By Bradley M. Campbell

Dear Friend,

On behalf of Governor James E. McGreevey, I am honored to serve as Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and to join a longstanding partnership with our hunters and anglers in protecting New Jersey’s natural resources.

The New Jersey Fish & Wildlife Digest provides an important opportunity for me to communicate with our state’s hunters and anglers, and an important reminder of the leadership that our sporting community has brought to wildlife management and resource protection in this state. This issue also provides an opportunity for me to welcome Martin McHugh as our new director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife, and to thank retiring Director Bob McDowell for his 36 years of service.

In New Jersey and throughout the nation, the conservation and environmental movements began through the leadership and advocacy of hunting and fishing enthusiasts concerned about declining fish and wildlife populations. The Garden State’s sporting public helped shape conservation laws and programs to restore and protect our precious natural resources, beginning with the creation in 1870 of the Fish Commission, which was expanded in 1892 to include wildlife.

Hunters and anglers funded our early environmental protection efforts through hunting licenses, required since 1902, and fishing licenses, required since 1915. That funding tradition has continued, supporting a vast majority of past and present fish and wildlife conservation efforts.

The history of conservation in New Jersey shows that many species we have here and enjoy today would have been lost forever without the programs initiated by and supported by anglers and hunters. Instead, New Jersey supports thriving wildlife populations even as it has become the most densely populated state in the nation.

Sportsmen and women continue to champion the cause of stewardship, and have been important partners in Governor McGreevey’s efforts to address new threats to our state’s fish and wildlife. The Governor’s Smart Growth agenda is essential to preserving threatened wildlife habitat and protecting water quality from destructive sprawl.

Strengthened protection of our waterways and better stewardship of our water resources are essential to sustaining our commercial and recreational fisheries. Better access to natural areas for all of our citizens is essential to passing the traditions of our hunters and anglers to a new generation, and to enlarging the economic benefits that hunters and anglers bring to local economies.

As DEP Commissioner, as a New Jersey resident, and as an outdoors enthusiast myself, I look forward to working with you to meet these challenges.

Sincerely,
Bradley M. Campbell

By Bob McDowell

“Time flies when you’re having fun” is an expression that certainly applies to my career with the Division of Fish and Wildlife. Thirty-six years of working in one’s passion as a profession. Most folks can only wish for this kind of life’s work.

I grew up in a family where my parents loved the outdoors and as a youngster my dream was to be a fish and wildlife biologist. After earning a Bachelor of Science degree in zoology and botany, I began work with the New Jersey Division of Fish and Game. It was October 1, 1966.

I am very proud my career led to having the privilege of being the director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife since 1990.

But the journey has been both challenging and rewarding. After I was hired, I quickly became involved in many of the projects that were designed to improve the status of fish and wildlife in New Jersey. I met plenty of great, dedicated people who worked for the agency and cared deeply about the state’s natural resources. I also got to know a segment of the public that appreciated the outdoors and wished to see fish and wildlife flourish in our state.

Many wildlife management successes have occurred since my early days. Bald eagles have been saved from extinction, from one nesting pair in the 70s to more than 30 this year. Ospreys have been saved and peregrine falcons re-established in our state. Turkeys were extinct and now they’re abundant.

Urban sprawl is now a huge threat, encroaching on endangered species habitat and creating problems for the management of wildlife such as deer, beavers and bears. While all these species are valuable resources, they sometimes negatively impact people’s use of the land.

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License Information & Fees 2002–2003

( Licenses are valid from date of purchase
to Dec. 31 of each year)
Resident Fishing (16 yrs. and over) ................................ 22.50
Sr. Resident Fishing
(Ages 65–69 yrs., 70 & over—Free) ................................ 12.50
Resident Trout Stamp ............................................. 10.50
Non-resident Fishing .............................................. 34.00
Non-resident Trout Stamp ....................................... 20.00
Non-resident 2-Day Vacation Fishing .......................... 9.00
Non-resident 7-Day Vacation Fishing ........................ 19.50
All-Around Sportsman (includes resident fishing,
firearm hunting and bow/arrow hunting licenses) . 72.25
Canadian residents please note funds are in U.S. dollars.
See Disabled Veteran’s Licenses & Permits, Page 6

Permits for Freshwater Fisheries

Water Lowering, Fish Stocking,
Baitfish Collecting,
Triploid Grass Carp, Fish Tagging
$2.00
Freshwater Fisheries Lab (908) 236-2118

Trenton Office (609) 292-1599

Scientific Collecting
$2.00
Trenton Office (609) 292-1599
See Page 6 for permit details

