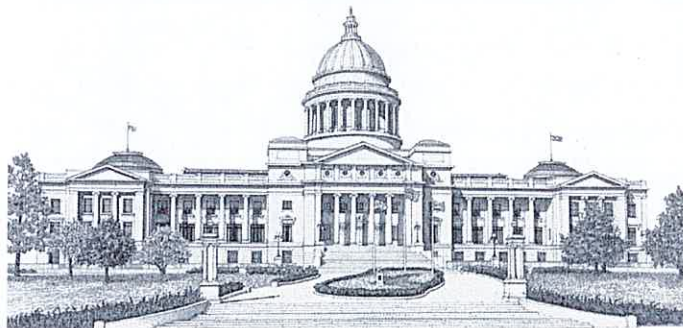


ARKANSAS REGISTER

Transmittal Sheet

Use only for **FINAL** and **EMERGENCY RULES**



Secretary of State
Cole Jester
500 Woodlane, Suite 026
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-1094
(501) 682-5070
www.sos.arkansas.gov



For Office

Use Only:

Effective Date _____ Code Number _____

Name of Agency Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

Department Legal Division

Contact John Marks, General Counsel E-mail john.marks@agfc.ar.gov Phone 501-382-3807

Statutory Authority for Promulgating Rules Amendment 35

Rule Title: N1.01 Game Fish Daily Limits

Intended Effective Date
(Check One)

Date

☒ Emergency (ACA 25-15-204)

Legal Notice Published N/A

☐ 10 Days After Filing (ACA 25-15-204)

Final Date for Public Comment..... N/A

☐ Other _____
(Must be more than 10 days after filing date.)

Reviewed by Legislative Council..... N/A

Adopted by State Agency..... October 16, 2025

Electronic Copy of Rule e-mailed from: (Required under ACA 25-15-218)

Sissy Phillips
Contact Person

sissy.phillips@agfc.ar.gov
E-mail Address

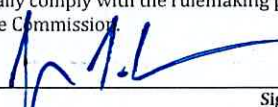
10/16/2025
Date

CERTIFICATION OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER

I Hereby Certify That The Attached Rules Were Adopted

~~In Compliance with the Arkansas Administrative Act. (ACA 25-15-201 et. seq.)~~

In Substantial Compliance with the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act (ACA 25-15-201 et. seq.). Pursuant to 2011 decision rendered by the Pulaski County Circuit Court and 2000 opinion by the Arkansas Attorney General, the rulemaking requirements in the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act cannot be constitutionally applied to the AGFC. Nevertheless, the AGFC does substantially comply with the rulemaking provisions under Ark. Code Ann. section 25-15-204 for public notice, opportunity for comment, and filing of all regulations adopted by the Commission.



Signature

501-382-3807
Phone Number

john.marks@agfc.ar.gov
E-mail Address

General Counsel

Title

10/16/2025

Date

ARKANSAS GAME AND FISH COMMISSION
Little Rock, Arkansas

MINUTE ORDER NO:	<u>25 - 066</u>	SUBJECT:	<u>Emergency Rule for Trout</u>
DATE PASSED:	<u>October 16, 2025</u>		<u>Regulations Changes</u>
PAGE <u>1</u> of <u>2</u> PAGES		LOCATION:	<u>Statewide</u>

WHEREAS, statewide trout stockings have been reduced due to both poor water quality issues at the Norfork National Fish Hatchery and flood damage at the Jim Hinkle Spring River State Fish Hatchery; **and**

WHEREAS, to mitigate against the threat that the reduced trout stockings poses to trout populations and angler opportunities in Arkansas tailwaters, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and its staff have proposed the attached revised trout fishing regulations (including Addendum N1.01) that impose additional conservation measures for trout within the Beaver, Greers Ferry, Bull Shoals, and Norfork Tailwaters; **and**

WHEREAS, after carefully considering the recommendations of Commission staff and the Regulations and Resource Management Committee, the Commission has determined that the attached regulation changes promote sound wildlife conservation and management and are consistent with Amendment 35 of the Arkansas Constitution and that a rule implementing such changes should now be approved for application statewide; **and**

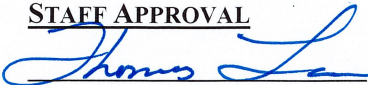
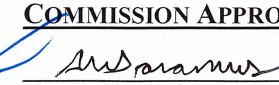
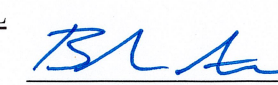
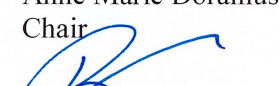
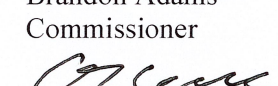
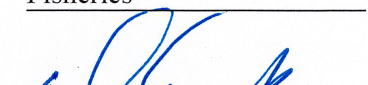

