

Obsolete - 12/2/69

WEST VIRGINIA ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS
Department of Natural Resources

FILED IN THE OFFICE
ROBERT D. BAILEY
SECRETARY OF STATE
THIS DATE 12/12/68

Chapter 20-1
Series III

(1969)

SUBJECT: 1969 Fishing Regulations

Section 1. Opening and Closing Dates

- 1.01. Black Bass -- (Smallmouth, Largemouth, Spotted) -- Open year-round.
- 1.02. Trout -- (Rainbow, Brook, Brown and Golden Rainbow) -- Open year-round.
- 1.03. Muskellunge and Northern Pike -- Open year-round.
- 1.04. Channel Catfish -- Open year-round.
- 1.05. Other Species -- Open year-round.
- 1.06. Frogs -- (Bull Frog and Green Frog) -- Open 9:00 p.m. EDST; June 14, 1969. Closes at midnight, July 31, 1969.

(a) Frog season will open from May 15 through October 31, 1969 on Big Sandy and Tug Fork Rivers bordering Kentucky.

Section 2. Daily Creel Limits and Possession Limits

- 2.01. Black Bass -- (Smallmouth, Largemouth and Spotted) -- Daily creel limit is 8. Possession limit is 16 bass in the aggregate.
- 2.02. Trout -- (Rainbow, Brook, Brown and Golden Rainbow) -- Daily creel limit is 8; only 4 of the 8 may be taken from impoundments and the following streams: Clear Fork, Spruce Laurel Fork, Marsh Fork, Big Sandy

Creek, Big Huff Creek, Buffalo Creek, Paint Creek, Paw-Paw Creek, Cross Creek, Kings Creek, Tomlinson Run, Wheeling Creek, West Fork, Twelvepole Creek, Wickwire Run, North Fork Fishing Creek, South Fork Fishing Creek. Possession limit is 16.

(a) Special Regulation -- Otter Creek, in Randolph County, shall be closed from the experimental limestone drum treatment station downstream to Turkey Run.

(b) Only one line per angler will be permitted while fishing for trout in impoundments.

2.03. Muskellunge and Northern Pike -- No possession limit.

2.04. Channel Catfish -- Daily creel limit (applies to State Public Fishing Impoundments only) is 4; possession limit is 16.

2.05. Other Species -- No limit.

2.06. Frogs -- (Bull Frog and Green Frog) -- Nightly limit (Noon to Noon EDST) is 10. Possession limit is 20 frogs.

Section 3: Size Limits

3.01. Black Bass -- (Smallmouth, Largemouth and Spotted) -- No size limit.

(a) Special Regulation -- An experimental 12 inch limit shall be in effect on Wheeling Creek in Marshall and Ohio Counties.

3.02. Trout -- (Rainbow, Brook, Brown and Golden Rainbow) -- No size limit.

3.03. Muskellunge and Northern Pike -- Minimum size limit is 26 inches total length.

3.04. Channel Catfish -- No size limit.

3.05. Other Species -- No size limit.

Section 4. Stream and Lake Closures

4.01. Otter Creek in Randolph County (See Sec. 2.02 (a)).

4.02. Big Ditch Lake in Webster County -- Opens for fishing on September 1, 1969.

Section 5. Catch and Release Trout Fishing Areas.

5.01. Back Fork of Elk River -- A section in Webster County, beginning two miles upstream from Webster Springs, extending upstream four miles.

5.02. Shavers Fork -- A 5½-mile section of Shavers Fork in the Monongahela National Forest, Randolph County, north of U.S. Rt. 250. The area extends from the mouth of Whitemeadow Run downstream to the mouth of McGee Run.

* Regulations for Catch and Release Trout Fishing Areas, "fish for fun" are as follows:

- 1) All fish caught must be returned to the water at once.
- 2) Only barbless hooks are permitted.
- 3) All natural baits such as minnows, worms, salamanders, insects, are prohibited.
- 4) Wet or dry flies, spinners, spoons, nymphs, or plugs with barbless hooks are permitted.
- 5) Fishing permitted during daylight hours only.

- 6) Deeply hooked or gill-hooked fish should be released by cutting the leader.
- 7) An angler may not have fish in his possession while on the "Fish-for-Fun" stream.
- 8) Baits made from cheese, meat, fish, tapioca, marshmallows, flour, meal, salmon eggs, are prohibited.

Section 6. Game Fish Defined

6.01. Game Fish are as follows: Brook trout, brown trout, rainbow trout, golden rainbow trout, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, spotted bass, pickeral, muskellunge, Northern pike, walleye, white bass, rock bass, crappie, bluegill, other sunfish, channel catfish and flathead catfish.

Section 7. Other Methods of Fishing

7.01. Dipping -- Dipping for non-game fish only shall be lawful in open waters during the period from February 1, 1969 to midnight April 15, 1969. A dip net so used shall not exceed thirty-six square feet in overall area, and its mesh shall not be smaller than one-quarter inch.

7.02. Bow Fishing -- Year-round open season for carp; other non-game species may be taken by long bow during all months except May and June. It shall be unlawful to use an arrow having an explosive head or shaft. Residents must have legitimate fishing license to fish from any state waters by long bow. All other state fishing regulations apply.

7.03. Snaring and Gigging -- Non-game fish only may be taken by gigging or snaring as follows: West of US Rt. 19, January 1, 1969 through April 30, 1969 and July 1, 1969 through December 31, 1969. East of US Rt. 19, January 1, 1969 through April 30, 1969 and October 1, 1969 through December 31, 1969.

(a) Special Regulation -- Anyone convicted of gigging game fish is subject to fishing license revocation.

7.04. Trot Lines -- One end must be attached to the bank, and shall bear a legible waterproof identification tag. Trot lines must be attended once every twenty-four hours. It shall be unlawful to use wire or cable lines, or hooks with more than one point. It shall also be unlawful to attach trot lines to public piers, docks, or dams.

7.05. Underwater Spear Fishing and Diving

1. All fish except game fish and catfish may be taken in open waters by underwater spear fishing during the hours of daylight only.

a) New River from Bluestone Dam downstream to the lower bridge at Hinton is closed to spear fishing.

b) Elk River from Sutton Dam downstream to Route 19 bridge at Sutton is closed to spear fishing.

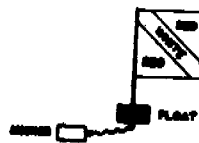
2. Spear guns be discharged only beneath the surface of the water.

3. It shall be unlawful to use an explosive head or shaft.

4. Skin divers shall not fish or dive in such a manner as to interfere with hook and line fishermen.

5. Skin divers shall not fish or dive in heavily traveled boat lanes, marked swimming areas, or areas set aside for waterskiing.

6. Diving areas will be marked with a minimum of two markers no more than 200 feet apart of the following types:



The flag shall have a minimum size of 12 x 12 inches and have a diagonal white stripe 3 inches wide. The top of the flag shall be at least 3 feet above the surface of the water.

7. No fish taken by spear fishing shall be returned to the waters or left on the banks of any waters.

8. Spear fishing unlawful in streams during giggering closures.