

New Jersey Fish & Wildlife Digest



State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
James E. McGreevey, Governor
Bradley M. Campbell, Commissioner



Office of Natural and Historic Resources
Marc A. Matsil, Assistant Commissioner

Division of Fish and Wildlife
P.O. Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400
www.njfishandwildlife.com
Martin McHugh, Director
David Chanda, Assistant Director
José Fernandez, Assistant Director
Lisa Barno, Chief, Freshwater Fisheries
Rob Winkel, Chief, Law Enforcement
Jim Sciascia, Chief, Information and Education
Cindy Kuenstner, Editor

The Division of Fish and Wildlife is a professional, environmental organization dedicated to the protection, management and wise use of the state's fish and wildlife resources.

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Commissioner's Message

By Bradley M. Campbell

Natural Resource Damages and the New Jersey Angler

New Jersey's residents should be compensated every time they lose the benefit and use of a natural resource as a result of industrial contamination. Simply put, polluters must be held accountable for injuring our environment. Unchecked pollution has impaired our drinking water supplies, limited the consumption of certain fish and restricted access to some of the state's largest waterways to commercial and recreational fishing.

That is why, under Governor McGreevey's leadership, I recently announced an aggressive new directive to pursue more than 4,000 outstanding and potential claims for natural resource damages statewide.

A natural resource damage (NRD) is the dollar value of the total restoration that is needed to compensate the state for an injury to natural resources. Injuries can be both ecological injuries to wetlands, wildlife, ground water or surface water, and human use injuries such as the closure of a waterway to fishing, a beach to swimming or an aquifer to drinking water.

Since the beginning of Governor McGreevey's term, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has demonstrated great success in addressing damage claims against those responsible for loss of a natural resource. In just

one year, NRD recoveries totaled more than \$6.5 million, exceeding the total for the six prior years combined. While we have made progress, only a small percentage of existing claims have been addressed.

A prime example of the damage that can result from environmental violations is reflected in the ongoing claim against AmerGen Energy Company, owner of the Oyster Creek Generating Station in Ocean County. Oyster Creek is a high-use recreational fishery and more than 24 fish species were affected by an illegal discharge by the plant. In addition to seeking fines for the company's water pollution violations, DEP is seeking \$182,912 in natural resource damages for the resulting kill of more than 5,800 fish.

The department also recently ordered 66 responsible parties to assess and restore natural resource injuries to the Passaic River caused by 18 contaminated sites within its watershed. The waters and sediments of the Lower Passaic River are contaminated with hazardous substances including dioxin, PCBs, DDT and heavy metals, which persist in the environment long after the initial discharge and accumulate in the ecological food chain. As a result, the public is prohibited to eat fish or shellfish from the Passaic River and commercial fishing is banned.

Again, those responsible for such losses of our natural resources must be held accountable.

Director's Message

How do we know what New Jersey anglers want? You tell us

An "Angler Preference Survey", our first in 10 years, asked more than 800 licensed anglers their preferences and attitudes about fishing, recreational opportunities, and Fish and Wildlife's fisheries programs. Many thanks to those who patiently participated in the 177-question survey.

The survey confirmed a few things we believed we knew about New Jersey's angling community, but it also included new information. We are pleased that anglers report a high degree of satisfaction with New Jersey's fishing opportunities, fisheries management programs, fishing regulations and angler access. Not surprisingly, though, satisfaction dropped somewhat among those anglers fishing for "trophy" species such as pike, walleye and muskies.

Anglers cited peace and quiet, good company and pleasant scenery as key elements for a successful fishing trip, and many anglers said they would like to catch at least one fish. Asked what detracts from their enjoyment of fishing, many respondents said only time constraints because of work or family obligations keep them from pursuing the sport.

Of the anglers polled, 90 percent selected "improving water quality" as the program they considered most important. In fact, water quality improvement scored higher than fish stocking,

angler access and fishing programs. New Jersey anglers recognize that without good water quality, fisheries programs cannot succeed, and 28 percent indicated we should increase our efforts to improve water quality.

