

Updates to Title 50 Chapter 13 Protection of Fish



Freshwater Fish Regulations

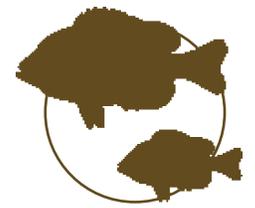


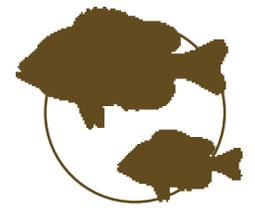
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SCDNR Regional Map





SCDNR Regions & Contacts

Region 1 - Clemson

Oconee, Pickens, Greenville, Spartanburg, Anderson, Laurens, Abbeville, Greenwood, Union, Cherokee, McCormick, and Edgefield Counties

311 Natural Resources Drive
Clemson, SC 29631

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries,
Land, Water and Conservation,
Outreach and Support Services
864-654-1671
Law Enforcement 864-654-8266
Fax Number 864-654-9168

Region 2 - Florence

York, Chester, Fairfield, Lancaster, Kershaw, Lee, Chesterfield, Marlboro, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marion, Williamsburg Counties

295 S. Evander Drive
Florence, SC 29506

Boating and Licenses 843-661-4766
Wildlife 843-661-4768
Fisheries 843-661-4767
Law Enforcement 843-661-4766

Region 3 - Columbia

Newberry, Saluda, Aiken, Lexington, Richland, Calhoun, Orangeburg, Barnwell, Allendale, Bamberg, Sumter, Clarendon Counties

Street Address: 1000 Assembly Street, Columbia, SC
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 167, Columbia, SC 29202

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries 803-734-3886
Land, Water and Conservation 803-734-9100
Law Enforcement 803-734-4303
Watercraft Titling and Registration / Licenses 803-734-3857

Region 4 - Charleston

Horry, Hampton, Georgetown, Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester, Colleton, Jasper, Beaufort Counties

Street Address: 217 Ft. Johnson Road, Charleston
Mailing Address: PO Box 12559, Charleston, SC 29422

Freshwater Fisheries 843-953-5160
Wildlife 843-953-5291
Land, Water and Conservation 843-953-9334
Law Enforcement 843-953-9307
Marine Resources 843-953-9300
Watercraft Titling and Registration / Licenses 843-953-9301
Dennis Wildlife Center
305 Black Oak Road, Bonneau, SC 29431 843-825-3387



Game Freshwater Fishing Regulations

Methods & Devices

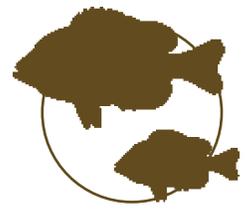
- Game fish may be caught with only hook and line, pole, artificial pole, or rod and reel. A fisherman only may use four of these game fishing devices at the same time, except when fishing in a boat. A fisherman fishing from a boat may use an unlimited number of lawful game fishing devices if all persons in the boat sixteen years and older have valid fishing licenses (Section 50-13-200)
- Cast nets for catching nongame bait fish may be in possession while fishing for game fish.
- No game fish may be used as bait to catch fish recreationally except for bream (other than redbreast). Trout may be used as bait only on Lakes Hartwell, Russell, Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah, Stevens Creek Reservoir and the Savannah River. When using game fish as bait to catch fish recreationally they must be included in the daily creel limit. (Section 50-13-10B(1), 50-13-665)

Seasons

- No closed freshwater game fish season except in the following areas:
 - Striped Bass have exceptions, see on page 49 or in Appendix 3, page 212.
 - All watercraft and fishing are prohibited Nov. 1 through Feb. 28 on Cantey Bay, Black Bottom and Savannah Branch in Lake Marion.
 - Hatchery WMA on Lake Moultrie is closed to fishing each Saturday until 12:00 noon and all day the last Saturday of the waterfowl season.
 - Potato Creek Hatchery Waterfowl Area is closed to public access and fishing one week prior to and two weeks after the Federal Waterfowl Season.
 - See Rediversion Canal on page 241 under Fish Sanctuaries.

Limit

- Except as otherwise provided, the daily possession limit for game fish is an aggregate of forty of which:
 - not more than five may be largemouth, redeye (coosae), or smallmouth bass or their hybrids or any combination;
 - not more than fifteen may be spotted bass;
 - not more than ten may be hybrid bass or stiped bass or a combination;
 - not more than ten may be white bass;
 - not more than eight may be walleye or sauger or a combination;
 - not more than five may be trout, except on Lake Jocassee not more than three trout may be taken
 - not more than twenty may be crappie;
 - not more than fifteen may be redbreast; and
 - not more than thirty may be other freshwater game species not listed here.



- On Lakes Hartwell, Keowee, Russell, (including the Lake Hartwell tailwater), Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah, the Chattooga and Savannah Rivers and Stevens Creek Reservoir the daily possession limit for black bass is an aggregate of ten.
- Check with state parks, city reservoirs or county parks for special limits and regulations that apply to those areas.

Selling and Importing

- No freshwater game fish may be sold in this state except by a SCDNR permitted aquaculturist, a SCDNR wholesale aquaculture licensee, or a SCDNR aquaculture game fish retail licensee or a private pond owner selling less than \$2,500 in product annually.
- It is illegal to possess, import or sell any fish species that is not native to SC waters without a SCDNR permit.
- Sterile grass carp may only be sold, purchased or possessed under a SCDNR permit.

Prohibited Practices

- Game or nongame fish may not be attracted or taken by explosives, electrical devices, poison or similar means.



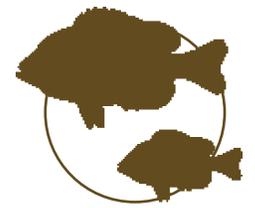
Nongame Freshwater Fishing Regulations

General Information

- Nongame fish may be taken with any lawful nongame fishing device. Nongame fish may also be taken with hook and line. A fisherman may only use four rods and reels. A fisherman fishing from a boat may use an unlimited number of rods and reels if all persons in the boat 16 years and older have valid fishing licenses.
- Nongame fishing permits and tags may be purchased from SCDNR only. Applications may be obtained at www.dnr.sc.gov or by calling 803-734-3833.
- Nongame fishing permits and tags are required, in addition to a valid South Carolina recreational fishing license (also applies to youth under 16), to use the following devices for recreational purposes:
 - 1 hoop net (Licensee 65 years and older on Wateree River only)
 - up to 1 trotlines with not more than 50 hooks,
 - not more than 50 set hooks
 - not more than 50 jugs
 - up to 2 traps
 - 1 gill net no more than 100 yards in length or 3 gill nets, none of which exceed 30 yards in length (This does not apply to shad and herring.)
 - up to 2 eel pots
- With a valid South Carolina recreational fishing license and no additional tags or permits, archery equipment, cast nets, crayfish traps (5 or less), gigs, hand grabbing, minnow seines, minnow traps, spears and skimbow nets may be used in freshwaters except lakes owned or managed by the DNR to take nongame fish.
- This requirement applies to all freshwaters of the state inland of the saltwater-freshwater dividing lines, except privately-owned ponds.
- Nongame fishing devices are not allowed in certain waters. The maximum number of devices allowed per area is shown in the Nongame Device Limits by Location Appendix 4.
- A tag must be attached to the device for which it was issued, and each permit and tag identification receipt must be in the licensee's possession while engaging in the activity.
- Game fish must be immediately released if caught by net or trap or any other device used for catching nongame fish.

Commercial Fishing

- A commercial freshwater fishing license must be in possession to take nongame fish by any method from public waters and sell or offer for sale such nongame fish, and/or fish with the following nongame fishing devices:
 - 6 or more crayfish traps
 - 3 or more eel pots
 - 1 elver fyke net
 - 4 or more gill nets (or a total of more than 100 yards of net) (This does not apply to shad and herring.)
 - 2 or more hoop nets
 - 3 or more traps, or



- 2 or more trotlines or fish trotlines with more than 50 hooks.
- Strikers, persons other than the licensed freshwater commercial fishermen, who under immediate supervision assists a licensed commercial freshwater fisherman, but does not use separate nongame fishing devices from the vessel engaged in commercial fishing. A striker is not required to have a commercial freshwater fishing license.
- No more than one blue catfish over 36 inches can be taken from Lakes Marion and Moultrie or the upper reach of the Santee, Congaree and Wateree Rivers per person per day. There is no possession limit. **Effective April 1, 2015** there will be a 25 fish possession limit and only 2 fish larger than 32 inches may be taken on Lakes Marion and Moultrie and the upper reach of the Santee River. Also **effective April 1, 2015**, there will be no possession limit and only 2 fish larger than 32 inches may be taken on the Congaree and Wateree Rivers.
- To qualify for a resident commercial freshwater fishing license, one must have been a resident of this state for the past 365 consecutive days and furnish proof to the SCDNR.

Shad and Herring (American and hickory shad and blueback herring)

- To take shad for recreational purposes by hook and line, cast net, or skimbrow net in waters of the state a person must have either a freshwater or saltwater recreational fishing license.
- American shad and herring may be harvested by skimbrow net from February through April. Only 10 shad per person per day or 1 US bushel of herring per person per day except in the Santee River (which is 20 shad per person per day) can be harvested using hook and line or gill net only, no cast net. Gill nets are allowed to harvest American shad and herring for commercial use. If fishing gill nets recreationally, one must adhere to the recreational limits and must also have a gear license and associated permits.
- It is unlawful to possess saltwater or freshwater gamefish or fishing tackle capable of taking saltwater or freshwater gamefish while taking or attempting to take shad or herring with gillnets.
- Commercial fishing for shad and herring in freshwaters, including for sale as bait and by use of gill nets, is regulated under saltwater fisheries laws regardless of location within the state (Sec. 50-5-1500 and 50-5-1550). Contact the Charleston License office at 843-953-9311 for commercial and gill net information.
- It is unlawful to take shad by hook and line or by skimbrow net while operating or possessing any commercial fishing equipment for taking shad or herring.

Markers and Identification of Nongame Devices

- Trotlines, traps, eel pots, gill nets, and hoop nets must be marked with a white floating marker not less than a capacity of one quart and not more than a capacity of one gallon and must be made of solid, buoyant material that does not sink if punctured or cracked. A floating marker must be constructed of plastic, PVC spongex, plastic foam, or cork. A hollow buoy or float, including plastic, metal, or glass bottles or jugs, must not be used, except that a manufactured buoy or float specifically designed for use with nongame fishing devices may be hollow if constructed of heavy duty plastic material and approved by the department. The owner's name and department customer identification number must be legible on each of the white floating marker. Both commercial and recreational fishermen shall comply with provisions of this title pertaining to the marking and use of a nongame fishing device. A trotline must be marked on both ends.
- A commercial trotline must be marked at intervals of every fifty hooks. A commercial trotline which uses fifty or fewer hooks must be marked at intervals of twenty-five hooks. A recreational trotline must be marked at intervals of every twenty-five hooks. Each interval float must be 'International



Orange' in color.

Bait

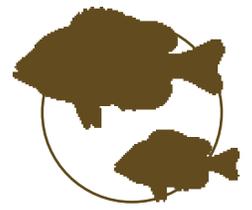
- No game fish (except bream, excluding redbreast, cut into two or more equal parts), live bait or any bait other than bait listed below shall be used with trotlines, set hooks and jugs: soap, doughballs, (nongame fish or bream, excluding redbreast, cut into two or more equal parts), shrimp, grapes or meat scraps (which may not include insects, worms and other invertebrates).
 - On the Black, Edisto, Great Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee, Lumber, Lynches (including Clarks, Mill and Muddy Creeks), Sampit and Waccamaw Rivers, live nongame fish and bream, excluding redbreast, may be used with single-barbed set hooks that have a shank-to-point gap of fifteen-sixteenths inches or greater. However, it is unlawful for a person to have in possession more than the lawful creel limit of bream while fishing with nongame devices on these rivers.
 - On the Black, Great Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee, Lumber, Lynches (including Clarks, Mill and Muddy Creeks) and Waccamaw rivers, live nongame fish and bream, excluding redbreast, may be used on a trotline having not more than 20 hooks with a shank-to-point gap of fifteen-sixteenths inches or greater. However, it is unlawful for a person to have in possession more than the lawful creel limit of bream while fishing with nongame devices on these rivers.
- There are no restrictions on the type of bait permissible in traps or eel pots, except that no game fish or parts thereof shall be used as bait.
- Except for bait lost while fishing, it is unlawful to intentionally release any aquatic species, including bait, regardless of the stage of its life cycle, into the waters of this State without a permit from the SCDNR.
- It is unlawful to use any nonindigenous fish as bait that is not already established in the water body being fished except the following minnows: fathead minnows, golden shiners, and goldfish, including 'black salties'. No game fish may be used as bait to catch fish recreationally except for bream (other than redbreast). Trout may be used as bait only on Lakes Hartwell, Russell, Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah, Stevens Creek Reservoir and the Savannah River. When using game fish as bait to catch fish recreationally they must be included in the daily creel limit.

Prohibited Areas

- No nongame fishing devices of any kind may be used in SCDNR-managed lakes.

Prohibited Practices

- Possession or use on the freshwaters of this state of any device or gear designed or used to catch nongame fish not authorized by law is prohibited.
- Possession of game fish or tackle designed to catch game fish is prohibited while fishing traps, trotlines, or other nongame fish devices except cast nets.
- It is unlawful for any person to tamper with, fish, or use in any manner the nongame fishing device or gear owned and tagged by another person, or to take from any such device or gear, any fish caught thereon. No fishing device shall be used, placed, set or fished so as to create a hazard to boating.
- No trotlines, traps or eel pots shall be placed within 200 yards of any permanent man-made structure on Lakes Marion and Moultrie nor placed anywhere in the Diversion Canal connecting Lakes Marion and Moultrie, the Tailrace Canal nor the area known as the Borrow Pit (also known



as “Bar Pit”) in Clarendon County.

Methods & Devices

Some devices are not permitted on certain waters. See Appendix 4, Nongame Device Limits by Location.

Elver Fyke Net

- A net with wings not exceeding 10 feet in length and 14 feet in depth. The distance from throat to cod end does not exceed 20 feet. The maximum bar mesh for any part of the net does not exceed 1/8 inch square.

Gill Nets (Not for shad and herring - see page 12.)

- Nets must have a mesh size not less than 4 ½ inches stretch mesh. The maximum length is 100 yards in the freshwater and no net, cable line or other device used for support of a gill net may not extend more than halfway across any stream or body of water. Nets must be marked with a white floating marker (See Markers and Identification on page 7).
- **Permits/Regulations:** A gill net may be placed in the freshwaters on a first come first served basis but a gill net must not be placed within 200 yards of another gill net. Along the Little Pee Dee River upstream of Punch Bowl Landing, no net may be set within 75 feet of a gill net previously set or drifted within 75 feet of another drifting net. Nongame fish taken in shad nets lawfully fished during the open season for taking shad may be kept. A sturgeon caught must be returned immediately to the waters from where it was taken.
- **Hours/Seasons:** The season for taking nongame fish other than American shad and herring in the freshwaters of this State with a gill net is from Nov. 1 to Mar. 1 (where authorized) on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays only.

Hoop Nets

- Nets made of textile netting (no wire) of a mesh size between 1 and 2 inches square enclosing a series of round hoops with two or more muzzle openings made of a netting material. The maximum size net allowed is 16 feet by 5 1/2 feet in diameter. Hoop nets must be marked with a white floating marker (See Markers and Identification on page 7).
- **Permits/Regulations:** Hoop nets must rest on the bottom and cannot be placed within 100 feet of the mouth of any tributary stream.
- **Hours/Seasons:** No closed season.

Jugs

- A single hook and line attached to a free-floating device with a minimum capacity of one pint and a maximum of one gallon. May not have more than one line.
- **Permits/Regulations:** A permit is required to fish 3 to 50 jugs (50 jug limit). Licensee’s name and department customer identification number must be clearly marked on each jug. Jug fishing is legal only in Lakes Greenwood, Hartwell, Secession, Richard B. Russell, Thurmond, and Stevens Creek. A permit is not required for 2 jugs with a valid state fishing license. A jug permit is not required for residents assisting jug permit holders.
- **Hours/Seasons:** Must be removed from the water before one hour after official sunrise each day



and not replaced prior to one hour before official sunset.

Minnow Seine

- Must not be greater than 4 feet in depth by 20 feet in length with a mesh size of not more than 1/4 inch square mesh. It is unlawful to have in possession a minnow seine from 10 PM to official sunrise.

Seine

- A net having a stretch mesh of not less than 1 inch and not more than 1 1/2 inches which does not exceed 75 feet in length or 6 feet in depth. It shall be unlawful to anchor a seine and leave it unattended.

Set Hooks

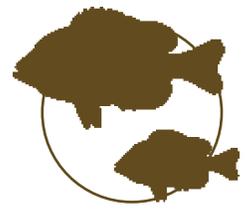
- A single hook and line attached to bushes, limbs, poles, sticks or similar structures. Each set hook must have an identification tag attached to it bearing the owner's name and department customer identification number.
- **Permits/Regulations:** A permit is required to fish up to 50 hooks (50 hook limit). Persons 65 years or older or under age 16 are not required to purchase a Set Hook Permit, but a label with their name, address and age must be attached to each set hook. A fishing license is required.
- **Hours/Seasons:** Must be removed prior to one hour after official sunrise each day and cannot be reattached prior to one hour before official sunset.

Skimbow Net

- A hand-operated dip net with the bow constructed of wood or metal with wire or textile netting with a mesh size not greater than 1 1/2 inches square. The bow shall not exceed 14 feet in any direction and may be used only from Feb. 1 through Apr. 30 for shad or herring.

Traps & Eel Pots

- Traps and eel pots must be marked with a white floating marker (See Markers and Identification on page 7).
- **Trap Type 1:** The trap may be made of wire or textile material and be cylindrical in shape of a length not more than 6 feet and a width of not more than 3 feet. The mesh shall not be smaller than 1 inch by 1 inch, and there shall be only one application of exterior wire to the trap. The muzzle shall have one of the following designs: A trap door on the second muzzle or catch muzzle which remains in a closed position and which only opens for the entry of fish into the trap; or constructed of netting so that the opening of the small end of the second muzzle or catch muzzle is held in the shape of a slit and the trap configuration constructed such that as the trap rests on the bottom, the slit shall be oriented horizontally with the greatest vertical opening being no greater than 1 inch.
- **Trap Type 2:** The trap may be made of wood strips or slats and be cylindrical or rectangular in shape. The length shall not exceed 6 feet, and the width or diameter shall not exceed 2 feet. The throat opening of the catch muzzle in a resting position shall not exceed 3 inches measured in any direction. The sides, top and rear of the trap shall have a minimum of one inch opening between the slats to allow for the escape of small catfish. This shall apply only to the last 12 inches of the



trap.

- **Eel pot:** Pots no larger than 24 inches by 48 inches and constructed of wire with a mesh size no smaller than 1/2 by 1/2 inch, except for the throat or muzzle and the end opposite the throat or muzzle. The throat opening shall not exceed 2 inches measured in any direction.
- **Permits/Regulations:** A tag is required for each trap or eel pot. A permit is required for the harvest of eels in both freshwater and saltwater. Traps and eel pots may be suspended in water at a depth which does not create a hazard to watercraft. No trap or eel pot shall be placed within 100 feet of the mouth of any tributary stream. No crab pot or trap of like design may be used in the fresh waters of this state.
- **Hours/Seasons:** No closed season.

Trotlines

- Trotlines must be marked with a white floating marker (See Markers and Identification on page 7).
- 2 or more hooks attached to a line which is rigged horizontally and marked with a white floating marker (See Marking of Nongame Devices, page 7.) Stainless steel hooks are prohibited statewide. Hooks used in Lakes Marion and Moultrie ONLY must measure 7/16 inch or less between point and shank.
- **Permits/Regulations:** A tag is required for each trotline with up to 50 hooks. Trotlines with more than 50 hooks require a tag for every 50 hooks or less. No trotline shall be attached in any manner to another trotline or to the support or float of another trotline. No trotlines allowed within 100 feet of the mouth of any tributary stream.
- **Hours/Seasons:** Trotlines must be inspected and fish removed at least every 24 hours. From Apr. 1 to Oct. 1, no trotline is permitted in any waters from one hour after official sunrise to one hour before official sunset, unless the trotline is sunk to the bottom or a minimum depth of four feet below the surface. From Oct. 2 to Mar. 31, trotlines may be left in the water 24 hours per day at any depth.



Shad & Herring Fishing Regulations

Includes American and hickory shad and blueback herring.

Recreational (unlawful to sell catch)

Shad: 10 shad per person per day except in Santee River and Rediversion Canal (20 per person per day)

Herring: 1 U.S. bushel of herring per person per day

- Herring fishery closed in the Savannah River seaward of the Augusta Diversion Dam and in all rivers in the Winyah Bay River System (which means all waters of Winyah Bay east of a line running south from the southern tip of North Island to the eastern tip of Sand Island, and extending to the mouths of the Sampit, Great Pee Dee, and Waccamaw Rivers) except for the Great Pee Dee River.

Gear Type: Hook and line, cast nets or skimbow nets

- To take shad or herring for recreational purposes by hook and line, cast net (for bait), or skim bow net in freshwaters a person **MUST** have a recreational freshwater fishing license
- It is unlawful to take American shad and herring using the following nongame fishing devices: archery equipment, crayfish trap, eel pot, elver fyke net, gig, hand grabbing, hoop net, jug fishing device, minnow seine, minnow trap, pump net, seine, set hook, spear, trap or trotline.

Gear Type: Shad Gill Net or Herring Gill Net

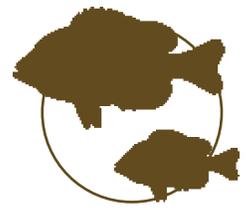
- To take shad or herring for recreational purposes using a shad or herring gill net, a person **MUST** have a recreational fishing license, gear license, and related permits.
 - Only **one** shad or herring gill net may be fished by occupants of a boat, and if drifted, it must be attended at all times when deployed. Additional boats in tow may not be used to increase the number of authorized nets. Must adhere to legal commercial fishing areas and the recreational limit.
- It is unlawful to take American shad and herring using the following nongame fishing devices: archery equipment, crayfish trap, eel pot, elver fyke net, gig, hand grabbing, hoop net, jug fishing device, minnow seine, minnow trap, pump net, seine, set hook, spear, trap or trotline.

Shad Gill Net

- A gill net used for taking or attempting to take shad in the inshore salt waters must have a stretched mesh size of no smaller than five and one-half inches and a length not exceeding nine hundred feet. A gill net used for shad in the freshwaters must have a stretched mesh size of no smaller than five and one-half inches and be no longer than six hundred feet. Gill nets for taking shad may be freely drift fished or set.

Herring Gill Net

- A gill net used for taking or attempting to take herring in the salt waters of this State must have a mesh size of two and one-half inches stretched and a length no greater than nine hundred feet. A gill net used for taking or attempting to take herring in freshwaters must have a stretched mesh of two and one-half inches stretched and a length no greater than six hundred feet.



Recreational License Requirements

- If fishing recreationally in the freshwaters of the state, a person needs a recreational freshwater fishing license. If fishing recreationally in the saltwaters of the state, a person needs a recreational saltwater fishing license. If fishing in both fresh and saltwaters, a person **MUST** have both a recreational freshwater fishing license and a recreational saltwater fishing license.
- **MUST** have a shad gill net or herring gill net license (not the same as a gill net license)
- **MUST** have the required permit from the Office of Fisheries Management 843-953-9311

Commercial (selling your catch oneself or to a dealer)

- It is unlawful to take shad by hook and line or by skimbrow net while operating or possessing any commercial fishing equipment for taking shad or herring.

Gear Type: Shad Gill Net or Herring Gill Net

- To take shad or herring for commercial purposes using a shad or herring gill net, a person **MUST** have a commercial fishing license, gear license, and related permits.

Gear Type: Cast Net

- To use a cast net to take herring for commercial purposes, a person **MUST** have a commercial license, a gear license, and related permits

Commercial License Requirements

- If fishing commercially in the freshwaters of the state, a person needs a commercial freshwater fishing license. If fishing commercially in the saltwaters of the state, a person needs a commercial saltwater fishing license. If fishing in both fresh and saltwaters, a person **MUST** have both a commercial freshwater fishing and a commercial saltwater fishing license.
- **MUST** have a shad gill net, herring gill net or herring cast net license (not the same as a gill net license)
- **MUST** have the required permit from the Office of Fisheries Management 843-953-9311

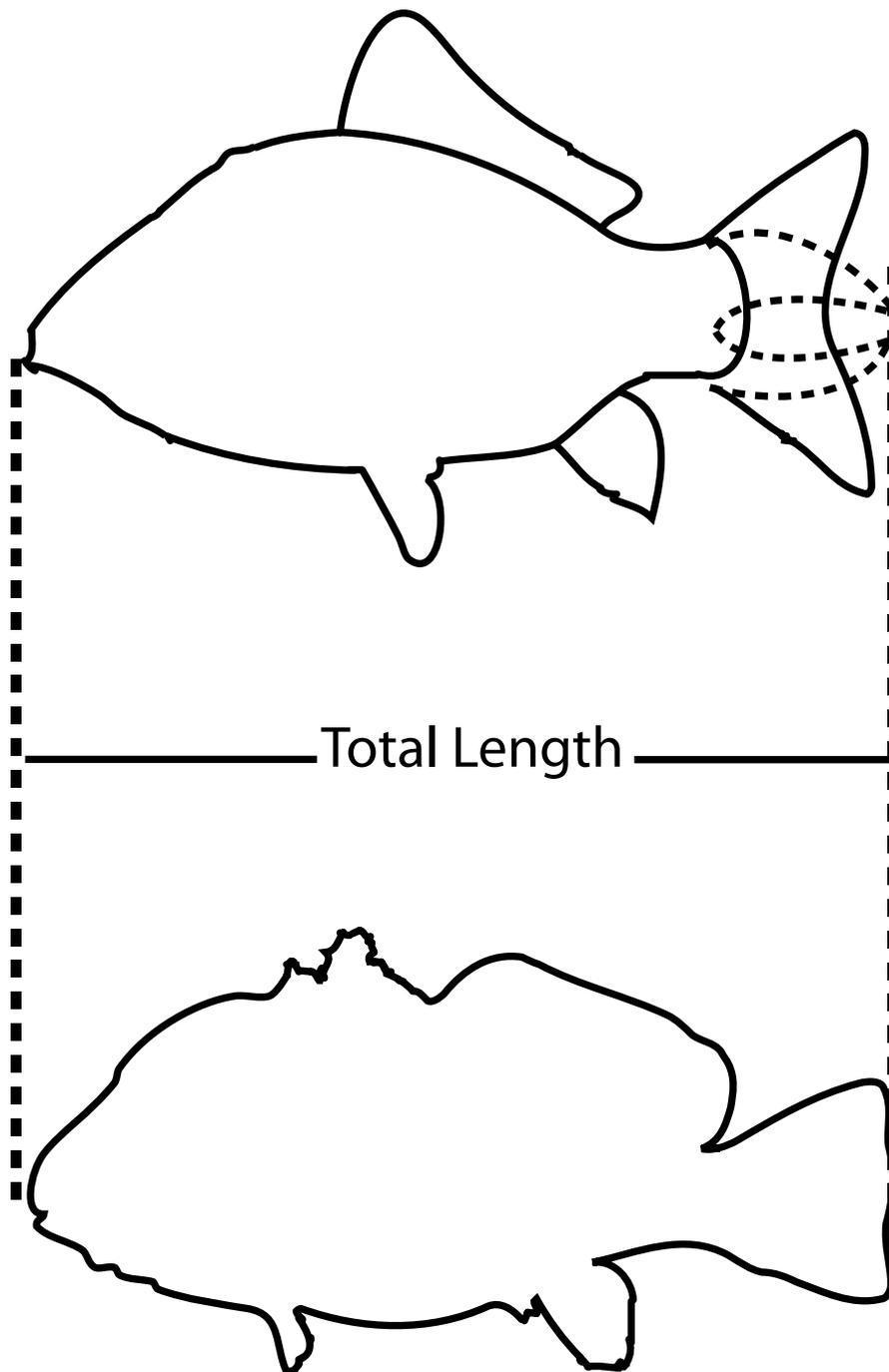
For more information on requirements to fish for shad and herring see page 12 and *Sections 50-5-1500, 50-5-1506, 50-5-1507, 50-5-1510, 50-5-1515, 50-5-1520, 50-5-1556, 50-9-420 and 50-9-545* of the SC Code of Laws.

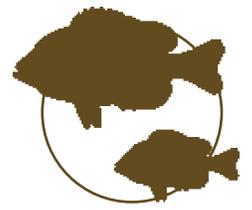


How to Properly Measure a Fish

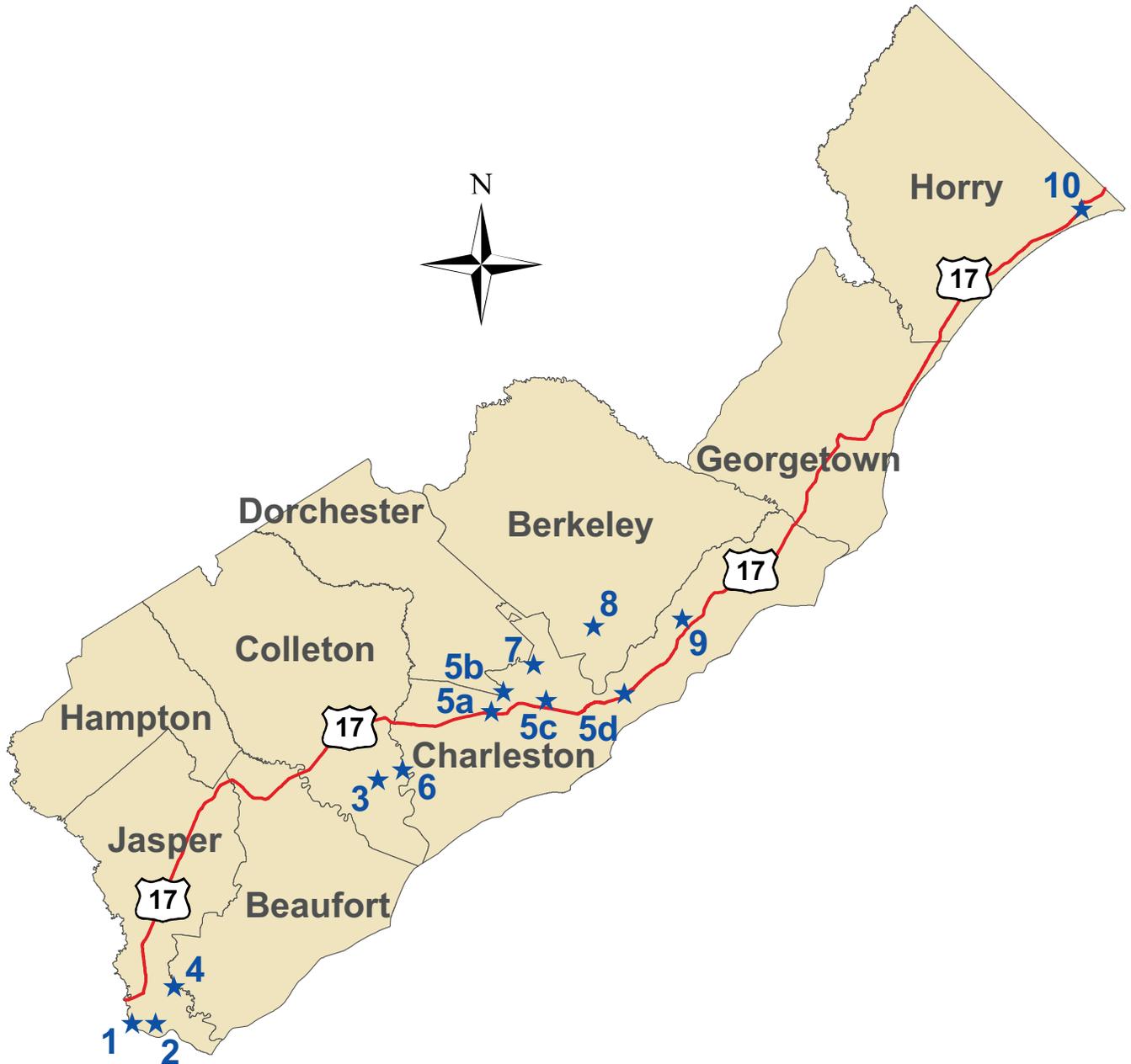
TL=total length measure; Tip of snout with mouth closed to tip of tail (excluding filaments). Tail should be pinched.

All freshwater fish species in the state of South Carolina are measured using total length. Although, some saltwater species are measured with fork length.

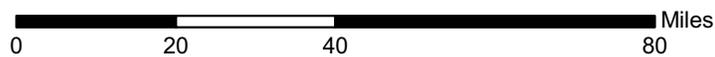




Freshwater/Saltwater Dividing Line



★ Locations of Fresh/Salt dividing lines on coastal waterways not at U.S. Highway 17

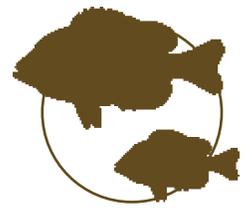




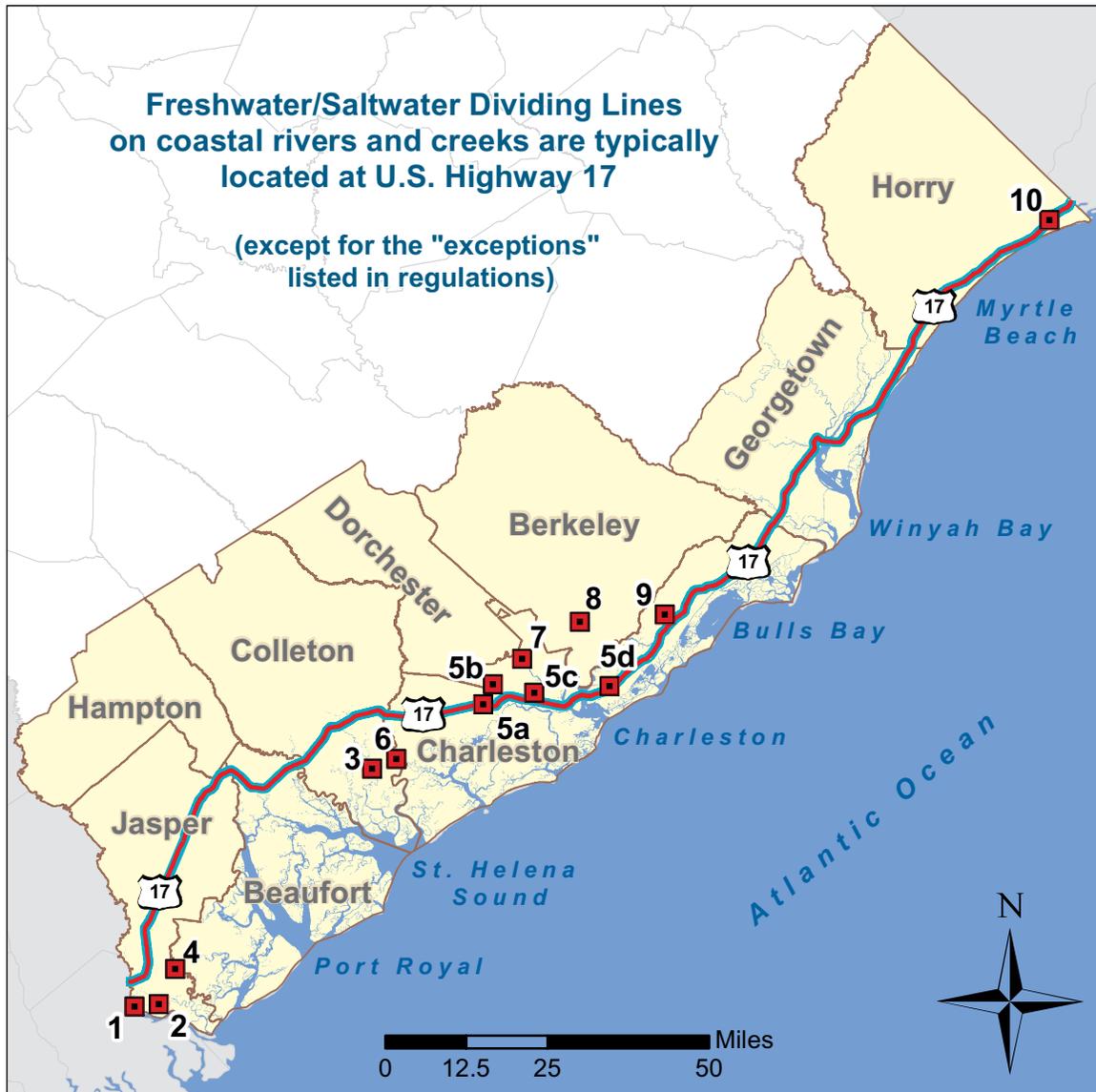
The dividing line between saltwater and freshwater on the rivers listed is defined in this section, and all waters of the rivers and their tributaries, streams, and estuaries lying seaward of the dividing lines are considered saltwaters, and all waters lying landward or upstream from all dividing lines are considered freshwaters for purposes of licensing and regulating commercial and recreational fishing. Except as otherwise provided below, the freshwater/saltwater dividing line is U.S. Highway 17.

The Freshwater/Saltwater dividing line as depicted is an approximation of the line described in South Carolina Code *Section 50-5-80*. (Numbers below correlate to the map above):

1. On Savannah River the dividing line is the abandoned Seaboard Railroad track bed located approximately one and three fourths miles upstream from the U.S. Hwy. 17A bridge.
2. Wright River is salt water for its entire length.
3. On Ashepoo River the dividing line is the old Seaboard Railroad track bed.
4. On New River the dividing line is at Cook's Landing.
5. Wallace River (5a), Rantowles Creek (5b), Long Branch Creek (5c), and Shem Creek (5d) are saltwater for their entire lengths.
6. On Edisto River the dividing line is the abandoned Seaboard Railroad track bed near Matthews Canal Cut.
7. On Ashley River the dividing line is the confluence of Popper Dam Creek directly across from Magnolia Gardens.
8. On Cooper River the dividing line is the seaward shoreline of Old Back River at the confluence of Old Back River downstream from Bushy Park Reservoir.
9. Wando River is saltwater for its entire length.
10. On the Intracoastal Waterway in Horry County the dividing line is the bridge across the Intracoastal Waterway at the intersection of S.C. Hwy. 9 and U.S. Hwy. 17

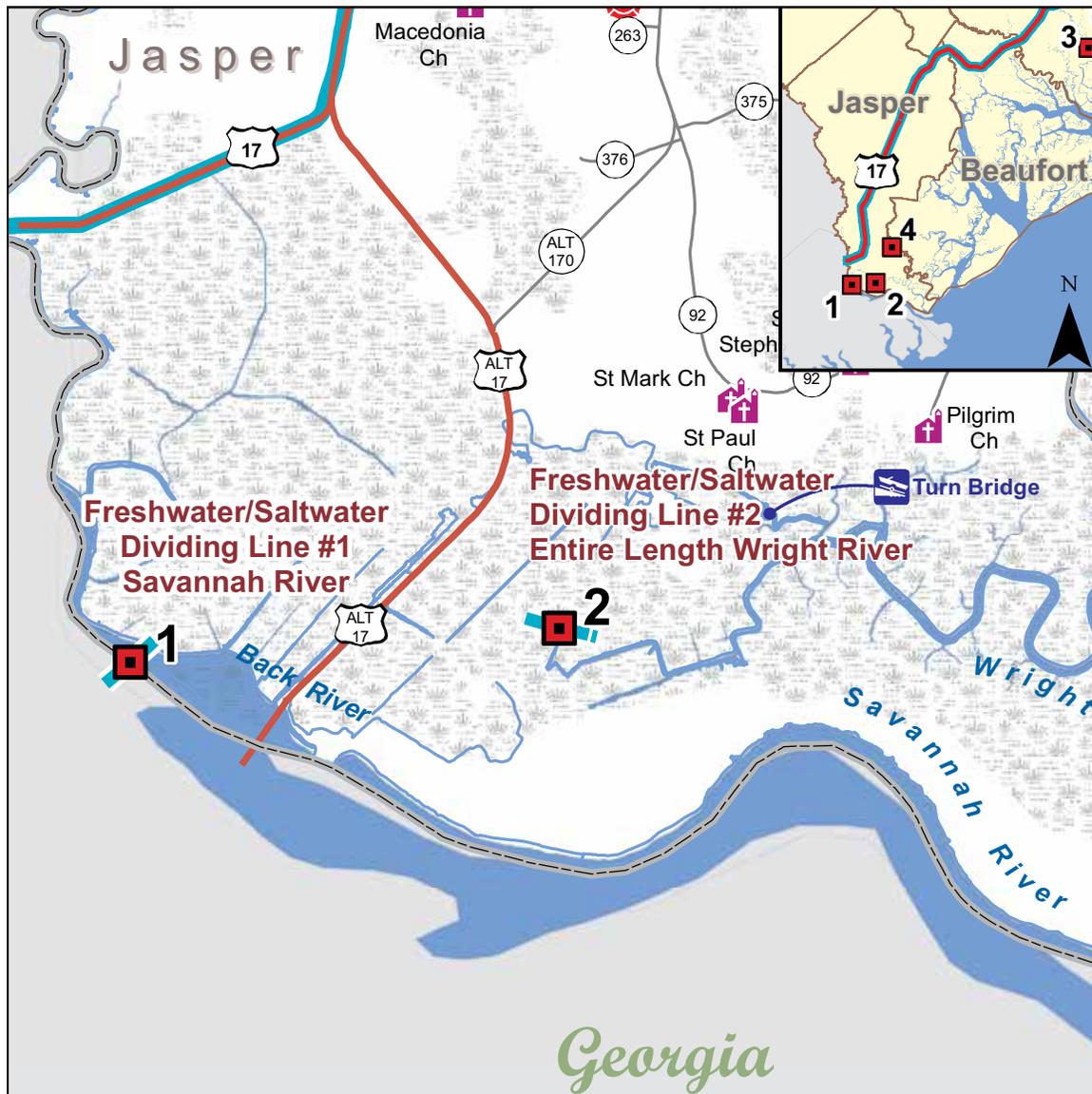


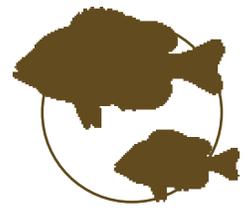
Freshwater/Saltwater Dividing Line Detailed Maps