New Jersey Fish & Wildlife
Telephone Directory

Internet Address ........................................ www.njfishandwildlife.com
Commercial Preserves &
Semi-Wild Preserves ................................. 609-984-6211
Deer & Turkey Permit Hotline ..................... 609-292-9192
DEP ACTION LINE - 24 HOURS .......... 877-WARNDEP
Exotic & Nongame Captivity Permits ............. 609-292-9591
Falconry Permit Information ....................... 908-735-8793
General Information ................................. 609-292-2965
Hunting, Fishing, &
Duplicate Licenses ................................. 609-292-2965
Operation Game Thief .............................. 800-222-0456
Outstanding Deer Program ....................... 609-633-7598
Packer & Stocking
Information ................................ 609-984-0547
Rifle Permit Information ............................. 609-984-1400
Trout Stocking Hotline ............................... 609-633-6765
Wildlife Conservation Corps Information ....... 856-629-1014
Wildlife Control ......................................... 908-735-8793
Wildlife Management
Area Information ............................... 609-984-0547
Trenton Office
501 E. State St.,
Station Plaza 5, 3rd Floor, PO Box 400,
Trenton, NJ 08625-0400
Endangered and Nongame Species ............... 609-292-9400
Freshwater Fisheries .................................. 609-292-9450
Land Management .................................. 609-984-0547
Wildlife Enforcement ............................... 609-292-9430
Fish & Wildlife ................................. 609-292-9450
Wildlife Management ......................... 609-292-6685
Freshwater Fisheries Lab
PO Box 394, Lebanon, NJ 08833 ........ 908-236-2118
Northern Region Office
26 Route 173 W., Hampton, NJ 08827
Wildlife Management ............................... 908-735-7040
Endangered and Nongame Species ............... 908-735-8975
Hunter Education ................................. 877-2HUNTNJ
Wildlife Control .................................................. 908-735-8793
Land Management .................................................. 973-383-0918
Wildlife Enforcement (Bergen, Essex,
Hudson, Hunterdon,
Morris, Passaic, Somerset,
Sussex, Union, and Warren counties) .......... 908-735-8240
Pequest Trout Hatchery and
Natural Resources Education Center
605 Pequest Rd., Oxford, NJ 07863 ........ 908-637-4125
Central Region Office
386 Clarksburg-Robbinsville Rd.,
Robbinsville, NJ 08691
Land Management ........................................ 609-259-2132
Wildlife Enforcement (Burlington,
Mercer, Middlesex,
Monmouth, and Ocean counties) ........... 609-259-2120
Southern Region Office
220 Blue Anchor Rd.,
Sicklerville, NJ 08081
Information .................................................. 856-629-0090
Wildlife Enforcement (Atlantic, Camden,
Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester,
and Salem counties) .................... 856-629-0555
Nacote Creek Research Station
PO Box 418, Port Republic, NJ 08241
Wildlife Fisheries ................................. 856-629-4950
Freshwater Fisheries ................................. 856-629-4950
Wildlife Control .................................................. 856-629-7224
Wildlife Enforcement (Atlantic, Camden,
Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester,
and Salem counties) .................... 856-629-0555
Bivalve Shellfish Office
PO Box 432, Port Norris, NJ 08349 .......... 856-785-0730
Director Reflects Upon Wildlife Career

(continued from page 2)

As a result, the Division’s staff has created award-winning, scientifically based programs of management for these species. The Green Acres Program has added more than 140,000 acres to the 280,000-acre wildlife management area system. And we have protected many streams, lakes, ponds and the watersheds that feed them. I am very proud that the open space protected in our state now exceeds 1million acres and is still growing. The protection of this open space ensures suitable habitat for wildlife to flourish. However it also carries the enormous challenge of responsible stewardship throughout the diverse wildlife habitats of New Jersey.

Muskellunge and lake trout now swim in selected waters in our state and it is not uncommon for striped bass to be caught 100 miles from the ocean in the Delaware River. The Pequest Trout Hatchery, which was completed in 1980, now produces nearly a million trout each year with stocking occurring fall, winter and spring. The Division established wild trout waters with special fishing and management approaches. We are now renovating the Hackettstown Hatchery to be a world-class warm-water facility to provide fish for urban areas and other fishing programs throughout the state. Last year two million fish were stocked from this facility.

We have developed a support staff of nearly 2,000 volunteers to work with the Division. They share our passion for the resource and devote their time and expertise to the fish and wildlife resource by teaching hunter education courses, enforcing the laws as deputy conservation officers, gathering information on various species, reporting on eagle and osprey nests, working on trout-stocking trucks, teaching kids how to fish and working in the Becoming an Outdoors-Woman program.

