

Fish – State Records

Reporting Procedures

A record of the largest fish of each species legally taken with rod and reel by a licensed angler in West Virginia waters is maintained by the Division of Natural Resources. Certificates of accomplishment are awarded for each record holder.

Anglers landing a potential state record fish should report the catch as soon as possible to the district fisheries biologist in the closest DNR district office. Please follow these guidelines to ensure accuracy of reporting.

1. Name, address, and telephone number of angler.
2. Species of fish, where, when, and how caught.
3. Total length of fish measured from tip of snout to end of tail. Lay fish on top of ruler on a flat surface. Close the mouth of the fish and squeeze the tail fin lobes together. Do not measure along the curvature of the fish's body.
4. Fish must be weighed on a scale certified by the West Virginia Division of Labor.
5. Signatures and telephone numbers of two persons who witnessed the length and weight measurements.
6. A DNR fisheries biologist must verify the species, length, and weight of the fish.
7. A photograph of the fish is desirable.



Your purchase of fishing equipment and motor boat fuels supports Sport Fish Restoration and boating access facilities

Species	Yr.	Length (inches)	Weight (pounds)	Location	Angler
Bass					
<i>Largemouth</i>	2001	25.75	9.62	Dog Run Lake	Eli Gain
	1994	24.8	12.28	Pond – Grant Co.	David W. Heeter
<i>Smallmouth</i>	1976	25.5	7.5	New River	Franklin J. Elliott
	1971	24.25	9.75	South Branch	David Lindsay
<i>Rock</i>	1964	13.8	1.75	Big Sandy Creek	Warren Ryan
<i>Spotted</i>	2000	19.0	4.77	R. D. Bailey Lake	Kevin Dameron
	1988	19.0	3.82	R. D. Bailey Lake	Leonard Blankenship
<i>Striped</i>	2000	37.68	29.56	Bluestone Lake	Terry Watkins
	2007	40.88	21.38	Bluestone Lake	Michael Pittman, Jr.
<i>Hybrid Striped</i>	2000	32.1	14.0	Kanawha River	Frankie Harris
	1985	31.5	16.75	Kanawha River	Robert Honaker
<i>White</i>	1985	20.0	4.56	New River	Louis Puskas
	1986	11.7	2.75	Pond – Randolph Co.	Mark Allen Lewis
Bluegill	1964	13.75	2.25	Farm Pond – Fayette Co.	Dennis Criss
Bowfin	1994	32.25	7.54	Pond – Berkeley Co.	Donald E. Newcomb, III
	2006	28.43	9.25	Ohio River backwater	Matt Stender
Buffalo	1976	41.0	38.0	Little Kanawha River	Hovert Null
Carp					
<i>Common</i>	1998	39.3	47.0	Farm Pond – Preston Co.	Gary Johnson
	1988	41.0	41.5	Stonecoal Lake	Charles J. Cook
<i>Grass</i>	2002	47.1	52.5	Farm Pond – Mason Co.	Joseph R. Spencer, II
	2005	50.75	71.69	Warden Lake	William R. Taucher
Catfish					
<i>Blue</i>	2005	36.5	24.37	Ohio River	Sam Morrison
<i>Bullhead</i>	1977	22.75	6.1	Tygart Lake Headwaters	Gary R. Freeman
<i>Channel</i>	2005	40.3	33.42	Patterson Creek	Michael Sears
<i>Flathead</i>	1956	52.0	70.0	Little Kanawha River	L. L. McClung
Chain Pickerel	2001	27.75	6.19	Tuckahoe Lake	Steven Demma
Crappie	1971	19.75	4.05	Meathouse Fork	Leonard Edgell
Eel	1983	44.25	6.27	Elk River	Steve Woods
	1977	44.0	7.25	Bunker Hill Quarry	Arlie R. Ruble
Fallfish	1970	21.25	3.5	North Fork of So. Branch	James Blackwell
Freshwater Drum	1989	35.5	27.0	South Fork of Hughes	Charles Mickel Lott
	1954	37.0	25.0	Little Kanawha River	Bill Dawkins
Gar					
<i>Longnose</i>	2006	52.25	16.42	Kanawha River	Shelby Searls
	1993	50.5	19.08	Kanawha River	Michael Shan Casey
Goldeye	1983	18.5	3.0	Ohio River	Delbert McWilliams
Muskellunge	2003	52.7	38.5	Stonecoal Lake	Glenn Boyd
	1997	50.37	49.75	Stonecoal Lake	Anna Marsh
Northern Pike	1989	42.6	22.06	Dog Run Lake	Boyd O. Pratt, Sr.
Sauger	1985	23.0	4.75	Ohio River	Steve Powell
Saugeye	2006	27.68	8.73	East Lynn Lake	Everett Chapman
Skipjack	2002	18.4	2.61	Kanawha River	Steve Skeens
	1991	18.6	2.38	Ohio River	Elmer Bullard
Tiger Musky	1994	49.25	36.5	Mountwood Lake	Clyde E. Beckett
Trout					
<i>Brook</i>	2004	22.25	7.64	Shavers Fork	Gary M. Chapman
	1981	23.5	4.78	Lost River	Jack E. Foltz
<i>Brown</i>	1968	32.0	16.0	South Branch	Paul Barker
<i>Golden Rainbow</i>	1998	26.4	9.31	Brushy Fork Lake	Danny Crider
	1987	27.5	8.63	Stonecoal Lake	Gerald Estep
<i>Rainbow</i>	2005	30.5	15.65	Pond – Monroe Co.	Aaron Propps
	1993	31.7	11.74	Stonecoal Lake	John P. Arnett
<i>Tiger</i>	1986	26.0	6.68	Greenbrier River	John Duncan
Walleye	2004	30.87	18.97	Elk River	Jerry Rose
	1976	35.0	15.0	Kanawha Falls	Fred Cline
Yellow Perch	1985	14.5	1.83	Tygart Lake	Charles Mayle
	2005	15.1	1.43	Pond – Hampshire Co.	Chadwick A. Smith