subject to gear restrictions such as the use of gill nets or the number of lines that can be used by angling, however, any unattended gear must be clearly marked with the owner's name and treaty number.
- Except for conservation closures, are generally not restricted to seasons, limits or areas.
- May angle in stocked trout waters but may not use nets or other methods of fishing.
- May not block more than two-thirds of a river or stream with a net or other device.
- May not fish within 23 metres of a fish ladder or fishway.
- May not sell fish caught under status Indian fishing rights or give fish to a non-Indian person.
- May transport fish from the catch point directly to their nearest residence.
- Must obtain a Fish Transportation Loadslip if fish in excess of a regular limit are to be transported to a location other than their nearest residence.
- While employed as guides or outfitters, may not fish using their treaty or constitutional rights in any manner that could benefit their employer or their business.
- When exercising their rights, are required to carry proof of status.

Non-Indian people may accompany Indian people that are fishing but may not help them to exercise their food fishing rights. For example, non-Indian people could not set or lift nets, however, they could assist in transporting fish while accompanying a status Indian person.

For more information, please contact the nearest Manitoba Natural Resources and Northern Development Office (see page 12), or telephone 204-945-6784 in Winnipeg, 1-800-214-6497 outside Winnipeg or visit: [manitoba.ca](http://manitoba.ca).

Do you have information regarding a violation against Manitoba's fisheries, wildlife, or forestry?

Call the Manitoba Conservation Officer Service Turn In Poachers (T.I.P.) Line, toll-free, at 1-800-782-0076.



*Calls are taken 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can remain anonymous and you may take pride your information assisted in the protection of Manitoba's natural resources.*

## ANGLING SAFETY AROUND FISHING GEAR

Be careful and stay a safe distance from commercial fishing gear, buoys and floats when fishing or boating. It's recommended not to travel between buoys as commercial nets can be set between buoys and you may tangle your fishing or boating equipment. Buoys and floats can be different colours.



## General Limits

### NOTICE OF INDIVIDUAL REGULATIONS

The possession limits and size restrictions listed below are general, provincial regulations, and apply to most Manitoba waters. A number of waters and fishing divisions in Manitoba have special, individual regulations. These exceptions and/or additions to the general regulations are found in the individual fishing divisions on pages 13-15, 17 and 21.

Species	Possession Limit	Size Restriction
Arctic Char (except in stocked trout waters)	8	
Arctic Grayling	3	None may exceed 40 cm
Bigmouth Buffalo	0	
Black Crappie	6	None may exceed 35 cm
Bluegill & Pumpkinseed	10	
Brook Trout (except stocked trout waters)	1	None may exceed 45 cm
Brown & Black Bullhead	25	
Burbot	6	None may exceed 70 cm
Channel Catfish	4	None may exceed 60 cm
Freshwater Drum	10	None may exceed 60 cm
Goldeye & Mooneye (either or combined)	10	
Lake Sturgeon	0	
Lake Trout	1	None may exceed 65 cm
Lake Whitefish	10	
Largemouth Bass	0	
Muskellunge	0	
Northern Pike (Jackfish)	4	None may exceed 75 cm
Rock Bass	6	
Smallmouth Bass	4	None may exceed 45 cm
Stocked Brook, Brown, & Rainbow Trout; Splake & other Trout hybrids; & Arctic Char (any species or combination)	3	Only one may exceed 45 cm None may exceed 60 cm
Walleye (Pickerel) & Sauger (either or combined)	4	None may exceed 55 cm
White Bass	10	
Yellow Perch	25	
All other Species	No Possession Limit	No Size Restriction

### Catch and Release Tips:

- Play your fish as little as possible.
- Hold fish horizontally, supporting the weight of the body, such as with one hand under the belly and the other hand around the tail.
- Don't hold fish by the eyes or gills.
- Handle fish gently ensuring not to drop the fish.
- Return fish to the water quickly.
- Bring scissors, pliers, and other tools to safely release the fish.
- Never release fish that have been held on a stringer.
- If the fish is deeply hooked and can't be kept per regulations, cut the line as close to the hook as possible, as removing the hook may cause more damage and reduce the chance of survival when released.
- Reduce angling during extreme heat and cold as extreme temperatures can contribute to post release mortality.
- Don't recommend angling for the following fish in water deeper than 9 metres (30 feet):
  - walleye, sauger, northern pike, black crappie, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, yellow perch, burbot, lake whitefish, cisco, bluegill, muskellunge, and rock bass.
- Don't fizzle fish, as it can reduce chance of survival. Instead use a descending device, if necessary.

## Limits and Possession

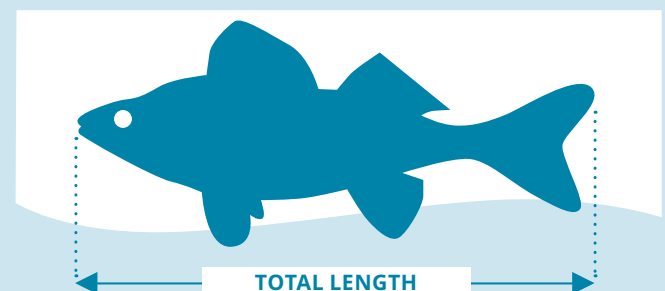
Fish are considered to be in possession if they are not immediately released into the water from which they were taken. Possession limits are the same as daily limits. You may possess no more than one limit of each kind of fish at any time. This includes all fish you have in hand, camp, transportation, at home or for use in a Competitive Fishing Event. The limits on this page apply to most Manitoba waters. Special limits on specific waters are listed in the individual fishing divisions (13-15, 17 and 21).

## Holding and Releasing a Fish

Fish being legally retained may be held live only while you are actively fishing, and they must be held within 25 m of you. If you release fish, they must be released unharmed into the water from which they were taken. They must not be tagged or marked in any way, unless authorized by a permit.

