

**Department of Natural Resources**

**Chapters:**

**Adopted Expedited Emergency Game and Fish Rules:**

**6264**

**MILLE LACS LAKE FISHING**

**PUBLISHED 05-04-2015**

**EFFECTIVE 05-04-2015**

**EXPIRES 11-04-2016 (18 months)**

Please see the attachment for language of this expedited emergency game and fish rules package relating to fishing regulations, seasons, and limits for Mille Lacs Lake.

1.1 **Department of Natural Resources**

1.2 **Adopted Expedited Emergency Game and Fish Rules: Mille Lacs Lake Fishing**

1.3 **6264.0400 DESIGNATED SPECIAL MANAGEMENT WATERS.**

1.4 [For text of subs 1 to 3, see M.R.]

1.5 Subp. 4. **Mille Lacs Lake and associated tributaries special management**  
1.6 **regulations.**

1.7 A. While a person is on or fishing in Mille Lacs Lake or its associated tributaries  
1.8 to the posted boundaries, ~~all northern pike in possession must be less than 24 inches in~~  
1.9 ~~length or greater than 36 inches in length. All northern pike that are 24 to 36 inches in~~  
1.10 ~~length, inclusive, must be immediately returned to the water. A person's possession limit~~  
1.11 ~~may not include more than one northern pike over 36 inches in length. the possession limit~~  
1.12 ~~for northern pike is ten. Only one northern pike in possession may be greater than or equal~~  
1.13 ~~to 30 inches in length. At least two northern pike less than 30 inches in length taken the~~  
1.14 ~~same day from Mille Lacs Lake must be in immediate possession prior to possessing a~~  
1.15 ~~northern pike equal to or greater than 30 inches in length. The angling season for northern~~  
1.16 ~~pike is the Saturday two weeks prior to the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend to the last~~  
1.17 ~~Sunday in March.~~

1.18 B. While a person is on or fishing in Mille Lacs Lake or its associated  
1.19 tributaries, the possession limit for largemouth and smallmouth bass in aggregate is one  
1.20 six, with only one smallmouth bass greater than 18 inches in length. While a person is  
1.21 on or fishing in Mille Lacs Lake or its associated tributaries to the posted boundaries, all  
1.22 smallmouth bass in possession must be 21 inches or greater in length. All smallmouth bass  
1.23 less than 21 inches in length must be immediately returned to the water. The season for  
1.24 taking largemouth and smallmouth bass is the Saturday two weeks prior to the Saturday of  
1.25 Memorial Day weekend to the last Sunday in February. Notwithstanding part 6262.0200,

2.1 subpart 1, item A, subitem (2), the catch and release season does not apply to Mille Lacs  
2.2 Lake or its associated tributaries to the posted boundaries.

2.3 C. Mille Lacs Lake is closed to the taking of fish between the hours of 10 p.m.  
2.4 and 6 a.m. daily during the period commencing at 10 p.m. on the Monday following the  
2.5 Saturday two weeks prior to the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend and ending at 12:01  
2.6 a.m. on ~~Monday, four weeks after the date of commencement~~ December 1. During the  
2.7 closure, no person shall be on the waters of Mille Lacs Lake while having in possession  
2.8 any equipment whereby fish may be taken. ~~Spearing is prohibited from December 1~~  
2.9 ~~through April 30. A person may not have a spear in possession while on or fishing in Mille~~  
2.10 ~~Lacs Lake during this period.~~ with the following exceptions:

2.11 (1) beginning June 8, fishing for muskellunge is allowed between the hours  
2.12 of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Only artificial muskellunge lures greater than eight inches in length,  
2.13 measured from the front of the eye of the lure to the end of the trailing hook, or sucker  
2.14 minnows greater than eight inches in length may be used or in possession. While fishing  
2.15 for muskellunge under this subitem, no person may have in possession tackle or bait other  
2.16 than that specifically used for muskellunge. Angling for, harvest of, and possession of  
2.17 species other than muskellunge are prohibited; and

2.18 (2) beginning June 8, bowfishing for rough fish is allowed between the  
2.19 hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. No person shall have in possession any angling equipment  
2.20 while bowfishing under this subitem. Angling for, harvest of, and possession of species  
2.21 other than rough fish while bowfishing are prohibited.

