

# Table of Contents

---

## 13.01.11 - RULES GOVERNING FISH

000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.....	3
001. TITLE AND SCOPE.....	3
002. WRITTEN INTERPRETATIONS.....	3
003. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.....	3
004. DEFINITIONS.....	3
005. INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE.....	5
006. OFFICE -- OFFICE HOURS -- MAILING ADDRESS AND STREET ADDRESS.....	5
007. -- 100. (RESERVED).....	5
101. RELEASE OF FISH.....	5
102. AREAS CLOSED TO THE TAKING OF FISH.....	5
103. FISHING HOURS.....	5
104. IDENTIFICATION OF SPECIES AND SIZE IN POSSESSION AND DURING TRANSPORTATION OR SHIPMENT.....	5
105. POSSESSION AND TRANSPORTATION RESTRICTIONS.....	5
106. -- 198. RESERVED.....	6
199. TWO POLE VALIDATION.....	6
200. LICENSES.....	6
201. FISHING METHODS AND GEAR.....	6
202. BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS.....	7
203. -- 298. (RESERVED).....	8
299. TWO POLE BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS, SEASONS, WATERS, AND METHODS OF GEAR.....	8
300. GENERAL FISHING SEASONS.....	8
301. -- 309. (RESERVED).....	9
310. PANHANDLE REGION EXCEPTIONS.....	9
311. -- 314. (RESERVED).....	9
315. CLEARWATER REGION EXCEPTIONS.....	9
316. -- 319. (RESERVED).....	9
320. SOUTHWEST REGION EXCEPTIONS.....	9
321. -- 324. (RESERVED).....	9
325. MAGIC VALLEY REGION.....	9
326. -- 329. (RESERVED).....	9
330. SOUTHEAST REGION EXCEPTIONS.....	9
331. -- 334. (RESERVED).....	10
335. UPPER SNAKE REGION EXCEPTIONS.....	10
336. -- 339. (RESERVED).....	10
340. SALMON REGION EXCEPTIONS.....	10
341. -- 344. (RESERVED).....	10
345. FISHING IN BOUNDARY WATERS.....	10
346. FISH SALVAGE.....	10
347. -- 399. (RESERVED).....	10
400. STEELHEAD TROUT.....	10
401. STEELHEAD DEFINITION.....	10
402. STEELHEAD LICENSES, TAGS AND PERMITS.....	10
403. PERMIT VALIDATION.....	11
404. IDENTIFICATION OF SPECIES IN POSSESSION AND DURING TRANSPORTATION OR SHIPMENT.....	12
405. STEELHEAD METHODS OF TAKE.....	12

406. FALL SEASONS AND LIMITS. ....	12
407. (RESERVED). ....	12
408. STEELHEAD PURCHASE REPORT. ....	12
409. -- 499. (RESERVED). ....	13
500. CHINOOK SALMON. ....	13
501. SALMON DEFINITIONS. ....	13
502. SALMON LICENSES AND PERMITS. ....	13
503. PERMIT VALIDATION. ....	13
504. IDENTIFICATION OF SPECIES IN POSSESSION AND DURING TRANSPORTATION OR SHIPMENT. ....	13
505. SALMON SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS. ....	13
506. SEASONS AND LIMITS. ....	13
507. -- 999. (RESERVED). ....	13

**IDAPA 13  
TITLE 01  
CHAPTER 11**

**13.01.11 - RULES GOVERNING FISH**

**000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.**

The Idaho Fish and Game Commission is authorized under Sections 36-104(b) and 36-901, Idaho Code, to adopt rules concerning fishing, methods of take, seasons, and possession limits. (3-20-97)

**001. TITLE AND SCOPE.**

**01. Title.** These rules shall be cited in full as IDAPA 13.01.11.000, et seq., Idaho Fish and Game Commission Rules IDAPA 13.01.11, "Rules Governing Fish". (3-20-97)

**02. Scope.** These rules establish the methods of take, seasons, and possession limits for all non-commercial fishing. (3-20-97)

**002. WRITTEN INTERPRETATIONS.**

In accordance with Section 67-5201(16)(b)(vi), Idaho Code, this agency has written statements which pertain to the interpretation of the rules of this chapter, or to the documentation of compliance with the rules of this chapter. These documents are available for public inspection and copying at cost at the headquarters office at 600 South Walnut, Boise, Idaho. (3-20-97)

**003. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.**

All contested cases shall be governed by the provisions of IDAPA 13.01.01, "Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission". (3-20-97)

**004. DEFINITIONS.**

For the purposes of this chapter, the following terms will be defined as follows: (3-20-97)

**01. Artificial Fly.** Any fly made entirely of rubber, wood, metal, glass, feather, fiber, or plastic by the method known as fly tying. (3-20-97)

