

RECORD FISH PROGRAMS AND STATE FISH RECORDS

The Division of Fish & Wildlife sponsors two award programs recognizing outstanding catches by sport anglers. The State Record Fish program recognizes new state record catches. The Fish of the Year program recognizes anglers who catch the largest fish of each species that is smaller than the current state record. Weight is the measurement used for state record fish. Total length is used for Fish of the Year fish. Both programs have the same fish divisions and use the same entry form for submitting information. Winners receive a certificate and a colorful jacket patch. Entry forms and pictures will not be returned to the angler.

General Rules for Submitting an Entry:

- Fish must be taken legally by hook and line from Indiana waters. Fish taken from the main stem of the Ohio River between Kentucky and Indiana or from the Wabash River between Illinois and Indiana will be considered for Indiana's Record Fish Program, provided the angler possessed an Indiana fishing license at the time of the catch.
- A photocopy of the angler's fishing license must accompany an entry if a license was required to catch fish from that body of water.
- Fish taken from water on artificial feeding programs are not eligible.

- A good-quality side-view photograph of the fish must accompany each entry. Blue catfish must be photographed from the side against a light background. For state record fish entries, applicants may wish to consider hiring a photographer.
- Anyone can enter, and multiple entries are accepted. Fish must be caught in public or private fishing waters where there is no fee for the fish taken.
- Complete the entry form below along with the following:
 1. copy of fishing license
 2. Scale Inspection Report for all state record fish entries only
 3. photo(s) (side view is best)

Rules for Fish of the Year Entries

- Size is determined by a total length measurement or fork length for shovelnose sturgeon. No weight measurement is required for Fish of the Year.
- The name of one witness, who is not a relative, who observed the length and/or weight measurement, must be provided.
- It is not necessary to report the location where the length measurement was taken for Fish of the Year entries.
- Provide photograph(s) of the fish (side view) and copy of fishing license, if required.
- Entry must be submitted online or emailed by Dec. 31 of the calendar year the fish was caught.

Rules for State Record Fish Entries

- Size is determined by weight measurement first, then length, for state record fish. Both weight and length measurements are required. The weight measurement must be taken before the fish is frozen and on a scale that has been certified by the State of Indiana to be accurate to 1 ounce. If you can't find a certified scale at a grocery, hardware, grain store, or propane distributor, call the Indiana Division of Weights and Measures at 317-356-7078 for the nearest location.
- Obtain a copy of the Scale Inspection Report from the store owner where the fish is weighed and submit the report with the entry form.
- Submit a printed meat packaging label showing the weight of the fish, if available.
- After weighing, the fish may be gutted and iced, but not filleted or otherwise cut up. The fish must be available for inspection and identification.
- State record fish entries may require verification by a Division of Fish & Wildlife fisheries biologist. It is the responsibility of the angler to schedule a time to have the fish examined by a state fisheries biologist.
- Two witnesses, who are not relatives, who observed the length and/or weight measurement must sign the entry form.
- Provide the location information on where the fish was weighed.
- Provide side-view photograph(s) of the fish and copy of fishing license, if required.
- Entry must be postmarked by Dec. 31 of the calendar year the fish was caught.

Record Fish Entry

Please print clearly. Photocopies of entry form are accepted. A good-quality photo must be submitted with entry.

- FISH OF THE YEAR**
(no weight required)
- STATE RECORD FISH**
(weight required)

INFORMATION ON THE FISH

FISH OF THE YEAR

Species of fish _____
Length _____ Girth _____

STATE RECORD FISH

Species of fish _____
Weight (lbs., oz.) _____
Length _____ Girth _____

MEASUREMENT LOCATION

Where measurement was taken _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ ZIP _____
Phone _____

INFORMATION ON ANGLER

Name of angler _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ ZIP _____
Phone _____
Email _____

WITNESS 1

First witness name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ ZIP _____
Phone _____

WHERE, WHEN, HOW

Date caught _____
Name of lake, pond or stream _____
County where caught _____
Type of tackle used _____
Lure or bait used _____

WITNESS 2

Second witness name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ ZIP _____
Phone _____