Members of the various committees and councils we work with are special people who donate countless hours listening to the public’s concerns and helping us plan and plot the direction for the management of the fish and wildlife resources across the state. Members of the Fish and Wildlife is devoted to every day of the year. My 36 years with the Division have been a wonderful manifestation of my outdoor dream. I will retire in January of 2003 and join the ranks of the host of New Jersey citizens who will continue to enjoy the wonderful, wild places of our state.

But the most important secret to our success over the years is the Division’s staff. These are dedicated, educated and well-trained, passionate, professional people who work to keep fish and wildlife a positive part of the landscape of our state. Day and night, weekends and holidays, our staff is working somewhere in the state gathering information, enforcing the regulations and laws, doing fish surveys off the coast, trapping a problem bear, or teaching someone about our state’s resources and the pleasures of the outdoors.

And I cannot forget to recognize the people who have been the very backbone of the conservation movement from its beginnings a century ago and who continue to support the management of our fish and wildlife resources—the sportsmen and women who buy licenses and pay excise taxes on sporting equipment, willingly funding our programs. They continue to staunchly support efforts to protect and manage the habitat that is essential to healthy wildlife populations. Without this work in the past and today, there would be no future for our shared passion in our outdoors. Thanks!

These are a few of the challenges and accomplishments the Division of Fish and Wildlife is devoted to every day of the year. My 36 years with the Division have been a wonderful manifestation of my outdoor dream. I will retire in January of 2003 and join the ranks of the host of New Jersey citizens who will continue to enjoy the wonderful, wild places of our state.

Robert Magendanz

---

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**NOW! 2 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS**
Highlights of Changes in the 2003 Freshwater Fishing Regulations

Changes in the 2003–2004 fishing regulations are as follows:

- Opening day of the 2003 trout season is April 12, 2003. All of the dates, throughout the season, which are dependent on this date have been adjusted accordingly.
- Pine Brook in Monmouth County was removed from the list of trout stocked waters due to lack of fishing activity.
- Pohatcong Lake in Ocean County was added to the list of trout stocked waters. This lake is located in Tuckerton and is a popular location which has been used as a site for the Children’s Fishing Derby program and other resource type events. This is the only freshwater fishing opportunity in the area.
- Waywayanda Creek, located in Sussex County, will be added to the list of trout stocked waters. This waterbody was not stocked in the past due to access limitations. The Division of Fish & Wildlife staff has been working with the Division of Parks and Forestry staff to put in a handicapped access area and to improve the access in general. It will be stocked pre-season only until fishing pressure increases.

By Kurt Powers, Supervising Biologist, Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries

FISHING HOTLINES

Spring / Fall / Winter Division Trout Stocking—609-633-6765

The computerized message is available 24 hours per day, 7 days a week seasonally, or visit our website: www.njfishandwildlife.com.

Shad Run—610-954-0577 or 610-954-0578

In April, the Delaware River Shad Fishermen's Association provides a message on the shad run in the Delaware 24 hours per day, 7 days a week. Information on river conditions and the status of the shad run is offered. Call in late evening or early morning to avoid a busy signal.

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2003 Summary of New Jersey Freshwater Fishing Laws

This is not the full law. Consult the Division of Fish and Wildlife for further details. All persons are reminded that the statutes, code and regulations are the legal authorities.†Red text in regulations indicates a potential change for this year. Consult our website at www.njfishandwildlife.com, watch for news releases or call our southern fisheries office at 856-629-4950.

LICENSES AND STAMPS

A fishing license must be worn in a conspicuous place on the outer clothing while engaged in fishing, and must be exhibited to law enforcement personnel on request.

The minimum age at which a fishing license and trout stamp are required is 16. Youths under 16 may fish without a license or trout stamp. All other regulations and creel limits apply.

Anyone age 16 and above must have a valid license to fish the fresh waters of New Jersey with a handline, rod and line or bow and arrow. This includes privately owned lakes and other waters. See “Fishing on a Farm,” below. Licenses may be obtained from participating county or municipal clerks, or designated agents (sporting goods stores).

Resident Licenses

It is unlawful for any person to obtain a resident license unless they have actually lived in this state for 6 months immediately prior to the time of application.

Licenses for servicemen and women

A person who is on active duty in the armed services of the United States is entitled to fish with a resident license.

Licenses for National Guard Members

Eligible National Guard personnel are entitled to free licenses, permits, and stamps. Further information can be obtained by writing to: NJ Department of Military/Veteran Affairs, 101 Eggert Crossing Rd., Lawrenceville, NJ 08648, Attn: 1st Sgt. Turrien, or call 609-530-6866.