(continued on page 4)

OUR MISSION:

To protect and manage the state's fish and wildlife to maximize their long-term biological, recreational and economic value for all New Jerseyans.

OUR GOALS:

To maintain New Jersey's rich variety of fish and wildlife species at stable, healthy levels and to protect and enhance the many habitats on which they depend.

To educate New Jerseyans on the values and needs of our fish and wildlife and to foster a positive human/wildlife co-existence.

To maximize the recreational and commercial use of New Jersey's fish and wildlife for both present and future generations.

WHERE TO WRITE US

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection,
Division of Fish and Wildlife
P.O. Box 400 • Trenton, NJ 08625-0400
Internet: www.njfishandwildlife.com

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New Jersey Fish & Wildlife Telephone Directory

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License Information & Fees 2003-2004

(Licenses are valid from date of purchase to Dec. 31 of each year)

Resident Fishing (16 yrs. and over)	\$22.50
Senior Resident Fishing (Ages 65-69 yrs.; 70 & over—Free)	\$12.50
Resident Trout Stamp	\$10.50
Non-resident Fishing	\$34
Non-resident Trout Stamp	\$20
Non-resident 2-Day Vacation Fishing	\$9
Non-resident 7-Day Vacation Fishing	\$19.50
All-Around Sportsman (includes resident fishing, firearm hunting and bow/arrow hunting licenses)	\$72.25

Canadian residents please note funds are in U.S. dollars.

See Disabled Veteran's Licenses & Permits, Page 6

Permits for Freshwater Fisheries

Water Lowering, Fish Stocking, Baitfish Collecting, Triploid Grass Carp, Fish Tagging	\$2
Lebanon Field Office	(908) 236-2118
Turtle & Frog Collecting, Eel Weirs	\$2
Trenton Office	(609) 292-9450
Scientific Collecting	\$22
Trenton Office	(609) 292-9450

See Page 6 for permit details

Internet Address	www.njfishandwildlife.com
Commercial Preserves & Semi-Wild Preserves	(609) 984-6211
Hunting Permit Hotline	(609) 292-9192
DEP ACTION LINE - 24 HOURS	877-WARNDEP
Exotic & Nongame Captivity Permits	(609) 292-9591
Falconry Permit Information	(908) 735-8793
General Information	(609) 292-2965
Hunter Education	877-2HUNTNJ
Hunting, Fishing, & Duplicate Licenses	(609) 292-2965
Operation Game Thief	(800) 222-0456
Outstanding Deer Program	(609) 633-7598
Pheasant & Quail Stocking Information	(609) 984-0547
Rifle Permit Information	(609) 984-1400
Trout Stocking Hotline	(609) 633-6765
Wildlife Conservation Corps Information	(856) 629-1014
Wildlife Control	(908) 735-8793
Wildlife Management Area Information	(609) 984-0547
Wildlife Merchandise	(609) 984-0844

Trenton Office

501 E. State St., Station Plaza 5, 3rd Floor, PO Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400	
Endangered and Nongame Species	(609) 292-9400
Freshwater Fisheries	(609) 292-9450
Land Management	(609) 984-0547
Law Enforcement	(609) 292-9430
Marine Fisheries	(609) 292-2083
Wildlife Education	(609) 292-9450
Wildlife Management	(609) 292-6685

Lebanon Field Office

PO Box 394, Lebanon, NJ 08833	(908) 236-2118
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Northern Region Office

26 Route 173 W., Hampton, NJ 08827	
Wildlife Management	(908) 735-7040
Endangered and Nongame Species	(908) 735-8975
Hunter Education	877-2HUNTNJ
Wildlife Control	(908) 735-8793
Land Management	(973) 383-0918
Law Enforcement (Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren counties)	(908) 735-8240

Pequest Trout Hatchery and Natural Resource Education Center

605 Pequest Rd., Oxford, NJ 07863	(908) 637-4125
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Central Region Office

