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ATTENTION HUNTERS & ANGLERS

<< Help Preserve Our Past >>

Remains of historic and Native American settlements are found throughout Arizona. These ruins and artifacts are “Time Capsules” of information for future generations and provide details about how people once lived. Sites, artifacts and vertebrate fossils are protected by federal and state laws.

Please help Arizona’s land management agencies and property owners preserve these special sites and objects.

Report Looting, Vandalism and Artifact Theft: 1-800-VANDALS
Arizona Game and Fish Department • www.azgfd.gov

General Waterfowl Hunting Regulations

No minimum poling length required.

All required licenses must be in possession.

Licenses are valid one year from date of purchase. If purchased for multiple days, the days need not be consecutive.

Arizona Revised Statutes and Commission Rules

Title 17 (ARS) Game and Fish Laws

Mandatory during the open season.

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Licenses

PRIVILEGES

General Fishing1,2,3

Allows the take of all fish species statewide, including at Community Fishing waters.

$37

$55

Combination Hunt

Fish and Hunting1,2,3

Allows take of all fish species statewide (including at Community Fishing waters), small game, fur-bearing animals, predatory animals, nongame animals, and upland game birds.

$57

$160

Youth Combination Hunt and Fish1,2,3

(ages 10–17)

Allows take of all fish species statewide (including at Community Fishing waters), small game, fur-bearing animals, predatory animals, nongame animals, migratory birds and upland game birds.

$5

$5

Short-term Combination Hunt and Fish2,3

(30 days)

Allows take of all fish species statewide (including at Community Fishing waters), small game, fur-bearing animals, predatory animals, nongame animals, and upland game birds.

$15/day

$20/day

Community Fishing1,2,3

Allows take of all fish species at Community Fishing waters

$24

$24

Notes:

1. Licenses are valid one year from date of purchase.

2. All licenses that allow fishing are valid for the take of trout and for simultaneous fishing with two poles or lines.

3. These licenses also include privileges that allow fishing from the shore or from a boat on any portion of the Colorado River and impounded waters (e.g., Lake Mohave, Lake Havasu, Lake Mead, Lake Pleasant, Boulder Dam). See Commission Orders 41 (Amphibians), 42 (Reptiles) and Fish 43 (Waterdogs) on open and closed areas, methods of take, seasons, and bag and possession limits. See page 48.

4. A short-term Combo license may be purchased for any day. Purchaser selects date(s) of validity at time of purchase. If purchased for multiple days, the days need not be consecutive.

License Information

License Requirements

- A valid fishing or combination license is required for resident and non-resident anglers 10 years of age or older fishing any public accessible water in Arizona.

- Youth under the age of 10 and blind residents do not need to purchase a state fishing license to fish in Arizona.

- Licenses are valid one year from date of purchase. No license is transferable or refundable.

- All required licenses must be in possession while engaging in fishing.

- A member or spouse of a member of the armed forces of the United States who is on active duty and stationed in this state for either permanent or temporary duty, or is a member or spouse of a member of the armed forces of the United States on active duty stationed in another state or country but who lists this state as their home of record at the time of applying for a license, permit, tag, or stamp, may purchase a resident license.

- A valid fishing or combination license is required for take of frogs, waterdogs, crayfish and softshell turtles. See Commission Orders 41 (Amphibians), 42 (Crayfish and Turtles) and 43 (Reptiles) on open and closed areas, methods of take, seasons, and bag and possession limits. See page 48.

Arizona Fishing Licenses Are Not Required When

- Fishing any public water on free fishing day, which usually takes place on the first Saturday of National Fishing and Boating Week. The next two years’ free fishing days are: June 1, 2019, and June 6, 2020.

- Registered and participating in a Department sponsored fishing clinic.

- Fishing private waters, tanks, or ponds with permits.

Complimentary Licenses

Must meet criteria below to qualify for free license. These licenses include the same privileges as the Combination Hunt and Fish. A hard-plastic permanent card may be purchased for $4. Cards are mailed within 30 days of purchase.

- PIONEER Person must be 70 years of age or older who has been a domiciled Arizona resident for 25 or more consecutive years immediately preceding application for the license.

- DISABLED VETERAN A veteran of the armed forces of the United States who has been a domiciled Arizona resident for one year or more immediately preceding application for the license and who is receiving compensation from the United States government for permanent service connected disabilities rated 100 percent disabling.

LIFETIME LICENSES

Arizona Fishing Licenses

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Getting Started

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Where to Buy Licenses and Stamps

Arizona Game and Fish Department • www.azgfd.gov

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Special Regulation Waters Index

General Index
Regulation Changes

Note: All regulation changes take effect Jan. 1, 2019. Check General and Special regulation sections for changes highlighted as “NEW” or as “REVISED.”

Open Fish Creek in Greenlee County and tributaries Corduroy Creek and Double Cienega Creek to fishing. pages 12-13

Close Chase Creek (Gila County) to fishing. page 16

Designate Fain Lake and Yavapai Lakes in Urban Forest Park (Prescott Valley) and Mansel Carter Oasis Lake (Queen Creek) as Community Fishing Waters with bag limits. pages 14-15 and 22-23

Designate the Pacific Avenue Athletic Complex (PAAC) Pond in Yuma as a Community Fishing Water with bag limits. pages 20-21

Change bag limits for all fish species at Maricopa Lake (Youngtown). pages 22-23

Change bag limits for bass at Arivaca Lake to statewide general regulations.

Change bag limits for bass at Pena Blanca Lake. pages 24-25

How To Use This Booklet

This booklet contains the information you need to legally fish in Arizona. Please consult regulations carefully before fishing. Regulations differ on many bodies of water, so be sure to follow the steps below before you go fishing:

1. Make sure that you have read and are familiar with the information on General Statewide Regulations (pages 6–8) concerning the requirements for licenses, stamps, daily bag and possession limits, gear and bait restrictions, harvest methods and common violations.

2. Review the General Sport Fish Regulations (page 6) for information on daily bag and possession limits for each species that applies to all fishing waters statewide.

3. Consult the statewide map, below, to find your public fishing area of interest. Note: for information about Community Fishing Program waters pick up the 2019 booklet (and 2020 next year).

4. Locate your fishing area of interest in the Special Regulations – Fish: Commission Order 40 (pages 12–25) or Special Regulations by Species (pages 26–31). Now look to see if the body of water you will be fishing is listed, then note any Special Regulations that apply to any fish species such as daily bag limits, length limits, seasons, method of take, bait and hook restrictions, closed areas, or other restrictions. You can also refer to the Special Regulation Waters Index on page 61.

5. If specific references to a body of water, fish species, daily bag limits, length limits, seasons, method of take, or other restrictions are not made in the Special Regulations, then General Statewide Regulations and General Sport Fishing Seasons apply.

It is the angler’s responsibility to know what regulations apply to the body of water they are fishing. New or revised regulations for 2019 are summarized on page 4.

Fish AZ: Your License Dollars at Work

For more information about everything fishing, visit fishaz.azgfd.com or www.azgfd.gov.
General Statewide Fishing Regulations

Open Statewide, Jan. 1, 2019, through Dec. 31, 2020

Before you fish any body of water, be certain to review the General Statewide Regulations and the Special Regulations for the area you intend to fish. Anglers are responsible for knowing what regulations apply to the body of water they are fishing. See www.azgfd.gov for up-to-date information including any changes.

DAILY BAG LIMITS

The following are the legal fish and general daily bag limits that apply to all fishing waters statewide. These regulations apply statewide unless site specific Special Regulations (pages 12–25) apply to that body of water. Statewide includes all state and federal refuges, parks and monuments, open areas do not include any areas closed to hunting, fishing, or trapping under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission rules R12-4-321, R12-4-801, R12-4-802, and R12-4-803.

LEGAL FISH

Trout (includes rainbow, cutthroat, brown, brook, tiger, Gila and Apache trout; grayling) 6 Any combination

Bass (including largemouth and smallmouth) 6 Any combination

Striped Bass 10

Walleye 6

Northern Pike Unlimited Immediate kill or release

Catfish (including channel and flathead) 10 Any combination

Crappie (white and black) Unlimited

White Amur (grass carp) minimum size 30 inches 1

Roundtail Chub Catch and release only

Sunfishes (includes bluegill, redear sunfish, green sunfish and hybrid sunfish) Unlimited

Catfish Unlimited Immediate kill or release

All Other Species (except protected native fish): including, but not limited to, white bass, yellow bass, carp, suckers, buffalofish, bullhead, yellow perch and tilapia Unlimited

COMMUNITY FISHING PROGRAM WATERS DAILY BAG LIMITS

FISH SPECIES LAKES PONDS

Catfish 4 2

Trout 4 2

Bass minimum size 13 inches 2 1

Sunfish (various species including bluegill, redear, green and hybrid) 10 5

White amur (grass carp) minimum size 30 inches 1 1

STATEWIDE POSSESSION LIMITS

Statewide possession limits are twice (2x) the daily bag limit for each species, unless a different possession limit is specified by water. “Possession limit” means the maximum limit, in number or amount of fish, which may be possessed at one time by any one person.

PROTECTED NATIVE FISH

The following native fish are protected statewide and may not be angled for, taken, possessed, pursued or captured: beautiful shiner, bluehead sucker, bonytail chub, Colorado pikeminnow, desert pupfish, flattensnout sucker, Gila topminnow, Gila trout (except Frye Mesa Reservoir, Goldwater Lake and West Fork of Oak Creek), hubbump chub, Little Colorado sucker, Little Colorado spinedace, loach minnow, Mexican stoneroller, Qtalobaquito pupfish, razorback sucker, Sonora chub, spinedace, Virgin spinedace, Virgin roundtail chub, woundfin, Yaqui catfish, Yaqui chub, Yaqui topminnow, and Zuni bluehead sucker.

If any of these protected native fish are incidentally caught, they must be immediately released unharmed. See page 33.

SPECIAL LICENSES AND STAMPS

As of 2019, the following stamps are no longer available: trout stamp, two-pole stamp, Colorado River stamp – California, and Colorado River stamp – Nevada. The privileges of all of these stamps are now bundled together and included in the General Fishing license, Youth Combo Hunt/Fish license, Cambo Hunt/Fish license, and Special Regulations (one day) Combo Hunt/Fish license. The two-pole stamp privilege is also included in the Community Fishing licenses.

COLORADO RIVER SPECIAL USE PRIVILEGES

Privileges of the old Colorado River Stamp – California, and Colorado River Stamp – Nevada are now included in the General Fishing and Combo Hunt/Fish (youth, adult and short-term) licenses. These privileges allow anglers to fish to a beat on any waters that form the mutual boundaries between Arizona and California, or Nevada, and Utah; or when fishing from the California, or Nevada, shorelines of these waters. In addition to large stretches of the Colorado River, these fishing privileges include impoundments (e.g., Lake Powell, Lake Mead, Lake Mohave, Lake Havasu), and associated backwaters (e.g., Martinez Lake, Mittersill Lake, Mohave). As of Jan. 1, 2019, a Utah stamp is no longer needed for a licensed Arizona angler to fish on Lake Powell.

Lost Your License? If you lose or damage your license, you can get a replacement at any license dealer, Department office or online. You will be required to complete an “Affidavit for Duplicate License” form and pay a $4 replacement fee. You will be issued a duplicate license of the same type.

STATEWIDE FISHING REGULATIONS

This synopsis of fishing regulations is prepared for convenience only. The regulations are valid for 2019 and 2020. For specific laws and regulations relating to fishing, see Arizona Revised Statute, Title 17 Laws, and Arizona Game and Fish Commission Rules, which can be found at www.azgfd.gov.

Hook and Line Methods

• All new fishing and combo licenses allow the angler to fish with two poles or lines simultaneously. In no case are more than two lines allowed to be used at the same time.

• “Angling” means the taking of fish by one line and not to exceed two hooks, by one line and one artificial lure, which may have attached more than one hook, or by one line and not to exceed two artificial flies or lures.

• Fishing lines must be constantly attended and in immediate control.

• The hook, fly or lure must be used in such a manner that the fish voluntarily attempts to take it in its mouth.

• For artificial fly and lure waters, check the Special Regulations to determine if hooks must also be single-pointed barbless hook only.

• A single-pointed barbless hook is a fish hook with a single point, manufactured without barbs on or which barbs have been completely closed or removed. This does not include a treble hook. Regulations limiting tackle to single-pointed barbless hooks do not eliminate the angler’s option for simultaneous fishing as defined. Anglers may use a single line with no more than two single hooks, as with a primary hook and a dropper hook or fly.

Other Fishing Methods

• Bow and arrow, crossbow, snare, gig, spear or spear gun, or snagging are valid methods for taking carp, buffalofish, mullet, tilapia, goldfish, and shad statewide unless a closure or Special Regulation restricts it.

• Bow and arrow fishing for catfish (5 catfish daily bag limit, any combination) is valid at Apache Lake, Canyon Lake and Saguaro Lake.

• Spear and spear gun fishing for striped bass is valid at Lake Powell, Lake Mead, Lake Mohave (between Hoover Dam and Cottonwood Landing) and Lake Pleasant. Daily bag limits vary between locations. See Special Regulations for more details.

• See R12-4-313D for other legal methods of taking aquatic wildlife (bow and arrow, spear or spear gun, snagging, nets, traps, etc.) for specific fish species.

Catching Baitfish and Crayfish for Bait

• Live baitfish may be used only in areas approved for certain species (see page 10–11).

• Live bait may be taken by minnow trap, dip net, cast net, pole and line, handline, crayfish net or seine.

• Cast nets shall not exceed a 4-foot radius (or an 8-foot diameter).

• Seine nets shall not exceed 10 feet in length and 4 feet in width.

• Landing nets or dip nets may be used for the capture of legal baitfish or crayfish or only to land a legally hooked fish.

• Any unattended traps or devices used to catch or hold aquatic wildlife or fish must have attached water resistant identification

Lost Your License? If you lose or damage your license, you can get a replacement at any license dealer, Department office or online. You will be required to complete an “Affidavit for Duplicate License” form and pay a $4 replacement fee. You will be issued a duplicate license of the same type.

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STATEWIDE FISHING REGULATIONS (continued)

legally bearing the name, address, and fishing license number of the person using the device.

- All aquatic wildlife taken incidentally while capturing live bait with nets or traps must be returned immediately and unharmed to the water after being caught.
- All live baitfish and live crayfish caught must be kept only for personal use and are not to be sold or used for commercial purposes.
- Live crayfish may only be used as bait on the same body of water where they were captured.

Daily Bag and Possession Limit

• The daily bag limit is the maximum number of fish that may be legally caught and reduced to possession in one day. Once you catch a fish and do not release it, it now counts toward your daily bag limit. This includes any fish you catch and give away to someone else. Daily bag limits are for 24-hour periods (midnight to midnight).
• Possession limits are twice the daily bag limits as established for each species. They also are entitled to the use of two poles.

Closures to Fishing

Sensitive areas may be permanently closed to fishing. Some areas (streams) being actively fished may not continue to fish on subsequent days, unless the angler has first consumed or given away all or a portion of the possession limit.

Length Limits

Most fishing waters in Arizona do not have length limits. Check the Special Regulations waters (including Designated Community Fishing Program waters) to determine if length limits apply to species found in the water you wish to fish. A minimum length means that a fish shorter than a designated length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught.

How to Measure the Length of a Fish

1. Total length is the standard.
2. Place the fish flat on its side with the jaw closed.
3. Squeeze the tail fin lobes together to produce the maximum total length.
4. Measure in a straight line from the tip of the snout to the extreme tip of the tail.
5. Where length limits apply, you must release unharmed all fish not meeting within the legal length limit.

Transport and Storage of Fish

• Anglers may transport up to a possession limit of any fish species.
• It is illegal to transport live fish, including in live wells or other containers. All fish must be killed or released before transportation from the body of water. This does not apply to some live baitfish that are transported from licensed bait dealers. See page 10 for Live Baitfish – Legal Species, Legal Areas and Regulations.
• Fish must be transported in a way that they can be counted and species of fish can be identified. All fish must have a piece of skin attached to the carcass or fillets so species can be determined. If minimum length limits apply to the species, the head, tail, and skin must be intact so fish length and species can be determined.