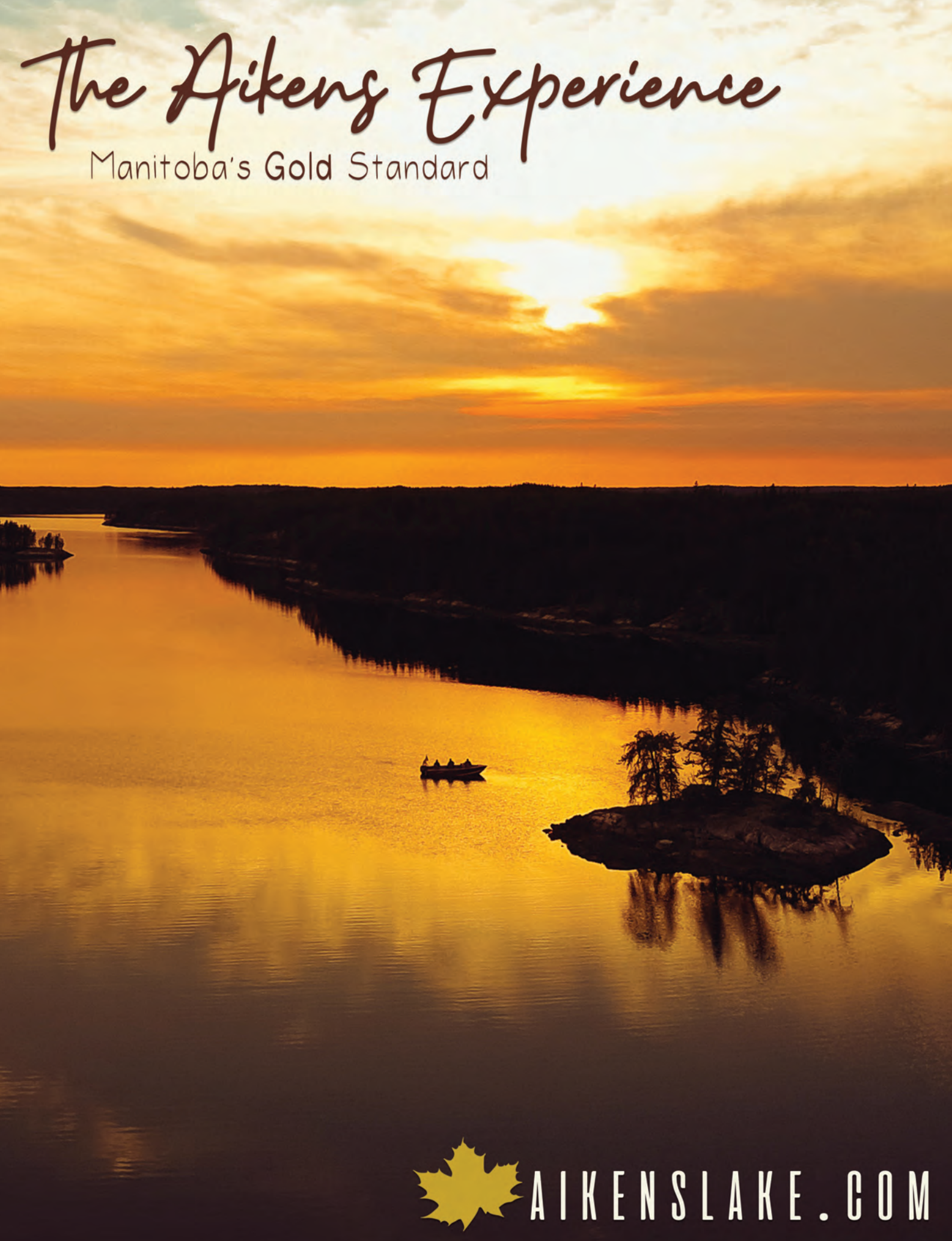
## Measuring a Fish

Total fish length is measured from the most anterior part of the head to the most posterior part of the tail laid flat (i.e. not pinched). See illustration below. Note: 2.54 cm = 1 inch.



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# Triple Deal Ice Derbies

Plan to fish all three of these incredible  
Manitoba Ice Derbies in 2024!

**Gimli Ice Festival Fishing Derby: [www.gimlifishingderby.com](http://www.gimlifishingderby.com)**

GIMLI *Ice* festival  
Fishing Derby

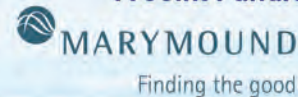
Saturday, March 2, 2024  
South Beach, Gimli

Over  
\$60,000  
in Cash, Prizes  
and Giveaway's  
to be  
WON!

**First Place- \$15,000 CASH!**

Join us for some of the best  
Walleye Fishing on the West side  
of Lake Winnipeg during March  
Madness!

A Joint Fundraiser for:



**Falcon Lake Winter Fish-Off: [www.winterfishoff.ca](http://www.winterfishoff.ca)**



**\$15,000 Grand Prize,  
over \$70,000 in guaranteed  
cash and prizes**

In support of the  
St. Amant  
Foundation



**Lac Du Bonnet Ice Fishing Derby: [www.ldbice.ca](http://www.ldbice.ca)**

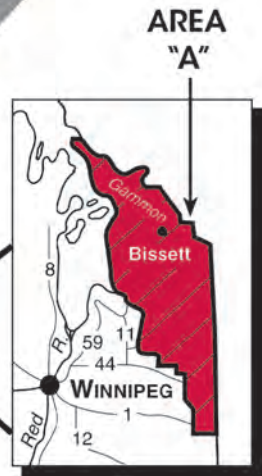
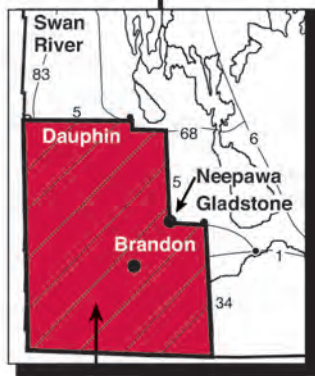
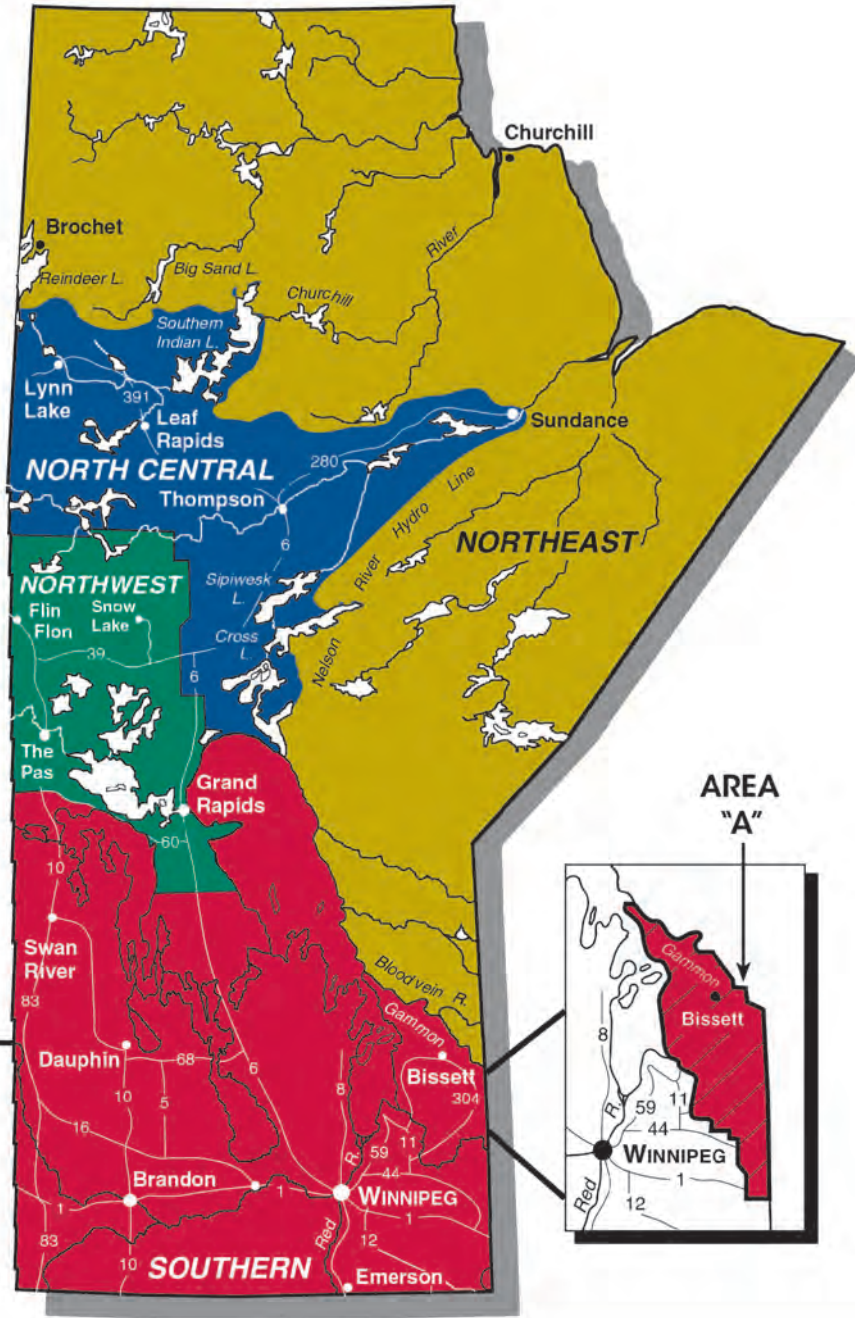


Saturday,  
February 24, 2024

Over \$60,000 Cash and Prizes to be given  
away. \$15,000 Cash First Prize based on  
hidden length and time.  
\$3,000 prize value for the Longest Fish Caught  
Prizes for First Fish, Last Fish, random draws,  
child ticket draws, and even a special  
"Skunked Prize".



# Fishing Divisions



## Manitoba Natural Resources and Northern Development Offices

Head Office (Winnipeg) .....	204-945-6784
Eastern Region (Lac du Bonnet).....	204-345-1450
Western Region (Brandon).....	204-726-6441
Western Region (Dauphin) .....	204-648-6696
Western Region (Swan River) .....	204-734-8350
Central Region (Gimli).....	204-642-6070
Northwest Region (The Pas).....	204-620-5311
Northeast Region (Thompson).....	204-677-6648

For general information please call 204-945-6784 or 1-800-214-6497

# Southern Division Regulations

## Species Seasons

(refer to map on the left for the Southern Division boundary)

Species	Closed Season*	Open Season
Walleye/Sauger	April 3, 2023 to and including May 12, 2023	May 13, 2023 to and including March 31, 2024
Lake Sturgeon	May 1 to and including June 15	June 16 to and including April 30
Lake Trout	September 15 to and including October 31	November 1 to and including September 14
All Other Species		Open year-round

\* Shall not fish for species during their closed season.

- Check the Waterbody Specific Regulations section on pages 14-15 for specific closures on Lake Winnipeg, Red River, Dauphin Lake and Assiniboine River.
- Use of live bait fish is allowed in some areas of the Southern Division (see page 6).

### Eastern Manitoba Special Walleye Regulation for Area "A" See map on page 12

All walleye over 45 cm must be released in the area south of the Gammon-Bloodvein rivers to the south and west shores of the Winnipeg River, including the Manigotagan River upstream of highway 304, Lac du Bonnet, and the southern boundary of Whiteshell Provincial Park and from Lake Winnipeg to the Ontario border (excluding the Winnipeg River from the Pine Falls Dam to Lake Winnipeg).

◆ Special Walleye Regulation Applies

### Southwestern Manitoba Special Walleye Regulation for Area "B" See map on page 12

All walleye shorter than 35 cm must be released south of highway 5 from the Saskatchewan border east to St. Rose du Lac, including all waterbodies west of highway 5 south to Neepawa, including all waterbodies south of highway 16 east to Gladstone and including all waterbodies west of highway 34 south to the US border;

Excluding, the Assiniboine River, Lake of the Prairies, Dauphin Lake tributaries, and Lake Wahtopanah and Little Saskatchewan River upstream to Riding Mountain National Park, including Rapid City Reservoir and Minnedosa Lake.

## STOCKED TROUT WATERS

No bow fishing, dip netting, or seining is allowed on stocked trout waters. In Duck Mountain Provincial Park, and in Porcupine Provincial Forest, all trout smaller than 35 cm must be released, except those caught in streams. Annual stocking lists are available online at [www.manitobafisheries.com](http://www.manitobafisheries.com).

The trout lakes, ponds and reservoirs listed below are open to fishing all year, with the following exceptions. Lake trout caught in these waters must be released from September 15 to and including October 31. No fishing for walleye in these waters during the walleye closed season from April 3, 2023 to and including May 12, 2023. The trout creeks and rivers listed below are closed to all fishing from November 1 to and including April 15.

No motors may be used on those waters marked with an ~.

No motors, except electric motors, may be used on those waters marked with an \*.

