

**Department of Natural Resources**

**Chapters:**

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

**6264**

**UPPER RED LAKE FISHING**

**PUBLISHED 05-10-2021**

**EFFECTIVE 05-10-2021**

**EXPIRES 11-10-2022 (18 months)**

Please see the attachment for language of this expedited emergency game and fish rules package relating to Upper Red Lake walleye fishing.

1.1 **Department of Natural Resources**

1.2 **Adopted Expedited Emergency Game and Fish Rules: Upper Red Lake Fishing**

1.3 **6264.0400 DESIGNATED SPECIAL MANAGEMENT WATERS.**

1.4 *[For text of subparts 1 to 58, see Minnesota Rules]*

1.5 **Subp. 59. Upper Red Lake and listed tributaries.**

1.6 *[For text of item A, see Minnesota Rules]*

1.7 B. While a person is on or fishing in the waters listed under item C, subitems (1)  
1.8 to (3) apply. For purposes of this item, a harvest year extends from 12:01 a.m. December  
1.9 1 through November 30 of the following calendar year. For each harvest year, possession  
1.10 limits and length limits are set for walleye to avoid reaching the established annual harvest  
1.11 cap for the waters listed in item C. Annual harvest levels are set based on annual spawning  
1.12 stock biomass estimates to ensure the long-term sustainability of the fishery identified in  
1.13 item C.

1.14 ~~(1) the daily and possession limit for walleye is two fish, of which not more~~  
1.15 ~~than one walleye shall be over 26 inches in length;~~

1.16 ~~(2) all walleye in possession must be less than 17 inches or greater than 26~~  
1.17 ~~inches in length;~~

1.18 ~~(3) all walleye that are 17 inches to 26 inches in length, inclusive, must be~~  
1.19 ~~immediately returned to the water; and~~

1.20 ~~(4) a person's statewide bag limit shall not include more than two walleye~~  
1.21 ~~taken from Upper Red Lake and the tributaries listed under item C.~~

1.22 (1) Beginning at 12:01 a.m. May 15, 2021, the daily and possession limit for  
1.23 walleye is three fish, of which not more than one walleye may be over 17 inches in length.  
1.24 This subitem is effective until 11:59 p.m. October 31, 2021, or until total walleye harvest

2.1 for the waters listed in item C reaches the annual harvest cap. At least five days before  
2.2 implementing this subitem, the commissioner must post notice of the daily and possession  
2.3 limits on the department website and at all public water access sites on the waters listed  
2.4 under item C. The restriction under this subitem is not effective until the notice requirements  
2.5 under this subitem are met.

2.6 (2) Beginning at 12:01 a.m. November 1, 2021, the daily and possession limit  
2.7 for walleye is adjusted according to units (a) and (b) for the winter fishing season to avoid  
2.8 reaching the established annual harvest. At least five days before implementing this subitem,  
2.9 the commissioner must post notice of the daily and possession limits on the department  
2.10 website and at all public water access sites on the waters listed under item C. The restriction  
2.11 under this subitem is not effective until the notice requirements under this subitem are met.  
2.12 This subitem is effective until 11:59 p.m. February 27, 2022, or until total harvest for the  
2.13 waters listed in item C reaches the annual harvest.

2.14 (a) If the 2021 spawning stock biomass of walleye is estimated to be less  
2.15 than 4.5 pounds per acre, the daily and possession limit for walleye is three fish, of which  
2.16 not more than one walleye may be over 17 inches in length.

2.17 (b) If the 2021 spawning stock biomass of walleye is estimated to be 4.5  
2.18 pounds per acre or greater, the daily and possession limit for walleye is four fish, of which  
2.19 not more than one walleye may be over 17 inches in length.

2.20 (3) If at any time during a harvest year the total estimated walleye harvest  
2.21 from waters listed in item C reaches the established annual harvest cap, the waters are closed  
2.22 to all walleye harvest except catch and release. At least five days before implementing this  
2.23 subitem, the commissioner must post notice of the closure on the department website and  
2.24 at all public water access sites on the waters listed under item C. The restriction under this  
2.25 subitem is not effective until the notice requirements under this subitem are met. A closure  
2.26 under this subitem remains in effect until the end of the harvest year.

3.1 *[For text of item C, see Minnesota Rules]*

3.2 *[For text of subparts 60 to 145, see Minnesota Rules]*

3.3 **REPEALER.** The expedited emergency amendments, Minnesota Rules, part 6264.0400,  
3.4 subpart 59, published in the State Register, volume 44, page 1261, May 4, 2020, are repealed.