License Revocation and Civil Liability

License Revocation

You can have your fishing, hunting and trapping license revoked by the Commission for up to five years or more for a conviction of:

- unlawful taking or possession of wildlife (including fish)
- careless use of firearms resulting in human injury or death
- destroying or injuring livestock
- acts of vandalism or littering while hunting or fishing
- unlawful entry into a closed area for purposes of taking wildlife
- unlawful posting of state or federal lands
- residency license fraud

Such revocations may be recognized by other states that are members of the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact. You may also be civilly liable for the loss of wildlife to the state (see below). (A.R.S. 17-340)

Civil Liability

Under state law (A.R.S. 17-314) anyone who has found to have unlawfully wounded or killed, or unlawfully possessed any of the following wildlife may be subject to civil action by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission. The civil damages may reach as much as $5,000 per incident. (A.R.S. 17-314)

- Possess Unlawfully Taken Aquatic Wildlife

Any aquatic wildlife that is unlawfully taken may not be legally possessed. Whether or not you were involved in the illegal taking of wildlife or fish, you cannot legally possess such parts thereof. (A.R.S. 17-509A1)

Obtain License or Permit by Fraud

Unlawful Possession or Transportation of Live Crayfish

Exempt from Arizona Game and Fish Commission orders for daily bag and/or possession limit. Please consult Commission Orders for daily bag and/or possession limit. (A.R.S. 17-309A9)

Exceed Daily Bag and/or Possession Limit

Fish or Take Aquatic Wildlife Without a License or With the Wrong License

In order to fish or take any aquatic wildlife in Arizona, you must have a valid fishing license, as applicable, in your possession if you are 10 years of age or older. You should check your license every time that you go fishing. A Community fishing license is not valid at state waters. Community Fishing Program guidesheets are available at all Game and Fish offices, license dealers or online at www.azgfd.gov. (A.R.S. 17-313)

Fishing with an Unattended Line

Anytime you are fishing your line must be constantly attended and within your immediate control. Before you leave the area, even for a short while, your line must be reeled in and removed from the water. (A.R.S. 17-301C)

Littering While Taking Aquatic Wildlife

All anglers are responsible for cleaning up after themselves. All camp and shoreline areas should be left clean. Beer containers, wrappers, hooks, line and associated debris constitute litter and should be picked up, packed out, and properly disposed of. All, anglers are responsible for the proper care and disposal of their fish carcasses. Shorelines and waterways must be kept as clean as they were found. (A.R.S. 17-509A9)

Other Violations

- Refuse to produce a license or fish for inspection upon request of an enforcement officer.
- Snag or attempt to snag fish except as allowed by R12-4-313.
- Attempt to take fish by hand, with or without a hook.
- Use a landing net to capture fish, except to land a legally-hooked fish. Dip or seine nets are only legal for the capture of baitfish.
- Use to take any repeatedly caught fish or aquatic wildlife for sale or barter, except as authorized by R12-4-305.P.
- Use electrical devices, explosives, firearms, drugs, chemicals or poison that may kill or injure fish and aquatic wildlife.
- Use or possess live bait in areas or on waters where fishing is restricted to the use of artificial fillets and lures only, or where the use of live baitheld is restricted. (pages 10-11).

It is every angler’s responsibility to protect our fishing heritage. You can help ensure responsible and ethical fishing by reporting violations immediately to our Operation Game Thief hotline 1-800-352-6700.
Live Baitfish – Legal Species, Legal Areas and Regulations

Live baitfish that are legal for use in Arizona include only those species identified on these two pages. No other fish species may be used as live bait.

Legal Areas Anglers May Transport and Use Live Baitfish

Arizona Live Baitfish License Dealers may offer for sale any of the following: fathead minnows (most common), threadfin shad, mosquitofish, golden shiner and goldfish. Any legal baitfish obtained from a licensed baitfish dealer may be transported for use only to the following legal areas.

Legal Areas Allowed

• Fathead minnows, threadfin shad and mosquitofish are permitted on all waters of the counties of La Paz, Maricopa, Pinal and Yuma. These baitfish may be used in all waters of Mohave County except the Virgin River. Additional open areas include: 1) the mainstream portions of the Gila and Salt rivers, and that portion of the Verde River below the Tuzigoot Bridge, including impounded reservoirs, 2) Tonto Creek from Casa Grande downstream, 3) those portions of Apache, Roosevelt, Pleasant and Horseshoe lakes lying outside of these counties, and 4) that portion of the San Francisco River in Greenlee County. Notes: Live baitfish may not be transported to the Verde River upstream from Horseshoe Dam and the Salt River above the Roosevelt Diversion Dam in Gila County. Threadfin shad are permitted for use if caught and used on site at Patagonia Lake in Santa Cruz County. Fathead Minnows are permitted for use as live bait only when caught and used on site at Riggs Flat Lake in Graham County. No waters of any other counties are open.

• Mosquitofish are permitted on all waters of the counties of La Paz and Yuma. Open areas include: 1) Lake Mead, and 2) the Colorado River downstream from Hoover Dam to the Southern International Boundary with Mexico, including impounded reservoirs. No waters of any other counties are open.

• Golden shiner and goldfish are permitted on all waters of the counties of La Paz and Yuma. Open areas include: 1) Lake Mead, and 2) the Colorado River downstream from Hoover Dam to the Southern International Boundary with Mexico, including impounded reservoirs, and 3) Alamo Lake. No waters of any other counties are open.

Legal Areas Allowed

Gizzard shad are permitted for use as live bait only from the following areas: 1) the Colorado River downstream from Separation Canyon Dam to the Southern International Boundary with Mexico, including impounded reservoirs (e.g., Lake Mead, Lake Mohave and Lake Havasu) and directly connected backwaters (e.g., Topock Marsh and Kinney Lake), 2) the Gila and Salt Rivers, including impounded reservoirs (e.g., Roosevelt Lake and Apache Lake), 3) community waters in Maricopa County, and 4) Lake Pleasant. Gizzard shad are NOT considered baitfish, however they have specific regulations governing their use in Arizona. For regulations on live gizzard shad legal areas, capture, possession, and transportation see R12-4-313 C.4 and R12-4-316 A.6 C.

Waterdogs are NOT considered baitfish, however they have specific regulations governing their use in Arizona. For regulations on live waterdogs see R12-4-313 C.4 and R12-4-316 A.6 C. No live waterdogs or salamanders may be taken, used or possessed in that portion of Santa Cruz County lying east and south of State Highway 82, or that portion of Cochise County lying west of the San Pedro River and south of State Highway 82. (This includes Parker Canyon Lake).

Legal live baitfish can be obtained from licensed bait dealers and from wild capture for personal use only. For regulations on legal capture methods, possession and transport of live baitfish, see:

• Capturing baitfish and crayfish for bait (page 7 of this book)
• Lawful methods R12-4-313.A thru E
• Possession of live fish R12-4-313.A & B
• Possession and transportation of live baitfish R12-4-316.A & B
• Seasons for lawfully taking fish R12-4-317A thru C

Notes:

• To sell live baitfish (or waterdogs) without a Live Baitfish Dealers License.
• To use or possess any restricted live baitfish while fishing
• To release live baitfish or other live fish into any Arizona waters.
• To use or possess any restricted live baitfish while fishing
• To sell live baitfish (or waterdogs) without a Live Baitfish Dealers License.
• To keep or harm any game fish or aquatic wildlife incidentally taken while capturing live baitfish with seines, dip nets, traps or cast nets.

Legal Areas Allowed

Carp and Goldfish are permitted on all waters of the counties of La Paz and Yuma. Additional open areas include: 1) Lake Mead, 2) the Colorado River downstream from Hoover Dam to the Southern International Boundary with Mexico, including impounded reservoirs, 3) the Gila, Salt, and Verde rivers, including impounded reservoirs, 4) community waters in Maricopa County, 5) Lake Pleasant, and 6) Alamo Lake. Notes: Legal Areas Allowed

Legal Areas Allowed

Tilapia are permitted on all waters of Yuma County. Additional open areas include: 1) waters in La Paz County located west of Highway 95 and south of Interstate 10, and 2) the Colorado River from the Palo Verde Diversion Dam downstream to the Southern International Boundary with Mexico, including impounded reservoirs. No waters of any other counties are open.

Legal Areas Allowed

Sunfishes are permitted on all waters of the counties of La Paz and Yuma. Additional open areas include: 1) the Colorado River south of the Nevada-California boundary downstream to the Southern International Boundary with Mexico, including impounded reservoirs, 2) the Gila, Salt, and Verde rivers, including impounded reservoirs, 3) community waters in Maricopa County, 4) Lake Pleasant, 5) Alamo Lake, and 6) Patagonia Lake. Notes: Live baits may not be transported to the Verde River upstream from Horseshoe Dam and the Salt River above the Roosevelt Diversion Dam in Gila County. No waters of any other counties are open.

Legal Areas Allowed

Texas Chanos and Tilapia are permitted on all waters of Mohave County. Additional open areas include: 1) Lake Havasu, 2) Lake Mead, 3) Lake Mohave, 4) lakes in Maricopa County, and 5) Lake Pleasant. Notes: Live baits may not be transported to the Verde River upstream from Horseshoe Dam and the Salt River above the Roosevelt Diversion Dam in Gila County. No waters of any other counties are open.
Special Regulations and Seasons — Fish: Commission Order 40

The following bodies of water identified under Special Regulations and Seasons (pages 12–25) have special fishing seasons (R12-4-317), daily bag and possession limits, length limits or closures that differ from General Statewide Regulations (pages 6–9) or Statewide Daily Bag and Possession Limits (page 6). Only exceptions to General Statewide Regulations and General Sport Fishing Seasons are shown for each area.

White Mountains

Special Regulations include fishing seasons, daily bag and possession limits, length limits, bait and hook restrictions, legal methods, and waters and areas closed to fishing.

Notes:
1. General Statewide Regulations apply to all waters and fish species within the White Mountains area except as listed below.
2. For each water listed, the possession limit is two times the daily bag limit, unless a different possession limit is specified.

Ackre Lake
Catch-and-release only for trout. Trout must be immediately released unharmed; no trout may be kept; artificial fly and lure only; single-pointed barbless hooks only.

Becker Lake
Catch-and-release only for trout. Trout must be immediately released unharmed; no trout may be kept; artificial fly and lure only; single-pointed barbless hooks only.

Burro Creek
Catch-and-release only for trout. Trout must be immediately released unharmed; no trout may be kept; artificial fly and lure only; single-pointed barbless hooks only.

Carrero Lake
The limit is 2 trout; artificial fly and lure only.

Coyote Creek
Catch-and-release only for trout. Trout must be immediately released unharmed; no trout may be kept; artificial fly and lure only; single-pointed barbless hooks only.

Lee Valley Lake
The limit is 2 trout (includes any combination of trout and grayling); artificial fly and lure only.

Mamie Creek
Catch-and-release only for trout. Trout must be immediately released unharmed; no trout may be kept; artificial fly and lure only; single-pointed barbless hooks only.

Nelson Reservoir
Unlimited rainbow and brown trout from Sept. 1 through March 31. Note: from April 1 through Aug. 31 the limit is 6 trout.

Nutrioso Creek
From its confluence with the Little Colorado River upstream to Highway 180 in the city of Nutrioso including Nelson Reservoir. Unlimited rainbow and brown trout from Sept. 1 through March 31. Note: from April 1 through Aug. 31 the limit is 6 trout.

Patterson Ponds
The Community Fishing Program pond limit is 2 trout; 2 catfish; 1 bass, minimum size 13 inches; 5 sunfish.

Show Low Creek Meadow
The limit is 2 trout; 2 catfish; 1 bass, minimum size 13 inches; 5 sunfish.

Silver Creek
In Navajo County within the boundaries of the Arizona Game and Fish Commission-owned property, excluding that portion designated as state fish hatchery. Artificial fly and lure fishing only using single-pointed barbless hooks and catch-and-release only for trout from Oct. 1 through March 31. No trout may be kept. Trout must be immediately released unharmed. From April 1 through Sept. 30 fishing is limited to the designated area below the section boundary fence and general statewide regulations apply.

Thompson Creek
Catch-and-release only for trout. Trout must be immediately released unharmed; no trout may be kept; artificial fly and lure only; single-pointed barbless hooks only.

East Fork of the Little Colorado River above Colter Dam in Apache County.
Catch-and-release only for trout. Trout must be immediately released unharmed; no trout may be kept; artificial fly and lure only; single-pointed barbless hooks only.

West Fork of the Black River
From the confluence of Hayground Creek upstream to the Fort Apache Indian Reservation including tributaries. Catch-and-release only for trout. Trout must be immediately released unharmed; no trout may be kept; artificial fly and lure only; single-pointed barbless hooks only.

Woodland Lake
The limit is 4 trout.

Waters and Areas Closed to Fishing
- Region 1 headquarters in Pinetop. Posted boundaries.
- State or federal hatcheries. Posted boundaries.

Native Trout Recovery Closures
- Bear Wallow Creek in Greene County
- Conklin Creek in Greene County
- Hayground Creek in Apache County
- Lee Valley Creek above Lee Valley Lake
- Mineral Creek in Apache County, upstream of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests boundary.
- Raspberry Creek in Greene County
- Soldier Creek in Apache County
- South Fork Little Colorado River in Apache County
- Shiny Creek in Apache County
- West Fork of the Black River from the upper Apache trout barrier ¼ mile below Forest Service Road 116, downstream for .3 miles to a point 100 yards below the next Apache trout barrier in Apache County.

Live Baitfish Regulations
No live baitfish may be used or in possession on any waters in this fishing area in Navajo or Apache Counties, no exceptions. See pages 10–11.

Watercraft and Motor Restrictions
The use of watercraft and motors are restricted on the following waters in this fishing area:
- Single electric motor only: Ackre Lake, Bunch Reservoir, Carrero Lake, Lee Valley Lake, Scott Reservoir, Tunnel Reservoir, Woodland Lake, Pratt Lake, Hubley Lake.
- 15 horsepower or less: Becker Lake, Big Lake, Concho Lake, Crestone Lake, Fool Hollow Lake, Luna Lake, Nelson Reservoir, Rainbow Lake, River Reservoir, Show Low Lake.

For more information and a complete listing, refer to page 39.
Special Regulations include fishing seasons, daily bag and possession limits, length limits, bail and hook restrictions, legal methods, and waters and areas closed to fishing.

Notes:
1. General Statewide Regulations apply to all waters and fish species within the North Central area except as listed below.
2. For each water listed, the possession limit is two times the daily bag limit, unless a different possession limit is specified.

**North Central**

- Beaver Creek (Wet and Dry) Unlimited smallmouth and largemouth bass; unlimited channel and flathead catfish.
- Cataract Lake The limit is 2 bass, minimum size 13 inches; the limit is 4 channel catfish.
- City Reservoir The limit is 2 bass, minimum size 15 inches; the limit is 4 channel catfish; the limit is 5 sunfish.
- Dead Horse State Park Lake The limit is 4 trout; the limit is 2 bass; the limit is 4 catfish; the limit is 10 sunfish.
- Dogtown Lake The limit is 2 bass, minimum size 13 inches; the limit is 4 channel catfish.
- East Verde River Unlimited smallmouth and largemouth bass; unlimited channel and flathead catfish.
- Elk Tank Catch-and-release only for trout. Trout must be immediately released unharmed; no trout may be kept; artificial fly and lure only; single-pointed barbless hooks only.
- Fain Lake The limit is 4 catfish, 4 trout, 2 bass (15 inches or more), 10 sunfish, 1 white amur (30 inches or more), and statewide limits for all other species.
- Fossil Creek, Middle Reach Seasonally, from the first Saturday in October through April 30, fishing is allowed between the waterfalls located approximately 1 mile above the Flume Trailhead parking lot along F5 708 and the downstream power line crossing (immediately below Sally May Wash). Catch-and-release only for roundtail chub and headwater chub. Roundtail chub and headwater chub must be immediately released unharmed; no chub may be kept; artificial fly and lure only; single-pointed barbless hooks only.
- Francis Short Pond The limit is 4 trout; the limit is 2 bass, minimum size 15 inches; the limit is 4 catfish; the limit is 5 sunfish.
- Goldwater Lake The limit is 1 bass, minimum size 15 inches.
- Granite Basin Lake The limit is 4 catfish in any combination.
- J.D. Dam Lake Catch-and-release only for trout. Trout must be immediately released unharmed; no trout may be kept; artificial fly and lure only; single-pointed barbless hooks only.
- Kaibab Lake The limit is 2 bass, minimum size 13 inches; the limit is 4 channel catfish.
- Lake Mary, Lower The limit is 4 channel catfish.
- Middle Tank Catch-and-release only for trout. Trout must be immediately released unharmed; no trout may be kept; artificial fly and lure only; single-pointed barbless hooks only.
- Oak Creek
  - Unlimited smallmouth and largemouth bass; unlimited channel and flathead catfish.
  - Between Juniper Crossing and Call-of-the-Canyon Crossing spanning the confluence of Oak Creek, and West Fork Oak Creeks.
- Perkins Tank Catch-and-release only for trout. Trout must be immediately released unharmed; no trout may be kept; artificial fly and lure only; single-pointed barbless hooks only.
- Perkins Tank Catch-and-release only for trout. Trout must be immediately released unharmed; no trout may be kept; artificial fly and lure only; single-pointed barbless hooks only.
- Stone Dam Lake The limit is 2 bass minimum size 15 inches; the limit is 4 catfish.
- Verde River and its tributaries Downstream from Granite Creek to Horseshoe Dam Unlimited smallmouth and largemouth bass; unlimited channel and flathead catfish.
- West Clear Creek Unlimited smallmouth and largemouth bass; unlimited channel and flathead catfish.
- Whitehorse Lake The limit is 2 bass, minimum size 15 inches; the limit is 4 catfish.
- Yavapai Lakes In Urban Forest Park The limit is 4 catfish, 4 trout, 2 bass (15 inches or more), 10 sunfish, 1 white amur (30 inches or more), and statewide limits for all other species.