**02. Artificial Lure.** Any device made entirely of rubber, wood, metal, glass, feather, fiber, or plastic with hook or hooks attached. No bait of any kind may be used with artificial lures when fishing artificial flies and lures-only waters. (3-20-97)

**03. Bag Limit.** The maximum number of fish that may be lawfully taken by any one (1) person in one (1) day. The term "bag limit" shall be construed to be an individual, independent effort and shall not be interpreted in any manner as to allow one (1) individual to take more than his "bag limit" toward filling the "bag limit" of another. The bag and possession limits are equal except for salmon and steelhead. (3-20-97)

**04. Bait.** Organic substances, other than rubber, wood, feather, fiber, or plastic, attached to a hook to attract fish. Bait includes insects, insect larvae, worms, dead fish, fish parts, any other animal or vegetable matter, or scented synthetic materials. (Live fish prohibited.) (See: Subsection 004.20 - NO BAIT.) (3-20-97)

**05. Barbless Hook.** A fish hook without barbs or on which barbs have been bent completely closed. (3-20-97)

**06. Catch-And-Release.** A fishing restriction applied to a body of water requiring that all game fish, except whitefish and brook trout, must be released immediately, unharmed, back to the water. Only artificial flies or lures with one (1) barbless hook may be used in waters designated catch-and-release; bait is prohibited. It is permissible to use up to five (5) flies or lures, each with only one (1) barbless hook, per line. Whitefish and brook trout landed from catch-and-release waters may be retained in possession. (3-20-97)

**07. Closed To Harvest.** Effort, by permitted methods, to catch or attempt to catch a fish or group of fish is lawful, with the restriction that any fish or group of fish so caught must be released immediately back to the

- water. (3-20-97)
- 08. Confluence Of A Stream Or River.** The point where two (2) rivers or streams come together. (3-20-97)
- 09. Electric Motors Only.** When fishing waters listed “electric motors only”, gas (internal combustion) motors may be attached to the boat; but use of the gas motor is prohibited. (3-20-97)
- 10. Fishing.** Any effort made to take, kill, injure, capture, or catch any fish, crayfish, or bullfrog. (3-20-97)
- 11. Float Tube.** A floating device which suspends a single occupant, with his/her body from the waist down, in the water. (3-20-97)
- 12. Fly Fishing.** Fishing with a fly rod, fly reel, fly line, and artificial fly. (3-20-97)
- 13. Game Fish.** Brook, brown, bull (Dolly Varden), cutthroat, golden, lake (Mackinaw), rainbow (including steelhead), splake and sunapee trout; trout hybrids; chinook, coho, Atlantic and kokanee (blueback) salmon; grayling; whitefish; cisco; crappie; perch; bass; catfish; bullheads; sunfish; sturgeon; northern pike; tiger muskie; walleye and sauger; and burbot (ling). Bullfrogs and crayfish are also defined as game fish. (3-20-97)
- 14. Harvest.** Reduce a fish to possession. (3-20-97)
- 15. Hook.** A bent wire device, for the catching of fish, to which one (1), two (2), or three (3) points may be attached to a single shank. Up to five (5) hooks per line may be used, except where specifically prohibited. (3-20-97)
- 16. Ice Fishing.** Fishing through an opening broken or cut through the ice. (3-20-97)
- 17. Length.** The length between the tip of the nose or jaw and the tip of the tail fin. (3-20-97)
- 18. Motor.** Includes electric and internal combustion motors. (See Subsection 004.09 - Electric Motors Only.) (3-20-97)
- 19. Mouth Of River Or Stream.** The place where a river or stream enters a larger body of water. (3-20-97)
- 20. No Bait.** Requires the use of artificial flies or lures, with one (1) barbless hook ONLY per fly or lure. (3-20-97)
- 21. No Motors.** Fishing from a boat with a motor attached is prohibited. (3-20-97)
- 22. Possession Limit.** Maximum number of fish that may be lawfully in possession of any person. “Possession limit” shall apply to fish while in the field or being transported to the final place of consumption or storage. (3-20-97)
- 23. Reservoir.** The flat water level existing at any time within a reservoir basin. Unless noted otherwise, a stream flowing through the drawdown portion of a reservoir is not considered part of the reservoir. (3-20-97)
- 24. Season Limit.** The maximum number of fish that may be lawfully taken in any declared season. (3-20-97)
- 25. Snagging.** Taking or attempting to take fish by hooking other than in the mouth or head. Game fish which are hooked other than in the head or mouth must be released immediately. (3-20-97)
- 26. Steelhead.** Rainbow trout longer than twenty (20) inches in length in the Snake River drainage

below Hells Canyon Dam, the Salmon River drainage (excluding lakes and the Lemhi and the Pahsimeroi rivers), and the Clearwater River drainage (excluding that portion above Dworshak Dam, and lakes). Rainbow trout longer than twenty (20) inches in length with the adipose fin missing (as evidenced by a healed scar) are defined as steelhead in the Snake River from Hells Canyon Dam upstream to Oxbow Dam, and in the Boise River from its mouth upstream to Barber Dam, and in the Payette River from its mouth upstream to Black Canyon Dam during steelhead seasons. (3-20-97)