1 Eldridge Rd., Robbinsville, NJ 08691	
Land Management	(609) 259-2132
Hunter Education	877-2HUNTNJ
Wildlife Control	(609) 259-7955
Law Enforcement (Burlington, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, and Ocean counties)	(609) 259-2120

Southern Region Office

220 Blue Anchor Rd., Sicklerville, NJ 08081	
Information	(856) 629-0090
Hunter Education	877-2HUNTNJ
Land Management	(856) 629-5006
Freshwater Fisheries	(856) 629-4950
Wildlife Control	(856) 629-7224
Law Enforcement (Atlantic, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem counties)	(856) 629-0555

Nacote Creek Research Station

PO Box 418, Port Republic, NJ 08241	
Marine Fisheries	(609) 748-2020
Shellfisheries	(609) 748-2040
Marine Education	(609) 748-2031
Wildlife Management	(609) 748-2063
Marine Law Enforcement	(609) 748-2050

Bivalve Shellfish Office

PO Box 432, Port Norris, NJ 08349	(856) 785-0730
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Director's Message

(continued from page 2)

Protecting the quality and quantity of New Jersey's water resources is one of the most pressing environmental challenges we face today, and it is among our highest priorities at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Indeed, Gov. James E. McGreevey and DEP Commissioner Bradley M. Campbell have taken landmark action to protect the sanctity of our precious water resources by bestowing the state's highest level of water-quality protection, Category One designation, upon reservoirs and streams across the Garden State. In addition, stricter statewide stormwater regulations will add another layer of protection to ensure improved water quality.

Ensuring New Jersey has clean and plentiful water is also among the reasons Gov. McGreevey created a new task force to advance conservation efforts in the Highlands region. Along with offering a wealth of recreational opportunities, scenic beauty and rich wildlife habitat, the Highlands' high-quality water resources provide one third of New Jersey's drinking water.

A significant percentage of New Jersey anglers surveyed would like to see more fishing opportunities for kids. This year, the Children's Fishing Derby Program reached an unprecedented 17,000 children and parents. Fish and Wildlife

staff served more than 86 derbies that offered budding anglers information about the state's aquatic resources, fishing programs and angling ethics. These eager youngsters helped stock fish as part of the derby events, and also had an opportunity to wet their lines and catch fish. While the derby program promotes fishing, it also helps children and their parents learn more about local aquatic resources and the recreational fishing opportunities they offer.

The survey also revealed that 86 percent of the respondents started fishing by age 15. However, more than 70 percent of those polled began fishing before age 10. So take a kid fishing, and remember this year's Free Fishing Days are June 12 and 13.

Public input is an integral part of Fish and Wildlife's fisheries management programs. It provides opportunities for interaction and education. In our latest effort, we are seeking anglers' comments on New Jersey's first Coldwater Fisheries Management Plan. This comprehensive plan not only documents Fish and Wildlife's 120-year history of trout culture and management, it also identifies issues affecting New Jersey's coldwater fisheries resources, fish propagation and recreational trout fishing. Further, the plan defines strategies to meet specific goals during the next

five years, 10 years, and beyond. Anglers, conservation organizations, governmental agencies, landowners and other stakeholders are invited to review and comment on the first draft of the plan, which will soon be available on our Web site, www.njfishandwildlife.com. Your comments will help ensure that our fisheries programs continue to reflect both sound management strategies and the needs of New Jersey's anglers.

New Jersey's Accessible Fishing Sites for People With Disabilities

Visit
www.njfishandwildlife.com/sites.htm



An Accessible Fishing Sites list is available to assist anglers whose mobility is impaired.

All sites are wheelchair-accessible except for the Musconetcong River in Morris County, where vehicle access is to the shoreline.

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After 5:00 PM call Jeff or Vern Mancini (908) 638-8747

2004 Fishing Regulation Highlights

What's in store for New Jersey anglers in 2004? For starters, opening day of trout season is slated for April 10. We recognize some anglers advocate scheduling opening day for the first Saturday in April. But the fact is inclement weather during mid-March, and the adverse road conditions which typically accompany it, can cause big problems with pre-season fish distribution.