* Antons Lake - trout limit is two.	Dorothy Pond
Bagguley Lake	East Blue Lake (Duck Mountain)
Bear Lake (W of Caddy L)	* East Goose Lake (S. of Roblin) – trout limit is one and all trout over 45 cm must be released.
Beautiful Lake	<b>Elgin Reservoir</b>
Birch River (E of Porcupine Forest)	Eternal Springs (lower and upper ponds)
Black Beaver Lake	Forbes Lake
Blueberry Pond	Garland River
Bower Lake	Gass Lake (Porcupine Forest)
Bowsman River	George Lake
* Camp Lake (NE of Falcon Lake)	Glad Lake (Duck Mountain)
Childs Lake	<b>Goose River from the water control structure downstream to Goose Lake</b>
* Corstorphine Lake – trout limit is one and all trout over 45 cm must be released, may only use artificial lures and flies.	Gull Lake (Duck Mountain)
Davidson Lake	Gull Pond (N of Camp Morton)

## DIP NETTING AND SEINING RESTRICTIONS

General regulations on dip netting and seining can be found on page 7. No dip netting or seining is allowed in any stocked trout waters. In Nopiming and Whiteshell Provincial Parks, and the Rennie River near Rennie, dip netting and seining for suckers and all species other than bait fish are prohibited year round. Some streams are closed to all fishing (including dip netting) in spring to prevent damage to spawning fish and eggs. Check for spring closures by stream or lake name in the Waterbody Specific Regulations.

Hadashville Pond	Raspberry Pond
* Hunt Lake	Reynolds Ponds
Kinch Creek	Saskatoon Pond
Kingfisher Lake	* Shiliday Lake (Duck Mountain)
* Lac du Bonnet Ponds - all brown trout and tiger trout must be released.	Snail Lake
Lake 400	Snowberry Pond
Laurie Lake	South Duck River
Limestone Pond	* Spear Lake (Russell Reservoir)
* Little McBride Lake (NW of Boggy Creek)	Steepprock River (Porcupine Forest)
* Lyons Lake (S of W Hawk Lake)	Stony Creek (West of Neepawa)
* McHugh Lake - trout limit is one, may only use artificial lures and flies.	Strawberry Pond
Milner Ridge Pond	<b>Tees Lake</b>
Mirror Lake (Porcupine Forest) - trout limit is one and closed to all fishing from September 15 to and including October 31.	Tokaryk Lake
Nick Lake (Porcupine Forest)	Tower Pond
North Duck River	Tugby Lake
O'Hanly Pond	* Twin Lakes - all trout must be released, may only use artificial lures and flies.
Olson Lake (Porcupine Forest)	~ Two Lake (S of Crowduck)
~ One Lake	* Two Mile Lake (Duck Mountain)
* Patterson Lake - trout limit is one and all trout over 45 cm must be released, may only use artificial lures and flies.	* Vermilion Reservoir
* Perch Lake (Duck Mountain) - all bass and trout must be released.	Vini Lake (Porcupine Forest)
* Persse Lake - trout limit is two, may only use artificial lures and flies.	Wasp Lake - all tiger trout must be released.
Pine River (Duck Mountain)	<b>* West Blue Lake</b>
* Pybus Lake - trout limit is one and all trout over 45 cm must be released, may only use artificial lures and flies.	* West Goose Lake - trout limit is one and all trout over 45 cm must be released, may only use artificial lures and flies.
Quartz Pond	West Hawk Lake
	Whiteshell River between West Hawk and Caddy lakes - all trout must be released.
	* William Lake (S of Boissevain)

## WATERBODY SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

**Assiniboine River downstream of the Portage Diversion to Highway 240 - closed to all fishing from April 3 to and including May 12.**

**Basket Creek** - closed to all fishing, including dip netting, from April 1 to and including May 12.

**Beaver Lake (Duck Mountain)** - walleye limit is 2 and all **walleye over 45 cm must be released**. No Motors, except electric motors, are allowed.

**Bell Lake** - walleye limit is 2 and all **walleye over 45 cm must be released**.

♦ **Big Whiteshell Lake** - cisco limit is 6 and only one may exceed 45 cm.

**Chain Lakes** - no motors, except electric motors, are allowed.

**Crawford Creek** - see Dauphin Lake.

♦ **Crowduck Lake** - walleye limit is 2. All smallmouth bass over 40 cm must be released.

**Dauphin Lake including that portion of the Mossy River to municipal road 107 west and all inflowing tributaries - all walleye over 45 cm must be released.** All inflowing tributaries and those parts of Dauphin Lake within 1 km of their mouths, excluding the Vermilion Reservoir, are closed to all fishing, including dip netting from March 1 to and including May 12. The remaining parts of Dauphin Lake remain open in March and are closed to all fishing from April 1 to and including May 12.

**Dog Lake Drain** - closed to all fishing, including dip netting, from April 1 to and including May 12.

**Dufaults Creek** - closed to all fishing including dip netting, from April 1 to and including May 12.

♦ **Falcon Creek** - closed to all fishing, including dip netting, from April 1 to and including May 31.

**Glad Lake** - all arctic char must be released.

**Gull Lake (near Beaconia)** - all pike over 60 cm must be released.

♦ **Hamilton Creek** - closed to all fishing, including dip netting, from April 1 to and including May 31.

**Hamlin Drain** - closed to all fishing, including dip netting, from April 1 to and including May 12.

**Lake of the Prairies and its tributaries, including the Shell River west of PTH 83 - all walleye over 45 cm must be released.** Anglers may fish with either a Manitoba or Saskatchewan angling licence upstream from the Shellmouth Dam (see border waters - page 5). Check Saskatchewan angling regulations if fishing on the Saskatchewan side.

**Lake St. Andrew** - all smallmouth bass must be released.

**Lake St. George** - all walleye over 45 cm must be released.

**Lake Winnipeg** - walleye/sauger season closed April 3 to and including May 19.

**Lake Winnipeg and its tributaries up to the first impassable barrier for fish** - all walleye and sauger shorter than 35 cm must be released.



**Limestone Bay (on Lake Winnipeg)** - closed to fishing all year.

**Lonely Lake Drain** - closed to all fishing, including dip netting, from April 1 to and including May 31.

**Marge Lake** - walleye limit is 2 and all walleye shorter than 35 cm must be released.

**Mary Jane Reservoir** - all walleye shorter than 35 cm must be released. Black crappie limit is 4.

**Mink Creek** - see Dauphin Lake.

**Minnedosa Lake** - see Wahtopannah Lake.

**Minnewasta Lake** - all walleye shorter than 35 cm must be released.

**Moose Lake (near Sprague)** - all walleye shorter than 35 cm must be released.

**North Steeprock Lake** - walleye limit is 2 and **all walleye over 45 cm must be released.**

**Ochre River** - see Dauphin Lake.

**Perch Lake** - all smallmouth bass must be released.

**Proulx Creek and all other creeks and drains that intersect PR 328 to the east** - closed to all fishing, including dip netting, from April 1 to and including May 12.