**27. Tributary.** A stream flowing into a larger stream or lake. (3-20-97)

**28. Unattended Line.** A line not under the immediate surveillance by the angler. (3-20-97)

**29. Unprotected Nongame Fish.** All fish species other than game fish and protected species of special concern. (3-20-97)

**005. INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE.**

There are no documents that have been incorporated by reference into this rule. (3-30-01)

**006. OFFICE -- OFFICE HOURS -- MAILING ADDRESS AND STREET ADDRESS.**

The principal place of business of the Department of Fish and Game is in Boise, Idaho. The office is located at 600 South Walnut, Boise, Idaho and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., except Saturday, Sunday and legal holidays. The mailing address is: P.O. Box 25, Boise, Idaho 83707. (3-30-01)

**007. -- 100. (RESERVED).**

**101. RELEASE OF FISH.**

No person shall release or allow the release of any species of live fish, or eggs thereof, in the state of Idaho without the permission of the director of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, EXCEPT where no permission is required: (3-20-97)

**01. Same Location - Fish.** When fish are being freed from a hook and released at the same time and place where caught. (3-20-97)

**02. Same Location - Crayfish.** When crayfish are being released from a trap and released at the same time and place where caught. (3-20-97)

**102. AREAS CLOSED TO THE TAKING OF FISH.**

No person shall take fish on or from any state or federal fish hatchery property in Idaho EXCEPT as posted. (3-20-97)

**103. FISHING HOURS.**

No restriction except where stated otherwise in the regional exceptions. (3-20-97)

**104. IDENTIFICATION OF SPECIES AND SIZE IN POSSESSION AND DURING TRANSPORTATION OR SHIPMENT.**

**01. Length.** The length of a fish shall be determined by measuring the distance between the tip of the nose and the tip of the tail fin. (3-20-97)

**02. Restrictions.** No person shall have in the field or in transit any trout, tiger muskie, or bass from which the head or tail has been removed. (3-20-97)

**105. POSSESSION AND TRANSPORTATION RESTRICTIONS.**

No person shall possess, transport or cause to be transported within the state of Idaho any live fish or fish eggs without having first obtained a permit from the director of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. However, no permit is required to: (3-20-97)

**01. Game Fish.** Keep game fish, that can legally be reduced to possession, alive and in possession in a

live well, net, or on a stringer while at the body of water from which they were taken. However, salmon and steelhead must either be immediately killed or released. (3-20-97)

**02. Aquarium Fish.** Possess ornamental or tropical aquarium fish of varieties commonly accepted for interstate shipment. (3-20-97)

**03. Private Ponds Or Commercial Fish Facility.** Possess fish from a private pond or commercial fish facility when accompanied by sales receipt and written permission from the director, as provided in Chapter 7, Title 36, Idaho Code. (3-20-97)

**04. Between Commercial Fish Facilities.** Transport fish between commercial fish facilities licensed under Chapter 7, Title 36, Idaho Code. (3-20-97)

**106. -- 198. RESERVED.**

**199. TWO POLE VALIDATION.**

A person who has a valid or nonresident fishing license may purchase a two (2) pole validation. The two (2) pole validation authorizes the license holder to use two (2) fishing poles or rods at the same time on waters and during seasons specified by Commission Rule, IDAPA 13.01.11, "Rules Governing Fish". (7-1-99)

**200. LICENSES.**

Any person fourteen (14) years of age or older must have a valid license or permit to fish for fish, bullfrogs or crayfish in Idaho. Nonresident children under fourteen (14) years of age must be accompanied by the holder of a valid fishing license and their fish must be included in license holder's limit in order to fish without a license. Resident children under fourteen (14) years of age need not be accompanied by the holder of a valid fishing license and they may have their own separate possession limit. Persons fourteen (14) years of age and older who do not qualify as residents must purchase a nonresident license. A person must be a bona fide resident domiciled within Idaho for at least six (6) months in order to qualify for a resident license. (3-20-97)

**201. FISHING METHODS AND GEAR.**

Unless modified by a regional exception, the following fishing methods and restrictions are applicable in all Idaho waters. (3-20-97)

**01. Archery And Spear Fishing.** Fishing with the use of bow and arrow, crossbow, spear or mechanical device, excluding firearms, is permitted for the taking of bullfrogs and unprotected nongame fish, and only in those waters during the season set for the taking of game fish. (7-1-99)