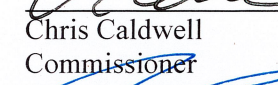
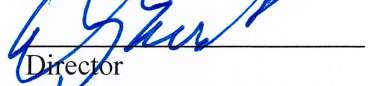
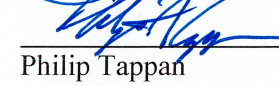
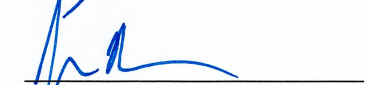
WHEREAS, the Commission has determined that conditions of the threat to the trout populations and angler opportunities are such that imminent peril to the health, safety, or welfare of the public or the wildlife resources of the State requires that the rule become effective immediately.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED this 16th day of October 2025, that the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission hereby declares that an emergency exists and, effectively immediately, the attached revised trout regulations (including Addendum N1.01) are adopted for the Beaver, Greers Ferry, Bull Shoals, and Norfork Tailwaters.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that the Commission staff is authorized to proceed with legally certifying and filing this emergency rule with the Secretary of State, State Library, and Bureau of Legislative Research and taking appropriate measures to make this emergency rule known to the persons whom it may affect.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that this emergency rule shall remain in effect for a period of one hundred twenty (120) days and, unless extended by further action of the Commission, then shall terminate, at which

time the affected trout regulations shall revert to those in effect immediately prior to the approval of this Minute Order.

	<u>STAFF APPROVAL</u>	<u>COMMISSION APPROVAL</u>	
Submitted by:	 Thomas Laird Chief	 Anne Marie Doramus Chair	 Brandon Adams Commissioner
Division:	Fisheries	 Rob Finley Vice Chair	 Chris Caldwell Commissioner
Approved:	 Director	 Philip Tappan Commissioner	 Jamie Anderson Commissioner
Approved:	 Legal	 Bill Jones Commissioner	
Approved:	 Fiscal		

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS COMPLETELY
(Attach additional pages if needed)

DEPARTMENT: Arkansas Game & Fish Commission

DIVISION: Fisheries Division

PERSON COMPLETING THIS STATEMENT: Christy Graham

TELEPHONE #: (870) 455-4697 **FAX #:** **EMAIL:** Christy.Graham@agfc.ar.gov

SHORT TITLE OF THIS RULE: N1.01 Game Fish Daily Limits

1. Does this proposed, amended, or repealed rule or regulation have a financial impact?
Yes: No: **X**
2. Do you believe that the development of a financial impact statement is so speculative as to be cost prohibitive? Yes: No: **X** If "Yes", please explain:
3. If the purpose of this rule is to implement a **federal** rule or regulation, please give the incremental cost for implementing the regulation. Please indicate if the cost provided is the cost of the program.

Current Fiscal Year

General Revenue	\$
Federal Funds	\$
Cash Funds	\$ N/A
Special Revenue	\$
Other (Identify)	\$
Total	\$

Next Fiscal Year

General Revenue	\$
Federal Funds	\$
Cash Funds	\$ N/A
Special Revenue	\$
Other (Identify)	\$
Total	\$

4. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to any **party** subject to the proposed, amended, or repealed rule? (Estimated cost includes fees, administrative penalties, reporting, record keeping, equipment, construction, labor, professional services, revenue loss, or other costs associated with compliance.) Identify the **party** subject to the proposed rule, and explain how they are impacted.

Current Fiscal Year: \$0.00

Next Fiscal Year: \$0.00

Party Subject to Rule: **Stakeholders that harvest game fish.**

Effect on Party Subject to Rule: **The number of trout that an angler can harvest will be reduced on certain bodies of water.**

5. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to the **agency** to implement this rule? Explain the financial benefit to the agency from implementing this rule.

Current Fiscal Year: \$ N/A

Next Fiscal Year: \$ N/A

Financial Benefit to Agency: N/A

6. Do alternative means exist for accomplishing the objectives of the rules that might be less burdensome to small business? Yes: No: **X**

Why were such alternatives not proposed: N/A

7. Compare this rule with federal and state counterparts: N/A

N1.01 Game Fish Daily Limits

Statewide Daily Limit

Species	
Alligator Gar	1 Under 36 Inches
American Eel	1 Over 36 Inches Annually with Tag
Black Basses	2
Bream (over 4 inches length)	10 (including no more than 4 Smallmouth)
Catfish (except Bullhead)	50
Crappie	10
Rock Bass	30
Paddlefish	10
Sauger	2
Saugeye	6
Shovelnose Sturgeon	6
Striped Bass or Hybrid (Combination)	No Limit
Trout	6
Walleye	5 (including no more than 2 Brown, 2 Cutthroat, 2 Brook)
White Bass	6
	25

EXCEPTIONS:

A. BASS MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WATERS:

1. Private landowners or their designees, with a valid fishing license and Bass Management Assistance Program (BMAP) permit are exempt from the game fish daily and possession limits in BMAP enrolled waters.

