

Record Fish Programs and State Fish Records

The Division of Fish and Wildlife sponsors two award programs recognizing outstanding catches by sport anglers. The Indiana 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 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.
- Entry must be postmarked by Dec. 31 of the calendar year the fish was caught.
- 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 and mail 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 (see p. 15). No weight measurement is required for Fish of the Year.
- One witness, who is not a relative, who observed the length and/or weight measurement must sign the entry form.
- 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.

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 in 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 and Wildlife fisheries biologist. It is the responsibility of the angler to schedule a time to have the fish examined by a State fisheries biologist. See page 39 for a list of fisheries biologists.
- 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.

2009 Record Fish Entry

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

INFORMATION ON THE FISH

STATE RECORD FISH

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

FISH OF THE YEAR

Species of fish _____
 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 signature _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ ZIP _____
 Phone _____

STATE RECORD FISH

(weight required)

FISH OF THE YEAR

(no weight required)

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 signature _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ ZIP _____
 Phone _____

Mail entry and photo to: Record Fish Program, Division of Fish and Wildlife, 402 W. Washington St., Room W273, Indianapolis, IN 46204