2.22 [For text of item D, see M.R.]

2.23 E. While a person is on or fishing in Mille Lacs Lake or its associated tributaries  
2.24 to the posted boundaries:

2.25 (1) the possession limit for walleye is one;

3.1 (2) all walleye in possession must be:

3.2 (a) equal to or greater than 19 inches in length and equal to or less  
3.3 than 21 inches in length; or

3.4 (b) equal to or greater than 28 inches in length; and

3.5 (3) all walleye that are:

3.6 (a) less than 19 inches in length; or

3.7 (b) greater than 21 inches and less than 28 inches in length  
3.8 must be immediately returned to the water.

3.9 E F. While a person is on or fishing in Mille Lacs Lake or its associated  
3.10 tributaries to the posted boundaries, the possession and daily limit for Northern cisco  
3.11 (tullibee) is ten fish.

3.12 F G. Fish that are taken by angling and not immediately released into the water  
3.13 after capture are considered to be in possession and part of the bag limit. Once a fish  
3.14 has been reduced to possession, culling or live-well sorting (the act of exchanging one  
3.15 fish for another) is not allowed.

3.16 G H. This subpart applies to the following waters.

3.17	Name	Location	County
3.18	Mille Lacs	T.42-45, R.25-28, S.Various	Aitkin, Mille Lacs
3.19	Borden Creek	T.44, R.25, S.5	Aitkin
3.20	Seastade Creek	T.45, R.26, S.22	Aitkin
3.21	Marmon (Twenty) Creek	T.45, R.25, S.32	Aitkin
3.22	Grave Creek	T.45, R.25, S.8	Aitkin
3.23	Peterson Creek	T.43, R.25, S.5	Mille Lacs
3.24	Thains River (Malone Creek)	T.42, R.25, S.2	Mille Lacs
3.25	West Sucker Creek	T.42, R.25, S.18	Mille Lacs
3.26	South Sucker Creek	T.42, R.25, S.18	Mille Lacs

4.1	Garrison (Borden) Creek	T.44, R.28, S.12	Crow Wing
4.2	Seguchie Creek	T.44, R.28, S.36	Crow Wing
4.3	Reddy Creek	T.45, R.26, S.23	Aitkin
4.4	Whitefish Creek	T.43, R.27, S.7	Mille Lacs
4.5	Seventeen Creek	T.44, R.25, S.17,18,29	Aitkin
4.6	Cedar Creek	T.43, R.25, S.15	Mille Lacs
4.7	McCleans Creek	T.45, R.27, S.34	Aitkin
4.8	Unnamed	T.43, R.25, S.8	Mille Lacs
4.9	Unnamed	T.42, R.26, S.11	Mille Lacs
4.10	Unnamed	T.42, R.26, S.22	Mille Lacs
4.11	Unnamed	T.43, R.27, S.8	Mille Lacs
4.12	Unnamed	T.43, R.27, S.6	Mille Lacs
4.13	Unnamed	T.43, R.27, S.21	Mille Lacs
4.14	Unnamed	T.44, R.27, S.31	Crow Wing
4.15	Unnamed	T.44, R.28, S.36	Crow Wing
4.16	Unnamed	T.44, R.27, S.4	Aitkin
4.17	Unnamed	T.45, R.27, S.25	Aitkin
4.18	Unnamed	T.44, R.25, S.29	Aitkin
4.19	Unnamed	T.44, R.25, S.31,32	Aitkin
4.20	Unnamed	T.44, R.28, S.24	Crow Wing
4.21	Unnamed	T.44, R.28, S.13	Crow Wing
4.22	Rum River Outlet	T.43, R.27, S.33	Mille Lacs

4.23 [For text of subps 5 to 58, see M.R.]

4.24 [For text of subp 59, see 39 SR 1086]

4.25 [For text of subps 60 to 124, see M.R.]

4.26 **REPEALER.** The expedited emergency amendments to Minnesota Rules, part  
 4.27 6264.0400, subpart 4, published in the State Register, volume 38, page 1379, April 21,  
 4.28 2014, are repealed.