For both angler and commercial netters, herring was the focus of several regulatory changes. These changes bring New Jersey in line with Pennsylvania's regulations for Delaware River herring and also will provide more protection to the migratory runs of alewife herring. Recreational anglers can now possess only 35 herring each day for bait, instead of the 50 previously permitted. The possession reduction applies statewide. Also, the foul hooking or snagging of both alewife and blueback herring is prohibited. Snagging can seriously injure or kill other fish.

Regulatory changes for commercial netters aim to reduce the bycatch of alewife herring by changing season dates, gear restrictions and prohibiting the keeping of alewife inadvertently captured.

Concern about the hickory shad population in the Delaware River prompted a closed season for this species for 2004. This is consistent with Pennsylvania regulations.

Three new waterways received the special Wild Trout Stream designation: the Saddle River, from State Line to Lake Street in Upper Saddle River; Jackson Brook, from its source to Hedden Park Lake in Mine Hill Township; and Whippany River, from its source to Tingley Road in Mendham. The designation change means Tingley Road on the Whippany will no longer be stocked with trout. All three waterways support excellent brown trout populations and the Whippany also supports rainbows. Beginning January 1, angling in these waters is limited to the use of artificial lures. A daily creel limit of two fish is allowed from opening day of trout season through September 15, with catch and release only at other times of the year.

An additional two-mile stretch, of the Passaic River from Mount Vernon Avenue in Summit and Chatham Townships, to Route 24 in Chatham Borough and Summit, will be stocked with trout this year. This section, referred to as the Passaic River—Lower, for Fish and Wildlife's trout stocking purposes, will be stocked the same days as the upstream stretch. It will receive about 2,200 brook and rainbow trout during the pre-season and four in-season stockings.

Rainbow Lake in Salem County joins Ryker Lake with conservation measures now set for sunfish. Only 10 sunfish per day may be kept, and they must be at least seven inches long.

This year, the muskellunge and tiger muskies at Mercer Lake have a new size limit of 36 inches, a six-inch increase. The new size limit is another step in developing a trophy fishery for these species in Mercer Lake.

In 2004, it will also be illegal to fish within the flumes at Deal Lake, Wreck Pond or Lake Takanasee. The design of the outlet structures on these lakes cause fish to congregate as they pass through narrow flumes, making them vulnerable to overharvesting.

Detailed regulations are found elsewhere in this *Digest*, and we encourage all anglers to read them thoroughly.

By the way, if you happen to be reading this *Digest* in December, don't put away your rods and reels just yet. We'll soon be finishing up our winter trout stocking, and with a little cooperation from Mother Nature, another excellent ice fishing season may be right around the corner.

Lisa Barno, Chief, Freshwater Fisheries

FISHING HOTLINES



Spring / Fall / Winter Division Trout Stocking (609) 633-6765

The computerized message is available 24 hours per day, seven days a week seasonally, or visit our Web site:
www.njfishandwildlife.com.



Shad Run—(610) 954-0577 or (610) 954-0578

In April, the Delaware River Shad Fishermen's Association provides a message on the shad run in the Delaware 24 hours per day, seven days a week. Information on river conditions and the status of the shad run is offered. Call in late evening or early morning to avoid a busy signal.

Hook A Winner Program



Once again this year, the Division of Fish and Wildlife will be jaw tagging more than 1,000 brook trout for release in

New Jersey waters. If you are a lucky angler who lands one of these fish, send your name, address, fish tag number and location of catch to the Pequest Trout Hatchery, 605 Pequest Road, Oxford, NJ 07863, Attn: Hook a Winner Program. In recognition of your catch, a certificate and award patch will be mailed. In addition, your name will be forwarded to the New Jersey State Council of Trout Unlimited and entered into their drawing for one of 12 rod and reel combinations to be held during the celebration of National Fishing Week, June 5–13, 2004.