**Fishing Waters — North Central**

- Ashurst Lake
- Beaver Creek, Wet and Dry
- Cataract Lake
- City Reservoir
- Dead Horse State Park Lagoons
- Dogtown Lake
- East Verde River
- Elk Tank
- Fain Lake
- Fossil Creek
- Francis Short Pond
- Goldwater Lake
- Granite Basin Lake
- J.D. Dam Lake
- Kaibab Lake
- Lake Mary, Lower
- Lake Mary, Upper
- Long Lake
- Lynn Lake
- Middle Tank
- Mingus Lake
- Oak Creek
- Oak Creek, West Fork
- Perkins Tank
- Santa Fe Lake
- Stone Dam Lake
- Verde River
- Watson and Willow lakes
- West Clear Creek
- Whitehorse Lake
- Yavapai Lakes

**Waters and Areas Closed to Fishing**
- Fossil Creek In Yavapai County; except for the 4.5 mile middle reach portion during open season and open area as described under Fossil Creek, Middle Reach Special Regulations/Season language opposite column.
- Gap Creek Between Honeymoon Cabin and its confluence with the Verde River.
- Grapevine Creek In Yavapai County
- Lake Mary, Upper Paved area immediately above the dam.
- State or federal hatcheries Paved boundaries. NOTE: Other seasonal closures may be in effect within some areas due to bald eagle breeding closures and/or Wildlife Area closures. See page 46 for information on Lower Lake Mary, Lynx Lake and Verde River.

**Live Baitfish Regulations**
No live baitfish may be used or in possession on any waters in Yavapai County, anywhere. For waters in other counties within the fishing area, see pages 10-11.

**Watercraft and Motor Restrictions**
The use of watercraft and motors are restricted on the following waters in this fishing area:
- Single electric motor only: Dogtown Reservoir, Goldwater Lake, Granite Basin Lake, J.D. Dam Lake, Santa Fe Lake, Whitehorse Lake, Willow Creek Reservoir
- 10 horsepower or less: Ashurst Lake, Cataract Lake, Kaibab Lake, Kinnikinnick Lake, Lower Lake Mary, Lynx Lake

For more information and a complete listing, please refer to page 39.
Mogollon Rim

Special Regulations include fishing seasons, daily bag and possession limits, length limits, bait and hook restrictions, legal methods, and waters and areas closed to fishing.

Notes:
1. General Statewide Regulations apply to all waters and fish species within the Mogollon Rim area except as listed below.
2. For each water listed, the possession limit is two times the daily bag limit, unless a different possession limit is specified.

All waters within the city park systems of Payson: The limit is 4 trout; the limit is 4 catfish in any combination.

Bear Canyon Lake: Unlimited smallmouth and largemouth bass; unlimited channel and flathead catfish.

Black Canyon Lake: Unlimited smallmouth and largemouth bass; unlimited channel and flathead catfish.

CC Cragin Reservoir (Blue Ridge Reservoir): Unlimited rainbow and brown trout from Sept. 1 through March 31. Note: from April 1 through Aug. 31 the limit is 6 trout. Unlimited smallmouth and largemouth bass; unlimited channel and flathead catfish.

Chevelon Canyon Lake: Unlimited smallmouth and largemouth bass; unlimited channel and flathead catfish.

Chevelon Creek:
- From the creek source to the O.W. Bridge. The limit is 4 trout.
- From the O.W. Bridge to the Fort Apache Indian Reservation. Catch-and-release only for trout; must be immediately released unharmed; no trout may be kept; artificial fly and lure only; single-pointed barbless hooks only.

Chevelon Canyon Lake: The limit is 2 trout; artificial fly and lure only.

East Verde River:
- From the creek source to the SRP Pumphouse. Catch-and-release only for trout; must be immediately released unharmed; no trout may be kept; artificial fly and lure only; single-pointed barbless hooks only. Unlimited smallmouth and largemouth bass; unlimited channel and flathead catfish.
- From the Pumphouse downstream. The limit is 6 trout. Unlimited smallmouth and largemouth bass; unlimited channel and flathead catfish.

Green Valley Park Lakes (Town of Payson)

Horton Creek in Gila County: Catch and release only for trout; must be immediately released unharmed; no trout may be kept; artificial fly and lure only; single-pointed barbless hooks only.

Knoll Lake: Unlimited rainbow and brown trout from Sept. 1 through March 31. Note: from April 1 through Aug. 31 the limit is 6 trout. Unlimited smallmouth and largemouth bass; unlimited channel and flathead catfish.

Long Tom Lake: Unlimited smallmouth and largemouth bass; unlimited channel and flathead catfish.

Willow Springs Lake: Unlimited smallmouth and largemouth bass; unlimited channel and flathead catfish.

Woods Canyon Lake: Unlimited smallmouth and largemouth bass; unlimited channel and flathead catfish.

Waters and Areas Closed to Fishing:
- State or federal hatcheries: Posted boundaries.
- Dude Creek: In Gila County.
- Chase Creek: In Gila County.

NOTE: Other seasonal closures may be in effect within some areas due to bald eagle breeding closures and/or Wildlife Area closures. See page 46 for information.

Live Baitfish Regulations:
No live baitfish may be used or in possession on any waters in Navajo or Coconino Counties, no exceptions. For waters in other counties within this fishing area, see pages 10–11.

Watercraft and Motor Restrictions:
The use of watercraft and motors are restricted on the following waters in this fishing area:
- Single electric motor only: Bear Canyon Lake, Green Valley Lake, Knoll Lake, Woods Canyon Lake.
- To horsepower or less: Black Canyon Lake, CC Cragin (Blue Ridge) Lake, Chevelon Canyon Lake, Willow Creek Reservoir, Willow Springs Lake.

For more information and a complete listing, please refer to page 39.
Special Regulations include fishing seasons, daily bag and possession limits, length limits, bait and hook restrictions, legal methods, and waters and areas closed to fishing.

**Notes:**
1. General Statewide Regulations apply to all waters and fish species within the Colorado River Northwest area except as listed below.
2. For each water listed, the possession limit is two times the daily bag limit, unless a different possession limit is specified.

**Colorado River Northwest**

**Bright Angel Creek**
- Unlimited trout; unlimited striped bass; unlimited catfish. Trout taken at Bright Angel Creek shall be killed and retained as part of the bag limit or immediately released.

**Colorado River**
- From Glen Canyon Dam to the Paria riffle (Lees Ferry). The limit is 2 rainbow trout per day; artificial fly and lure only; barbless hooks only. Rainbow trout taken from this portion of the Colorado River shall be killed and retained as part of the bag limit or immediately released; there is no limit on other sport fish species which includes all species of bass (including sunfish and stripers), all species of catfish, all species of trout other than rainbow trout, and walleye.
- From the Paria riffle to Navajo Bridge, including all tributaries. The limit is 6 rainbow trout per day. Rainbow trout taken from this portion of the Colorado River shall be killed and retained as part of the bag limit or immediately released; there is no limit on other sport fish species which includes all species of bass (including sunfish and stripers), all species of catfish, all species of trout other than rainbow trout, and walleye.
- From Navajo Bridge to Separation Canyon, including all tributaries within the Grand Canyon National Park. There is no limit on sport fish species which includes all species of bass (including sunfish and stripers), all species of catfish, all species of trout, and walleye.
- From Separation Canyon to Hoover Dam (including Lake Mead). The limit is 5 trout; the limit is 20 striped bass 20 inches in length or larger; unlimited for striped bass under 20 inches in length; the limit is 15 crappie.
- From Hoover Dam to Davis Dam (including Lake Mohave and Willow Beach) the limit is 5 trout in any combination; the limit is 20 striped bass 20 inches in length or larger; unlimited for striped bass under 20 inches in length; striped bass may be taken by spear or speargun from that portion of Lake Mohave between Hoover Dam and Cottonwood Landing.
- From Davis Dam to the California-Nevada boundary the limit is 5 trout in any combination; the limit is 6 bass, minimum size 13 inches.

**Lake Powell**
- The limit is 20 for smallmouth bass and 5 for largemouth bass; unlimited for striped bass; unlimited for walleye; the limit is 10 crappie. Carp may be taken by spearfishing and bow and arrow during daylight hours. Striped bass may also be taken by spearfishing during daylight hours.
- Topock Marsh
  - The limit is 6 bass, minimum size 13 inches; the limit is 25 crappie.

**Virgin River**
- Unlimited bass; unlimited catfish.

**Waters and Areas Closed to Fishing**
- **Colorado River** (those portions listed below)
  - Posted areas immediately below Glen Canyon Dam (Lake Powell).
  - One-half mile upstream and one-half mile downstream from its confluence with the Little Colorado River.
  - Posted areas immediately below Davis Dam (Lake Mohave).
  - Lake Mead
    - Posted portions and the area immediately above Hoover Dam.
  - Little Colorado River
    - That portion lying within the Grand Canyon National Park.
  - State or federal hatcheries

**Live Baitfish Regulations**
No live baitfish may be used or in possession on any waters in Coconino County, no exceptions. For waters in other counties within this fishing area, see pages 10-11.

**Watercraft and Motor Restrictions**
The use of watercraft and motors may be restricted on some waters in this fishing area. For more information, please refer to page 39.

**Colorado River Special Use Privilege**
Starting in 2014, the Colorado River Stamp — California, and Colorado River Stamp — Nevada will no longer be available. The privileges of these stamps are now bundled together and included in the Arizona General Fishing license and Combo Hunt/Fish licenses (youth, adult and short-term). These licensees may fish from a boat on any waters that form the mutual boundaries between Arizona and California, or Nevada, and as of 2018, Utah, or when fishing from the California, or Nevada, shorelines of these waters. (see pages 7 and 52)

**Fishing Waters — Colorado River Northwest**

1. Bright Angel Creek
2. Colorado River below Davis Dam
3. Lake Havasu (see page 20)
4. Lake Mead
5. Lake Mohave
6. Lake Powell
7. Lees Ferry on Colorado River
8. Topock Marsh
9. Virgin River
10. Willow Beach on Colorado River

**NOTE:** For Lake Havasu information, see page 20.
Colorado River Southwest

Special Regulations include fishing seasons, daily bag and possession limits, length limits, bait and hook restrictions, legal methods, and waters and areas closed to fishing.

Notes:
1. General statewide regulations apply to all waters and fish species within the Colorado River Southwest area except as listed below.
2. For each water listed, the possession limit is two times the daily bag limit, unless a different possession limit is specified.

Colorado River
• From I-40 bridge to the Southern International Boundary with Mexico including Lake Havasu, Martinez Lake, Mittry Lake and associated backwaters. The limit is 10 trout; the limit is 6 bass, minimum size 13 inches; the limit is 25 sunfish or crappie in any combination.

Canals in Yuma County Catch-and-release only for white amur. White amur must be immediately released unharmed; no white amur may be kept. Note: White amur are similar to, and can be mistaken for, common carp. Bow hunters should use caution and not shoot white amur.

Designated Community Fishing Program waters
• Council Avenue Pond (city of Somerton)
• Fortuna Lake (Yuma area)
• Pacific Avenue Athletic Complex Pond (city of Yuma)
• Redondo Lake (Yuma area)
• West Wetlands Pond (city of Yuma)

Waters and Areas Closed to Fishing
• Alamo Lake Posted area immediately above the dam.
• Cibola Lake From the first Monday in September (Labor Day) through March 15.
• Lake Havasu Posted portions.
• Martinez Lake Posted portions from Oct. 1 through March 1.

NOTE: Other seasonal closures may be in effect within some areas due to bald eagle breeding closures and/or Wildlife Area closures. See page 46 for information.

Live Baitfish Regulations
See pages 10–11 for details.

Watercraft and Motor Restrictions
The use of watercraft and motors are restricted on the following waters in this fishing area:
• Single electric motor only: Fortuna Lake, Quijey Pond, Redondo Lake

For more information and a complete listing, please refer to page 39.

Colorado River Special Use Privilege
Starting in 2014, the Colorado River Stamp — California will no longer be available. The privileges of this stamp are now bundled together and included in the Arizona General Fishing license and Combo Hunt/Fish (youth, adult and short-term) licenses. These licensees may fish from a boat on any waters that form the mutual boundaries between Arizona and California; or when fishing from the California shorelines of these waters. In addition to large stretches of the Colorado River, these fishing privileges include Lake Havasu and associated backwaters (e.g., Martinez Lake, Mittry Lake). (see page 7)

Fishing Waters — Colorado River Southwest

1. Alamo Lake
2. Colorado River – Parker Strip
3. Colorado River – Yuma area
4. Council Avenue Pond (Community Fishing)
5. Fortuna Lake (Community Fishing)
6. Lake Havasu
7. Martinez Lake
8. Mittry Lake
9. Pacific Avenue Athletic Complex Pond
10. Redondo Lake (Community Fishing)
11. Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District Canal System
12. Yuma County Water Users’ Association Canal System
13. West Wetlands Pond (Community Fishing)

00 Popular General Regulation Fishing Waters
00 Special Regulation Fishing Waters
□ Indian Reservation
□ National Park, Monument, or Memorial Closed to Hunting
□ Military Range or Proving Ground
□ National Wildlife Refuge
Central

Special Regulations include fishing seasons, daily bag and possession limits, length limits, bait and hook restrictions, legal methods, and waters and areas closed to fishing.

Notes:
1. General Statewide Regulations apply to all waters and fish species within the Central area except as listed below.
2. For each water listed, the possession limit is two times the daily bag limit, unless a different possession limit is specified.

Apache Lake, Canyon Lake, Saguaro Lake: The limit is 5 catfish, any combination, when taken by bow and arrow (Note: the catfish limit is 10, any combination, for all other legal methods).

Barlett Lake: The limit is 15 crappie.

Crystal Gardens Water Treatment Facility (city of Avondale, 17 lake complex): Catch-and-release only for all resident fish species. All fish must be immediately released unharmed; single-pointed barbless hooks only. Note: the city of Avondale requests that anglers use artificial flies and lures, and not use any prepared baits with the exception of worms.

Horseshoe Lake: Unlimited smallmouth and largemouth bass; unlimited channel and flathead catfish.

Lake Pleasant: Unlimited for striped bass; striped bass may be taken by spear or spear gun.

Maricopa Lake (city of Youngtown): The limit is 4 trout; the limit is 4 bass, minimum size 15 inches; the limit is 4 catfish in any combination. Note: Community license not valid.

Roosevelt Lake: The limit is 15 crappie.

Salt River (Upper): From Roosevelt Diversion Dam upstream to the boundary junction of the San Carlos and Fort Apache Indian Reservations. Unlimited smallmouth and largemouth bass; unlimited channel and flathead catfish.

Salt River Project Canal System (155 miles of canals): Catch-and-release only for white amur. White amur must be immediately released unharmed; no white amur may be kept.

Tempe Town Lake (city of Tempe): The limit is 4 trout; the limit is 2 bass, minimum size 15 inches; the limit is 4 catfish in any combination; and the limit is 10 sunfish in any combination.

The Pond at Town Hall (town of Gilbert): Catch-and-release only for all resident fish species. All fish must be immediately released unharmed; artificial fly and lure only; barbless hooks only.

Water Ranch Lake (town of Gilbert): The limit is 2 trout; the limit is 2 catfish; catch and release only for bass and sunfish; bass and sunfish must be immediately released unharmed; no bass or sunfish may be kept; single-pointed barbless hooks only.

Managed Community Fishing Program waters

East Valley Locations (continued):
- Eldorado Park Pond (city of Scottsdale)
- Evelyn Hallman Park Pond (city of Tempe)
- Freestone Park Lake (town of Gilbert)
- Greenfield Park Pond (city of Mesa)
- Kiwanis Park Lake (city of Tempe)
- Mancos Boat Launch Park Lake (town of Queen Creek)
- McQueen Park Pond (town of Gilbert)
- Papago Park Ponds (city of Phoenix)
- Red Mountain Park Lake (city of Mesa)
- River View Park Lake (city of Mesa)
- Roadrunner Park Pond (city of Phoenix)
- Tempe Town Lake (city of Tempe)
- Veterans Oasis Park Lake (city of Chandler)
- Water Ranch Park Lake (town of Gilbert)

West Valley Locations:
- Alvarado at Cesar Chavez Park (city of Phoenix)
- Bonallack Park Pond (city of Glendale)
- Cortez Park Lake (city of Phoenix)
- Desert West Park Lake (city of Phoenix)
- Encanto Park Lake (city of Phoenix)
- Friendship Park (city of Avondale)
- Pioneer Park Lake (city of Peoria)
- Rio Vista Park Pond (city of Peoria)
- Steele Indian School Park Pond (city of Phoenix)
- Surprise Park Lake (city of Surprise)

City of Maricopa:
- Copper Sky Park Lake
- Pacana Park Pond

City of Casa Grande:
- Dave White Regional Park Pond

Waters and Areas Closed to Fishing:
- Agua Fria River: Posted areas immediately below Waddell Dam (Lake Pleasant)
- Apache Lake: Posted areas immediately below Roosevelt Dam (Roosevelt Lake)
- Canyon Lake: Posted areas immediately below Horse Mesa Dam (Apache Lake)
- Saguaro Lake: Posted areas immediately below Mormon Flat Dam (Canyon Lake).