B. The following bodies of water are restricted as follows:

1. **Horseshoe Bend Pool** (Strawberry River in Izard County) – 1/2 the daily limit for all sportfish.
2. **Lake Poinsett** – Crappie daily limit of 15 fish.
3. **Lake Monticello** – Game fish creel limit is 0; all game fish caught must be immediately returned to the water.
4. **Lake Conway** – No gamefish daily limits.

5. **Lake Wilhelmina** - No gamefish daily limits.

C. BLACK BASS (LARGEMOUTH, SPOTTED, SMALLMOUTH):

1. Smallmouth bass:

- i. **Ozark Zone** (Baxter, Benton, Boone, Carroll, Clay, Cleburne, Fulton, Independence, Izard, Lawrence, Madison, Marion, Newton, Randolph, Searcy, Sharp, Stone, Van Buren and Washington counties) – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 12 inches with a daily limit of 4, except Bull Shoals, Beaver, Greers Ferry, and Table Rock lakes (see Ex. 1(B) below). Greers Ferry Lake – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 12 inches, daily limit 6. Norfork Lake – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 13 inches, daily limit 6.
- ii. **Ozark Zone Blue Ribbon Streams** – Buffalo River from confluence with Clabber Creek downstream to the confluence with the White River – smallmouth bass minimum length limit 18 inches, daily limit of 1; all other water of Crooked Creek and Buffalo River – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 14 inches, daily limit of 2.
- iii. **Ozark Zone Catch-and-Release Area** – Crooked Creek, along boundary of Arkansas Game and Fish Foundation property near Kelley's Slab Access.
- iv. **Ozark Zone Quality Streams** – Kings River from Trigger Gap to U.S. Highway 62 bridge –smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 18 inches, daily limit of 1; all other water of the Kings, Illinois, Spring, South Fork of the Spring and Eleven Point rivers and War Eagle Creek – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 14 inches, daily limit of 2.
- v. **Ouachita/Boston Zone** (all Arkansas counties not included in the Ozark Zone) – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 10 inches, daily limit of 4.
- vi. **Ouachita/Boston Zone Quality Streams** – (Mulberry, Caddo above DeGray Lake, DeGray Lake, Cossatot River, Ouachita River upstream from Lake Ouachita, Ouachita River downstream from Remmel Dam, Saline River, including its 4headwater forks in

Saline, Perry and Garland counties, South Fork/Ouachita, Little Missouri above Lake Greeson) – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 12 inches, daily limit of 2.

- vii. **Ouachita/Boston Zone Catch-and-Release Area** – all smallmouth bass caught in Lake Catherine must be immediately returned to the water.

2. Largemouth bass:

- i. Lake Terre Noire, Lake June, and Lake Sylvia – daily limit 5.
- ii. Lake Millwood – daily limit 6.
- iii. Mallard Lake – daily limit 1.
- iv. Marion McCollum Lake – Largemouth bass caught must be immediately returned to the water.
- v. Lake Pickthorne - Daily limit 2.

3. Black Bass (all species combined):

- i. Beaver, Bull Shoals, DeGray, Norfork, Table Rock lakes, Lake Jack Nolen, Ouachita, Ashbaugh – daily limit 6.
- ii. Lake Lou Emma – daily limit 5.
- iii. War Eagle Creek – daily limit 2.
- iv. Lakes Ouachita, DeGray, and Greeson – in addition to the daily limit of black basses, 10 spotted bass may be taken.

D. **BREAM:** No limit on bream 4 inches or shorter.

E. CATFISH:

- 1. No limit on catfish on Grand Lake – Chicot County, Lake Chicot (including that portion of Connerly Bayou downstream from Connerly Dam to the bayou's mouth and Ditch Bayou from the inlet on Lake Chicot to Ditch Bayou Dam) and between the main levees of the Mississippi River, from the confluence of the Mississippi/White rivers upstream to the Benzal Railroad Bridge, and from the confluence of the Mississippi/Arkansas rivers upstream to the Yancopin Railroad Bridge.
- 2. No limit on blue and channel catfish from Little River (below Millwood Dam) Red and Sulphur rivers.
- 3. No limit on channel catfish on Marion McCollum Lake Greenlee – Monroe County and Lake Erling.