**02. Bait Restricted.** It is unlawful to fish with bait in waters designated as artificial flies and lures only, fly fishing only, no bait, or catch-and-release. (3-20-97)

**03. Barbed Hooks.** It is unlawful to fish for sturgeon with barbed hooks. It is unlawful to fish for or take steelhead with barbed hooks in the Clearwater River drainage, Salmon River drainage, and Snake River drainage below Hells Canyon Dam. It is unlawful to fish in artificial flies and lures only waters, or catch-and-release waters with barbed hooks. (3-20-97)

**04. Fishing Gear.** It is unlawful to fish in any waters of Idaho with more than one (1) handline or pole with a line attached; or with more than five (5) lines while ice fishing; or by archery, spearfishing, snagging, hands, and netting except as permitted. Not more than five (5) hooks may be attached per line. The line or lines must be attended by the person fishing. (3-20-97)

**05. Fishing Shelters.** Any enclosure or shelter which is left unattended overnight on the ice of any waters of the state shall have the owner's name, telephone numbers, and current address legibly marked on two (2) opposing sides of the enclosure or shelter. (7-1-99)

**06. Gaff Hook.** It is unlawful to land fish of any species with a gaff hook except through a hole cut or broken in the ice in waters which have no length restrictions or harvest closures for that species. (3-20-97)

**07. Molesting Fish.** It is unlawful to molest any fish by shooting at it with a firearm or pellet gun, striking at it with a club, hands, rocks, or other objects, building obstructions for catching fish, or chasing fish up or downstream in any manner. (3-20-97)

**08. Snagging.** It is unlawful to snag game fish, unless otherwise stated by Commission rules/exceptions. Snagging of unprotected nongame fish species is permitted. (3-20-97)

**09. Trapping and Seining Minnows Or Crayfish.** It is lawful to take the young of unprotected nongame fish, crayfish, and yellow perch with a minnow net, seine, or up to five (5) traps, provided the seine or net does not exceed four (4) feet in length or width, and the minnow or crayfish trap does not exceed eighteen (18) inches in length or twelve (12) inches in diameter or width. If the trap is of irregular dimension, but its volume does not exceed the volume of an eighteen by twelve by twelve inches (18"x12"x12") trap, it is also lawful to use. All fish so taken must immediately be killed except where stated otherwise. All traps must have a tag attached bearing the owner's name and address. Minnows and crayfish may only be taken during the season set for the taking of game fish in those waters. (3-20-97)

**10. Use Of Bait.** It is unlawful to use live fish as bait, except that live crayfish and bull frogs may be used if caught on the body of water being fished. (3-20-97)

**11. Use Of Hands.** It is lawful to take bull frogs and crayfish with the hands. (3-20-97)

**202. BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS.**

**01. Bag Limit.** Maximum number of fish that may be lawfully taken by one (1) person in one (1) day. The bag and possession limits are equal, except where listed in region exceptions and for salmon and steelhead. (3-20-97)

**02. Possession Limit.** Maximum number of fish that may be lawfully in possession of any one (1) person. Possession limit shall apply to fish while in the field or being transported. All fish that are hooked, landed and not immediately released shall be counted in the possession limit of the person hooking the fish. (3-20-97)

**03. Transport Or Gift.** No person shall transport for another or accept as a gift any game fish unless a statement signed by taker accompanies the fish, showing the number and kinds, the date taken, the taker's name, address, and fishing license number. However, no person may claim ownership of more fish than allowed by the possession limit. (7-1-99)

**04. Table On Bag And Possession Limits For Specified Fish.**

<b>SPECIES</b>	<b>BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS</b>	
<b>BASS</b> - Largemouth and Smallmouth	5	In the aggregate of both species, NONE under 12 inches.
<b>BROOK TROUT</b>	10	In addition to the trout limit on any water.
<b>BULL TROUT</b> (Dolly Varden)	NONE	There is no harvest season for bull trout. Any bull trout caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
<b>BURBOT</b> (Ling)	NONE	There is no harvest season for burbot. Any burbot caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.
<b>NORTHERN PIKE</b>	5	
<b>SALMON</b> (Anadromous)		See Rules 500 to 599
<b>STEELHEAD</b>		See Rules 400 to 499