NOTE: Other seasonal closures may be in effect within some areas due to bald eagle breeding closures and/or Wildlife Area closures (Roosevelt Lake). See page 46 for information on Lake Pleasant, Salt River, Tonto Creek and Verde River.

Live Baitfish Regulations
See pages 10–11 for details.

Watercraft and Motor Restrictions
The use of watercraft and motors may be restricted on some waters in this fishing area. For more information, please refer to page 39.
Southeast

Special Regulations include fishing seasons, daily bag and possession limits, length limits, bait and hook restrictions, legal methods, and waters and areas closed to fishing.

Notes:
1. General Statewide Regulations apply to all waters and fish species within the Southeast area except as listed below.
2. For each water listed, the possession limit is two times the daily bag limit, unless a different possession limit is specified.

- **Cliff Ranch Pond 3** The limit is 4 catfish in any combination.
- **Dankworth Lake** The limit is 4 catfish in any combination.
- **Frye Mesa Reservoir** The limit is 2 trout, any combination.
- **Grant Creek** Catch and release only for trout; trout must be immediately released unharmed; no trout may be kept; artificial fly and lure only; single-pointed barbless hooks only.
- **Parker Canyon Lake** Daily bag limits have been reduced to 4 channel catfish.
- **Pena Blanca Lake** The limit is 4 catfish in any combination.
- **Roper Lake** The limit is 4 catfish in any combination.

**All waters, not in the Community Fishing Program**, but within the city park systems of Tucson

- **Kennedy Park Lake (city of Tucson)** The limit is 4 trout; the limit is 4 catfish in any combination.
- **Lakeside Lake at Chuck Ford-Lakeside Park (city of Tucson)**
- **Sahuarita Lake (town of Sahuarita)**
- **Silverbell Lake at Christopher Columbus Park (city of Tucson)**

**Managed Community Fishing Program waters**
- **Kennedy Park Lake**
- **Lakeside Lake at Chuck Ford-Lakeside Park**
- **Sahuarita Lake**
- **Silverbell Lake**

**Waters and Areas Closed to Fishing**
- **Archer Lake** at Christopher Columbus Park in Pima County
- **Araiva Creek** in Pinal and Graham Counties
- **Ash Creek and Maripilla Creek and their tributaries** in Graham County (Gila trout recovery)
- **Bog Hole Wildlife Area** Posted portions
- **Bonita Creek** in Graham County
- **Cienega Creek** Posted portions in Pima County
- **Frye Creek** in Graham County
- **Kino Environmental Restoration Project** in Pima County
- **Lower Sabino Canyon** From the confluence of the East and West forks of Sabino Creek, downstream to the U.S. Forest Service boundary in Pima County
- **O’Donnell Canyon** in Santa Cruz County
- **Sycamore Creek** in Santa Cruz County
- **West Turkey Creek** in Cochise County

**Live Baitfish Regulations**
No live baitfish may be used or in possession on any waters in Pima or Cochise Counties, no exceptions. For waters in other counties within this fishing area, see pages 10–11.

**Waterdog Prohibitions**
No live waterdogs or salamanders may be taken, used or possessed in that portion of Santa Cruz County lying east and south of State Highway 82, or that portion of Cochise County lying west of the San Pedro River and south of State Highway 82 (this includes Parker Canyon Lake). See R12-4-313.C.4 and R12-4-316.A & C.

**Watercraft and Motor Restrictions**
The use of watercraft and motors are restricted on the following waters in this fishing area:
- **Single electric motor only**: Cluff Ranch Ponds, Dankworth Lake, Riggs Flat Lake, Roper Lake
- **10 horsepower or less**: Arivaca Lake, Parker Canyon Lake, Pena Blanca Lake
- **No watercraft allowed on**: Frye Mesa Reservoir, Rose Canyon Lake

For more information and a complete listing, please refer to page 39.
Special Regulations and Seasons by Species

The following bodies of water identified under Special Regulations and Seasons (pages 12–25) have special fishing seasons (R12-4-317), daily bag and possession limits, length limits or closures that differ from General Statewide Regulations (pages 6–9) or Statewide Daily Bag and Possession Limits (page 6). Only exceptions to General Statewide Regulations and General Sport Fishing Seasons are shown for each area.

TROUT

CATCH AND RELEASE artificial flies and lures only, single-pointed barbless hooks:

- Acree Lake
- Becker Lake
- Burro Creek
- Canyon Creek—OW Bridge to the Fort Apache Reservation Boundary
- Coyote Creek
- East Fork, Little Colorado River—above Colter Dam
- East Verde River—origin to the pumphouse
- Elk Tank
- Frye Creek
- Grant Creek—Finaleso Mountains
- Horton Creek
- J.D. Dam
- Mamie Creek
- Middle Tank
- Oak Creek—West Fork and portion of Oak between Junipine Crossing and Call of the Canyon crossing
- Perkins Tank
- Silver Creek—Oct. 1 through March 31
- Thompson Creek
- West Fork Black River—Hayground Creek to Fort Apache Reservation Boundary

2 TROUT LIMIT artificial flies and lures only:

- Camero Lake
- Chevelon Canyon Lake
- Chevelon Creek, from the Confluence with Willow Springs Creek to Chevelon Crossing
- Lees Ferry
- Lee Valley Lake

2 TROUT LIMIT:

- Bonsall Pond
- Council Avenue Pond
- Dave White Regional Park Pond
- Discovery Park Ponds
- Eldorado Park Pond
- Evelyn Hallman Pond
- Freestone Pond
- Friendship Pond
- Frye Mesa Reservoir
- Greenfield Park Pond
- McQueen Pond
- Pacana Pond
- Pacific Avenue Athletic Complex Ponds
- Papago Park Ponds
- Patterson Ponds
- Rio Vista Park Pond
- Roadrunner Park Pond
- Show Low Creek Meadow
- Steele Indian School Park Pond

Where to Fish for Wild and Hatchery Native Trout

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<tr>
<td>Acree Lake</td>
<td>(hatchery fish)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Fork of the Black River</td>
<td>Goldwater Lake</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rainbow Trout

Description: Olive to bluish on the back, silvery sides, a pink band on the sides from head to tail. Many small black spots on back, sides, adipose and dorsal fin. Distinct radiating rows of black spots on tail fin. Generally, no spots on pectoral, pelvic and anal fins. Length: up to 28 inches. Weight: up to 15 pounds.

Cutthroat Trout

Description: Body shape similar to rainbow trout. Back and sides are lightly spotted. Dorsal, adipose and tail fins are heavily spotted. Red or reddish-orange slash on throat. Length: up to 20 inches. Weight: up to 6 pounds.

Graying

Description: The dorsal fin is large, dark-gray, blotted with pale spots, with cross-rows of deep blue spots and edged with red or orange. The dorsal fin has 17 to 25 rays. The tail fin is forked. The body has scattered black spots on silver-gray, sometimes pink sides. Scales larger than for trout. Length: up to 4 inches. Weight: up to 1.5 pound.

Brown Trout

Description: Olive-brown with yellowish sides. Some orange or red spots on the sides, spots often encircled with light yellow or white. Dark spots on back and sides. Tail fin usually orange or reddish. Length: up to 30 inches. Weight: up to 20 pounds.

Brook Trout

Description: Gray to olive-green on the back. Vermiculations or worm-like markings on the back and dorsal fin. Sides lighter in color with blue halos around pink or red spots. White edge on lower fins and lower tail. Length: up to 18 inches. Weight: up to 4 pounds.

Native Trout

Description: The Apache trout is one of Arizona’s two native trout species and is the Arizona state fish. Body color is yellowish-gold at the top of the head and the back is a dark olive. Dorsal, anal and pelvic fins are white tipped with dark, bold spots on dorsal and tail fin. Spotting on the body is sparse and irregular and may extend below the lateral line. Two small black spots on either side of pupil give appearance of black stripe through eye. Length: up to 20 inches. Weight: up to 5 pounds.

Gila Trout

Description: Gila trout have iridescent gold sides that blend to a darker shade of copper on the opercles. Spots on the body of this trout are small and profuse, generally occurring above the lateral line and extending onto the head, dorsal fin and caudal fin. Dorsal, pelvic and anal fins have a white to yellowish tip that may extend along the leading edge of the pelvic fins. Parr marks are commonly retained by adults, although they may be faint or absent. Length: up to 20 inches. Weight: up to 5 pounds.
Waters with Special Regulations by Species and Species Information

The following bodies of water identified under Special Regulations and Seasons (pages 12–25) have special fishing seasons (R12-4-317), daily bag and possession limits, length limits or closures that differ from General Statewide Regulations (pages 6–9) or Statewide Daily Bag and Possession Limits (page 6). Only exceptions to General Statewide Regulations and General Sport Fishing Seasons are shown for each area.

**BASS (LARGEMOUTH AND SMALLMOUTH)**

**CATCH AND RELEASE ONLY:**
- Crystal Gardens Water Treatment Facility (City of Avondale)
- The Pond at Town Hall (town of Gilbert)
- Water Ranch Park Lake

**UNLIMITED – NO BAG FOR EITHER LARGE-MOUTH OR SMALLMOUTH BASS:**
- Bear Canyon Lake
- Beaver Creek (Wet and Dry
- Black Canyon Lake
- CC Cragn Reservoir (Blue Ridge)
- Chevelon Canyon Lake
- Colorado River-Glen Canyon Dam to Separation Canyon
- East Verde River
- Horseshoe Lake
- Knoll Lake
- Long Tom Lake
- Oak Creek
- Upper Salt River (Roosevelt Division Dam upstream to the Reservation Boundary)
- Verde River and tributaries
- Virgin River
- West Clear Creek
- Willow Springs Lake
- Woods Canyon Lake

**1 BASS LIMIT, MINIMUM SIZE 13 INCHES:**
- Bonnall Pond
- Council Avenue Pond
- Dave White Regional Park Pond
- Discovery Park Ponds
- Eldorado Park Pond
- Evelyn Hallman Pond
- Freestone Pond
- Friendship Pond
- Goldwater Lake
- Greenfield Pond
- McQueen Pond
- Pana Park Pond
- Pacific Avenue Athletic Complex Pond
- Papago Park Ponds
- Patterson Ponds (St. Johns)
- Rio Vista Park Pond
- Roadrunner Park Pond
- Show Low Creek Meadow
- Steele Indian School Park Pond
- West Wetlands Pond

**2 BASS LIMIT:**
- Dead Horse State Park Lagoons

**6 BASS LIMIT, MINIMUM SIZE 13 INCHES:**
- Alford Lake
- Cataract Lake
- City Reservoir
- Chaparral Park Lake
- Copper Sky Lake
- Cortez Park Lake
- Desert Breeze Park Lake
- Desert West Park Lake
- Dogtown Lake
- Encanto Park Lake
- Fain Lake
- Fortuna Lake
- Francis Short Pond
- Green Valley Park Lakes
- Kaibab Lake
- Kennedy Park Lake
- Kiwanis Park Lake
- Lakeside Park
- Lake Havasu Park
- Redondo Lake
- Red Mountain Park Lake
- Pioneer Lake
- Red Mountain Park Lake
- Riverpoint Park Lake
- Silverbell Lake
- Sahuaro Lake
- Stone Dam
- Surprise Park Lake
- Tempe Town Lake
- Veteran Oasis Park Lake
- Whitehorse Lake
- Yavapai Lakes

**TEMPERATE BASS FAMILY**

**Arrayed Bass**
Description: Body is six to nine black horizontal stripes on silvery-white sides. Dorsal fins are distinctly separate, unlike the yellow bass, which are joined at the base. Pelvic fins in large adults, white with anal fin edged in white. Lower jaw protrudes beyond upper jaw. Generally two patches of teeth on tongue. 2nd anal spine distinctly shorter than the 3rd. Tail is slightly forked. Length: up to 50 inches. Weight: up to 60 pounds.

**Yellow Bass**
Description: Body has golden-yellow sides with 5 to 7 horizontal lines; Lines appear broken and offset about midway on the lower side. Dorsal fins are connected. 2nd anal spine is about as long as the 3rd anal spine. No patches of teeth on tongue. Length: up to 13 inches. Weight: up to 1.5 pounds.

**White Bass**
Description: Body silver-white, 4 to 7 dark horizontal lines; Lines below lateral line often faint and broken. Dorsal fins are distinctly separate, unlike the yellow bass, which are joined at the base. 2nd anal spine distinctly shorter than the 3rd. Lower jaw protrudes beyond upper jaw. Generally a single patch of teeth at base of tongue. Length: up to 18 inches. Weight: up to 4 pounds.

**Striped Bass**
Description: Body has nine black horizontal stripes on silvery-white sides. Dorsal fins are distinctly separate, unlike the yellow bass, which are joined at the base. Pelvic fins in large adults, white with anal fin edged in white. Lower jaw protrudes beyond upper jaw. Generally two patches of teeth on tongue. 2nd anal spine distinctly shorter than the 3rd. Tail is slightly forked. Length: up to 50 inches. Weight: up to 60 pounds.

**Bass Family**

**Largemouth Bass**

**Smallmouth Bass**
Description: Smallmouth bass most often are bronze to brownish green in color, with dark vertical bars on sides. In contrast to the largemouth bass, the upper jaw does not extend beyond rear margin of eye. Eye reddish in color. Shallow notch in dorsal fin. Soft dorsal fin has 13 to 15 rays. Length: up to 20 inches. Weight: up to 6 pounds.

For information about the Arizona Hawg Bass Challenge, see page 34.
The following bodies of water identified under Special Regulations and Seasons (pages 12–25) have specific fishing seasons (R12-4-317), daily bag and possession limits, length limits or closures that differ from General Statewide Regulations (pages 6–9) or Statewide Daily Bag and Possession Limits (page 6). Only exceptions to General Statewide Regulations and General Sport Fishing Seasons are shown for each area.

## Fish Species Daily Bag Limits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fish Species</th>
<th>Lakes</th>
<th>Ponds</th>
<th>Minimum Size Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Catfish</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trout</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bass</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15 inches or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunfish: various species including bluegill, redear, green and hybrid</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White amur (grass carp)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30 inches or more</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Sunfish Family**

**Bluegill**

Description: The bluegill has blue coloring on the chin, a solid black opercle flap, a small mouth and a dark spot at the rear of the dorsal fin. The body is very compressed or flat and has from five to nine dark vertical bars on the sides. Length: up to 12 inches. Weight: up to 3 pounds.

**Redear Sunfish**

Description: The “Red-ear” sunfish has a black opercle flap which is bordered with a reddish or orange color on the rear of the flap. Sides of head have olive-brown speckling. Body is compressed or flat with an olive-green cast, light speckling on sides. Pectoral fin long and pointed, usually extends far past eye when bent forward. Length: up to 16 inches. Weight: up to 5 pounds.

**Green Sunfish**

Description: Large mouth with blue-green striations on the cheeks. Opercle flap is black with reddish or orange border. Body olive-green in color, dark vertical bars on sides. Pectoral fin short and rounded. Caudal fin and lower fin margins are white or yellowish with dusky spots at rear of dorsal and anal fins. Length: up to 10 inches. Weight: up to 1.5 pounds.

**Pike and Perch Family**

**Walleye**

Description: Back is yellow-olive with a brassy cast. Sides brassy-yellow with dark mottling. Belly is white. Dark spot at rear of spiny dorsal fin. Anal fin and lower lobe of tail fin are white. Eyes are opaque-silver in color. Length: up to 28 inches. Weight: up to 14 pounds.

**Northern Pike**

Description: Back and sides, dusky olive-green with rows of light oval spots. Dorsal, anal and tail fin have round to oblong darkened spots. Dorsal fin located far back on an elongated body. Large canine-like teeth. Cheeks completely scaled, only upper half of the gill cover is scaled. Length: up to 45 inches. Weight: up to 30 pounds.

**Yellow Perch**

Description: Back-olive-green; sides brassy-yellow with 6 to 9 dark vertical bars; Belly is white. Anal fin, pectoral and pelvic fins are amber-orange tinted. Small teeth, not canine-like. Soft (rear) dorsal fin has 12 to 13 rays. Length: up to 12 inches. Weight: up to 1 pound.

**Minnow Family**

**Common Carp**

Description: Back olive-yellow with yellowish gold sides. Scales on back and upper sides are dark-edged, with a dark spot at the base. The dorsal fin has 17 to 22 rays. One saw-toothed spine at front of long dorsal and anal fin. Two barbels at each corner of the mouth on the upper jaw. Large adults have reddish-orange anal and tail fin. Length: up to 40 inches. Weight: up to 40 pounds.