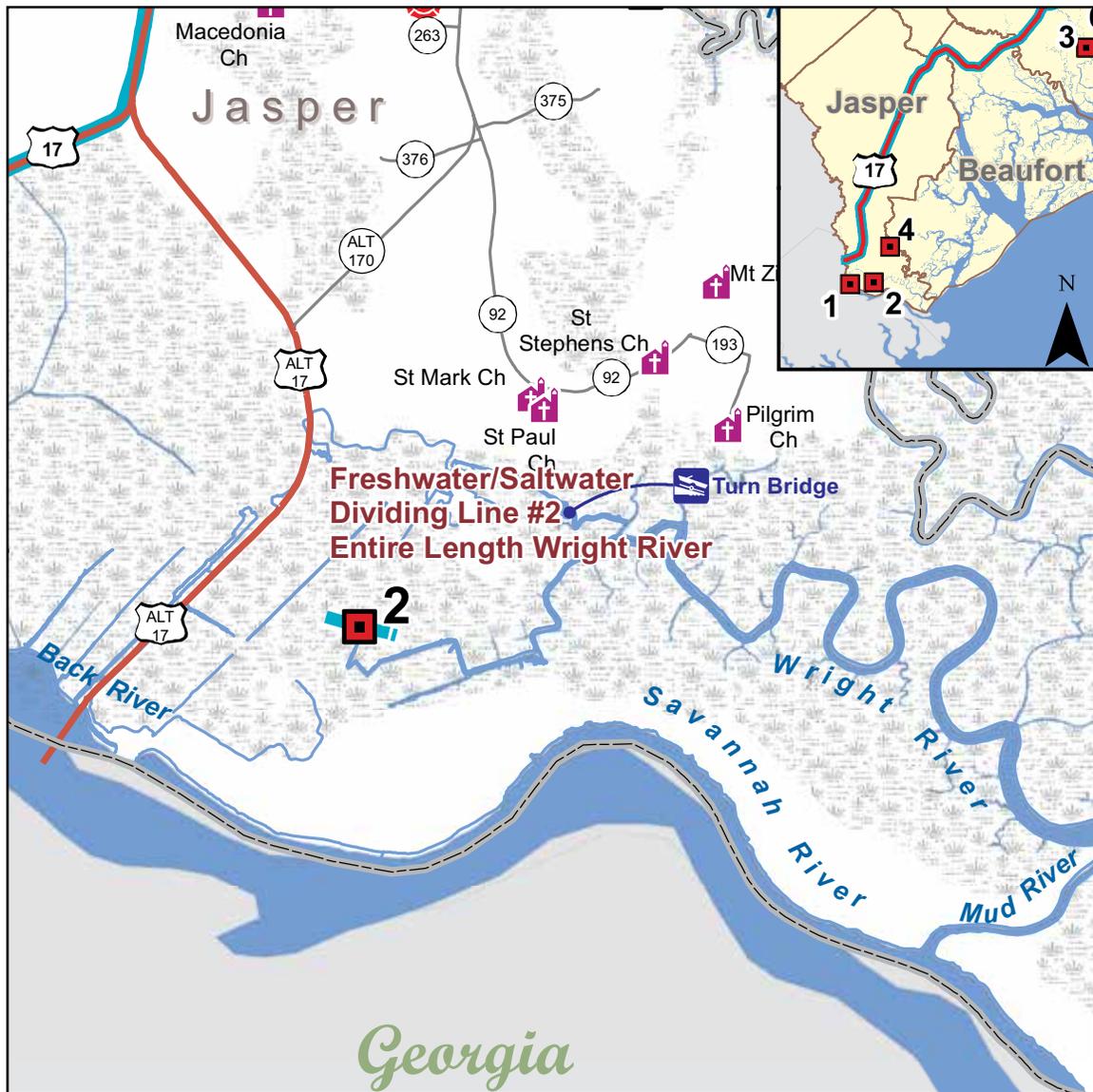


1—Savannah River



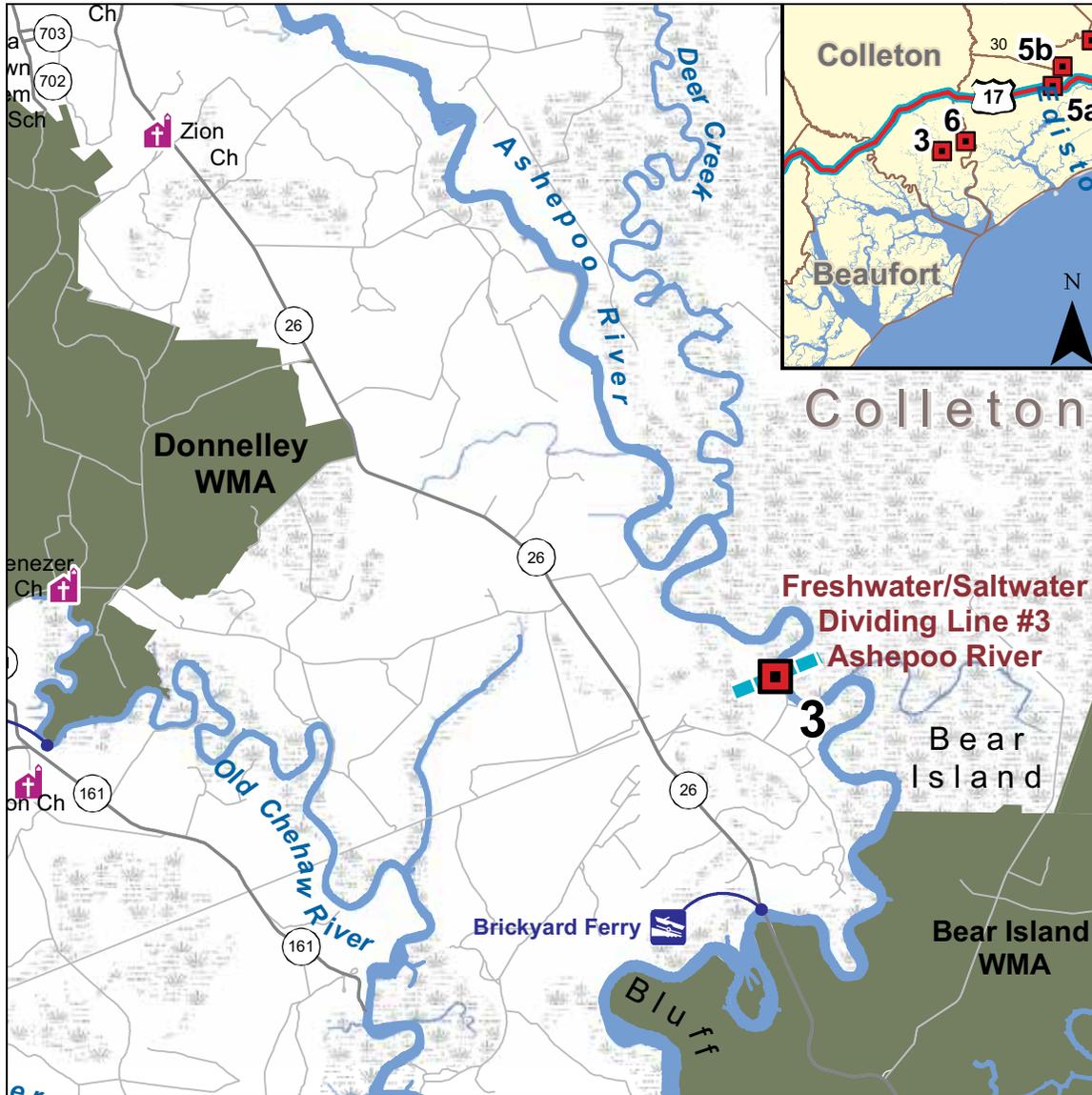


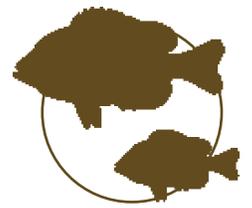
2—Wright River



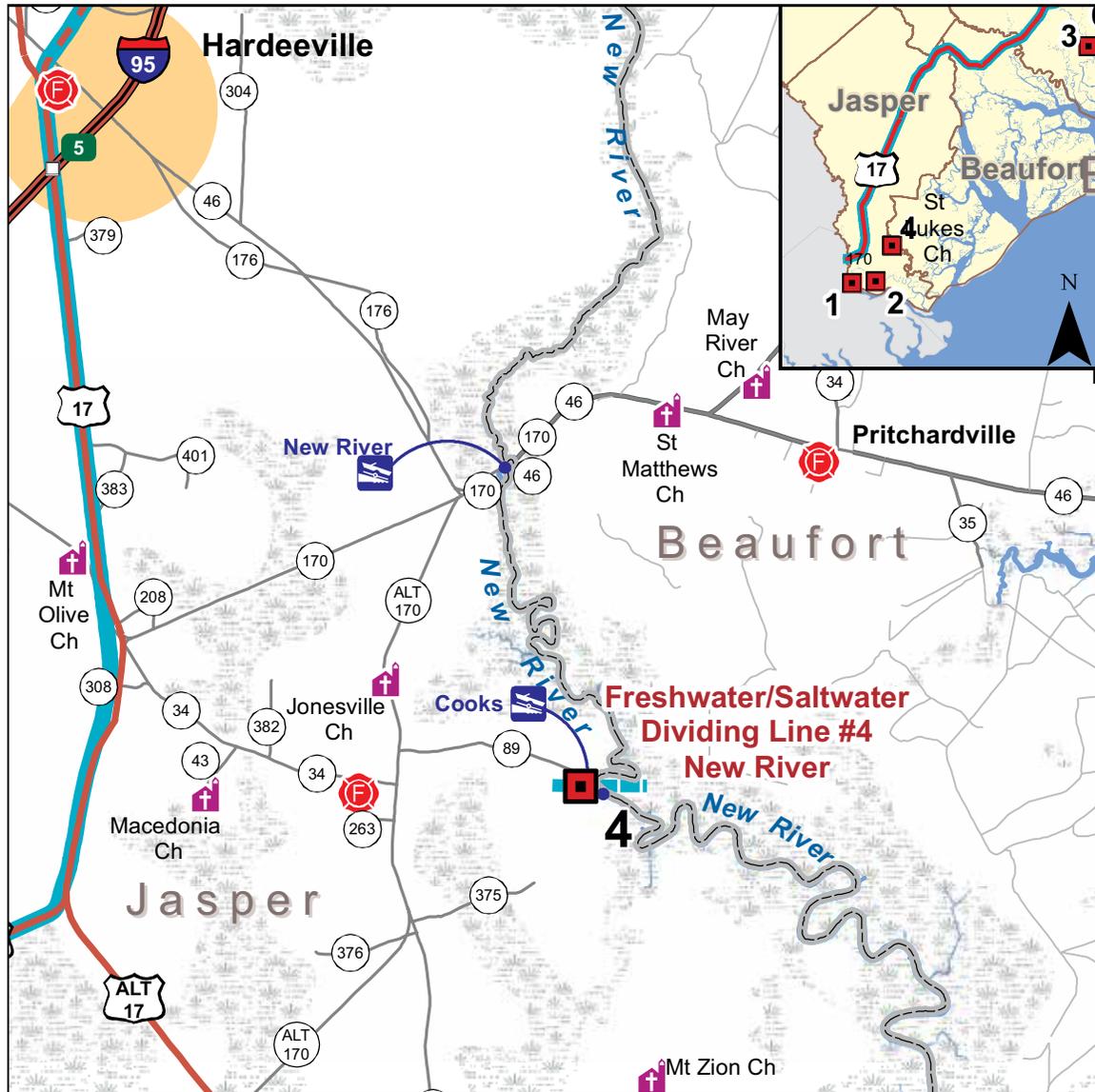


3—Ashepoo River



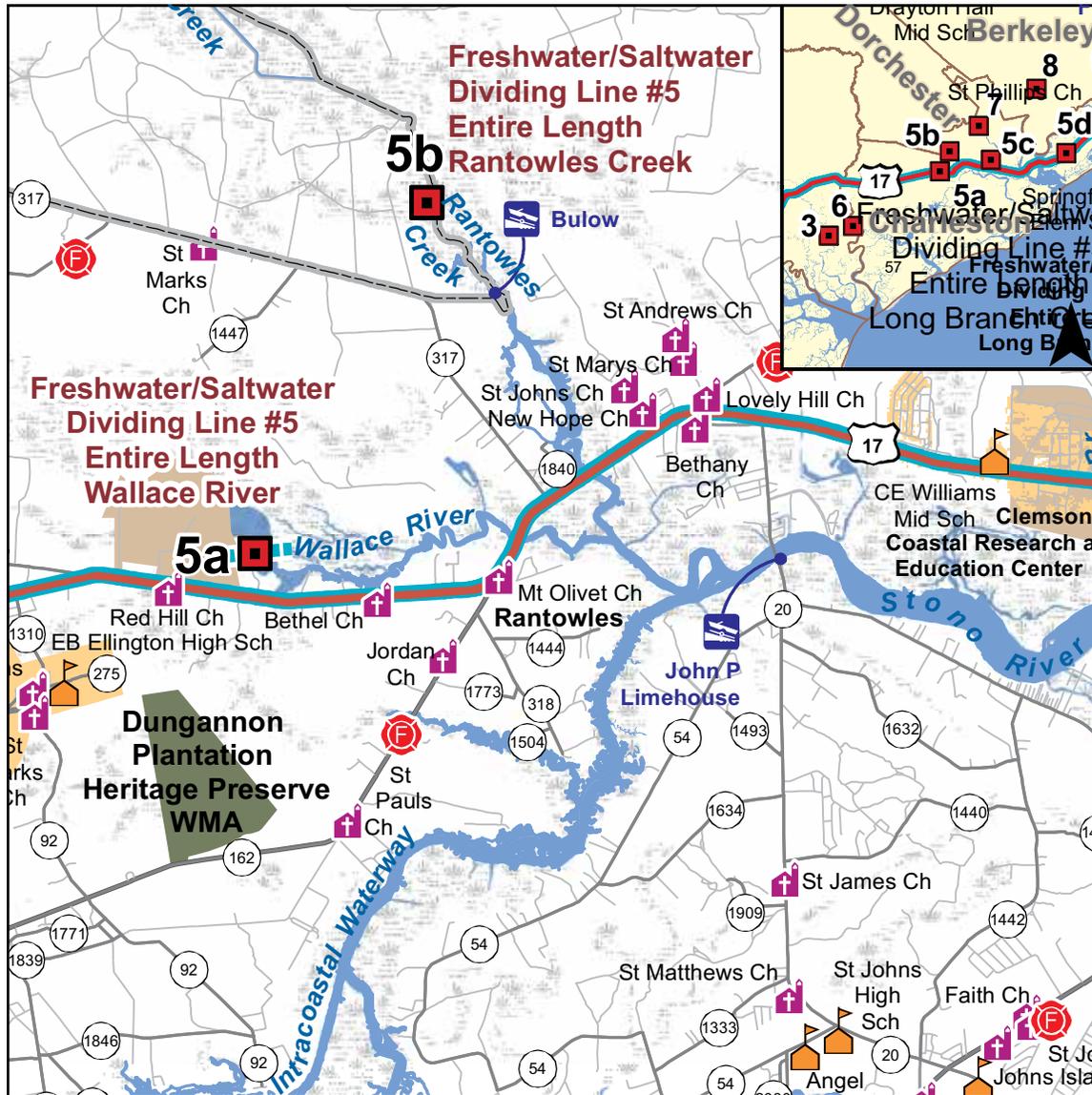


4—New River





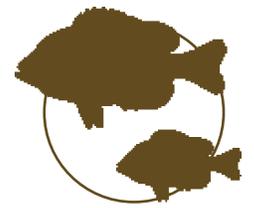
5a—Wallace River, 5b—Rantowles Creek



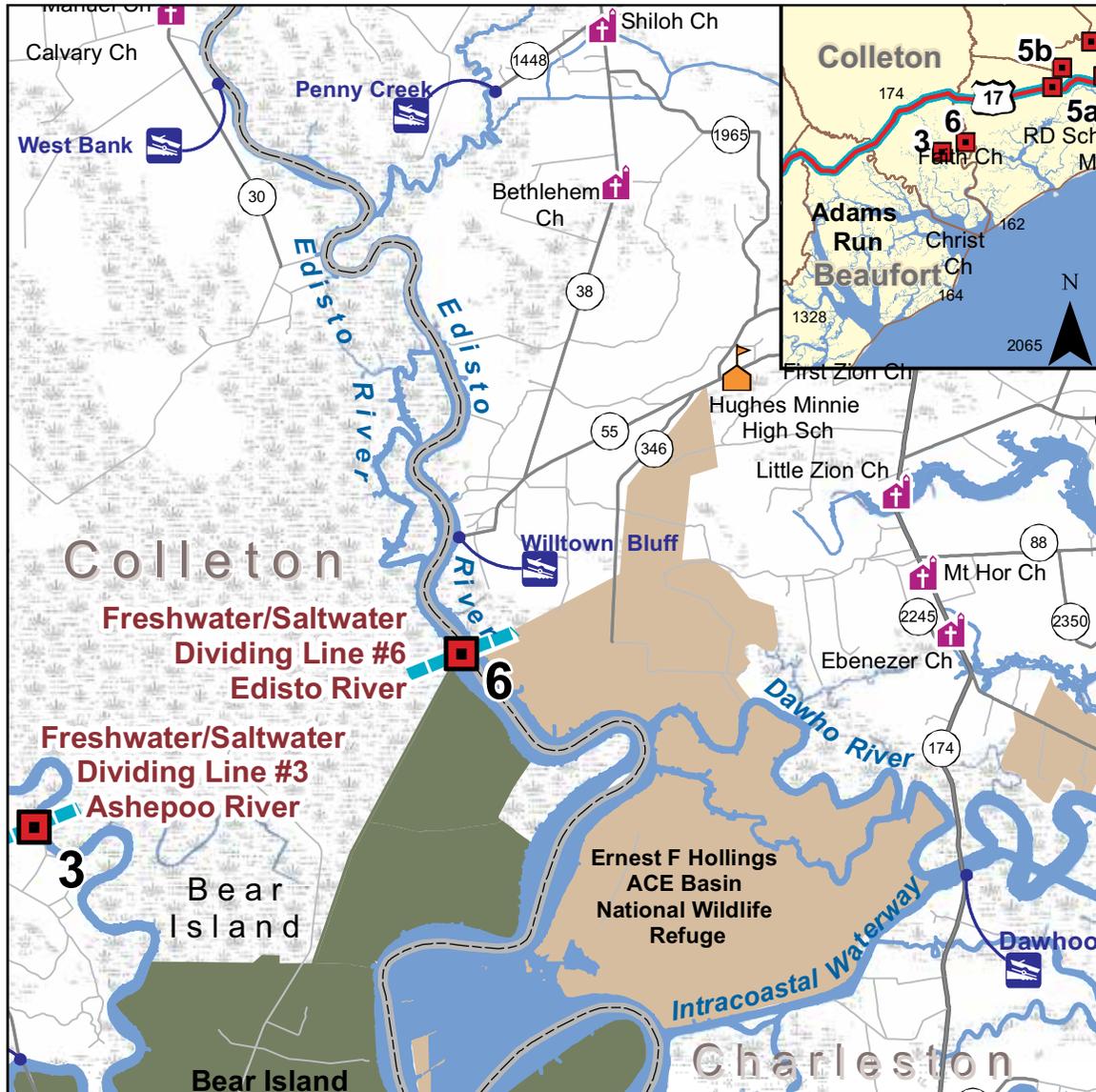


5d—Shem Creek



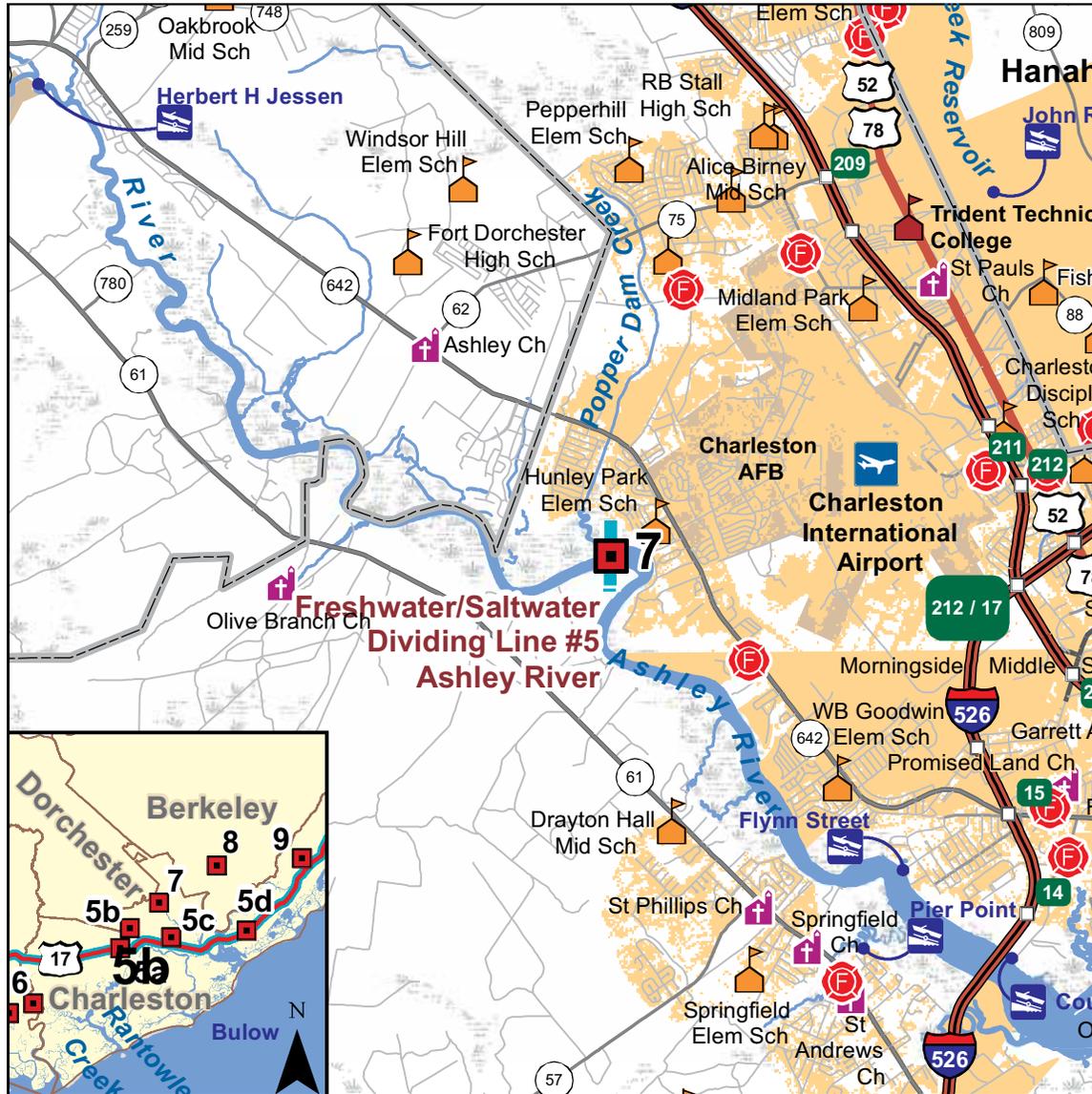


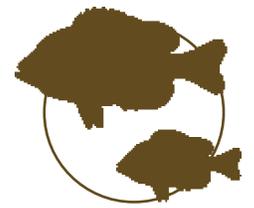
6 — Edisto River





7—Ashley River



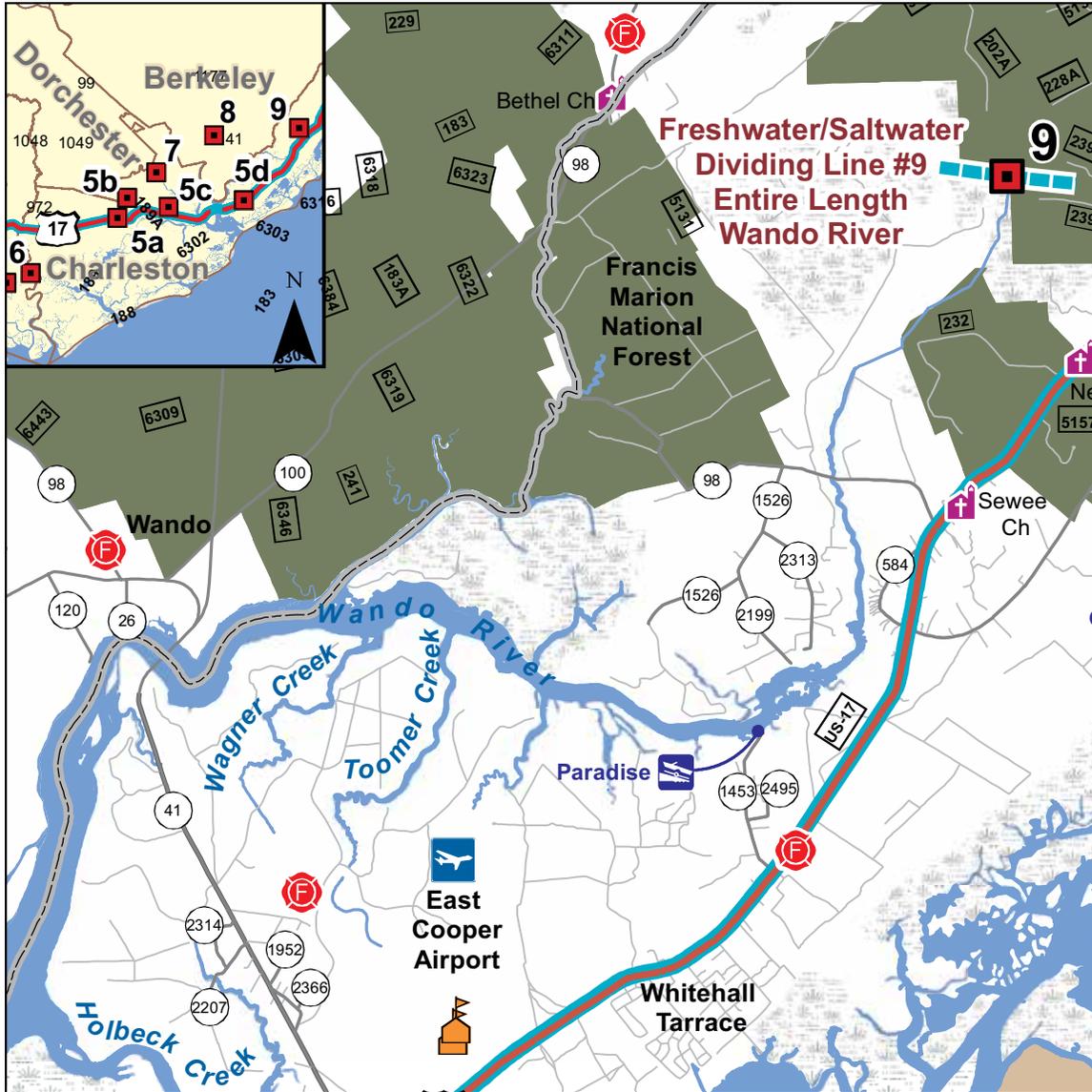


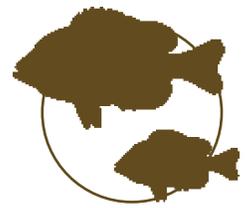
8—Cooper River



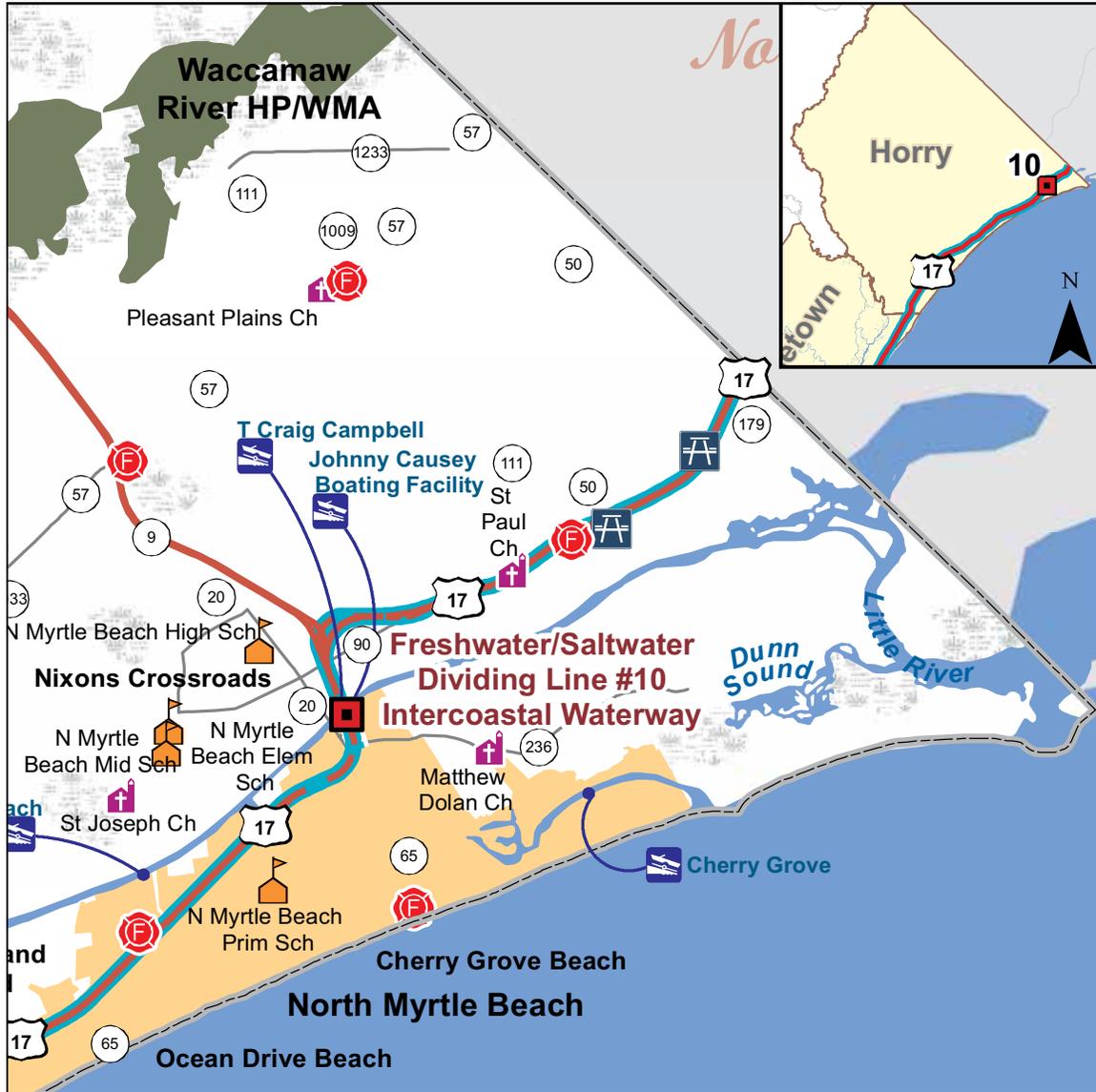


9—Wando River





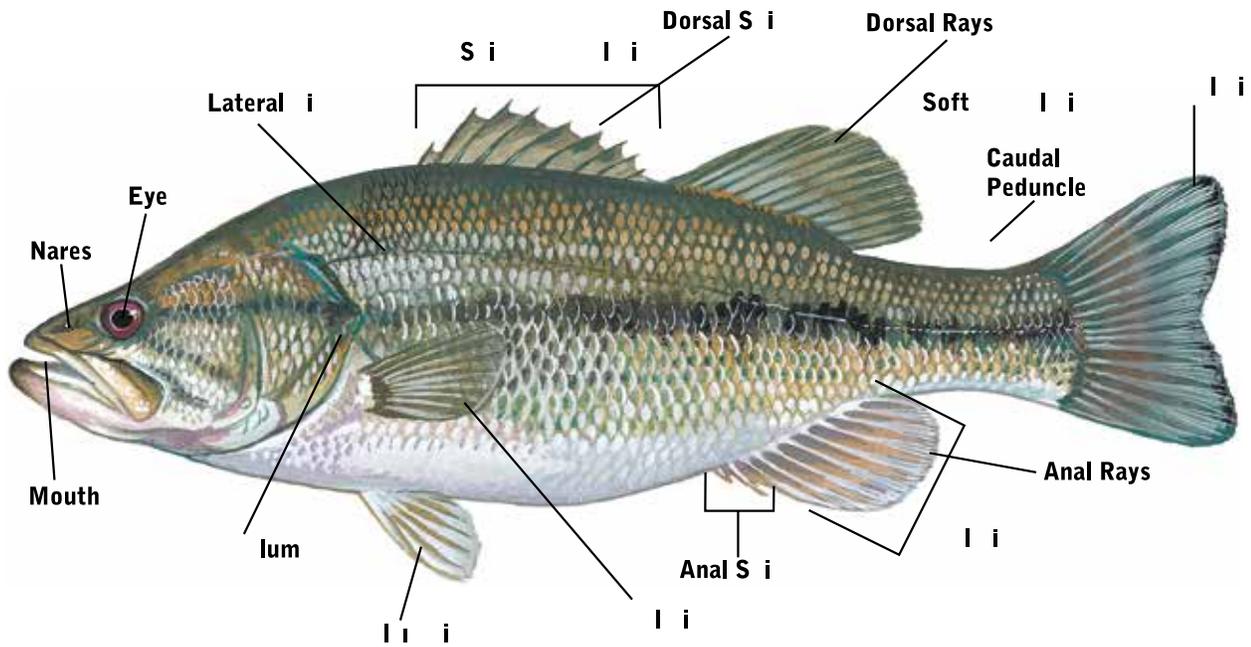
10—Intracoastal Waterway



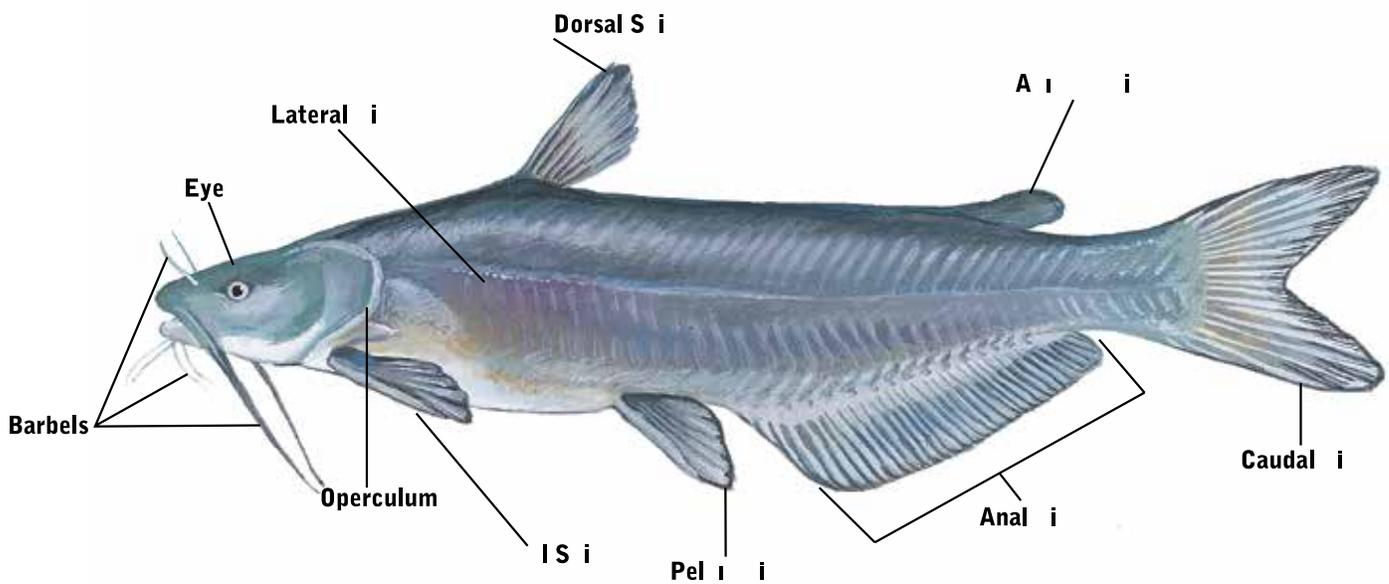


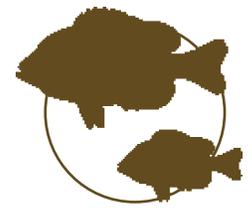
Fish Identification

Largemouth Bass



Blue Catfish





In some cases in order to truly identify similar species, you have to count certain traits, meristics, that are measurable and commonly occurring in the same number again and again in the same species. For fish, scientists and biologists are able to look at spines, rays, scale counts, gill rakers and more to identify a particular species.

Measurable Traits defined

Total length (TL): Measure from the lips of the fish to the outermost part of the caudal fin when the tips of the caudal fin are squeezed together.

Scale Counts

Lateral line scales: The count begins with the first pored lateral scale on the shoulder (pectoral girdle) to the base of the caudal fin. Scales posterior to the crease formed at the base are not counted. In fishes with incomplete pored lateral lines, the number of pored and unpored scales is usually noted. In the case of fishes that do not have a developed lateral line, the scales along the midline of the body (midlateral) are counted. It is usually easier to count the scales when working from the caudal fin base anteriorly to the pectoral girdle.

Circumbody scales: The count of the horizontal scale rows in the vertical plane just anterior to the dorsal and pelvic fins is made around the body.

Circumpeduncle scale rows (caudal peduncle scale rows): These counts include the number of scales around the narrowest part of the caudal peduncle.

Fin Ray and Spine Counts

Dorsal fin and anal fin ray: Most fin rays are bilateral, flexible, segmented, and usually branched. In most families only the principal rays (those in which the tip reaches the distal margin of the fin) are counted. If their bases are closer together than those of more anterior rays, the last two rays are counted as one because they share a common basal element. In the pike, mudminnow, catfish and trout families, all rays, including the rudimentary anterior ones, are counted. With catfish, it may be necessary to make a small incision along the base of the fin through the fatty tissue to expose all of the rays.

Dorsal fin and anal fin spines: All spines, which are unsegmented and usually hard and sharp, are counted, regardless of their size.

Caudal fin rays: Counts may be given as branched rays only or as principal rays (number of branched rays plus the two unbranched rays at the dorsal and ventral edges).

Pectoral fin and pelvic fin rays: All rays are counted.

Example of Meristics for the largemouth bass

Dorsal fin spines (9)10(11)

Numbers not in parentheses, in the example above the number 10, is the normal dorsal fin spine count for the largemouth bass. However, in some cases other counts are seen which is represented by the numbers in parentheses—(9) and (11).



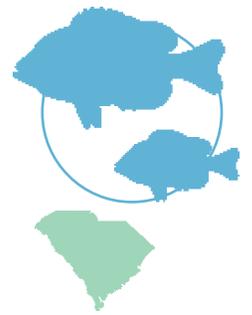
The fish identification section is grouped by fish species of the same families or with similar regulations.

- ◆ Black bass includes the largemouth, smallmouth, redeye and spotted bass.
- ◆ Striped and White bass includes striped and white bass and their hybrids.
- ◆ Catfish & Bullheads includes the blue, channel and flathead catfish and the yellow bullhead.
- ◆ Trout includes the coldwater trout species rainbow, brook and brown.
- ◆ Panfish & Other Game Species includes the white and black crappie, bluegill, flier, redbreast, warmouth, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, redear and spotted sunfish; chain and redbfin pickerel; yellow perch and walleye.
- ◆ Nongame includes bowfin, spotted sucker, longnose gar, white perch, common carp, grass carp, American eel, gizzard and threadfin shad and Atlantic menhaden.
- ◆ Anadromous fishes include American and hickory shad, blueback herring and Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon.

Indigenous or native species are defined in Section 50-1-5(c) as an organism or species found naturally in this State prior to the arrival of the first European settlers.

The green South Carolina shaped symbol found below and on the top right side of the following pages indicates a native species.





Largemouth bass *Micropterus salmoides*



Meristics: Dorsal fin spines (9)10(11), dorsal fin rays (11)12-13(14), anal fin spines (2)3, anal fin rays (10)11(12), pectoral fin rays (13)14-15(17); lateral line scales (58)61-65(69), scales above lateral line 7-8(9), circumpeduncle scales (24)26-28(30).

Regulations

Possession Limit: No more than 5 combined total per person per day of largemouth, redeye, smallmouth, or their hybrids. See exceptions below.

Size limit: No statewide length limits. See exceptions below.

Exceptions to the limits above:

- Slade's Lake—2 black bass per person per day no less than 12 inches.
- Lakes Blalock, Greenwood, Jocassee, Marion, Monticello, Moultrie, Murray, Secession, Wateree, Wylie, and the middle reach of the Saluda River and the upper reach of the Santee River—no bass less than 14 inches in total length.
- Lakes Hartwell, Keowee, Russell (including the Lake Hartwell tailwater), Robinson (Greenville County), Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah, Stevens Creek Reservoir, the Chattooga, and Savannah Rivers—no largemouth bass less than 12 inches in total length.
- Lakes Hartwell, Keowee, Russell (including the Lake Hartwell tailwater), Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah, the Chattooga and Savannah Rivers and Stevens Creek Reservoir—10 fish combined total per person per day of any black bass species (largemouth, smallmouth, redeye or spotted bass).

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The upper jaw extends back past the rear margin of the eye. Dorsal fin is deeply notched and the two sections of the fin are nearly separated. The upper body is dark green to olive while the lower body and belly are white. It has a series of dark blotches that merge into a dark lateral band. The Largemouth bass usually have no teeth on the tongue.

Range: Statewide in all warmwater habitats.

Average Length: 4 - 25 inches.

Average Size: 1-3 pounds, eight-pound individuals are not uncommon.

Maximum Age: 23 years.

Preferred Habitat: Largemouth bass can be found in slow-moving streams, pools of large rivers, natural lakes and all sizes of man-made impoundments. Largemouth bass prefer warm, moderately clear water that has no appreciable current.

Food Habits: Newly-hatched bass feed on zooplankton, switching first to insects and then to larval and juvenile fish as they grow. Adult largemouth bass primarily consume other fish. In a large impoundment, the major prey species include threadfin and gizzard shad, while in small impoundments sunfish will predominate in the diet. Basically, the largemouth bass will consume any organism that opportunity allows.

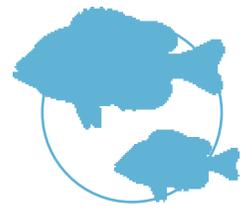
Spawning: Spawning usually begins when water temperatures range between 65 - 75°F, around April to June. The male largemouth bass constructs a saucer-shaped nest at a depth of 2 to 10 feet. One or more females will deposit 5,000 to 150,000 eggs over the nest while the male fertilizes them. The eggs are guarded and fanned by the male until they hatch in 3 to 4 days. The male continues to guard the fry until they disperse several weeks after hatching.

Miscellaneous: The largemouth bass is one of the most important freshwater sport fish in South Carolina. More time and money are spent in the pursuit of this fish by anglers than any other species. In addition to being an important sport fish, the largemouth bass is an important part of the ecological balance of fish populations. In farm ponds where they are stocked with bluegill and redear sunfish, the largemouth bass are responsible for controlling the bream population through predation. In large impoundments, they serve a similar but different function in preying on shad populations. The largemouth bass is the dominant predator in many of South Carolina's fish populations.

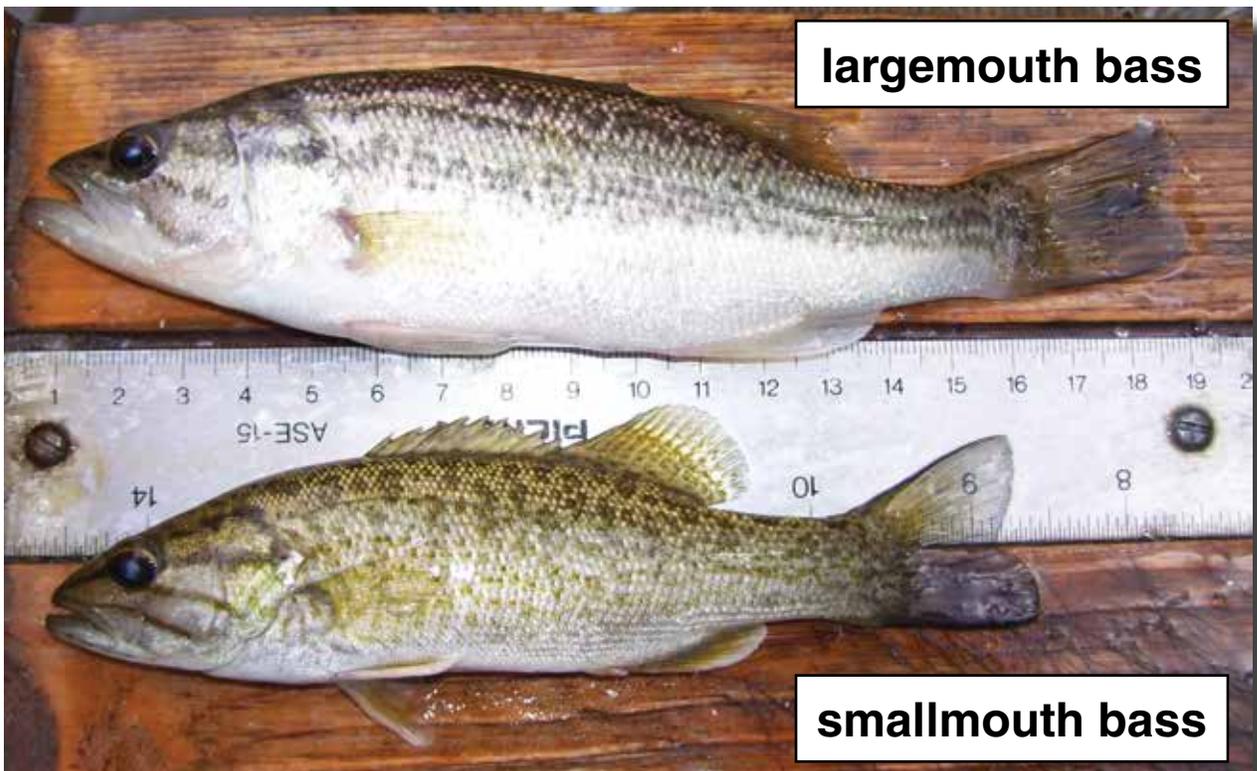
Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are spotted and smallmouth bass.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C, Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



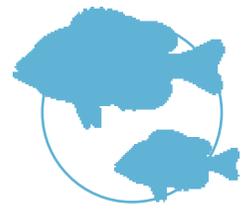
Largemouth bass



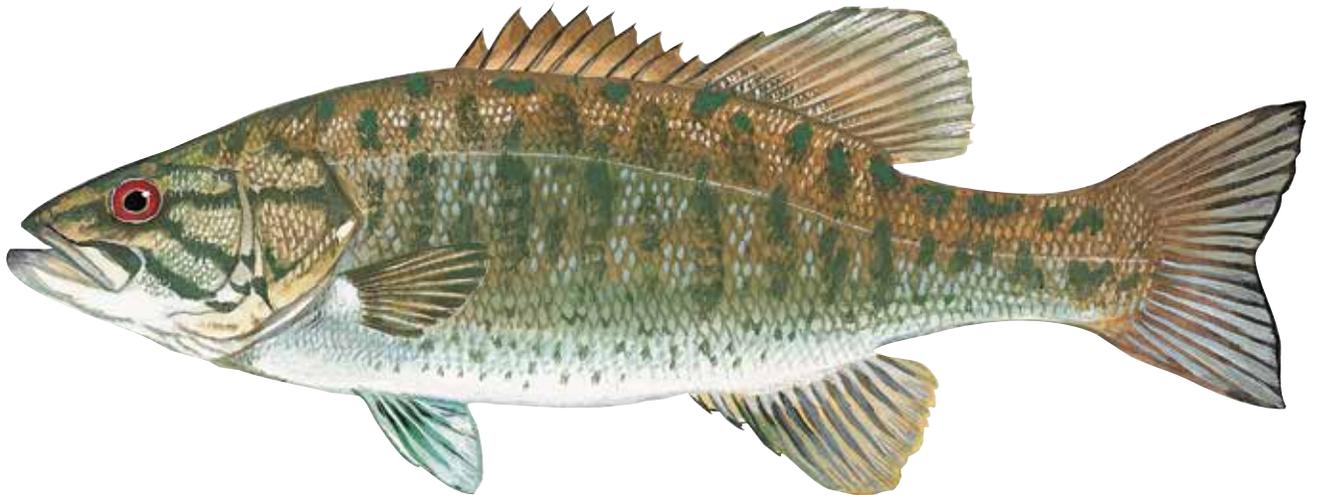


Largemouth bass





Smallmouth bass *Micropterus dolomieu*



Meristics: Dorsal fin spines (9)10(11), dorsal fin rays (12)14(15), anal fin spines (2)3, anal fin rays (9)11(12), pectoral fin rays (15)16-17(18); lateral line scales (68)71-77(81), scales above lateral line (11)12-13, circumpeduncle scales 29-31(32).

Regulations

Possession Limit: No more than 5 combined total per person per day of largemouth, redeye, smallmouth, or their hybrids. See exceptions below.

Size Limit: Minimum 12 inches in total length statewide

Exceptions to the limits above:

- Slade's Lake—2 black bass per person per day no less than 12 inches.
- Lakes Hartwell, Keowee, Russell (including the Lake Hartwell tailwater), Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah, the Chattooga and Savannah Rivers and Stevens Creek Reservoir—10 fish combined total per person per day of any black bass species (largemouth, smallmouth, redeye or spotted bass).
- On Lakes Hartwell, Keowee, Russell (including the Lake Hartwell tailwaters), Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah, the Chattooga and Savannah Rivers and Stevens Creek Reservoir—there is no length limit on smallmouth bass.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The smallmouth has bronze to olive green sides with dark brown to bronze specks which sometimes look like bars on the sides of the fish. There are no specks on the lower side. Extending outward from the eye are three dark stripes on the cheek. The mouth is large and extends to about the middle of the eye, which is usually red. The two dorsal fins—spiny and soft—are separated by a shallow notch. This species does not have the row of spots or specks on the lower side of its body like a redeye or spotted bass; nor, does it have the dark horizontal stripe that is present in the largemouth and spotted bass.

Range: Lakes Jocassee and Keowee; Broad River.

Average Length: 10-18 inches.

Average Size: ½-2 pounds; 6 pounds is large for South Carolina smallmouth.

Maximum Age: 15 years.

Preferred Habitat: Smallmouth can be found in cooler waters of the Foothill reservoirs or pool sections of clear, cool streams. In streams, smallmouth limit their range to one pool or several adjacent pools.

Food Habits: Young eat microcrustaceans and aquatic insects, tadpoles, fish larvae and as they grow progress to crayfish and fish such as darters, minnows, yellow perch and sunfishes.

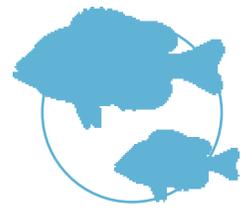
Spawning: Smallmouth bass will begin their nesting activity in the spring when water temperature reach 60 degrees Fahrenheit, usually in April or early May. Nests, constructed of coarse gravel, are usually located in shallow areas of reservoirs or in protected areas of streams where the current is minimal. Several females may spawn in the nest of one male. The typical nest will contain about 2,500 eggs which are guarded by the male until they hatch in two or three days. The newly hatched-fry are guarded by the male until they disperse in 12 to 16 days.

Miscellaneous: Smallmouth bass were introduced to waters in the northwestern part of the state and the central piedmont. These limited stockings have been successful in establishing this non-native sportfish species. The smallmouth bass both ambushes and prowls for food. It is common for them to feed on food organisms that are dislodged by suckers or turtles as they disturb the stream bottom rooting for food. On a national basis, the smallmouth bass is judged to be a favorite of anglers for its exceptional sport fishing qualities.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are redeye bass, spotted bass and largemouth bass.

Literature Cited : Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



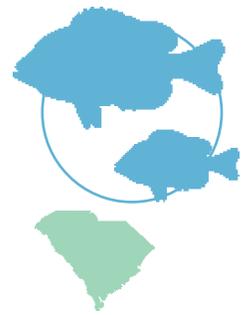
Smallmouth bass



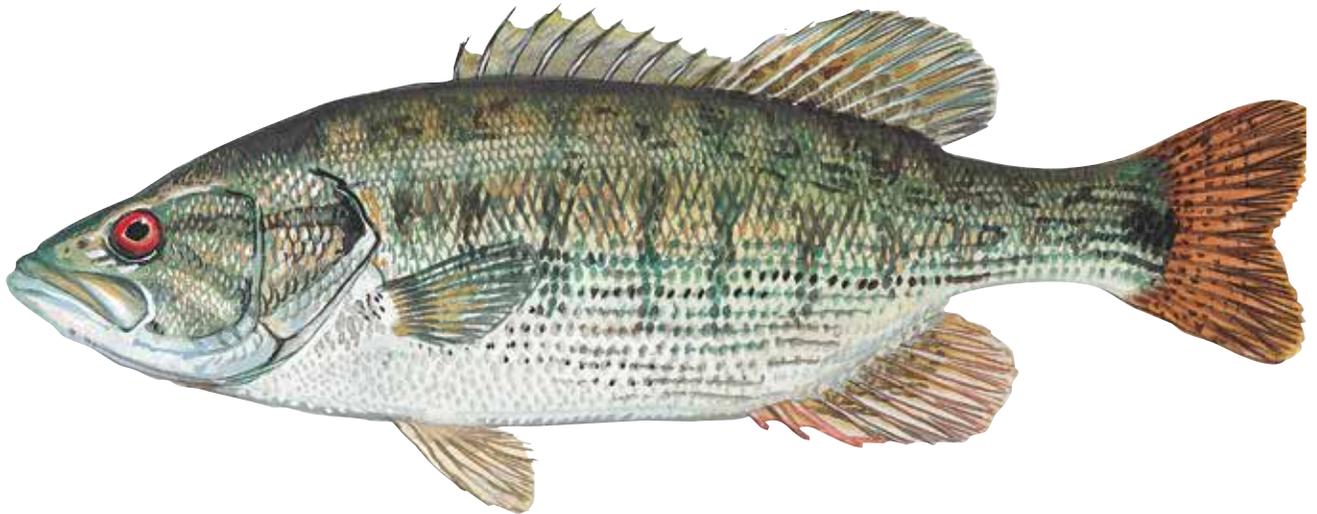


Smallmouth bass





Redeye bass *Micropterus coosae*



Meristics: Dorsal fin spines (9)10(11), dorsal fin rays (11)12(13), anal fin spines 3, anal fin rays (9)10(11), pectoral fin rays (14)15-16; lateral line scales 57-77 (usually 64-72), scales above lateral line 9-10, circumpeduncle scales usually 26-30.

Regulations

Possession Limit: No more than 5 combined total per person per day of largemouth, redeye, smallmouth, or their hybrids. See exceptions below.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits. See exceptions below.

Exceptions to the limits above:

- Slade's Lake—2 black bass per person per day no less than 12 inches.
- Lakes Hartwell, Keowee, Russell (including the Lake Hartwell tailwater), Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah, the Chattooga and Savannah Rivers and Stevens Creek Reservoir—10 fish combined total per person per day of any black bass species (largemouth, smallmouth, redeye or spotted bass).

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The redeye bass has a slender bronze-olive body that fades into white on the belly. It has dark lateral blotches along the side and horizontal rows of spots on the lower side and distinguishing white edges along the upper and lower edges of the caudal fin which similar species don't have. An orange margin is also often present on the caudal and anal fins. The mouth is large and extends to the rear edge of the eye, but not beyond.

Range: Located in the northwestern parts of the state, primarily in the Savannah River basin—including lakes Jocassee, Keowee, Hartwell and Russell. It is also present in some tributaries of the upper Saluda and the Broad rivers in the Santee basin.

Average Length: 6-9 inches.

Average Size: 6 ounces in streams and 1 pound in lakes; rarely exceeds 2 pounds.

Maximum Age: 10 years.

Preferred Habitat: Redeye bass occur naturally in rivers and streams with a lot of structure such as undercut banks, vegetation, boulders and submerged logs. They seem to prefer rocky areas with at least moderate current. Redeye can also be found in several upstate South Carolina reservoirs.

Food Habits: Redeye predominantly eat terrestrial insects but will also eat aquatic insects, crayfish, salamanders and small fishes.

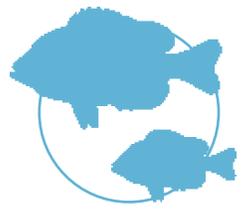
Spawning: Redeye bass spawn when water temperatures are between 62 and 68 degrees Fahrenheit, usually from May to early June. At this time, redeye males who have reached sexual maturity at three or four years of age begin constructing a nest over coarse gravel for the female redeye to deposit between 2,000 and 3,000 eggs. The eggs are maintained and guarded by the male throughout incubation and development of the fry.

Miscellaneous: The redeye bass is a truly unique and interesting species. Its entire range is limited to Alabama, Georgia and small areas of Tennessee and South Carolina. Ongoing research indicates the fish in South Carolina and parts of Georgia is actually a separate, not yet described species, sometimes referred to as Bartram's bass. Whether redeye or Bartram's bass, the species is a top predator in the streams where it occurs and offers exciting angling opportunities in some of South Carolina's most beautiful settings. The redeye does hybridize with smallmouth and spotted bass where they coexist. Offspring typically possess physical characteristics of both parents. The spread of these introduced species—smallmouth, spotted bass and their hybrids - pose a significant threat to redeye bass throughout its range in South Carolina.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are spotted bass, smallmouth bass and largemouth bass.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



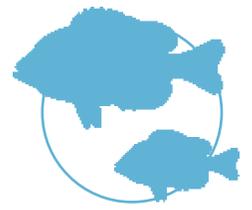
Redeye bass



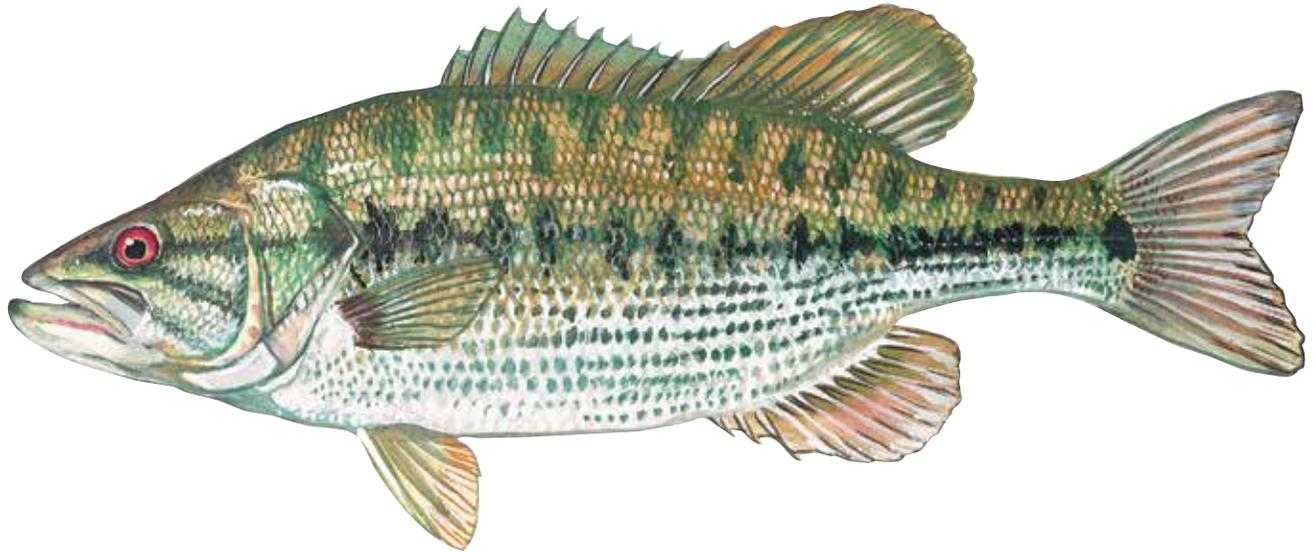


Redeye bass





Spotted bass *Micropterus punctulatus*



Meristics: Dorsal fin spines 9-10(11), dorsal fin rays 11-13(14), anal fin spines (2)3(4), anal fin rays (9)10(11), pectoral fin rays (14)15-16(17); lateral line scales (55)60-68(72), scales above lateral line (7)8-9, circumpeduncle scales (22)23-27.

Regulations

Possession Limit: No more than 15 total per person per day. See exceptions below.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits. See exceptions below.

Exceptions to the limits above:

- Slade's Lake—2 black bass per person per day no less than 12 inches.
- Lakes Hartwell, Keowee, Russell (including the Lake Hartwell tailwater), Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah, the Chattooga and Savannah Rivers and Stevens Creek Reservoir—10 fish combined total per person per day of any black bass species (largemouth, smallmouth, redeye or spotted bass).

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The spotted bass has a gold-green body with dark olive mottling that fades to a yellow-white belly. It has small black spots below a dark band along the middle of its side with a distinct black spot on the body right before the tail or caudal fin. The spotted bass' large mouth extends to the rear edge of the eye, but not beyond. Spotted bass have teeth on their tongue.

Range: Upper Savannah River drainage, primarily lakes Keowee, Russell, Jocassee and Hartwell; also introduced into tributaries of the Enoree, Saluda and Savannah rivers and in the Catawba River reservoirs upstream of the state line. Not native to South Carolina.

Average Length: 11.8-24 inches.

Average Size: 1-3 pounds.

Maximum Age: 5 years.

Preferred Habitat: The spotted bass is found in medium to large cool and warm mountain streams and reservoirs. It adapts well and out competes other black basses such as the largemouth or smallmouth as it is more tolerant of excess sediment.