4. Catfish daily limit – 5 in DeWitt City Park Lake (Arkansas County); Lake Atalanta (Benton County); Hidden Lake (Carroll County); Big Timber Lake and Gurdon Lake (Clark County); Hubble Lake (Clay County); Lake Bailey (Conway County); Lake Cambadelle and Lake Lou Emma (Crawford County); Marion City Park Lake (Crittenden County); Village Creek State Park Lakes (Cross and St. Francis Counties); Lake Bennett (Faulkner County); Lake Clearfork (Garland County); Crowley Ridge State Park Lake and Reynolds Park Lake (Greene County); Newark City Lake (Independence County); Lake June (Lafayette County); Ward City Park Lake (Lonoke County); Hindsville Lake (Madison County); Blytheville City Park Lake (Mississippi County); Donald Branch Fishing Pond (Monroe County); Lake Sylvia (Perry County); Shady Lake (Polk County); Twin Lakes A and B, Camp Ferncliff (Pulaski County); Old Davidsonville State Park Lake (Randolph County); Forrest City Park Lake (St. Francis County); Truman Baker Lake (Scott County); Cave City's Lakes (Sharp County); Gunner Pool and Hayden Bend Pond (Stone County); Devils Den State Park (Washington County); Spring Lake, Kingfisher, Clubhouse Lakes in Petit Jean WMA (Yell County) and posted USDA Forest Service ponds and lakes.
5. In addition to daily limit, 10 channel catfish may be taken on the Arkansas River.
6. In addition to daily limit, 10 blue catfish may be taken in Lake Erling.

F. CRAPPIE:

1. Crappie daily limit – 15 in Beaver, Table Rock, Bull Shoals, Norfolk reservoirs, Cane Creek Lake (Lincoln County), and Gurdon Lake (Clark County).
2. Crappie daily limit – 50 between the main levees of the Mississippi River, from the confluence of the Mississippi/White rivers upstream to the Benzal Railroad Bridge, and from the confluence of the Mississippi/Arkansas rivers upstream to the Yancopin Railroad Bridge.
3. Crappie daily limit – 20 in Lake Chicot and Blue Mountain Lake.
4. No crappie daily limit on Lake Charles, Lake Frierson, and Lake Hogue.

G. Paddlefish:

1. Paddlefish under 34 inches Eye to Fork Length must be released immediately on the Paddlefish Snagging Areas below Beaver Dam.
2. Paddlefish Tag is required to harvest Paddlefish in the Upper White River above Beaver Lake (Code 26.31).
3. Paddlefish yearly limit – 2 in Upper White River above Beaver Lake between Highway 45 Bridge and Lake Sequoyah Dam

H. WALLEYE:

1. Beaver Lake and its tributaries; Table Rock Lake and its tributaries to Beaver Dam; Bull Shoals Lake, and Norfolk Lake – minimum length limit of 18 inches, daily limit 4.
2. In compliance with Addendum N1.02 and Code Chapter 28.00.

I. WHITE BASS, STRIPED BASS, HYBRID STRIPED BASS:

1. White bass:

- i. Between the main levees of the Mississippi river, from the confluence of the Mississippi and White rivers upstream to the Benzal Railroad Bridge, and from the confluence of the Mississippi and Arkansas rivers upstream to the Yancopin Railroad Bridge – daily limit of 50, possession limit of 100.
- ii. Beaver Lake and its tributaries; Bob Kidd Lake; Greers Ferry Lake and its tributaries; Lakes Ashbaugh, Sequoyah, and Monticello – no limit.

2. Striped bass and hybrid striped bass (combined):

- i. Beaver and Norfolk Lakes; Lake Ouachita – daily limit 3.
- ii. Arkansas River and connecting lakes – daily limit 10.
- iii. Lake Monticello – no limit.

J. ALLIGATOR GAR:

1. Alligator gar longer than 36 inches may not be harvested from noon May 1 – noon July 1 statewide.
2. Alligator Gar Tag is required to harvest alligator gar over 36 inches (Code 26.28).

K. TROUT (BROOK, BROWN, CUTTHROAT, RAINBOW, TIGER):

1. Brown trout:

- i. White River from Bull Shoals Dam to ~~boat ramp at Norfolk Access~~ ~~Arkansas Highway 58 Bridge~~ (Bull Shoals Tailwater) and North Fork White River (Norfolk Tailwater) – ~~minimum length 24 inches,~~ ~~daily limit 1; only 1 of trout daily limit may be longer than 14 inches~~ ~~all fish caught must be immediately released.~~ ¶
- ~~i.ii.~~ White River from boat ramp at Norfolk Access to Arkansas Highway 58 Bridge (Bull Shoals Tailwater) – minimum length limit 24 inches, daily limit 1.
- ~~ii.iii.~~ Spavinaw Creek (Benton County) west of Arkansas Highway 59 – minimum length 16 inches, daily limit 2.
- ~~iii.iv.~~ Spring River (from 100 yards below Dam No.1 at Mammoth Spring State Park to the mouth of Myatt Creek.) – minimum length 14 inches, daily limit 1; only 1 of trout daily limit may be longer than 14 inches.
- ~~iv.v.~~ Little Red River from Greers Ferry Dam to Arkansas Highway 305 Bridge (Greers Ferry Tailwater) – daily limit of ~~52,~~ ~~maximum length limit 14 inches.~~ ~~(only 1 of trout daily limit may be longer than 16 inches).~~
- ~~vi.~~ White River from Beaver Dam to boundary signs at Houseman Access (Beaver Tailwater) – ~~daily limit of 2, maximum length limit 14 inches.~~ ~~protected slot limit of 13-16 inches, daily limit of 5~~ ~~(only 1 of trout daily limit may be longer than 16 inches).~~ ¶
- ~~v.¶~~
- ~~vi.vii.~~ Little Missouri River from Narrows Dam to Arkansas Highway 27 Bridge (Narrows Tailwater) – all brown trout must be released immediately.