**Roundtail Chub (native)**

Description: Body is thick and streamlined, dark olive-gray above with silver sides. Mouth extends to front of eye. Dorsal fin and anal fin usually have 8 to 10 rays. Large forked tail fin. Breeding males develop red or orange coloration on lower half of cheek and bases of paired fins. Length: up to 18 inches. Weight: up to 3 pounds. NEW: Catch-and-release only, statewide.

**White Amur or grass carp**

Similar to common carp only in general color (brassy yellow) and large scales. Notable differences include no barbels on bony mouth, no spine on a short dorsal fin or anal fin, more elongated body, less yellow in color, tail darker and more deeply forked. These fish are highly effective weed eaters and are stocked to control nuisance weeds and algae. Length: up to 42 inches. Weight: up to 40 pounds. NEW: 1 fish, 30 inch minimum statewide.

**Protected Native Fish:**

See page 6 for a complete list of Commission designated protected fish. The four fish illustrated here are protected in Arizona. Should any of these be caught (most likely to occur in Colorado, Salt, Verde and Gila river systems), they must be immediately released unharmed.

**Colorado River Pikeminnow**

Description: Body is long and slender, gray-green back with silver sides. Scales, very small. Long, conical shaped head, flattened between the eyes; large, horizontal mouth. Dorsal fin originates behind origin of pelvic fins. Dorsal and anal fins almost always with nine rays. Tail fin, large and deeply forked. Length: up to 36 inches. Weight: up to 20 pounds.

**Razorback Sucker**

Description: Back, olive to brown-black, sides brown or pinkish; belly, white to yellow. Adults have sharp-edged keel or “humpback.” Mouth facing downward; lower lip widely separated into two lobes by a deep groove. 13-16 dorsal rays; 7 anal rays. Length: up to 30 inches. Weight: up to 8 pounds.

**Humpback Chub**

Description: Federally listed as Endangered. Body streamlined, dark olive-gray above, silver sides. Small head with snout overhanging mouth. High pronounced hump behind head. This high hump acts as a barrier to passing water forcing the body against the bottom where currents are slightly less, thus enabling these fish to move through rapids separating one eddying habitat from another. Deeply embedded scales. Slender caudal peduncle. Dorsal fin rays usually 9, anal fin rays 10 or more. Length: up to 18 inches. Weight: up to 2 pounds.

**Bonytail Chub**

Description: Extremely rare. Federally listed as Endangered. Body highly streamlined, bluish, dusky color above, pale below. Head short, concave on top, arching smoothly into a subtle hump in adults. Dorsal fin rays almost always 10 or more; anal fin rays 9-11; very slender caudal peduncle. Length: up to 24 inches. Weight: up to 3 pounds.

NEW: Catch-and-release only, statewide.
Arizona has home to great largemouth bass fishing! The Arizona Game and Fish Department works to provide great opportunities for anglers to catch huge largemouth bass all over the state. The Arizona Fat Cat Bass Challenge is a three-tiered, voluntary, incentive-based conservation program designed to encourage anglers to learn about and pursue really large largemouth bass, while encouraging and celebrating catch-and-release fishing.

**Arizona Fat Cat Challenge**

Arizona is home to world-class flathead and channel catfish fishing! The Arizona Game and Fish Department works to provide great opportunities for anglers to catch huge flathead and channel catfish all over the state. The Arizona Fat Cat Challenge is a voluntary, incentive-based, conservation program designed to encourage anglers to learn about and pursue giant flathead and channel catfish, while encouraging and celebrating catch-and-release on individual fish that exceed the designated weight or length.

**Designated lengths and weights**
- Flathead Catfish: 40 pounds or 45 inches
- Channel Catfish: 15 pounds or 36 inches

**Categories and designated lengths and weights**
- 1. Hawg Bass Conservation Challenge: 5 pounds or 21 inches
- 2. Hawg Bass Memory Challenge: 8 pounds or 24 inches
- 3. 10 Pound Club: 10 pounds or 26 inches
- To complete a challenge, verify your big fish by taking a picture while weighing or measuring it following the rules and guidelines listed online at www.azgfd.gov. Submit your picture via BFishing@azgfd.gov. Make sure you include a valid email address. A department biologist will contact you to discuss all the great details of your catch. Your picture will be posted on the Hawg Bass Conservation Board on fishaz.azgfd.com.

**How to complete the challenge**
Verify your catch by taking a picture while weighing or measuring it following the rules and guidelines listed online at www.azgfd.gov. Release your fish quickly back into the lake where you caught it. Submit your picture via BFishing@azgfd.gov. Make sure you include a valid email address. A department biologist will contact you to discuss all the great details of your catch. Your picture will be posted on the Hawg Bass Conservation Board on fishaz.azgfd.com.

**Arizona Hawg Bass Challenge**

Arizona is home to great largemouth bass fishing! The Arizona Game and Fish Department works to provide great opportunities for anglers to catch huge largemouth bass all over the state. The Arizona Fat Cat Bass Challenge is a three-tiered, voluntary, incentive-based conservation program designed to encourage anglers to learn about and pursue giant flathead and channel catfish, while encouraging and celebrating catch-and-release fishing.

**Arizona Trout Challenge**

Arizona manages more than 100 waters statewide for trout. Both challenges offer the opportunity to fish for native Gila and Apache trout, found only in the Southwest. Listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, they can be fished in certain waters, thanks to conservation efforts here in New Mexico. Explore special fishing spots, learn about trout and enjoy Arizona’s high country.

**3. Make it fun.**
Have all the things you need to fish beforehand, so when you go fishing there are no delays. Get lots of worms. They are great universal bait and kids will love the dirt, slime and squirm of worms. Bring drinks and snacks in a small tote — being in the outdoors makes kids hungry. Bring a camera to capture the memories.

**4. Involve the kids.**
Whenever you can, let kids do things them- selves — bait the hook, cast their own rods, reel in the fish and remove the fish from the hook. Give kids a role for the day — choosing where to fish, what to bring for snacks, how long to fish each spot, netting the fish or counting the birds.

**5. Go where the fish are.**
Nearby Community Fishing Program waters are excellent locations to catch all kinds of fish including bluegill, trout and catfish.

**Simple Tips for Family Fun**
Remembering these five simple kid-style tips will help make your next family fishing trip an enjoyable and memorable experience:

1. **Keep it simple and safe.**
Forget technique and tactics, kids just want to throw a line in the water and catch something. Choose simple equipment. A push button spincast reel and a 5-6 foot rod are best. Pack only the amount of tackle you need to keep everybody fishing (hooks, bobbers and weights).

Fish with easy-to-use bait secured under a small bobber or river where you caught it. Submit your picture via BFishing@azgfd.gov. Make sure you include a valid email address. A department biologist will contact you to discuss all the great details of your catch. Your picture will be posted on the Fat Cat Conservation Board on fishaz.azgfd.com.

**Categories and designated lengths and weights**
- 1. Hawg Bass Conservation Challenge: 5 pounds or 21 inches
- 2. Hawg Bass Memory Challenge: 8 pounds or 24 inches
- 3. 10 Pound Club: 10 pounds or 26 inches

How to complete the challenge: Verify your catch by taking a picture while weighing or measuring it following the rules and guidelines listed online at www.azgfd.gov. Release your fish quickly back into the lake where you caught it. Submit your picture via BFishing@azgfd.gov. Make sure you include a valid email address. A department biologist will contact you to discuss all the great details of your catch. Your picture will be posted on the Fat Cat Conservation Board on fishaz.azgfd.com.

**ARIZONA HAWG BASS CHALLENGE**

Arizona is home to great largemouth bass fishing! The Arizona Game and Fish Department works to provide great opportunities for anglers to catch huge largemouth bass all over the state. The Arizona Fat Cat Bass Challenge is a three-tiered, voluntary, incentive-based conservation program designed to encourage anglers to learn about and pursue giant flathead and channel catfish, while encouraging and celebrating catch-and-release fishing.

**Arizona Trout Challenge**

If you’re looking for new places to catch trout this summer — or you’d like to catch a new trout species — we have a challenge for you. Rise to the Wild Trout Challenge and pursue naturally reproducing populations of native and nonnative trout, or chase the Arizona Trout Challenge, which includes hatchery-raised trout.

Arizona manages more than 100 waters statewide for trout. Both challenges offer the opportunity to fish for native Gila and Apache trout, found only in the Southwest. Listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, they can be fished in certain waters, thanks to conservation efforts here in New Mexico. Explore special fishing spots, learn about trout and enjoy Arizona’s high country.

**Here’s how to take the challenge:**

1. **FOR THE WILD TROUT CHALLENGE,** catch all five species of wild trout in Arizona: Gila, Apache, brown, brook and rainbow trout.

2. **FOR THE ARIZONA TROUT CHALLENGE,** catch six of the eight species in the state: the five named above, plus cutthroat, tiger trout and grayling.

3. **PHOTOGRAPH** the fish you catch.

4. **SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS** and an application identifying where and when those fish were caught to the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Are you up for the challenge? For the fine print and an application, visit www.azgfd.gov/troutchallenge.
WHAT IS IT? The Arizona Game and Fish Department has a statewide Sport Fishing Education Program which teaches introductory fishing skills to people of all ages. Fishing clinics are led by Department Sport Fishing Education staff and program-certified instructors. All educational materials, rods and reels, bait, and terminal tackle are provided at no charge. Topics of instruction include: where and when to fish; selecting tackle and bait; casting and rigging techniques; fishing safety and ethics; care of your catch; and much more.

SCHEDULE A FISHING PROGRAM FOR YOUR SCHOOL. The school group fishing program is offered during the school year and is composed of two parts: classroom instruction and field instruction. Classroom and field instruction are held on separate days. The classroom instruction is a one-hour presentation conducted at the school. The presentation covers topics such as native and sport fish of Arizona, fish biology and habitat requirements, basic fishing techniques, and much more. Educational handouts are available for all participants. The field instruction is a three- to four-hour, hands-on fishing event at an urban lake or nearby body of water of your choice. The Department provides all fishing equipment and all fishing license requirements are waived between the clinic hours.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FISHING PROGRAMS. Individuals, families or groups are welcome to attend our “Open to the Public” fishing events conducted throughout the year. For a schedule of programs, visit our website at www.azgfd.gov and look under Education Programs, Sport Fishing Education, then to Schedule of Public Fishing Programs.

ROD LOANER PROGRAM. The Department has fishing equipment available for loan to the public. Loaner sites include the Department’s Phoenix headquarters office and six regional offices. Up to 50 rods and reels with tackle are available to borrow for up to a week and reservations must be made 3 weeks in advance.

BECOME A FISHING VOLUNTEER. The Department is looking for qualified individuals who want to volunteer with the Sport Fishing Education Program. You don't have to be an expert angler to help others learn basic fishing skills. Be an active participant in Arizona's fishing legacy. For information on Sport Fishing Education programs, rod loaner programs or volunteer opportunities, call 623-236-7240 or visit our website at www.azgfd.gov.

Proper Catch-and-Release Methods

Fish are a valuable resource, and fishing for them is a fun and exciting recreational experience. By limiting your harvest, and practicing good catch-and-release techniques, you can help preserve a fishery and ensure that angling opportunity remains for another day. Currently, native trout fishing opportunities can only exist from anglers using these techniques.

DO’S

Appropriate hooks and quick hook sets: Avoid letting fish swallow hooks by paying attention to your line and using an appropriate hook size and type. Single hooks are more easily removed than multi-point hooks.

Hook type: Barbless hooks are easier to remove and result in less injury to fish and shorter handling times during hook removal.

Appropriate tackle: The use of artificial flies and lures generally hook fish more superficially than those using live bait.

Quick retrieve: Exhaustion stress can be fatal, the longer you play a fish, the more stress it endures.

Soft mesh nets: The use of soft mesh nets, if nets are necessary, will help keep their protective slime on and will avoid entanglement.

Wet hands and a gentle touch: Handling fish with wet hands will help keep their protective slime on and avoid entanglement.

Keep the fish in the water as much as possible: It is best to unhook the fish while it is still in the water and avoid holding the fish out of the water for pictures for more than a few seconds.

DON'TS

Avoid forcefully removing swallowed hooks: If the hook is embedded deep in the throat, dip the line as close to the eye of the hook as possible and avoid attempting to remove the hook which may result in bleeding and injury. Hook will dissolve over time. A fish hooked deeply has a better chance of survival if the line is cut than if its organs are torn in the unhooking process.

Avoid touching the gills or eyes: Holding a fish by the gills can be lethal; these are extremely sensitive and easily damaged organs.

Avoid a firm grip: Fish are slippery and wiggly. Make sure to support the fish properly while holding it. Instinct will lead an angler to tighten their grip on the fish, and potentially crush its internal organs with force.

Violators Steal Your Fish – Help Us Catch Game Thieves

Poaching is a crime! Poachers are thieves stealing from you!

Do the right thing. Report a violator. Your tip can make the difference in apprehending a fish thief.

Report a violation. Rewards of $50-$1,000 are offered for information leading to an arrest for fishing violations. Callers can remain confidential. Call 1-800-352-0700.

Bag and possession limits provide everyone with a chance at a quality fishing experience and protect the fishery. Anyone who keeps or gives away more than their limit is breaking the law — they are thieves stealing fish from you and other responsible anglers.

Your help is needed to catch these thieves. If you witness someone keeping more than the daily bag and possession limit, fishing with more than two poles at the same time, or not complying with other fishing rules, contact the Operation Game Thief hotline to report the violation.

Be a good witness:

- Recognize what specific activities are violations.
- Do not put yourself in danger or confront the violator.
- Write down the date, time and specific park and lake location.
- Write down a description of the person(s) (physical and clothing).
- If possible, get the vehicle description and license plate number.
- Try to take pictures or video of the violation and violator.
- Call or go online to report the violation as soon as possible.

Help Protect Our Fisheries

Help reduce crayfish populations in our waters by removing crayfish at every opportunity. Crayfish are not native to Arizona, yet they have become established in many waters throughout the state. They endanger aquatic native species as well as sport fish by:

- Preying on all life stages of fish, amphibians and invertebrates.
- Aggressively competing for habitat and food.
- Destroying productive habitat in our streams, ponds and lakes.

Be careful with the use and disposal of crayfish:

- It is unlawful to transport live crayfish (except for that part of southwestern Arizona south of I-10 and west of Highway 95).

- If you intend to keep and eat crayfish, pack them in ice for transport. This will kill them while keeping them fresh until you arrive at your destination.

- By law, you may only use live crayfish as bait in the same body of water where they were caught.

- Keep the crayfish in the water as much as possible. It is best to unhook the fish while it is still in the water and avoid holding the fish out of the water for pictures for more than a few seconds.

- If you throw unused bait crayfish, or bait, away in the water, they will survive longer and may be caught by other anglers.

- Do not throw unused bait crayfish, or bait, away in the water. They may be caught by other anglers.

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Whirling Disease and Aquatic Invasive Species

Preventing the Spread of Whirling Disease
Whirling disease is a parasitic infection that attacks juvenile trout, eventually killing them. The disease is transmitted primarily by infected fish or fish parts, or fishing equipment and wading gear. Whirling disease is not a human health concern. The Arizona Game and Fish Department continues to monitor and test for any presence of the disease. You can help prevent the spread of whirling disease in the following ways:

- Do not transport live fish or fish parts from one body of water to another.
- Rinse all mud and debris from equipment and wading gear, and drain water from boats before leaving the infected water.
- Allow gear to dry thoroughly before next use.
- For more information, visit www.stopaquatic hitchhikers.org.

Arizona Game and Fish Department Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Protocols

(A.R.S. 17-255 — Director’s Order 3)

DAY USERS: Any watercraft, boats, vehicles, conveyances, or other equipment that have been in or on aquatic invasive species (AIS) listed waters for 5 days or less (includen Mead, Mohave, Havasu, Pleasant, Powell, Canyon, Apache, Sacramo, and Lower Colorado River, Lees Ferry and the Lower Salt/Verde rivers). Please see Director’s Order 2 for a full list of AIS waters online at www.azgfd.gov/ais.

Day-use Protocols:
Step 1 After removing from water and before transport from an AIS listed water, clean and remove any clinging material (plants, mud, snails).
Step 2 Remove the plug and drain all residual water. The plug(s) must remain out during transport.
Step 3 Dry completely prior to use in any other water.

*If launching in another waterbody in less than 18 consecutive days November through April or 7 days May through October, please call the AIS Program to see if a free inspection or decontamination may be necessary.

LONG-TERM USERS AND MOORED BOATS: Any watercraft, boats, vehicles, equipment, or conveyances that have been in or on aquatic invasive species (AIS) listed waters for 6 consecutive days or longer.

Long-term Moored Protocols:
Step 1 Contact the AIS Program prior to departure (recommend 48-72 hours notice) to schedule decontamination with an authorized inspector.
Step 2 Clean and remove any clinging material (plants, mud, snails).
Step 3 Remove the plug and drain all residual water. The plug(s) must remain out during transport.
Step 4 Following decontamination, keep the boat out of the water and dry for a minimum of 18 consecutive days from November through April or 7 consecutive days from May through October. Boaters will be issued seal and receipt as proof inspection/decontamination.

