

MANITOBA'S RECREATIONAL ANGLING STRATEGY

Angling Regulation Changes for the 2023 Angling Season

The Manitoba government released its Recreational Angling Strategy in 2021 for public engagement. The strategy outlined a suite of proposed angling regulation changes with the goal of increasing fishing opportunities while enhancing protection of Manitoba's valuable fish populations. The Manitoba government made modifications to the strategy based on feedback received by stakeholders and the public.

The target date for implementation is April 1, 2023, subject to federal and provincial regulatory processes.

Below is a summary of the angling regulation changes.

ANGLING LICENCE TYPES AND FEES

- Moving to one annual angling licence for each residency type.
- Adding a one-day angling licence for each residency type.
- Removing the requirement for Manitoba senior's to obtain an angling licence. Manitoba seniors must show proof of age while angling.
- Removing the requirement to sign your angling licence. Anglers may carry their angling licence electronically or as a printed copy.
- Changing angling licence fees to the following:

1-Day	\$8.40	\$12.60	\$19.95
Annual	\$23.10	\$37.80	\$57.75

*Fees include GST; however, an administration fee will be applied.

ICE FISHING

- Ice fishing shelters must be removed by March 15 in Area B in the Southern Fishing Division.
- A person's valid Customer Identification Number (CID#) and phone number, or full name and phone number must be marked clearly on the outside of ice shelters so that it is visible, in block letters at least five centimetres in height. Rights-based harvesters must mark their shelters with their full name and phone number.

AREAS CLOSED TO ALL FISHING

- The following areas will be closed to all fishing from the first Monday in April to, and including, the second Friday in May:
 - Red River and its tributaries to the first impassable barrier between Lockport Dam and Lake Winnipeg
 - The Assiniboine River downstream of the Portage Diversion to Highway 240
- Dauphin Lake and its tributaries, excluding Vermillion Reservoir, will continue to be closed from April 1 to and including the second Friday in May.

ANGLING SEASONS, POSSESSION LIMITS AND SIZE RESTRICTIONS

- Removing the general spring closure and implementing species-specific seasons.
 - lake-specific and area-specific regulations will still apply
 - anglers must not target or retain species during their closed season
- Implementing one possession limit for all licence types for each fish species.
- Changing possession limits and size restrictions for certain species to enhance protection.

Seasons, possession limits and size restrictions are outlined in the following table:

SPECIES	SEASON	POSSESSION LIMIT	SIZE RESTRICTIONS
WALLEYE / SAUGER	<p>SOUTHERN DIVISION: Southern Division: Open second Saturday in May to, and including the first Sunday in April</p> <p>On Lake Winnipeg, open the third Saturday in May to, and including the first Sunday in April</p> <p>NORTHWEST AND NORTH CENTRAL DIVISIONS: Open third Saturday in May to, and including April 30</p>	4	None may exceed 55 cm
NORTHERN PIKE	Open year-round	4	None over 75 cm
LAKE TROUT	<p>SOUTHERN DIVISION: Open November 1 to, and including September 14</p> <p>NORTHWEST AND NORTH CENTRAL DIVISIONS: Lake-specific closures remain in place</p>	1	None may exceed 65 cm
LAKE STURGEON	<p>SOUTHERN DIVISION: Open June 16 to, and including April 30</p> <p>NORTHWEST AND NORTH CENTRAL DIVISIONS: Open July 1 to, and including April 30</p> <p>Conservation closures on the Winnipeg River and the Nelson River systems remain in place.</p>	0	N/A
SMALLMOUTH BASS	Open year-round	4	None may exceed 45 cm
YELLOW PERCH	Open year-round	25	N/A
CHANNEL CATFISH	Open year-round	4	None may exceed 60 cm
STOCKED TROUT	Open year-round	3	One may exceed 45 cm None may exceed 60 cm
BLACK CRAPPIE	Open year-round	6	None may exceed 35 cm
LAKE WHITEFISH	Open year-round	10	N/A
BLUEGILL AND PUMPKINSEED	Open year-round	10	N/A
WHITE BASS	Open year-round	10	N/A
BURBOT	Open year-round	6	None may exceed 70 cm
BIGMOUTH BUFFALO	Open year-round	0	N/A
ALL OTHER SPECIES	Open year-round	No changes	No changes

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