2. Cutthroat trout:

- i. White River from Bull Shoals Dam to ~~boat ramp at Norfolk~~ ~~Access~~ ~~Arkansas Highway 58 Bridge~~ (Bull Shoals Tailwater) and North Fork White River (Norfolk Tailwater) – ~~all fish caught must be immediately released.~~ ~~minimum length 24 inches, daily limit of 1;~~ ~~only 1 of trout daily limit may be longer than 14 inches.~~ ¶

~~ii.~~ White River from boat ramp at Norfork Access to Arkansas Highway 58 Bridge (Bull Shoals Tailwater) – minimum length limit 24 inches, daily limit 1.

~~i.iii.~~ North Fork White River (Norfork Tailwater), Spavinaw Creek (Benton County) west of Arkansas Highway 59 – minimum length 16 inches, daily limit of 2.

~~ii.iv.~~ Little Red River from Greers Ferry Dam to Arkansas Highway 305 Bridge (Greers Ferry Tailwater) – only 1 of trout daily limit may be longer than 16 inches daily limit of 2, maximum length limit 14 inches.

~~iii.v.~~ White River from Beaver Dam to boundary signs at Houseman Access (Beaver Tailwater) – daily limit of 2, maximum length limit 14 inches. protected slot limit of 13-16 inches (only 1 of trout daily limit may be longer than 16 inches).

3. Brook trout:

~~i.~~ White River from Bull Shoals Dam to boat ramp at Norfork Access Arkansas Highway 58 Bridge (Bull Shoals Tailwater), North Fork White River (Norfork Tailwater) – all fish caught must be immediately released. – minimum length 14 inches, daily limit of 1; only 1 of trout daily limit may be longer than 14 inches.

~~i.ii.~~ White River from boat ramp at Norfork Access to Arkansas Highway 58 Bridge (Bull Shoals Tailwater) – minimum length 14 inches, daily limit of 1.

~~ii.iii.~~ Spavinaw Creek (Benton County) west of Arkansas Highway 59 – minimum length 14 inches, daily limit 2.

~~iii.iv.~~ Little Red River from Greers Ferry Dam to Arkansas Highway 305 Bridge (Greers Ferry Tailwater) – only 1 of trout daily limit may be longer than 16 inches daily limit of 2, maximum length limit 14 inches.

~~iv.v.~~ White River from Beaver Dam to boundary signs at Houseman Access (Beaver Tailwater) – protected slot limit of 13-16 inches (only 1 of trout daily limit may be longer than 16 inches) daily limit of 2, maximum length limit 14 inches.

4. Rainbow trout:

- i. Lake Atalanta (Benton County) – daily limit of 5.
- ii. White River from Bull Shoals Dam to boat ramp at Norfolk Access (Bull Shoals Tailwater), North Fork White River (Norfolk Tailwater) – all fish caught must be immediately released.
- iii. White River from boat ramp at Norfolk Access to Arkansas Highway 58 Bridge (Bull Shoals Tailwater) —, North Fork White River (Norfolk Tailwater), Spring River – daily limit of 52, (only 1 of trout daily limit may be longer than 14 inches).
- ii-iv. Spring River - daily limit of 5 (only 1 of trout daily limit may be longer than 14 inches).
- iii-v. Little Red River from Greers Ferry Dam to Arkansas Highway 305 Bridge (Greers Ferry Tailwater) – daily limit of 52, (only 1 of trout daily limit may be longer than 16 inches) maximum length limit of 14 inches.
- iv-vi. White River from Beaver Dam to boundary signs at Houseman Access (Beaver Tailwater) – protected slot limit of 13-16 inches, daily limit of 52, maximum length limit 14 inches. (only 1 of trout daily limit may be longer than 16 inches).

5. Tiger trout:

- i. White River from Bull Shoals Dam to boat ramp at Norfolk Access Arkansas Highway 58 Bridge (Bull Shoals Tailwater) and North Fork White River (Norfolk Tailwater) – minimum length 24 inches, daily limit 1; only 1 of trout daily limit may be longer than 14 inches all fish caught must be immediately released.
- i-ii. White River from boat ramp at Norfolk Access to Arkansas Highway 58 Bridge (Bull Shoals Tailwater) – minimum length limit 24 inches, daily limit 1.