For more information, call the AIS Program at 623-236-7608.

Illegal Fish Stocking – It’s Stealing Your Angling Future!
It is illegal to stock fish or aquatic wildlife including crayfish, frogs, waterdogs and turtles. Illegal fish stocking, and everything else moved along with them, plants, mussels, viruses, harmful algae, etc., threaten the quality of our fishing waters. These introductions jeopardize the productivity and possibly the existence of your fisheries – in effect stealing your future!
If you observe or know of someone stocking Arizona waters, report it to Operation Game Thief at 1-800-352-0700. Information leading to an arrest may be rewarded up to $1,000. Anyone found guilty of illegally stocking fish or aquatic wildlife may be subject to revocation of hunting and fishing privileges and civil assessments to remedy the impacts of their illegal acts – possibly costing hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Motor Restrictions:

Powerboats restricted to a single electric motor on:

- Ackre Lake
- Bear Canyon Lake
- Bunch Reservoir
- Carnaro Lake
- Chapparral Park Lake
- Cluff Ponds
- Coconino Reservoir
- Coors Lake
- Danksworth Pond
- Dogtown Reservoir
- Fortuna Lake
- Goldwater Lake
- Granite Basin Lake
- Horseshoe Basin Lake
- Hulsey Lake
- J.D. Dam Lake
- Knoll Lake
- Lee Valley Lake

Powerboats restricted to a single gasoline engine not exceeding 10 horsepower on:

- Arivaca Lake
- Ashurst Lake
- Becker Lake
- Big Lake
- Black Canyon Lake
- C.C. Craig (Blue Ridge)
- Cataract Lake
- Chevelon Canyon Lake
- Concho Lake
- Crescent Lake
- Cool Hollow Lake
- Kailab Lake
- Kincaid Lake
- Little Mormon Lake
- Arrow Lake
- Lower Lake Mary
- Luna Lake
- Lynn Lake
- Marshall Lake
- Mexican Hay Lake
- Nelson Reservoir
- Parker Canyon Lake
- Penal Blanca Lake
- Rainbow Lake
- River Reservoir
- Show Low Lake
- Whipple Lake
- White Mountain Lake
- Willow Springs Lake
- Lower Lake Mary
- Luna Lake
- Lynn Lake
- Marshall Lake
- Mexican Hay Lake
- Nelson Reservoir
- Parker Canyon Lake
- Penal Blanca Lake
- Rainbow Lake
- River Reservoir
- Show Low Lake
- Whipple Lake
- White Mountain Lake
- Willow Springs Lake

No watercraft allowed on:

- Frye Mesa Reservoir
- Rose Canyon Lake

(AZGFD R12-4-S17 (A)(B)(C))

This list was effective May 24, 2011

Boating Information

- Boat registration
- Life jackets for all
- Throwable flotation aid
- Fire extinguisher (B-1)
- Horn, whistle or bell
- Navigation lights

Visit www.azgfd.gov/boating for additional boating tips and details on free boating safety courses in your area.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species Name</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Angler</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Striped Mullet</td>
<td>5 lb. 2.24 oz. 23.75 in.</td>
<td>Fortuna Pond</td>
<td>Robert Bayles, Yuma</td>
<td>4/24/04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trout, Rainbow</td>
<td>15 lb. 9.12 oz. 32.5 in.</td>
<td>Willow Springs Lake</td>
<td>Harold Wright, Sun City</td>
<td>9/29/06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bluegill</td>
<td>13 in.</td>
<td>Mohawk Wellton Canal</td>
<td>Bob Dippery Sr., Apache Junction</td>
<td>4/15/11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bass, White</td>
<td>18 in.</td>
<td>Lake Pleasant</td>
<td>Bradley Garraway, Phoenix</td>
<td>3/24/05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bass, Yellow</td>
<td>13 in.</td>
<td>Roosevelt Lake</td>
<td>Tom Simpson, Pahrump, NV</td>
<td>12/10/08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bass, Striped</td>
<td>29 in.</td>
<td>Lake Pleasant</td>
<td>Bill Larson, Phoenix</td>
<td>11/9/06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bass, Hybrid Striped</td>
<td>2 lb. 13.76 oz. 18.5 in.</td>
<td>Lake Pleasant</td>
<td>Ray Gilmore, Peoria</td>
<td>10/29/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bass, Largemouth</td>
<td>16 lb. 7.68 oz. 28.0 in.</td>
<td>Canyon Lake</td>
<td>Randall E. White, Mesa</td>
<td>4/22/97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sucker, Sonora</td>
<td>5 lb. 6.4 oz. 20.25 in.</td>
<td>Evelyn Hallman Park Lake</td>
<td>Jay Nochta, Phoenix</td>
<td>12/1/96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunfish, Green</td>
<td>1 lb. 15.84 oz. 12.5 in.</td>
<td>Patagonia Lake</td>
<td>Kevin M. Naujelis, Tucson</td>
<td>5/20/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tilapia</td>
<td>7 lb. 8.8 oz. 20.0 in.</td>
<td>Saguaro Lake</td>
<td>Tim Alan Schoenecker, Gilbert</td>
<td>3/31/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sucker, Desert</td>
<td>3.2 lb. 10.75 oz. 18.0 in.</td>
<td>Verde River</td>
<td>Edith Toney, Mesa</td>
<td>9/20/92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trout, Tiger</td>
<td>1 lb. 12.76 oz 17.75 in.</td>
<td>Woods Canyon Lake</td>
<td>Gregg P. Smith, Payson</td>
<td>11/5/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Amur (triploid)</td>
<td>47 lb. 1.6 oz. 46.5 in.</td>
<td>Encanto Park Lake</td>
<td>Kevin A. Baylor Jr., Phoenix</td>
<td>7/12/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walleye</td>
<td>16 lb. 1.76 oz. 31 in.</td>
<td>Show Low Lake</td>
<td>Gregg Munck, Show Low</td>
<td>11/18/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catfish, Channel</td>
<td>3 lb. 6.1 oz. 16.5 in.</td>
<td>Parker Canyon Lake</td>
<td>Mikki St. George, Sierra Vista</td>
<td>9/9/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bass, Rock</td>
<td>0 lb. 12.96 oz. 10.25 in.</td>
<td>Upper Verde River</td>
<td>Eric Woolsey, Cottonwood</td>
<td>4/6/06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bass, Smallmouth</td>
<td>7 lb. 0.96 oz. 22.75 in.</td>
<td>Roosevelt Lake</td>
<td>Dennis K. Barnhill, Mesa</td>
<td>3/18/88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow Perch</td>
<td>1 lb. 10.0 oz. 13.5 in.</td>
<td>Stoneman Lake</td>
<td>Art Ellico, Kingman</td>
<td>3/21/84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bass, Yellow</td>
<td>1 lb. 15.8 oz. 11.25 in.</td>
<td>Upper Lake Mary</td>
<td>Glenn D. Davis III, Flagstaff</td>
<td>5/19/95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trout, Apache</td>
<td>32 in.</td>
<td>Silver Creek</td>
<td>Ben Sandall, Flagstaff</td>
<td>1/30/10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tilapia (archery)</td>
<td>7 lb. 11.0 oz. 19.38 in.</td>
<td>Imperial Dam</td>
<td>Kenny Marler, Yuma</td>
<td>9/21/96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catfish, Channel</td>
<td>12 lb. 1.6 oz. 30 in.</td>
<td>Apache Lake</td>
<td>Sean Toolson, Gilbert</td>
<td>3/29/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo, Black (archery)</td>
<td>47 lb. 2.56 oz. 41 in.</td>
<td>Apache Lake</td>
<td>Bryan Sorell, Globe</td>
<td>3/6/99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catfish, Channel</td>
<td>16 lb. 10.0 oz. 30.0 in.</td>
<td>Apache Lake</td>
<td>Bryan Sorell, Globe</td>
<td>3/6/99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bass, Hybrid Striped</td>
<td>5 lb. 0.9 oz. 40 in.</td>
<td>Apache Lake</td>
<td>Bryan Sorell, Globe</td>
<td>3/6/99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Amur (triploid)</td>
<td>47 in.</td>
<td>Encanto Park Lake</td>
<td>Boyd R. Berg, Phoenix</td>
<td>10/16/05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:** Records are based upon weight recorded on state-certified (for try) scales and two submisses to the weight. Record fish must be preserved for the inspection by Department personnel. New record fish must outweigh the standing record for the species by at least one full fish. Fish taken from private water are closed to public access and are not eligible for record status.

[Arizona Game and Fish Department](https://azgfd.gov)
Yes, the Arizona Game and Fish Department may use my photo for promotional purposes.

Arizona Fish Entry Form

(Printed Name: ____________________________________________________)

Arizona Game and Fish Department • www.azgfd.gov

(species and common name)

Phone: ________________________ Address: ________________________

Date Caught: __________________ Location of Catch (Rule #3): ________________

Species Identified By (Rule #4): ________________________________________

Printed Name: ____________________________________________________

Weight Handling, re-release, etc.) the greater the likelihood of survival. Here is a highlight of the rules:

• Catch-and-Release state record fish are recognized by total length in inches only (largest measurement from the snout or nose to the tip of the compressed tail).

• Total length of the fish must be measured. A clear photo verifying the species and length must be included with the entry form, include a tape measure, ruler or other measuring device next to the fish in the photograph. Entries cannot be considered without a measuring device in the photograph.

• All fractions of length will be rounded down to the nearest inch.

• New catch-and-release record must exceed existing record by at least 1 inch.

• Witnesses to Weight (except catch-and-release entries):

• Fishing License Number: ___________________ Verified by (Rule #5): ________________

• Signature: ____________________________________________________________

• Phone: ________________________ Address: ________________________

• Registered Scale Number: __________________________________________

• Hours: Mon–Sun 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

• 3500 S. Lake Mary Rd.

• Hours: Mon–Fri 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

• Kept Catch and Release

• Scale capacity: 30 pounds

• State Record

• Arizona Fish Entry Form

(Use this form or a copy for all Arizona State Records, Statewide or Community Fish-of-the-Year, or Catch-and-Release entries.)

Requirements For Reporting

Rule #1: Fish must be weighed on a certified fair trade scale in pounds. Scale location, register number and expiration date of scale certification must be recorded on entry form. Fish should be weighed whole and ungutted. The Department reserves the right to cut open any fish after weighing. (Rule #1 not required for catch-and-release entries).

Rule #2: Length of the fish must be measured by a straight line from the tip of the snout to the tip of the compressed tail in inches.

Rule #3: Fish must be caught in Arizona waters including the Colorado River where it borders Mexico, California, and Nevada, and all of Lake Powell. Fish must be taken during the legal open season and by the legal method of take for the water where taken. Any illegal act associated with taking or handling of the fish will disqualify the record.

Rule #4: Identification of species must be verified by a member of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. A photograph of the fish is required for the record file and for identification purposes.

Rule #5: Angler must provide a valid fishing license number. A photo copy of the current valid license, or verification by a member of the Arizona Game and Fish Department, is required.

Rule #6: If the weights and measurements are not witnessed by the Department personnel, two witnesses must be present at the time the fish is weighed and measured (except catch-and-release entries).

Rule #7: The Arizona Game and Fish Department reserves the right to further check identification and/or verification of witnesses and to refuse an application that is questionable.

Rule #8: Fish taken from private waters that are closed to public access are not eligible for Record or Fish-of-the-Year.

Rule #9: Eligible fish species for both State record and Fish-of-the-Year entries are those sportfish listed under the current State records. illegally released fish species from pet and aquarium trades are not eligible for a State record or Fish-of-the-Year.

Rule #10: In the event of any dispute regarding the authenticity of the fish record application, the fish must be made available for inspection by Arizona Game and Fish Department personnel. The determination made by Department personnel shall be conclusive.

Fish Weighting Scales at a Location Near You

The Arizona Game and Fish Department has placed 21 fish weighing scales at locations across the state. The scales are intended to ease the difficulty many anglers have had finding certified scales to weigh their record fish catches.

**Athene Fish Entry Form**

**Arizona Fish Entry Form**

(Please see form or copy this form for all Arizona State Records, Statewide or Community Fish-of-the-Year, or Catch-and-Release entries.)

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**Fish Consumption and Your Health**

Fishing is a great way to spend time with friends and family. Eating fish is a contributor to your overall health and is an excellent source of protein and omega-3 fatty acids, which benefit heart health. The American Heart Association recommends eating fish at least twice a week.

However, some types of fish (store-bought or sport-caught) from some locations, may contain elevated levels of mercury or other environmental contaminants. The amount of these substances in the fish’s flesh is generally highest in older, larger, predatory fish. The benefits and risks of eating fish vary depending on a person’s stage of life:

- **Children and pregnant women** are advised by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to avoid eating fish with high levels of mercury contamination.
- **For middle-aged and older men and postmenopausal women,** the benefits of fish consumption far outweigh the potential risks when the amount of fish eaten is within the recommendations established by the FDA and Environmental Protection Agency (see EPA website www.epa.gov/waterscience/fish/publicinfo.html).

Fish consumption guidelines are primarily designed to protect pregnant women, women of child bearing age, children and anglers who regularly consume fish in larger quantities over long periods of time. This information is not intended to discourage you from eating fish but to guide you in making healthy choices. Don’t stop eating fish; just be careful of the fish and amounts you eat, and where they come from.

Working with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, the Arizona Game and Fish Department investigates areas where there may be concern for environmental contaminants in fish. In Arizona, mercury and pesticides have been found in several waters affecting various species. Based on these investigations, site-specific public advisories from the Arizona Department of Health Services and the Department of Environmental Quality have been developed, and anglers are advised to limit the consumption of certain kinds of fish from these locations.

**Please examine the Site Specific Fish Consumption Advisories table (at right).**

---

**Health and Environmental Information**

**Lead and Fishing**

Some kinds of fishing equipment such as sinkers and jigs are made from lead, which can be dangerous to the health of humans and wildlife. You can reduce your exposure to lead from fishing equipment by following a few simple guidelines:

- **Never put lead in your mouth** (use pliers to close sinkers around fishing line).
- **Don’t touch or eat food after handling lead fishing equipment without washing your hands first.**
- **Don’t let small children handle lead fishing equipment.**

Some birds have been poisoned by eating lead fishing equipment because they mistake it for food. Although there is little evidence that this occurs often in Arizona, you can help to assure that this does not happen. To prevent wildlife exposure to lead:

- **Consider using alternatives to lead when you purchase fishing equipment (steel, bismuth, tungsten, resin, or glass weights).**
- **Make reasonable attempts to recover any lost equipment made from lead.**
- **Clean up any lead fishing tackle you find on shore or in the shallows.**

**Arizona Fish Consumption Advisories**

Trout produced by the Arizona Game and Fish Department and channel catfish that are stocked into Community Fishing Program waters have been tested by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for mercury. The results of the analysis indicate that these fish are safe for consumption.

**Site Specific Fish Consumption Advisories**

Please check the AZGFD website (www.azgfd.gov) or azdeq.gov/fca for the latest information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WATERBODY SPECIES CATEGORY</th>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alamo Lake</td>
<td>Black Crappie</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Channel Catfish</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apache Lake</td>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkavac Lake</td>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bartlett Lake</td>
<td>Flathead Catfish</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Becker Lake</td>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Canyon Lake</td>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Mary (Upper and Lower)</td>
<td>Walleye</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Northern Pike</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Pleasant</td>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Striped Bass</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Powell</td>
<td>Striped Bass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Long Lake</td>
<td>Walleye</td>
<td>Orange</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lyman Lake</td>
<td>Channel Catfish</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Walleye</td>
<td>Red</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parker Canyon Lake</td>
<td>Bluegill</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penia Blanca Lake</td>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Channel Catfish</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roosevelt Lake</td>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott Reservoir</td>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soldier and Soldiers Annex Lakes</td>
<td>Walleye</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tonto Creek</td>
<td>Smallmouth Bass</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willow Springs Lake</td>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other waters not listed</td>
<td>All species</td>
<td>Green</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Previously the lower Salt and Gila rivers from 59th Avenue down to and including Painted Rocks Reservoir, Painted Rocks Borrow Pit and the lower portion of the Hassayampa River were listed as contaminated with pesticides. That fish consumption advisory has been rescinded by the ADEQ as of Aug. 7, 2015.
Angler Access Restrictions

In addition to fishing area and season closures identified on pages 12-25, other fishing areas may be seasonally closed due to bald eagle breeding areas and/or Wildlife Area restrictions.

Bald Eagle Closures

The Arizona Game and Fish Department, in cooperation with the Southwestern Bald Eagle Management Committee and land management agencies, closely monitors bald eagle breeding areas along Arizona's rivers and lakes during five to eight months of the year. The closures prevent public entry and deter human activity during critical times of the breeding cycle. You can identify the closure areas by looking for No Entry signs on roads, trails and at boat ramps, and no Entry buoys on the water. Some closures may not be in effect or lifted early depending on weather and the eagles' nest. For additional information on any closure, contact the Arizona Game and Fish Department, Terrestrial Branch, (928) 236-7506.