2004 Summary of New Jersey Freshwater Fishing Laws

*This is not the full law. Consult the Division of Fish and Wildlife for further details.
All persons are reminded that the statutes, code and regulations are the legal authorities.*

† **Red** text in regulations indicates a change for this year

LICENSES AND STAMPS

A fishing license must be worn in a conspicuous place on the outer clothing while engaged in fishing, and must be exhibited to law enforcement personnel on request. Resident licenses are valid from date of purchase through Dec. 31.

The minimum age at which a fishing license and trout stamp are required is 16. Youths under 16 may fish without a license or trout stamp. All other regulations and creel limits apply.

Anyone age 16 and above must have a valid license to fish the fresh waters of New Jersey with a handline, rod and line or bow and arrow. This includes privately owned lakes and other waters. See "Fishing on a Farm," below. Licenses may be obtained from participating county or municipal clerks, or designated agents (sporting goods stores).

Resident Licenses

It is unlawful for any person to obtain a resident license unless they have actually lived in this state for six months immediately prior to the time of application.

Licenses for Servicemen and Women

A person who is on active duty in the armed services of the United States is entitled to fish with a resident license.

Licenses for National Guard Members

Eligible National Guard personnel are entitled to free licenses, permits, and stamps. Further information can be obtained by writing to: NJ Department of Military/Veteran Affairs, 101 Eggert Crossing Rd., Lawrenceville, NJ 08648, Attn: 1st Sgt. Turrien, or call (609) 530-6866.

Disabled Veterans' Licenses & Permits

Free licenses, permits and stamps are available for resident disabled veterans.

For the purposes of this program, the legislation defines Disabled Veterans as: "...any resident of New Jersey who has been honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from active service in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States and who has been declared by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, or its successor, to have a service-connected disability of any degree. . ."

Documentation of current benefits for a service-connected disability and proof of honorable discharge (such as a copy of your DD-214, VA card or monthly check stub) must be presented to obtain a free disabled veteran license.

Disabled Veteran fishing licenses are available at the Division's Trenton office, as well as Division regional offices plus Pequest and Nacote Creek. This is not the full law. Consult the Division of Fish and Wildlife for further details. For questions, call (609) 292-2965.

Trout Stamp

No person between the ages of 16 and 69 shall take, attempt to take, possess or kill trout without a valid fishing license and trout stamp.

EXCEPTIONS

Anglers Under 16 Years

No fishing license or trout stamp is required of persons under 16 years old.

Fishing on a Farm

Farmers and immediate family members who live on the farm do not need a license to fish on their farm, but must obey all fishing regulations.

Licenses for the Blind

Residents afflicted with total blindness may obtain a free license from the Division's Trenton office.

Resident Senior Citizens (70 and over)

Since Jan. 1, 1997, a driver's license or other acceptable proof of age containing date of birth and physical description will function as the actual fishing license for residents 70 and over. No application fee is required, no registration with the Division of Fish and Wildlife is required and no license will be issued. Trout stamps are not required for resident anglers 70 and over.

REPLACEMENT OF LOST LICENSES

Duplicate fishing licenses are issued at all law enforcement regional offices, the Pequest Trout Hatchery and Natural Resource Education Center, and the Division's Trenton office. Each licensee is provided with a license and a receipt. Be sure to keep the receipt separate from your license, so that if the actual license is lost, you can take the receipt to any of the above offices and get a replacement for \$2. Stamps cannot be replaced. If the receipt is lost, return to the location license was purchased for the completed form documenting the original sale. This form may be mailed or brought to a Division office listed above for a replacement.

REVOCATION

Anyone convicted of a second fish or wildlife violation in this or another state within a period of five years will have their New Jersey licenses revoked for two years.

GENERAL FISHING REGULATIONS

The season, size and creel limits for freshwater species apply to all waters of the state, including tidal waters.

It is Unlawful:

- To take or attempt to take any fish in fresh waters by any manner except in the manner commonly known as angling with handline or with rod and line, or as otherwise allowed by law.