All fish measurements must follow procedures listed in the definition of "Length Limits" in Code 01.00-C.

N1.01 Game Fish Daily Limits

Statewide Daily Limit

Species	
Alligator Gar	1 Under 36 Inches
American Eel	1 Over 36 Inches Annually with Tag
Black Basses	2
Bream (over 4 inches length)	10 (including no more than 4 Smallmouth)
Catfish (except Bullhead)	50
Crappie	10
Rock Bass	30
Paddlefish	10
Sauger	2
Saugeye	6
Shovelnose Sturgeon	6
Striped Bass or Hybrid (Combination)	No Limit
Trout	6
Walleye	5 (including no more than 2 Brown, 2 Cutthroat, 2 Brook)
White Bass	6
	25

EXCEPTIONS:

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1. Private landowners or their designees, with a valid fishing license and Bass Management Assistance Program (BMAP) permit are exempt from the game fish daily and possession limits in BMAP enrolled waters.

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4. **Lake Conway** – No gamefish daily limits.

5. **Lake Wilhelmina** - No gamefish daily limits.

C. BLACK BASS (LARGEMOUTH, SPOTTED, SMALLMOUTH):

1. Smallmouth bass:

- i. **Ozark Zone** (Baxter, Benton, Boone, Carroll, Clay, Cleburne, Fulton, Independence, Izard, Lawrence, Madison, Marion, Newton, Randolph, Searcy, Sharp, Stone, Van Buren and Washington counties) – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 12 inches with a daily limit of 4, except Bull Shoals, Beaver, Greers Ferry, and Table Rock lakes (see Ex. 1(B) below). Greers Ferry Lake – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 12 inches, daily limit 6. Norfork Lake – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 13 inches, daily limit 6.
- ii. **Ozark Zone Blue Ribbon Streams** – Buffalo River from confluence with Clabber Creek downstream to the confluence with the White River – smallmouth bass minimum length limit 18 inches, daily limit of 1; all other water of Crooked Creek and Buffalo River – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 14 inches, daily limit of 2.
- iii. **Ozark Zone Catch-and-Release Area** – Crooked Creek, along boundary of Arkansas Game and Fish Foundation property near Kelley's Slab Access.
- iv. **Ozark Zone Quality Streams** – Kings River from Trigger Gap to U.S. Highway 62 bridge –smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 18 inches, daily limit of 1; all other water of the Kings, Illinois, Spring, South Fork of the Spring and Eleven Point rivers and War Eagle Creek – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 14 inches, daily limit of 2.
- v. **Ouachita/Boston Zone** (all Arkansas counties not included in the Ozark Zone) – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 10 inches, daily limit of 4.
- vi. **Ouachita/Boston Zone Quality Streams** – (Mulberry, Caddo above DeGray Lake, DeGray Lake, Cossatot River, Ouachita River upstream from Lake Ouachita, Ouachita River downstream from Remmel Dam, Saline River, including its 4headwater forks in

Saline, Perry and Garland counties, South Fork/Ouachita, Little Missouri above Lake Greeson) – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 12 inches, daily limit of 2.

- vii. **Ouachita/Boston Zone Catch-and-Release Area** – all smallmouth bass caught in Lake Catherine must be immediately returned to the water.

2. Largemouth bass:

- i. Lake Terre Noire, Lake June, and Lake Sylvia – daily limit 5.
- ii. Lake Millwood – daily limit 6.
- iii. Mallard Lake – daily limit 1.
- iv. Marion McCollum Lake – Largemouth bass caught must be immediately returned to the water.
- v. Lake Pickthorne - Daily limit 2.

3. Black Bass (all species combined):

- i. Beaver, Bull Shoals, DeGray, Norfork, Table Rock lakes, Lake Jack Nolen, Ouachita, Ashbaugh – daily limit 6.
- ii. Lake Lou Emma – daily limit 5.
- iii. War Eagle Creek – daily limit 2.
- iv. Lakes Ouachita, DeGray, and Greeson – in addition to the daily limit of black basses, 10 spotted bass may be taken.

D. **BREAM:** No limit on bream 4 inches or shorter.

E. CATFISH:

- 1. No limit on catfish on Grand Lake – Chicot County, Lake Chicot (including that portion of Connerly Bayou downstream from Connerly Dam to the bayou's mouth and Ditch Bayou from the inlet on Lake Chicot to Ditch Bayou Dam) and between the main levees of the Mississippi River, from the confluence of the Mississippi/White rivers upstream to the Benzal Railroad Bridge, and from the confluence of the Mississippi/Arkansas rivers upstream to the Yancopin Railroad Bridge.
- 2. No limit on blue and channel catfish from Little River (below Millwood Dam) Red and Sulphur rivers.
- 3. No limit on channel catfish on Marion McCollum Lake Greenlee – Monroe County and Lake Erling.