Food Habits: Major foods for spotted bass are crayfish, aquatic insects and fish such as shad. Spotted bass eat fewer fish than other black bass species.

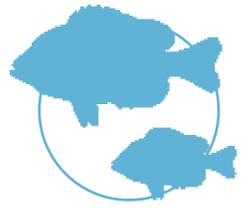
Spawning: Spotted bass reach sexual maturity at age 2 or 3 and begin spawning activity in April and May when water temperatures reach 65 degrees Fahrenheit. Males construct shallow saucer-shaped nests on soft, clay bottoms or on gravel bars. The female will lay 3,000 to 30,000 eggs. The male guards the nest with eggs hatching in 4 or 5 days.

Miscellaneous: Spotted bass are not native and readily hybridize with other black bass species such as the redeye bass.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are redeye, smallmouth and largemouth bass.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes.

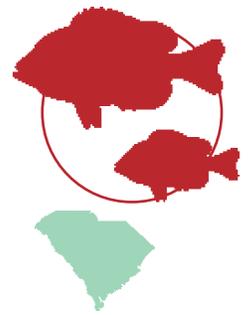


Spotted bass





Black Bass Notes



Striped bass *Morone saxatilis*



Meristics: First dorsal fin spines (8)9-10(11), second dorsal fin spines 1, second dorsal fin rays (10)11-12(14), anal fin spines 3, anal fin rays (9)10-11(12), pectoral fin rays (13)14-16(17); lateral line scales (53)57-63(65).

Regulations

Possession Limit: No more than 10 hybrid bass or striped bass or a combination per person per day. See exceptions below.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits. See exceptions below.

Exceptions to the limits above:

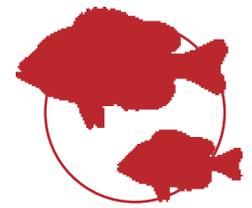
- In the following freshwater bodies: the Ashepoo River; Ashley River; Back River in Jasper County and the Back River in Berkeley County; Black River; Black Mingo Creek; Bull Creek and Little Bull Creek; Combahee River; Cooper River system; Coosawhatchie River; Cuckholds Creek; Edisto River; Horseshoe Creek; Lumber River; Lynches River; Great Pee Dee and Little Pee Dee Rivers; Pocotaligo River in Beaufort, Jasper, and Hampton Counties; Salkehatchie and Little Salkehatchie Rivers; Sampit River; Santee River system except the lower reach of the Saluda River; Tulifinny River; Thoroughfare Creek; and Waccamaw River from June 1st to September 30th, it is unlawful to take, attempt to take, or to possess striped bass. Striped bass taken must be returned immediately to the waters from where it came.
- On the lower reach of the Saluda River from June 1st to September 30th, it is unlawful to take or possess striped bass. Striped bass taken must be returned immediately to the waters from where it came.
- In the following freshwater bodies: the Ashepoo River; Ashley River; Back River in Jasper County and the Back River in Berkeley County; Black River; Black Mingo Creek; Bull Creek and Little Bull Creek; Combahee River; Cooper River system; Coosawhatchie River; Cuckholds Creek; Edisto River; Horseshoe Creek; Lumber River; Lynches River; Great Pee Dee and Little Pee Dee Rivers; Pocotaligo River in Beaufort, Jasper, and Hampton Counties; Salkehatchie and Little Salkehatchie Rivers; Sampit River; Santee River system; Tulifinny River; Thoroughfare Creek; and Waccamaw River from October 1st through May 31st, it is unlawful to take or possess more than 3 striped bass a day.



- In the following freshwater bodies: the Ashepoo River; Ashley River; Back River in Jasper County and the Back River in Berkeley County; Black River; Black Mingo Creek; Bull Creek and Little Bull Creek; Combahee River; Cooper River system; Coosawhatchie River; Cuckholds Creek; Edisto River; Horseshoe Creek; Lumber River; Lynches River; Great Pee Dee and Little Pee Dee Rivers; Pocotaligo River in Beaufort, Jasper, and Hampton Counties; Salkehatchie and Little Salkehatchie Rivers; Sampit River; Santee River system; Tulifinny River; Thoroughfare Creek; and Waccamaw River from October 1st through May 31st, it is unlawful to take or possess a striped bass less than 26 inches in total length.
- On Lake Murray and the middle reach of the Saluda River it is unlawful to possess more than five striped bass a day. From June 1st through September 30th, it is unlawful to take, attempt to take, or possess more than five striped bass a day. On Lake Murray and the middle reach of the Saluda River from October 1st through May 31st, it is unlawful to possess a striped bass less than 21 inches in total length. From June 1st to September 30th there is no minimum length.
- On Lakes Hartwell and Thurmond, it is unlawful to possess more than 10 striped bass or hybrid bass or a combination of those a day and only 3 may be over 26 inches in total length.
- On Lake Richard B. Russell and the Lake Hartwell tailwater it is unlawful to possess more than 2 striped bass or hybrid bass or a combination of those a day, and only 1 may be over 34 inches total length.
- On the lower reach of the Savannah River it is unlawful to possess more than 2 striped bass, hybrid bass, white bass, or a combination of these. Any of these fish taken from the lower reach of the Savannah River must be at least 27 inches in total length.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The coloration of the dorsum ranges from deep olive to steel blue and changes to a silvery abdomen, flanked by 7 to 8 longitudinal dark stripes running from behind the gills to the base of the tail. It is common for adult fish to exceed 10.8 inches and weigh 20 pounds. The size helps distinguish this species from striped bass x white bass hybrid, which rarely exceeds 10 pounds.

Range: All of South Carolina's coastal rivers support striped bass, the largest populations occurring in the Savannah, Cooper and Santee rivers. Excellent reservoir fisheries exist in lakes Marion, Moultrie, Murray and Wateree. Smaller populations are found in lakes Hartwell, Thurmond, Secession and Greenwood.

Average Length: 20 - 36 inches.

Average Size: 3 - 10 pounds, About 60 pounds in freshwater or 120 pounds in saltwater.

Maximum Age: Approximately 30 years.

Preferred Habitat: Striped bass are found in major rivers and large impoundments of South Carolina. They are also found in estuarine and coastal areas. They prefer cool waters and are diadromous throughout their range, except in South Carolina. Diadromous fishes use both marine and freshwater habitats during their life cycle.

Food Habits: The diet of striped bass consists mostly of fish. Preferred species in freshwater are threadfin shad, gizzard shad and blueback herring.

Spawning: Prior to spawning in early spring, striped bass migrate up rivers. Spawning occurs when water temperatures reach 60-70° Fahrenheit. The semi-buoyant eggs are released in the flowing water and fertilized by several males in a thrashing event known as a "fight." As many as 3 million eggs may be released by one female. The eggs require a flow adequate to prevent their settling to the bottom during the incubation period of approximately 50 hours. During their first few days of life, the larval fish are sustained by a yolk material while they develop. Eventually they begin to feed on zooplankton.

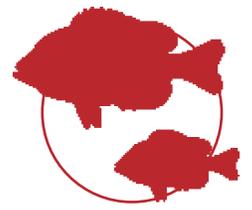
Miscellaneous: Because striped bass need flowing water to spawn successfully, most reservoir populations are maintained solely by stocking. In South Carolina, only the Santee-Cooper reservoirs have suitable tributary rivers, the Congaree and Wateree, to meet their spawning needs. Other reservoirs have limited upstream river systems due to extensive dam construction. Unimpounded coastal rivers still provide adequate stream flow for hatching. The "landlocked" reproducing population of the Santee-Cooper reservoirs was a unique phenomenon until recent discoveries of other reproducing populations in the Southeast and far West. South Carolina was a pioneer in developing striped bass hatchery techniques. As a direct result of work at the Dennis Wildlife Center in Moncks Corner, striped bass fisheries now exist in many reservoirs across the country.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are white bass, white perch and hybrid striped bass.



Striped bass



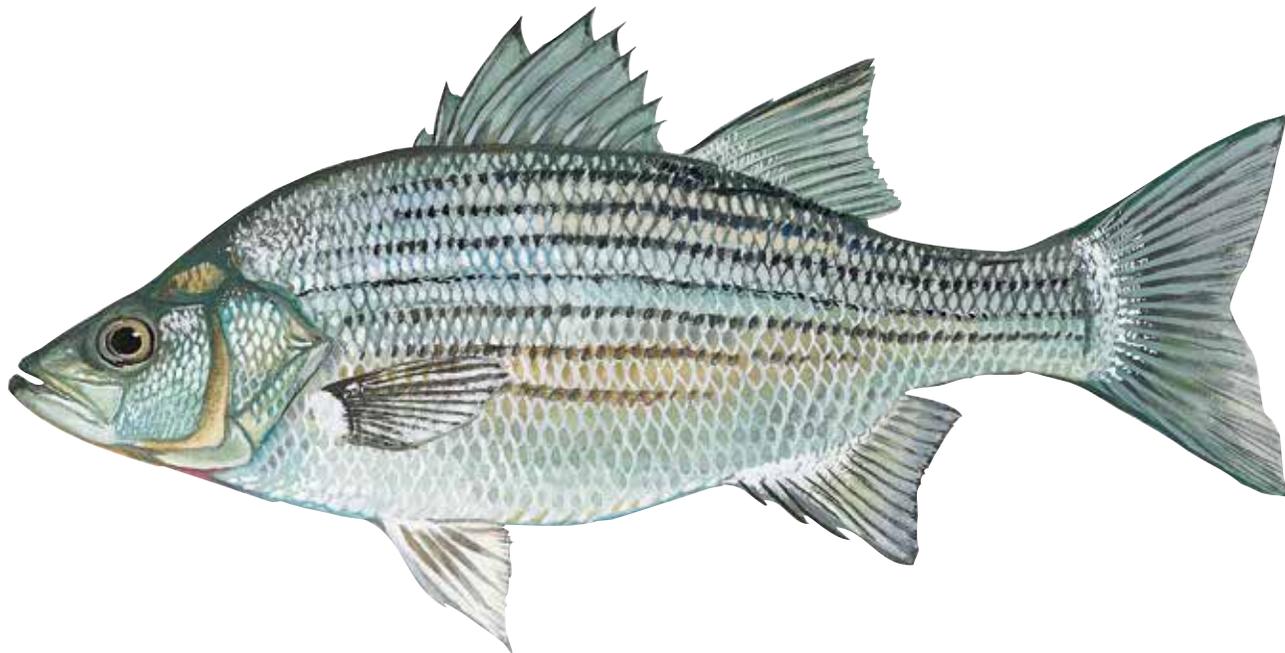


Striped bass





White bass *Morone chrysops*



Meristics: First dorsal fin spines 9, second dorsal fin spines 1, second dorsal fin rays (12)13(14), anal fin spines 3, anal fin rays (11)12(13), pectoral fin rays (15)16(17); lateral line scales (52)54-58(60).

Regulations

Possession Limit: 10 fish per person per day. See exceptions below.

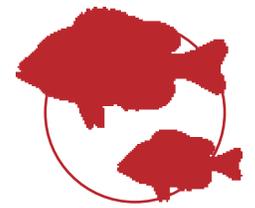
Size Limit: No statewide length limits. See exceptions below.

Exceptions to the limits above:

- On the lower reach of the Savannah River, it is unlawful to possess more than 2 striped bass, hybrid bass, white bass or a combination of these. Any of these fish taken from the lower reach of the Savannah River must be at least 27 inches in total length.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The white bass is a wide-bodied fish with an overall dark bluish green to gray color with yellow eyes. The two dorsal fins—spiny and soft—are completely separated. The white bass has stripes running laterally down its sides that may be broken. The lower jaw sticks out further than the upper jaw on the mouth. A tooth patch is present on the tongue.

Range: Scattered throughout South Carolina in the Piedmont and in the Coastal Plain in the Pee Dee, Santee and Savannah river drainages.

Average Length: 10 inches.

Average Size: 1 pound.

Maximum Age: 6 years.

Preferred Habitat: White bass prefer the deeper pools of large reservoirs and rivers.

Food Habits: Aquatic insects and fish, primarily threadfin shad, young gizzard shad and blueback herring.

Spawning: White bass migrate upstream from reservoirs to shoals upriver or to the heads of reservoirs and into smaller streams during March and April as water temperatures reach 55 degrees Fahrenheit. Spawning occurs at the surface where several males congregate around one female in shallow areas of the stream where up to one million eggs can be released by the large female and fertilized. These sticky eggs adhere to submerged trees and other substrates where they hatch unattended after approximately 45 days.

Miscellaneous: Not native to South Carolina, the white bass was introduced in 1954 when stocks of adult fish were moved from Tennessee to Lake Wylie by South Carolina Game and Fish Commission personnel. From these early stocks, introductions were made into other rivers and impoundments of the state. Schools of the species may be seen at the surface of large reservoirs as they pursue threadfin and gizzard shad. Sport fishing for white bass is most productive during these schooling periods and during their spawning migration.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are striped bass, white perch and hybrid striped bass.

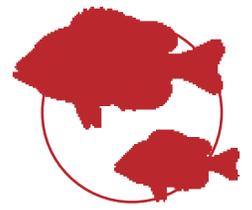
Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.

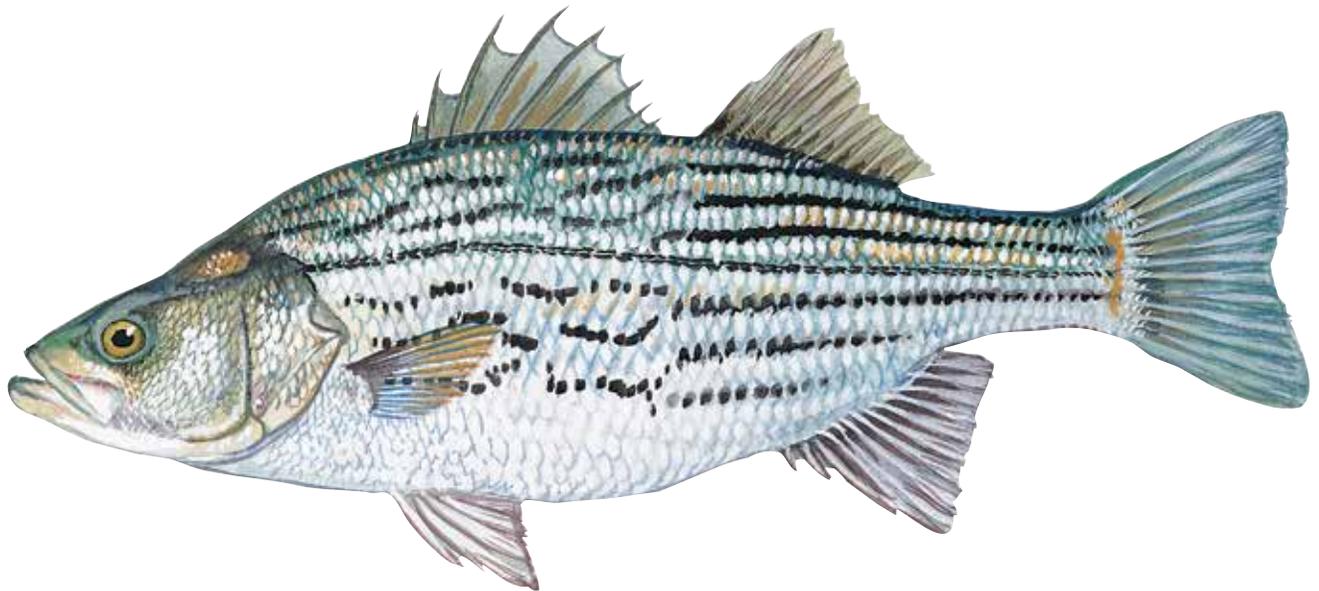


White bass





Hybrid bass (striped bass x white bass)



Meristics: None.

Regulations

Possession Limit: No more than 10 hybrid bass or striped bass or a combination per day. See exceptions below.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits. See exceptions below

Exceptions to the limits above:

- On Lakes Hartwell and Thurmond it is unlawful to possess more than 10 striped bass or hybrid bass or a combination of those a day and only three may be over 26 inches in total length.
- On Lake Richard B. Russell and the Lake Hartwell tailwater it is unlawful to possess more than 2 striped bass or hybrid bass or a combination of those a day, and only 1 may be over 34 inches total length.
- On the lower reach of the Savannah River, it is unlawful to possess more than 2 striped bass, hybrid bass, white bass or a combination of these. Any of these fish taken from the lower reach of the Savannah River must be at least 27 inches in total length.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: Similar to the striped and white bass that it is a product of, the hybrid bass has an elongated body. However, its sides fade from a dark olive to steel green in color along the top edge to a silver along the side and belly. Hybrids commonly have distinctly broken lines along their sides. Its back is arched similar to that of the white bass but it has a longer sloping forehead than typically seen in striped bass.

Range: The hybrid bass is found in the Savannah River drainage, particularly lakes Hartwell and Thurmond and Stevens Creek Reservoir.

Average Length: 11-23 inches.

Average Size: 2-3 ¼ pounds.

Maximum Age: Unknown.

Preferred Habitat: Due to the limited distribution of the hybrid, little is known about the potential variety of preferred habitats. However, in those waters where the hybrid has been introduced, it appears to prefer open waters.

Food Habits: Hybrids consume primarily threadfin and gizzard shad, blueback herring and yellow perch. However, the Palmetto bass hybrid is opportunistic and will consume insects and other targets when possible.

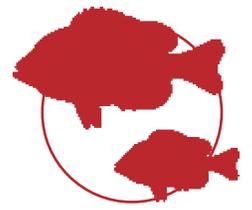
Spawning: Despite being a hybrid, this fish has been spawned under laboratory conditions. Hybrids will migrate upstream with white bass and striped bass during their seasonal spawning run. The hybrid has been observed conducting spawning behavior similar to the striped bass; however, reproduction is questionable.

Miscellaneous: The hybrid bass is a cross between a striped bass female and a white bass male. The hybridization of this species was developed in the mid-1960s by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources at the Dennis Wildlife Center in Moncks Corner in an attempt to produce a fish that would have higher survival rates than striped bass when stocked at a smaller size. Unlike small striped bass, the striped bass x white bass hybrid is much less sensitive to the stress of movement and stocking. Since its introduction into lakes Hartwell and Thurmond, it has become one of the favorite sport fish of local anglers.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are white and striped bass.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



Hybrid bass



hybrid
bass

striped
bass

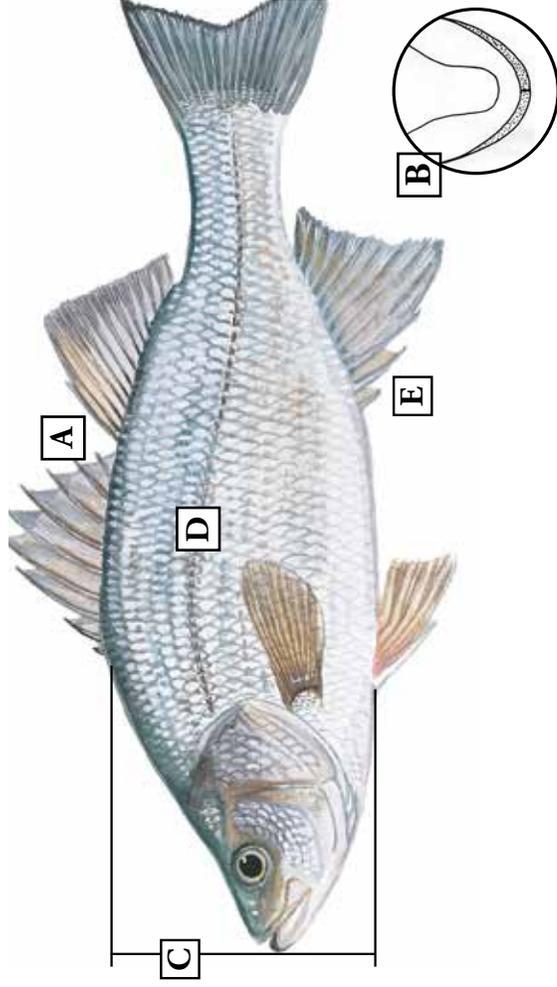


Hybrid bass



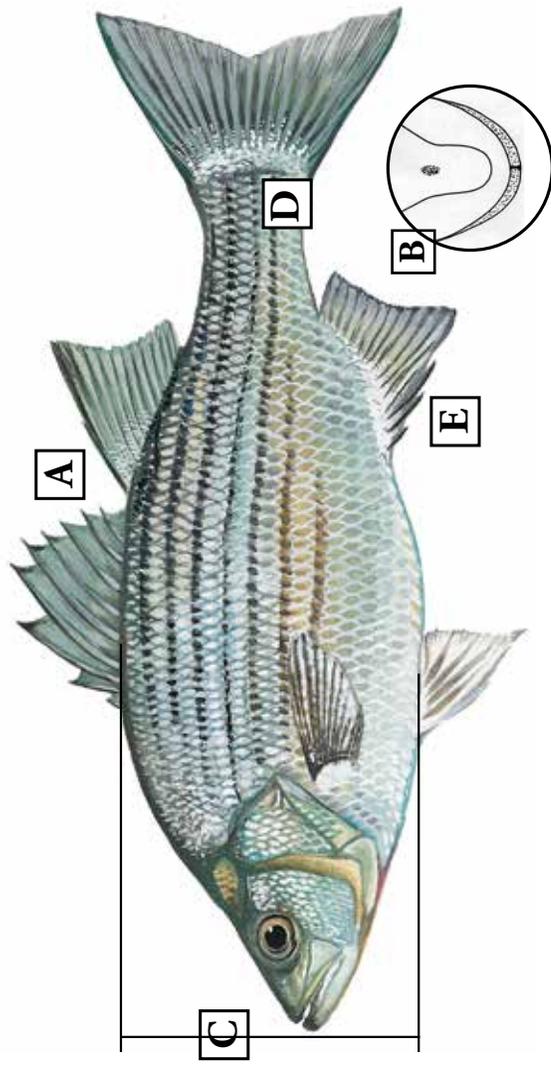
Identifying Characteristics for Species with Similar Appearances

WHITE PERCH



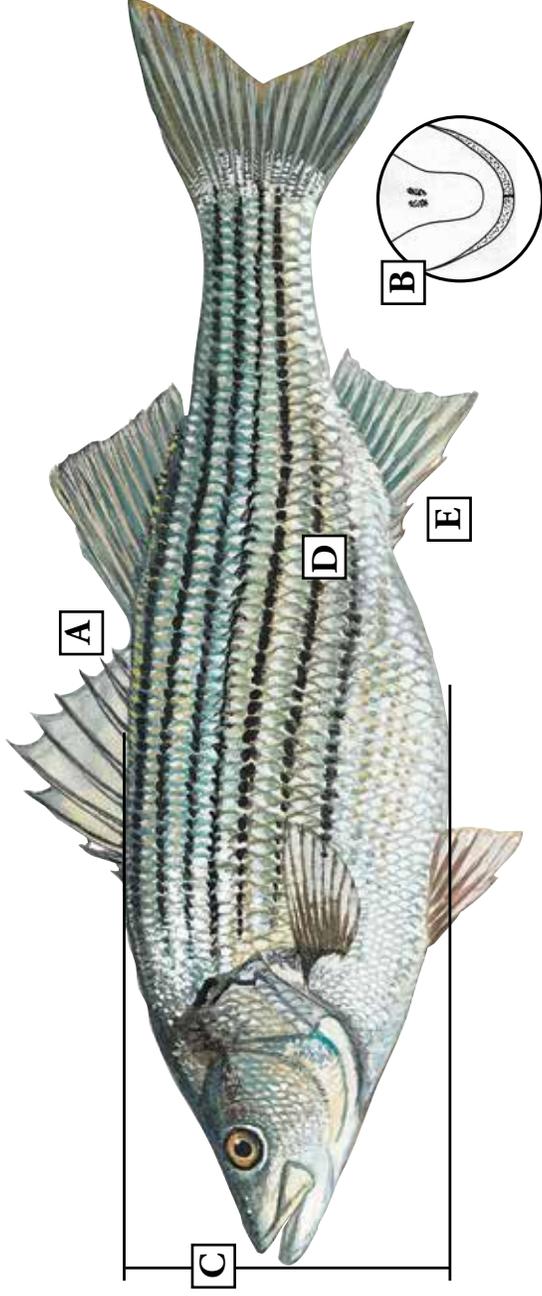
- A** Dorsal fins joined by a membrane.
- B** No tooth patches on tongue.
- C** Body deepest in front of 1st dorsal fin.
- D** No stripes present or only faintly striped on lower body only.
- E** 2nd spine almost equal the length of 3rd spine.
- F** Average adult size 8 oz.

WHITE BASS



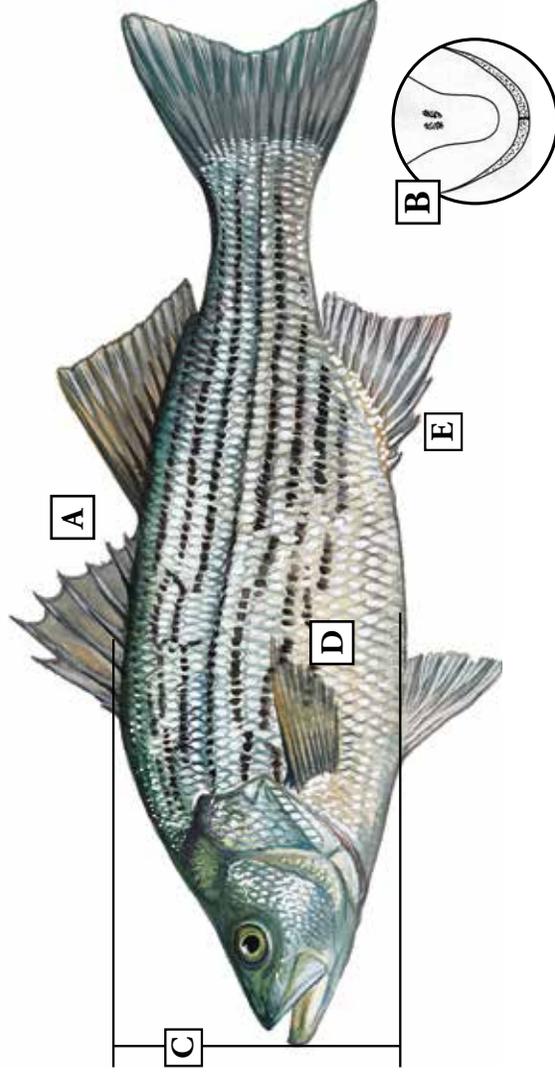
- A** Dorsal fins not joined.
- B** Back of tongue has 1 tooth patch.
- C** Body deep, more than $\frac{1}{3}$ length.
- D** Stripes faint, only 1 extends to tail.
- E** 2nd spine $\frac{2}{3}$ or more the length of 3rd spine.
- F** Seldom exceeds 3 lbs.

STRIPED BASS

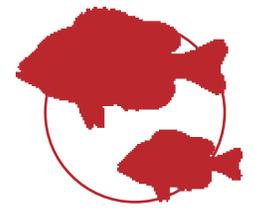


- A** Dorsal fins not joined.
- B** Back of tongue has 2 distinct tooth patches.
- C** Body slender, less than $\frac{1}{3}$ length.
- D** Stripes distinct, several extend to tail.
- E** 2nd spine $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of 3rd spine.
- F** Adult fish 20 lbs. not uncommon.

HYBRID BASS



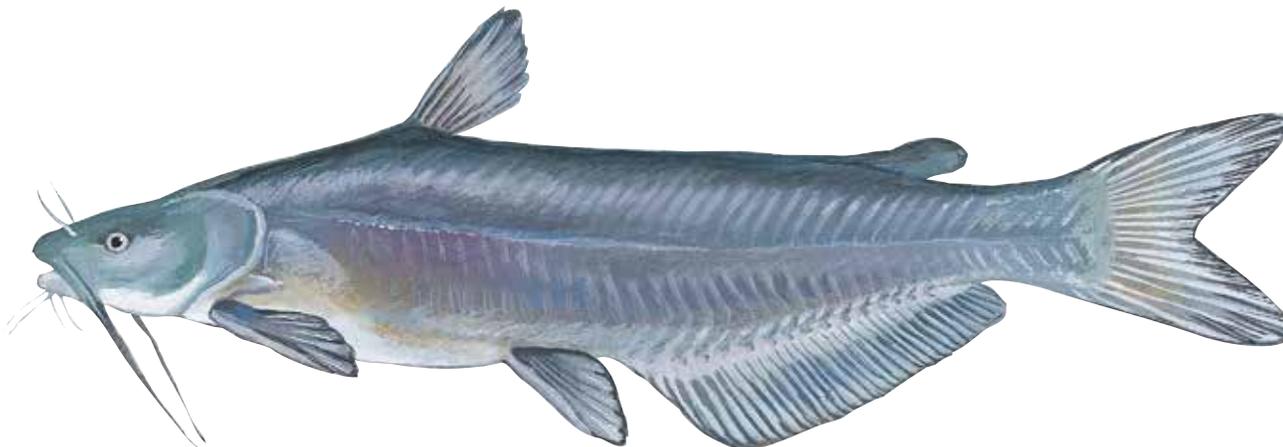
- A** Dorsal fins not joined.
- B** Back of tongue has 2 distinct tooth patches.
- C** Body deep, more than $\frac{1}{3}$ length.
- D** Stripes distinct, usually broken, several extend to tail.
- E** 2nd spine $\frac{2}{3}$ or more the length of 3rd spine.
- F** Seldom exceeds 10 lbs.



Striped & White Bass Notes



Blue catfish *Ictalurus furcatus*



Meristics: Dorsal fin spines 1, dorsal fin rays 6, anal fin rays (27)30-36(38), pectoral fin spine 1; pectoral fin rays 8-9, pelvic fin rays 8, branched caudal fin rays 15.

Regulations

Possession Limit: No statewide limits. See exceptions below.

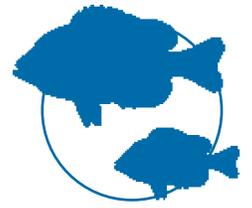
Size Limit: No statewide length limits. See exceptions below.

Exceptions to the limits above:

- On Lakes Marion and Moultrie and the upper reach of the Santee River only 2 blue catfish larger than 32 inches may be taken and there is a 25 fish possession limit. On the Congaree and Wateree Rivers there is no possession limit and only 2 fish larger than 32 inches may be taken.

Other Restrictions:

- Lakes Marion, Moultrie, upper reach of Santee, Congaree and Wateree Rivers — must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: Blue catfish has a deeply forked tail fin. This large catfish is distinguished by its bluish back and side, lack of black spots, humped back near the dorsal fin and straight margined anal fin.

Range: Blue catfish are native to the Mississippi River basin. In South Carolina, blue catfish are found in almost every drainage. This species is found in South Carolina Department of Natural Resources' public fishing lakes and large impoundments such as lakes Wateree, Marion and Moultrie.

Average Length: 20 - 45 inches.

Average Size: 3 - 40 pounds.

Maximum Age: 34 years.

Preferred Habitat: Blue catfish prefer rivers and large creeks with moderate to swift current over rock, gravel or clean sandy bottoms; however, they also do well in large impoundments.

Food Habits: The blue catfish feeds on a variety of organisms including clams, snails, aquatic insects, freshwater mussels, fish and plant material.

Spawning: Spawning occurs in late spring or early summer in water temperatures of 70-75° Fahrenheit. Egg masses are deposited in cavities afforded by logs, brush or undercut riverbanks. Unlike other catfish, the male and female both assist in guarding the eggs and the young while they remain in the nest.

Miscellaneous: The blue catfish is one of the largest freshwater fishes found in North America. They were first introduced into South Carolina in 1964 when they were stocked into Lake Marion.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are channel and white catfish.

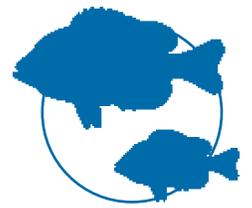
Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C, Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes.



Blue catfish





Channel catfish *Ictalurus punctatus*



Meristics: Dorsal fin spine 1, dorsal fin rays 6, anal fin rays (23)25-30(32), pectoral fin spine 1; pectoral fin rays 8-9, pelvic fin rays 8, branched caudal fin rays 15.

Regulations

Possession Limit: No statewide limits.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:



Description: The channel catfish has a slender body that is pale blue to olive on the back and sides with a white belly. Dark spots are usually present on the back and sides, but these tend to fade in larger adults. The caudal fin is deeply forked.

Range: Statewide.

Average Length: 16 inches.

Average Size: 1-1 ½ pounds.

Maximum Age: 24 years.

Preferred Habitat: The channel catfish inhabits a variety of habitat types including small to large creeks, rivers, reservoirs and ponds over a range of substrates.

Food Habits: Fish, crayfish, mollusks, immature mayflies and caddisflies, as well as aquatic vegetation.

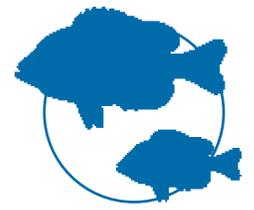
Spawning: Spawning occurs from May to July when the water temperature is approximately 70-80 degrees Fahrenheit. A gelatinous mass of eggs is deposited in a nest constructed by the male below undercut stream banks, logs or other secluded areas. The nest is guarded by the male for some time after the eggs hatch.

Miscellaneous: The channel catfish is the principal species in freshwater aquaculture in the Southeast. State and federal fishery agencies have stocked channel catfish extensively through South Carolina with special emphasis on selected farm ponds.

Commonly Mistaken Species: One species of fish that is commonly mistaken for this species is the blue catfish. Both the blue and channel catfish have deeply forked tails and similarly shaped bodies, but differ in that channels have black spots and a shorter, rounder anal fin.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



Channel catfish





Flathead catfish *Pylodictus olivaris*



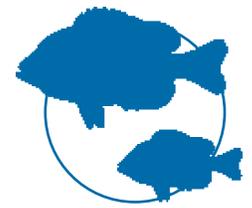
Meristics: Dorsal fin spine 1, dorsal fin rays 6, anal fin rays 14-17, pectoral fin spine 1, pectoral fin rays 10-11, pelvic fin rays 9.

Regulations

Possession Limit: No statewide limits.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:



Description: The flathead catfish is very large in size compared to other catfish in South Carolina. It has a broad and flat head with small eyes atop. The mouth's lower jaw sticks out farther than the top jaw. The flathead's body is mottled yellowish brown which fades to a gray belly. The upper tip of the square caudal fin may be white. This coloration is absent in large adults.

Range: The flathead can be found in the Pee Dee, Santee, Edisto and Savannah river drainages of the Coastal Plain and Piedmont.

Average Length: 15-45 inches.

Average Size: 1-45 pounds.

Maximum Age: 26 years.

Preferred Habitat: The flathead catfish prefers deep holes in sluggish or slow water in medium to large rivers in areas with good structure such as fallen trees, stumps and undercut banks. Flatheads have also done well in large reservoirs, though growth rates tend to be slower in non-river habitats.

Food Habits: Primarily a diet of fish.

Spawning: In South Carolina, flathead catfish spawn from mid-May to mid-July in areas around hollow logs and undercut banks. The males create nests that are 3-15 feet in depth. The yellow gelatinous egg masses that can contain 4,000 to 100,000 eggs are tended by the males. They guard and aerate the eggs with fin movements during incubation. Parental protection continues until the young fish absorb their yolk sacs and disperse.

Miscellaneous: The flathead catfish is an introduced species to South Carolina. Its native range is in the Ohio, Mississippi and Missouri river basins. Since its introduction into the Santee-Cooper Reservoir, flatheads have become established in nearly every reservoir or river system in the state. The spread of this non-native fish has negatively affected several native species, most notably redbreast sunfish. Although the flathead catfish provides a great sportfishing opportunity, the highly predacious flathead has negatively impacted native species such as bullheads and redbreast sunfish creating ecosystem imbalances. The flathead catfish maintain a solitary existence, usually inhabiting the same site on a daily basis. Like most catfish, the flathead catfish is a nocturnal feeder, becoming more active as light intensity declines. This fish makes excellent table fare. Unlike other catfish species, flatheads are reluctant to take decaying bait and prefer live bait.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are channel and blue catfish.

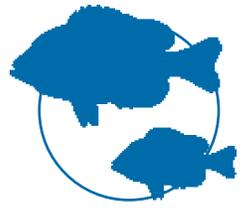
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Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009.



Flathead catfish





Flathead catfish





Yellow bullhead *Ameirus natalis*



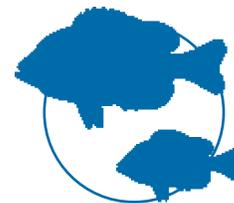
Meristics: Dorsal fin spine 1, dorsal fin rays 6, anal fin rays 24-27(28), pectoral fin spine 1, pectoral fin rays 7-8, pelvic fin rays 8, branched caudal fin rays 16.

Regulations

Possession Limit: No statewide limits.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:



Description: The yellow bullhead has a body that fades from olive to yellow to bright yellow on the sides to a white belly. The chin barbells, commonly known as whiskers, are distinctly white to yellow in color. The yellow bullhead also has a distinctly long anal fin and a rounded or nearly straight caudal fin.

Range: Statewide.

Average Length: 6-10 inches.

Average Size: 1 pound.

Maximum Age: 7 years.

Preferred Habitat: Yellow bullheads can be found in a variety of habitat types but they typically are found in pools with soft bottom of silt or accumulated leaves in small- and medium-sized rivers.

Food Habits: Crayfish, mussels, insects, fish and fish eggs.

Spawning: Yellow bullhead spawning occurs from May through June when water temperatures reach 75-80 degrees Fahrenheit. Both the male and female participate in nest construction, but only the male guards the nest. The nests may be located under logs, rocks or in open areas. Approximately 2,000-4,000 eggs are deposited in a mass by one female. The eggs hatch in 5-7 days.

Miscellaneous: Like most catfish, the yellow bullhead feeds mainly in the early evening and at night. Although edible, it is the least prized of the catfishes. Its prolific reproductive nature most often causes stunting of sunfish populations in farm ponds by competing for available food.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are black and brown bullheads.

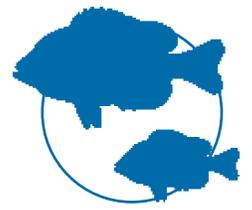
Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



Yellow bullhead





Catfish & Bullheads Notes



Brook trout *Salvelinus fontinalis*



Meristics: Dorsal fin rays (12)13-15, anal fin rays 12-14, pectoral fin rays 10-15, pelvic fin rays 7-10; total midlateral scales 195-243, pored lateral scales 109-130.

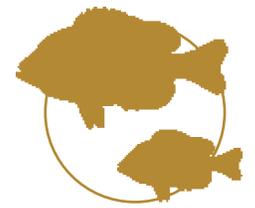
Regulations

Possession Limit: No more than five trout per person per day. See exceptions below.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits. See exceptions below.

Exceptions to the limits above:

- On Lake Jocassee there is a three fish combined total possession limit for all trout species.
- On Lake Jocassee from October 1 through May 31, there is a 15 inch minimum size limit except only one of the three fish may be more than 20 inches per person per day.
- On the lower reach of the Saluda River, only one trout out of the five possessed may be more than 16 inches in total length.
- From November 1st through May 14th of each year, it is unlawful to possess, take and retain trout on the following waters (catch & release fishing is allowed):
 - that portion of the Chattooga River beginning at S.C. State Highway 28 upstream to its confluence with Reed Creek (Rabun County, GA);
 - that portion of Cheohee Creek that runs through the Piedmont Forestry Center;
 - Devils Fork Creek; Howard Creek from its confluence with Corbin Creek upstream to its confluence with Limberpole Creek; and Corbin Creek upstream from its confluence with Howard Creek to S.C. State Highway S-37-130 (Whitewater Road) in Oconee County;
 - Chauga River from S.C. State Highway S-37-290 (Cassidy Bridge Road) upstream to its confluence with Bone Camp Creek in Oconee County; and
 - Eastatoe Creek from the backwaters of Lake Keowee upstream to S.C. State Highway S-39-143 (Roy Jones Road) in Pickens County.
- Trout taken during the defined time period from the identified areas listed above must be released immediately.



- From January 1 through December 31, it is unlawful to take and retain trout on the Middle Saluda River (approximately 1.5 river miles) from Hugh Smith Road (Bridge) upstream to the foot-bridge at Jones Gap State Park.

Bait & Tackle Restrictions: Artificial lures and bait can be used when fishing for trout except on the following:

- It is unlawful to take trout by snagging.
- On Lake Jocassee, it is unlawful to use or possess corn, cheese, fish eggs, or imitations of them.
- It is unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except artificial lures in the following waters:
 - Whitewater River;
 - Matthews Creek from Asbury Drive Bridge at Asbury Methodist Camp upstream including all tributaries and headwaters;
 - Middle Saluda River from the foot bridge at Jones Gap Natural Area Office upstream to U.S. Highway 176 in Greenville County; and
 - Eastatoe Creek on Eastatoe Heritage Preserve in Pickens County.
- From November 1st through May 14th, it is unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except single hook artificial lures in the following waters:
 - that portion of the Chattooga River beginning at S.C. State Highway 28 upstream to its confluence with Reed Creek (Rabun County, GA);
 - that portion of Cheohee Creek that runs through the Piedmont Forestry Center;
 - Devils Fork Creek; Howard Creek from its confluence with Corbin Creek upstream to its confluence with Limberpole Creek; and Corbin Creek upstream from its confluence with Howard Creek to S.C. State Highway S-37-130 (Whitewater Road) in Oconee County;
 - Chauga River from S.C. State Highway S-37-290 (Cassidy Bridge Road) upstream to its confluence with Bone Camp Creek in Oconee County; and
 - Eastatoe Creek from the backwaters of Lake Keowee upstream to S.C. State Highway S-39-143 (Roy Jones Road) in Pickens County.
- From January 1 through December 31, it is lawful to use or possess only artificial lures with single hooks on the Middle Saluda River (approximately 1.5 river miles) from Hugh Smith Road (Bridge) upstream to the foot-bridge at Jones Gap State Park.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The brook trout has dark-olive colored sides with pale, often yellow, spots and scattered red spots with a lighter colored halo. The edges of the pectoral, pelvic and anal fins are bright white, outlined by a black line. The belly of the brook trout along with the pectoral, pelvic and anal fins can be a vibrant red to orange in spawning trout.

Range: Mountain streams of Oconee, Pickens and Greenville counties.

Average Length: 4-7 inches.

Average Size: 1-3 ounces.

Maximum Age: 4-5 years.

Preferred Habitat: Brook trout prefer small, cool, clear mountain streams with well-oxygenated water.

Food Habits: Aquatic insects, terrestrial insects, crayfish, salamanders, frogs and fish.

Spawning: Brook trout spawning occurs during October and November when water temperatures approach 50 degrees Fahrenheit. The female constructs the nest, called a redd, which is protected by both the male and female trout. The female brookie can lay from as few as 100 eggs to more than 5,000. Once the eggs are deposited, the male fertilizes them and the eggs are covered with gravel. The eggs hatch in approximately 50 days.

Miscellaneous: The brook trout is in fact a char. The brook char or brook trout is the only salmonid species native to South Carolina. The brook trout's security in the unspoiled mountain wilderness gradually changed with the influx of European settlers in the 1800s. Records from the 1870s note the presence of healthy populations of eastern brook trout in the upper Chattooga River. Land use practices of the late 19th and early 20th centuries forced the brook trout to retreat to the state's most remote headwaters.

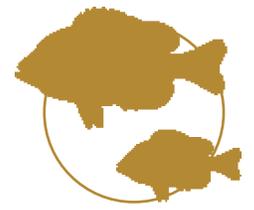
Fortunately, the trout's decline did not pass unnoticed. The rainbow trout from the western US and the brown trout from Europe were imported. These introductions had both positive and negative impacts. On one hand, brown and rainbow trout were arguably able to occupy warmer water temperatures in the degraded habitat, and extend farther downstream of historic brook trout habitat. Therefore, these introductions likely increased available natural trout waters, alerted conservationists to protect the trout's habitat and helped create the vast southern Appalachian trout resource anglers enjoy today. On the other hand, the introduction of non-native trout resulted in the displacement of brook trout from their native range in many cases. Working cooperatively through a range-wide program called the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture, the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, the United States Forest Service and Trout Unlimited are working in partnership to restore the native brook trout to representative streams of its historical range.

Commonly Mistaken Species:

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *Trout Fishing Guide*.



Brook trout





Brown trout *Salmo trutta*



Meristics: Dorsal fin rays 14-16, anal fin rays 10-13, pectoral fin rays 12-15, pelvic fin rays 9-10; pored lateral scales 100-130.

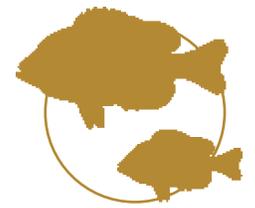
Regulations

Possession Limit: No more than five trout per person per day. See exceptions below.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits. See exceptions below.

Exceptions to the limits above:

- On Lake Jocassee there is a three fish combined total possession limit for all trout species.
- On Lake Jocassee from October 1 through May 31, there is a 15 inch minimum size limit except only one of the three fish may be more than 20 inches per person per day.
- On the lower reach of the Saluda River, only one trout out of the five possessed may be more than 16 inches in total length.
- From November 1st through May 14th of each year, it is unlawful to possess, take and retain trout on the following waters:
 - that portion of the Chattooga River beginning at S.C. State Highway 28 upstream to its confluence with Reed Creek (Rabun County, GA);
 - that portion of Cheohee Creek that runs through the Piedmont Forestry Center;
 - Devils Fork Creek; Howard Creek from its confluence with Corbin Creek upstream to its confluence with Limberpole Creek; and Corbin Creek upstream from its confluence with Howard Creek to S.C. State Highway S-37-130 (Whitewater Road) in Oconee County;
 - Chauga River from S.C. State Highway S-37-290 (Cassidy Bridge Road) upstream to its confluence with Bone Camp Creek in Oconee County; and
 - Eastatoe Creek from the backwaters of Lake Keowee upstream to S.C. State Highway S-39-143 (Roy Jones Road) in Pickens County.
- Trout taken during the defined time period from the identified areas listed above must be released immediately.



- From January 1 through December 31, it is unlawful to take and retain trout on the Middle Saluda River (approximately 1.5 river miles) from Hugh Smith Road (Bridge) upstream to the foot-bridge at Jones Gap State Park.

Bait & Tackle Restrictions: Artificial lures and bait can be used when fishing for trout except on the following:

- It is unlawful to take trout by snagging.
- On Lake Jocassee, it is unlawful to use or possess corn, cheese, fish eggs, or imitations of them.
- It is unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except artificial lures in the following waters:
 - Whitewater River;
 - Matthews Creek from Asbury Drive Bridge at Asbury Methodist Camp upstream including all tributaries and headwaters;
 - Middle Saluda River from the foot bridge at Jones Gap Natural Area Office upstream to U.S. Highway 176 in Greenville County; and
 - Eastatoe Creek on Eastatoe Heritage Preserve in Pickens County.
- From November 1st through May 14th, it is unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except single hook artificial lures in the following waters:
 - that portion of the Chattooga River beginning at S.C. State Highway 28 upstream to its confluence with Reed Creek (Rabun County, GA);
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 - Devils Fork Creek; Howard Creek from its confluence with Corbin Creek upstream to its confluence with Limberpole Creek; and Corbin Creek upstream from its confluence with Howard Creek to S.C. State Highway S-37-130 (Whitewater Road) in Oconee County;
 - Chauga River from S.C. State Highway S-37-290 (Cassidy Bridge Road) upstream to its confluence with Bone Camp Creek in Oconee County; and
 - Eastatoe Creek from the backwaters of Lake Keowee upstream to S.C. State Highway S-39-143 (Roy Jones Road) in Pickens County.
- From January 1 through December 31, it is lawful to use or possess only artificial lures with single hooks on the Middle Saluda River (approximately 1.5 river miles) from Hugh Smith Road (Bridge) upstream to the foot-bridge at Jones Gap State Park.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The brown trout's body coloration in South Carolina varies between wild and hatchery-reared fish. The wild brown trout's body coloration is typically dark olive with brilliant yellow and large black spots. The olive background generally extends down the sides of the fish with brilliant red spots on sky-blue halos. The body color fades from olive to a richly colored yellow belly. The anal fin of wild brown trout often exhibits a white leading edge with a black outline (much like brook trout) but this pattern is absent on the other fins along the belly. Wild brown trout often have black spots present on the head and upper side of the body, including the dorsal fin. Red spots also occur along the sides and are sometimes present in the dorsal and adipose fins. Black spots are found on the dorsal and adipose fins, but not the caudal. The edge of the anal fin is white.

Range: Mountain streams of Oconee, Pickens and Greenville counties. Also present in Lake Jocassee and the tailraces of lakes Murray and Hartwell.

Average Length: 8-10 inches.

Average Size: 4-8 ounces in streams to several pounds in Lake Jocassee and lakes Hartwell and Murray tailraces.

Maximum Age: 18 years (southern populations 7-10 years).

Preferred Habitat: Brown trout can tolerate warmer water temperatures (not exceeding 68 degrees Fahrenheit for any extended period) than the brook and rainbow trout. Brown trout can be found in small creeks, rivers and reservoirs. They inhabit the deeper pools and undercut banks of these habitat types seeking out areas of low light intensity. Brown trout are better competitors than rainbow and brook trout in larger streams with multiple species.

Food Habits: Aquatic and terrestrial insects, crayfish and fish.

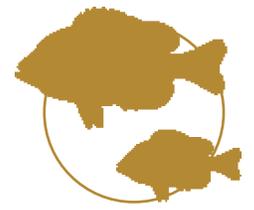
Spawning: Brown trout spawn from October through November when the females deposit 600-3,000 eggs into a shallow nest called a redd.

Miscellaneous: The brown trout is not native to the United States but comes from Europe. Since their introduction to North America in 1883, the brown trout has been stocked into the waters of every continent except Antarctica. This trout is more tolerant of warmer and turbid water than either the rainbow or the brook trout allowing it to have a greater habitat range. The brown trout inhabiting deeper, darker waters and undercut banks adds to the challenge anglers face when fishing for this exceptional fish.

Commonly Mistaken Species

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



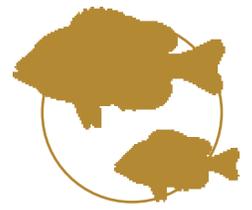
Brown trout





Brown trout





Rainbow trout *Onchorhynchus mykiss*



Meristics: Dorsal fin rays (13) 15-17, anal fin rays (12)14-16, pectoral fin rays 11-17, pelvic fin rays 9-10; pored lateral scales 100-150.

Regulations

Possession Limit: No more than five trout per person per day. See exceptions below.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits. See exceptions below.

Exceptions to the limits above:

- On Lake Jocassee there is a three fish combined total possession limit for all trout species.
- On Lake Jocassee from October 1 through May 31, there is a 15 inch minimum size limit except only one of the three fish may be more than 20 inches per person per day.
- On the lower reach of the Saluda River, only one trout out of the five possessed may be more than 16 inches in total length.
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 - that portion of Cheohee Creek that runs through the Piedmont Forestry Center;
 - Devils Fork Creek; Howard Creek from its confluence with Corbin Creek upstream to its confluence with Limberpole Creek; and Corbin Creek upstream from its confluence with Howard Creek to S.C. State Highway S-37-130 (Whitewater Road) in Oconee County;
 - Chauga River from S.C. State Highway S-37-290 (Cassidy Bridge Road) upstream to its confluence with Bone Camp Creek in Oconee County; and
 - Eastatoe Creek from the backwaters of Lake Keowee upstream to S.C. State Highway S-39-143 (Roy Jones Road) in Pickens County.
- Trout taken during the defined time period from the identified areas listed above must be released immediately.



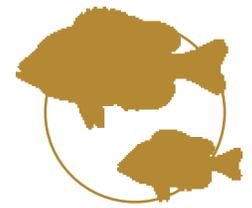
- From January 1 through December 31, it is unlawful to take and retain trout on the Middle Saluda River (approximately 1.5 river miles) from Hugh Smith Road (Bridge) upstream to the foot-bridge at Jones Gap State Park.