SPECIES	BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS	
<b>STURGEON</b>	NONE	There is no harvest season for sturgeon. Any sturgeon caught may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately. Barbless hooks required.
<b>TIGER MUSKIE</b>	2	NONE under 30 inches.
<b>TROUT</b> - includes the following trout family fishes brook, brown, cutthroat, golden, grayling, lake, (Mackinaw), rainbow, splake, sunapee; trout hybrids; and the landlocked forms of chinook, coho, Atlantic and kokanee (blueback) salmon.	6	In the aggregate of all species (see Magic Valley Southeast, Upper Snake regions for special cutthroat trout restrictions).
<b>WALLEYE and SAUGER</b>	5	In the aggregate of both species.
<b>WHITEFISH</b>	50	50
<b>NONGAME SPECIES OF SPECIAL CONCERN</b> - Shoshone, Wood River and Bear Lake sculpin, sand-roller, leatherside chub, Pacific lamprey.	NONE	May not be taken or possessed.
All Species other than those listed above.	NO LIMIT	

(7-1-99)

**05. Special Limits.** No person shall fish in any waters while having fish in possession in excess of the limits for those waters. (7-1-99)

**203. -- 298. (RESERVED).**

**299. TWO POLE BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS, SEASONS, WATERS, AND METHODS OF GEAR.**

**01. Bag And Possession Limits.** Holders of the two (2) pole validation shall have the same bag and possession limit as the general bag and possession limits and regional exceptions whether using one (1) or two (2) poles. Please see Fishing brochure, which contains the Commission's proclamation setting seasons, bag, and possession limits, and regional exceptions. (3-30-01)

**02. Seasons.** The two (2) pole validation shall only be valid on waters which are open to fishing under the general fishing seasons and regional exception, except two (2) poles or rods shall not be used to fish for adult anadromous fish (salmon or steelhead). (7-1-99)

**03. Waters.** The two (2) pole validation is valid on all waters open to fishing under general rules and regional exceptions, except not valid for adult anadromous fish. (7-1-99)

**04. Methods And Gear.** The restrictions of Section 201 shall apply to the use of two (2) poles under the two (2) pole validation, except for the number of handlines or poles. (7-1-99)

**300. GENERAL FISHING SEASONS.**

The following general seasons apply to all waters of the state, except as listed in "Regional Exceptions". (3-20-97)

**01. Lakes, Ponds and Reservoirs (including Alpine Lakes).** Extends ONLY to the edge of flat waters, excluding small, unnamed irrigation diversion ponds, beaver ponds and mill ponds.  
 OPEN ALL YEAR (3-20-97)

**02. Ditches And Canals.** Man-made structures used to transport water for irrigation or hydropower purposes.



OPEN ALL YEAR (3-20-97)

**03. Rivers And Streams.** Small, unnamed irrigation diversion ponds, beaver ponds and mill ponds have the same season as the river or stream on which they are located.

Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend through November 30  
2000: May 27-November 30  
2001: May 26-November 30 (3-30-01)

**04. General Whitefish Season.** Fishing gear or bait restrictions which apply to a river or stream section during the season open for other species apply during the whitefish season.

2000: January 1-March 31 and: May 27-December 31  
2001: January 1-March 31 and: May 26-December 31

NOTE: Whitefish or brook trout may also be taken in any waters during seasons open for other species, including reduced bag limit or size restricted waters, closed to harvest, and catch-and-release waters. (3-30-01)

**05. General Steelhead Season.** See Rule Sections 400 through 499. (3-20-97)

**06. Bullfrogs, Crayfish And Nongame Fish.** Bullfrogs, crayfish, and nongame fish may be taken ONLY during the season set for the taking of game fish in those waters. (3-20-97)

**301. -- 309. (RESERVED).**

**310. PANHANDLE REGION EXCEPTIONS.**

Pursuant to Section 36-105(3), Idaho Code, the Commission now sets the seasons and regional exceptions by proclamation. The proclamation is published in a brochure available at Department offices and license vendors. (3-30-01)

**311. -- 314. (RESERVED).**

**315. CLEARWATER REGION EXCEPTIONS.**

Pursuant to Section 36-105(3), Idaho Code, the Commission now sets the seasons and regional exceptions by proclamation. The proclamation is published in a brochure available at Department offices and license vendors. (3-30-01)

**316. -- 319. (RESERVED).**

**320. SOUTHWEST REGION EXCEPTIONS.**

Pursuant to Section 36-105(3), Idaho Code, the Commission now sets the seasons and regional exceptions by proclamation. The proclamation is published in a brochure available at Department offices and license vendors. (3-30-01)

**321. -- 324. (RESERVED).**

**325. MAGIC VALLEY REGION.**

Pursuant to Section 36-105(3), Idaho Code, the Commission now sets the seasons and regional exceptions by proclamation. The proclamation is published in a brochure available at Department offices and license vendors. (3-30-01)

**326. -- 329. (RESERVED).**

**330. SOUTHEAST REGION EXCEPTIONS.**

Pursuant to Section 36-105(3), Idaho Code, the Commission now sets the seasons and regional exceptions by proclamation. The proclamation is published in a brochure available at Department offices and license vendors. (3-30-01)