4. Catfish daily limit – 5 in DeWitt City Park Lake (Arkansas County); Lake Atalanta (Benton County); Hidden Lake (Carroll County); Big Timber Lake and Gurdon Lake (Clark County); Hubble Lake (Clay County); Lake Bailey (Conway County); Lake Cambadelle and Lake Lou Emma (Crawford County); Marion City Park Lake (Crittenden County); Village Creek State Park Lakes (Cross and St. Francis Counties); Lake Bennett (Faulkner County); Lake Clearfork (Garland County); Crowley Ridge State Park Lake and Reynolds Park Lake (Greene County); Newark City Lake (Independence County); Lake June (Lafayette County); Ward City Park Lake (Lonoke County); Hindsville Lake (Madison County); Blytheville City Park Lake (Mississippi County); Donald Branch Fishing Pond (Monroe County); Lake Sylvia (Perry County); Shady Lake (Polk County); Twin Lakes A and B, Camp Ferncliff (Pulaski County); Old Davidsonville State Park Lake (Randolph County); Forrest City Park Lake (St. Francis County); Truman Baker Lake (Scott County); Cave City's Lakes (Sharp County); Gunner Pool and Hayden Bend Pond (Stone County); Devils Den State Park (Washington County); Spring Lake, Kingfisher, Clubhouse Lakes in Petit Jean WMA (Yell County) and posted USDA Forest Service ponds and lakes.
5. In addition to daily limit, 10 channel catfish may be taken on the Arkansas River.
6. In addition to daily limit, 10 blue catfish may be taken in Lake Erling.

F. CRAPPIE:

1. Crappie daily limit – 15 in Beaver, Table Rock, Bull Shoals, Norfolk reservoirs, Cane Creek Lake (Lincoln County), and Gurdon Lake (Clark County).
2. Crappie daily limit – 50 between the main levees of the Mississippi River, from the confluence of the Mississippi/White rivers upstream to the Benzal Railroad Bridge, and from the confluence of the Mississippi/Arkansas rivers upstream to the Yancopin Railroad Bridge.
3. Crappie daily limit – 20 in Lake Chicot and Blue Mountain Lake.
4. No crappie daily limit on Lake Charles, Lake Frierson, and Lake Hogue.

G. Paddlefish:

1. Paddlefish under 34 inches Eye to Fork Length must be released immediately on the Paddlefish Snagging Areas below Beaver Dam.
2. Paddlefish Tag is required to harvest Paddlefish in the Upper White River above Beaver Lake (Code 26.31).
3. Paddlefish yearly limit – 2 in Upper White River above Beaver Lake between Highway 45 Bridge and Lake Sequoyah Dam

H. WALLEYE:

1. Beaver Lake and its tributaries; Table Rock Lake and its tributaries to Beaver Dam; Bull Shoals Lake, and Norfolk Lake – minimum length limit of 18 inches, daily limit 4.
2. In compliance with Addendum N1.02 and Code Chapter 28.00.

I. WHITE BASS, STRIPED BASS, HYBRID STRIPED BASS:

1. White bass:

- i. Between the main levees of the Mississippi river, from the confluence of the Mississippi and White rivers upstream to the Benzal Railroad Bridge, and from the confluence of the Mississippi and Arkansas rivers upstream to the Yancopin Railroad Bridge – daily limit of 50, possession limit of 100.
- ii. Beaver Lake and its tributaries; Bob Kidd Lake; Greers Ferry Lake and its tributaries; Lakes Ashbaugh, Sequoyah, and Monticello – no limit.

2. Striped bass and hybrid striped bass (combined):

- i. Beaver and Norfolk Lakes; Lake Ouachita – daily limit 3.
- ii. Arkansas River and connecting lakes – daily limit 10.
- iii. Lake Monticello – no limit.

J. ALLIGATOR GAR:

1. Alligator gar longer than 36 inches may not be harvested from noon May 1 – noon July 1 statewide.
2. Alligator Gar Tag is required to harvest alligator gar over 36 inches (Code 26.28).