Bait & Tackle Restrictions: Artificial lures and bait can be used when fishing for trout except on the following:

- It is unlawful to take trout by snagging.
- On Lake Jocassee, it is unlawful to use or possess corn, cheese, fish eggs, or imitations of them.
- It is unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except artificial lures in the following waters:
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 - Eastatoe Creek from the backwaters of Lake Keowee upstream to S.C. State Highway S-39-143 (Roy Jones Road) in Pickens County.
- From January 1 through December 31, it is lawful to use or possess only artificial lures with single hooks on the Middle Saluda River (approximately 1.5 river miles) from Hugh Smith Road (Bridge) upstream to the foot-bridge at Jones Gap State Park.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The rainbow trout is an elongated fish with sides that fade from green below the dorsal fin to yellow to white. A pink to red stripe runs laterally along the sides of the rainbow. Small, dark spots are found on the head, body and most of the fins. The black spots on the caudal fins appear to be in rows.

Range: Mountain streams of Oconee, Pickens and Greenville counties. Also present in Lake Jocassee and the tailraces of lakes Murray and Hartwell.

Average Length: 7 to 8 inches.

Average Size: 4-5 ounces.

Maximum Age: 11 years (wild southern Appalachian populations, 4 years).

Preferred Habitat: The rainbow trout prefers clear and cold waters (not in excess of 68 degrees Fahrenheit) in creeks, rivers, lakes and reservoirs. This habitat exists in tailraces of large impoundments or occasionally in the deeper waters of certain reservoirs. In a normal mountain stream habitat, rainbow trout will inhabit the faster moving waters such as at the head of a pool area.

Food Habits: Aquatic and terrestrial insects, crayfish and fishes.

Spawning: Rainbow trout spawning occurs in February and March in the riffle areas of South Carolina mountain streams. The females prepare nesting areas, called redds, by fanning out a shallow depression several inches deep. The eggs are laid, fertilized, covered with gravel and left unattended to incubate and hatch some 30-50 days later. Females are known to deposit eggs in several redds during the spawning process. Wild self-sustaining rainbow trout populations occur in South Carolina's mountain region, generally east of the Chattooga Ridge along the Blue Ridge Escarpment in streams with elevations from 1,300 to 3,000 feet. The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources has an active trout stocking program which expands rainbow trout fishing opportunities seasonally, particularly in lower elevation streams.

Miscellaneous: The rainbow trout is relatively sensitive to its environment. Increases in water temperature and siltation are the two biggest threats to the well-being of rainbow trout. Man's land use practices in mountain areas have accounted for most of the loss of trout habitat in South Carolina. Improper road construction and logging practices often leave no buffer zone to shade and protect streams from solar heating and soil erosion. Silt from hillsides works its way into streams and smothers trout eggs before they can hatch. Siltation also decreases the amount and diversity of food available to trout. In addition, a significant portion of South Carolina's limited trout waters have been impounded by utility companies and private individuals. The rainbow trout is not native to South Carolina, but the colorful and popular gamefish has inhabited the state's mountain streams and pleased anglers for well over a century. Rainbow trout are the most intensively stocked of the three trout species in South Carolina's trout stocking program and account for more than 60% of all trout stocked. This is largely a result of the versatility and ease of culture of the species. Annual stocking of just under 300,000 rainbow trout by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources greatly expands the recreational fishery for rainbow trout in South Carolina mountain streams, Lake Jocassee and the tailraces of lakes Hartwell and Murray.

Commonly Mistaken Species:

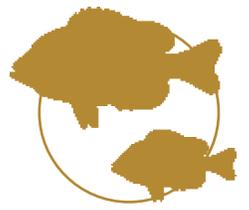
Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



Rainbow trout



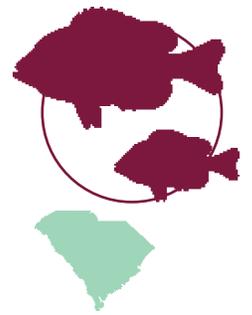


Rainbow trout

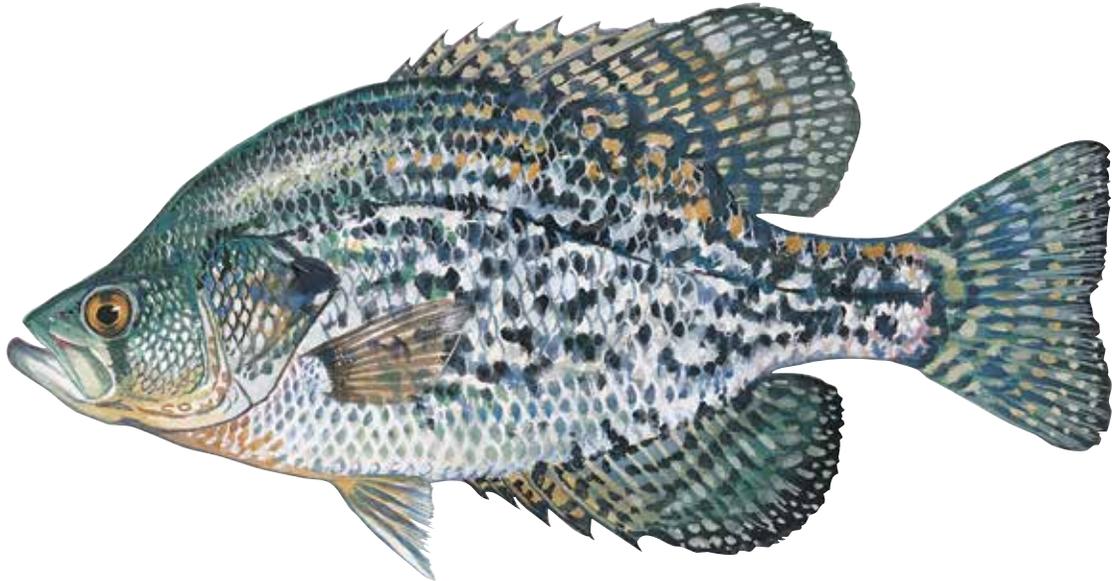




Trout Notes



Black crappie *Pomoxis nigromaculatus*



Meristics: Dorsal fin spines (6)7-8, dorsal fin rays 14-16, anal fin spines 6-7, anal fin rays 16-18, pectoral fin rays 13-15; lateral line scales 36-44.

Regulations

Possession Limit: 20 fish per person per day.

Size Limit: 8 inch minimum size.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The black crappie body is overall gray-green to bluish on the back that fades to a silvery side and belly. Black mottling is present on the sides of the body as well as the anal, dorsal and caudal fins. The mouth is large and extends to beneath the eye. Black crappies appear to have a “receding fin line,” as the area in front of the dorsal fin is highly arched. The black crappie has 7-8 dorsal fin spines.

Range: Statewide

Average Length: 10 inches.

Average Size: ½ to 1 ¼ pounds.

Maximum Age: 13 years, but most will not live beyond 8 years.

Preferred Habitat: Black crappies are found in vegetated areas of backwaters in streams, rivers, ponds and reservoirs. They prefer cool, clear waters.

Food Habits: Predominantly feed on small fish, but may also consume mussels, snails, crayfish, aquatic insects.

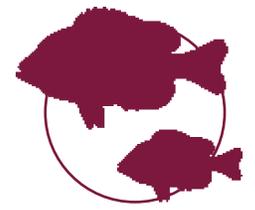
Spawning: As water temperatures approach 60 degrees Fahrenheit in late February to early May, male black crappie build their nests on top of sand, gravel or mud in shallow water. Females will deposit large amounts of eggs per spawn—3,000 to 15,000 eggs! Large females can lay up to 150,000 eggs. The male guards the fertilized eggs until they hatch and the fry leave the nest.

Miscellaneous: The black and white crappie can hybridize, but it is rare. The black crappie is the predominant crappie species in the state. It is one of the most popular sport fishes for South Carolina anglers. They are relatively easy to locate and catch as they congregate in large numbers around brush piles and piers. As a service to anglers, the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources constructs and marks fish attractors designed to attract crappie. These fish attractors do a good job of attracting crappie, but fishing pressure can reduce the number of fish at the site for short periods of time.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species is white crappie and flier.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.

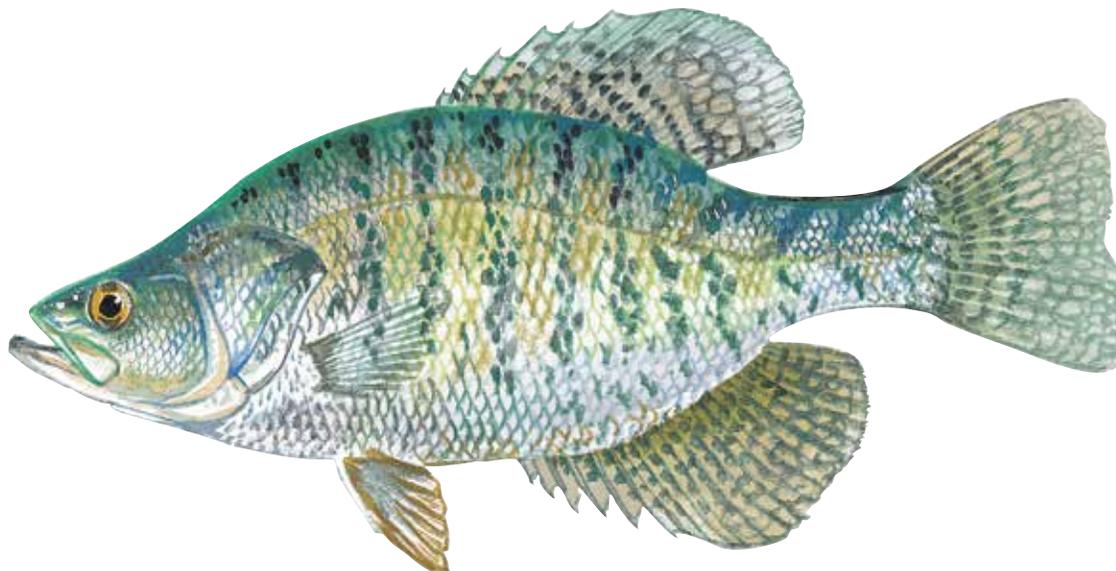


Black crappie





White crappie *Pomoxis annularis*



Meristics: Dorsal fin spines 5-6(7), dorsal fin rays (13)14-15, anal fin spines 6-7, anal fin rays 16-18, pectoral fin rays usually 13; lateral line scales 34-44.

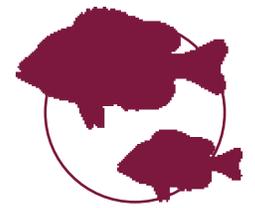
Regulations

Possession Limit: 20 fish per person per day.

Size Limit: 8 inch minimum size.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: Overall body color is a gray-green with a silver side and white belly. The dark spots on the side tend to form wavy vertical bars. The white crappie has a deep and highly compressed body, a large mouth that extends rearward to beneath the eye and a concave nape. The white crappie has 5-6 dorsal fin spines.

Range: Statewide.

Average Length: 6-12 inches.

Average Size: ½ to 1¼ pounds, approximate maximum size five-pounds.

Maximum Age: Approximately 10 years.

Preferred Habitat: The two species of crappie are found in almost all waters with the exception of mountain streams. They are more abundant in large impoundments, natural lakes and backwaters.

White crappie are more tolerant of turbid conditions with the black crappie preferring clearer lakes.

Food Habits: Young crappie feed on invertebrates such as zooplankton and insects when they reach a size of about 7 inches, fish become more prevalent in the diet. In large impoundments, adult crappie feed on threadfin shad and small gizzard shad throughout the year; however, they will feed extensively on mayfly nymphs during the summer months.

Spawning: As water temperatures approach 60° Fahrenheit, the male crappie will prepare a nest by fanning out a shallow depression on top of sand, gravel or mud in 2 to 8 feet of water. Nests range from 8 to 15 inches in diameter and are usually found in colonies, with as many as 30 nests found in a 9-square yard area. Females deposit from 3,000 to 15,000 eggs per spawn, but may spawn with several different males. Large females have the potential to lay up to 150,000 eggs. The male guards the fertilized eggs for 2 to 3 days until hatching and continues for an additional 3 to 4 days until fry leave the nest.

Miscellaneous: The black crappie is very similar to the white crappie, differing slightly only in some body characteristics, color patterns and habitat preference. In most impoundments, one species or the other will predominate. The crappie is one of the most popular sport fishes in South Carolina. It is relatively easy to locate and catch and it has a very good flavor. Crappie are often found in large numbers around piers and brush. These loose aggregations are not really schools of fish but they can appear to come and go as they are fished out of a small area. The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources constructs and marks brush piles designed to attract crappie as a service to anglers. These fish attractors do a good job of attracting crappie but fishing pressure can reduce the number of fish at the site for short periods of time.

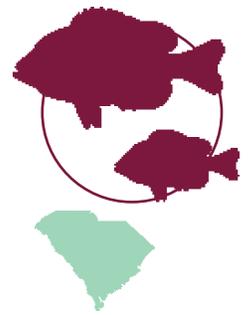
Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are black crappie and flier.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C, Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



White crappie



Bluegill *Lepomis macrochirus*



Meristics: Dorsal fin spines (9)10-(12), dorsal fin rays (9)10-11(13), anal fin spines 3, anal fin rays (9)11-12, pectoral fin rays (12)13-14(15); lateral line scales (38)41-46(50).

Regulations

Possession Limit: 30 bream per person per day. Bream includes bluegill, flier, warmouth, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, redear and spotted sunfish.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The bluegill is a laterally compressed or flattened sunfish, olive in color with an orange to yellow breast with clear fins except for a distinguishing large black smudge near the bottom of the soft dorsal fin. The operculum or gill cover is tipped distinctly with black and there are several wide dark vertical bars on the side of the body. Bluegills have small mouths with no teeth on the tongue. The bluegill name comes from breeding males who exhibit pale blue to violet on the top half of the body with powder blue on the lower jaw and lower portion of the operculum or gill cover. The breeding males also develop a red breast.

Range: Statewide including all rivers as well as small and large impoundments.

Average Length: 5-10 inches.

Average Size: 3-8 ounces.

Maximum Age: 11 years.

Preferred Habitat: Bluegills are very tolerant of many habitat types including pools of creeks and rivers, swamps, oxbow lakes, ponds, vegetated shores of impoundments, man-made lakes, ponds and retention basins. They prefer sluggish or slow-moving water.

Food Habits: Bluegills are opportunistic carnivores feeding on a variety of prey types. They will feed on mature and immature insects, small invertebrates, crayfish, mollusks (mussels) and other fishes. They have small mouths, however, the larger the bluegill the larger the prey type they can consume. They mostly feed near the surface.

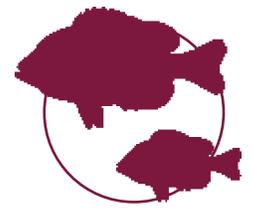
Spawning: Bluegills are colonial nesters with 100 or more different bluegill nests in one area. This helps provide extra protection for the eggs and fry from predators. Bluegill become sexually mature at 1 or 2 years of age and then construct nests in shallow water over sand or mud bottoms as water temperatures exceed 75 degrees Fahrenheit, usually from May to August. Females can produce up to 80,000 eggs per year. A female may deposit eggs in several adjacent nests within a nesting colony. Highly unusual for sunfishes, male bluegill will sneak into nests of other males to deposit their sperm to produce more of their offspring versus another male. Males will guard their nests and aerate the eggs by fanning their fins until the eggs hatch, within 1-2 days. Males continue to guard the area as the young fry disperse.

Miscellaneous: Just like largemouth bass, bluegills are one of the most common fishes stocked for angling and food. It has been stocked extensively by state and federal agencies into farm ponds, usually in combination with redear sunfish and largemouth bass. With proper farm management, bluegill can provide many years of successful fishing. Lack of proper management may result in crowded ponds with stunted bluegill, only growing 4 to 5 inches in length. Successful and multiple reproduction of bluegill is important to provide an adequate food source for developing young largemouth bass. Concentrations of large numbers of nesting or bedding bluegill produce an odor which is detectable by experienced anglers.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish which are commonly mistaken for this species are redear sunfish and the green sunfish.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



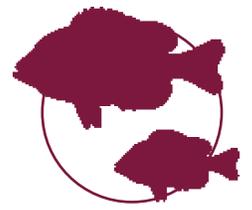
Bluegill



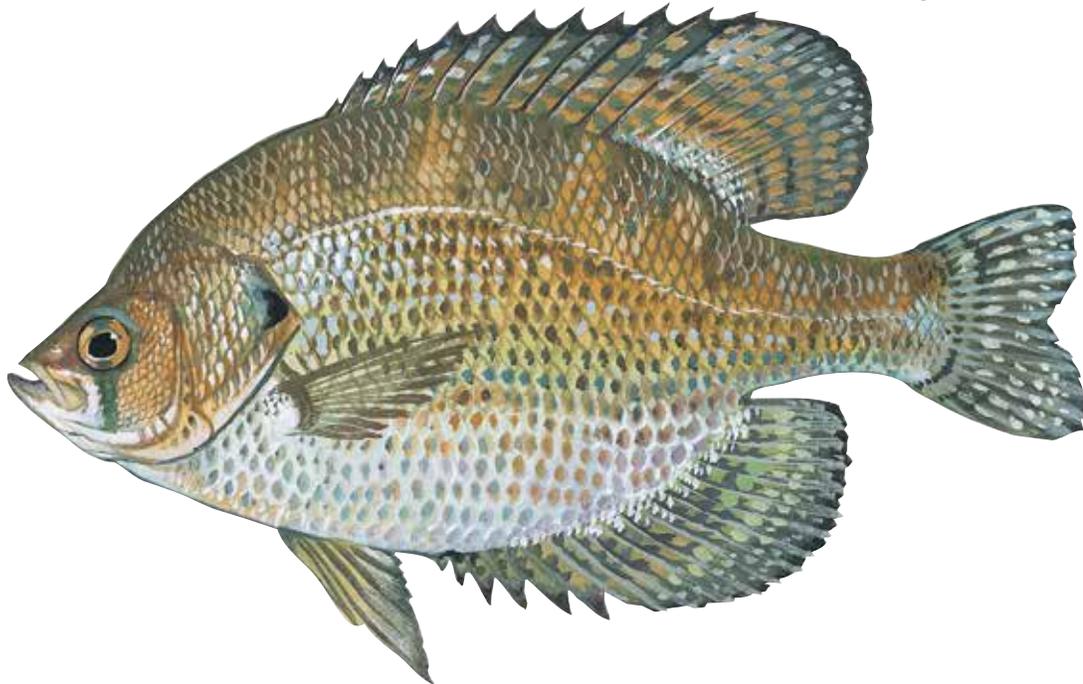


Bluegill





Flier *Centrarchus macropterus*



Meristics: Dorsal fin spines (11)12(13), dorsal fin rays (12)13-14, anal fin spines 7-8, anal fin rays (14)15-16(17), pectoral fin rays (11)13-14; lateral line scales (36)37-41(42).

Regulations

Possession Limit: 30 bream per person per day. Bream includes bluegill, flier, warmouth, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, redear and spotted sunfish.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The flier looks almost circular. The body is olive green to silver in color and has interrupted rows of black spots along the side. A distinct, large black teardrop-shaped marking occurs below the eye. The operculum or gill cover lobe is black. Young fliers have a dark spot outlined in an orange ring on the dorsal fin. These spots fade and disappear with age. The flier has 11-13 dorsal fin spines.

Range: Predominantly found in the coastal plain of South Carolina; however, there are records of the flier in tributaries of the Broad, Saluda and Savannah rivers.

Average Length: 5 inches.

Average Size: 3 ounces.

Maximum Age: 8 years.

Preferred Habitat: The flier is commonly found in the warm and heavily vegetated waters of the coastal plain in swamps, creeks, ponds, backwaters, sloughs, roadside drainage ditches and low-flowing streams.

Food Habits: Small aquatic insects and small fishes.

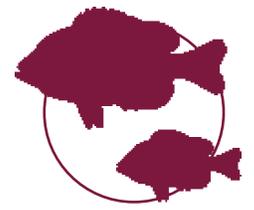
Spawning: Spawning for fliers begins earlier than most sunfish around March to May when water temperatures are reaching 55-65 degrees Fahrenheit. The males build and defend the nests which are often in groups. The females deposit 20,000-35,000 eggs in the nests.

Miscellaneous: The flier is a species of sunfish which establishes fishable population in the coastal plain section of South Carolina. It has the most dorsal fin spines, usually 11-13, of any sunfish.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are white and black crappie.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



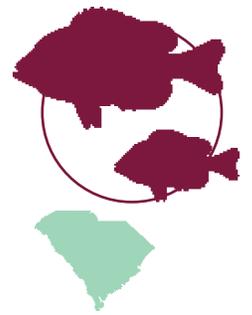
Flier



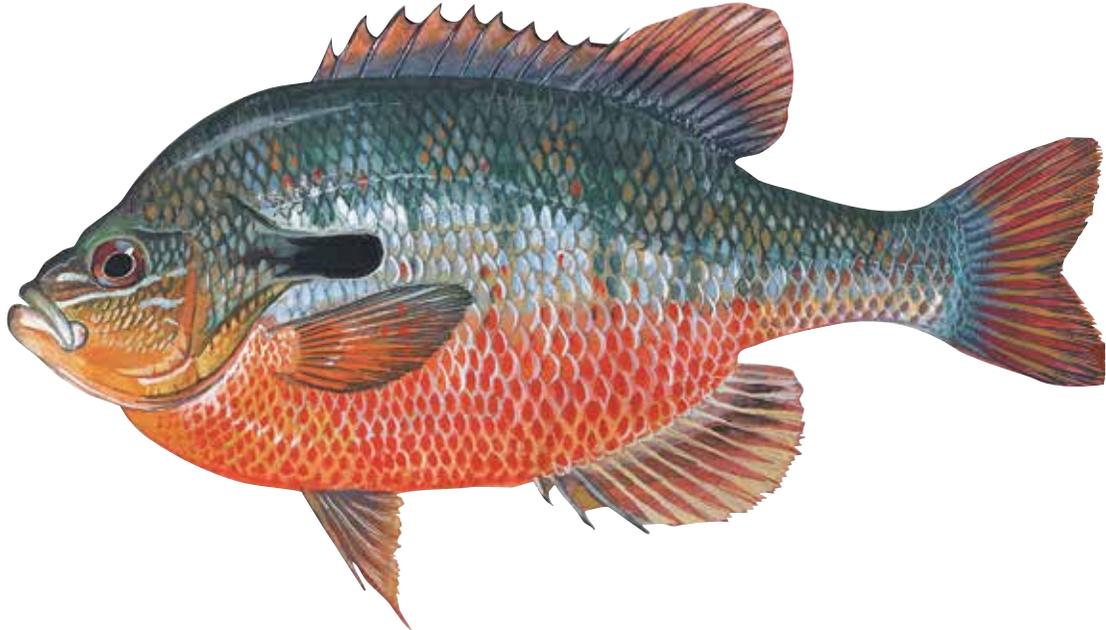


Flier





Redbreast sunfish *Lepomis auritus*



Meristics: Dorsal fin spines (9)10(11), dorsal fin rays 11-12, anal fin spines 3, anal fin rays (8)9-10, pectoral fin rays (13)14-15; lateral line scales (39)42-46(54).

Regulations

Possession Limit: Only 15 redbreast sunfish per person per day.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The redbreast sunfish is laterally compressed or flattened like other sunfishes; however, it has a more elongated body than other sunfishes. The redbreast's body is a bluish-green that fades into a bright orange-yellow belly in females and a deep orange-red belly in males. Both males and females have vertical rows of red-brown to orange spots on the sides of the body. Traces of these spots can sometimes be seen tapering on the edge of the tail or caudal fin where the body connects. The caudal fin is generally an orange-red color. The operculum or gill cover has a distinguishing long black lobe. Blue lines can be found on the face or cheek area of the redbreast sunfish. Teeth are present on the roof of the mouth.

Range: Statewide.

Average Length: 2-9 inches.

Average Size: 3-8 ounces.

Maximum Age: 8 years.

Preferred Habitat: The redbreast sunfish can be found in areas with slow-moving or sluggish water such as pools and backwaters of streams and rivers and upstream reaches of reservoirs. They can be found in areas with woody debris, stumps, undercut banks, shoreline riprap and rocky points. They prefer areas with a sandy bottom and generally avoid areas that are stagnant or heavily vegetated.

Food Habits: The redbreast sunfish feeds predominantly on aquatic and terrestrial insects, crayfish, mollusks and other fish.

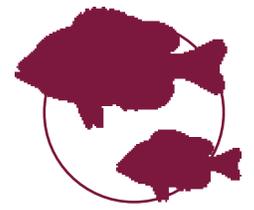
Spawning: Redbreast sunfish spawn during late May through the end of July when water temperatures are from 65 degrees to 75 degrees Fahrenheit. Males construct large saucer-shaped nests typically in shallow waters on sand or gravel substrates. Nests may be solitary or built in groups of more than 80 nests. Fertilized eggs are sticky and clump together in the nest.

Miscellaneous: The popularity afforded to South Carolina's low country blackwater rivers can be attributed to the redbreast sunfish fishery they support.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are dollar sunfish, bluegill, pumpkinseed and redear sunfish.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



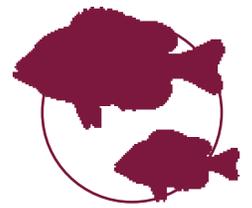
Redbreast sunfish



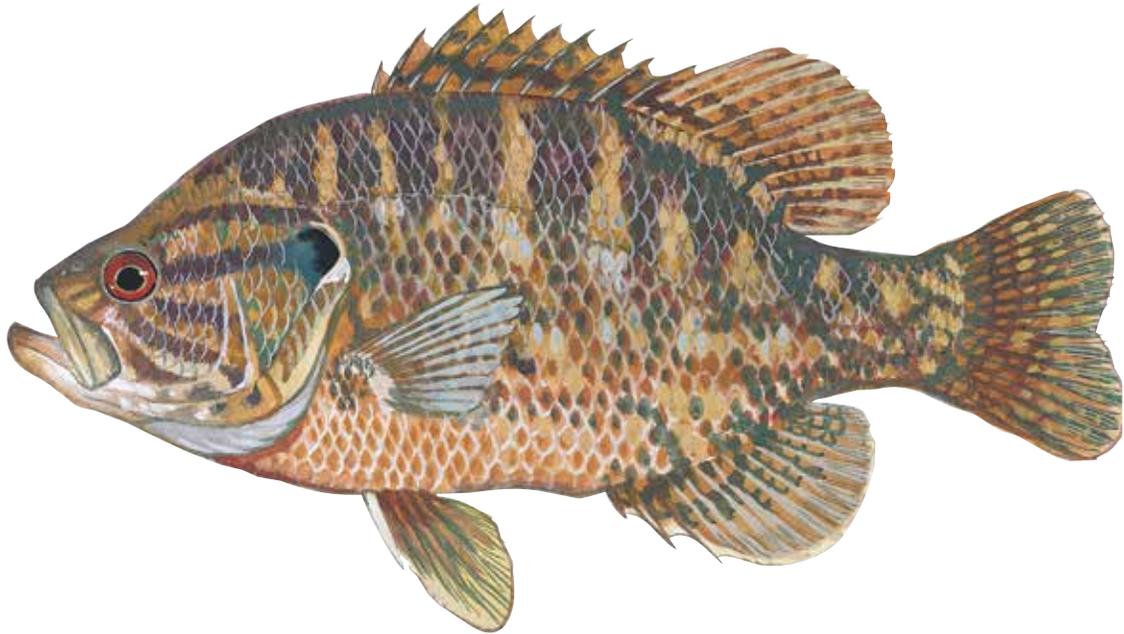


Redbreast sunfish





Warmouth *Lepomis gulosus*



Meristics: Dorsal fin spines (9)10(11), dorsal fin rays (9)10(11), anal fin spines 3, anal fin rays 9-10, pectoral fin rays (12)14; lateral line scales (38)41-45(48).

Regulations

Possession Limit: 30 bream per person per day. Bream includes bluegill, flier, warmouth, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, redear and spotted sunfish.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The warmouth gets its name from the large mouth that extends to beneath the pupil of the large red eye. The body is an overall olive brown with a purple sheen. The sides of the body are mottled dark brown with dark red-brown lines that radiate out towards the gill flap or operculum from the eye. The edge of the operculum is stiff and short with a reddish spot. A patch of teeth is found on the tongue and in the roof of the mouth. Breeding male warmouths develop a bright orange spot at the base of the dorsal fin.

Range: Statewide in all flowing and impounded habitats.

Average Length: 5-8 ounces.

Average Size: ¼-¾ pounds.

Maximum Age: 8 years.

Preferred Habitat: The warmouth prefers slow-moving streams, swamps, Carolina bays, ponds and reservoirs, especially areas with submerged cover—riprap or vegetation.

Food Habits: Aquatic insects, mussels, crayfish and fish.

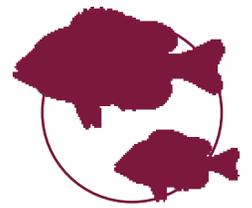
Spawning: Warmouth begin spawning in late spring through the summer months when water temperatures are above 70 degrees Fahrenheit. Male warmouth build multiple nests sometimes in groups with other warmouths on top of gravel or sandy bottoms. Females then lay their eggs in multiple nests, depositing as few as 2,000 eggs to as many as 20,000 eggs. The eggs are guarded until hatching and after for a short period.

Miscellaneous: The larger mouth size of warmouths allows the fish to consume a wider variety of food items than other sunfish species. The warmouth grows better and is more productive in coastal plain waters than in piedmont waters.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are juvenile bluegill and green sunfish.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



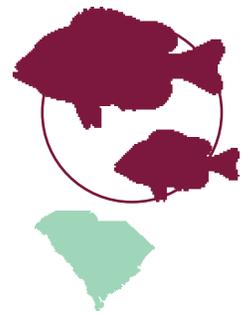
Warmouth



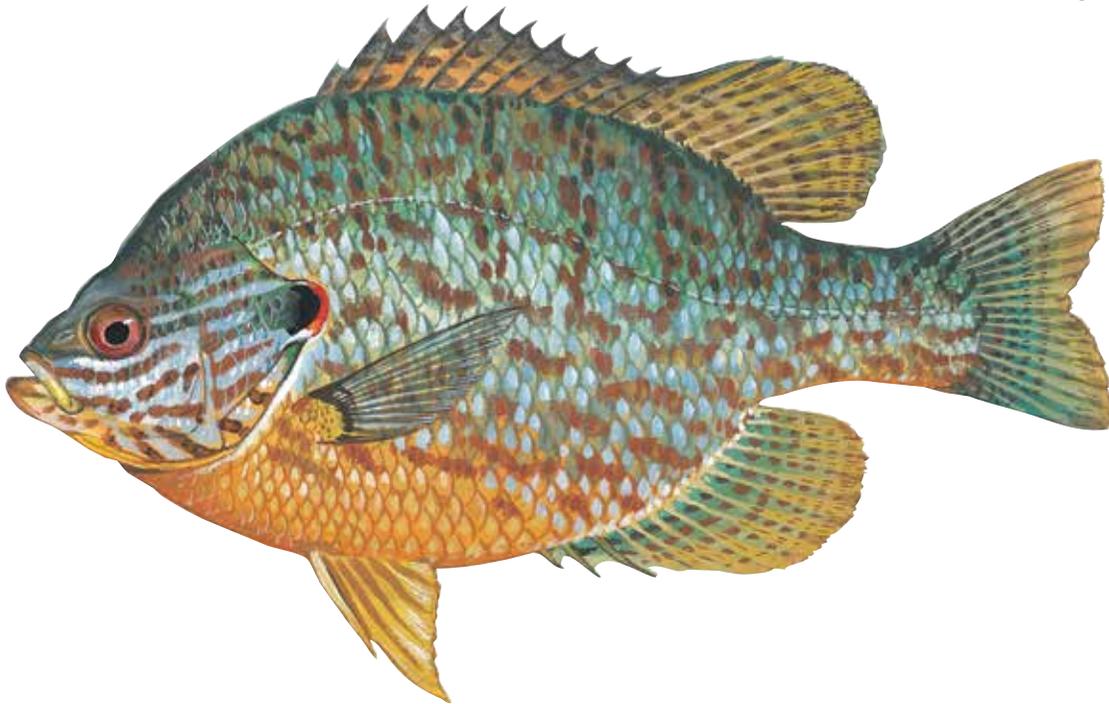


Warmouth





Pumpkinseed *Lepomis gibbosus*



Meristics: Dorsal fin spines (9)10(12), dorsal fin rays (10)11-12(13), anal fin spines 3(4), anal fin rays (8)9-10(12), pectoral fin rays (11)12-13(14); lateral line scales (36)37-44(47).

Regulations

Possession Limit: 30 bream per person per day. Bream includes bluegill, flier, warmouth, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, redear and spotted sunfish.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The pumpkinseed is easily recognized by the wavy and iridescent blue lines that radiate from the mouth along the side of its head. The sides of the body fade from olive, covered with gold and yellow flecks, to blue green, covered with orange spots, to a yellow or orange belly. The dorsal, anal and caudal fins are decorated with brown wavy lines or orange spots. The pectoral fin is long and pointy and usually extends far past the eye when bent forward. The gill cover or operculum is stiff, short and mostly black with a light colored edge of bright orange to red-orange. The mouth is small. Pumpkinseeds have pharyngeal teeth, which are molar-shaped teeth located in the throat area of the fish.

Range: Statewide.

Average Length: 4-6 inches.

Average Size: 2-4 ounces.

Maximum Age: 8 years.

Preferred Habitat: Pumpkinseeds can survive and reproduce in a variety of habitat types including pools and backwaters or streams, rivers, ponds and reservoirs over a variety of bottoms. They prefer the vegetated areas of these habitat types.

Food Habits: Aquatic insects, mussels, snails and crayfish.

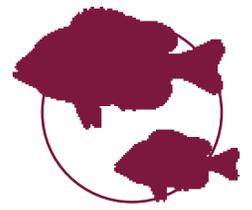
Spawning: Pumpkinseed begin to spawn when water temperatures exceed 70 degrees Fahrenheit around late spring to early summer. Males construct nests in shallow water either singularly or in loose groups. Females can produce up to 14,000 eggs during a laying season, producing 2,000-3,000 sticky eggs at one time in the bottom of their sandy nests. The male fertilizes the eggs, guards them throughout incubation and protects them during their early development.

Miscellaneous: Pumpkinseed will often hybridize with other sunfish species, reproducing more than once if conditions are favorable. They rarely reach a size to make them recreationally important to anglers.

Commonly Mistaken Species: One species of fish that is commonly mistaken for this species is redear sunfish.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



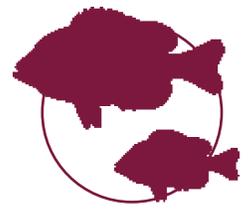
Pumpkinseed



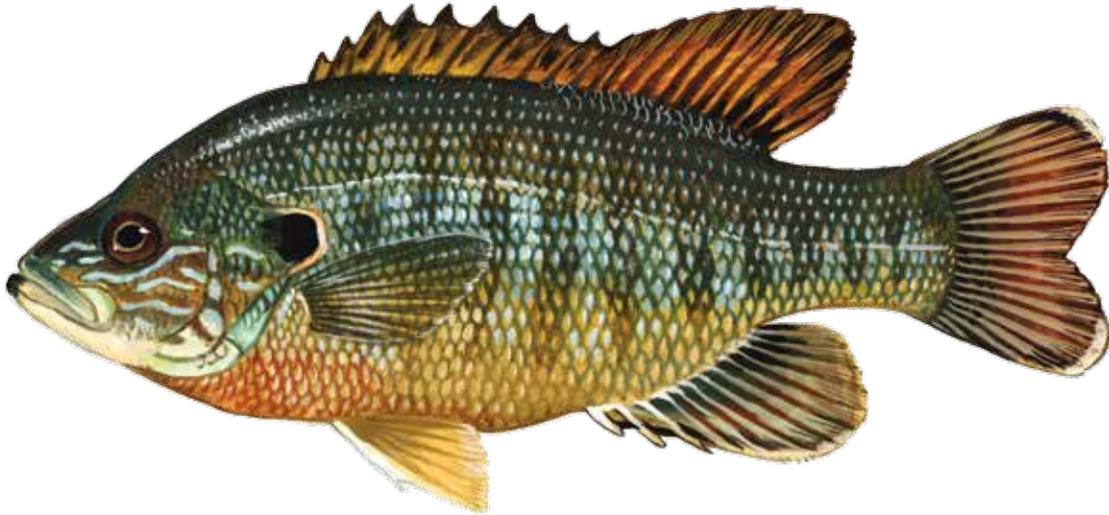


Pumpkinseed





Green sunfish *Lepomis cyanellus*



Meristics: Dorsal fin spines (9)10(12), dorsal fin rays 10-11(12), anal fin spines 3, anal fin rays (8)9-10, pectoral fin rays 13-14(15); lateral line scales (43)46-50(53).

Regulations

Possession Limit: 30 bream per person per day. Bream includes bluegill, flier, warmouth, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, redear and spotted sunfish.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: Green sunfish have a slender, thick body with a large mouth and an upper jaw that extends back to the near middle of the eye. Its body is greenish-brown with irregular rows of metallic blue-green flecks along its sides. From the mouth to the cheeks and the operculum, iridescent blue lines radiate. A distinctive large black blotch is present on the rear of the dorsal fin and on the anal fin. The soft dorsal and anal fins, pelvic and caudal fins are edged with white followed by a faint, but distinct, yellow-orange edge. The pectoral fin is short and rounded. The opercular lobe is short and black with a wide pale margin.

Range: Mostly in the Blue Ridge and Piedmont foothills, but may also be found in parts of the Coastal Plain.

Average Length: 4-6 inches.

Average Size: 3-6 ounces.

Maximum Age: 7 years.

Preferred Habitat: Green sunfish prefer slow pools and backwaters of streams and rivers, but they also occur in ponds, lakes and reservoirs. They are highly tolerant of turbidity and drought conditions.

Food Habits: Aquatic insects, crayfish and small fishes.

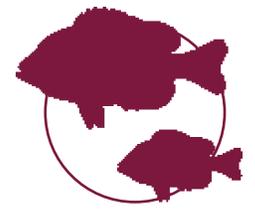
Spawning: From April through August, green sunfish spawn almost always making nests near some type of shelter such as a log or clumps of vegetation over gravel or sand. Green sunfish nests are often located in large groups. Depending on the female's size, she can lay between 2,000 and 10,000 eggs per spawning season.

Miscellaneous: Green sunfish are the most resilient and top competitors of all the sunfishes. They can withstand extreme changes in temperature and most disturbed habitats. They often out-compete and suppress native fish populations in disturbed or marginal habitats. They can rapidly colonize new habitats too.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are bluegill and warmouth.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.

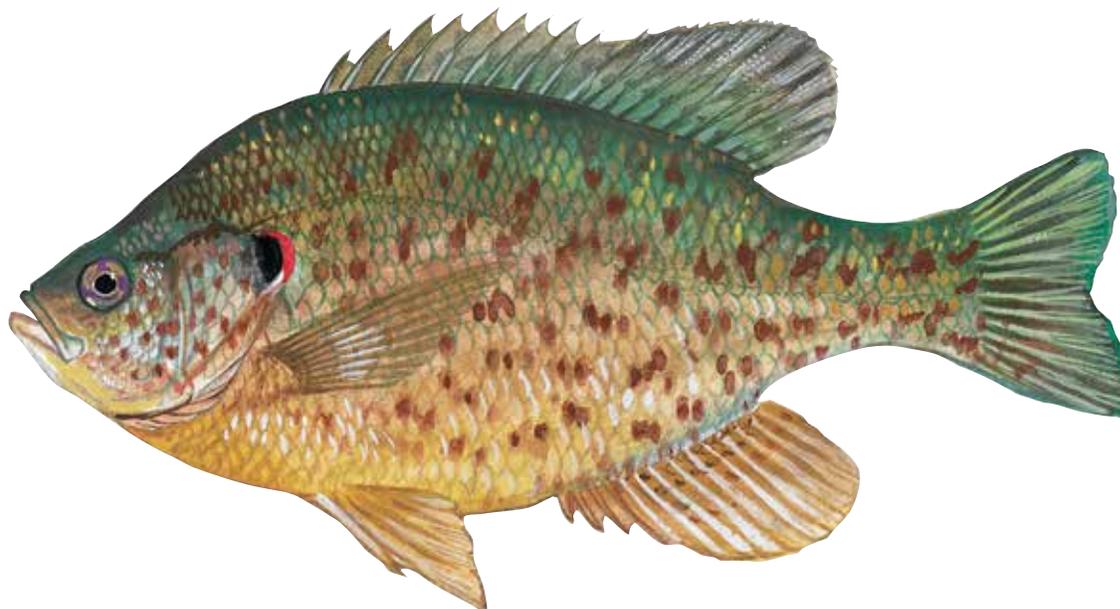


Green sunfish





Redear sunfish *Lepomis microlophus*



Meristics: Dorsal fin spines 10(11), dorsal fin rays (10)11-12, anal fin spines 3, anal fin rays (9)10-11, pectoral fin rays 13-15(16); lateral line scales (40)41-44(47).

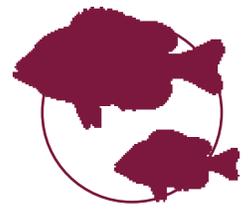
Regulations

Possession Limit: 30 bream per person per day. Bream includes bluegill, flier, warmouth, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, redear and spotted sunfish.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: Like other sunfishes, the redear has a laterally compressed or flattened body that is olive in color with an iridescent gold-green sheen that fades from the top side of the fish to yellow. The redear's side is speckled with brown spots. The operculum or gill flap cover is short, black and distinguishably tipped with red or orange along the edge. The redear's operculum edge is flexible. The fins are clear but the pectoral fin is long and pointed. The mouth is small with no teeth on the tongue. The nose of the fish is pointed.

Range: Statewide.

Average Length: 6-10 inches.

Average Size: 4-8 ounces.

Maximum Age: 8 years.

Preferred Habitat: Redear can be found in a variety of habitat types including ponds, lakes, reservoirs, swamps, streams and small rivers. They prefer slow-moving, sluggish or non-flowing waters and are often found in or near areas of vegetation and over a mud or sand bottom.

Food Habits: Redear sunfish feed on the bottom and therefore eat aquatic organisms that live on the bottom such as mussels, snails and insect larvae.

Spawning: Redear sunfish can begin spawning at age one, but most don't until age two at temperatures above 70 degrees Fahrenheit usually in late spring to early summer. They create shallow nests in water 6 inches to several feet deep on sand, gravel or mud. The nests may be solitary or in groups of several dozen and up to one hundred. The female will lay up to 45,000 eggs which the male guards and aerates during incubation.

Miscellaneous: Anglers nicknamed the redear sunfish "shellcracker" because they have teeth (called pharyngeal teeth) located in the throat area of the fish that are used to crush the shells of some of the redear's favorite prey items—mussels and snails. Redear are often stocked in small farm ponds in combination with bluegill and largemouth bass.

Commonly Mistaken Species: One species of fish that is commonly mistaken for this species is pumpkinseed.

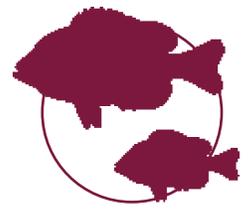
Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

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Redear sunfish





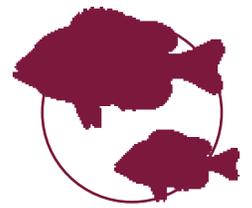
Redear sunfish



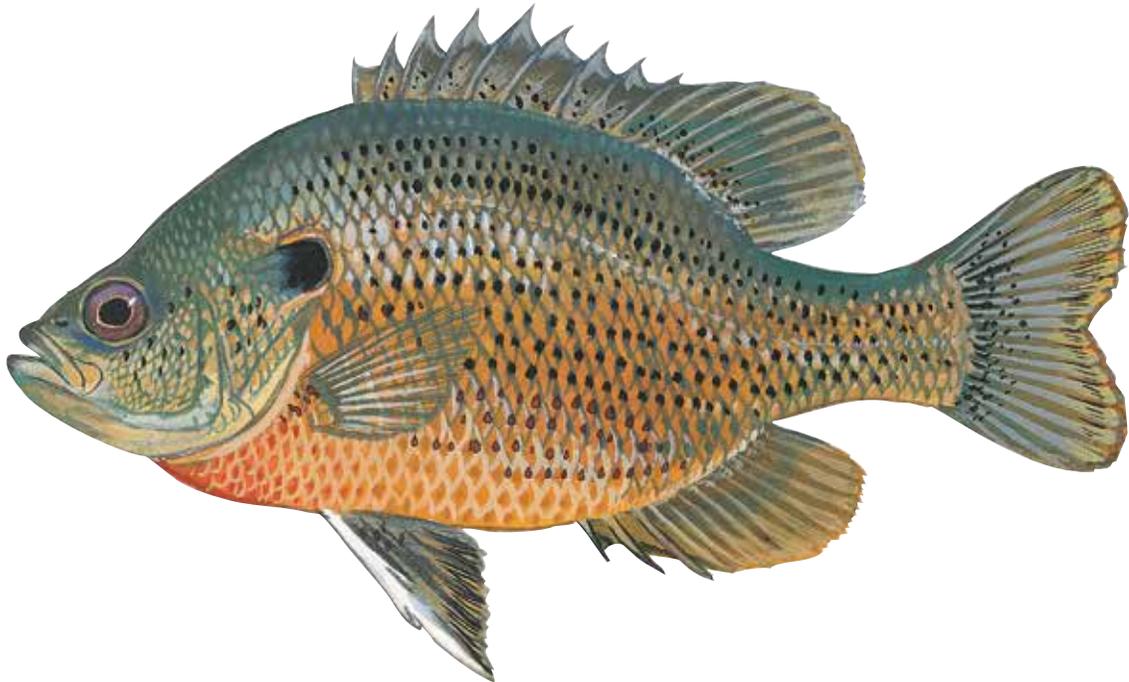


Redear sunfish





Spotted sunfish *Lepomis punctatus*



Meristics: Dorsal fin spines 9-11, dorsal fin rays (9)10-11(12), anal fin spines 3, anal fin rays (9)10(11), pectoral fin rays (12)13-14(15); lateral line scales (37)38-44(47).

Regulations

Possession Limit: 30 bream per person per day. Bream includes bluegill, flier, warmouth, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, redear and spotted sunfish.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The spotted sunfish has distinct black spots along the side of its head and body and noticeably on the operculum or gill cover. The body is olive in color, with an orange or yellow tinge along the belly. The tips of the dorsal, caudal and anal fins are silvery to white. The operculum lobe is black with a white edge and is stiff. The bottom of the eye is underlined with a blue iridescent half moon. The mouth is small with no teeth on the tongue or the roof of the mouth.

Range: Coastal plain of South Carolina.

Average Length: 4-5 inches.

Average Size: 3-7 ounces.

Maximum Age:

Preferred Habitat: Spotted sunfish are generally found in sloughs, swamps, slow streams and rivers near dense vegetation, debris and/or submerged logs and stumps.

Food Habits: Terrestrial and aquatic insects, snails and crayfish.

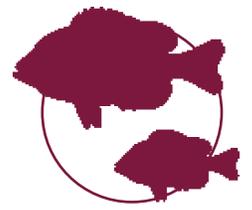
Spawning: Spotted sunfish spawn late spring to early summer once water temperatures have reached 70 degrees Fahrenheit. The males build nests in shallow water frequently near banks. Spotted sunfish are unlike other sunfishes in that they tend to be solitary nesters. Courting males make a grunting sound and are very aggressive when guarding their nests.

Miscellaneous: Spotted sunfish are often called “stumpknockers.” This is probably due to their feeding activity for insects attached to submersed logs. This species will tolerate higher salinities than other sunfishes, thus allowing it to exist in coastal streams with some saltwater intrusion.

Commonly Mistaken Species: None.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



Spotted sunfish





Chain pickerel *Esox niger*



Meristics: Principal dorsal fin rays 14-15, principal anal fin rays 11-13, pectoral fin rays 12-15; lateral line scales 114-131.

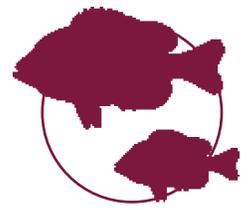
Regulations

Possession Limit: 30 fish per person per day.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The chain pickerel is a narrowly elongated fish with a duckbill snout that is long and narrow. The body is olive green in color with rows of a chainlike pattern along the side. A black bar streams straight down from the eye. Its mouth is full of sharp teeth.

Meristics: Principal dorsal fin rays 14-15, principal anal fin rays 11-13, pectoral fin rays 12-15; lateral line scales 114-131.

Range: Common statewide, except for Broad River system.

Average Length: 14-15 inches.

Average Size: 12-14 ounces.

Maximum Age: 8 years.

Preferred Habitat: Chain pickerels are found in heavily vegetated areas of sluggish or slow-moving rivers, streams, swamps and lakes.

Food Habits: Fish.

Spawning: Chain pickerel spawn when water temperatures approach 45 degrees Fahrenheit during March and April. However, they may be fall spawners in the coastal plain. One female will be joined by one or two males in submerged vegetation. Once the eggs are fertilized, they will stick to the aquatic vegetation and other submerged substrate where they incubate until they hatch unattended.

Miscellaneous: This popular sport fish of coastal plain backwaters and streams is well adapted for its ambush-type feeding behavior. Its body and mouth shape are perfectly designed for capturing and consuming other fish. Chain pickerel have been known to capture and attempt to consume fish equal to their own size. Chain pickerel will usually maintain a motionless posture, resembling a drifting stick. This unanimated behavior reduces its detection by prey (other fish) allowing the pickerel the advantage of surprise. Although they have many small bones, they are a good fish to eat.

Commonly Mistaken Species: One species of fish that is commonly mistaken for this species is redfin pickerel. The chain pickerel, however, has a longer snout and a black bar below the eye that streams straight down from the eye.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina. Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



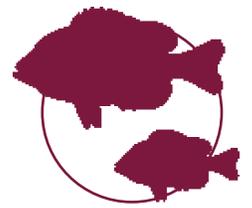
Chain pickerel

Redfin
pickerel

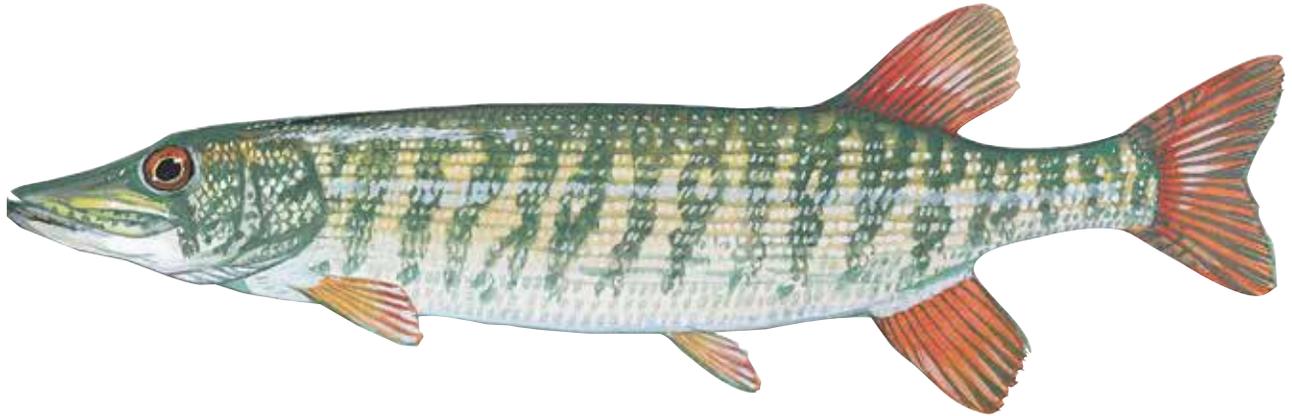


Chain
pickerel





Redfin pickerel *Esox americanus*



Meristics: Principal dorsal fin rays 15-18, principal anal fin rays 13-17, pectoral fin rays (13)14-15(17), pelvic fin rays (8)9-10; lateral line scales 94-117.

Regulations

Possession Limit: 30 fish per person per day.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The redbfin pickerel is a narrowly elongated fish with a duck-like snout that is short and wide. The body is brown to dark olive in color with numerous wavy horizontal bars with a white belly. The fins are often bright orange-red to red, especially in spawning adults. A black bar slants backward toward the gill flap or operculum from the eye, and can sometimes be vertical.