**331. -- 334. (RESERVED).**

**335. UPPER SNAKE REGION EXCEPTIONS.**

Pursuant to Section 36-105(3), Idaho Code, the Commission now sets the seasons and regional exceptions by proclamation. The proclamation is published in a brochure available at Department offices and license vendors. (3-30-01)

**336. -- 339. (RESERVED).**

**340. SALMON REGION EXCEPTIONS.**

Pursuant to Section 36-105(3), Idaho Code, the Commission now sets the seasons and regional exceptions by proclamation. The proclamation is published in a brochure available at Department offices and license vendors. (3-30-01)

**341. -- 344. (RESERVED).**

**345. FISHING IN BOUNDARY WATERS.**

**01. Bear Lake.** The holder of a valid Idaho or Utah fishing license may fish all of Bear Lake EXCEPT in areas CLOSED to all fishing by the respective states. Anglers are subject to the rules and regulations of the state in which they are fishing. (3-20-97)

**02. Snake River Between Idaho And Oregon Or Washington.** The holder of a valid Idaho fishing license may fish the Snake River where it forms the boundary between the states of Idaho and Oregon or Washington, subject to the fish and game laws of Idaho but may not fish from the shoreline, sloughs or tributaries on the Oregon or Washington side. An Oregon or Washington license holder has the same rights and restrictions with reference to the Idaho side. (3-20-97)

**03. Limit For One License Only.** Any angler who fishes on the Snake River or any other water forming an Idaho boundary is entitled to have in possession only the limit allowed by one (1) license regardless of the number of licenses he may possess. (3-20-97)

**346. FISH SALVAGE.**

No salvage of fish from public waters will be allowed without specific Commission order or without authorization from the Director or the Regional Supervisor. Regional authorization allows public fish salvage without regard to usual possession limits. Fish may be taken by snagging, spearing, archery, dipnet, seines, or with the hands. Use of toxic chemicals, explosives, firearms, or electric current is prohibited. A valid fishing license is required. (3-20-97)

**347. -- 399. (RESERVED).**

**400. STEELHEAD TROUT.**

**401. STEELHEAD DEFINITION.**

**01. Steelhead.** Rainbow trout longer than twenty (20) inches in length in the Snake River drainage below Hells Canyon Dam, the Salmon River drainage (excluding lakes and the Pahsimeroi and Lemhi rivers), and the Clearwater River drainage (excluding that portion above Dworshak Dam and lakes). In the Snake River from Hells Canyon Dam upstream to Oxbow Dam, and in the Boise River from its mouth upstream to Barber Dam, and in the Payette River from its mouth upstream to Black Canyon Dam, during steelhead seasons, rainbow trout longer than twenty (20) inches in length with the adipose fin missing (as evidenced by a healed scar) are defined as steelhead. (3-20-97)

**402. STEELHEAD LICENSES, TAGS AND PERMITS.**

**01. Licenses.** Any person fishing for steelhead, except those expressly exempt, must have in his or her possession a valid fishing license and a steelhead permit. Any person who does not qualify as a resident must purchase either a Nonresident Three Day Fishing License with Steelhead Permit or a nonresident season fishing license and a full season steelhead permit. (3-20-97)

**02. Permits.** Any person fishing for, reducing to possession, or catching and releasing steelhead must have a valid steelhead permit in his or her possession. However, when a steelhead is immediately released unharmed, as in no harvest fishing, the angler is not required to make an entry on the permit. (3-20-97)

**403. PERMIT VALIDATION.**

When a steelhead trout has been hooked, landed, and reduced to possession, the angler hooking the fish must immediately do the following: (3-20-97)

**01. Permit.** Completely remove one (1) numbered notch from the permit. (3-20-97)

**02. Number Code.** Look up the number code from the location code list and write it in the space provided. (3-20-97)

**03. Date Entry.** Enter the month and day the fish was caught.

<b>RIVER LOCATION CODES</b>	
<b>SNAKE RIVER</b>	
Snake River, below Salmon River	01
Snake River, above Salmon River	02
Snake River, Oxbow	27
<b>CLEARWATER RIVER</b>	
Clearwater River, below Orofino Bridge	03
Clearwater River, above Orofino Bridge	04
North Fork Clearwater River	05
South Fork Clearwater River	07
<b>SALMON RIVER</b>	
Salmon River, below Whitebird Creek	10
Salmon River, Whitebird Creek to Little Salmon	11
Salmon River, Little Salmon to Vinegar Creek	12
Salmon River, Vinegar Creek to South Fork	13
Salmon River, South Fork to Middle Fork	14
Salmon River, Middle Fork to North Fork	15
Salmon River, North Fork to Lemhi River	16
Salmon River, Lemhi River to Pahsimeroi River	17
Salmon River, Pahsimeroi River to East Fork	18
Salmon River, above the East Fork	19
<b>OTHER</b>	
Little Salmon River	20
Boise River	28
Payette River	29