- To fish, place any contrivance for the taking of fish, or attempt to catch or kill fish by any manner or means in any fish ladder, or within 100 feet (or as posted) of any fish ladder entrance or exit during the period of March 1 through June 30.
- spear fish in freshwaters. (See exception for Delaware River, page 14.)
- possess or use any contrivance in fishing with more than nine hooks or more than three burrs of three hooks. (See exception for Delaware River, page 14.)
- use set lines in waters inhabited by pickerel, walleye, bass or trout.
- erect, permit the erection of, or maintain unlawful contrivances for taking fish.
- use explosives to take fish.
- use cast nets in fresh water lakes (see baitfish regulations, page 7).
- trespass on posted property to fish without permission from the landowner. A fishing license doesn't authorize trespass on private property.
- tag fish without a permit.

The foul hooking of largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, striped bass, chain pickerel, northern pike, muskellunge, walleye, **alewife and blueback herring (anadromous and landlocked)**, brook trout, brown trout, lake trout and rainbow trout or any of the hybrids thereof, is prohibited in open waters. Any of the aforementioned fish so hooked must be immediately returned to the water. This does not apply to fish taken through the ice during the ice fishing season. Snagging of any species is prohibited in Monksville Reservoir and its tributaries, including the Wanauque River upstream of the reservoir.

Fish Tagging

No person may tag or mark and release a fish without first obtaining a special permit issued by the Division at its discretion. Fish stocking permits will be accepted as an alternative to this permit. This requirement does not apply to tags issued by the Division. Contact the Lebanon Fish Lab at (908) 236-2118 for application information.

Possession of Fish

"Possession" refers to all fish, alive or dead, under the control of the angler. No more than the daily creel limit of any fish for one person may be held on a stringer or in a container. On board containers in boats may only contain the combined daily creel limit of any fish for each legal angler.

Waste of Fish

Fish of any species, which are purposely killed, will become part of the fishermen's daily bag limit and must be removed from the waters they were

(continued on page 7)

2004 Summary of New Jersey Freshwater Fishing Laws

(continued from page 6)

taken from, as well as any adjacent lands, and either used or otherwise properly disposed. This does NOT apply to fish that are released while still alive.

Sale of Fish

Pickereel, walleye and perch caught through the ice cannot be sold. It is illegal to sell any smallmouth or largemouth bass, except for stocking. It is illegal to import or export smallmouth or largemouth bass into the state for commercial purposes.

Trout or landlocked salmon which have been artificially propagated may be sold at any time for food purposes if properly tagged in accordance

with the Division's rules or the rules of the state in which the fish have been raised.

It is illegal to offer for sale any striped bass.

Fish Stocking

Fish or fish eggs shall not be placed into, drained into or placed where they can run, flow, wash or be emptied into any of the fresh waters of the state without first obtaining a permit (see p. 3)

Ice Fishing

Ice fishing shall be permitted whenever ice is present. (See separate regulations for trout-stocked waters.)

A person while ice fishing may use not more than five devices for taking fish. The types of devices that may be used are:

1. Ice supported tip-ups or lines with one single pointed hook attached, or one burr of three hooks that measure not more than 1/2 inch from point to shaft;
2. An artificial jigging lure with not more than one burr of three hooks that measure not more than 1/2 inch from point to point;
3. An artificial jigging lure with not more than three single hooks measuring not more than 1/2 inch from point to shaft;
4. An artificial jigging lure with a combination of the hook limitations described in 2 and 3 above.

Expressly prohibited are any devices with automatic hook setting capability. Natural bait may be used on the hooks of the artificial jigging lures. All devices that are not hand-held must bear the name and address of the user and can't be left unattended.

When ice is not present, open water regulations will be in effect (see separate regulations for Greenwood Lake).

Carp and suckers may be taken with net under the ice. Suckers may be taken through the ice by means of hooks directly attached to a rigid handle (the hooks not to exceed three in number) between December 1 and March 1.

Bow and Arrow Fishing

Any species of fish, *except* brook, brown, lake or rainbow trout, landlocked Atlantic salmon, largemouth or smallmouth bass, striped bass or any of its hybrids, pickerel, northern pike, walleye, muskellunge or any of its hybrids, may be taken at any time by use of a bow and arrow with line attached by the holder of a valid fishing license (see regulations for the Delaware River and Greenwood Lake, p. 14).