Range: Statewide, common in the Coastal Plain and lower Piedmont.

Average Length: 6-10 inches.

Average Size: 5 ounces.

Maximum Age: 6 years (southern populations 4 years).

Preferred Habitat: Redfin pickerels inhabit heavily vegetated slow-moving streams.

Food Habits: Fish

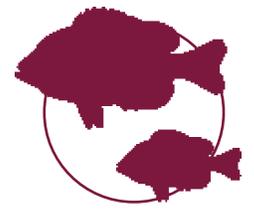
Spawning: Redfin pickerels spawn in January and February when water temperatures approach 50 degrees Fahrenheit. Females deposit their eggs in vegetated areas where they are fertilized and left unattended. A large female may deposit as many as 4,000 eggs at one time.

Miscellaneous: The torpedo-shaped redbfin pickerel has numerous sharp teeth in a relatively pointed snout making it perfectly designed for its ambush-type feeding behavior. Due to its small size, sport fishing for the species is limited primarily to coastal areas where the ideal habitat for growth exists.

Commonly Mistaken Species: One species of fish that is commonly mistaken for this species is chain pickerel. The redbfin pickerel, however, has a shorter snout and a black bar below the eye that angles slightly towards the rear.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



Redfin pickerel





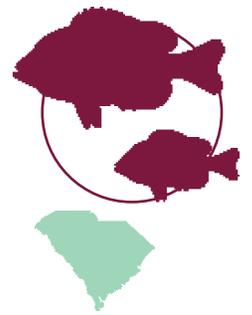
Redfin pickerel



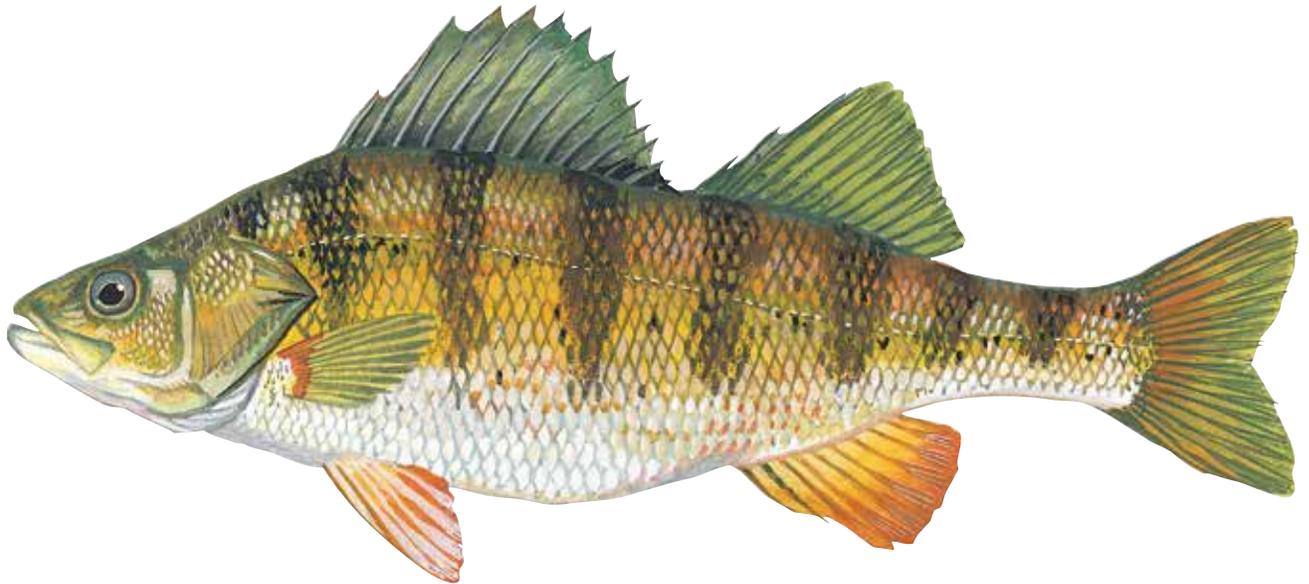
**Redfin
pickerel**



**Chain
pickerel**



Yellow perch *Perca flavescens*



Meristics: First dorsal fin spines (11)12-14(15), second dorsal fin spines 1-2(3), second dorsal fin rays (12)13-15(16), anal fin spines 2, anal fin rays (6)7-8(9), pectoral fin rays 13-15, pelvic fin spines 1, pelvic fin rays 5; lateral line scales 114-131.

Regulations

Possession Limit: 30 fish per person per day.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: The yellow perch is yellow in color with most individuals having six to nine black vertical bars that run along the side of the fish. Pelvic and anal fins can range from red to yellow-orange in color. A dark spot is found on the base of the spiny dorsal fin. The mouth has small teeth.

Range: Statewide.

Average Length: 5-8 inches.

Average Size: 6-10 ounces.

Maximum Age: 21 years.

Preferred Habitat: Yellow perch can be found in a variety of habitats from cool, clear waters to warm waters. They occur in creeks, streams, rivers and reservoirs. Yellow perch are tolerant of acidic waters and salinities up to about 12 percent.

Food Habits: Aquatic insects, crayfish and fish.

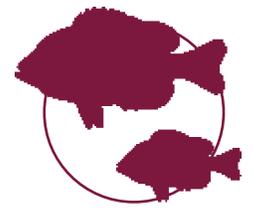
Spawning: Yellow perch spawn from March to May in water temperatures of 45-55 degrees Fahrenheit. Females, dependent upon size, can produce anywhere from 3,000 to 150,000 eggs. The female yellow perch has a single ovary that produces an accordion-like gelatinous ribbon of densely packed eggs. This single ovary arrangement is unique among North American fishes. Spawning is a communal affair with up to 25 males pursuing a single female. The ribbon of eggs is deposited in and around vegetation and the submerged branches of trees. Eggs hatch in two to three weeks.

Miscellaneous: Yellow perch are considered to be fun, easy to catch and a joy to eat. The flesh is firm and makes excellent table fare and is comparable to walleye in quality.

Commonly Mistaken Species: One species of fish that is commonly mistaken for this species is walleye.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.

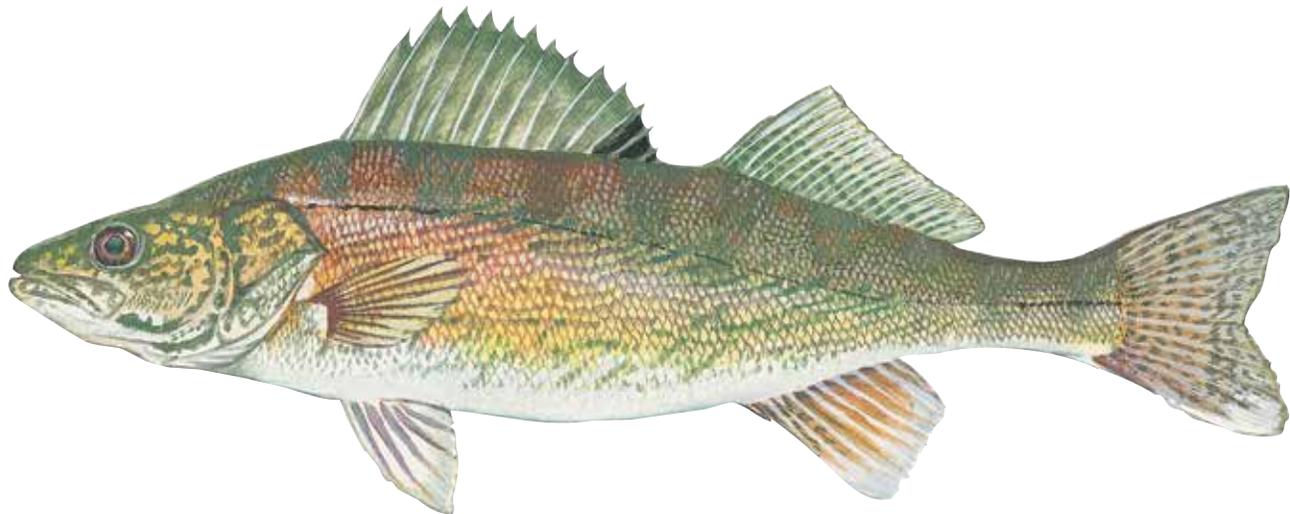


Yellow perch





Walleye *Sander vitreus*



Meristics: First dorsal fin spines (12)13-14(16), second dorsal fin spines 1(2), second dorsal fin rays (18)19-21(22), anal fin spines 2, anal fin rays (11)12-13(14), pectoral fin rays 13-15(16), pelvic fin spine 1, pelvic fin rays 5; lateral line scales (80)86-92(108).

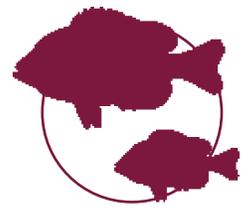
Regulations

Possession Limit: No more than 8 fish per person per day of walleye, sauger or combination.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:

- Game fish must be landed with head and tail fin intact.



Description: Walleye are a long, slender-bodied fish with a large mouth that extends back past the middle of the eye, large canine teeth and a silver eye. The body of a walleye is yellow-olive to brown in color with a creamy white belly. Two dorsal fins atop the body are separated. The spiny dorsal has a black spot at the base. There are six or seven faint saddles on the back.

Range: Lake Hartwell and some waters immediately downstream.

Average Length: 18-24 inches.

Average Size: 2 ¼ pounds.

Maximum Age: 8 years.

Preferred Habitat: Walleye are found in clear and cool pools, runs and backwaters of large rivers and reservoirs.

Food Habits: Fish.

Spawning: Walleye spawn in streams, along shores of reservoirs and over substrate that ranges from boulders to gravel and sand in lakes at night in March and April.

Miscellaneous: Walleye were stocked as fry in lakes Greenwood, Hartwell, Murray and Thurmond from 1962 to 1972 by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. However, only Lake Hartwell has a viable, reproducing population.

Commonly Mistaken Species: One species of fish that is commonly mistaken for this species is yellow perch.

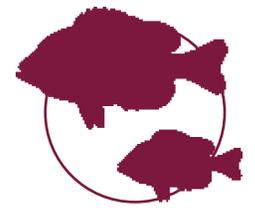
Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



Walleye



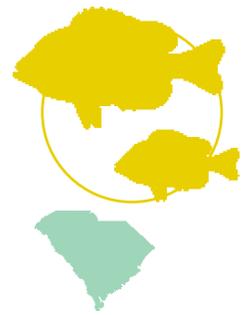


Walleye





Panfish & Other Game Species Notes



Bowfin *Amia calva*



Meristics: Dorsal fin rays 42-53, anal fin rays 9-12, pectoral fin rays 16-18, pelvic fin rays 7, caudal fin rays 25-28; lateral line scales 62-70.

Regulations

Possession Limit: No statewide limits.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:

- See Appendix 2 for more information on nongame devices.



Description: The bowfin is a stout fish, olive in color, with darker mottling along the sides. A large, black oval spot with a yellow to orange outline is present on the body at the upper corner of the base of the caudal fin. The caudal fin is rounded. The dorsal fin is long and extends for more than half of the length of the body. Breeding male bowfin have bright green fins and the orange outline around the black spot at the base of the caudal fin is intensified.

Range: Bowfin are primarily found in the Coastal Plain and the Piedmont.

Average Length: 1 ½-2 feet.

Average Size: 2 pounds.

Maximum Age: 10 years.

Preferred Habitat: Sluggish coastal rivers, backwaters, swamps, creeks, ditches and borrow pits. It can also be found in clear water but usually concealed in and near vegetation, logs, branches and other shelter.

Food Habits: Fish, crayfish, and all other living aquatic animals.

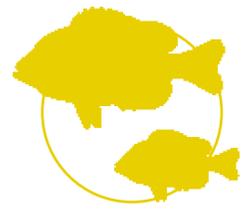
Spawning: Bowfin spawn from March to early June. Males construct nests in shallow water by fanning their fins. They will use their mouths to bite and clear any debris or vegetation. Females can deposit up to 55,000 sticky eggs, usually at night. The male will protect the nest during incubation of the eggs and after they have hatched. Once the young hatch, they stay in compact groups and continue to be guarded by the males for some time.

Miscellaneous: The bowfin is the only remaining member of an ancient group of fish which lived over 180 million years ago. The bowfin has several features similar to a gar. The head is covered with bony plate-like armor and much of the skeleton consists of cartilage. Bowfin can survive in poor water quality with low oxygen levels by breathing air directly into its swim bladder that will function similar to a lung. Anglers enjoy the strength and endurance of the bowfin, but not the taste.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are northern snakehead (which is a non-native not currently found in South Carolina). The northern snakehead has a long anal fin (short in the bowfin) and pelvic fins which are positioned directly below the pectoral fins. If caught, snakeheads should be placed in a cooler and immediately reported to the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources at 803-734-3891. Snakeheads should not be released back into the environment.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.

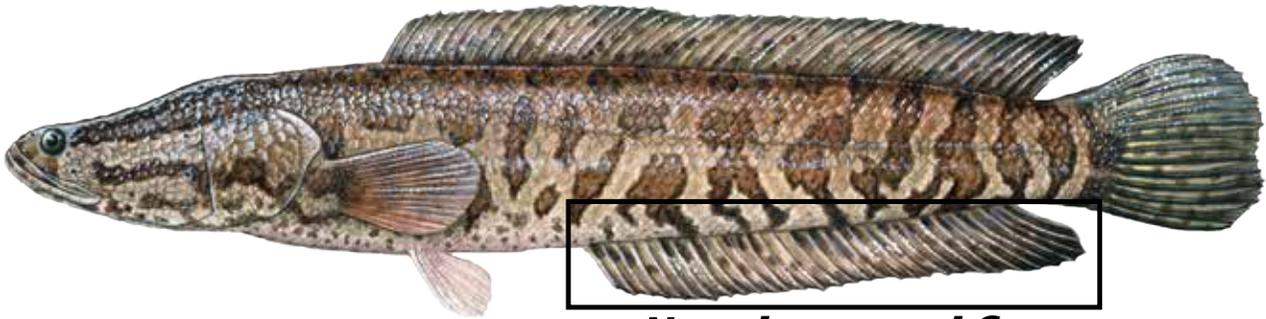


Bowfin



DO YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE?

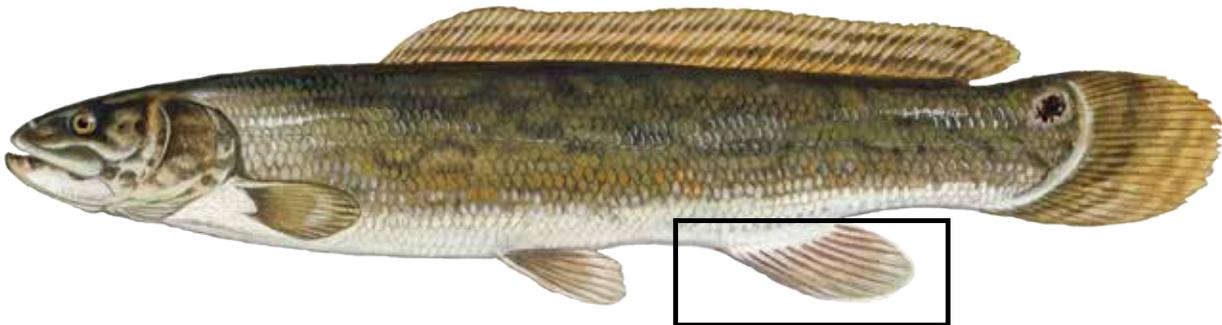
Northern Snakehead



Northern Snakehead image courtesy of Duane Raver

Note long anal fin

Bowfin

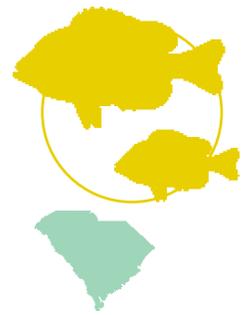


Bowfin image courtesy of Duane Raver

Note short anal fin

It is unlawful to transport, purchase, possess or sell live snakehead in South Carolina. If you catch a snakehead, **DO NOT RELEASE IT! Keep the fish, freeze it or place it on ice and contact:**

**SC Department of Natural Resources
at 1-800-714-3611**



Longnose gar *Lepisosteus osseus*



Meristics: Dorsal fin rays 6-9, anal fin rays (7)8-10, pectoral fin rays 10-13, pelvic fin rays 6; lateral line scales 57-63.

Regulations

Possession Limit: No statewide limits.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:

- See Appendix 2 for more information on nongame devices.



Description: The longnose gar has long and narrow forceps-like jaws that are more than twice as long as the rest of the head. The body is olive brown to green with scattered dark oval spots on the body and fins.

Range: Statewide in river mainstems.

Average Length: 2 ½ to 3 feet.

Average Size: 4 pounds.

Maximum Age: Unknown.

Preferred Habitat: Longnose gar inhabit sluggish or slow-moving waters rivers and reservoirs.

Food Habits: Fish.

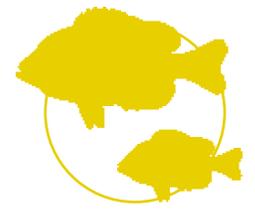
Spawning: Spawning occurs in May and early June. A longnose gar female will be courted by several males in a circling ritual in shallow water with splashing and convulsive movements. Females can deposit up to 77,000 eggs in a spawning season. The newly-hatched young have a sticky pad on their snouts that allow them to attach to objects.

Miscellaneous: Longnose gar belong to a small and primitive family (Lepisosteidae) with a few species only found in the southeastern United States. The fish can use its swim bladder as a lung in waters with very poor water quality and low oxygen levels. The longnose gar will take the bait of an angler seeking other fish species as they are not noted for their food value. However, gar are very popular in bow fishing.

Commonly Mistaken Species: One species of fish that is commonly mistaken for this species is Florida gar.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.

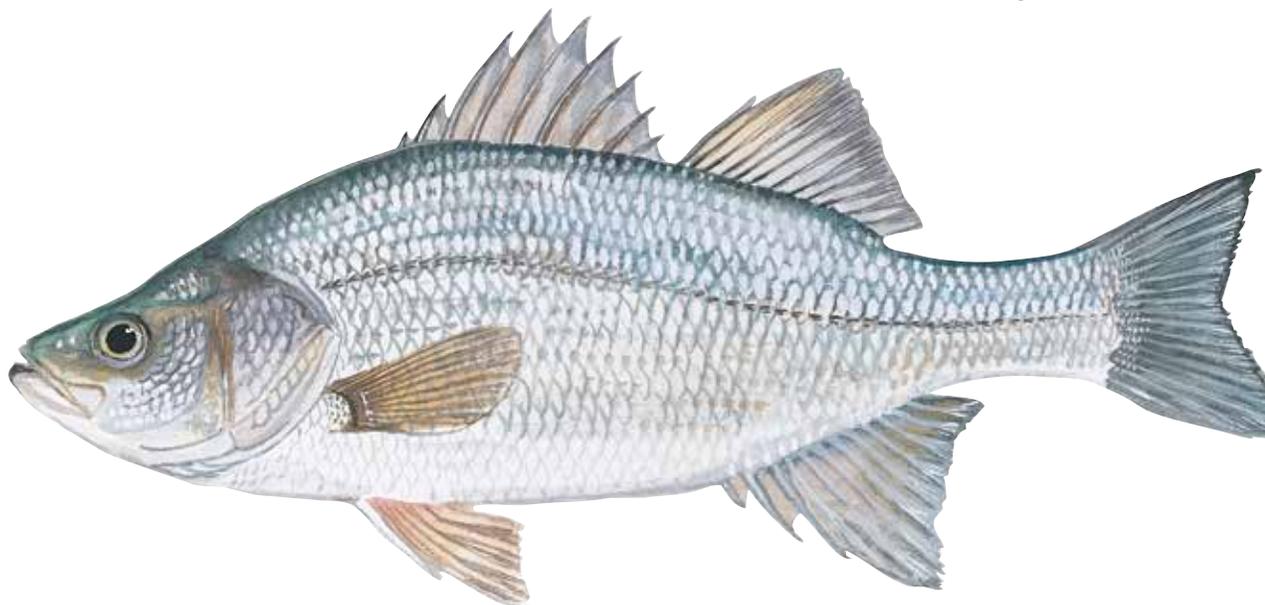


Longnose gar





White perch *Morone americana*



Meristics: First dorsal fin spines (8)9(11), second dorsal fin spines 1, second dorsal fin rays (10)11-12(13), anal fin spines 3, anal fin rays (8)9-10, pectoral fin rays (10)14-17(18); lateral line scales (44)46-49(52).

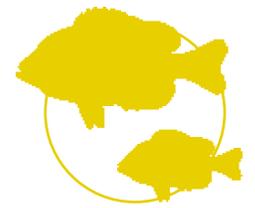
Regulations

Possession Limit: No statewide limits.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:

- See Appendix 2 for more information on nongame devices.



Description: White perch are silver-green to olive in color. The underside of their lower jaw is often purple. The spiny and soft dorsal fins are joined by a membrane. The anal fin contains three spines; the second spine is thicker than the first and almost as long as the third. There are no teeth on the tongue of the white perch.

Range: All reservoirs except Keowee and Jocassee.

Average Length: 6-9 inches.

Average Size: Less than 1 pound, most landlocked specimens less than 1/3 pound.

Maximum Age: 17 years.

Preferred Habitat: White perch were primarily found in estuarine and marine habitats throughout the Atlantic coast southward to areas near Charleston, South Carolina. It is now common that they also inhabit the Piedmont, as well as in the Pee Dee, Santee, Cooper, Broad, Saluda and Savannah rivers and many of the inland reservoirs such as lakes Murray, Greenwood, Thurmond and Wateree.

Food Habits: They have a diverse diet including worms, shrimp, crabs, insects and small fishes.

Spawning: White perch are a schooling species that are semi-anadromous, meaning they move between estuarine and fresh waters to spawn. From April to June, when water temperatures average 50-60 degrees Fahrenheit, white perch migrate from estuarine waters into large rivers where females release up to 150,000 adhesive eggs. Populations that are locked within reservoirs do not follow this pattern, but instead migrate within the reservoir. Immediately following the laying of the eggs, males release millions of sperm cells. In spite of this haphazard spawning ritual, the ratio of hatched eggs is enormous when compared to other fish. Eggs can hatch in as little as 30 hours or take as long as six days depending on water temperature.

Miscellaneous: Fisheries biologists are concerned about white perch because its prolific reproductive capabilities give it a competitive advantage over some more desirable species. Although scorned by some fishermen as a pest (small size), the white flaky flesh of the white perch is among the best.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are white and striped bass.

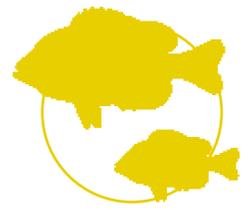
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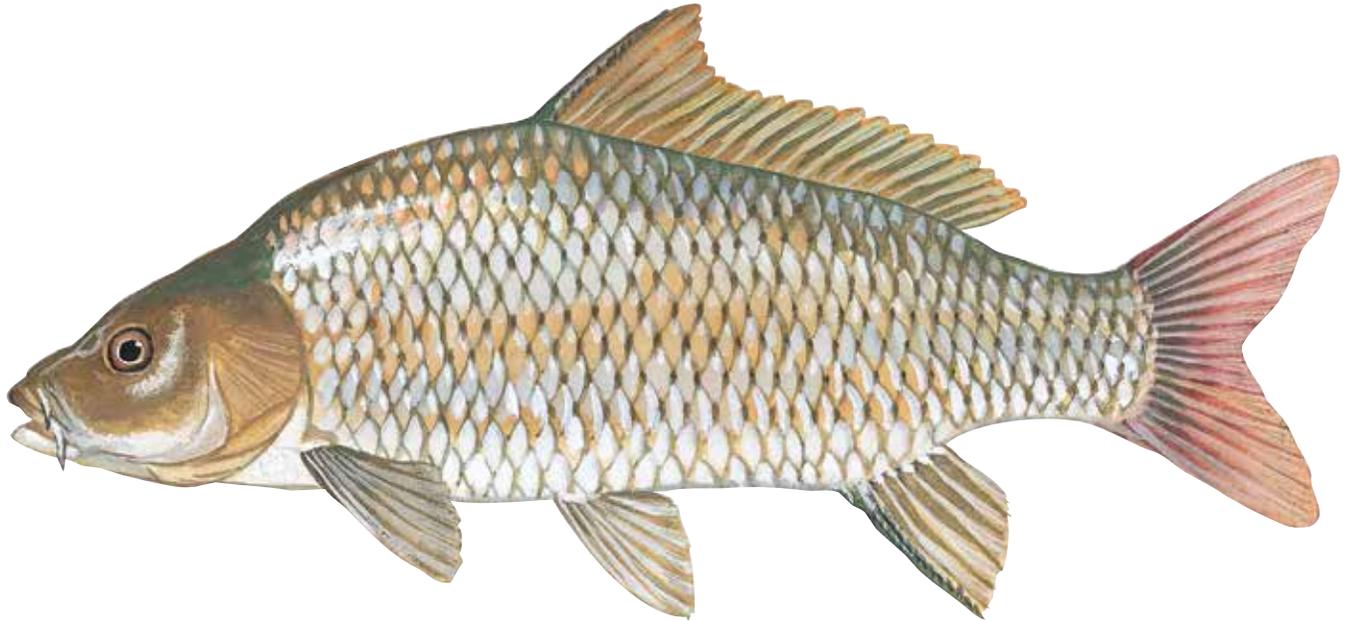


White perch





Common carp *Cyprinus carpio*



Meristics: Dorsal fin spines 1, dorsal fin rays (15)18-20(23), anal fin spines 1, anal fin rays (4)5(6), pectoral fin rays (14)15-16(17), pelvic fin rays 8-9; lateral line scales usually 35-39.

Regulations

Possession Limit: No statewide limits.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:

- See Appendix 2 for more information on nongame devices.



Description: The common carp is a large, robust fish with two barbels on each side of the upper jaw. The body color can range from gray in young carp to a brassy green-gold in adults. The scales are edged with a black spot at the base. At the front of both the dorsal and anal fins, there is a strong spine-like ray.

Range: Statewide.

Average Length: 2-3 feet.

Average Size: 1 to 10 pounds.

Maximum Age: 20 years.

Preferred Habitat: Common carp inhabit either standing or sluggish warm water over soft mud bottoms where vegetation is found.

Food Habits: Worms, insect larvae, crustaceans and mollusks.

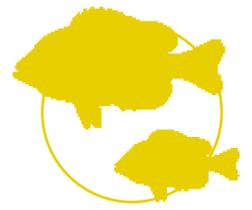
Spawning: Spawning for the common carp occurs from April to June. Female carp produce on average 100,000 to 500,000 eggs that either attach to vegetation or sink to the muddy bottom. Spawning activities are quite vigorous, stirring up sediment and often causing a commotion that can be heard.

Miscellaneous: Common carp are native to Eurasia and were first introduced in to North American in 1831. They were reintroduced widely in the 1880's by the federal government as a food source. Consequently, they now occur in nearly all 50 states. Their introduction has proven to be a serious mistake because of their destructive effect on habitat where they feed and spawn. Carp can also adapt better than most fish to pollution. This adaptability allows the common carp to outcompete other native species.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are goldfish and grass carp.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes.*

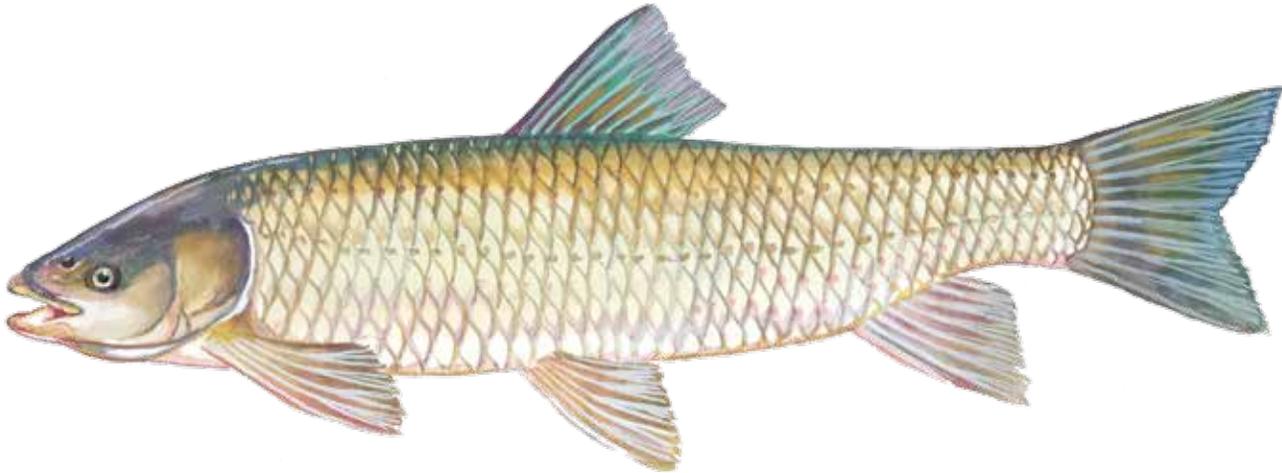


Common carp





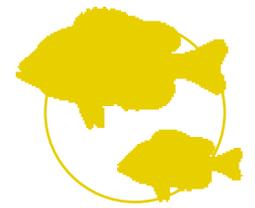
Grass carp or White amur *Ctenypharyngodon idella*



Meristics: Dorsal fin rays 8-9, anal fin rays 8-10, pectoral fin rays 19-22, pelvic fin rays 8-9; lateral line scales 35-42; pharyngeal teeth usually 2, 4-4, 2.

Regulations

- It is unlawful to take, harm or kill grass carp in public waters.



Description: The grass carp has a thick, mullet-like body with a white head and a terminal mouth. The scales are large with dark edges. The dorsal and pectoral fins start at the same midway point along the body almost appearing parallel. The grass carp's body can range from silvery to olive in color on its back fading to a yellow and white below.

Range: Scattered within the Pee Dee to the Savannah River, mostly in the Coastal Plain. Not native to South Carolina.

Average Length: 2-3 feet.

Average Size: 3-15 pounds, may exceed 40 pounds.

Maximum Age:

Preferred Habitat: Grass carp prefer quiet or slow-moving water in ponds, lakes, pools and backwaters of large rivers.

Food Habits: Young grass carp eat small invertebrates and microcrustaceans. As they become adults, they become predominantly herbivores feeding voraciously on aquatic plant species.

Spawning: Grass carp introduced here are tested to be sterile triploids and thus cannot reproduce, but they can commonly be found over shoals where they typically would lay and fertilize eggs.

Miscellaneous: Grass carp are native to eastern Asia, but were introduced in the United State in 1963 first in Alabama and Arkansas. This non-native fish now occurs in 35 states. Grass carp were introduced to help control nuisance or invasive aquatic vegetation. Large grass carp can consume many pounds of aquatic vegetation in a day. However, due to their rapid growth rate, voracious appetite and high reproduction rates, fisheries managers who introduced the species realized they could have adverse impact on native fish and plant species. Therefore, they mandated only sterile triploids could be introduced. A permit is required from the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources to sell, buy, or possess any grass carp, even sterile triploids. In the permitting process, SCDNR certifies the grass carp hybrids have been tested and determined to be sterile.

Commonly Mistaken Species: One species of fish that is commonly mistaken for this species is common carp.

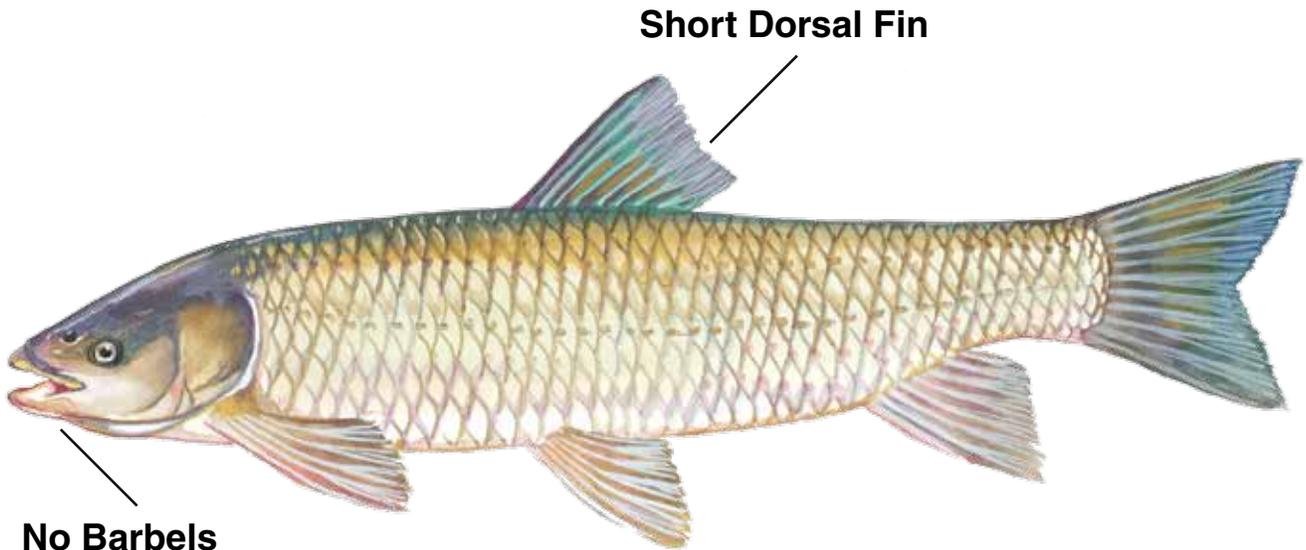
Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.



Grass carp or White amur



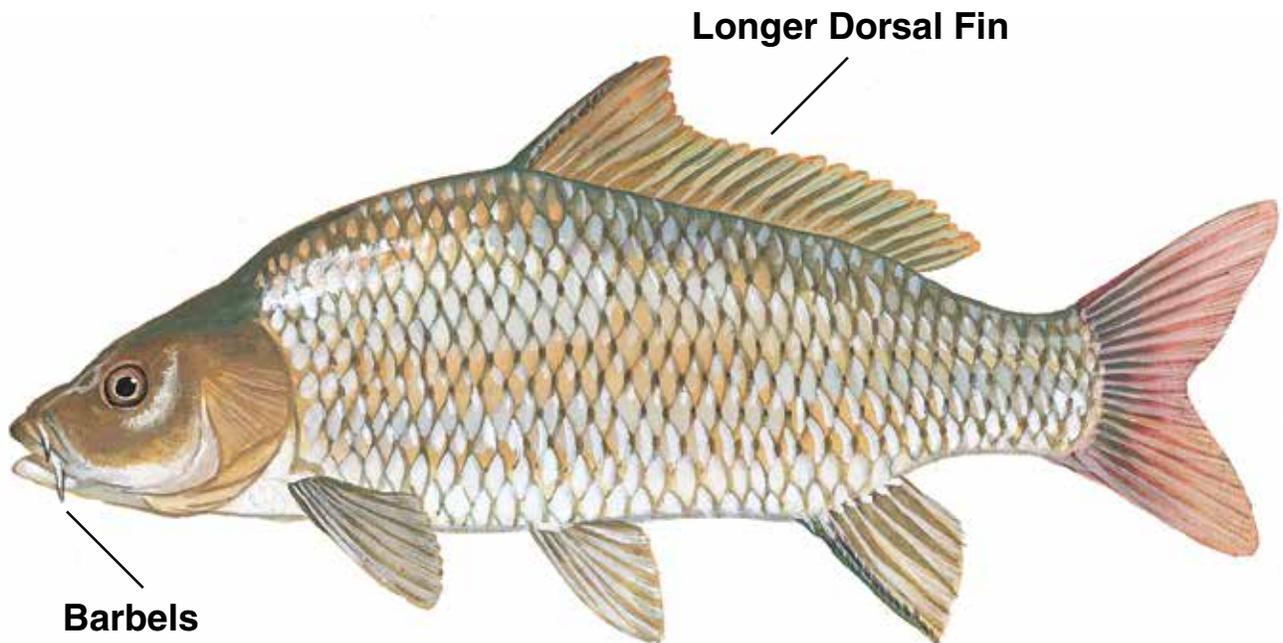
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMMON CARP AND THE STOCKED TRIPLOID GRASS CARP



No Barbels

Short Dorsal Fin

Triploid Grass Carp



Barbels

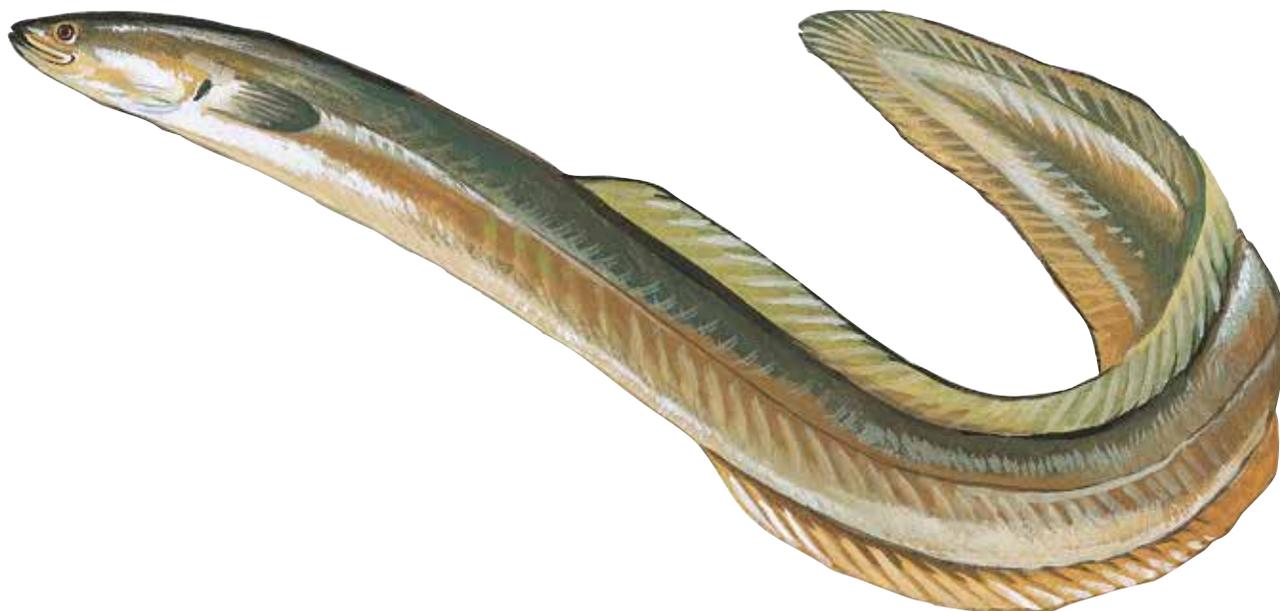
Longer Dorsal Fin

Common Carp

The major difference when looking at the carp from above is the length of the dorsal fin. The triploid grass carp has a significantly shorter fin than the common carp. There are other more subtle differences the most easily identified of which is the presence or absence of barbels around the mouth.



American eel *Anguilla rostrata*



Meristics: Dorsal fin rays 240-244, anal fin rays 200-206, pectoral fin rays 14-20, branchiostegal rays 9-13.

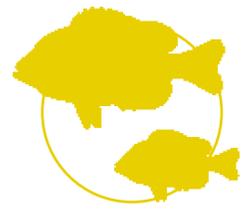
Regulations

Possession Limit: For recreational fishermen, no more than 25 eels per day.

Size Limit: For recreational fishermen, eels must be at least 9 inches long.

Other Restrictions:

- Any species with a size limit must be landed with head and tailfin intact.



Description: American eel have a snakelike body that is olive green in color that fades to yellow or white on the belly. It lacks pelvic fins.

Range: Primarily in the Coastal Plain, rare in Piedmont.

Average Length: 2 ½ feet.

Average Size: ½ to 3 pounds.

Maximum Age: 25 years (southern populations: females, 9 years and males, 5 years).

Preferred Habitat: In freshwater, female American eels prefer coastal rivers and reservoirs where the males locate close to tidal areas.

Food Habits: Fish, insects, worms, snails, clams and crabs.

Spawning: American eels are diadromous fishes, migrating between fresh and salt waters. Spawning begins when adults leave freshwater and brackish habitats and migrate to an area in the Atlantic Ocean east of the Bahamas and southwest of Bermuda in the region referred to as the Sargasso Sea. Very little is known of the actual act of spawning as it has never been observed. The eels begin their life as planktonic larva called a leptocephalus. The leptocephalus is transparent and ribbonlike as it floats in the currents of the ocean for up to a year before it metamorphoses into the next stage as a glass eel. Glass eels can be found in coastal rivers and streams during late winter and spring. The glass eels then metamorphose into the elver stage. Elvers appear by the thousands at the mouth of creeks and rivers as they migrate upstream to grow. Before sexual maturation, the eels, both sexes, appear yellow in color. Once sexually mature, both sexes of eels appear silver and head to the ocean to reproduce once more.

Miscellaneous: Eels are highly esteemed food fish, particularly in Europe and Japan where they are served smoked, pickled and fried. Eels can be caught by angling but they are generally caught by trapping.

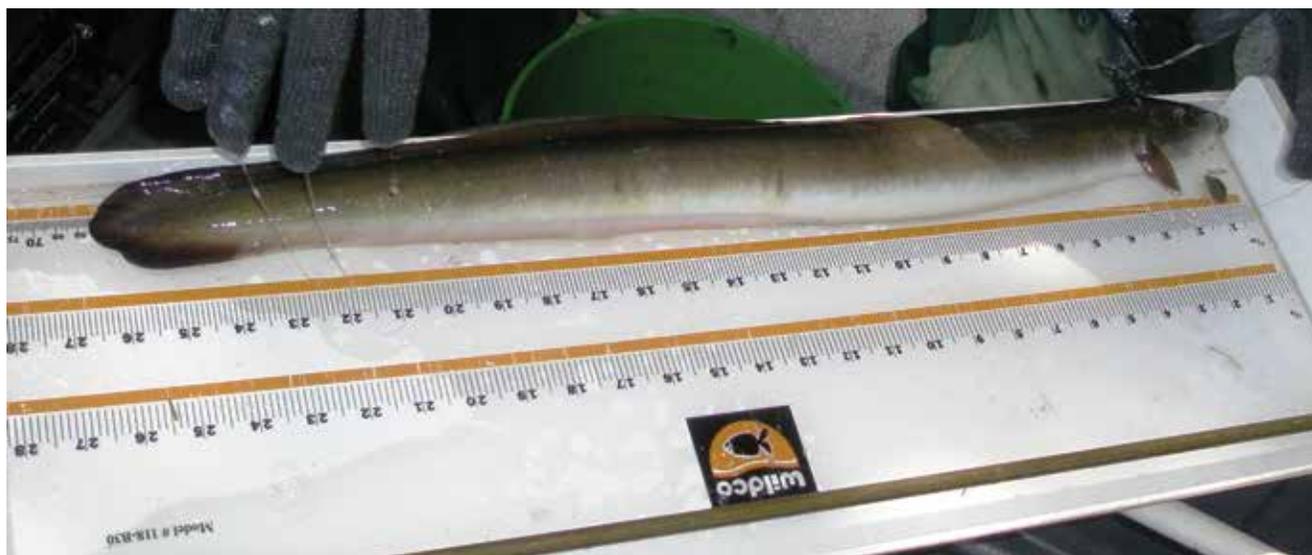
Commonly Mistaken Species: One species of fish that is commonly mistaken for this species is lamprey.

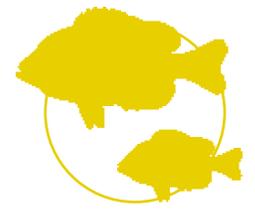
Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



American eel





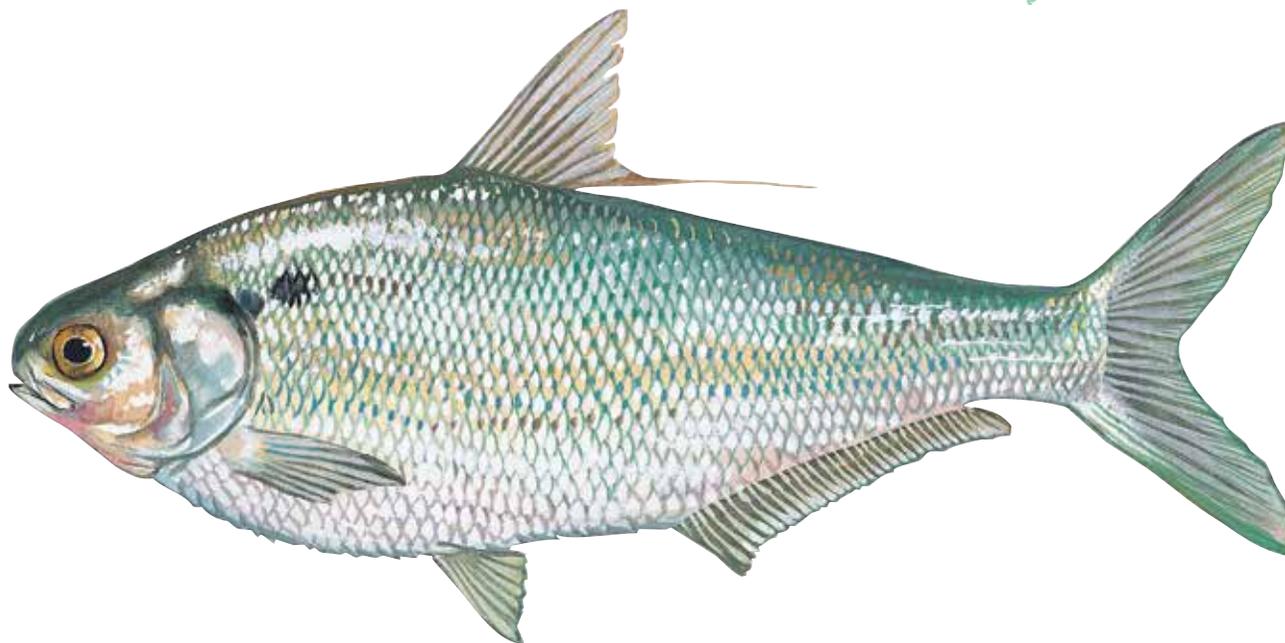
American eel



juvenile American eels or glass eels



Gizzard shad *Dorosoma cepedianum*



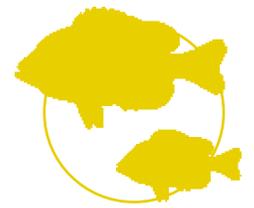
Meristics: Dorsal fin rays 10-15, anal fin rays 25-37, pectoral fin rays 12-17, pelvic fin rays 7-10; lateral series scales 52-70.

Regulations

Possession Limit: No statewide limits.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:



Description: The gizzard shad has a body that is silvery in color with a bluish-gray back with a large purple-blue spot on the upper side of the body just beyond the operculum or gill flap. The snout, with its downward pointing mouth, is distinctly blunt. There is also a distinguishingly long dorsal fin ray at the back of the dorsal fin.

Range: Statewide, except small streams and foothills streams.

Average Length: 10-12 inches.

Average Size: 2 pounds.

Maximum Age: 10 years.

Preferred Habitat: Gizzard shad inhabit large rivers, reservoirs, lakes, ponds, pool and sluggish backwaters.

Food Habits: Microscopic plants and animals by filter feeding with their gill rakers (which function like a strainer catching food).

Spawning: Gizzard shad are prolific spawners from March through August. Females release 400,000 sticky eggs that adhere to shallow water substrates until they hatch. The young grow rapidly during their first year, making them available prey for a short period of time.

Miscellaneous: Gizzard shad get their name from their heavy and muscular stomachs that resemble the gizzard of a chicken. The gizzard shad occurs in large numbers in the state's more productive reservoirs. Here, the shad school in shoreline and open water areas. Gizzard shad are an important prey species for many game fish from hatching through adulthood. However, at full size, they are too large for all but the biggest striped bass, largemouth bass and catfish to consume. Massive die-offs occur in extreme cold weather. They are commonly used as a baitfish.

Commonly Mistaken Species: One species of fish that is commonly mistaken for this species is threadfin shad. The threadfin shad, however, has a pointed snout whereas the gizzard shad has a round, blunt nose.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.

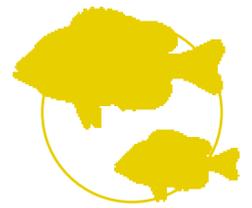


Gizzard shad

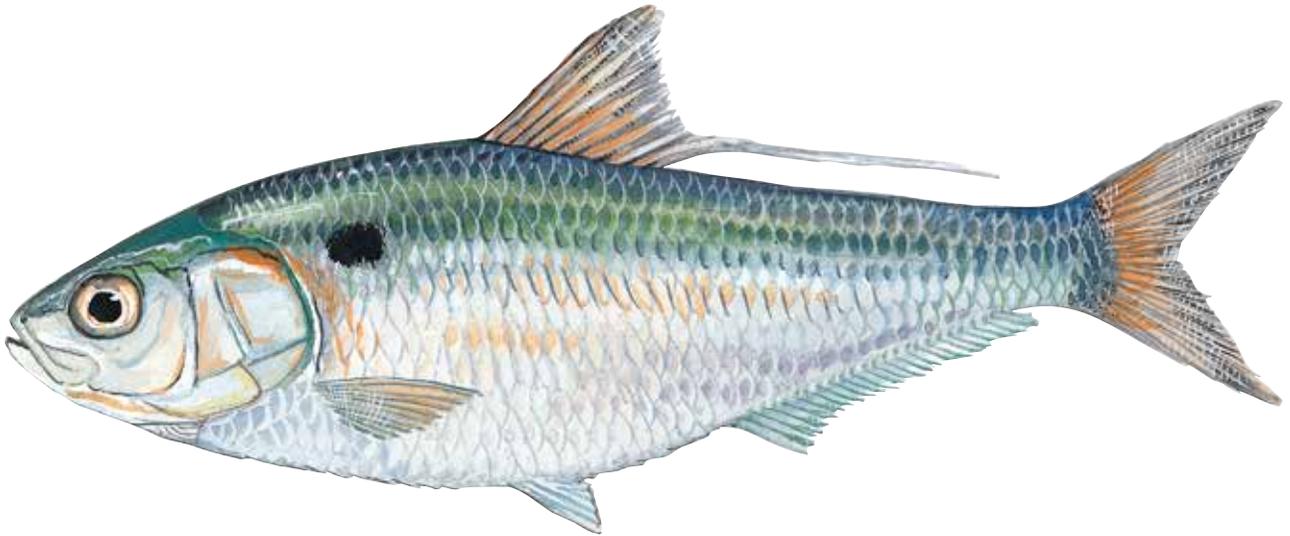


**gizzard
shad**

**threadfin
shad**



Threadfin shad *Dorosoma petenense*



Meristics: Dorsal fin rays 11-14, anal fin rays 17-27, pectoral fin rays 12-17, pelvic fin rays 7-8; lateral scales 41-48.

Regulations

Possession Limit: No statewide limits.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:



Description: The threadfin shad has bluish gray on its upper side that fades into a silver side and belly. There is a prominent purple to black spot on the upper side of the body just beyond the operculum or gill flap. The caudal fin tends to be yellow. A distinguishingly long dorsal fin ray occurs at the back of the dorsal fin.

Range: Statewide in large rivers and reservoirs.

Average Length: 2-3 inches.

Average Size: 1 ounce.

Maximum Age: 4 years.

Preferred Habitat: The threadfin shad inhabits larger rivers and reservoirs primarily, but it is also found in brackish water.

Food Habits: Microscopic plants and animals by filter feeding with their gill rakers which function like a strainer catching food.

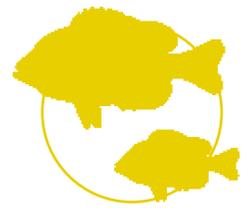
Spawning: Threadfin shad spawn from April to July in shallow shoreline areas, between dawn to sunrise over submerged plants or other objects. The eggs sink and stick to various substrates until they hatch.