Lakes With Bald Eagle Breeding Closures

- Crescent Lake – A portion of the east side is closed to all entry from March 1 through Aug. 31. Contact the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest, Springerville Ranger District, (928) 353-6200.
- Greer Lakes (Tunnel and River) (not enacted unless pair moves nesting location) – Portions of the lakes may be closed to watercraft and a portion of the shoreline may be closed to foot entry from March 1 through July 30. Contact the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest, Springerville Ranger District, (928) 331-6205.
- Horseshoe Lake – A portion of the lake is closed from Dec. 1 to June 30. Contact the Arizona Game and Fish Department, (623) 236-7506.
- Lake Pleasant – No vehicle, watercraft, or foot entry is allowed into the Lower Agua Fria River Arm from Dec. 1 to June 15. Contact Maricopa County Parks and Recreation, (500) 502-1790.
- Lower Lake Mary (not enacted unless pair moves nesting location) – There may be no vehicle or foot traffic allowed on a portion of the north side of the lake from Jan. 1 to Aug. 30. Contact the Coconino National Forest, Flagstaff Ranger District, (928) 577-6200.
- Lake Pleasant - No vehicle, watercraft or foot entry is allowed into the Lower Agua Fria River Arm from Dec. 1 to June 15. Contact Maricopa County Parks and Recreation, (500) 502-1790.
- Luna Lake – There is no vehicle or foot traffic allowed on a portion of the north side of the lake from Jan. 1 to June 15. Contact Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest, Alpine Ranger District, (928) 559-5560.
- Lynn Lake – A portion of the lake's east side is closed to vehicle and foot traffic from Dec. 1 to June 30.

Contact the Prescott National Forest, Bradshaw Ranger District, (928) 443-3000.
- Show Low Lake – A portion of the lake is closed to watercraft and a portion of the shoreline may be closed to foot entry from March 1 to Aug. 31. Contact Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest, Lakeside Ranger District, (928) 368-2100.
- White Horse Lake – A portion of the shoreline may be closed to foot entry from March 1 to Aug. 31. Contact Kaibab National Forest, Williams Ranger District (928) 635-5600.
- Wood Canyon Lake – A portion of the lake may be closed to watercraft and a portion of the shoreline may be closed to foot entry from March 1 through Aug. 31. Contact the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest, Black Mesa Ranger District, (928) 533-7700.

River/Creeks with Bald Eagle Breeding Closures

- Verde River
  - Not planned for enactment unless nesting resumes. Verde River below Sycamore Canyon Wilderness may be closed to foot and vehicle entry from Dec. 1 to June 15. Floating through is allowed. Contact Coconino National Forest, Sedona Ranger District, (928) 282-4119.
  - Verde River near Chino Creek is closed from Dec. 1 to June 30. Floating through is allowed. Contact Prescott National Forest, Verde Ranger District, (928) 567-4211.
  - Verde River near Cold Water Creek, allows watercraft to float through but no stopping on the river or landing is allowed Dec. 1 to June 30. Contact Prescott National Forest, Verde Ranger District, (928) 567-4211.
  - Verde River near East Verde River, allows watercraft to float through but no stopping on the river or landing is allowed Dec. 1 to June 30. Contact Tonto National Forest, Cave Creek Ranger District, (480) 595-3300.
  - Verde River near Mule Shoe Bend, allows watercraft to float through but no stopping in the river or landing is allowed from Dec. 1 to June 30. Contact Tonto National Forest, Cave Creek Ranger District, (480) 595-3300.
  - Verde River below Horseshoe Dam is closed to vehicle or foot entry on the southeast side of the river from Dec. 1 to June 30. Floating through is allowed, but no stopping in the river or landing on the southeast side of the river is allowed. Contact Tonto National Forest, Cave Creek Ranger District, (480) 595-3300.
  - Verde River below Bartlett Dam is closed to foot or vehicle entry from Dec. 1 to June 30. Floating through is allowed. Contact Tonto National Forest, Cave Creek Ranger District, (480) 595-3300.
  - Verde River at Needle Rock Recreation area is closed to foot and vehicle entry on the east and portions of the west side of the river from Dec. 1 to June 30. Floating through is allowed, but no stopping in the river or landing on east side of river is allowed. Contact Tonto National Forest, Cave Creek Ranger District, (480) 595-3300.
  - Verde River near Cold Water Creek, allows watercraft to float through but no stopping on the river or landing is allowed Dec. 1 to June 30. Contact Tonto National Forest, Tonto Basin Ranger District, (602) 225-5395.
  - Tonto Creek inlet to Roosevelt Lake is closed to vehicle and foot entry within 1000 feet of the nest on land and to watercraft within 500 feet of water from Dec. 1 to June 30. Contact Tonto National Forest, Tonto Basin Ranger District (602) 225-5395.

Salt River
- Salt River from Horsetooth Bend to Redmond Flat is closed to vehicle and foot entry within 1000 feet of the nest on land and to watercraft within 500 feet of water from Dec. 1 to June 30. Contact Tonto National Forest, Tonto Basin Ranger District, (480) 225-5395.
- Salt River below Stewart Mountain Dam is closed to vehicle or foot entry on the south side of the river from Dec. 1 to June 30. Floating through is allowed. Contact the Tonto National Forest, Mesa Ranger District, (480) 610-3300.
- Salt River below Goldfield-Ker River Station is closed to foot and vehicle entry on the north side of the river from Dec. 1 to June 30. Floating through is allowed. Contact Tonto National Forest, Mesa Ranger District, (480) 610-3300.

White Horse Lake
- White Horse Lake is closed to vehicle and foot entry Dec. 1 to June 30. Contact Tonto National Forest, Tonto Basin Ranger District, (602) 225-5395.
- Tonto Creek from Gizzly to ‘76 Ranch is closed to all entry from Dec.

WILDLIFE AREA RESTRICTIONS (R12-4-802) AND OTHER CLOSURES

The following areas have seasonal closures that may affect fishing access to a portion of these lakes:
- Luna Lake Wildlife Area: Posted portions closed to public entry.
- Roosevelt Lake Wildlife Area: Posted portions closed to public entry from Nov. 15 through Feb. 15 annually.
- Silver Creek Hatchery

Fish & Boat Arizona: Plan Your Hook-and-Line Adventure

The adventurous Arizona angler, boater or paddler has a tackle-box tool that can unlock just about any fishing excursion in state. With destinations ranging from high-elevation lakes in pine forests to waters in grasslands and desert areas, how does someone decide where to go? The new edition of the Fish & Boat Arizona map is available at fishandboataz.azgfd.com for anglers to choose their own hook-and-line adventure.

Fish & Boat Arizona not only gives door-to-door driving directions to individual waters statewide, it also is filled with fishing reports and forecasts, stocking information, bag limits, accessibility details and locations of marinas, pump-out stations, license dealers, fishing docks, life jacket loaner stations, certified fish scales and more.

The map includes all major lakes statewide, as well as Community Fishing Program waters.

already have the perfect experience in mind? Use the Interactive Search tool to find individual waters, filter locations by species, watercraft regulations and more. Once you’ve narrowed your options, zoom into the map to see the facilities and amenities available to help make that perfect outdoor experience a reality.

With the Fish & Boat Arizona map displayed on your mobile device, click “Add to home screen,” to create a shortcut that functions similar to an app. Then explore all the fishing and boating opportunities Arizona has to offer.

Where will you go to get hooked? Explore Fish & Boat Arizona online at fishandboataz.azgfd.com.
Amphibians: Commission Order 41 requires a valid fishing or combination license

**Amphibian Notes:**
1. Fishing or combination license is required for take of amphibians. Licenses may be taken on day or night. Methods of take are prescribed in R12-4-311.
2. The Fort Huachuca Military Reservation controls access to the taking of aquatic wildlife on its lands. Fishing is limited to those of the Colorado River channel catfish, the Colorado River largemouth bass, the grayling (§§ 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4, and 12.5 of the 2019 & 2020 Arizona Fishing Regulations).
3. The riparian corridor of the Colorado River (taking both day and night) is closed between the confluence of the Little Colorado River and the Colorado River downstream to the Colorado River Bridge in Indio, California (§§ 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4, and 12.5 of the 2019 & 2020 Arizona Fishing Regulations).
4. No nonresident may take or possess fish in any area in the State of Arizona that is closed to resident game fish harvest (§§ 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4, and 12.5 of the 2019 & 2020 Arizona Fishing Regulations).
5. Fishing is prohibited on the lower Colorado River downstream to the confluence with the Little Colorado River (§§ 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4, and 12.5 of the 2019 & 2020 Arizona Fishing Regulations).
7. Spring Creek is closed to fishing (§ 12.1 of the 2019 & 2020 Arizona Fishing Regulations).
8. All species in the genus Ambystoma (water frogs) are closed to take in Arizona (§§ 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4, and 12.5 of the 2019 & 2020 Arizona Fishing Regulations).
9. Turtles may not be taken at any time (or during periods specified) within the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest, and within the boundaries of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest (§§ 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4, and 12.5 of the 2019 & 2020 Arizona Fishing Regulations).

**Reptiles:** Commission Order 43 (aquatic only) requires a valid hunting or combination license

**Crustaceans and Mollusks Notes (continued):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Legal Amphibians</th>
<th>Bag and Possession Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. 1</td>
<td>Jan - Dec 2019</td>
<td>7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 20, 22, 26, 31, 32</td>
<td>Stated, except areas closed in Notes 9, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29 (also noted above).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reptile Notes:**
1. A fishing or combination license is required for take of reptiles. Fishing or combination license is required for take of reptiles by color or subspecies. Fishing is limited to the area described in Commission Order 43 (§§ 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4, and 12.5 of the 2019 & 2020 Arizona Fishing Regulations).
2. Shall not use firearms at night; and

**LIMITED WEAPON HAND OR HAND-HELD IMPLEMENT REPELLETS:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<th>Bag and Possession Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. 1</td>
<td>Jan - Dec 2019</td>
<td>7, 8, 9, 15</td>
<td>Stated, including private lands within city limits or town with public airports, municipal parks, residential areas, airports, golf courses, or posted water treatment facilities, except areas closed in Note 10.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Crustaceans and Mollusks Notes (continued):**

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Nerodia fasciata (banded watersnake), Apalone scripta (snapping turtle), Emydoidea blandingii (Blanding’s turtle), and all species of the family Chelydridae (spiny softshell turtles).**

**Unlimited.**
Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 17 Laws (Game and Fish)

A.R.S. 17-101 Definitions

A. In this title, unless the context otherwise requires:
   1. “Angling” means the taking of fish by one line and not to exceed two hooks, by one line and one artificial lure, which may have attached thereon more than one hook, or by one line and not to exceed two artificial lures.
   2. “Big limit” means the maximum limit, in number or amount of wildlife, that may be possessed at one time by any one person.
   3. “Resident,” for the purposes of applying for a license, permit, tag or stamp, means a person who is:
      (a) A member of the armed forces of the United States on active duty or stationed in this state.
      (b) For this period of thirty days immediately preceding the date of applying for a license, permit, tag or stamp.
      (c) A state employee or member of the state militia assigned to duty.
   4. “Domicile” means a person’s true, fixed and permanent home and principal residence.
   5. “Device” means any net, trap, scaffold, deadfall, pit, explosive, or stupefying substance, crossbow, firearm, bow and arrow, or other implement used for taking wildlife. Device does not include a raptor or any equipment used in the sport of falconry.
   6. “Department” means the Arizona game and fish commission.
   7. “Wildlife” means all wild animals, birds and reptiles, including their eggs or spawn.
   8. “Motor conveyance” means any powered land, water, or air conveyance of any type.
   9. “Fishing” means to lure, attract or pursue aquatic wildlife may be lawfully taken.
   10. “Game wild animals” means any species of game wild animals.
   11. “Game fish” means species of game fish.
   12. “Game bird” means any species of game bird.
   13. “Small game” means small game.
   14. “Hunting” means to pursue, shoot, hunt, take, handle or possess wildlife.
   15. “Trophy” means the possession of the wildlife that was unlawfully taken.
   16. “Time open” means the time during which hunting may be lawfully taken.
   17. “Possession limit” means the maximum limit, in number or amount of wildlife, that may be possessed at one time by any one person.
   18. “Resident” means a person who is:
      (a) A member of the armed forces of the United States on active duty or stationed in this state for a specified period of time.
   19. “Open season” means the time during which wildlife may not be lawfully taken.
   20. “Commission” means the Arizona game and fish department.
   22. “License” means a commercial facility open to the public where the principal business is holding wildlife, or discharge a firearm or shoot any other wildlife, except as provided by the commission.
   23. “Road” means any maintained right-of-way for public conveyance.
   24. “Zoo” means a commercial facility opened to the public where the principal business is holding wildlife.
   25. “Youth” means a person who is under eighteen years of age.
   26. “Poison” means a substance, drug or other chemical that when ingested by animals, mollusks, crustaceans and fish, including their eggs or spawn.
   27. “Hook” means a person who is under eighteen years of age.

Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 17 Laws (Game and Fish)

A.R.S. 17-301 Definitions

Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 17 Laws (Game and Fish)

A.R.S. 17-306 Definitions

Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 17 Laws (Game and Fish)

A.R.S. 17-307 Definitions

Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 17 Laws (Game and Fish)

A.R.S. 17-308 Definitions

Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 17 Laws (Game and Fish)

A.R.S. 17-309 Definitions

Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 17 Laws (Game and Fish)

A.R.S. 17-310 Definitions

Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 17 Laws (Game and Fish)

A.R.S. 17-311 Definitions

Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 17 Laws (Game and Fish)

A.R.S. 17-312 Definitions

Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 17 Laws (Game and Fish)

A.R.S. 17-313 Definitions

Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 17 Laws (Game and Fish)

A.R.S. 17-314 Definitions
A.R.S. 17-341 Violation; classification

1. It is unlawful for a person to knowingly acquire, possess, acquire or use, or to fraudulently represent a license, permit, tag or stamp to take wildlife and a license or permit so obtained is void and is of no effect from the date of issuance thereof.

2. No person who violates this section is guilty of a class 1 misdemeanor.

A.R.S. 17-342 Colorado river special use permit

1. The state of Arizona shall assess penalties for purposes other than for profit from or on behalf of another person, for unlawful taking or possessing wildlife at any time or place, the commission, after public hearing, may revoke, suspend or deny a person's privilege to take wildlife for a period of up to five years.

2. For a second conviction or a third conviction as a delinquent juvenile, for unlawfully taking or possessing wildlife at any time or place, the commission, after public hearing, may revoke, suspend or deny a person's privilege to take wildlife for a period of up to ten years.

3. For a third conviction or a third modification as a delinquent juvenile, for unlawfully taking or possessing wildlife at any time or place, the commission, after public hearing, may revoke, suspend or deny a person's privilege to take wildlife for a period of up to twenty years.

A. In addition to the definitions provided under A.R.S. §17-101, R12-4-301, R12-4-401, and R12-4-501, the following definitions apply to this Chapter, unless otherwise specified:

“Commission” means a document adopted by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission.

“Commission Order” means a document adopted by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission.

“Stamp” means a form of authorization in addition to a license that allows the license holder to take wildlife with the stamp.

“Wading water” means the shallows or shoaling stage of a stream.

“Wildlife” means an animal under established under A.R.S. 17-2-4, Article 4.

(“rule not cited in entire”)

R12-4-117 Indian Reservations

A state license, permit, or tag is not required to hunt or fish on any Indian reservation in this State. Wildlife lawfully taken on an Indian reservation may be transported or processed anywhere in the State if it can be identified to species and legality as provided in A.R.S. § 17-309(A)(9). All wildlife transported anywhere in this State is subject to inspection under the provisions of A.R.S. § 17-211(A)(9).

R12-4-207 General Fishing License; Exemption

A. A general fishing license is valid for the taking of all aquatic wildlife and allows the license holder to engage in sportfishing as defined under R12-3-36. The following definitions apply to this Chapter, unless otherwise specified:

“General fishing license” means a license that allows for the taking aquatic wildlife on any portion of the Colorado River that forms the common boundary between Arizona and Nevada and California.

“General fishing license” means a license that allows for the taking aquatic wildlife on any portion of the Colorado River that forms the common boundary between Arizona and Nevada and California.

B. Any person who shall pay the license fee required under R12-4-102.

C. Any person who shall pay the license fee required under R12-4-102.

D. Any person who shall pay the license fee required under R12-4-102.

E. Any person who shall pay the license fee required under R12-4-102.

F. Any person who shall pay the license fee required under R12-4-102.

G. Any person who shall pay the license fee required under R12-4-102.

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X. Any person who shall pay the license fee required under R12-4-102.