**Rapid City Reservoir** - See Wahtopannah Lake.

**Red River from the Canada/US border to Lake Winnipeg and all tributaries between Lockport Dam and Lake Winnipeg** - all walleye and sauger shorter than 35 cm must be released.

**Red River and its tributaries to the first impassable barrier between Lockport Dam and Lake Winnipeg** - **closed to all fishing from April 3 to and including May 12.**

**Red River from Lockport Dam to 1 km downstream** - dip netting and seining for bait fish only, not suckers (excluding the Special Conservation Area); no bow fishing allowed.

**Red River at St. Andrews Lock and Dam (Special Conservation Area for pelicans)** - closed to all fishing and possession of fishing gear from April 1 to and including November 15. Boundary outlined below:

*East:* existing north-south chain link fence running along the top of the bank;

*North:* a line from the existing east-west chain link fence, extending into the Red River to the point directly north of the centre of the first freestanding bridge pier;

*South:* the dam face to the centre of the first freestanding bridge pier;

*West:* a line directly north of the centre of the first freestanding bridge pier to the point it intersects with the north boundary.

**Shoal Lake (on the Ontario border)** - all walleye/sauger must be released.

**Singush Lake** - walleye limit is 2 and all **walleye over 45 cm must be released.**

**St. Malo Lake** - no motors, except electric motors, allowed.

**Stephenfield Lake** - **all walleye shorter than 35 cm must be released.**

**Turtle River from PTH 5 near Laurier to Dauphin Lake** - see Dauphin Lake.

**Valley River** - see Dauphin Lake.

**Vermilion River and Vermilion Reservoir** - see Dauphin Lake.

**Verrall Lake** - walleye limit is 2 and **all walleye over 45 cm must be released.**

**Wahtopannah Lake and Little Saskatchewan River from the Rivers Dam upstream to Riding Mountain National Park, including Rapid City Reservoir and Minnedosa Lake** - **all walleye over 45 cm must be released.** That portion of Wahtopannah Lake and the Little Saskatchewan River from PTH 24 to the Trans-Canada Pipeline crossing on Wahtopannah Lake is closed to all fishing from April 1 to and including May 31.

**Wellman Lake** - walleye limit is 2 and **all walleye over 45 cm must be released.**

**West Watjask Lake** - closed to all fishing from November 15 to and including June 15. May only use artificial lures and flies and may only use one hook per lure.

**Whitefish Lake (in the Porcupine Forest) including the Marina Lagoon, North Creek and Whitefish Creek** - walleye limit is 2 and **all walleye over 45 cm must be released.** North Creek closed to all fishing from April 1 to and including June 1.

♦ **Whiteshell River from West Hawk Lake to Caddy Lake** - trout limit is 0 and closed to all fishing from November 1 to and including April 15.

**Winnipeg River between the Manitoba/Ontario border and the Pine Falls Generating Station** - **closed to lake sturgeon fishing all year.**

♦ **Winnipeg River from Ontario Boundary to Point Du Bois Dam (including Green Bay)** - all smallmouth bass must be released.

**Winnipeg River from Pine Falls Generating Station to Lake Winnipeg to and including Traverse Bay** - all walleye and sauger shorter than 35 cm must be released.

**Wilson River** - see Dauphin Lake.

**William Lake** - smallmouth bass limit is 2.



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FWEF supports projects that improve the quality of angling and hunting across Manitoba by:

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**Manitoba**

# Northwest Division Regulations

## Species Seasons

(refer to map on page 12 for the Northwest Division boundary)

Species	Closed Season*	Open Season
Walleye/ Sauger	May 1 to and including May 19, 2023	May 20, 2023 to and including April 30, 2024
Lake Sturgeon	May 1 to and including June 30	July 1 to and including April 30
All Other Species		Open year-round

\* Shall not fish for species during their closed season.

- No live bait fish

## STOCKED TROUT LAKES

No bow fishing, dip netting or seining is allowed on stocked trout waters. Annual stocking lists are available online at [www.manitobafisheries.com](http://www.manitobafisheries.com).

The following stocked trout lakes are open to fishing all year. No fishing for walleye in these waters during the walleye closed season from May 1 to and including May 19.

Amphipod Lake	Kormans Lake	Webster Lake
Barbe Lake	One Portage Lake	
Foot Print Lake	Scotty Lake	

## WATERBODY SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

**Athapapuskow Lake** - The south end is closed to all fishing from September 15 to and including October 15. Quarry Bay and Quarry Bay Channel are closed to all fishing from May 1 to and including May 31. Pickerel Bay and Pickerel Bay Channel are closed to all fishing from May 1 to and including May 31. Check Saskatchewan angling regulations if fishing on the Saskatchewan side.

**Clearwater Lake** - the west side is closed to all fishing from September 15 to and including October 15, on a line northeast from the end of Spawn Camp Point to the west side of the inlet of Pike Bay.

**Dolomite Lake** - closed to all fishing from April 1 to and including May 19.

**Grass River** - see Wekusko Lake and Reed Lake for specific regulations.

**Grass River from the CN rail line just north of Iskwasum Lake to the inlet of Reed Lake (including Iskwasum, Loucks, and Flag lakes)** - closed to all fishing from May 1 to and including May 31.

**Kisseynew Lake and Kissinging River from Kisseynew Lake to Kissinging Lake** - closed to all fishing from May 1 to and including May 31.

**Kissinging Lake and its tributaries, including Bartlett Lake** - all non-residents of Manitoba who fish must be registered and staying with, and obtain a Special Angling Licence (free) from, a licensed Manitoba tourist operator with an allocation for this fishery.

**Morgan Lake** - closed to all fishing from May 1 to and including June 30.

**Morton Lake** - walleye limit is 2 and northern pike limit is 2. All non-residents of Manitoba who fish must be registered and staying with, and obtain a Special Angling Licence (free) from, a licensed Manitoba tourist operator with an allocation for this fishery.