(3-20-97)

**404. IDENTIFICATION OF SPECIES IN POSSESSION AND DURING TRANSPORTATION OR SHIPMENT.**

No person shall have in the field or in transit any steelhead trout from which the head or tail has been removed. (3-20-97)

**405. STEELHEAD METHODS OF TAKE.**

**01. Hooks.** Steelhead may be taken only with barbless hooks in the Salmon, Clearwater, and Snake River drainages. Bending the barb down to the shank of a single, double, or treble hook will meet this requirement. Steelhead may be taken with barbed hooks in the Boise and Payette River drainages. (3-20-97)

**02. Snagging.** No person shall kill or retain in possession any steelhead which has been hooked other than in the head. Any steelhead hooked other than in the head must be immediately released unharmed. (3-20-97)

**03. Legal Catch.** Any steelhead caught in a legal manner must be either released or killed immediately after it is landed. (3-20-97)

**04. Restrictions And Legal Limit.** Once an angler has attained his bag, possession or season limit on those waters with steelhead limits, he must cease fishing for steelhead, including catch-and-release fishing, EXCEPT in those river sections with a daily limit of one (1) steelhead per day, anglers may continue to fish on a catch-and-release basis only. (3-20-97)

**05. No Harvest Or Closed To Harvest.** Effort, by permitted methods, to catch or attempt to catch a steelhead is lawful with the restriction that any steelhead so caught must be released immediately, unharmed, back to the water. (3-20-97)

**06. Keeping Marked Fish.** Only steelhead which have been marked by clipping the adipose fin, as evidenced by a HEALED scar may be kept in the Salmon, Clearwater, and Snake River drainage. (3-20-97)

**07. Fish Counted In Limit.** All fish that are hooked, landed, and not immediately released shall be counted in the limits of the person hooking the fish. (3-20-97)

**08. Special Limits.** No person shall fish in waters having special limits while possessing fish of those species in excess of the special limits. (3-20-97)

**09. One Rod.** Only one (1) rod or pole may be used to fish for steelhead, even if you have purchased a two-pole validation. (3-30-01)

**406. FALL SEASONS AND LIMITS.**

Pursuant to Section 36-105(3), Idaho Code, the Commission now sets the seasons and regional exceptions by proclamation. The proclamation is published in a brochure available at Department offices and license vendors. (3-30-01)

**407. (RESERVED).**

**408. STEELHEAD PURCHASE REPORT.**

**01. Filing Purchase Report.** Persons holding a wholesale or retail steelhead trout buyer's license shall report sales and purchases of steelhead on an Idaho Steelhead Purchase Report to be filed with the Administration Bureau of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Boise, Idaho, on or before December 31 of each year. (3-20-97)

**02. Inaccurate Reporting.** Failure to provide complete and accurate information on the report or failure to file the report on or before December 31 shall be grounds for revocation of the wholesale or retail license. (3-20-97)

**03. Procedure For Revocation Of License.** All such cases shall be conducted as a contested case under the Administrative Procedures Act. (3-20-97)

**409. -- 499. (RESERVED).**

**500. CHINOOK SALMON.**

**501. SALMON DEFINITIONS.**

**01. Chinook Salmon.** Anadromous (ocean run) salmon of the species *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* in the Snake River drainage below Hells Canyon Dam, the Salmon River drainage, and the Clearwater River drainage, excluding lakes and the North Fork of the Clearwater River above Dworshak Dam. (3-20-97)

**02. Jack Salmon.** Chinook salmon under twenty (20) inches in total length are commonly called jack salmon. (3-20-97)

**502. SALMON LICENSES AND PERMITS.**

**01. Licenses.** Any person fishing for salmon, except those expressly exempt, must have in his or her possession a valid fishing license. Any person who does not qualify as a resident must purchase either a Nonresident Three Day Fishing License with a Salmon Permit or a nonresident season fishing license and a full season salmon permit. (3-20-97)

**02. Permits.** Any person fishing for, reducing to possession, or catching and release chinook salmon must have a valid salmon permit in his or her possession. However, when a salmon is immediately released unharmed, the angler is not required to make an entry on the permit. (3-20-97)

**503. PERMIT VALIDATION.**

When a chinook salmon has been hooked, landed, and reduced to possession, the angler hooking the fish must immediately complete the following: (3-20-97)

**01. Permit.** Cut out and completely remove one (1) numbered notch from the permit. (3-20-97)

**02. Number Code.** Look up the number code from the location code list and write it in the space provided. (3-20-97)

**03. Date Entry.** Enter in the space provided, the month, and day the fish was caught. (3-20-97)

**504. IDENTIFICATION OF SPECIES IN POSSESSION AND DURING TRANSPORTATION OR SHIPMENT.**

No person shall have in the field or in transit any chinook salmon from which the head or tail has been removed. (3-20-97)

