

# Fish Identification

## NEW JERSEY FRESHWATER FISHES



**Brook Trout**



**Rainbow Trout**



**Brown Trout**



**Lake Trout**



**Landlocked Atlantic Salmon**



**Northern Pike**



**Muskellunge**



**Chain Pickerel**



**Redfin Pickerel**



**Walleye**



**White Perch**



**Yellow Perch**



**Striped Bass**



**Hybrid Striped Bass**



**White Sucker**



**Common Carp**

Illustrations: Duane Raver/USFWS



**Largemouth Bass**



**Smallmouth Bass**



**Redbreast Sunfish**



**Pumpkinseed Sunfish**



**Bluegill Sunfish**



**White Crappie**



**Black Crappie**



**Brown Bullhead**

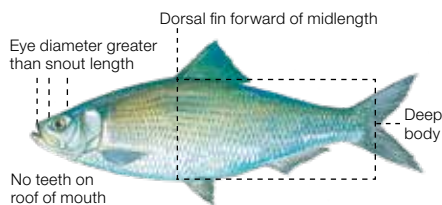


**Channel Catfish**

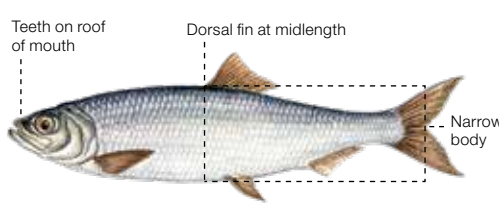


**White Catfish**

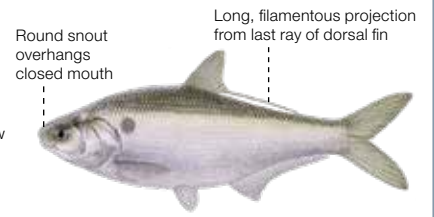
### Herring



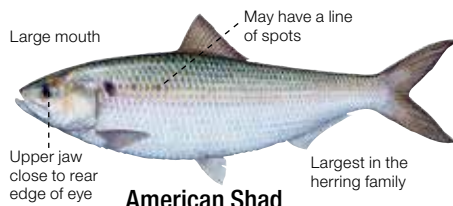
**Alewife**



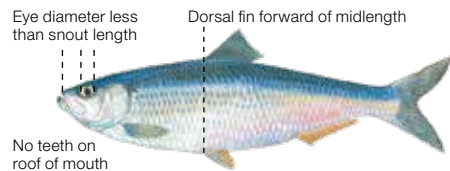
**Atlantic Herring**



**Gizzard Shad**



**American Shad**



**Blueback Herring**











**Hickory Shad**

Alewife, American Shad, Blueback Herring and Hickory Shad illustrations ©Duane Raver; Atlantic Herring illustration ©Victor Young/NH. Fish and Game Department; Gizzard Shad illustration courtesy of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department ©2012.

# Fishing Regulations





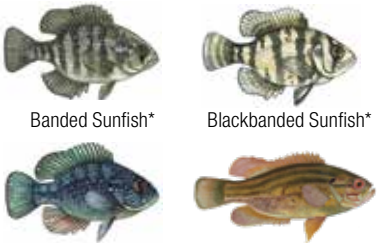
## SIZE, SEASON AND CREEL LIMITS

Certain waters are closed to fishing for all species from March 21 to April 9, 2022 at 8 a.m. because of trout stocking. Refer to pages 14–19 for complete lists and exceptions. Regulations in red are new this year. For Delaware River and Greenwood Lake, see regulations on pages 24–26.