**Osborne Lake, Osborne Lake Creek and Wekusko Brook** - closed to all fishing from April 1 to and including June 30.

**Pickerel Creek** - closed to all fishing, including dip netting, from April 20 to and including May 19.

**Reed Lake, including Krug Lake, Jackfish Lake, Jackfish Lake Creek, Woosey Creek between Reed Lake and Halfway Lake, and all other tributaries of Reed Lake, including Grass River from Flag Lake to Tramping Lake** - walleye limit is 2 and northern pike limit is 2.

**Rocky Lake** - Goose Bay is closed to all fishing from November 1 to and including May 19.

**Saskatchewan River from Grand Rapids Generating Station to 1 km downstream (tailrace channel)** - closed to fishing all year.

**Snow Creek from Compton Lake to Snow Lake** - closed to all fishing from May 1 to and including May 31.

**Wabishkok Lake** - closed to all fishing from May 1 to and including May 31.

**Wekusko Lake** - Herb Bay north of the hydro line on Wekusko Lake is closed to all fishing from April 1 to and including June 30. Grass River from the outlet on Wekusko Lake on a line from the mouth of Rex Creek, southeast to the southwest corner of Campbell Island to the rapids downstream (including Missipisew and Wuskatasko Rivers) is closed to all fishing from April 1 to and including June 30.

**Whitefish Lake and Pineroot River from Whitefish Lake to and including Wabishkok Lake** - closed to all fishing from May 1 to and including May 31.

**Woosey Creek between Woosey Lake and Morgan Lake** - closed to all fishing from May 1 to and including June 30.

**Woosey Lake** - closed to all fishing from May 1 to and including May 31.

## DESCENDING DEVICE

A descending device is a deep-water release tool designed to return fish with barotrauma to the depth it was hooked. Using this device returns fish to the depth, temperature, and pressure it was at and increases the chance of survival. These devices are used when a fish has one or more symptoms of barotrauma and is unable to swim downwards under its own strength. Indicators of barotrauma include the inability to maintain orientation or to swim downwards, bloated appearance, bulging eyes, and in severe cases, the stomach may be pushed into the mouth.

A descending device works by attaching a fish to a weight and sinking it to the depth it was hooked. The general design is a hook or grip attached to a fish that is rigged to a weight and a line or rope. An angler can quickly attach a fish to the device, descend the fish to the depth it was hooked, detach the fish (method will vary by device) and haul in the line. This technique should be performed quickly and carefully in order to minimize additional stress.

Descending devices can be purchased at a store or made at home. The key when using a descending device is to keep it accessible in the boat and be ready to use it. Handling and releasing fish with barotrauma quickly and gently will increase survival.

# STOP AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES



## IN THE OPEN-WATER SEASON...

### **BEFORE ENTERING A WATER BODY, you need to...**

- ensure watercraft (e.g., canoe, power boat) and water-related equipment (e.g., fishing gear, bait container) are free of AIS, aquatic plants (e.g., weeds, algae) and mud.
- drain any residual water from the watercraft and water-related equipment on land away from the water body. This includes water in bait containers.
- ensure the water-related equipment that were last used in **another** water body than the one you are entering are dried completely OR decontaminated.

### **AFTER EXITING A WATER BODY and at the shore, you need to...**

- remove AIS and aquatic plants (e.g., weeds, algae) from watercraft and water-related equipment.
- drain all water from the watercraft and water-related equipment.
- open/remove drain plugs/valves and leave them open while transporting watercraft over land.

### **WHEN LEAVING AN AIS CONTROL ZONE, in addition to the exiting steps above, you need to...**

- obtain a Transportation Authorization if you cannot remove the AIS **before** leaving the shore.
- dispose of all remaining bait (e.g., live or dead) in the trash before leaving the shore.
- decontaminate watercraft and water-related equipment **before** placing them into **another** water body. Note: if returning to the same water body on the next trip, decontamination is not required.

To decontaminate in the open-water season, you can:

- visit a provincial Watercraft Inspection Station. There is no cost for this service.

**OR**

- follow the Approved Decontamination Methods (Schedule B and C) in the Aquatic Invasive Species Regulation.

## NEED MORE INFORMATION?

**Manitoba.ca/StopAIS**

**or call (toll-free): 1-87-STOP AIS-0**

**(1-877-867-2470)**

**Be part of the solution  
and do your part.**

**In Manitoba:**

- **you must be free of AIS**
- **set fines for AIS offences are in effect year-round**



**IN THE WINTER (ICE-COVERED) SEASON...  
BEFORE ENTERING A WATER BODY, you need to...**

- ensure water-related equipment are free of AIS, aquatic plants (e.g., weeds), and mud.
- drain any residual water on land away from the water body. This includes water in bait containers.
- ensure all water-related equipment (e.g., fishing gear, auger, ice scooper) that were last used in **another** water body than the one you are entering are dried completely (preferably indoors) OR decontaminated (e.g., let all items freeze outside for three days at -10°C or colder).

**AFTER EXITING A WATER BODY and at the shore, you need to...**

- remove AIS and aquatic plants (e.g., weeds) from water-related equipment.
- drain all water. This includes water in bait containers. Note: water in its frozen form does not need to be removed.

**WHEN LEAVING AN AIS CONTROL ZONE, in addition to the exiting steps above, you need to...**

- dispose of all remaining bait (e.g., live or dead) in the trash **before** leaving the shore.
- decontaminate all water-related equipment (e.g., fishing gear, auger, ice scooper) **before** placing them into **another** water body. Note: if returning to the same water body on the next trip, decontamination is not required.

To decontaminate in the winter, you can:

- freeze all water-related equipment for at least three days at -10°C or colder.

**OR**

- follow the Approved Decontamination Methods (Schedule C) in the Aquatic Invasive Species Regulation.

**AND** ensure all water-related equipment are dried completely **before** placing them into **another** water body.

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# North Central Division Regulations

## Species Seasons

(refer to map on page 12 for the Northwest Division boundary)

Species	Closed Season*	Open Season
Walleye/Sauger	May 1 to and including May 19, 2023	May 20, 2023 to and including April 30, 2024
Lake Sturgeon	May 1 to and including June 30	July 1 to and including April 30
All Other Species		Open year-round

\* Shall not fish for species during their closed season.

- No live bait fish

### STOCKED TROUT LAKES

No bow fishing, dip netting, or seining are allowed on stocked trout waters. Annual stocking lists are available online at [www.manitobafisheries.com](http://www.manitobafisheries.com). The following stocked trout lakes are open to fishing all year. No fishing for walleye in these waters during the walleye closed season from May 1 to and including May 19.