Miscellaneous: The threadfin shad is considered by most fishery managers to be the single most important prey fish in South Carolina's reservoirs. Although the threadfin shad occurs in all but the coldest of the state's waters, they are most productive in large impoundments. In these impoundments, the shad rarely lives past one year, and during that time it grows no more than three or four inches in length. This makes it an ideal sized food item for all advanced predators.

Commonly Mistaken Species: One species of fish that is commonly mistaken for this species is gizzard shad. The gizzard shad, however, has a round, blunt nose whereas the threadfin shad has a pointed snout.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



Threadfin shad



**gizzard
shad**

**threadfin
shad**



Atlantic menhaden *Brevoortia tyrannus*



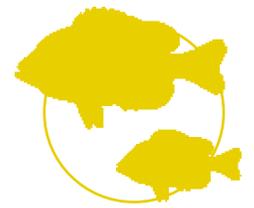
Meristics: Branched dorsal rays 16-17; branched anal rays 16-23; Pectoral fin rays 15-17; pelvic rays 7; gill filaments 51-66; lateral line scales 40-50.

Regulations

Possession Limit: No statewide limits.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:



Description: Atlantic menhaden have thin, oblong bodies. They are green, brown or blue-grey, darker on their dorsal surface. The sides and fins are silvery and shiny. Menhaden have a dark humeral spot that may be followed posteriorly by a series of smaller spots.

Range: Temperate coastal waters from Nova Scotia to central Florida.

Average Length: Range for 8-10 inches; maximum length is 15 inches. Generally weigh 2-3 ounces at year one and about one pound six years and older.

Average Size: Generally weigh 2-3 ounces at year one and about one pound six years and older.

Maximum Age: 8 years old.

Preferred Habitat: Common in coastal and estuarine waters but may travel to freshwater.

Food Habits: Primarily feed on zooplankton, larger phytoplankton and diatoms.

Spawning: Unlike other herring and shad, Atlantic menhaden tend to spawn from October-March in inshore ocean waters over most of the continental shelf.

Miscellaneous: Atlantic menhaden are common year round in the South Atlantic Bight and South Carolina waters.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are American shad, alewife, blueback herring, hickory shad, Atlantic thread herring, threadfin shad and gizzard shad.

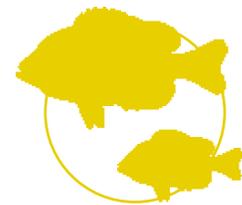
Literature Cited: CBP (Chesapeake Bay Program). 1987. *Habitat Requirements for Chesapeake Bay Living Resources: A Report from the Chesapeake Bay Living Resources Task Force*. Chesapeake Bay Program, Annapolis, MD.

Rogers, S.G., and M.J. Van Den Avyle. 1983. *Species profiles : life histories and environmental requirements of coastal fishes and invertebrates (South Atlantic) -- Atlantic menhaden*. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Biological Services, FWS/OBS-82/11.11. U. S. Army Corps of Engineers,



Atlantic menhaden

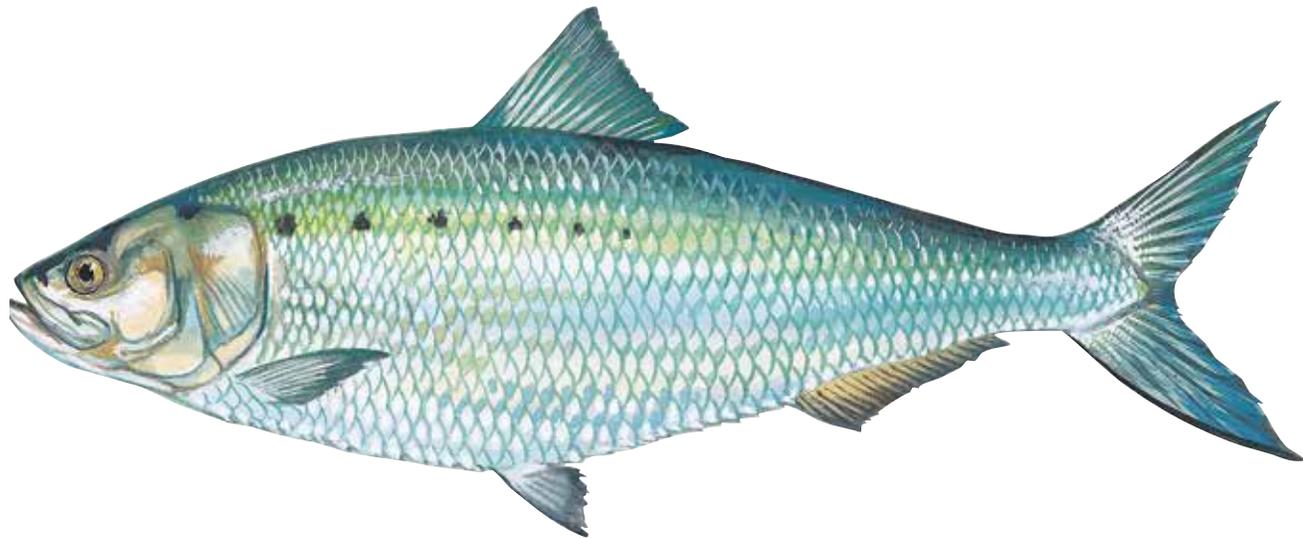




Nongame Notes



American shad *Alosa sapidissima*



Meristics: Dorsal fin rays (15)16-18(19), anal fin rays (17)19-21(23), pectoral fin rays (15)16-17(20), pelvic fin rays (8)9(10); lateral scales 52-64.

Regulations

Possession Limit: 10 shad per person per day. See exceptions below.

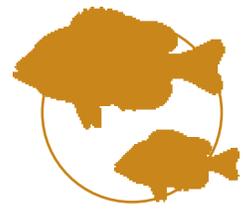
Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Exception to the limits above:

- Santee River - 20 per person per day.

Other Restrictions:

- It is unlawful to take American shad and herring using the following nongame fishing devices: archery equipment, crayfish trap, eel pot, elver fyke net, gig, hand grabbing, hoop net, jug fishing device, minnow seine, minnow trap, pump net, seine, set hook, spear, trap or trotline.
- It is unlawful to take shad by hook and line or by skimbrow net while operating or possessing any commercial fishing equipment for taking shad or herring.
- It is unlawful to possess saltwater or freshwater gamefish or fishing tackle capable of taking saltwater or freshwater gamefish while taking or attempting to take shad or herring with gillnets.
- Recreational (unlawful to sell catch)
 - To take shad for recreational purposes by hook and line, cast net (for bait), or skim bow net in freshwaters a person **MUST** have a recreational freshwater fishing license.
 - To take shad for recreational purposes using a shad gill net, a person **MUST** have a recreational fishing license, gear license, and related permits.
 - Only one shad gill net may be fished by occupants of a boat, and if drifted, it must be attended at all times when deployed. Additional boats in tow may not be used to increase the number of authorized nets. Must adhere to legal commercial fishing areas and the recreational limit.



- Commercial
 - MUST use a shad gill net; not to be confused with the nongame gill nets.
 - Shad Gill Net: A gill net used for taking or attempting to take shad in the inshore salt waters must have a stretched mesh size of no smaller than five and one-half inches and a length not exceeding nine hundred feet. A gill net used for shad in the freshwaters must have a stretched mesh size of no smaller than five and one-half inches and be no longer than six hundred feet. Gill nets for taking shad may be freely drift fished or set.
 - To take shad for commercial purposes using a shad gill net, a person MUST have a commercial fishing license, gear license, and related permits.
- License Requirements
 - If fishing in the freshwaters of the state, a person needs either a recreational or commercial freshwater license. If fishing in the saltwaters of the state, a person needs either a recreational or commercial saltwater fishing license. If fishing in both fresh and saltwaters, a person MUST have both freshwater and saltwater fishing licenses — either recreational or commercial.
- For more information on requirements to fish for shad and herring see page 12 or Sections 50-5-1500, 50-5-1506, 50-5-1507, 50-5-1510, 50-5-1515, 50-5-1520, 50-5-1556, 50-9-420 and 50-9-545 of the SC Code of Laws.



Description: The American shad's body is blue or green in color along the top of its body with silvery sides. At the upper side of the operculum or gill flap, a dark spot is present which is usually followed by a row of smaller spots along the upper side of the body.

Range: Coastal plain and undammed Piedmont rivers.

Average Length: 24 inches.

Average Size: Less than 4 pounds.

Maximum Age: 5 years.

Preferred Habitat: Atlantic Ocean, but migrates up freshwater rivers to spawn in the Coastal Plain. (moves farther up than any other *Alosa* sp.).

Food Habits: Plankton, algae, insects, microscopic crustaceans by swimming with mouths open and allowing water to enter the mouth and cross their gill rakers (function like a strainer catching food).

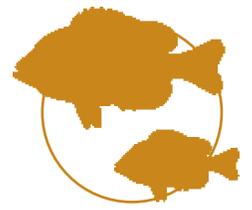
Spawning: Adult American shad migrate from the Atlantic Ocean into coastal rivers when water temperatures reach 55 degrees Fahrenheit, usually around mid-January to April. Males generally arrive first. Spawning activity occurs in the evening in shallow waters. The eggs are released in batches by the females as they swim hundreds of miles up unimpeded streams. The females will deposit anywhere from 100,000 to 600,000 eggs. The eggs generally sink and are carried by the currents. Once the eggs hatch, young shad will remain to feed and grow in lower rivers and estuarine areas. In the fall, young American shad migrate to the ocean.

Miscellaneous: The American shad is the largest member of the herring family in the United States and is highly valued as a commercial fish for the quality of its meat and roe (eggs). American shad were an important food source to early American colonists and is still used today. Sport fishing opportunities occur on several coastal rivers, particularly the Cooper and Santee. Since American shad are a diadromous fish, meaning they migrate between fresh and salt water, impoundments and dams create big problems for fish trying to migrate. To help the fish travel their natural routes, a fish lock was constructed at the St. Stephen Dam on the Santee River system. The navigation lock helps facilitate passage above the Pinopolis Dam on the Cooper River which assists shad and other migratory fish species in their spawning migrations. Currently, the St. Stephen fish lock annually passes some of the highest numbers of American shad on the East Coast of the United States.

Commonly Mistaken Species: One species of fish that is commonly mistaken for this species is hickory shad.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



American shad



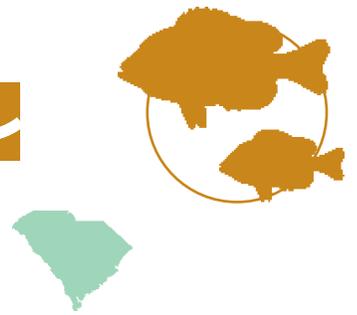
adult and juvenile



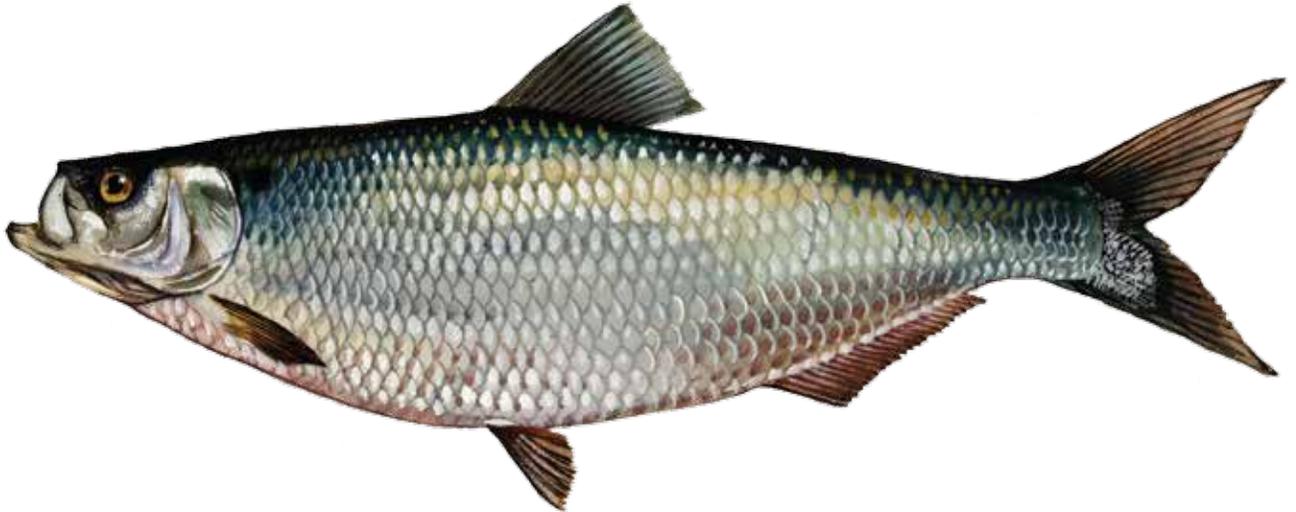


American shad and hickory shad comparison





Hickory shad *Alosa mediocris*



Meristics: Dorsal fin rays 15-20, anal fin rays 19-23, pectoral fin rays 15-16, pelvic fin rays 9; lateral series scales 45-50; gill rakers on the lower limb of the first gill arch in adults number 18-23.

Regulations

Possession Limit: 10 shad per person per day. See exceptions below.

Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Exception to the limits above:

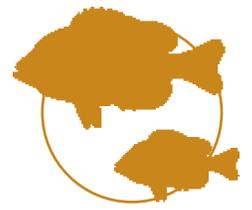
- Santee River - 20 per person per day.

Other Restrictions:

- It is unlawful to take shad by hook and line or by skimbow net while operating or possessing any commercial fishing equipment for taking shad or herring.
- Recreational (unlawful to sell catch)
 - To take shad for recreational purposes by hook and line, cast net (for bait), or skim bow net in freshwaters a person **MUST** have a recreational freshwater fishing license.
 - To take shad for recreational purposes using a shad gill net, a person **MUST** have a recreational fishing license, gear license, and related permits.
 - Only one shad gill net may be fished by occupants of a boat, and if drifted, it must be attended at all times when deployed. Additional boats in tow may not be used to increase the number of authorized nets. Must adhere to legal commercial fishing areas and the recreational limit.



- Commercial
 - MUST use a shad gill net; not to be confused with the nongame gill nets.
 - Shad Gill Net: A gill net used for taking or attempting to take shad in the inshore salt waters must have a stretched mesh size of no smaller than five and one-half inches and a length not exceeding nine hundred feet. A gill net used for shad in the freshwaters must have a stretched mesh size of no smaller than five and one-half inches and be no longer than six hundred feet. Gill nets for taking shad may be freely drift fished or set.
 - To take shad for commercial purposes using a shad gill net, a person MUST have a commercial fishing license, gear license, and related permits.
- License Requirements
 - If fishing in the freshwaters of the state, a person needs either a recreational or commercial freshwater license. If fishing in the saltwaters of the state, a person needs either a recreational or commercial saltwater fishing license. If fishing in both fresh and saltwaters, a person MUST have both freshwater and saltwater fishing licenses — either recreational or commercial.
- For more information on requirements to fish for shad and herring see page 12 or Sections 50-5-1500, 50-5-1506, 50-5-1507, 50-5-1510, 50-5-1515, 50-5-1520, 50-5-1556, 50-9-420 and 50-9-545 of the SC Code of Laws.



Description: Hickory shad are gray green on their back and upper sides that fades to silver. A row of dark spots is present on its sides and the tip of the lower jaw is darkly colored. The mouth is superior with the lower jaw distinctly projecting forward of the snout.

Range: It occurs sporadically in the lower parts of coastal rivers, primarily in the Pee Dee, lower Santee, Cooper and Savannah rivers. Recently this species has been collected in Lake Hartwell on the Georgia-South Carolina border, present there presumably as a result of angler introduction.

Average Length: 14-24 inches.

Average Size: 4 pounds.

Maximum Age: 6 years.

Preferred Habitat: Atlantic Ocean, but migrates up freshwater rivers to spawn in the Coastal Plain.

Food Habits: Fish, small crabs, aquatic insects, squid and fish eggs.

Spawning: Hickory shad spawn in tidal fresh waters such as creeks, flooded swamps, sloughs and other backwater tributaries to a main channel from February to early March. A six year old female can contain more than 300,000 eggs. After hatching, the young fry remain in freshwater and move towards higher salinity waters by fall.

Miscellaneous: Unlike other shad and herring species, hickory shad are not used as food for humans. Little is known about the status of South Carolina's hickory shad population.

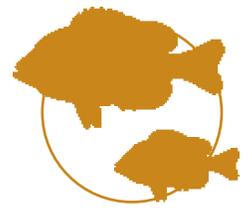
Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are American shad, blueback herring and alewife.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C, Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.



Hickory shad





Blueback herring *Alosa aestivalis*



Meristics: Dorsal fin rays (15)16-17(19), anal fin rays (16)17-18(21), pectoral fin rays (12)14-16(17), pelvic fin rays (8)9(10); lateral scales 46-54.

Regulations

Possession Limit: 1 US bushel per person per day.

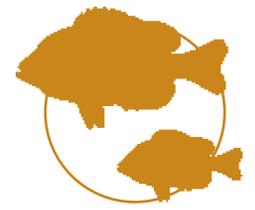
Size Limit: No statewide length limits.

Other Restrictions:

- It is unlawful to take shad by hook and line or by skimbrow net while operating or possessing any commercial fishing equipment for taking shad or herring.
- It is unlawful to possess saltwater or freshwater gamefish or fishing tackle capable of taking saltwater or freshwater gamefish while taking or attempting to take shad or herring with gillnets.
- Herring fishing is prohibited within one hundred feet of the fish lift exit channel at St. Stephens Powerhouse.
- Herring fishery closed in the Savannah River seaward of the Augusta Diversion Dam and in all rivers in the Winyah Bay River System (which means all waters of Winyah Bay east of a line running south from the southern tip of North Island to the eastern tip of Sand Island, and extending to the mouths of the Sampit, Great Pee Dee, and Waccamaw Rivers) except for the Great Pee Dee River.
- It is unlawful to take American shad and herring using the following nongame fishing devices: archery equipment, crayfish trap, eel pot, elver fyke net, gig, hand grabbing, hoop net, jug fishing device, minnow seine, minnow trap, pump net, seine, set hook, spear, trap or trotline.



- Recreational (unlawful to sell catch)
 - To take herring for recreational purposes by hook and line, cast net (for bait), or skim bow net in freshwaters a person **MUST** have a recreational freshwater fishing license.
 - To take herring for recreational purposes using a herring gill net, a person **MUST** have a recreational fishing license, gear license, and related permits.
 - Only one herring gill net may be fished by occupants of a boat, and if drifted, it must be attended at all times when deployed. Additional boats in tow may not be used to increase the number of authorized nets. Must adhere to legal commercial fishing areas and the recreational limit.
- Commercial
 - **MUST** use a herring gill net; not to be confused with the nongame gill nets.
 - Herring Gill Net: A gill net used for taking or attempting to take herring in the salt waters of this State must have a mesh size of two and one-half inches stretched and a length no greater than nine hundred feet. A gill net used for taking or attempting to take herring in freshwaters must have a stretched mesh of two and one-half inches stretched and a length no greater than six hundred feet.
 - To take herring for commercial purposes using a herring gill net, a person **MUST** have a commercial fishing license, gear license, and related permits.
 - To use a cast net to take herring for commercial purposes, a person **MUST** have a commercial license, a gear license, and related permits.
- License Type Requirements
 - If fishing in the freshwaters of the state, a person needs either a recreational or commercial freshwater license. If fishing in the saltwaters of the state, a person needs either a recreational or commercial saltwater fishing license. If fishing in both fresh and saltwaters, a person **MUST** have both freshwater and saltwater fishing licenses — either recreational or commercial.
- For more information on requirements to fish for shad and herring see page 12 or Sections 50-5-1500, 50-5-1506, 50-5-1507, 50-5-1510, 50-5-1515, 50-5-1520, 50-5-1556, 50-9-420 and 50-9-545 of the SC Code of Laws.



Description: The blueback herring has a bluish color on the upper side of its body with silver on the rest. There is usually one small dark spot located on the upper side of the body just beyond the operculum or gill flap.

Range: Coastal rivers and streams in the Pee Dee, Santee and Savannah river drainages and present in several reservoirs—lakes Murray, Thurmond, Hartwell, Russell, Jocassee, Marion and Moultrie.

Average Length: 10 inches.

Average Size: 1/3 pound.

Maximum Age: 8 years.

Preferred Habitat: Atlantic Ocean, but migrates up freshwater rivers to spawn in the Coastal Plain.

Food Habits: Zooplankton, fish eggs and fish larvae.

Spawning: Blueback herring move into coastal rivers during March and April when the water temperatures reach the mid-50s. The spawning site can be from the tidal zone to more than 100 miles upstream. Females release as many as 250,000 eggs in shoreline areas where they are fertilized by the male. Upon spawning, the adults return to offshore areas to overwinter. The newly hatched fish remain in the lower riverine area for several months before moving to sea.

Miscellaneous: The blueback herring is a diadromous fish, meaning it migrates between fresh and saltwater. While one of many do so, it is of considerable importance to the commercial and sport fishermen of South Carolina. The Santee and Cooper rivers provide an excellent illustration of the blueback herring's importance. As the upstream spawning migration begins, large numbers of schooling blueback herring will congregate near Santee Dam and Pinopolis Fish Lock and Dam where they become vulnerable to commercial harvest. They are harvested for fish bait and sold to distributors throughout the state. The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources for years has recognized the value of blueback herring as food for certain game fish of lakes Marion and Moultrie. Prior to the Santee-Cooper rediversion project, blueback herring were "locked" through the navigational lock at Pinopolis. This allowed the species to enter the reservoir, thereby providing food to striped bass and largemouth bass and increasing its spawning range. Since the rediversion project was completed, an additional but different method of moving fish is provided by a fishlift in the Santee River at St. Stephen. Fish moving through the fishlift can be viewed each spring during March and April. Blueback herring have been stocked in several upstate reservoirs and although landlocked are successfully reproducing. Although the blueback herring is generally only about ten inches in length and contains numerous bones, it is occasionally eaten smoked. The true value of the species will continue to be as a major food item of game fish.

Commonly Mistaken Species: Some species of fish that are commonly mistaken for this species are American and hickory shad.

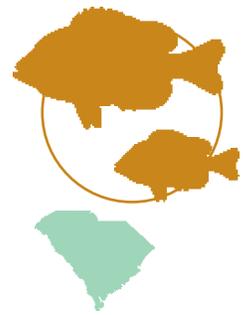
Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C., Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2009. *South Carolina Guide to Freshwater Fishes*.



Blueback herring





Atlantic sturgeon *Acipenser oxyrinchus*



Meristics: Dorsal fin rays 30-46, anal fin rays 23-27; dorsal scutes 7-13, midlateral scutes 24-35, ventrolateral scutes 8-11; gill rakers 15-27 (modified from Jenkins and Burkhead 1994).

Regulations

- It is illegal to harm, kill or possess Atlantic sturgeon. They are federally listed as an endangered species. A sturgeon caught must be returned immediately to the waters from where it was taken.



Description: Atlantic sturgeon have dark bronze to brown sides that fade to lighter browns on the sides with a white belly. Atlantic sturgeon have small mouths; the inner gape width (measured between the inside corner of the lips) is usually less than 60% of the interorbital width. A row of two to six small bony plates, or scutes, is present between the base of the anal fin and the midlateral row of scutes. The lining of the body cavity and the intestine is pale. The Atlantic sturgeon has a pointed snout and a narrow mouth; however, the snout can be relatively blunt in large individuals. In the adult the distance from the tip of the snout to the anterior edge of the upper lips is about twice that of the width of the outer gape (measured across the outer edges of the lips).

Range: All major river drainages, mostly in the river mainstems and on the coast.

Average Length: 3 to 14 feet.

Average Size: Up to 800 lbs.

Maximum Age: 30 years.

Preferred Habitat: Atlantic sturgeon are diadromous, spending its first few years of life in fresh or brackish water of large rivers and then migrating to the ocean to mature. In South Carolina, adult Atlantic sturgeons occur in most rivers and estuaries along the coast.

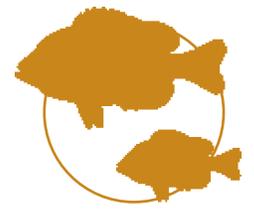
Food Habits: They are bottom feeders feeding on aquatic insects, amphipods, isopods, shrimp, mollusks and even some fishes that live in the substrate.

Spawning: Spawning has been documented in both the fall and spring in South Carolina with spawning occurring in the Pee Dee, Edisto, Combahee, Savannah rivers and possibly the Waccamaw River. Dams impede natural spawning migrations on the Santee and Cooper Rivers but studies indicate that populations may reproduce below the dams.

Miscellaneous: Atlantic sturgeons are the largest fish living in freshwater on the entire Atlantic coast. During the mid-1970s, half of the US landings of this species came from South Carolina, in particular in Winyah Bay. The fishery for this species in South Carolina was closed in 1985 and other Atlantic States. The Atlantic sturgeon is federally listed as an endangered species.

Commonly Mistaken Species: One species of fish that is commonly mistaken for this species is the shortnose sturgeon.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C, Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.



Atlantic sturgeon

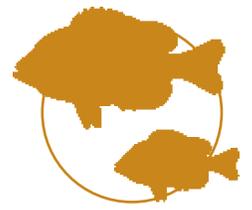




Atlantic sturgeon



juvenile



Shortnose sturgeon *Acipenser brevirostrum*



Meristics: Dorsal fin rays 38-42, anal fin rays 18-24; dorsal scutes 7-13, midlateral scutes 21-35, ventrolateral scutes 6-11; gill rakers 22-32 (modified from Jenkins and Burkhead 1994).

Regulations

- It is illegal to harm, kill or possess shortnose sturgeon. They are federally listed as an endangered species. A sturgeon caught must be returned immediately to the waters from where it was taken.



Description: Shortnose sturgeons are generally brown in color with pink or salmon colored tones above that fade into white along the belly. Shortnose are much lighter in color than the similar Atlantic sturgeon. They also have a larger mouth, shorter snout which is bluntly V-shaped. Shortnose sturgeon lack the scutes or small bony plates between the base of the anal fin and midlateral scutes.

Range: Occurs in all major drainages mostly in the river mainstems and on the coast.

Average Length: 1 to 4 feet.

Average Size: Up to 50 pounds.

Maximum Age: 20 years.

Preferred Habitat: Shortnose sturgeon prefer deep water and are often found in areas with soft substrate and a vegetated bottom. Like the Atlantic sturgeon, shortnose are also diadromous.

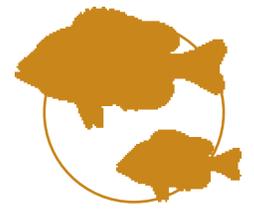
Food Habits: Mussels, worms, small crustaceans and insect larvae.

Spawning: Spawning occurs for the shortnose from mid-February to March, primarily at night when water temperatures reach 48 to 53 degrees Fahrenheit. Shortnose sturgeon spawn over submerged timber, scoured sand and clay and gravel substrates.

Miscellaneous: The shortnose sturgeon is federally listed as an endangered species.

Commonly Mistaken Species: One species of fish that is commonly mistaken for this species is the Atlantic sturgeon.

Literature Cited: Rohde, Fred C, Arndt, Rudolf G., Foltz, Jeffery W., Quattro, Joseph M. 2009. *Freshwater Fishes of South Carolina*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, South Carolina.



Shortnose sturgeon

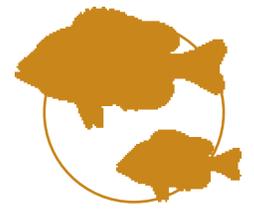




Shortnose sturgeon



juvenile



Atlantic & Shortnose sturgeon comparison



Atlantic

Shortnose

**Coloration
Difference**



Atlantic

Shortnose

Atlantic

Shortnose

**Sturgeon Mouth
Difference**





Corbicula and Mussel Identification

The taking of freshwater mussels, except *Corbicula*, is unlawful without a permit from SCDNR. A freshwater fishing license is required to take any freshwater mussels.

The Asian clam was first reported in the United States in Washington's Columbia River in the 1930s. It was likely introduced intentionally for harvest and consumption purposes. *Corbicula fluminea* spread mostly through human activities, such as bait bucket dumping, aquaria releases into streams or canals, and intentional releases by people who bought the clams at food markets. Asian clams may also have been introduced accidentally in shipments of imported aquaculture species. Another pathway for dispersal is the passive movement of larvae in water currents.

Since the initial introduction into the United States in Washington's Columbia River in the 1930s, the Asian clam (*Corbicula fluminea*) spread across the country, with the first reports in South Carolina from the Pee Dee River in the late 1960s or early 70s. From there it spread to the Savannah River, the Santee Rivers, and throughout the state. Ecological impacts of Asian clam infestations include the altering of benthic substrate and increased competition with native species for food and habitat resources. Periodic massive die offs of the Asian clam have been linked to mortality of native freshwater mussels, and the clam has been blamed for the decline and local extinctions of several native freshwater mussel species. *Corbicula* can be used as baitfish by anglers; however other native species cannot be taken without a permit from the department (Section 50-13-510 See Appendix 3).

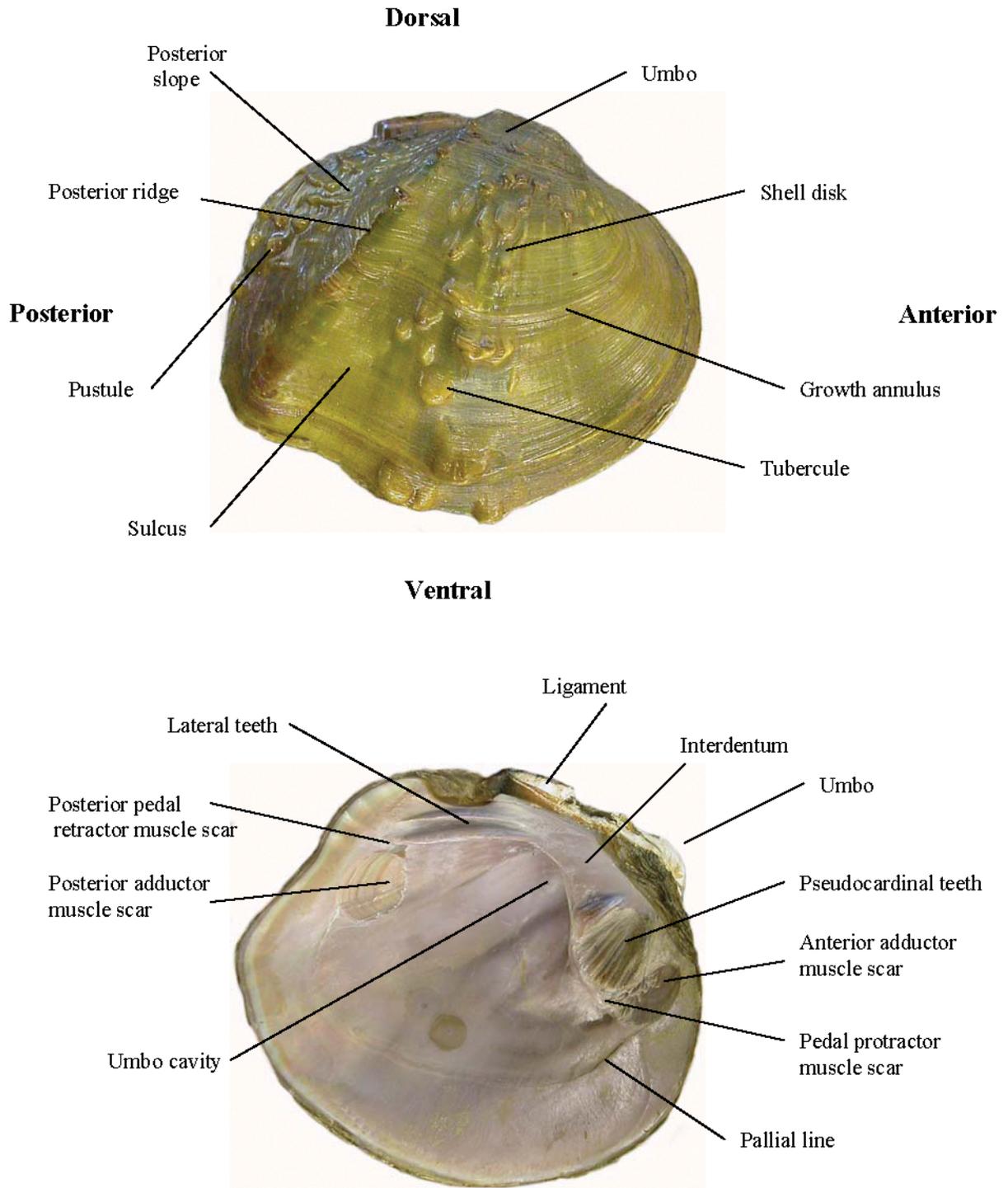
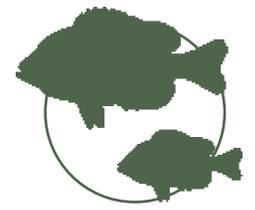
The most commonly seen native species field identification notes and photos are on the following pages to help identify these species from the invasive *Corbicula*. An overall good rule of thumb to remember is *Corbicula* are about nickel to half dollar in size, triangular to subtriangular in shape, whereas native mussels are larger than a half dollar, oval to quadrangular or subquadrangular in shape.

Corbicula fluminea

South Carolina Distribution: This introduced species is widespread in all rivers, most reservoirs, and many lakes.

Description: The shell is fairly small, seldom exceeding 50 mm in length, very solid, ovate when young, and triangular in outline when mature. There are three cardinal teeth directly below the umbos in each valve. The periostracum is a light yellowish-olive to cream colored in immature clams, changing with age to tan, olive, and finally, dark brown to black in old individuals. Very young individuals possess a characteristic dark stripe or band on the anterior slope of the valves. The nacre is white to a shiny light purple.





Morphology of a freshwater unionid shell, illustrating structures and terminology. Top figure: exterior of right valve; Bottom figure: interior of left valve.



Commonly Seen Mussel Species

Eastern floater *Pyganodon cataracta*

South Carolina Distribution: This is a wide-ranging species and is found in South Carolina from the Savannah, Cooper-Santee, Pee Dee, and Waccamaw River basins.

Description: Shell shape is ovate, subelliptical and elongate, shells of juveniles not very inflated but much more inflated in adult shells, shells are uniformly thin, often with a low post dorsal wing; shell length 135 mm. The Eastern Floater has no hinge teeth or any indication of swellings in this area. Periostracum is light to dark green, rarely becoming brownish or black, often quite brightly colored, with concentric light and dark bands and with dark green rays most distinct on the disc of the shell, broad green rays on the posterior slope are often well developed, giving the area a much darker color. Nacre is bluish-white.



Paper pondshell *Utterbackia imbecillis*

South Carolina Distribution: The Paper Pondshell occurs throughout South Carolina and has been reported from the Savannah, Edisto, and Cooper-Santee River basins.

Description: The shell is thin, oblong, and inflated. Juveniles, however, are greatly compressed. In especially favorable habitat, individuals may exceed 100 mm in length and become extremely inflated, almost circular in cross section. The Paper Pondshell lacks hinge teeth, and the umbos are flush with the hinge line. The periostracum is yellowish or greenish with numerous fine green rays. The nacre is bluish-white or silvery.

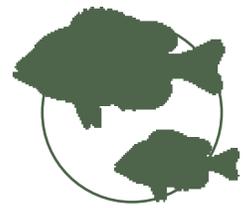


Eastern pondhorn (or Florida Pondhorn) *Uniomerus carolinianus*

South Carolina Distribution: This species is found in all river basins from the Savannah north to the Pee Dee and Waccamaw River basins in South Carolina.

Description: Shell medium to large reaching 114 mm in length. Outline rhomboid or long rhomboid. Valves subinflated or inflated, subsolid. Posterior slope often with two radial sulci. Umbos low to slightly elevated, located in the anterior quarter of the shell. Periostracum is generally black and slightly roughened, but with a satiny sheen over most of the surface. Sometimes the surface is smooth and shiny, especially in the umbonal area, and may then be brownish-yellow or yellowish mixed with green, not rayed. The nacre is white, bluish-white or pinkish to lurid purple





Commonly Seen Mussel Species

Eastern lampmussel *Lampsilis radiata*

South Carolina Distribution: The Eastern Lampmussel is found in the Pee Dee, and Cooper-Santee River basins.

Description: Shell shape is subelliptical to subovate in outline, shell valves are thick and solid, shell valves vary from hardly inflated to quite inflated, shell length is often greater than 120 mm. Interdentum is lacking. Periostracum is yellowish or brownish green with dark green or black rays over the entire surface, rays are not well defined. Nacre color is white, may be tinged with pink or salmon or may be completely pink or salmon.



Rayed pink fatmucket *Lampsilis splendida*

South Carolina Distribution: This species occurs in the Savannah River Basin, the Wateree River and the Santee River, both in the Cooper-Santee River Basin and the Waccamaw River of the Pee Dee River Basin.

Description: Shell shape is elongate oval, greatly inflated with a shell length of 110 mm. Posterior ridge rather sharp, often with a secondary ridge, posterior slope wrinkled. Periostracum wrinkled giving the surface a fuzzy appearance, entire surface yellowish green to reddish-brown and the entire surface covered with numerous wide and narrow green rays, becoming dark brown with the rays obscured in old specimens. Nacre color varies from bluish to white but often pinkish and iridescent ranging to a light purple.



Eastern pondmussel *Ligumia nasuta*

South Carolina Distribution: This species is known historically from the Savannah, Pee-Dee, and Cooper-Santee River basins.

Description: Shell shape elongated, subelliptical, thin to subsolid and more or less compressed, shell length 102 mm. Sexual dimorphism in the shells is well marked. The posterior margin of the male shell tapers evenly to a blunt point. The ventral margin of the female shell is expanded in the postbasal region, becoming a broad rounded projection. The posterior ridge is well developed, distinct and angled near the umbo, becoming rounded posteriorly. Periostracum is dark olive green to brownish and often with faint dark green, straight and narrow rays present, especially in juvenile specimens. The rays may be completely absent. Nacre is bluish-white, some with salmon in the umbo area, iridescent posteriorly.



Literature cited:

- Bogan, A. E., J. Alderman, and J. Price. 2008. *Field Guide to the Freshwater Mussels of South Carolina* South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, Columbia. Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. 2005. *SC Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy*
- Bogan, A. E., J. Alderman. 2008. *Workbook and Key to the Freshwater Bivalves*



Appendix 1—Definitions *Section 50-13-10*

Fishing Equipment Definitions

Archery equipment: means a bow and arrow, long bow, recurve bow, compound bow, or crossbow

Artificial lure: means manufactured or handmade flies, spinners, plugs, spoons, and reproductions of live animals, which are made completely of natural or colored wood, cork, feathers, hair, rubber, metal, plastic, tinsel, styrofoam, sponge, or string, or any combination of these materials, in imitation of or as substitute for natural bait. Lures or fish eggs enhanced with scents or salts are not artificial lures. Artificially produced organic baits are not artificial lures.

Cast net: means a nonbaited circular webbing having a weighted peripheral line that is thrown by hand and retrieved by a central line connected to radiating tuck lines attached to the peripheral line.

Crayfish trap: means a device constructed of coated wire with the opening of the throat or flues not exceeding two and one-quarter inches with a minimum mesh size of one-quarter inch bar mesh.

Creel: means anything used to hold or keep fish while afloat or afield.

Device: means an appliance or equipment or combination designed or used for taking or attempting to take fish.

Eel pot: means an enclosed structure used to take eels only and which conforms to the following specifications:

- no larger than twenty-four inches by forty-eight inches;
- and must be constructed of wire so that:
 - the mesh size is no smaller than one-half by one-half inch, except for the throat or muzzle and the end opposite the throat or muzzle of cylindrical pots;
 - and a throat opening not to exceed two inches measured in any direction.

Elver fyke net: means a net with wings not exceeding ten feet in length and fourteen feet in depth; the distance from throat to cod end does not exceed twenty feet. The maximum bar mesh for any part of the net does not exceed one-eighth inch square.

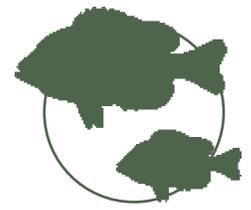
Game fishing device: means a hook and line, pole or artificial pole, or rod and reel.

Gig: means a device consisting of a staff with a sharp point or points designed for thrusting and used to take fish by hand; to take fish by hand by use of a spear, prong, or similar device.

Gill net: means a net designed to hang vertically and capture fish by entanglement usually of the head, gill covers, or preopercles.

Hoop net: means a device in which fish are taken in an enclosed structure which conforms to the following specifications:

- the maximum size of hoop nets must be sixteen feet in length by five and one-half feet in diameter. Hoop nets must be made of a textile netting (no wire) of a mesh size not less than one inch square nor greater than two inches square enclosing a series of round hoops with two or more muzzle openings which must be made of a netting material. One side of the hoop must be flat to hold the nets in place.



Jug fishing: means fishing by use of a single hook and line attached to a floating device other than a flotation marker for trotlines, traps, or other devices.

Minnow seine: means a seine of a size not greater than four feet in depth by twenty feet in length with a mesh size of not more than one-fourth inch square mesh.

Minnow trap: means a cylindrical device not longer than twenty-four inches and no more than thirty inches in circumference or a rectangular device not larger than twenty-four inches long, eight inches high, and nine inches wide. The mesh must be no smaller than one-quarter inch bar mesh. The throat opening of the funnel of the trap may not exceed one inch in diameter.

Net: means an open work fabric or fiber woven or knotted at regular intervals; to catch or ensnare.

Pump net: means a manually operated dip-type net with webbing hung from rigid cross members that form an 'X' which are attached to a pole. The pole utilizes a fulcrum to raise and lower the net. The 'X' cross members may not exceed twenty feet. The net must be no smaller than one inch stretched mesh.

Seine: means a net having a stretch mesh of not less than one inch and not more than one and one-half inches which do not exceed seventy-five feet in length or six feet in depth.

Set hook: means a single hook and line set in or along any of the waters of this State used to catch fish while attached to bushes, limbs, vines, undergrowth, or other parts of vegetation, set poles, pegs, sticks, or similar structures. Set hooks include all similar hook and line devices by whatever name called.

Skimbow net: means a hand operated dip net constructed of wood with wire or textile netting with a mesh size not greater than one and one-half inches square hung within a frame formed by a length of wood looped and attached to itself to form a bow. The bow may not exceed fourteen feet in any direction

Single-hook artificial lure: means an artificial lure with a single point. A multiple number of single-hook lures (such as dropper flies) fished in a series is considered a single-hook artificial lure.

Spear: means a device for thrusting or throwing consisting of a long staff with a sharpened point or to which a sharp head is fixed.

Trap: means a device in which fish are taken in an enclosed structure which conforms to the following specifications and includes fish traps, baskets, and like devices:

- a trap must be made of:
 - wire or textile material and be cylindrical in shape not more than six feet in length and not more than three feet in diameter or width;
 - the mesh size must not be smaller than one inch by one inch and there must be only one application of exterior wire to the trap;
 - and the muzzle must have one of the following designs:
 - a trap door on the second muzzle or catch muzzle which remains in a closed position and which only opens for the entry of fish into the trap; the trap door must be constructed of the same material as the trap;



- or construction of a netting so that the opening of the small end of the second muzzle or catch muzzle is held in the shape of a slit and the trap configuration constructed such that as the trap rests on the bottom the slit must be oriented horizontally with the greatest vertical opening being no greater than one inch; or
- a trap must be made of:
 - wood strips or slats and be cylindrical or rectangular in shape. The length may not exceed six feet and the width or diameter may not exceed two feet;
 - the throat opening of the catch muzzle in a resting position may not exceed three inches measured in any direction;
 - and the sides, top, and rear of the trap must have a minimum of one inch openings between the slats;
- eel pots, minnow traps, and crayfish traps are not included in this definition.

Trotline: means a device consisting of a horizontal common line with two or more hooks suspended from it.

Yoyo: means a device to which set hooks are attached which is activated by spring-like devices.

Miscellaneous definitions

Bait fish: means a fish allowed to be used as bait in the freshwaters including: Asian clams (*Corbicula spp.*), crayfish, eels, herring, shad, and fathead minnows (*Pimephales promelas*), golden shiners (*Notemigonus crysoleucas*), and goldfish, including 'black salties' (*Carassius auratus*). Except for bream (other than redbreast), no other game fish is allowed to be used as bait, provided, trout are allowed to be used as bait only on Lakes Hartwell, Russell, Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah, Stevens Creek Reservoir, and the Savannah River.

Commercial purpose: means being engaged in selling fish; or taking or attempting to take fish in order to derive income or other consideration; or fishing more devices than allowed for recreation.

Day: means the twenty-four hour period from one-half hour before official sunrise of one day to one-half hour before official sunrise the following day.

Freshwaters or freshwaters of this State: means all waters of this State from the saltwater/freshwater dividing line inland to the jurisdictional limits of this State and those naturally occurring freshwaters seaward of the saltwater/freshwater line, but does not include private lakes or ponds which are entirely segregated from other freshwaters.

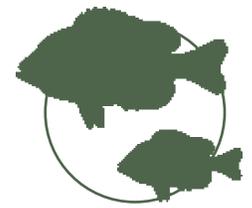
Fish: means finfish and shellfish, including mollusks and crustaceans.

Fishing: means all activity and effort involved in taking or attempting to take fish.

Hand grabbing (noodling): means taking nongame fish by hand without the aid of hook, snare, or artificial breathing device. A stick, pole, rod, or PVC pipe must be used to dislodge the fish.

Land: means take and retain possession while afloat or take and bring ashore.

Limit: means the number or size of fish one person lawfully may possess in any one day while afloat or afield.



Night: means one-half hour after official sunset of one day to one-half hour before official sunrise the following day.

Possess or possession: means to take and retain.

Striker: means a person other than a licensed freshwater commercial fisherman, who under immediate supervision assists a licensed commercial freshwater fisherman, but does not use separate nongame fishing devices from the vessel engaged in commercial fishing. A striker is not required to have a commercial freshwater fishing license.

Snagging: means pulling a device equipped with one or more hooks through the water in an attempt to impale fish. 'Snagging' does not include using lures or baited hooks designed to catch fish in or about the mouth.

Take: means to catch, capture, gather, wound, kill, harvest, or remove, but does not include a catch and immediate release.

Total length: means the length of a fish laid flat and measured from the closed mouth (snout) to the tip of the tail fin when pinched together. It is a straight line measure, not over the curvature of the body.

Unattended: means the device operator is not in the immediate vicinity.

Species definitions

Black bass: means largemouth (*Micropterus salmoides*), smallmouth (*Micropterus dolomieu*), redeye (*Micropterus coosae*), and spotted bass (*Micropterus punctulatus*).

Hybrid bass: means those fish produced by crossing striped bass (*Morone saxatilis*) with white bass (*Morone chrysops*).

Striped bass or rockfish: means the species *Morone saxatilis*.

Trout: means rainbow, brook, brown, or other species of cold-water trout of the family *Salmonidae*.



Appendix 2—Freshwater Nongame Devices

Lawful Nongame Devices

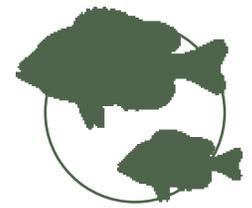
- The following are the only lawful nongame fishing devices and methods that may be used for taking nongame fish in the freshwaters of this State and only in those waters in which these devices and methods are authorized: archery equipment, cast net, crayfish trap, eel pot, elver fyke net, gig, gill net, hand grabbing, hoop net, jug fishing device, minnow seine, minnow trap, pump net, seine, set hook, skimbrow net, spear, trap and trotline. *Section 50-13-615*
- A recreational fisherman may use the following fishing devices and methods for taking nongame fish but only in those waters in which the type and quantity are allowed: archery equipment, cast net, not more than five crayfish traps, not more than two eel pots, gig, one gill net not more than one hundred yards in length or not more than three gill nets, none of which exceeds thirty yards in length, hand grabbing, not more than fifty jugs, minnow seine, not more than five minnow traps, not more than one pump net, not more than one seine, not more than fifty set hooks, not more than one skimbrow net, spear, not more than two traps, not more than one trotline with fifty hooks maximum, any lawful game fishing device. *Section 50-13-635*

Nongame Device Limits

- Nongame fish may be taken with any lawful game fishing device. A fisherman only may use four game fishing devices. A fisherman fishing from a boat may use an unlimited number of game fishing devices if all persons in the boat sixteen years and older have valid fishing licenses.
- A fishing device authorized by this article not more than one hoop net must not be used, placed, set, or fished so as to constitute a hazard to boating or public safety. *Section 50-13-630*
- It is unlawful for a person to have in possession game fish, except live bream on those water bodies where permitted as live bait, or game fish devices while possessing or using nongame devices. The provisions of this section do not apply to a person using a cast net. *Section 50-13-670*

Marking of Nongame Devices (trotlines, traps, eel pots, gill nets and hoop nets) *Section 50-13-620*

- A trotline, trap, eel pot, gill net, and hoop net must be marked with a white floating marker not less than a capacity of one quart and not more than a capacity of one gallon and must be made of solid, buoyant material that does not sink if punctured or cracked. A floating marker must be constructed of plastic, PVC spongex, plastic foam, or cork. A hollow buoy or float, including plastic, metal, or glass bottles or jugs, must not be used, except that a manufactured buoy or float specifically designed for use with nongame fishing devices may be hollow if constructed of heavy duty plastic material and approved by the department. The owner's name and department customer identification number must be legible on each of the white floating marker. Both commercial and recreational fishermen shall comply with provisions of this title pertaining to the marking and use of a nongame fishing device. A trotline must be marked on both ends. A commercial trotline must be marked at intervals of every fifty hooks. A commercial trotline which uses fifty or fewer hooks must be marked at intervals of twenty-five hooks. A recreational trotline must be marked at intervals of every twenty-five hooks. Each interval float must be 'International Orange' in color.



- A tag issued for a nongame device must be attached to the device at all times. A permit and tag receipt must be kept on the person to whom issued while possessing or using a nongame fishing device.
- Each set hook must have an identification tag attached to it bearing the owner's name and department customer identification number.
- A device or part of it improperly marked, tagged, or identified is in violation and is contraband.
- A violation of this section is a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, is punishable as prescribed in this chapter.

Crab Pots

- A crab pot or trap of like design must not be used in the freshwaters of this State unless permitted by regulation. *Section 50-13-320*

Crayfish Traps

- All crayfish traps must be identified with the name and department customer identification number of the user. These traps only may be used in those bodies of water permitted under this chapter. A commercial fisherman may fish up to fifty crayfish traps. A recreational fisherman may fish up to five crayfish traps. *Section 50-13-320*

Gill Nets (Not for shad and herring - see page 12.)

