

## 18 fish species added to catch and release records

Applications now are being accepted so fish listed below can join flathead catfish, lake sturgeon, muskellunge and northern pike on the catch and release records list.

Species	Minimum length
Bigmouth Buffalo	32 inches
Blue Sucker	28 inches
Bowfin	31 inches
Brook Trout	18 inches
Brown trout	24 inches
Channel Catfish	38 inches
Freshwater Drum	31 inches
Lake Trout	40 inches
Largemouth Bass	22 inches
Longnose Gar	46 inches
Rainbow Trout	23 inches
Sauger	22 inches
Shortnose Gar	30 inches
Shovelnose Sturgeon	32 inches
Smallmouth Bass	22 inches
Smallmouth Buffalo	31 inches
Tiger Muskie	44 inches
Walleye	32 inches

Fish submitted for existing records (flathead catfish, lake sturgeon, muskellunge and northern pike) must be at least ¼-inch longer than the existing record, which can be found on the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' website at <https://mndnr.gov/fishing/catch-and-release.html>.

# MINNESOTA STATE CERTIFIED WEIGHT RECORD FISH RULES AND APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

To be considered for a Minnesota Catch and Release record, anglers must follow all instructions below. Please print clearly when filling out the application. Incomplete applications may be returned or rejected.

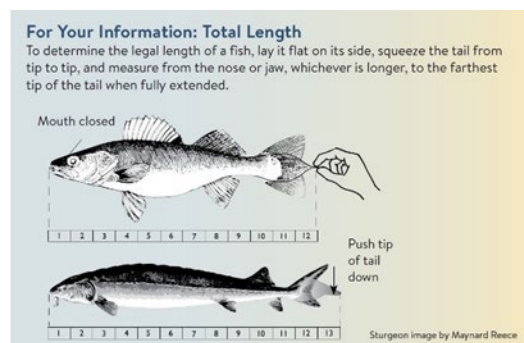
- Fish may not be caught using any methods other than angling and may not be snagged.
- Fish caught from any fish hatchery (private, club or government) are not eligible to be considered for a state record. Fish caught on a body of water without a public access are not eligible to be considered for a state record.
- Fish must be caught during the legal open season and hours in Minnesota waters, including those boundary waters where a Minnesota Fishing License is valid, by a person licensed or otherwise legally entitled to angle in Minnesota.
- Fish must be released in good condition.
- Witness to the catch is mandatory. Witness information must be provided on the application form.
- Length measurements must be clear and documented with photos. The length of the fish must be measured in a straight flat line from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail with the tail squeezed. Photograph the fish next to, or on top of, a flat measuring stick, ruler, or tape that clearly shows the snout lined up with zero and the pinched tail (see photo). The entire length of the measuring device must be seen in the photo. Any questionable measurements will not be accepted. All photographs become property of the State, will not be returned, and may be used for promotional purposes.
- The girth of the fish, measured around the thickest portion of the body, is desired, but optional.
- Applications must be submitted within 90 days of the date on which the fish was caught.

Applications are not approved until all information is received and verified by the DNR Fisheries. The Department of Natural Resources reserves the right to verify identification, verify that the applicant held a valid fishing license at the time of capture, verify witness identify, investigate catch documentation, and reject any applications that are incomplete or not able to be verified.

Please email or mail completed application to

[mandy.erickson@state.mn.us](mailto:mandy.erickson@state.mn.us)

Minnesota Department of  
Natural Resources  
Division of Fish & Wildlife  
Attn: Fisheries Operations Consultant  
500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4020





# Minnesota State Catch and Release Record Fish Application

## **ANGLER INFORMATION** *print as listed on your fishing license*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 MN DNR 9-digit license number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

## **CATCH AND RELEASE INFORMATION**

Minimum length for application must exceed the minimum lengths listed for species in the instructions or be at least ¼" greater than an existing record.

Species (list of eligible species is listed in the instructions) \_\_\_\_\_

Length (*required* - use ¼ inch increments) \_\_\_\_\_ Girth (*optional* use ¼ inch increments) \_\_\_\_\_

The required photos are attached (see exact specifications in the instructions)  Yes  No

## **DATE AND LOCATION OF CATCH**

Date of catch (month-day-year) \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_  AM  PM

Name of lake or stream \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ Nearest town \_\_\_\_\_

## **METHOD OF FISHING** *mark appropriate boxes*

Casting  Trolling  Still fishing  Other, fly fishing, etc.

Type of lure/bait \_\_\_\_\_ Type of line/leader \_\_\_\_\_

Were you fishing from:  Boat  Shore  Ice  Other (barge, pier, etc.)

## **WITNESS TO THE CATCH AND RELEASE**

I, the undersigned, am at least 18 years of age and witnessed the catch, measure, and release of the fish described above. I understand that I may be contacted to verify information provided.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

## **STATEMENT OF APPLICANT**

I certify that the information given above is true and accurate and that I have fulfilled the requirements as outlined in the Catch and Release Fish Rules and Application Instructions, to make my catch eligible. I also give permission and rights to the State of Minnesota to the use of this information. I understand that this use includes the rights to reproduce, publish, publicly display, distribute, and license with copyright to images in all formats. In addition, I authorize my name to be used in connection with said uses. I will not be paid for these uses and I waive all rights to inspect, approve or control how these images are utilized. The State of Minnesota will not intentionally distort or misrepresent these images in use of them. I further agree not to sue and to hold harmless the State of Minnesota and its officials, employees, contractors and licensees from any claims or damages arising from use of these images. If under 18 years of age, parental signature is required.

**Applicant's signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

*Signing this application is a statement of true affidavit. False applications can be prosecuted by law.*