No motors, except electric motors, are allowed on those waters marked with an \*.

- |                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Bowden Lake      | Hidden Lake         |
| Crater Lake      | Leaf Lake           |
| *Digney Lake     | Little Troy Lake    |
| Esker Lake No. 1 | *Mid Lake           |
| Esker Lake No. 2 | Upper Ospwagan Lake |
| *Gemmell Lake    |                     |

### WATERBODY SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

**Fish Lake and Setting Creek (Fish Creek) and including that part of Setting Lake within 2 km of the mouth of Setting Creek** - closed to all fishing from March 15 to and including July 15.

**Kiski Lake and Kiski Creek** - closed to all fishing from May 1 to and including July 15.

**McLaren Creek** - closed to all fishing from May 1 to and including May 31.

**Nelson River and its tributaries down stream of Kettle Generating Station** - closed to brook trout fishing from September 1 to and including September 30.

**Nelson River and its tributaries from Whitemud Falls (outlet of Cross Lake) to Kelsey Generating Station, including Duck and Sipiwesk lakes** - closed to lake sturgeon fishing from May 1 to and including June 15. Within that area; a portion of the Nelson River extending 8 kilometres upstream and 8 kilometres downstream of the mouth of the Landing River, including the Landing River is closed to lake sturgeon fishing all year.

**Owl Creek** - closed to all fishing from May 1 to and including May 31.

**Thompson Creek** - closed to all fishing from May 1 to and including May 31.

**Velde Creek (including Joey Creek)** - closed to all fishing from May 1 to and including May 31.

# Northeast Division Regulations

Generally open to angling all year (refer to map on page 12 for the Northeast Division boundary).

- Shall not fish for species during their closed season
- No live bait fish

Only single, barbless hooks can be used on the waters listed below.

- |                  |   |   |
|------------------|---|---|
| Askey Lake       | Kasmere Lake  | Ragged Basin Lake                                     |
| Bagg Lake        | MacMillan Lake  | Shannon Lake  |
| Bangle Lake      | Muskasew Lake   | Silsby Lake   |
| Blevins Lake     | Muskosemunomin Lake                                   | Snyder Lake   |
| Booth Lake       | Nahili Lake   | Thanout Lake  |
| Chatwin Lake     | Nueltin Lake  | Thlewiaza River (from Fort Hall Lake to Nueltin Lake) |
| Corbett Lake     | Pritchard Lake  | Tice Lake   |
| Cuddle Lake      | Putahow Lake  | Timewe Lake   |
| Fort Hall Lake   | Putahow River (between Putahow Lake and Nueltin Lake) |   |
| Goose Lake       |   |   |
| High Hill Lake   |   |   |
| John Osborn Lake |   |   |
| Kapusta Lake     |   |   |

### WATERBODY SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

**Bear Lake** - all non-residents of Manitoba who fish must be registered and staying with, and obtain a Special Angling Licence (free) from, a licensed Manitoba tourist operator with an allocation for this fishery.

**Berens River from the mouth upstream to Sturgeon Falls, including the Etonami River upstream to Makik Falls and including the North Etonami River upstream to Miskomapiinna Rapids** - walleye season closed April 3 to and including May 12. Lake sturgeon season closed May 1 to and including June 30.

**Bloodvein River from the mouth upstream to Meekisiwi Rapids** - walleye season closed April 3 to and including May 12. Lake sturgeon season closed May 1 to and including June 30.

**Bradbury River** - walleye season closed April 3 to and including May 12. Lake sturgeon season closed May 1 to and including June 30.

**Gods Lake** - all non-residents of Manitoba who fish must be registered and staying with, and obtain a Special Angling Licence (free) from, a licensed Manitoba tourist operator with an allocation for this fishery.

**Gods River (from Gods Lake to Great Bear Falls)** - all brook trout must be released.

**Molson Lake and its tributaries (except Paimusk Creek)** - closed to fishing from May 1 to and including May 19. All non-residents of Manitoba who fish must be registered and staying with, and obtain a Special Angling Licence (free) from, a licensed Manitoba tourist operator with an allocation for this fishery.

**Nelson River and its tributaries** - closed to brook trout fishing from September 1 to and including September 30.

**Nueltin Lake** - all non-residents of Manitoba who fish must be registered and staying with, and obtain a Special Angling Licence (free) from, a licensed Manitoba tourist operator with an allocation for this fishery.

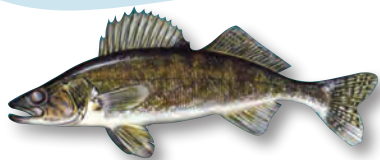
**Paimusk Creek** - closed to fishing from May 1 to and including May 31. All non-residents of Manitoba who fish must be registered and staying with, and obtain a Special Angling Licence (free) from, a licensed Manitoba tourist operator with an allocation for this fishery.

**Pigeon River from the mouth upstream to Sturgeon Falls** - walleye season closed April 3 to and including May 12. Lake sturgeon season closed May 1 to and including June 30.

**Utik Lake** - all non-residents of Manitoba who fish must be registered and staying with, and obtain a Special Angling Licence (free) from, a licensed Manitoba tourist operator with an allocation for this fishery.

# Common Manitoba Fish Species

**WALLEYE**



**YELLOW PERCH**



**BULLHEAD**



**SAUGER**



**BURBOT**



**CHANNEL CATFISH**



**NORTHERN PIKE**



**COMMON CARP**



**SMALLMOUTH BASS**



**GOLDEYE**



**FRESHWATER DRUM**



**LAKE TROUT**



**MOONEYE**



**WHITE BASS**



**BROOK TROUT**



## Come Catch Us On the Web

Manitoba Fisheries ..... manitobafisheries.com  
 Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) ..... Manitoba.ca/StopAIS  
 Fish Futures Inc ..... fishfutures.net  
 Manitoba Wildlife Federation ..... mwf.mb.ca  
 Travel Manitoba ..... travelmanitoba.com  
 Manitoba Lodges & Outfitters Association ..... mloa.com  
 FLIPPR ..... flippr.ca

Manitoba Recreational Fishing League ..... mwf.mb.ca  
 Walleye Anglers Association of MB ..... walleyeanglers.mb.ca/  
 Lake Information for Anglers ..... manitobafisheries.com  
 Intermountain Sport Fish Enhancement ..... isfe.ca  
 Manitoba Fly Fishers Association ..... mffa.org  
 Swan Valley Sport Fishing ..... swanvalleysportfishing.com