- The season for taking nongame fish other than American shad and herring in the freshwaters of this State with a gill net is from November first to March first inclusive. A gill net may be used or possessed in the freshwaters in which their use is authorized on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays only. A gill net used in the freshwaters must have a mesh size not less than four and one-half inches stretch mesh. A gill net measuring more than one hundred yards in length must not be used in the freshwaters and a gill net, cable, line or other device used for support of a gill net may not extend more than halfway across any stream or body of water. A gill net may be placed in the freshwaters on a first come first served basis but a gill net must not be placed within two hundred yards of another gill net. However, notwithstanding another provision of law, along the Little Pee Dee River upstream of Punch Bowl Landing, no net may be set within seventy-five feet of a gill net previously set or drifted within seventy-five feet of another drifting net. Use or possession of a gill net at any place or time other than those prescribed in this subsection is unlawful.
- Nongame fish taken in shad nets lawfully fished during the open season for taking shad may be kept. A sturgeon caught must be returned immediately to the waters from where it was taken. *Section 50-13-325*

Hoop Nets

- A hoop net may be used or possessed in the freshwaters where its use is authorized. A hoop net must rest on the bottom of the body of water in which it is used and must not be suspended above the bottom. A hoop net must not be used within one hundred feet of the mouth of any tributary. Use or possession of a hoop net at any place or time other than those prescribed is unlawful. *Section 50-13-330*



Jugs

- All jugs used in fishing in freshwaters must be sizes that are between a minimum capacity of one pint and a maximum capacity of one gallon with the licensee's name and department customer identification number clearly marked on each jug. All jugs must be removed from the water not later than one hour after sunrise each day and must not be placed in the water earlier than one hour before official sunset. *Section 50-13-660*
- The attachment of more than one hook and line to a jug fishing device is prohibited. *Section 50-13-660*
- No game fish (except bream, excluding redbreast, cut into two or more equal parts), live bait or any bait other than bait listed below shall be used with trotlines, set hooks and jugs: soap, dough-balls, (nongame fish or bream, excluding redbreast, cut into two or more equal parts), shrimp, grapes or meat scraps (which may not include insects, worms and other invertebrates).
 - On the Black, Edisto, Great Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee, Lumber, Lynches (including Clarks, Mill and Muddy Creeks), Sampit and Waccamaw Rivers, live nongame fish and bream, excluding redbreast, may be used with single-barbed set hooks that have a shank-to-point gap of fifteen-sixteenths inches or greater. However, it is unlawful for a person to have in possession more than the lawful creel limit of bream while fishing with nongame devices on these rivers.
 - On the Black, Great Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee, Lumber, Lynches (including Clarks, Mill and Muddy Creeks) and Waccamaw rivers, live nongame fish and bream, excluding redbreast, may be used on a trotline having not more than 20 hooks with a shank-to-point gap of fifteen-sixteenths inches or greater. However, it is unlawful for a person to have in possession more than the lawful creel limit of bream while fishing with nongame devices on these rivers.
 - A person violating the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than two hundred dollars or imprisoned for not more than thirty days. *Section 50-13-665*

Minnow Seine

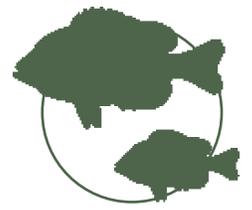
- It is unlawful to use or have in possession a minnow seine in the freshwaters of this State from ten o'clock p.m. to official sunrise. *Section 50-13-340*

Minnow Traps

- All minnow traps must be identified with the name and department customer identification number of the user. A minnow trap may be fished with a recreational license only with a limit of five for each person and must not be fished for commercial purposes. *Section 50-13-320*

Pump Nets

- A pump net may be fished from the bank or a shore based structure only and only for recreation. *Section 50-13-335*



Set Hooks

- All set hooks must be removed from the water and from the vegetation or structure to which they are attached not later than one hour after sunrise each day and must not be placed in the water earlier than one hour before official sunset. *Section 50-13-655*
- No game fish (except bream, excluding redbreast, cut into two or more equal parts), live bait or any bait other than bait listed below shall be used with trotlines, set hooks and jugs: soap, dough-balls, (nongame fish or bream, excluding redbreast, cut into two or more equal parts), shrimp, grapes or meat scraps (which may not include insects, worms and other invertebrates).
 - On the Black, Edisto, Great Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee, Lumber, Lynches (including Clarks, Mill and Muddy Creeks), Sampit and Waccamaw Rivers, live nongame fish and bream, excluding redbreast, may be used with single-barbed set hooks that have a shank-to-point gap of fifteen-sixteenths inches or greater. However, it is unlawful for a person to have in possession more than the lawful creel limit of bream while fishing with nongame devices on these rivers.
 - On the Black, Great Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee, Lumber, Lynches (including Clarks, Mill and Muddy Creeks) and Waccamaw rivers, live nongame fish and bream, excluding redbreast, may be used on a trotline having not more than 20 hooks with a shank-to-point gap of fifteen-sixteenths inches or greater. However, it is unlawful for a person to have in possession more than the lawful creel limit of bream while fishing with nongame devices on these rivers.
 - A person violating the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than two hundred dollars or imprisoned for not more than thirty days. *Section 50-13-665*

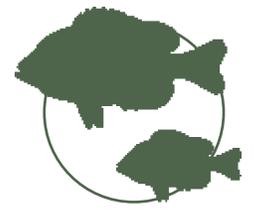
Skimbow

- A skimbow net may be fished from a boat but only for recreation. These devices may be used only in those waters where authorized. *Section 50-13-335*



Trotlines

- No more than four hundred hooks may be attached to a single commercially fished trotline. A trotline must not be attached to another trotline or to the support or float of another trotline. A trotline must not be longer than two thousand feet. *Section 50-13-650*
- April 1st to October 1st a trotline is not permitted in waters in this State one hour after official sunrise to one hour before official sunset unless the trotline is sunk to the bottom or to a minimum depth of four feet below the water surface. October 2nd to March 31st trotlines may be left in the water twenty-four hours a day at any depth. *Section 50-13-650*
- A trotline must not be placed within one hundred feet of the mouth of a tributary stream. *Section 50-13-650*
- A trotline, cable, line, or any other device used for support may not extend more than halfway across a stream or body of water. *Section 50-13-650*
- A trotline or any part of it may not remain in the waters of this State more than twenty-four hours without inspection and removal of the fish taken on it. *Section 50-13-650*
- A trotline must not be placed within two hundred yards of a manmade structure on Lakes Marion and Moultrie nor placed in the Diversion Canal connecting Lakes Marion and Moultrie. *Section 50-13-650*
- Trotline hooks used in Lakes Marion and Moultrie and the upper reach of the Santee River must have a gap or clearance between point and shank no greater than seven-sixteenths inch. *Section 50-13-650*
- Stainless steel hooks must not be used on a trotline. *Section 50-13-650*
- No game fish (except bream, excluding redbreast, cut into two or more equal parts), live bait or any bait other than bait listed below shall be used with trotlines, set hooks and jugs: soap, dough-balls, (nongame fish or bream, excluding redbreast, cut into two or more equal parts), shrimp, grapes or meat scraps (which may not include insects, worms and other invertebrates).
 - On the Black, Edisto, Great Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee, Lumber, Lynches (including Clarks, Mill and Muddy Creeks), Sampit and Waccamaw Rivers, live nongame fish and bream, excluding redbreast, may be used with single-barbed set hooks that have a shank-to-point gap of fifteen-sixteenths inches or greater. However, it is unlawful for a person to have in possession more than the lawful creel limit of bream while fishing with nongame devices on these rivers.
 - On the Black, Great Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee, Lumber, Lynches (including Clarks, Mill and Muddy Creeks) and Waccamaw rivers, live nongame fish and bream, excluding redbreast, may be used on a trotline having not more than 20 hooks with a shank-to-point gap of fifteen-sixteenths inches or greater. However, it is unlawful for a person to have in possession more than the lawful creel limit of bream while fishing with nongame devices on these rivers.
 - A person violating the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than two hundred dollars or imprisoned for not more than thirty days. *Section 50-13-665*



Traps & Eel Pots

- A trap must not be:
 - placed within six hundred feet of a public boat launching area;
 - set so as to leave any part of the trap exposed at low water;
 - unattended for more than three days. *Section 50-13-315*
- The department may inspect traps for compliance with this section at anytime. If the department finds any trap in violation or contains only dead catch or excessive dead catch, the trap is contraband and must be seized and disposed of according to law. *Section 50-13-315*
- A trap or eel pot may be suspended above the bottom of the body of water in which they are used at a depth that does not create a hazard to watercraft. *Section 50-13-320*
- There is no restriction on the type of bait permissible in a trap or eel pot, except that game fish or any part of a game fish must not be used for bait. *Section 50-13-320*
- There is no closed season for fishing with a trap or eel pot in the freshwaters of this State in which the use of a trap or eel pot is permitted except temporary closure by the department. *Section 50-13-320*
- A trap or eel pot must not be placed within one hundred feet of the mouth of a tributary stream and a trap or eel pot must not be placed anywhere in the Diversion Canal connecting Lakes Marion and Moultrie nor placed within two hundred yards of a manmade structure in Lakes Marion and Moultrie. *Section 50-13-320*



Appendix 3—Species Specific Statutes

American Eel *Section 50-13-645*

- It is unlawful for a recreational fisherman to take more than twenty five eels a day. Each eel must be at least nine inches long.

Blue Catfish *Section 50-13-640*

- On Lakes Marion and Moultrie and the upper reach of the Santee River only 2 blue catfish larger than 32 inches may be taken and there is a 25 fish possession limit. On the Congaree and Wateree Rivers there is no possession limit and only 2 fish larger than 32 inches may be taken.
- A person violating the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than three hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days, or both. *Section 50-13-640*

Crappie *Section 50-13-220*

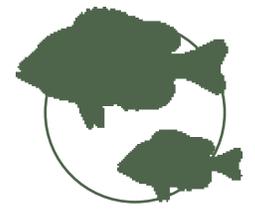
- It is unlawful to possess crappie less than eight inches in total length.

Freshwater Mussels *Section 50-13-510*

- It is unlawful to take freshwater mussels (*Bivalvia*) without a permit from the department. A person violating this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not less than one hundred nor more than five hundred dollars. Provided, Asian clams (*Corbicula spp.*) may be taken without permit.

Game Fish Daily Possession Limit *Section 50-13-210*

- Except as otherwise provided, the daily possession limit for game fish is an aggregate of forty of which:
 - not more than five may be largemouth, redeye (coosae), or smallmouth bass or their hybrids or any combination;
 - not more than fifteen may be spotted bass;
 - not more than ten may be hybrid bass or striped bass or a combination;
 - not more than ten may be white bass;
 - not more than eight may be walleye or sauger or a combination;
 - not more than five may be trout. However, on the lower reach of the Saluda River, only one trout out of the five possessed may be more than sixteen inches in total length. On Lake Jocassee not more than three trout may be taken.
 - not more than twenty may be crappie;
 - not more than fifteen may be redbreast; and
 - not more than thirty may be other freshwater game fish species not listed in this section.
- On Lakes Hartwell, Keowee, Russell, (including the Lake Hartwell tail water), Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah, the Chattooga and Savannah Rivers and Stevens Creek Reservoir the daily possession limit for black bass is an aggregate of ten.



Herring *Section 50-13-2016*

- Herring fishing is prohibited within one hundred feet of the fish lift exit channel at St. Stephens Powerhouse.

Largemouth Bass *Section 50-13-240*

- It is unlawful to possess largemouth bass on Lakes Blalock, Greenwood, Jocassee, Marion, Monticello, Moultrie, Murray, Secession, Wateree, Wylie, and the middle reach of the Saluda River and the upper reach of the Santee River less than fourteen inches in total length.
- It is unlawful to possess largemouth bass on Lakes Hartwell, Keowee, Russell (including the Lake Hartwell tail water), Robinson (Greenville County), Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah, Stevens Creek Reservoir, the Chattooga, and Savannah Rivers less than twelve inches in total length.

Non-native Fish & Grass Carp *Section 50-13-1630*

- A person may not possess, sell, offer for sale, import, bring, or cause to be brought or imported into this State or release anywhere in this State the following species at any stage of its life cycle:
 - carnero or candiru catfish (*Vandellia cirrhosa*);
 - freshwater electric eel (*Electrophorus electricus*);
 - white amur or grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*);
 - walking catfish or a member of the clariidae family (*Clarias*, *Heteropneustea*, *Gymnallabes*, *Channallabes*, or *Heterobranchus* genera);
 - piranha (all members of *Serrasalmus*, *Rosevelliella*, and *Pygocentrus* genera);
 - stickleback;
 - Mexican banded tetra;
 - sea lamprey;
 - rudd (*Scardinius erythrophthalmus*-*Linneaus*);
 - snakehead (all members of family *Channidae*);
 - rusty crayfish (*Orconectes rusticus*); and
 - other nonindigenous species not established, except by permit, exclusive of the recognized pet trade species.
- The department may issue special import permits to qualified persons for research and education only.
- The department may issue permits for stocking sterile white amur or grass carp hybrids in the waters of this State. The permits must certify that the permittee's white amur or grass carp hybrids have been tested and determined to be sterile. The department may charge a fee of one dollar for each white amur or grass carp hybrid that measures five inches or longer or twenty-five cents for each white amur or grass carp hybrid that measures less than five inches. The fee collected for sterility testing must be retained by the department and used to offset the costs of the testing.
 - The department is authorized to promulgate regulations to establish a fee schedule to replace the fee schedule mentioned above. Upon these regulations taking effect, the fee schedule mentioned above no longer applies.



- The department may issue permits for the importation, breeding, and possession of nonsterile white amur or grass carp hybrids. The permits must be issued pursuant to the provisions of the *Aquaculture Enabling Act in Article 2, Chapter 18 of Title 50*. Provided, however, that no white amur or grass carp hybrids imported, bred, or possessed pursuant to this subsection may be stocked in the waters of this State except as provided by those permitted by the department.
- It is unlawful to take, harm, or kill grass carp from public waters. Any grass carp taken must be returned immediately to the water from which it was taken.
- The department shall prescribe the qualifications, methods, controls, and restrictions required of a person or his agent to whom a permit is issued. The department shall condition all permits issued under this section to safeguard public safety and welfare and prevent the introduction into the wild or release of nonnative species of fish or other organisms into the waters of this State. The department may promulgate regulations necessary to effectuate this section and specifically to prohibit additional species of fish from being imported, possessed, or sold in this State when the department determines the species of fish are potentially dangerous. A violation of the terms of the permit may result in revocation and a civil penalty of up to five thousand dollars. An appeal is pursuant to the provisions of *Article 2, Chapter 23, Title 1 (the Administrative Procedures Act)*.
- A person who violates the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not less than five hundred nor more than two thousand five hundred dollars or imprisoned for thirty days, or both.

Saltwater Crabs Section 50-13-520

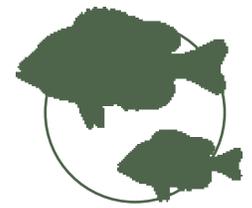
- Except as allowed by the department, it is unlawful to take saltwater crabs in the freshwaters of this State.

Smallmouth Bass Section 50-13-250

- It is unlawful to possess smallmouth bass less than twelve inches in total length, except on Lakes Hartwell, Russell (including the Lake Hartwell tail water), Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah, the Chattooga, and Savannah Rivers, and Steven Creek Reservoir where there is no length limit on smallmouth bass.

Striped Bass Section 50-13-230

- In the following freshwater bodies: the Ashepoo River; Ashley River; Back River in Jasper County and the Back River in Berkeley County; Black River; Black Mingo Creek; Bull Creek and Little Bull Creek; Combahee River; Cooper River system; Coosawhatchie River; Cuckholds Creek; Edisto River; Horseshoe Creek; Lumber River; Lynches River; Great Pee Dee and Little Pee Dee Rivers; Pocotaligo River in Beaufort, Jasper, and Hampton Counties; Salkehatchie and Little Salkehatchie Rivers; Sampit River; Santee River system except the lower reach of the Saluda River; Tulifinny River; Thoroughfare Creek; and Waccamaw River from June first to September thirtieth, it is unlawful to take, attempt to take, or to possess striped bass. Striped bass taken must be returned immediately to the waters from where it came.
- On the lower reach of the Saluda River from June first to September thirtieth, it is unlawful to take or possess striped bass. Striped bass taken must be returned immediately to the waters from where it came.



- In the following freshwater bodies: the Ashepoo River; Ashley River; Back River in Jasper County and the Back River in Berkeley County; Black River; Black Mingo Creek; Bull Creek and Little Bull Creek; Combahee River; Cooper River system; Coosawhatchie River; Cuckholds Creek; Edisto River; Horseshoe Creek; Lumber River; Lynches River; Great Pee Dee and Little Pee Dee Rivers; Pocotaligo River in Beaufort, Jasper, and Hampton Counties; Salkehatchie and Little Salkehatchie Rivers; Sampit River; Santee River system; Tulifinny River; Thoroughfare Creek; and Waccamaw River from October first through May thirty-first, it is unlawful to take or possess more than three striped bass a day.
- In the following freshwater bodies: the Ashepoo River; Ashley River; Back River in Jasper County and the Back River in Berkeley County; Black River; Black Mingo Creek; Bull Creek and Little Bull Creek; Combahee River; Cooper River system; Coosawhatchie River; Cuckholds Creek; Edisto River; Horseshoe Creek; Lumber River; Lynches River; Great Pee Dee and Little Pee Dee Rivers; Pocotaligo River in Beaufort, Jasper, and Hampton Counties; Salkehatchie and Little Salkehatchie Rivers; Sampit River; Santee River system; Tulifinny River; Thoroughfare Creek; and Waccamaw River from October first through May thirty-first, it is unlawful to take or possess a striped bass less than twenty-six inches in total length.
- On Lake Murray and the middle reach of the Saluda River it is unlawful to possess more than five striped bass a day. From June 1st through September 30th, it is unlawful to take, attempt to take, or possess more than five striped bass a day. On Lake Murray and the middle reach of the Saluda River from October 1st through May 31st, it is unlawful to possess a striped bass less than twenty-one inches in total length. From June 1st first to September 30th there is no minimum length.
- On Lakes Hartwell and Thurmond it is unlawful to possess more than ten striped bass or hybrid bass or a combination of those a day and only three may be over twenty-six inches in total length.
- On Lake Richard B. Russell and the Lake Hartwell tailwater it is unlawful to possess more than two striped bass or hybrid bass or a combination of those a day, and only one may be over thirty-four inches total length.
- On the lower reach of the Savannah River it is unlawful to possess more than two striped bass, hybrid bass, white bass, or a combination of these. Any of these fish taken from the lower reach of the Savannah River must be at least twenty-seven inches in total length.
- It is unlawful to land striped bass unless the head and tail fin are intact.
- The department shall establish the daily possession and size limits for striped bass on all other waters of this State, provided, limits must not be set by emergency regulation.
- The department shall make a study of the striped bass fishery on the Santee and Cooper River systems and make recommendations on any needed modifications of this section before January, 2015.



Trout

- It is unlawful to take trout by snagging. *Section 50-13-80*
- In order to establish a 'catch and release' fishery for trout it is unlawful to possess, take, and retain trout from November first of each year through May fourteenth of the following year inclusive on the following waters:
 - that portion of the Chattooga River beginning at S.C. State Highway 28 upstream to its confluence with Reed Creek (Rabun County, GA);
 - that portion of Cheohee Creek that runs through the Piedmont Forestry Center;
 - Devils Fork Creek; Howard Creek from its confluence with Corbin Creek upstream to its confluence with Limberpole Creek; and Corbin Creek upstream from its confluence with Howard Creek to S.C. State Highway S-37-130 (Whitewater Road) in Oconee County;
 - Chauga River from S.C. State Highway S-37-290 (Cassidy Bridge Road) upstream to its confluence with Bone Camp Creek in Oconee County; and
 - Eastatoe Creek from the backwaters of Lake Keowee upstream to S.C. State Highway S-39-143 (Roy Jones Road) in Pickens County. *Section 50-13-260*
 - Trout taken during the defined time period from the identified areas listed above must be released immediately. *Section 50-13-260*
- On Lake Jocassee it is unlawful to possess more than three trout. It is unlawful to possess trout less than fifteen inches in total length or possess more than one trout greater than twenty inches in total length. Provided, from June first through September thirtieth, there is no length limit but it is unlawful to take, attempt to take, or possess more than three trout. *Section 50-13-271*
- On the lower reach of the Saluda River, only one trout out of the five possessed may be more than 16 inches in total length. *Section 50-13-210*
- The department may promulgate regulations for the protection and management of the trout fishery. *Section 50-13-272*



Appendix 4—Nongame Device Limits by Location

Section 50-13-675

Archery equipment, cast nets, crayfish traps, gigs, hand grabbing, minnow seines, minnow traps, and spears, may be used in freshwaters, except in lakes owned or managed by the department, to take nongame fish. Where permitted, a recreational fisherman may fish one gill net not more than one hundred yards in length or not more than three gill nets, none of which exceeds thirty yards in length; a commercial fisherman may fish four or more gill nets. Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter, it is unlawful to use or possess any nongame fishing device or gear or the number not authorized by this section on the particular body of water. Nongame fishing devices, except as provided in this section, must not be used in freshwater including tributaries of rivers or creeks unless listed and regulated in this section:

Ashepoo River

- Eel Pots
 - Recreational License..... 2
 - Commercial License 75
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License..... 50
 - Commercial License 50

Ashley River

- Eel Pots
 - Recreational License..... 2
 - Commercial License 75
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License..... 50
 - Commercial License 50

Black Creek (Darlington, Florence & Chesterfield counties) including Lakes Robinson and Prestwood

- Gill Nets
 - Nongame nets in season
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License..... 50
 - Commercial License 50
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License.....one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial Licensefive lines with 250 hooks maximum



Black River

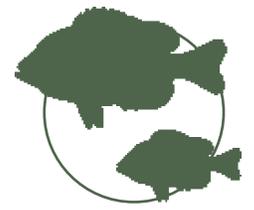
- Gill Nets
 - Nongame nets in season
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License..... 50
 - Commercial License 50
- Traps (Only from Pea House landing downstream)
 - Recreational License..... 2
 - Commercial License 10
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License five lines with 250 hooks maximum

Broad River

- Seines upstream from SC State Highway 34 Bridge to the North Carolina/South Carolina state line only
 - Recreational License Only 1
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License..... 50
 - Commercial License 50
- Traps
 - Recreational License..... 2
 - Commercial License 5
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License three lines with 150 hooks maximum

Bush River

- Seines
 - Recreational License Only 1



Catawba River from the Lake Wylie Dam to the Cedar Creek Dam including the in-stream reservoirs

- Seines
 - Not allowed
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License50
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License2
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License three lines with 150 hooks maximum

Combahee River

- Eel Pots
 - Recreational License2
 - Commercial License.....75
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License50
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License five lines with 250 hooks maximum

Congaree River

- Hoop Nets
 - Commercial License10
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License50
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License 10
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License three lines with 150 hooks maximum



Cooper River (Berkeley & Charleston Counties)

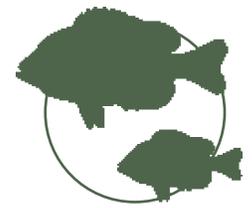
- Eel Pots (not allowed upstream from Wadboo Creek)
 - Recreational License2
 - Commercial License5
- Elver Fyke nets allowed on all tributaries and on the main branch from the saltwater/freshwater dividing line upstream to the CSX railroad trestle on the Tail Race Canal
 - Commercial License 10
- Pump Nets
 - Recreational License 1
- Set Hooks (not allowed upstream from Wadboo Creek)
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License50
- Skimbow Nets
 - Recreational License 1
- Traps (not allowed upstream from Wadboo Creek)
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License25
- Trotlines (not allowed upstream from Wadboo Creek)
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License three lines with 150 hooks maximum

Coosawhatchie River

- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License50

Durbin Creek (Greenville & Laurens counties)

- Seines
 - Recreational License 1



Edisto River including the North and South Forks

- Eel Pots
 - Recreational License..... 2
 - Commercial License..... 75
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License50
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License five lines with 250 hooks maximum

Enoree River

- Seines from the Norfolk-Southern Railroad in Greenville County downstream to the confluence with the Broad River
 - Recreational License1
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License50
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License.....2
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License three lines with 150 hooks maximum

Four Holes Lakes system in Dorchester County which includes Bridge Lake, John's Hole Lake, Little Pond Lake, Mallard's Lake, Mims Lake, Mouth of Four Holes Lake, Rock's Lake, Shuler Lake, Steed's Lake and Woods Lake

- Gill Nets
 - Nongame nets in season;
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License50

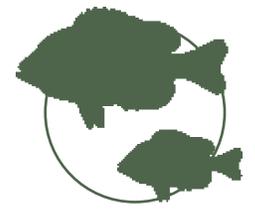


Great Pee Dee River the waters from U.S. Interstate Highway 95 to the saltwater/freshwater dividing line including the navigable oxbows and sloughs and Bull Creek

- Eel Pots downstream from US Highway 701 to the saltwater/freshwater dividing line
 - Recreational License2
 - Commercial License.....75
- Gill Nets
 - Nongame nets in season
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License50
- Skimbow Nets
 - Recreational License.....1
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License.....50
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License..... five lines with 250 hooks maximum

Great Pee Dee River, the waters from U.S. Interstate Highway 95 to the North Carolina/South Carolina State Line including the navigable oxbows and sloughs

- Gill Nets
 - Nongame nets in season
- Hoop Nets upstream from SC State Highway 34 to the North Carolina/South Carolina state line
 - Commercial License.....50
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License50
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License.....50
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License..... five lines with 250 hooks maximum



Jefferies Creek Florence County

- Gill Nets
 - Nongame nets in season
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License50
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License..... five lines with 250 hooks maximum

Lake Greenwood

- Jugs
 - Recreational License.....50
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License5
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License three lines with 150 hooks maximum

Lake Hartwell

- Jugs
 - Recreational License.....50
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License5
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License three lines with 150 hooks maximum



Lake Keowee

- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License5
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License three lines with 150 hooks maximum

Lakes Marion and Moultrie, and the upper reach of the Santee River

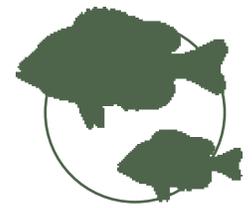
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License25
- Trotlines—hooks must have a gap or clearance between point and shank no greater than seven sixteenths inch
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License three lines with not more than 400 hooks on each line

Lake Murray

- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License5
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License three lines with 150 hooks maximum

Lake Russell

- Jugs
 - Recreational License only50
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License5
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License three lines with 150 hooks maximum



Lake Secession

- Jugs
 - Recreational License only50
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License5
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License three lines with 150 hooks maximum

Lake Thurmond and Stevens Creek Reservoir

- Jugs
 - Recreational License.....50
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License5
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License three lines with 150 hooks maximum

Lake Wateree

- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License5
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License three lines with 150 hooks maximum

Lake Wylie

- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License5
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License three lines with 150 hooks maximum



Little Pee Dee River including Russ's Creek and other navigable oxbows and sloughs

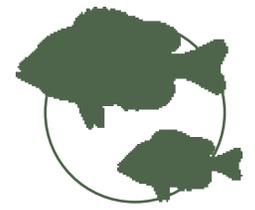
- Gill Nets
 - Nongame nets allowed in season
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License50
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License five lines with 250 hooks maximum

Little River: from Mars Bridge in McCormick County up to the confluence of Barkers Creek (Long Branch) and Corner Creek in Anderson County

- Seines
 - Recreational License..... 1

Log Creek Edgefield County

- Seines
 - Recreational License..... 1



Long Cane Creek McCormick County from above Patterson Bridge on S.C. State Highway S-33-117 upstream to SC State Highway S-1-75 in Abbeville County:

- Seines
 - Recreational License..... 1

Louther's Lake Darlington County

- Gill Nets
 - Nongame nets in season
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License.....50

Lumber River

- Gill Nets
 - Nongame nets in season
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License.....50
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License..... five lines with 250 hooks maximum

Lynches River includes Clarks Creek, Mill Creek and Muddy Creek

- Gill Nets
 - Nongame nets in season
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License.....50
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License..... five lines with 250 hooks maximum



Mulberry Creek Greenwood County

- Seines
 - Recreational License 1

New River

- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License.....50

Pacolet River

- Seines
 - Recreational License 1
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License.....50
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License.....2
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License..... three lines with 150 hooks maximum

Rabon Creek Laurens County

- Seines
 - Recreational License 1

Reedy River

- Seines from the Norfolk-Southern Railroad in Greenville County downstream to the backwaters of Lake Greenwood
 - Recreational License 1
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License.....50
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License.....2
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License..... three lines with 150 hooks maximum



Rocky River Anderson County

- Seines
 - Recreational License 1

Salkehatchie River

- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License.....50

Saluda River from S.C. State Highway 183 in Greenville County to the backwaters of Lake Greenwood and on the Middle Reach of the Saluda River

- Seines
 - Recreational License 1
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License.....50
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License.....2
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License.....one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License.....three lines with 150 hooks maximum

Saluda River - Lower reach

- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License.....one line with 50 hooks maximum

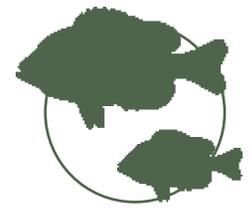


Sampit River

- Gill Nets
 - Nongame nets in season;
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License.....50
- Skimbow Nets
 - Recreational License..... 1
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License.....25

Santee River, from USGS gauging station 1715 about 2.4 miles below Santee Dam downstream to the saltwater/freshwater dividing line including the North and South Santee Rivers

- Eel Pots
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License.....75
- Skimbow Nets
 - Recreational License..... 1
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License.....50
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License..... five lines with 250 hooks maximum



Savannah River - Lower Reach to the saltwater/freshwater dividing line

- Eel Pots
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License.....75
- Gill Nets
 - Nongame nets in season
- Hoop Nets
 - Commercial License 10
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License.....50
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License.....40
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License.....one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License..... five lines with 250 hooks maximum

Stevens Creek from SC State Highway S-19-53 upstream to the confluence of Hard Labor and Cuffytown Creeks

- Seines
 - Recreational License..... 1

Thicketty Creek Cherokee County:

- Seines
 - Recreational License..... 1

Tulifinny River

- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License.....50



Turkey Creek Edgefield and Greenwood Counties

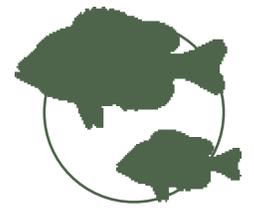
- Seines
 - Recreational License..... 1

Tyger River

- Seines
 - Recreational License..... 1
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License.....50
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License.....2
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License..... three lines with 150 hooks maximum

Waccamaw River

- Eel Pots downstream of the junction of Bull Creek to the saltwater/freshwater dividing line
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License.....75
- Gill Nets
 - Nongame nets in season
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License50
 - Commercial License.....50
- Skimbow Nets
 - Recreational License 1
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License..... five lines with 250 hooks maximum



Warrior Creek Laurens County

- Seines
 - Recreational License 1

Wateree River

- Hoop Nets
 - Recreational License..... 1
Licensee 65 years or older
 - Commercial License..... 10
- Set Hooks
 - Recreational License.....50
 - Commercial License.....50
- Traps
 - Recreational License.....2
 - Commercial License.....40
- Trotlines
 - Recreational License..... one line with 50 hooks maximum
 - Commercial License..... three lines with 150 hooks maximum

Wilson Creek Greenwood County from the confluence of Wilson Creek and Ninety - Six Creek upstream to U.S. Highway 25/U.S. Highway 178 in Greenwood County

- Seines
 - Recreational License..... 1



Appendix 5—Unlawful Actions & Penalties Associated with Title 50 Chapter 13 Protection of Fish

General Restrictions on Freshwater Fishing

Section 50-13-30

Unless otherwise provided, a person convicted of a violation of this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned for up to thirty days, or both. The magistrates court retains jurisdiction of offenses in this chapter.

Section 50-13-50 Taking of Game Fish

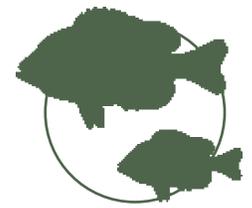
- The possession or use on the freshwaters of this State of any device or gear designed or used to take fish not authorized by this chapter is unlawful.
- Taking species not authorized by this chapter is unlawful.
- Taking by any method not authorized by this chapter is unlawful.
- It is unlawful to leave a game fishing device unattended. A game fishing device left unattended is contraband.
- It is unlawful to use, place, set, or fish a device so as to constitute a hazard to boating or public safety.
- It is unlawful to anchor a seine and leave it unattended.

Section 50-13-60 Legal Fish Limits

- It is unlawful for a person to possess more than the legal limit of fish in any one day on or about the freshwaters of this State.
- It is unlawful to possess any fish not of legal size.
- It is unlawful to land any game fish without head and tail fin intact and where a length limit is imposed on any species it is unlawful to land that species without head and tail fin intact.
- A person violating the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not less than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned for up to thirty days, or both. Each fish illegally possessed is a separate offense.

Section 50-13-70 Closed Fish Seasons

- Except as otherwise provided, there is no closed season for taking fish, however, when because of natural or other conditions fish are vulnerable to predation or are in distress and in the professional judgment of the department need temporary protection or in order to protect the public safety, the department may declare a closed season for taking any species until the condition has abated, but the closed season may not be longer than ninety days. The department shall give notice of the closure by the most expeditious means. It is unlawful to take or possess the affected species during the closed season.



Section 50-13-80 Fish Snagging

- It is unlawful to take fish by snagging within one thousand feet downstream of a hydroelectric facility. Nothing in this section prohibits the use of lures or baited hooks.
- It is unlawful to take trout by snagging.

Section 50-1-160 Seized Property

- Notwithstanding another provision of law, the department may release a vehicle, boat, motor, or fishing device seized from a person charged with a violation of this chapter to an innocent owner or lien holder of the property.
- Notwithstanding another provision of law, if an innocent owner or lienholder fails to recover property within thirty days from the date of the notice of release then the department may maintain or dispose of the property.
- Before seized property is released to an innocent owner or lienholder, he shall provide the department with proof of ownership or a lienholder interest in the property."

Use of Nets, Seines, Traps and Like Devices

Section 50-13-310

- A game fish taken by net or other nongame fishing device, must be returned immediately to the water from whence it came. A person violating the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not less than fifty dollars nor more than two hundred dollars or imprisoned for not more than thirty days. Any equipment used in committing the offense must be seized and disposed of as provided by law.

Unlawful Freshwater Actions

Section 50-13-510 Freshwater Mussels

- It is unlawful to take freshwater mussels (*Bivalvia*) without a permit from the department. A person violating this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not less than one hundred nor more than five hundred dollars. Provided, Asian clams (*Corbicula spp.*) may be taken without permit.

Protection of Freshwater Game Fish

Section 50-13-200 Game Fish Devices

- It is unlawful to take freshwater game fish except by game fish devices. A fisherman only may use four game fishing devices. A fisherman fishing from a boat may use an unlimited number of game fishing devices if all persons in the boat sixteen years and older have valid fishing licenses.

Section 50-13-210 Game Fish Daily Possession Limit

- Except as otherwise provided, the daily possession limit for game fish is an aggregate of forty of which:
 - not more than five may be largemouth, redeye (coosae), or smallmouth bass or their hybrids or any combination;



- not more than fifteen may be spotted bass;
 - not more than ten may be hybrid bass or striped bass or a combination;
 - not more than ten may be white bass;
 - not more than eight may be walleye or sauger or a combination;
 - not more than five may be trout, except on Lake Jocassee not more than three trout may be taken;
 - not more than twenty may be crappie;
 - not more than fifteen may be redbreast; and
 - not more than thirty may be other freshwater game fish species not listed in this section.
- On Lakes Hartwell, Keowee, Russell, (including the Lake Hartwell tail water), Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah, the Chattooga and Savannah Rivers and Stevens Creek Reservoir the daily possession limit for black bass is an aggregate of ten.

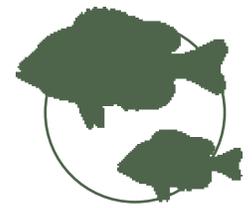
Section 50-13-270 Artificial Lures & Bait Restrictions

- From November first through May fourteenth inclusive, it is unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except single hook artificial lures in the following waters:
 - that portion of the Chattooga River beginning at S.C. State Highway 28 upstream to its confluence with Reed Creek (Rabun County, GA);
 - that portion of Cheohee Creek that runs through the Piedmont Forestry Center;
 - Devils Fork Creek; Howard Creek from its confluence with Corbin Creek upstream to its confluence with Limberpole Creek; and Corbin Creek upstream from its confluence with Howard Creek to S.C. State Highway S-37-130 (Whitewater Road) in Oconee County;
 - Chauga River from S.C. State Highway S-37-290 (Cassidy Bridge Road) upstream to its confluence with Bone Camp Creek in Oconee County; and
 - Eastatoe Creek from the backwaters of Lake Keowee upstream to S.C. State Highway S-39-143 (Roy Jones Road) in Pickens County.
- It is unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except artificial lures in the following waters:
 - Whitewater River;
 - Matthews Creek from Asbury Drive Bridge at Asbury Methodist Camp upstream including all tributaries and headwaters;
 - Middle Saluda River from the foot bridge at Jones Gap Natural Area Office upstream to U.S. Highway 176 in Greenville County; and
 - Eastatoe Creek on Eastatoe Heritage Preserve in Pickens County.
- It is unlawful to use or possess corn, cheese, fish eggs, or imitations of them on Lake Jocassee.

Protection of Nongame Fish

Section 50-13-620 Marking of Nongame Devices (trotlines, traps, eel pots, gill nets and hoop nets)

- A trotline, trap, eel pot, gill net, and hoop net must be marked with a white floating marker not less than a capacity of one quart and not more than a capacity of one gallon and must be made of



solid, buoyant material that does not sink if punctured or cracked. A floating marker must be constructed of plastic, PVC spongex, plastic foam, or cork. A hollow buoy or float, including plastic, metal, or glass bottles or jugs, must not be used, except that a manufactured buoy or float specifically designed for use with nongame fishing devices may be hollow if constructed of heavy duty plastic material and approved by the department. The owner's name and department customer identification number must be legible on each of the white floating marker. Both commercial and recreational fishermen shall comply with provisions of this title pertaining to the marking and use of a nongame fishing device. A trotline must be marked on both ends. A commercial trotline must be marked at intervals of every fifty hooks. A commercial trotline which uses fifty or fewer hooks must be marked at intervals of twenty-five hooks. A recreational trotline must be marked at intervals of every twenty-five hooks. Each interval float must be 'International Orange' in color.

- A tag issued for a nongame device must be attached to the device at all times. A permit and tag receipt must be kept on the person to whom issued while possessing or using a nongame fishing device.
- Each set hook must have an identification tag attached to it bearing the owner's name and department customer identification number.
- A device or part of it improperly marked, tagged, or identified is in violation and is contraband.
- A violation of this section is a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, is punishable as prescribed in this chapter.

Section 50-13-640 Blue Catfish

- On Lakes Marion and Moultrie and the upper reach of the Santee River only 2 blue catfish larger than 32 inches may be taken and there is a 25 fish possession limit. On the Congaree and Wateree Rivers there is no possession limit and only 2 fish larger than 32 inches may be taken.
- A person violating the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than three hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days, or both.

Section 50-13-665 Trotline, Set Hooks & Jug Baits

- No game fish (except bream, excluding redbreast, cut into two or more equal parts), live bait or any bait other than bait listed below shall be used with trotlines, set hooks and jugs: soap, doughballs, (nongame fish or bream, excluding redbreast, cut into two or more equal parts), shrimp, grapes or meat scraps (which may not include insects, worms and other invertebrates).
- On the Black, Edisto, Great Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee, Lumber, Lynches (including Clarks, Mill and Muddy Creeks), Sampit and Waccamaw Rivers, live nongame fish and bream, excluding redbreast, may be used with single-barbed set hooks that have a shank-to-point gap of fifteen-sixteenths inches or greater. However, it is unlawful for a person to have in possession more than the lawful creel limit of bream while fishing with nongame devices on these rivers.
- On the Black, Great Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee, Lumber, Lynches (including Clarks, Mill and Muddy Creeks) and Waccamaw rivers, live nongame fish and bream, excluding redbreast, may be used on a trotline having not more than 20 hooks with a shank-to-point gap of fifteen-sixteenths inches or greater. However, it is unlawful for a person to have in possession more than the lawful creel limit of bream while fishing with nongame devices on these rivers.



- A person violating the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than two hundred dollars or imprisoned for not more than thirty days.

Section 50-13-680 Commercial Nongame Fishing Devices

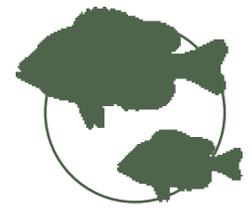
- An enforcement officer or department employee acting in their official capacity may inspect, at any reasonable hour, the vehicle, boat, processing house, and wholesale business which is connected with nongame commercial fishing activities and the records of a person required to be licensed by this title to ensure compliance. Upon request of the department, the buyers (fish houses) of nongame fish shall report quarterly the volume of sales and other information as required by the department. An enforcement officer or department employee acting in their official capacity may check any game or nongame fishing device and, if unlawful, may seize the device as contraband and dispose of it and any catch provided by law.

Section 50-13-685 Nongame Fishing Devices

- Except as otherwise provided, a person violating this article is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not less than fifty nor more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days, or both. In addition to that penalty, the court may order the department to suspend the fishing license and any tags or permits for up to one year.

Section 50-13-690 Seizure of Fish or Fishing Devices from Previous Violators

- In addition to any specific penalty provided in this article, any fish or fishing device taken or found to be in possession of a person charged with a violation of this article must be seized. The fish must be sold in the same manner as provided by law for the sale of perishable items. If the person charged is convicted, the money received from the sale must be forwarded to the department and placed to the account of the 'Fish and Wildlife Protection Fund' of the State Treasury. After conviction, the fishing devices must be sold at public auction. The sale of the fish and fishing devices must be conducted using the procedures as provided by law. If the person is acquitted, the devices must be returned to him along with any money that may have come from the sale of the fish.
- In addition to the specific penalties provided in this article and the penalties provided in above, the boat, motor, and fishing gear of a person who is charged with unlawfully using or having in possession a gill net or hoop net on any freshwater lake or reservoir of this State must be confiscated and sold at auction within this State after conviction using the procedure as provided by law. The money received from the sale must be forwarded to the department and placed in the account of the 'Fish and Wildlife Protection Fund' of the State Treasury. If the person is acquitted the boat, motor, and fishing gear must be returned to him. Upon conviction, the department shall suspend the person's license or privilege to fish in this State for a period of one year from the date of conviction.
- In addition to the specific penalties provided in this article, upon the conviction of a commercial freshwater fisherman of illegal possession of game fish or the sale or traffic in game fish, the department shall suspend the person's license or privilege to fish in this State for a period of one year from the date of conviction.



Section 50-13-695 Stealing or Tampering with Nongame Fishing Devices

- Except for department personnel in their official capacity, it is unlawful for a person to fish, inspect, or use in any manner nongame fishing devices owned and tagged by another person or to remove any fish from a device unless under the immediate supervision of the owner. A person found guilty of a violation of this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned for up to thirty days, or both.
- A person who steals any nongame fishing device or any fish in a device or who tampers with or damages a nongame fishing device or makes it ineffective for the purpose of taking fish is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction:
 - for tampering with or damaging or making ineffective a device, must be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than two hundred dollars or imprisoned for not more than thirty days; and
 - for stealing a device or fish caught in the device, must be fined not less than five hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.

Sale & Traffic in Fish

Section 50-13-1610 Unlawful Sell, Sale, Barter, Traffic or Purchase of Game Fish

- It is unlawful to sell, offer for sale, barter, traffic in, or purchase any fish classified as a game fish under the provisions of this title except as allowed by this title regardless of where caught. A person violating this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be punished as follows:
 - for a first offense, by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars or imprisonment for not more than thirty days;
 - for a second offense within three years of a first offense, by a fine of not less than three hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars or imprisonment for not more than thirty days;
 - for a third or subsequent offense within three years of a second or subsequent offense, by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars or imprisonment for not more than thirty days;
 - for a fourth and subsequent offense within five years of the date of conviction for the first offense must be punished as provided for a third offense.

Section 50-13-1615 Sell, Sale or Possess for Sale of Nongame Fish

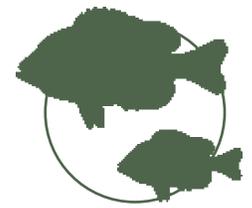
- A person selling, offering for sale, or possessing for sale freshwater nongame fish must have in possession dated invoices, bills of sale, or other documentation verifying the origin of the fish and from whom procured.

Section 50-13-1630 Fish Illegal for Possession, Sale, Offer for Sale or Import

- A person may not possess, sell, offer for sale, import, bring, or cause to be brought or imported into this State or release anywhere in this State the following species at any stage of its life cycle:
 - carnero or candiru catfish (*Vandellia cirrhosa*);



- freshwater electric eel (*Electrophorus electricus*);
 - white amur or grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*);
 - walking catfish or a member of the clariidae family (*Clarias*, *Heteropneustea*, *Gymnallabes*, *Channallabes*, or *Heterobranchus* genera);
 - piranha (all members of *Serrasalmus*, *Rooseveltiella*, and *Pygocentrus* genera);
 - stickleback;
 - Mexican banded tetra;
 - sea lamprey;
 - rudd (*Scardinius erythrophthalmus*-Linnaeus);
 - snakehead (all members of family *Channidae*);
 - rusty crayfish (*Orconectes rusticus*); and
 - other nonindigenous species not established, except by permit, exclusive of the recognized pet trade species.
- The department may issue special import permits to qualified persons for research and education only.
 - The department may issue permits for stocking sterile white amur or grass carp hybrids in the waters of this State. The permits must certify that the permittee's white amur or grass carp hybrids have been tested and determined to be sterile. The department may charge a fee of one dollar for each white amur or grass carp hybrid that measures five inches or longer or twenty-five cents for each white amur or grass carp hybrid that measures less than five inches. The fee collected for sterility testing must be retained by the department and used to offset the costs of the testing.
 - The department is authorized to promulgate regulations to establish a fee schedule to replace the fee schedule mentioned above. Upon these regulations taking effect, the fee schedule mentioned above no longer applies.
 - The department may issue permits for the importation, breeding, and possession of nonsterile white amur or grass carp hybrids. The permits must be issued pursuant to the provisions of the Aquaculture Enabling Act in Article 2, Chapter 18 of Title 50. Provided, however, that no white amur or grass carp hybrids imported, bred, or possessed pursuant to this subsection may be stocked in the waters of this State except as provided by those permitted by the department.
 - It is unlawful to take, harm, or kill grass carp from public waters. Any grass carp taken must be returned immediately to the water from which it was taken.
 - The department shall prescribe the qualifications, methods, controls, and restrictions required of a person or his agent to whom a permit is issued. The department shall condition all permits issued under this section to safeguard public safety and welfare and prevent the introduction into the wild or release of nonnative species of fish or other organisms into the waters of this State. The department may promulgate regulations necessary to effectuate this section and specifically to prohibit additional species of fish from being imported, possessed, or sold in this State when the department determines the species of fish are potentially dangerous. A violation of the terms of the permit may result in revocation and a civil penalty of up to five thousand dollars. An appeal is pursuant to the provisions of Article 2, Chapter 23, Title 1 (the Administrative Procedures Act).
 - A person who violates the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not less than five hundred nor more than two thousand five hundred dollars or imprisoned for thirty days, or both.



Section 50-13-1635 Release of Aquatic Species & Use of Fish as Bait

- Except bait lost incidental to fishing or fish released into the waters from which they were taken, it is unlawful to intentionally release any aquatic species, regardless of the stage of its life cycle, into the waters of this State without a permit from the department.
- It is unlawful to use any nonindigenous fish as bait that is not already established in the water body being fished except the following minnows: fathead minnows (*Pimephales promelas*), golden shiners (*Notemigonus crysoleucas*), and goldfish, including 'black salties' (*Carassius auratus*). Magistrates court retains concurrent jurisdiction of this offense.
- A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not less than five hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars or up to thirty days in jail, or both. In addition to the criminal penalties, the court may order a civil penalty sufficient to cover costs for eradication.

Special Permits and Sanctuaries

Section 50-13-1995 Federal Government

- The department may permit the federal government to conduct fish culture and scientific investigations in the waters of this State in connection with hatchery operations or management of those species under federal jurisdiction.

Section 50-13-1940 Scientific Permits

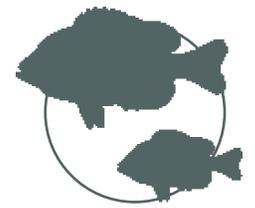
- The department may grant permits to collect freshwater fish for scientific purposes during any time of the year and on any area including sanctuaries without further review. The application must be accompanied by the requisite fee. The department shall investigate the applicant and the need for the permit. A permit is valid until December thirty-first in the year in which issued. A permit must be extended for one year with payment of the fee. A permit is not transferable but a student assistant working under the direct supervision of the permittee is covered by the permit. All collecting must be done in accordance with recognized scientific methods. Data and results must be made available to the department upon request. The conditions of the permit must be adhered to. The department may suspend or cancel the permit at its discretion.
- A person violating this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not less than two hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned for up to thirty days, or both.

Fish Sanctuaries

- The department, without cost to this State, shall designate and establish sanctuaries where fish may breed unmolested, in the manner and subject to the provisions in this article. *Section 50-13-1950*
- The department may select any place upon any river or stream within this State as a fish sanctuary. Upon making this selection, the board, upon approval in writing of a majority of the members of the county legislative delegation from the county in which this proposed fish sanctuary is to be located, may designate and set apart the place as a fish sanctuary. A sanctuary may not exceed two miles in length along any river or stream. When a sanctuary is so designated and set apart, the board shall have it adequately and conspicuously marked and shall designate the limits of it in all directions. *Section 50-13-1960.*



- A person fishing or trespassing upon any property or waters so established as a sanctuary by the department is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not exceeding two hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days. In cases where magistrates have county-wide territorial jurisdiction, the magistrate closest to the sanctuary where the offense occurred shall have jurisdiction of the case. In counties where magistrates are given separate and exclusive territorial jurisdiction the case must be tried as provided in *Section 22-3-530. Section 50-13-1990.*
- A fish sanctuary is established in the St. Stephen Rediversion Canal between the Corps of Engineers' powerhouse and the Atlantic Coastline Railroad Bridge. It is unlawful for a person to fish in the sanctuary except as provided in this section.
 - From March first to May first each year, fishing for nongame fish is allowed from the Atlantic Coastline Bridge upstream to a point marked by signs or buoys, or both. This location must be marked by the department after consultation with and with the permission of the United States Army Corps of Engineers. Fishing is allowed from six p.m. to twelve midnight. The area otherwise is closed to all fishing and boating activities.
 - The catch limit is five hundred pounds of fish or one hundred dozen fish a boat a day. Game fish taken must be returned immediately to the water. All fish, except those used for live bait, must be packed in boxes with a one hundred pound capacity before crossing back under the railroad bridge.
 - Fishing devices must not be used except cast nets, dip nets, or drop nets. The diameter of the dip or drop nets used may not exceed six feet. Nets must not be operated by the use of mechanical devices such as winches, cranes, or pulleys.
 - A person violating this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not less than twenty-five nor more than one hundred dollars or imprisoned not less than fifteen nor more than thirty days. *Section 50-13-2015*



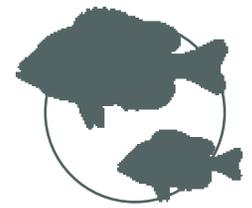
Notes —Waterbody Definitions Section 50-1-50

The following water bodies have the geographic boundaries as described:

- (1) **‘Ashepoo River’** means all waters of the Ashepoo River from its confluence with Saint Helena Sound upstream to the confluence of Jones Swamp and Ireland Creeks, near S.C. State Highway 63/U.S. Highway 17A Bridge in Colleton County.
- (2) **‘Ashley River’** means all waters of the Ashley River from its confluence with the Cooper River in Charleston Harbor upstream to the confluence of Great Cypress Swamp and Rumphs Hill Creeks.
- (3) **‘Back River (Jasper County)’** means all waters of Back River from its confluence with the Savannah River upstream to its headwaters on Hutchinson Island.
- (4) **‘Little Back River (Jasper County)’** means all waters of Little Back River from its confluence with Back River upstream to the confluence of McCoy’s Creek and Union Creek.
- (5) **‘Beaufort River (Beaufort County)’** means all waters of Beaufort River from its confluence with Port Royal Sound upstream to the confluence with Battery, Cowen, Albergottie, and Brickyard Creeks.
- (6) **‘Black Creek (Chesterfield, Darlington, and Florence Counties)’** means all waters of Black Creek from its confluence with the Great Pee Dee River upstream to S.C. State Highway S-13-513 (Griggs Street Bridge) in Chesterfield County.
- (7) **‘Black Creek (Lexington County)’** means all waters of Black Creek from its confluence with North Fork Edisto River upstream to its headwaters at Taylors Pond Dam near S.C. State Highway S-32-77 (Two Notch Road Bridge) in Lexington County.
- (8) **‘Black Mingo Creek’** means all waters of Black Mingo Creek from its confluence with the Black River upstream to the confluence of Paisley Swamp and Cedar Swamp Creeks.
- (9) **‘Black River’** means all waters of Black River from its confluence with the Great Pee Dee River upstream to its headwaters northwest of S.C. State Highway S-31-33 near McCutchens Crossroads in Lee County.
- (10) **‘Bohicket Creek (Charleston County)’** means all waters of Bohicket Creek from its confluence with North Edisto River upstream to its confluence with Church Creek.
- (11) **‘Broad River’** means all waters of Broad River from its confluence with the Saluda River at U.S. Highway 1/U.S. Highway 378 (Gervais Street Bridge) upstream to the North Carolina/South Carolina state line.
- (12) **‘Lower reach of the Broad River’** means all waters of the Broad River from its confluence with the Saluda River at U.S. Highway 1/U.S. Highway 378 (Gervais Street Bridge) upstream to Parr Dam.
- (13) **‘Upper reach of the Broad River’** means all waters of the Broad River from Parr Dam upstream to the North Carolina/South Carolina state line.
- (14) **‘Broad River (Beaufort County)’** means all waters of Broad River from its confluence with Port Royal Sound upstream to the confluence of Whale Branch, Coosawhatchie River, and Pocatigo River.
- (15) **‘Buffalo Creek (Newberry County)’** means all waters of Buffalo Creek from its confluence with Lake Murray upstream to State Highway S-36-404.
- (16) **‘Bull Creek (Georgetown and Horry Counties)’** means all waters of Bull Creek from its divergence from the Great Pee Dee River to its confluence with the Waccamaw River.
- (17) **‘Bull River (Beaufort County)’** means all waters of Bull River from its confluence with Coosaw River upstream to its confluence with Wimbee Creek and Williman Creek.
- (18) **‘Bulls Bay’** means all open bay waters bounded on the east by a line running northeast from the northern tip of Bull Island following the COLREG line to the southern tip of Sandy Point.