K. TROUT (BROOK, BROWN, CUTTHROAT, RAINBOW, TIGER):

1. Brown trout:

- i. White River from Bull Shoals Dam to boat ramp at Norfork Access (Bull Shoals Tailwater) and North Fork White River (Norfork Tailwater) – all fish caught must be immediately released.
- ii. White River from boat ramp at Norfork Access to Arkansas Highway 58 Bridge (Bull Shoals Tailwater) – minimum length limit 24 inches, daily limit 1.
- iii. Spavinaw Creek (Benton County) west of Arkansas Highway 59 – minimum length 16 inches, daily limit 2.
- iv. Spring River (from 100 yards below Dam No.1 at Mammoth Spring State Park to the mouth of Myatt Creek.) – minimum length 14 inches, daily limit 1; only 1 of trout daily limit may be longer than 14 inches.
- v. Little Red River from Greers Ferry Dam to Arkansas Highway 305 Bridge (Greers Ferry Tailwater) – daily limit of 2, maximum length limit 14 inches.
- vi. White River from Beaver Dam to boundary signs at Houseman Access (Beaver Tailwater) – daily limit of 2, maximum length limit 14 inches.
- vii. Little Missouri River from Narrows Dam to Arkansas Highway 27 Bridge (Narrows Tailwater) – all brown trout must be released immediately.

2. Cutthroat trout:

- i. White River from Bull Shoals Dam to boat ramp at Norfork Access (Bull Shoals Tailwater) and North Fork White River (Norfork Tailwater) – all fish caught must be immediately released.
- ii. White River from boat ramp at Norfork Access to Arkansas Highway 58 Bridge (Bull Shoals Tailwater) – minimum length limit 24 inches, daily limit 1.
- iii. Spavinaw Creek (Benton County) west of Arkansas Highway 59 – minimum length 16 inches, daily limit of 2.
- iv. Little Red River from Greers Ferry Dam to Arkansas Highway 305 Bridge (Greers Ferry Tailwater) – daily limit of 2, maximum length limit 14 inches.

- v. White River from Beaver Dam to boundary signs at Houseman Access (Beaver Tailwater) – daily limit of 2, maximum length limit 14 inches. .

3. **Brook trout:**

- i. White River from Bull Shoals Dam to boat ramp at Norfolk Access (Bull Shoals Tailwater), North Fork White River (Norfolk Tailwater) – all fish caught must be immediately released.
- ii. White River from boat ramp at Norfolk Access to Arkansas Highway 58 Bridge (Bull Shoals Tailwater) – minimum length 14 inches, daily limit of 1.
- iii. Spavinaw Creek (Benton County) west of Arkansas Highway 59 – minimum length 14 inches, daily limit 2.
- iv. Little Red River from Greers Ferry Dam to Arkansas Highway 305 Bridge (Greers Ferry Tailwater) – daily limit of 2, maximum length limit 14 inches.
- v. White River from Beaver Dam to boundary signs at Houseman Access (Beaver Tailwater) – daily limit of 2, maximum length limit 14 inches.

4. **Rainbow trout:**

- i. Lake Atalanta (Benton County) – daily limit of 5.
- ii. White River from Bull Shoals Dam to boat ramp at Norfolk Access (Bull Shoals Tailwater), North Fork White River (Norfolk Tailwater) – all fish caught must be immediately released.
- iii. White River from boat ramp at Norfolk Access to Arkansas Highway 58 Bridge (Bull Shoals Tailwater) — daily limit of 2, (only 1 of trout daily limit may be longer than 14 inches) .
- iv. Spring River - daily limit of 5 (only 1 of trout daily limit may be longer than 14 inches).
- v. Little Red River from Greers Ferry Dam to Arkansas Highway 305 Bridge (Greers Ferry Tailwater) – daily limit of 2, maximum length limit of 14 inches.

- vi. White River from Beaver Dam to boundary signs at Houseman Access (Beaver Tailwater) – daily limit of 2, maximum length limit 14 inches. .

5. Tiger trout:

- i. White River from Bull Shoals Dam to boat ramp at Norfork Access (Bull Shoals Tailwater) and North Fork White River (Norfork Tailwater) – all fish caught must be immediately released.
- ii. White River from boat ramp at Norfork Access to Arkansas Highway 58 Bridge (Bull Shoals Tailwater) –minimum length limit 24 inches, daily limit 1.

All fish measurements must follow procedures listed in the definition of "Length Limits" in Code 01.00-C.

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October 16, 2025

Arkansas Register
Arkansas Secretary of State, Rules & Regulation Filing
500 Woodlane Drive, Room 26
Little Rock, AR 72201
Via email only: arkansasregister@sos.arkansas.gov

RE: Legal Notice for Approved Rules or Regulations – October 2025 meetings

Dear Arkansas Register:

Attached please find the Emergency Rule for Trout Regulations Changes adopted by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission on October 16, 2025. Should you have any questions or comments concerning this filing, please do not hesitate to contact Sissy Phillips or myself at (501) 382-3807 at your convenience.

Sincerely,

John Marks (Oct 16, 2025 15:09:06 CDT)

John P. Marks
General Counsel

JPM/srm
Attachment

cc: Ms. Rebecca Miller-Rice, Bureau of Legislative Research
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The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's mission is to conserve and enhance Arkansas's fish and wildlife and their habitats while promoting sustainable use, public understanding and support.

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Final Audit Report

2025-10-16

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