Y. Any person who shall pay the license fee required under R12-4-102.

Z. Any person who shall pay the license fee required under R12-4-102.
Arizona Game and Fish Commission Rules About Fishing

4. On that portion of the Colorado River that forms the common boundary between Arizona and Nevada and Arizona and California and connected adjacent water, provided Arizona has connected adjacent water, the Department has the authority to issue a fishing license for the take of big game animals, migratory game birds, or other wildlife authorized by an applicable State or Federal Order or stamp.

3. A youth combination hunting and fishing license for a person through age 12:
   a. The combination hunting and fishing license is valid for one year from:
      i. The date of purchase when a person purchases the combination hunting and fishing license from a license dealer, as defined under R12-4-101;
      ii. The last date of the application deadline for that draw, as established by the hunt permit tag application schedule published by the Department; or
   b. The short-term combination hunting and fishing license is valid for the take of big game animals.

2. The short-term combination hunting and fishing license is valid for the take of migratory game birds and waterfowl, provided the person possesses the applicable Arizona State Migratory Bird stamp and Federal Waterfowl stamp.

C. The Department does not limit the number of short-term combination hunting and fishing licenses a resident or nonresident may purchase.

2. A combination hunting and fishing license for a person age 16 and over:
   a. The combination hunting and fishing license is valid for one year from:
      i. The date of purchase when a person purchases the combination hunting and fishing license from a license dealer, as defined under subsection (C), which sponsors adult education programs for the purpose of providing physical or mental rehabilitation or training for individuals with physical, developmental, or mental disabilities.
      ii. Name;
      iii. Date of birth;
      iv. Physical description, to include the applicant’s eye color, hair color, height, and weight;
      b. The applicant’s parent, guardian, or legal representative;
      c. The applicant’s Department identification number, when applicable;
      d. Telephone number, when available; and
   b. The short-term combination hunting and fishing license is valid for:
      i. The selected start date when a person purchases the combination hunting and fishing license from a license dealer, as defined under subsection (C), which sponsors adult education programs for the purpose of providing physical or mental rehabilitation or training for individuals with physical, developmental, or mental disabilities.
      ii. The date of purchase when a person purchases the combination hunting and fishing license from a license dealer, as defined under subsection (C), which sponsors adult education programs for the purpose of providing physical or mental rehabilitation or training for individuals with physical, developmental, or mental disabilities.
      iii. The applicant’s signature and date.
   c. A nonprofit organization or governmental entity’s:
      a. Name;
      b. Department identification number, when applicable;
      c. Mailing address, when applicable;
      d. Telephone number, when applicable;
      e. Physical address;
      f. E-mail address, when available;
      g. Telephone number, when available; and
      h. Telephone number, when available; and
   d. The dates on which the nonprofit organization intends to conduct the youth group fishing activity.

1. A youth group two-day fishing license:
   a. A youth group two-day fishing license authorizes a nonprofit organization as defined under subsection (C), which sponsors adult education programs for the purpose of providing physical or mental rehabilitation or training for individuals with physical, developmental, or mental disabilities.
   b. A nonprofit organization or governmental entity as defined under subsection (C), which sponsors adult education programs for the purpose of providing physical or mental rehabilitation or training for individuals with physical, developmental, or mental disabilities.
   c. A nonprofit organization or governmental entity’s:
      a. Name;
      b. Date of birth;
      c. Physical description, to include the applicant’s eye color, hair color, height, and weight;
      d. Department identification number, when applicable;
      e. Mailing address, when applicable;
      f. Telephone number, when available; and
      g. E-mail address, when available;
      h. Provider, when applicable; and
      i. The dates on which the nonprofit organization intends to conduct the youth group fishing activity.

Fishing Permits

The Department may issue a fishing permit to state, county, municipal agencies or departments and to nonprofit organizations licensed or by contract with the Department of Economic Security or Department of Health Services, whose primary purpose is to provide physical or mental rehabilitation or training for individuals with physical, developmental, or mental disabilities.

B. The permit:

1. Is valid for the two specified days on the permit;

2. Authorizes up to 10 individuals with physical, developmental, or mental disabilities to fish without fishing license upon any public waters except that fishing in the waters of the Colorado River is restricted to fishing from the Arizona shoreline only, unless the person fishing under the authority of the permit also possess a valid Arizona River Stamp from the adjacent state; and

3. Does not exempt individuals fishing under the authority of the permit from other statutes, Commission Orders, and rules not contained in this Section.

C. An applicant for a fishing permit shall submit a properly completed application form to the Department. The application is furnished by the Department and is available from any Department office and online at www.azgfd.gov.

1. The applicant shall provide all of the following information:
   a. The name, address, telephone number of the agency, department, or nonprofit organization requesting the permit;
   b. The permit, title, and telephone number of the individual responsible for supervising the individuals fishing under the authority of the permit;
   c. The total number of individuals who will be fishing under the authority of the permit;
   d. The dates on which the permit will be valid;
   e. The location for which the permit will be valid;

2. In addition to the information required under subsection (A), nonprofit organizations shall submit documentation that they are licensed or by contract with the Department of Economic Security or the Department of Health Services for the purpose of providing rehabilitation or treatment services to individu-als with physical, developmental, or mental disabilities.

D. The Department shall issue or deny the fishing permit to an applicant within 30 calendar days of receiving the application.

Arizona Game and Fish Commission Rules About Fishing
Arizona Game and Fish Commission Rules About Fishing

receiving an application.

E. The fishing permit holder shall provide instruction on fish identification, fishing ethics, safety, and techniques to individuals who will be fishing under authority of the permit. The Department shall provide the lesson plan for this instruction to the permit holder.

F. Each individual fishing without a license under the authority of the fishing permit may take only one-half the fish, as defined by the bag limit, for any species, unless the regular bag limit is one, in which case the permit authorizes the regular bag limit.

G. The permit holder shall submit a report to the Department not later than 30 days after the end of the authorized period. The report form is furnished by the Department and is available at any Department office. The permit holder shall report all of the following information on the form:

1. The total number of individuals who fished and total hours fished;
2. The total number of fish caught, kept, and released, by species;
3. The Department may deny future fishing permits to a fishing permit holder who failed to submit the report until the permit is reissued.

1R1-4-311 Exemptions from Requirement to Possess an Arizona Fishing License or Hunting License While Taking Wildlife

In addition to the exemptions prescribed under A.R.S. § 17-353, R12-4-206(E), and R12-4-209(E) and provided the person’s fishing and hunting license privileges are not currently revoked by the Commission:

A. Fishing license is not required when a person:
   1. Fishing from artificial ponds, tanks, and lakes contained entirely on private lands that are not open to the public, and
   2. Managed by the Department.
B. Taking terrestrial mollusks or crustaceans as defined in R12-4-209(E) and as prescribed by the Department.
C. Fishing in Arizona any designated Saturday occurring during National Fishing and Boating Week, except in waters of the Colorado River forming the common boundaries between Arizona and California, Nevada, or Utah where fishing without a license is limited to the shoreline, unless the state with jurisdiction, or the Department, imposes additional licensing requirements on the same day.
D. Participating in an introductory fishing education program conducted by the Department, during scheduled program hours, only. A sanctioned program shall have a Department sport fisherman, or authorized volunteer instructor present during scheduled program hours. For the purposes of this subsection, “authorized volunteer instructor” means a person who has successfully passed the Department’s required background check and fishing education workshop.


5. Catfish may be taken by bow and arrow or crossbow in waters designated by Commission Order.
6. Amphibians, soft-shelled turtles, mollusks, and crustaceans may be taken by minnow trap, crayfish net, hand, or any hand-held non-motorized implement that does not discharge a projectile, unless otherwise permitted under this Section.

7. In addition to the methods described under subsection (D)(5), crappie may be taken by the following devices:
   A. A dip net not larger than 4 feet in greatest dimension, and
   B. A seine not larger than 10 feet in length and 4 feet in width.

E. An individual may possess or transport the following:
   A. A trap not more than 3 feet in the greatest dimension, and
   B. A seine not larger than 10 feet in length and 4 feet in width.
   C. A seine net not larger than 10 feet in length and 4 feet in width.
   D. A seine net not larger than 10 feet in length and 4 feet in width.

F. An individual who uses a crayfish net and minnow trap when it is unattended. The tag shall include the individual’s:
   A. Name, and
   B. Address, and
   C. Fishing license number.

3. Raise and empty the trap daily.

G. The permit holder shall submit a report to the Department not later than 30 days after the end of the authorized period. The report form is furnished by the Department and is available at any Department office. The permit holder shall report all of the following information on the form:

1. The fishing permit number and the information contained in the permit;
2. The total number of individuals who fished and total hours fished;
3. The total number of fish caught, kept, and released, by species;
4. The Department may deny future fishing permits to a fishing permit holder who failed to submit the report until the permit is reissued.

1R1-4-312 Possession of Live Fish: Unattended Live Boxes and Strings

A. An individual may possess fish taken alive as provided under R12-4-208, with the following exceptions:
   1. Fathead minnow (Pimephales promelas),
   2. Mosquitofish (Gambusia affinis),
   3. Threadfin shad (Dorosoma petenense),
   4. Golden shiners (Notemigonus crysoleucas), and
   5. Crayfish (aqua Ciclura)."
Arizona Game and Fish Commission Rules About Fishing

**Listing of Arizona’s aquatic invasive species affected waters:**

**Arizona’s list of aquatic invasive species**

(A.R.S. 17-255 – Director’s Order 2)

- Lake Powell (quagga mussel)
- Lake Mead (quagga mussel, New Zealand mudsnail)
- Lake Mohave (quagga mussel, New Zealand mudsnail)
- Lake Havasu (quagga mussel, didymo)
- Lower Colorado River (quagga mussel, giant salvinia, apple snail, water hyacinth)
- Lake Pleasant (quagga mussel)
- Lees Ferry (quagga mussel, New Zealand mudsnail)
- Lower Salt/Verde River (quagga mussel, apple snail)
- Apache Lake (quagga mussel, golden algae)
- Canyon Lake (quagga mussel, golden algae)
- Saguaro Lake (quagga mussel, golden algae)
- Roosevelt Lake (golden algae)
- Red Mountain Park Lake (quagga mussel, apple snail)

This list was effective Sept. 15, 2018. A full list of AIS-affected waters can be found at www.azgfd.gov/AIS.

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**Arizona Revised Statutes and Commission Rules**

**Arizona’s list of aquatic invasive species:**

(A.R.S. 17-255 – Director’s Order 1)

**Plants**

- didymo (a.k.a. rock snot)
- giant salvinia
- golden algae
- water hyacinth

**Animals**

- apple snail
- Asian carp (silver, big head, black)
- golden mussel
- New Zealand mudsnail
- quagga mussel
- red clown crayfish
- rusty crayfish
- snakehead species
- water fens (spiny, fishhook)
- zebra mussel

This list was effective Sept. 15, 2018.

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**Arizona Game and Fish Department**

- www.azgfd.gov

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**Arizona Game and Fish Commission Rules About Fishing**

1. Remove all clinging materials such as plants, animals, and mud.

2. Remove any plug or other barrier that prevents water drainage or, where none exists, take reasonable measures to drain or dry all compartments or spaces that hold water. Reasonable measures include, but are not limited to, emptying bilges, application of absorbents, or ventilation.

3. Before transporting a watercraft, vehicle, conveyance, or equipment to any waters located within or bordering this State an aquatic invasive species is suspected or known to be present, as listed in Director’s Order 3 for decontamination of watercraft, vehicles, conveyances, and equipment. 

4. The following Director’s orders are available at any Department office and online at www.azgfd.gov: Director’s Order 1 - Listing of Aquatic Invasive Species for Arizona; Director’s Order 2 - Designation of Waters or Locations Where Listed Aquatic Invasive Species are Present; and Director’s Order 3 - Mandatory Conditions on the Movement of Watercraft, Vehicles, Conveyances, or Other Equipment from Listed Waters Where Aquatic Invasive Species are Present. 

5. This Section does not apply to owners and operators exempt under A.R.S. § 17-255.04.

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**R12-4-1102 Aquatic Invasive Species: Prohibitions; Inspection, Decontamination Protocols**

A. A person shall not, unless authorized under Article 4:

1. Possess, import, ship, or transport into or within this State an aquatic invasive species, unless authorized by the Director.

2. Sell, purchase, barter, or exchange in this State an aquatic invasive species.

3. Release an aquatic invasive species into waters, or into any water treatment facility, water supply or water transportation facility, device or mechanism in this State.

B. Upon receiving a watercraft, vehicle, conveyance, or equipment from any waters listed in Director’s Order 2 and before leaving that location, a person shall:

1. Remove all clinging materials such as plants, animals, and mud.

2. Remove any plug or other barrier that prevents water drainage or, where none exists, take reasonable measures to drain or dry all compartments or spaces that hold water. Reasonable measures include, but are not limited to, emptying bilges, application of absorbents, or ventilation.

---

**Arizona Revised Statutes and Commission Rules**

**Arizona’s list of aquatic invasive species**

(A.R.S. 17-255 – Director’s Order 2)

- Lake Powell (quagga mussel)
- Lake Mead (quagga mussel, New Zealand mudsnail)
- Lake Mohave (quagga mussel, New Zealand mudsnail)
- Lake Havasu (quagga mussel, didymo)
- Lower Colorado River (quagga mussel, giant salvinia, apple snail, water hyacinth)
- Lake Pleasant (quagga mussel)
- Lees Ferry (quagga mussel, New Zealand mudsnail)
- Lower Salt/Verde River (quagga mussel, apple snail)
- Apache Lake (quagga mussel, golden algae)
- Canyon Lake (quagga mussel, golden algae)
- Saguaro Lake (quagga mussel, golden algae)
- Roosevelt Lake (golden algae)
- Red Mountain Park Lake (quagga mussel, apple snail)
DID YOU KNOW?
Your Arizona Game and Fish Department does not receive state tax dollars.

A major funding source for wildlife management starts with YOU through this cycle of success.

Manufacturers pay excise tax on that equipment.

Arizona Game and Fish uses these funds, combined with other matching fund sources, to restore, protect and enhance wildlife, fish, habitat, shooting ranges and hunter education programs.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service allocates excise-tax funds to state fish and wildlife agencies.

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## Resource Agency Directory

### For the Weekly Fishing Report
- on the Web ......................................................... www.azgfd.gov
- To Report a Game or Fish Violation ............................ (800) 352-0700
- To Report Vandalism or Livestock Depredation .......... (800) VANDALS (826-3257)

### For Fire Restrictions and/or Closures on State and Federal Lands in Arizona
- on the Web ......................................................... http://gacc.nifc.gov/wcc/
- or call toll-free ..................................................... (877) 864-6985

### Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests
- (928) 533-4501

### Coconino National Forest
- (928) 527-3600

### Coronado National Forest
- (520) 388-8300

### Kaibab National Forest
- (928) 635-8200

### Prescott National Forest
- (928) 442-8000

### Tonto National Forest
- (602) 225-5200

### U.S. Bureau of Land Management State Office
- on the Web ......................................................... www.blm.gov
- or call ................................................................. (602) 417-9200

### Arizona State Parks State Office
- on the Web ......................................................... www.azstateparks.com
- or call ................................................................. (602) 542-4174
- • Alamo Lake State Park ....................................... (928) 669-2088
- • Buckskin Mountain State Park ............................ (928) 667-3231
- • Cattail Cove State Park ....................................... (928) 855-1223
- • Dead Horse Ranch State Park .............................. (928) 634-5283
- • Fool Hollow Lake Recreation Area ....................... (928) 537-5680
- • Lake Havasu State Park ..................................... (928) 855-2784
- • Patagonia Lake State Park .................................. (520) 287-6965
- • Red Rock State Park ......................................... (928) 282-6907
- • Roger Lake State Park ........................................ (928) 282-6760
- • Slide Rock State Park ......................................... (928) 282-3034

### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- on the Web ......................................................... http://southwest.fws.gov
- or call ................................................................. (505) 248-6991

### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Fisheries Resources Office
- (928) 338-4288

### Bill Williams River National Wildlife Refuge
- (928) 667-4144

### Havasu National Wildlife Refuge
- (760) 326-3853

### Imperial National Wildlife Refuge
- (928) 783-3371

### Lake Mead National Recreation Area
- on the Web ......................................................... www.nps.gov/lake
- or call ................................................................. (702) 293-8990

### Glen Canyon (Lake Powell, Lees Ferry)
- on the Web ......................................................... www.nps.gov/glca
- or call ................................................................. (602) 608-6200
- Lake Pleasant – Maricopa County Parks ................. (928) 501-7170

## 2019 & 2020 Arizona Fishing Regulations

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- Take an online boater education class 24/7
- Create a free portal membership for easy access to all your Game and Fish needs 24/7
- Watch real time wildlife 24/7

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Advertising Options to Fit All Needs and Budgets

- Fall Hunting Regulations
  235,000 copies in May
- Spring Turkey, Javelina,
  Bison and Bear
  185,000 copies in August
- Pronghorn & Elk Hunt
  Draw Regulations
  220,000 copies in December

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