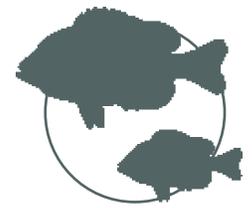
- (19) **'Bush River'** means all waters of Bush River from Lake Murray in Newberry County at S.C. State Highway S-36-41, upstream to its headwaters beyond S.C. State Highway S-30-72 Bridge (Gary Street) in Laurens County.
- (20) **'Calibogue Sound'** means all waters between Hilton Head Island and Daufuskie Island bounded on the seaward side by a line running due west from the westernmost tip of Hilton Head Island (latitude 32° 6.82' N, longitude 080° 49.78' W) and bounded on the inland side by a line from the northern tip of Daufuskie Island (latitude 32° 8.34' N, longitude 080° 50.35' W) running along the marsh shore of Bull Island to its easternmost point (latitude 32° 11.46' N, longitude 080° 47.37' W) and then running due east to Hilton Head Island, and then following the shoreline in a southwesterly direction across the confluence of Broad Creek to the westernmost tip of Hilton Head Island.
- (21) **'Cape Romain Harbor (Charleston County)'** means all waters inshore of the COLREG line between Cape Island and Murphy Island and bounded on the eastern side by Cape Island and to its confluence with Romain River, Horsehead Creek, Congaree Boat Creek, and Alligator Creek, and inshore of the COLREG line from Cape Island to Raccoon Key.
- (22) **'Catawba River'** means all waters of the Catawba River from the backwaters of Fishing Creek Reservoir at S.C. State Highway 9 upstream to the Lake Wylie Dam.
- (23) **'Chattooga River'** means all waters of the Chattooga River beginning at its confluence with Opossum Creek upstream to the North Carolina/South Carolina state line.
- (24) **'East Fork Chattooga River'** means all waters of East Fork Chattooga River from its confluence with the Chattooga River upstream to the North Carolina/South Carolina state line.
- (25) **'Chauga River'** means all waters of the Chauga River from Lake Hartwell upstream to the confluence of Village and East Village Creeks.
- (26) **'Chechessee Creek (Beaufort County)'** means all waters of Chechessee Creek from its confluence with Chechessee River upstream to the confluence with Colleton River near Manigault Neck.
- (27) **'Chechessee River (Beaufort County)'** means all waters of Chechessee River from its confluence with Port Royal Sound upstream to the confluence with Hazzard Creek.
- (28) **'New Chehaw River (Colleton County)'** means all waters of New Chehaw River from its confluence with the Combahee River upstream to its diversion from the Old Chehaw River.
- (29) **'Old Chehaw River (Colleton County)'** means all waters of Old Chehaw River from its confluence with the Combahee River upstream to its headwaters outside of the town of Green Pond.
- (30) **'Cheohee Creek'** means all waters of Cheohee Creek from its confluence with Flat Shoal River and Tamassee Creek upstream to its headwaters east of S.C. State Highway 107 in Oconee County.
- (31) **'Church Creek (Charleston County)'** means all waters of Church Creek from its confluence with Wadmalaw River in Wadmalaw Sound upstream to its confluence with Bohicket Creek.
- (32) **'Clark Sound'** means all waters bounded on the northwestern side by James Island and on the eastern side by marshes associated with Morris Island.
- (33) **'Clark's Creek'** means all waters of Clark's Creek from its confluence with the Great Pee Dee River upstream to its divergence from the Lynches River in Florence County.
- (34) **'Colleton River (Beaufort County)'** means all waters of Colleton River from its confluence with Chechessee River upstream until its confluence with Okatee River.
- (35) **'Combahee River'** means all waters of the Combahee River from its confluence with the Coosaw River upstream to the confluence of the Salkehatchie and Little Salkehatchie Rivers.



- (36) **‘Congaree River’** means all waters of the Congaree River from its confluence with the Wateree River upstream to the confluence with the Broad and Saluda Rivers at U.S. Highway 1/U.S. Highway 378 (Gervais Street Bridge).
- (37) **‘Cooper River (Beaufort County)’** means all waters of Cooper River from its confluence with Calibogue Sound upstream to its confluence with the New River.
- (38) **‘Cooper River (Berkeley and Charleston Counties)’** means all waters of Cooper River from its confluence with the Ashley River in the Charleston Harbor upstream to the confluence of East Branch Cooper River and West Branch Cooper River.
- (39) **‘Cooper River system (Berkeley and Charleston Counties)’** means all waters of Cooper River and its fresh water tributaries, from the freshwater/saltwater dividing line to its headwaters including the East and West Branch and the Tailrace Canal.
- (40) **‘Coosaw River (Beaufort County)’** means all waters of Coosaw River from its confluence with Saint Helena Sound upstream to its confluence with Whale Branch, McCalley’s Creek, and Brickyard Creek.
- (41) **‘Coosawhatchie River’** means all waters of the Coosawhatchie River from its confluence with the Broad River (Jasper County) upstream to U.S. Highway 301 in Allendale County.
- (42) **‘Great Cypress Swamp’** means all waters of the Great Cypress Swamp from its confluence with the Ashley River upstream to the confluence of Partridge Creek and Wassamasaw Swamp Creek or Big Run Creek.
- (43) **‘Dawhoo River (Charleston County)’** means all waters of Dawhoo River from its confluence with the North Edisto River upstream to its divergence with the South Edisto River.
- (44) **‘Durbin Creek (Greenville and Laurens Counties)’** means all waters of Durbin Creek from its confluence with the Enoree River in Laurens County upstream to S.C. State Highway 418 in Laurens County.
- (45) **‘Eastatoe Creek’** means all waters of Eastatoe Creek from Lake Keowee backwaters upstream to the North Carolina/South Carolina state line.
- (46) **‘Edisto River’** means all waters of the Edisto River from its confluence with the South Edisto River and Dawhoo River upstream to the confluence of the North Fork Edisto River and South Fork Edisto River.
- (47) **‘North Edisto River’** means all waters of the North Edisto River from its confluence with the Atlantic Ocean upstream to the confluence of Dawhoo River and Wadmalaw River.
- (48) **‘South Edisto River’** means all waters of the South Edisto River from its confluence with Saint Helena Sound upstream to the confluence of the Edisto River and Dawhoo River.
- (49) **‘North Fork Edisto River’** means all waters of the North Fork Edisto River from its confluence with the South Fork Edisto River upstream to the confluence of Chinquapin Creek and Lightwood Knot Creek in Lexington County.
- (50) **‘South Fork Edisto River’** means all waters of the South Fork Edisto River from its confluence with the North Fork Edisto River upstream to S.C. State Highway S-19-41 (Edisto Road) in Edgefield County.
- (51) **‘Enoree River’** means all waters of the Enoree River from its confluence with the Broad River upstream to its headwaters near S.C. State Highway S-23-869 (Tubbs Mt. Road).
- (52) **‘Five Fathom Creek (Charleston County)’** means all waters of Five Fathom Creek from its confluence with Bull’s Bay just west of Sandy Point to its divergence from the Intracoastal Waterway.
- (53) **‘Folly Creek (Charleston County)’** means all waters of Folly Creek from its confluence with Folly River upstream to its confluence with Lighthouse Creek.



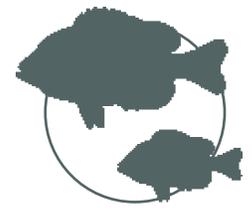
- (54) **'Folly River (Charleston County)'** means all waters of Folly River from its confluence with the Atlantic Ocean north of Stono Inlet upstream to the tidal flats behind Folly Island and onto its confluence with Rat Island Creek.
- (55) **'Harbor River (Beaufort County)'** means all waters of Harbor River from its confluence with Saint Helena Sound and the Atlantic Ocean upstream to its confluence with Station Creek and Trenchards Inlet.
- (56) **'Jeffries Creek'** means all waters of Jeffries Creek from its confluence with the Great Pee Dee River upstream to S.C. State Highway 403 in Darlington County.
- (57) **'Kiawah River (Charleston County)'** means all waters of Kiawah River from its confluence with the Atlantic Ocean at Captain Sam's Inlet upstream to its confluence with the Stono River.
- (58) **'Little River (Abbeville, Anderson, and McCormick Counties)'** means all waters of Little River from the backwaters of Lake J. Strom Thurmond in McCormick County upstream to the confluence of Baker Creek (Long Branch) and Corner Creek in Anderson County. **'Little River (Horry County)'** means all waters of Little River from its confluence with the Atlantic Ocean at Little River Inlet upstream to its confluence with the Intercoastal Waterway to the headwaters of Socastee Creek.
- (59) **'Little River (Newberry and Laurens Counties)'** means all waters of Little River from its confluence with the Saluda River upstream to S.C. State Highway S-30-419 (Ghost Creek Road) in Laurens County.
- (60) **'Little River (Sumter County)'** means all waters of Little River from its confluence with the Wateree River upstream to its divergence from the Wateree River.
- (61) **'Log Creek (Edgefield County)'** means all waters of Log Creek from its confluence with Turkey Creek upstream to S.C. State Highway 23 (Columbia Highway).
- (62) **'Long Cane Creek (McCormick County)'** means all waters of Long Cane Creek from the backwaters of Lake J. Strom Thurmond near S.C. State Highway 28 in McCormick County upstream to S.C. State Highway S-1-75 in Abbeville County.
- (63) **'Lumber River'** means all waters of Lumber River from its confluence with the Little Pee Dee River upstream to the North Carolina/South Carolina state line.
- (64) **'Lynches River'** means all waters of Lynches River from its confluence with the Great Pee Dee River upstream to the North Carolina/South Carolina state line.
- (65) **'May River (Beaufort County)'** means all waters of May River from its confluence with Calibogue Sound upstream to its headwaters just past the confluence of Stoney Creek.
- (66) **'McCoy's Cut (Jasper County)'** means all waters of McCoy's Cut from its divergence from Savannah River to its confluence with Union Creek to form the Little Back River.
- (67) **'Mill Creek (Florence County)'** means all waters of Mill Creek from its confluence with Muddy Creek upstream to its divergence from Lynches River.
- (68) **'Morgan River (Beaufort County)'** means all waters of Morgan River from its confluence with Saint Helena Sound upstream to the confluence of Lucy Point Creek and Warsaw Flats.
- (69) **'Muddy Creek (Florence and Williamsburg Counties)'** means all waters of Muddy Creek from its confluence with Clark's Creek upstream to its headwaters near Hemingway, South Carolina.
- (70) **'Mulberry Creek (Greenwood County)'** means all waters of Mulberry Creek from the backwaters of Lake Greenwood upstream to U.S. Highway 25 in Greenwood County.
- (71) **'Mungen Creek (Beaufort County)'** means all waters of Mungen Creek from its divergence from the New River to its confluence with the New River.
- (72) **'Murrell's Inlet (Georgetown County)'** means all saltwaters of Murrell's Inlet from the seaward tip of the Murrell's Inlet jetties inland. This includes these tributary creeks: Main Creek, Woodland Creek, Parsonage Creek, Allston Creek, and Oaks Creek and adjacent marshes.



- (73) **‘New River’** means all waters of New River from its confluence with the Atlantic Ocean upstream to its headwaters at Garrett Lake near U.S. Interstate Highway 95.
- (74) **‘North Santee Bay’** means all waters of the bay west of a line running southwest from the southern tip of South Island to the eastern tip of Cedar Island and upstream to the confluence of Mosquito and Big Duck Creeks.
- (75) **‘Okatee River (Beaufort County)’** means all waters of Okatee River from its confluence with Colleton River upstream to its headwaters near U.S. Highway 278.
- (76) **‘Oolenoy River’** means all waters of Oolenoy River from its confluence with the South Saluda River upstream to its headwaters near US Highway 178 in Pickens County.
- (77) **‘Pacolet River’** means all waters of Pacolet River from its confluence with the Broad River upstream to the Lake H. Taylor Blalock Dam in Spartanburg County.
- (78) **‘North Pacolet River’** means all waters of North Pacolet River from its confluence with the South Pacolet River upstream to the North Carolina/South Carolina state line.
- (79) **‘South Pacolet River’** means all waters of South Pacolet River from Lake William C. Bowen in Spartanburg County upstream to its headwaters near Glassy Mountain in Greenville County.
- (80) **‘Great Pee Dee River (also known as Pee Dee River or Big Pee Dee River)’** means all waters of Great Pee Dee River from its confluence with Winyah Bay upstream to the North Carolina/South Carolina state line.
- (81) **‘Little Pee Dee River’** means all waters of Little Pee Dee River from its confluence with the Great Pee Dee River upstream to Red Bluff Lake Dam at the confluence of Gum Swamp Creek and Beaver Dam Creek in Marlboro County.
- (82) **‘Pocotaligo River (Beaufort, Hampton, and Jasper Counties)’** means all waters of Pocotaligo River from its confluence with the Broad River upstream to its headwaters north of U.S. Highway 17 in Jasper County.
- (83) **‘Pocotaligo River (Clarendon and Sumter Counties)’** means all waters of Pocotaligo River from its confluence with the Black River upstream to the confluence of Cane Savannah Creek and Turkey Creek in Sumter County.
- (84) **‘Port Royal Sound’** means all waters of Port Royal Sound between Hilton Head Island and Bay Point, bounded on the seaward side by a line running northeasterly from the easternmost tip of Hilton Head Island (latitude 32° 12.97’ N, longitude 080° 40.05’ W), to the southernmost tip of Bay Point (latitude 32° 15.39’ N, longitude 080° 43.68’ W), and bounded on the inland side by a line from the northernmost tip of Hilton Head Island (latitude 32° 16.23’ N, longitude 080° 43.68’ W), running northeasterly to the southern tip of Parris Island (latitude 32° 17.88’ N, longitude 080° 40.08’ W), and thence running southeasterly to the southern tip of Bay Point.
- (85) **‘Price Creek (Charleston County)’** means all waters of Price Creek from its confluence with the Atlantic Ocean upstream to its divergence from Sewee Bay.
- (86) **‘Rabon Creek (Laurens County)’** means all waters of Rabon Creek from the backwaters of Lake Greenwood upstream to the Lake Rabon Dam in Laurens County.
- (87) **‘Re-diversion Canal’** means all waters of the Re-diversion Canal from its confluence with the Santee River upstream to the St. Stephen Dam and those waters upstream of the dam to its juncture with Lake Moultrie in Berkeley County.
- (88) **‘Reedy River’** means all waters of Reedy River from the backwaters of Lake Greenwood at S.C. State Highway S-30-6 in Laurens County, upstream to Boyd Millpond Dam, and all waters upstream of Boyd Millpond to its headwaters near Renfrew and Travelers Rest in Greenville County at S.C. State Highway S-23-103.



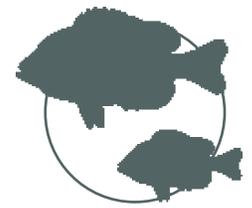
- (89) **'Rocky River'** means all waters of Rocky River from Lake Secession upstream to the confluence of Little Beaverdam and Beaverdam Creeks in Anderson County.
- (90) **'Saint Helena Sound'** means all waters of Saint Helena Sound bounded by Edisto Beach, Otter Island, Ashe Island, Morgan Island, St. Helena Island, and Harbor Island, bounded on the seaward side by the COLREG line from Edisto Beach to Hunting Island, and bounded on the inland side by the U.S. Highway 21 bridge in the mouth of Harbor River, from the northern tip of Coffin Point (latitude 32° 26.78' N, longitude 080° 29.01' W), just east of the mouth of Coffin Creek running north crossing the mouth of Morgan River to the eastern tip of Morgan Island marsh (latitude 32° 28.14' N, longitude 080° 28.63' W), and then running north across the mouth of Coosaw River to the southern tip of Ashe Island (latitude 32° 29.77' N, longitude 080° 28.35' W), and by a line running due east from the eastern tip of Ashe Island (latitude 32° 30.19' N, longitude 080° 27.33' W), crossing the mouth of Rock Creek to Hutchinson Island, and by a line running south across the mouth of the Ashepoo River to the western side of Otter Island (latitude 32° 28.72' N, longitude 080° 25.15' W) and extending to the southern tip of Edisto Beach (latitude 32° 28.64' N, longitude 080° 20.30' W)."
- (91) **'Salkehatchie River'** means all waters of Salkehatchie River from its confluence with the Little Salkehatchie River upstream to the confluence of Buck Creek and Rosemary Creek near S.C. State Highway S-06-166 in Barnwell County.
- (92) **'Little Salkehatchie River'** means all waters of Little Salkehatchie River from its confluence with the Salkehatchie River upstream to the Lake Cynthia Dam in Barnwell County.
- (93) **'Middle Saluda River'** means all waters of Middle Saluda River from its confluence with South Saluda River upstream to its headwaters near U.S. Highway 276 in Greenville County.
- (94) **'North Saluda River'** means all waters of North Saluda River from its confluence with South Saluda River upstream to the North Saluda Reservoir (Poinsett Reservoir) Dam.
- (95) **'South Saluda River'** means all waters of South Saluda River from its confluence with Saluda River and North Saluda River upstream to the Table Rock Dam in Greenville County.
- (96) **'Lower reach of the Saluda River'** means all waters of Saluda River from its confluence with Broad River upstream to the Lake Murray Dam.
- (97) **'Middle reach of the Saluda River'** means all waters of Saluda River from the backwaters of Lake Murray at S.C. State Highway 395, upstream to the Lake Greenwood Dam.
- (98) **'Upper reach of the Saluda River'** means all waters of Saluda River from the backwaters of Lake Greenwood upstream to the confluence of North Saluda River and South Saluda River.
- (99) **'Little Saluda River'** means all waters of Little Saluda River from the backwaters of Lake Murray upstream to the confluence of Mine Creek and Red Bank Creek near U.S. Highway 378 in Saluda County.
- (100) **'Sampit River'** means all waters of Sampit River from its confluence with Winyah Bay upstream to U.S. Highway 17A in Georgetown County.
- (101) **'Santee River'** means all waters of Santee River from its confluence with North Santee River and South Santee River upstream to the Lake Marion Dam and from the backwaters of Lake Marion at the railroad trestle bridge near Rimini upstream to the confluence of the Congaree and Wateree Rivers.
- (102) **'North Santee River'** means all waters of North Santee River from its confluence with North Santee Bay upstream to its confluence with the Santee River and South Santee River.
- (103) **'South Santee River'** means all waters of South Santee River from its confluence with the Atlantic Ocean upstream to its confluence with Santee River and North Santee River.



- (104) **‘Lower reach of the Santee River’** means all waters of Santee River from its confluence with the Atlantic Ocean upstream via the North Santee River, the South Santee River, and the Santee River to the Lake Marion Dam including the waters of the Re-diversion Canal upstream to the St. Stephen Dam.
- (105) **‘Upper reach of the Santee River’** means all waters of Santee River from the backwaters of Lake Marion at the railroad trestle bridge near Rimini upstream to the confluence of the Congaree and Wateree Rivers.
- (106) **‘Santee River system’** means all waters of Santee River including tributaries from the saltwater/freshwater dividing line on the North and South Santee Rivers upstream to the Lake Murray Dam on the Saluda River, the Canal Dam on the Broad River, and the Wateree Dam on the Wateree River.
- (107) **‘Savannah River’** means all waters of Savannah River from its confluence with the Atlantic Ocean upstream to the Lake J. Strom Thurmond Dam and from the backwaters of Richard B. Russell Lake upstream to the Lake Hartwell Dam.
- (108) **‘Lower reach of the Savannah River’** means all waters of Savannah River from its confluence with the Atlantic Ocean or mouth of the Savannah River as defined by a line from Jones Island, South Carolina (also known as Oysterbed Island) point at latitude 32° 02.30’ N, longitude 080° 53.35’ W; across Cockspur Island, Georgia, point at latitude 32° 01.97’ N, longitude 080° 52.93’ W to Lazaretto Creek, Georgia, point at latitude 32° 01.03’ N, longitude 080° 52.85’ W upstream to the Lake J. Strom Thurmond Dam.
- (109) **‘Upper reach of the Savannah River’** means all waters of Savannah River from S.C. State Highway 181 (the backwaters of Richard B. Russell Lake) upstream to the Lake Hartwell Dam.
- (110) **‘Socastee Creek (Horry County)’** means all waters of Socastee Creek from its confluence with Waccamaw River upstream to the Intercoastal Waterway to the headwaters of Little River.
- (111) **‘Stevens Creek’** means all waters of Stevens Creek from the back waters of Stevens Creek Reservoir upstream to the confluence of Hard Labor Creek and Cuffytown Creek in McCormick County.
- (112) **‘Stono River (Charleston County)’** means all waters of Stono River from its confluence with the Atlantic Ocean at Stono Inlet upstream to its confluence with Wadmalaw River in Wadmalaw Sound.
- (113) **‘Story River (Beaufort County)’** means all waters of Story River from its confluence with Fripp Inlet upstream to its confluence with Trenchards Inlet.
- (114) **‘Thicketty Creek’** means all waters of Thicketty Creek, excluding private impoundments, from its confluence with the Broad River upstream to the Lake Thicketty Dam in Cherokee County.
- (115) **‘Trenchards Inlet (Beaufort County)’** means all waters of Trenchards Inlet from its confluence with the Atlantic Ocean upstream to its confluence with Station Creek and Harbor River.
- (116) **‘Tulifinny River’** means all waters of Tulifinny River from its confluence with the Coosawhatchie River upstream to its divergence from the Coosawhatchie River.
- (117) **‘Turkey Creek (Edgefield County)’** means all waters of Turkey Creek from its confluence with Stevens Creek upstream to S.C. State Highway 23 in Edgefield County.
- (118) **‘Tyger River’** means all waters of Tyger River from its confluence with Broad River upstream to the confluence of the North Tyger River and South Tyger River.
- (119) **‘Middle Tyger River’** means all waters of Middle Tyger River from its confluence with the North Tyger River upstream to its headwaters just north of S.C. State Highway 11, excluding Lake Lyman.
- (120) **‘North Tyger River’** means all waters of North Tyger River from its confluence with the South Tyger River upstream to its headwaters south of S.C. State Highway 11 in Spartanburg County.



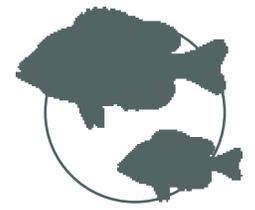
- (121) **'South Tyger River'** means all waters of South Tyger River from its confluence with the North Tyger River upstream to the confluence of Mush Creek and Barton Creek in Greenville County, excluding the lakes.
- (122) **'Union Creek (Jasper County)'** means all waters of Union Creek from its confluence with McCoy's Cut and Little Back River upstream to its headwaters near Chisolm Cemetery.
- (123) **'Waccamaw River'** means all waters of Waccamaw River from its confluence with Winyah Bay upstream to the North Carolina/South Carolina state line.
- (124) **'Wadmalaw River (Charleston County)'** means all waters of Wadmalaw River from its confluence with the North Edisto River to its junction with the Intracoastal Waterway and Church Creek.
- (125) **'Wando River'** means all waters of Wando River from its confluence with the Cooper River upstream to its headwaters.
- (126) **'Warrior Creek'** means all waters of Warrior Creek from its confluence with the Enoree River upstream to its headwaters just west of S.C. State Highway S-30-660 in Laurens County.
- (127) **'Wateree River'** means all waters of Wateree River from its confluence with the Congaree River upstream to the Lake Wateree Dam.
- (128) **'Whale Branch (Beaufort County)'** means all waters of Whale Branch from its confluence with Coosaw River, McCalley's Creek, and Brickyard Creek upstream to its junction with the Broad River.
- (129) **'Wilson Creek (Greenwood County)'** means all waters of Wilson Creek from its confluence with the Saluda River upstream to U.S. Highway 25/U.S. Highway 221/U.S. Highway 178 Bypass in Greenwood County.
- (130) **'Winyah Bay'** means all waters of Winyah Bay east of a line running south from the southern tip of North Island to the eastern tip of Sand Island, and extending to the mouths of the Sampit, Great Pee Dee, and Waccamaw Rivers.
- (131) **'Wright River (Jasper County)'** means all waters of Wright River from its confluence with the Atlantic Ocean upstream to its headwaters in Jasper County.
- (132) **'Lake H. Taylor Blalock'** means all waters of Pacolet River impounded by the Lake Blalock Dam upstream to the confluence with North Pacolet River below Reservoir #1 (Rainbow Lake) Dam in Spartanburg County.
- (133) **'Lake William C. Bowen'** means all waters of South Pacolet River impounded by the Lake Bowen Dam upstream to S.C. State Highway 11.
- (134) **'Cedar Creek Lake (also known as Stumpy Pond or Rocky Creek Lake)'** means all waters of Catawba River impounded by the Cedar Creek/Rocky Creek Dam upstream to the Dearborn Powerhouse on Rocky Creek and U.S. Highway 21 on Rocky Creek. This includes waters between the Cedar Creek Hydro Station on the west bank upstream to the base of the shoals north of Hill Island (Bypass Reach).
- (135) **'Lake Cooley'** means all waters of Jordan Creek impounded by the Lake Cooley Dam upstream to S.C. State Highway S-42-784 (Ballenger Road) in Spartanburg County.
- (136) **'Lake Cunningham'** means all waters of South Tyger River impounded by the Lake Cunningham Dam upstream to S.C. State Highway 101 in Greenville County.
- (137) **'Fishing Creek Reservoir'** means all waters of Catawba River impounded by the Fishing Creek Dam upstream to S.C. State Highway 9. This includes all waters upstream of the Fishing Creek Dam to the confluence of Rum Creek and Cane Creek on Cane Creek and to Catawba Ridge Boulevard on Bear Creek.



- (138) **‘Goose Creek Reservoir’** means all waters of Goose Creek impounded by the Goose Creek Reservoir Dam upstream to U.S. Highway 52 in Berkley County.
- (139) **‘Lake Greenwood’** means all waters of Saluda River impounded by the Buzzard’s Roost (Lake Greenwood) Dam upstream to U.S. Highway 25 including the tributaries of Cane Creek upstream to S.C. State Highway 72, Rabon Creek upstream to S.C. State Highway S-30-54 in Laurens County, and the Reedy River upstream to S.C. State Highway S-30-6 in Laurens County.
- (140) **‘Lake Hartwell’** means all waters of Savannah River impounded by the Lake Hartwell Dam upstream to the Lake Yonah Dam on the Tugaloo River and to the Lake Keowee Dam on the Keowee River. This includes all waters upstream of Hartwell Dam to S.C. State Highway S-04-97 on Six and Twenty Creek in Anderson County.
- (141) **‘Lake Hartwell Tailwater’** means all waters of Savannah River upstream of S.C. State Highway 181 to Lake Hartwell Dam.
- (142) **‘Lake Jocassee’** means all waters of Keowee, Toxaway, and Whitewater Rivers impounded by the Lake Jocassee Dam upstream to the elevation of 1110 msl.
- (143) **‘Lake Keowee’** means all waters of Keowee River impounded by the Little River Dam at Newry and the Keowee Dam to Jocassee Dam. This includes all waters upstream of the Little River Dam to the confluence of Cane Creek and Little Cane Creek on Cane Creek, to S.C. State Highway S-37-175 on Crooked Creek, to S.C. State Highway S-37-24 (Burnt Tanyard Road) on Little River, and to S.C. State Highway S-37-200 on Stamp Creek in Oconee County. This includes all waters upstream of the Keowee Dam to the confluence of Eastatoe River and Little Eastatoe Creek on the Eastatoe River; S.C. State Highway 133 on Cedar, Crowe, and Mile Creeks in Pickens County.
- (144) **‘Louthers Lake’** means the oxbow lake off of the Great Pee Dee River in eastern Darlington County near S.C. State Highway S-16-495.
- (145) **‘Lake Lyman’** means all waters of Middle Tyger River impounded by the Lake Lyman Dam upstream to S.C. State Highway S-42-75 in Spartanburg County.
- (146) **‘Lake Marion’** means all waters of the Santee River and its tributaries impounded by the Lake Marion Dam including the flooded backwater areas within the Santee Cooper project area in Calhoun and Sumter Counties.
- (147) **‘Lake Monticello’** means all waters impounded by the Frees Creek Dam including the recreational subimpoundment in Fairfield County.
- (148) **‘Lake Moultrie’** means all waters impounded by the Pinopolis Dam including the Diversion Canal and those waters of the Re-diversion Canal within the Santee Cooper project area.
- (149) **‘Lake Murray’** means all waters of Saluda River impounded by the Lake Murray Dam upstream to S.C. State Highway 395 and the Little Saluda River arm up to Big Creek.
- (150) **‘Parr Reservoir’** means all waters of Broad River impounded by the Parr Reservoir Dam upstream to S.C. State Highway 34.
- (151) **‘Reservoir #1 (Rainbow Lake)’** means all waters of South Pacolet River impounded by the Reservoir #1 Dam upstream to Lake William C. Bowen Dam in Spartanburg County.
- (152) **‘Lake Robinson (Darlington and Chesterfield Counties)’** means all waters of Black Creek and its tributaries impounded by the Lake Robinson Dam upstream to its headwaters west of S.C. State Highway S-13-46 in Chesterfield County.
- (153) **‘Lake Robinson (Greenville County)’** means all waters of South Tyger River impounded by the Lake Robinson Dam upstream to S.C. State Highway S-23-114.



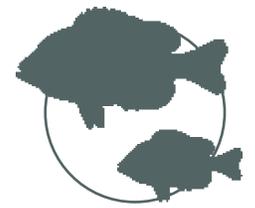
- (154) **‘Lake Russell’** means all waters of Savannah River impounded by the Lake Richard B. Russell Dam upstream to the Lake Hartwell Dam including the tributary Rocky River upstream to the Lake Secession Dam.
- (155) **‘Saluda Lake (Pickens and Greenville Counties)’** means all the waters of the Saluda River and its tributaries impounded by the Saluda Dam upstream to the S.C. State Highway S-39-183 (Farr’s Bridge Road).
- (156) **‘Lake Secession’** means all the waters of Rocky River impounded by the Lake Secession Dam upstream to S.C. State Highway 413.
- (157) **‘Stevens Creek Reservoir’** means all waters of Savannah River upstream of the Stevens Creek Dam to the Lake J. Strom Thurmond Dam including the tributary of Stevens Creek upstream to the confluence of Dry Branch, Cheves Creek, and Stevens Creek in Edgefield County.
- (158) **‘Lake J. Strom Thurmond (formerly Clarks Hill Lake)’** means all waters of Savannah River impounded by the Lake J. Strom Thurmond Dam upstream to the Richard B. Russell Dam, including the tributaries of Little River to Calhoun Mill at the S.C. State Highway 823 Bridge and Long Cane Creek to Patterson Bridge at S.C. State Highway S-33-117 in McCormick County.
- (159) **‘Lake Tugaloo’** means all waters of Tugaloo River impounded by the Lake Tugaloo Dam upstream to the confluence of the Chattooga River and Opossum Creek in Oconee County.
- (160) **‘Lake Wateree’** means all waters of Catawba and Wateree Rivers impounded by the Lake Wateree Dam upstream to the Cedar Creek Hydro Station and Rocky Creek Hydro Station and the dam between the two. This includes the waters to the confluence of Colonel Creek and the first unnamed tributary on Colonel Creek; to the confluence of Fox (June) Creek and the first unnamed tributary on Fox (June) Creek; to S.C. State Highway S-28-101 on Rochelle Creek; to the confluence of Dutchman’s Creek and the first unnamed tributary on the south side of Dutchman’s Creek; to the confluence of Taylor Creek and the first unnamed tributary on the north side of Taylor Creek; to U.S. Highway 21 on Little Wateree Creek and Big Wateree Creek; to Wildlife Road on Singletons Creek; to S.C. State Highway S-28-13 on Beaver Creek and to S.C. State Highway 97 on White Oak Creek.
- (161) **‘Lake Wylie’** means all waters of Catawba River impounded by the Lake Wylie Dam upstream to the southern end of Sunset Island, which constitutes the North Carolina/South Carolina state line, and bounded on the east by the North Carolina/South Carolina state line, which follows the middle of the course of the Catawba River. This includes all waters impounded by the Lake Wylie Dam to S. C. State Highway 274 on Little Allison Creek; to the confluence of Big Branch and Allison Creek on Big Allison Creek; to Vineyard Road on Torrance Creek; to the confluence of Beaver Dam Creek and Crowder’s Creek on Crowder’s Creek; to the confluence of the first unnamed tributary on Mill Creek and Mill Creek; to the North Carolina/South Carolina state line on Catawba Creek. The upper boundary of Lake Wylie is the North Carolina/South Carolina state line located mid channel of the Catawba River at the confluence of the Catawba River and South Fork Catawba River.
- (162) **‘Lake Yonah’** means all waters of Tugaloo River impounded by the Lake Yonah Dam upstream to the Lake Tugaloo Dam.”



Nongame Device Limits by Location			
Water Body	Location	Recreational Devices	Commercial Devices
Ashepool River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eel Pots: 2 Set Hooks: 50 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eel Pots: 75 Set Hooks: 50
Ashley River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eel Pots: 2 Set Hooks: 50 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eel Pots: 75 Set Hooks: 50
Black Creek including Lakes Robinson & Prestwood	Darlington, Florence & Chesterfield counties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gill Nets: nongame nets in season Set Hooks: 50 Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gill Nets: nongame nets in season Set Hooks: 50 Trotlines: 5 lines with 250 hooks maximum
Black River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gill Nets: nongame nets in season Set Hooks: 50 Traps (only from Pea House landing downstream): 2 Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gill Nets: nongame nets in season Set Hooks: 50 Traps (only from Pea House landing downstream): 10 Trotlines: 5 lines with 250 hooks maximum
Broad River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Seine upstream from SC State Hwy 34 Bridge to the NC/SC state line only: 1 Set Hooks: 50 Traps: 2 Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Hooks: 50 Traps: 5 Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum
Bush River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seine: 1 	
Catawba River	from the Lake Wylie Dam to the Cedar Creek Dam including the in-stream reservoirs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seines not allowed. Set Hooks: 50 Traps: 2 Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seines not allowed. Set Hooks: 50 Traps: 2 Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum
Combahee River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eel Pots: 2 Set Hooks: 50 Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eel Pots: 75 Set Hooks: 50 Trotlines: 5 lines with 250 hooks maximum
Congaree River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Hooks: 50 Traps: 2 Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hoop Nets: 10 Set Hooks: 50 Traps: 10 Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum
Cooper River	Berkeley & Charleston counties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eel Pots (not allowed upstream from Wadboo Creek): 2 Pump Nets: 1 Set Hooks (not allowed upstream from Wadboo Creek): 50 Skimbow Nets: 1 Traps (not allowed upstream from Wadboo Creek): 2 Trotlines (not allowed upstream from Wadboo Creek): 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eel Pots (not allowed upstream from Wadboo Creek): 5 Elver Fyke nets allowed on all tributaries and on the main branch from the saltwater/freshwater dividing line upstream to the CSX railroad trestle on the Tail Race Canal: 10 Set Hooks (not allowed upstream from Wadboo Creek): 50 Traps (not allowed upstream from Wadboo Creek): 25 Trotlines (not allowed upstream from Wadboo Creek): 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum
Coosawhatchie River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Hooks: 50 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Hooks: 50
Durbin Creek	Greenville & Laurens counties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seines: 1 	
Edisto River	including the North and South Forks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eel Pots: 2 Set Hooks: 50 Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eel Pots: 75 Set Hooks: 50 Trotlines: 5 lines with 250 hooks maximum



Nongame Device Limits by Location			
Water Body	Location	Recreational Devices	Commercial Devices
Enoree River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seine allowed from the Norfolk-Southern Railroad in Greenville County downstream to the confluence with the Broad River: 1 • Set Hooks: 50 • Traps: 2 • Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set Hooks: 50 • Traps: 2 • Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum
Four Holes Lakes system	in Dorchester County which includes Bridge Lake, John's Hole Lake, Little Pond Lake, Mallard's Lake, Mims Lake, Mouth of Four Holes Lake, Rock's Lake, Shuler Lake, Steed's Lake and Woods Lake	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gill Nets: nongame nets in season • Set Hooks: 50 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gill Nets: nongame nets in season • Set Hooks: 50
Great Pee Dee River	the waters from the US Interstate Hwy 95 to the saltwater/freshwater dividing line including the navigable oxbows and sloughs and Bull Creek	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eel Pots downstream from US Hwy 701 to the saltwater/freshwater dividing line: 2 • Gill Nets: nongame nets in season • Set Hooks: 50 • Skimbow Nets: 1 • Traps: 2 • Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eel Pots downstream from US Hwy 701 to the saltwater/freshwater dividing line: 75 • Gill Nets: nongame nets in season • Set Hooks: 50 • Traps: 50 • Trotlines: 5 lines with 250 hooks maximum
Great Pee Dee River	the waters from US Interstate Hwy 95 to the NC/SC State Line including the navigable oxbows and sloughs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gill Nets: nongame nets in season • Set Hooks: 50 • Traps: 2 • Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gill Nets: nongame nets in season • Hoop Nets upstream from SC Hwy 34 to the NC/SC State Line: 50 • Set Hooks: 50 • Traps: 50 • Trotlines: 5 lines with 250 hooks maximum
Jefferies Creek	Florence County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gill Nets: nongame nets in season • Set Hooks: 50 • Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gill Nets: nongame nets in season • Set Hooks: 50 • Trotlines: 5 lines with 250 hooks maximum
Lake Greenwood		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jugs: 50 • Traps: 2 • Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traps: 5 • Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum
Lake Hartwell		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jugs: 50 • Traps: 2 • Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jugs: 50 • Traps: 5 • Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum
Lake Keowee		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traps: 2 • Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traps: 5 • Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum
Lakes Marion and Moultrie and the upper reach of the Santee River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traps: 2 • Trotlines (hooks must have a gap or clearance between point and shank no greater than 7/16"): 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traps: 25 • Trotlines (hooks must have a gap or clearance between point and shank no greater than 7/16"): 3 lines with not more than 400 hooks on each line
Lake Murray		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traps: 2 • Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traps: 5 • Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum
Lake Russell		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jugs: 50 • Traps: 2 • Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traps: 5 • Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum
Lake Secession		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jugs: 50 • Traps: 2 • Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traps: 5 • Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum

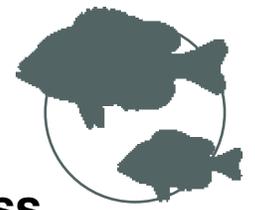


Nongame Device Limits by Location

Water Body	Location	Recreational Devices	Commercial Devices
Lake Thurmond and Stevens Creek Reservoir		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jugs: 50 Traps: 2 Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traps: 5 Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum
Lake Wateree		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traps: 2 Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traps: 5 Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum
Lake Wylie		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traps: 2 Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traps: 5 Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum
Little Pee Dee River	Including Russ's Creek and other navigable oxbows and sloughs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gill Nets: nongame nets in season Set Hooks: 50 Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gill Nets: nongame nets in season Set Hooks: 50 Trotlines: 5 lines with 250 hooks maximum
Little River	From Mars Bridge in McCormick County up to the confluence of Barkers Creek (Long Branch) and Corner Creek in Anderson County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seine: 1 	
Log Creek	Edgefield County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seine: 1 	
Long Cane Creek	McCormick County from above Patterson Bridge on SC Hwy S-33-117 upstream to the SC Hwy S-1-75 in Abbeville County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seine: 1 	
Louther's Lake	Darlington County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gill Nets: nongame gill nets in season Set Hooks: 50 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gill Nets: nongame gill nets in season Set Hooks: 50
Lumber River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gill Nets: nongame gill nets in season Set Hooks: 50 Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gill Nets: nongame gill nets in season Set Hooks: 50 Trotlines: 5 lines with 250 hooks maximum
Lynches River	Includes Clarks Creek, Mill Creek and Muddy Creek	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gill Nets: nongame nets in season Set Hooks: 50 Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gill Nets: nongame nets in season Set Hooks: 50 Trotlines: 5 lines with 250 hooks maximum
Mulberry Creek	Greenwood County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seine: 1 	
New River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Hooks: 50 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Hooks: 50
Pacolet River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seine: 1 Set Hooks: 50 Traps: 2 Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Hooks: 50 Traps: 2 Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum
Rabon Creek	Laurens County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seine: 1 	
Reedy River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seine from the Norfolk-Southern Railroad in Greenville County downstream to the backwaters of Lake Greenwood: 1 Set Hooks: 50 Traps: 2 Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Hooks: 50 Traps: 2 Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum
Rocky River	Anderson County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seine: 1 	
Salkehatchie River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Hooks: 50 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Hooks: 50



Nongame Device Limits by Location			
Water Body	Location	Recreational Devices	Commercial Devices
Saluda River	From SC Hwy 183 in Greenville County to the backwaters of Lake Greenwood and on the Middle Reach of the Saluda River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seine: 1 • Set Hooks: 50 • Traps: 2 • Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set Hooks: 50 • Traps: 2 • Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum
Saluda River, Lower Reach		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traps: 2 • Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	
Sampit River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gill Nets: nongame nets in season • Set Hooks: 50 • Skimbow Nets: 1 • Traps: 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set Hooks: 50 • Traps: 25
Santee River	From USGS gauging station 1715 about 2.4 miles below Santee Dam downstream to the saltwater/freshwater dividing line including the North and South Santee Rivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eel Pots: 2 • Skimbow Nets: 1 • Traps: 2 • Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eel Pots: 75 • Traps: 50 • Trotlines: 5 lines with 250 hooks maximum
Savannah River	Lower reach to the saltwater/freshwater dividing line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eel Pots: 2 • Gill Nets: nongame nets in season • Set Hooks: 50 • Traps: 2 • Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eel Pots: 75 • Gill Nets: nongame nets in season • Hoop Nets: 10 • Set Hooks: 50 • Traps: 40 • Trotlines: 5 lines with 250 hooks maximum
Stevens Creek	From SC Hwy S-19-53 upstream to the confluence of Hard Labor and Cuffytown Creeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seine: 1 	
Thicketty Creek	Cherokee County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seine: 1 	
Tulifinny River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set Hooks: 50 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set Hooks: 50
Turkey Creek	Edgefield and Greenwood counties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seine: 1 	
Tyger River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seine: 1 • Set Hooks: 50 • Traps: 2 • Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set Hooks: 50 • Traps: 2 • Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum
Waccamaw River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eel Pots downstream of the junction of Bull Creek to the saltwater/freshwater dividing line: 2 • Gill Nets: nongame nets in season • Set Hooks: 50 • Skimbow Net: 1 • Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eel Pots downstream of the junction of Bull Creek to the saltwater/freshwater dividing line: 2 • Gill Nets: nongame nets in season • Set Hooks: 50 • Trotlines: 5 lines with 250 hooks maximum
Warrior Creek	Laurens County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seine: 1 	
Wateree River		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hoop Nets: 1 (licensee 65 years or older) • Set Hooks: 50 • Traps: 2 • Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hoop Nets: 10 • Set Hooks: 50 • Traps: 40 • Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum
Wilson Creek	Greenwood County from the confluence of Wilson Creek and Ninety-Six Creek upstream to US Hwy 25/US Hwy 178 in Greenwood County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seine: 1 	



Statewide Changes for Striped, Hybrid & White Bass

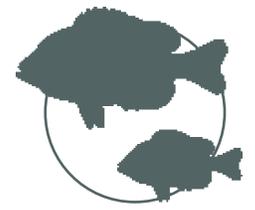
Water Body	Fish	Size Limit	Possession Limit
Statewide	Striped Bass	None	10
Statewide (except Savannah River)	White Bass	None	10
Ashepoo River; Ashley River; Back River in Jasper County and the Back River in Berkeley County; Black River; Black Mingo Creek; Bull Creek and Little Bull Creek; Combahee River; Cooper River system; Coosawhatchie River; Cuckholds Creek; Edisto River; Horseshoe Creek; Lumber River; Lynches River; Great Pee Dee and Little Pee Dee Rivers; Pocolaligo in Beaufort, Jasper, and Hampton Counties; Salkehatchie and Little Salkehatchie Rivers; Sampit River; Santee River system; Tulifinny River; Thoroughfare Creek; and Waccamaw	Striped Bass	Oct 1-May 31 26 inches	3
		Jun 1–Sep 30 Closed except Catch and Release allowed on Lower Saluda River	
Lake Murray	Striped Bass	Oct 1-May 31 21 inches	5
		Jun 1-Sep 30 any length	Unlawful to take, attempt to take, or possess more than 5
Saluda River (Middle Reach) <i>All waters of Saluda River from backwaters of Lake Murray at SC Hwy 395 upstream to Lake Greenwood Dam.</i>	Striped Bass	Oct 1-May 31 21 inches	5
		Jun 1-Sep 30 any length	Unlawful to take, attempt to take, or possess more than 5
Saluda River (Lower Reach) <i>All waters of Saluda River from confluence with Broad River upstream to Lake Murray Dam.</i>	Striped Bass	Oct 1-May 31 26 inches	3
		Jun 1-Sep 30 any length	Unlawful to take, attempt to take, or possess
Lake Richard B Russell	Striped & Hybrid Bass or a combination	Only 1 fish larger than 34 inches	2
Lake Hartwell & Lake Thurmond	Striped & Hybrid Bass or a combination	Only 3 fish over 26 inches	10
Lake Hartwell tailwaters	Striped & Hybrid Bass or a combination	Only 1 fish over 34 inches	2
Savannah River (Lower Reach)	Striped, Hybrid & White Bass or a combination	27 inches	2

* One cannot take, attempt to take or possess striped bass during summer months.



Statewide Changes for Bass, Bream and Crappie

Water Body	Fish	Size Limit	Possession Limit
Statewide	Bream (includes bluegill, flier, warmouth, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, redear and spotted sunfish)	None	30
Statewide	Redbreast Sunfish	None	15
Statewide	Crappie	8 inches	20
Statewide except the waterbodies listed below:	Spotted Bass	None	15
Lakes Hartwell, Keowee, Russell (including the Lake Hartwell Tailwaters), Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah; Stevens Creek Reservoir; the Chattooga and Savannah Rivers	Spotted bass	None	No more than 10 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye, spotted bass or their hybrids
Statewide except the water bodies listed below:	Redeye bass	None	No more than 5 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye bass or their hybrids
Lakes Hartwell, Keowee, Russell (including the Lake Hartwell Tailwaters), Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah; Stevens Creek Reservoir; the Chattooga and Savannah Rivers	Redeye bass	None	No more than 10 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye, spotted bass or their hybrids
Statewide except the lakes listed below:	Smallmouth bass	12 inches	No more than 5 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye bass or their hybrids
Lake Keowee	Smallmouth bass	12 inches	No more than 10 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye, spotted bass or their hybrids
Lakes Hartwell, Russell (including the Lake Hartwell Tailwaters), Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah, the Chattooga and Savannah Rivers and Stevens Creek Reservoir	Smallmouth bass	None	No more than 10 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye bass or their hybrids
Statewide except the lakes listed below:	Largemouth Bass	None	No more than 5 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye bass or their hybrids
Lakes Blalock, Greenwood, Jocassee, Marion, Monticello, Moultrie, Murray, Secession, Wateree, Wylie and the Middle Reach of the Saluda River and the Upper Reach of the Santee River	Largemouth bass	14 inches	No more than 5 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye bass or their hybrids
Savannah River Drainage includes Chattooga River; Hartwell Tailrace; Lake Hartwell; Lake Keowee; Lake Russell; Lake Thurmond; Lake Tugaloo; Lake Yonah; Savannah River; and Stevens Creek Reservoir.	Largemouth bass	12 inches	No more than 10 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye, spotted bass or their hybrids
Lake Robinson (Greenville County)	Largemouth bass	12 inches	No more than 5 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye bass or their hybrids
Slade's Lake	Largemouth, redeye, smallmouth & spotted bass	12 inches	No more than 2 bass per person per day



Statewide Changes for Trout

Water Body	Size Limit	Possession Limit	Bait & Tackle Restrictions
Statewide	None	5	None
Waters on Georgia Border	None	5	None
Chauga River (SC Hwy 290 (Cassidy Bridge Road) upstream to Bone Camp Creek)	None	Nov 1-May 14 Catch/Release only	From Nov 1 - May 14, it is unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except single hook artificial lures.
		May 15 - Oct 31 5	None
Chattooga River (Hwy 28 to Reed Creek)	None	Nov 1-May 14 Catch/Release only	From Nov 1 - May 14, it is unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except single hook artificial lures.
		May 15 - Oct 31 5	None
Cheohee Creek	None	5	None
Cheohee Creek (portion that runs through the Piedmont Forestry Center)	None	Nov1-May 14 Catch/Release only	From Nov 1 - May 14, it is unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except single hook artificial lures in the portion of Cheohee Creek that runs through the Piedmont Forestry Center.
		May 15 - Oct 31 5	None
Corbin Creek (from confluence with Howard Creek upstream to SC Hwy 130)	None	Nov 1-May14 Catch/Release only	From Nov 1 - May 14, it is unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except single hook artificial lures.
		May 15-Oct 31 5	None
Devil's Fork Creek	None	Nov 1-May 14 Catch/Release only	From Nov 1 - May 14, it is unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except single hook artificial lures.
		May 15 - Oct 31 5	None



Statewide Changes for Trout ~ Continued

Water Body	Size Limit	Possession Limit	Bait & Tackle Restrictions
Eastatoe Creek (Keowee to Roy Jones Road)	None	Nov 1-May 14 Catch/Release only	From Nov 1 - May 14, it is unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except single hook artificial lures.
		May 15-Oct 31 5	None
Eastatoe Creek (portion on Eastatoe River Heritage Preserve)	None	5	From Nov 1 - May 14, it is unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except single hook artificial lures.
Howard Creek (from confluence with Corbin Creek upstream to confluence with Limberpole Creek)	None	Nov1-May 14 Catch/Release only	From Nov 1 - May 14, it is unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except single hook artificial lures.
		May 15 - Oct 31 5	None
Lower Saluda River	Only 1 fish larger than 16 inches allowed	5	None
Matthews Creek (from Asbury Drive Bridge at Asbury Methodist Camp upstream including all tributaries and headwaters)	None	5	It is unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except artificial lures.
Matthews Creek (downstream from Asbury Drive Bridge at Asbury Methodist Camp downstream to the confluence with South Saluda River)	None	5	None
Middle Saluda (from the foot bridge at Jones Gap State Park Office upstream to US Hwy 176 in Greenville County)	None	5	It is unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except artificial lures.
Middle Saluda (from Hugh Smith Road Bridge upstream to the foot-bridge at Jones Gap State Park)	None	Catch & Release Only	From Jan 1 - Dec 31, it is lawful to use or possess only artificial lures with single hooks.
Whitewater River (Oconee County)	None	5	It is unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except artificial lures.
Lake Jocassee	Oct 1 - May 31 15 inches; but only 1 fish more than 20 inches	3	It is unlawful to use or possess corn, cheese, fish eggs or imitations of them.
	June 1-Sept 30 No size limit	Unlawful to take, attempt to take, or possess more than 3	
Lake Richard Russell	None	5	None