**505. SALMON SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS.**

**01. Method Of Take.** It is unlawful to use any hook larger than five-eighths (5/8) inch measured from the point of the hook to the shank. (3-20-97)

**02. Cease Fishing.** Once an angler has attained his bag, possession, or season limit on those waters with salmon limits, he must cease fishing for salmon. (3-20-97)

**506. SEASONS AND LIMITS.**

Pursuant to Section 36-105(3), Idaho Code, the Commission now sets the seasons and regional exceptions by proclamation. The proclamation is published in a brochure available at Department offices and license vendors. (3-30-01)

**507. -- 999. (RESERVED).**

# Subject Index

- A**  
Areas Closed To The Taking Of Fish,  
Rules Governing Fish 5  
Artificial Fly 3  
Artificial Lure 3
- B**  
Bag & Possession Limits For Specified  
Fish, Rules Governing Fish 7  
Bag & Possession Limits, Rules  
Governing Fish 7  
Bag Limit 3  
Bait 3  
Bait Restricted, Rules Governing  
Fish 6  
Barbless Hook 3
- C**  
Catch & Release 3  
Clearwater Region Exceptions, Rules  
Governing Fish 9  
Closed To Harvest 3  
Confluence Of A Stream Or River 4
- D**  
Definitions, IDAPA 13.01.11, Rules  
Governing Fish 3
- E**  
Electric Motors Only 4
- F**  
Fall Seasons & Limits, Steelhead, Rules  
Governing Fish 12  
Fish Salvage, Rules Governing  
Fish 10  
Fishing 4  
Fishing Hours, Rules Governing  
Fish 5  
Fishing In Boundary Waters, Rules  
Governing Fish 10  
Fishing Methods/Gear, Rules  
Governing Fish 6  
Float Tube 4  
Fly Fishing 4
- G**  
Game Fish 4  
General Fishing Seasons 8  
General Steelhead Season, Rules  
Governing Fish 9
- H**  
Harvest 4  
Hook 4
- I**  
Ice Fishing 4  
Identification Of Species In Possession/  
During Transportation Or Shipment,  
Chinook Salmon 13  
Identification Of Species In Possession/  
During Transportation Or Shipment,  
Steelhead, Rules Governing Fish 12  
Identification Of Species/Size In  
Possession/During Transportation Or  
Shipment, Rules Governing Fish 5
- L**  
Length 4  
Licenses, Age, Rules Governing  
Fish 6
- M**  
Magic Valley Region, Rules Governing  
Fish 9  
Motor 4  
Mouth Of River Or Stream 4
- N**  
No Bait 4  
No Motors 4
- P**  
Panhandle Region Exceptions, Rules  
Governing Fish 9  
Permit Validation, Chinook Salmon,  
Rules Governing Fish 13  
Permit Validation, Steelhead, Rules  
Governing Fish 11  
Possession Limit 4  
Possession/Transportation Restriction,  
Rules Governing Fish 5
- R**  
Release Of Fish, Rules Governing  
Fish 5  
Reservoir 4  
Restrictions/Legal Limit,  
Steelhead 12  
River Location Codes 11
- S**  
Salmon Definitions, Rules Governing  
Fish 13  
Salmon Licenses/Permits, Rules  
Governing Fish 13  
Salmon Region Exceptions, Rules  
Governing Fish 10  
Salmon Special Restrictions, Rules  
Governing Fish 13  
Season Limit 4  
Seasons/Limits, Rules Governing  
Fish 13  
Snagging, Game Fish 4  
Snagging, Rules Governing Fish 7  
Snake River Between Idaho/Oregon/  
Washington, Rules Governing  
Fish 10  
Southeast Region Exceptions, Rules  
Governing Fish 9  
Southwest Region Exceptions, Rules  
Governing Fish 9  
Steelhead 4  
Steelhead Definition, Rules Governing  
Fish 10  
Steelhead Licenses, Tags/Permits, Rules  
Governing Fish 10  
Steelhead Methods Of Take, Rules  
Governing Fish 12  
Steelhead Purchase Report, Rules  
Governing Fish 12  
Steelhead Trout, Rules Governing  
Fish 10
- T**  
Tributary 5  
Two Pole Bag/Possession Limits,  
Seasons, Waters/Methods Of Gear,  
Rules Governing Fish 8  
Two Pole Validation, Rules Governing  
Fish 6
- U**  
Unattended Line 5  
Unprotected Nongame Fish 5  
Upper Snake Region Exceptions, Rules  
Governing Fish 10