Pollution—Draining Waters—Dams

It is unlawful to directly or indirectly pollute waters of the state. It is illegal to draw off water or place screens in water without permission of the Division (see p. 3). It is illegal to construct a dam in any water of this state which is a runway for migratory fish without installing a fish ladder or other contrivance that permits fish to pass over the dam in either direction. Report pollution or other offenses to 877-WARNDEP or the Operation Game Thief Line (800) 222-0456.

It is illegal to fish or attempt to catch or kill fish by any manner or means in any waters for which the Director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife, upon approval by the Fish and Game Council, issues an Emergency Closure Notice. Such notification is effective and/or rescinded immediately upon public notification. Emergency closures shall be based upon imminent threat to the well-being of the fishery resources, and/or its users, and may include any exceptions to the total ban of fishing that the Director deems practical.

2004 BAITFISH REGULATIONS

This is not the full law. Consult the Division of Fish and Wildlife for further details. All persons are reminded that the statutes (Title 23), code and regulations are the legal authorities. †Red text in regulations indicates a change for this year. See separate regulations for Delaware River (p. 14). For marine waters, see Marine Issue of *NJ Fish & Wildlife Digest*.

The following are defined as baitfish by New Jersey Statute: alewife (anadromous and land-locked forms), blueback herring, golden shiner, banded killifish, mummichog, spotfin killifish, rainwater killifish, American brook lamprey, fathead minnow, bluntnose minnow, stonecat, tadpole madtom, margined madtom, all shiners, daces, minnows, chubs and the American eel. †In the Delaware River between New Jersey and Pennsylvania, alewife and blueback herring (anadromous and land-locked forms) are regulated as food fish with a one-day possession limit of 35 in aggregate. (See separate regulations for Boundary Waters, p. 14)

Open Year Round Exception: season closed March 24 thru June 15 on trout stocked waters and special regulation trout areas	statewide (freshwaters)	No minimum size except 6" for Am. eel	35 per day, species combined
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Notes: Any person with a valid fishing license or those entitled to fish without a license may take baitfish in freshwaters. Possession limit is one day's limit, regardless of the intent to use these fish. Baitfish may be taken from the freshwaters of the state in numbers greater than 35 per day, in lakes over 250 acres, under a special permit issued by the Division at its discretion. Contact (908) 236-2118 for application information.

Means of Take (gear)	Gear Description
Seine	Not over 50 feet long in ponds & lakes over 100 acres; in all other waters not over 30 feet in length, or half the width of the stream at point of use, whichever is less. <u>Exception:</u> In trout-stocked waters and special regulation trout areas a seine may not be more than 10 feet in length and 4 feet in depth.
Minnow trap	Not larger than 24" in length with a funnel mouth no greater than 2" in diameter.
Umbrella net	No greater than 3.5 feet square.
Dip net	Not more than 24" in diameter; may be used only for alewife or blueback herring.
Cast net	No greater than 8 feet in diameter; may be used only in streams that are not trout-stocked or special regulation trout areas (may not be used in lakes).
Hook and line	Maximum of 9 hooks or 3 burrs with 3 hooks per contrivance (Delaware River only).

2004 TURTLE AND FROG REGULATIONS

Snapping turtle	January 1 thru April 30 and June 16 thru December 31	statewide	No min. size	3 per day
Bull frog and green frog	January 1 thru March 31 and July 1 thru December 31	statewide	No min. size	15 per day combined

Means of Take

Any person with a valid fishing license or those entitled to fish without a license may take snapping turtles, bull frogs, and green frogs by means of spears, hooks, dip nets not more than 24" in diameter, traps or by hand. Snapping turtles may not be taken with a gun or bow and arrow. Snapping turtles, bull frogs, and green frogs may be taken from in numbers greater than the daily limit under a special permit issued by the Division at its discretion. Contact (609) 292-9450 for application information.