	SEASON	LOCATION	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
<b>LARGEMOUTH &amp; SMALLMOUTH BASS</b>				
 Largemouth Bass	Jan. 1–April 14 <b>April 15–June 15 Catch &amp; Release only (all waters)</b> June 16–Dec. 31	Statewide (exceptions below)	12 inches	5 combined
 Smallmouth Bass		Lunker Bass Lakes: Alloway, Assunpink, Parvin and Delaware lakes; Splitrock Reservoir	15 inches	3 combined
		Conservation Regulations: Ryker Lake	15 inches	2 combined
<b>NORTHERN PIKE, TIGER MUSKY, MUSKELLUNGE*</b>				
 Northern Pike	Open year round March 20–May 20 are Catch & Release only for Echo Lake Reservoir, Mercer Lake, Mountain Lake, Monksville Reservoir	Statewide	Northern Pike: 24 inches	2
 Muskellunge		Statewide (exceptions below)	Tiger Musky & Muskellunge: 40 inches	1 combined
		Trophy Muskie Waters: Echo Lake Reservoir, Greenwood Lake, Lake Hopatcong & Monksville Reservoir	Tiger Musky & Muskellunge: 44 inches	
*IMPORTANT: trout may not be used as bait in the Pequest River drainage.				
<b>CHAIN PICKEREL AND REDFIN PICKEREL</b>				
 Chain Pickerel	Open year round	Statewide	15 inches	5 combined
<b>WALLEYE</b>				
 Walleye	Jan. 1–Feb. 28 <b>March 1–April 30 Catch &amp; Release only</b> May 1–Dec. 31	Statewide	18 inches	3
<b>STRIPED BASS (freshwater only)</b>				
 Striped Bass	March 1–Dec. 31	Statewide Non-offset circle hook required when fishing with bait (see page 8)	One @ 28" to < 38"	1
<b>HYBRID STRIPED BASS (freshwater only)</b>				
 Hybrid Striped Bass	Open year round	Statewide (exceptions below)	16 inches	2
	March 1–Dec. 31	Raritan River (downstream of Duke Island Park dam)	One @ 28" to < 38"	1



Regulations in red are new this year.

	SEASON	LOCATION	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
<b>AMERICAN SHAD</b>				
 American Shad	Open Year Round Season Closed in all other fresh waters	Delaware River Mainstem (see regulations on page 24)	—	3
<b>CHANNEL CATFISH</b>				
 Channel Catfish	Open year round	Statewide	12 inches	5
<b>CRAPPIE (BLACK AND WHITE)</b>				
 Crappie	Open year round	Statewide	8 inches	10 combined
<b>SUNFISH AND ALL OTHER SPECIES WITH NO SPECIFIED CREEL LIMITS</b>				
 Rock Bass, White Perch, Yellow Perch, Sunfish (see below for sunfish exceptions), Bullheads, White Catfish, Suckers, Carp, Bowfin, Pumpkinseed and all other species with no specified creel limit.	Open year round	Statewide (exceptions below)	No minimum size	25 combined
		Conservation Regulation Ryker Lake	Sunfish: 7 inches	10 combined
			Yellow Perch: No minimum size	10
		Conservation Regulation Rainbow Lake (Salem Co.)	Sunfish: 7 inches	10 combined
<b>BANDED, BLACKBANDED, BLUESPOTTED AND MUD SUNFISH</b>				
 Banded Sunfish*      Blackbanded Sunfish* Bluespotted Sunfish*      Mud Sunfish	Closed	Statewide	Protected	0
* Illustrations by Ted Walke, PA Fish and Boat Commission				
<b>FRESHWATER BAITFISH (See page 27 for complete description of gear types and restrictions)</b>				
American Eel, Banded Killifish, Creek Chub, Fallfish, Fathead Minnow, Gizzard Shad, Golden Shiner, Margined Madtom, Mummichog, and Tadpole Madtom. For Herring, Alewife and Blueback—see <i>Baitfish Regulations</i> (page 27).	Open year round <b>Exceptions</b> In trout stocked waters baitfish may only be taken with hook and line: from April 9 to June 15, or in waters open to fishing during the pre-season closure, from March 21 to June 15.	Statewide	No minimum <b>Exception</b> American Eel: 9 inches	35 combined