# Travel Manitoba Master Angler Program

anglers.travelmanitoba.com



How to Measure a Fish's  
Total Length

2.54 cm = 1 inch



## Length Requirements

Species	Minimum Length
Arctic Char.....	51 cm (20 in)
Arctic Grayling.....	46 cm (18 in)
Black Crappie.....	30.5 cm (12 in)
Brook Trout.....	51 cm (20 in)
Brown Trout.....	51 cm (20 in)
Bullhead.....	30.5 cm (12 in)
Burbot.....	76 cm (30 in)
Common Carp.....	76 cm (30 in)
Channel Catfish.....	86.5 cm (34 in)
Freshwater Drum.....	61 cm (24 in)
Goideye.....	35.5 cm (14 in)
Lake Sturgeon.....	109 cm (43 in)
Lake Trout.....	89 cm (35 in)
Lake Whitefish.....	56 cm (22 in)
Largemouth Bass.....	46 cm (18 in)
Mooneye.....	35.5 cm (14 in)
Muskellunge.....	79 cm (31 in)
Northern Pike.....	104 cm (41 in)
Rainbow Trout.....	51 cm (20 in)
Rock Bass.....	25.5 cm (10 in)
Sauger.....	46 cm (18 in)
Smallmouth Bass.....	46 cm (18 in)
Splake.....	51 cm (20 in)
Sucker.....	46 cm (18 in)
Sunfish.....	18 cm ( 7 in)
Tiger Trout.....	51 cm (20 in)
Tullibee (Cisco).....	40.5 cm (16 in)
Walleye.....	71 cm (28 in)
White Bass.....	38 cm (15 in)
Yellow Perch.....	33 cm (13 in)

## Master Angler Awards Program Rules and Regulations

- Registered fish must be caught in Manitoba in accordance with provincial angling regulations.
  - Anglers must use a hook and line to make the catch.
  - Photo Requirements:
    - All submissions must have a horizontal measurement photo of the entire length of the fish against a ruler, measuring tape or bump board to qualify for a Master Angler Award.
    - An action photo is optional, but highly encouraged.
    - We will not accept submissions with images showing vertical gill, eye, weigh scale or fish stringer holds.
    - We will not accept catches with pictures of frozen fish declared as released.
    - We will not accept photos that are thumbnails or a screen capture from a mobile device or desktop computer.
    - Photos with blood in them will not be posted on the Master Angler website.
    - Please note that all pictures provided will become the property of Travel Manitoba and may be used for publishing on the web site or in published materials.
  - Qualifying fish must be submitted digitally through the Master Angler Awards website or Master Angler mobile app. Official paper entry form available for download on Master Angler Awards website. Mail-in submissions must meet all requirements in rule #3.
  - Travel Manitoba will be the sole and final judge as to the acceptance of the entries, and reserves the right to request additional information and requirements as may be deemed necessary in the best interest of the program.
  - Submissions need to be made within one year of the catch to be eligible for an award.
  - Only one bronze, silver, or gold badge and release crest will be awarded to any one angler, but certificates will be presented for all qualifying fish. Different specialist badges will be awarded for each species (one per species).
- For more information contact:  
**The Manitoba Master Angler Program**  
 Tel: 1-800-665-0040  
 Email: MasterAngler@travelmanitoba.com  
 Website: anglers.travelmanitoba.com

### \*\*Digital Certificates\*\*

All anglers who provide an email address will receive a digital copy of their certificate for all non-level achieving catches and catch and release recognition. If anglers prefer a printed certificate, they may request one by contacting Master Angler directly. Anglers will continue to receive a mailed hard copy for the one-time "First Master Angler" and when a new level or specialist badge is achieved.

## L'IL ANGLER PROGRAM



Geared toward children 12 years of age and younger, the program encourages kids to get hooked on fishing and gain a little recognition. It's easy and it's fun!

When little anglers catch their first fish, they, or their parents, apply online with a photo. Travel Manitoba will send the Lil' Angler a one-time embroidered crest and a certificate of achievement. There is no length requirement and the fish can be any of the qualifying species found in Manitoba.

For more information or to enter your catch, go to [anglers.travelmanitoba.com](http://anglers.travelmanitoba.com)

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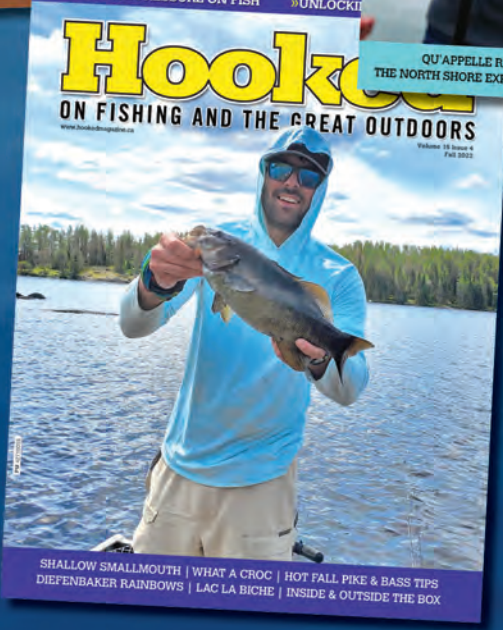
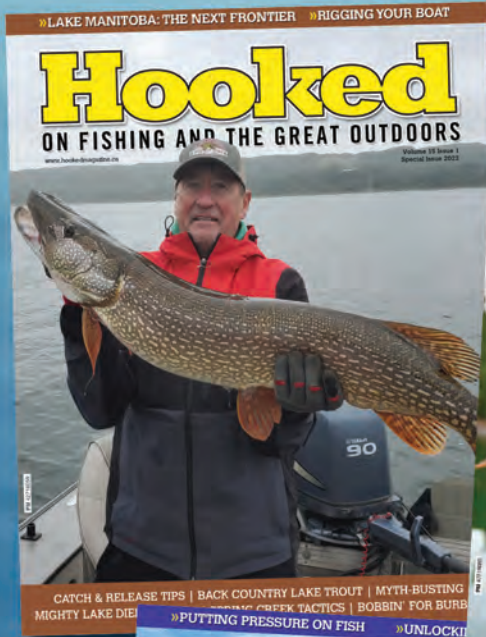
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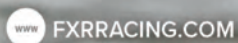
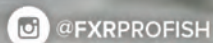
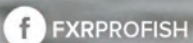
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