Disabled Veteran’s Licenses & Permits

Free licenses, permits and stamps are available for resident disabled veterans.

For the purposes of this program, the legislation defines Disabled Veterans as: “…any resident of New Jersey who has been honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from active service in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States and who has been declared by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs, or its successor, to have a service-connected disability of any degree…”

Documentation of currently receiving benefits for a service connected disability must be presented to obtain a free license.

Disabled Veteran fishing licenses are available at the Division’s Trenton office, as well as Division regional offices plus Pequest and Nacote Creek. This is not the full law. Consult the Division of Fish and Wildlife for further details. For questions, call 609-292-2965.

Trout Stamp

No person between the ages of 16 and 69 shall take, attempt to take, possess or kill trout without a valid fishing license and trout stamp.

EXCEPTIONS

Anglers Under 16 Years

No fishing license or trout stamp is required of persons under 16 years old.

Fishing on a Farm

Farmers and immediate family members who live on the farm do not need a license to fish on their farm, but must obey all fishing regulations.

Licenses for the Blind

Residents afflicted with total blindness may obtain a free license from the Division’s Trenton office.

Resident Senior Citizens (70 and over)

Since Jan. 1, 1997, a driver’s license or other acceptable proof of age containing date of birth and physical description will function as the actual fishing license for residents 70 and over. No application fee is required, no registration with the Division of Fish and Wildlife is required and no license will be issued. Trout stamps are not required for resident anglers 70 and over.

REPLACEMENT OF LOST LICENSES

Duplicate fishing licenses are issued at all law enforcement regional offices, the Pequest Trout Hatchery and Natural Resource Education Center, and the Division’s Trenton office. Each licensee is provided with a license and a receipt. Be sure to keep the receipt separate from your license, so that if the actual license is lost, you can take the receipt to any of the above offices and get a replacement for $2.00. Stamps cannot be replaced. If the receipt is lost, return to the location license was purchased for the completed form documenting the original sale. This form may be mailed or brought to a Division office listed above for a replacement.

REVOCATION

Anyone convicted of a second fish or wildlife violation in this or another state within a period of 5 years will have their New Jersey licenses revoked for 2 years.

GENERAL FISHING REGULATIONS

The season, size and creel limits for freshwater species apply to all waters of the state, including tidal waters.

It is Unlawful:

• To take or attempt to take any fish in fresh waters by any manner except in the manner commonly known as angling with handline or with rod and line, or as otherwise allowed by law.

• To fish, place any contrivance for the taking of fish, or attempt to catch or kill fish by any manner or means in any fish ladder, or within 100 feet (or as posted) of any fish ladder entrance or exit during the period of March 1 through June 30.

It is Unlawful To:

• spear fish in fresh waters. (See exception for Del. River, page 18.)

• possess or use any contrivance in fishing with more than nine hooks or more than three burrs of three hooks.

• use set lines in waters inhabited by pickerel, walleye, bass or trout.

• erect, permit the erection of, or maintain unlawful contrivances for taking fish.

• use explosives to take fish.

• use cast nets in fresh water lakes (see baitfish regulations, page 8).

• trespass on posted property to fish without permission from the landowner. A fishing license doesn’t authorize trespass on private property.

• tag fish without a permit.

The foul hooking of largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, striped bass, chain pickerel, northern pike, muskellunge, walleye, alewife & blueback herring (anadramous & landlocked), brook trout, brown trout, lake trout and rainbow trout or any of the hybrids thereof, is prohibited in open waters. Any of the aforementioned fish so hooked must be immediately returned to the water. This does not apply to fish taken through the ice during the ice fishing season. Snagging of any species is prohibited in Monksville Reservoir and its tributaries, including the Wanaque River upstream of the reservoir.

Fish Tagging

No person may tag or mark and release a fish without first obtaining a special permit issued by the Division at its discretion. Fish stocking permits will be accepted as an alternative to this permit. This requirement does not apply to tags issued by the Division. Contact the Lebanon Fish Lab at (908) 236-2118 for application information.

Possession of Fish

“Possession” refers to all fish, alive or dead, under the control of the angler. No more than the daily creel limit of any fish for one person may be held on a stringer or in a container. On board containers in boats may only contain the combined daily creel limit of any fish for each legal angler.

Waste of Fish

Fish of any species, which are purposely killed, will become part of the fishermen’s daily

(continued on page 8)
The Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) in the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is the state agency charged with managing all fish, game and wildlife programs in the state. The NJ Fish and Game Council was created by law and empowered to adopt the Fish and Game Code and advise the DEP Commissioner and the DFW on the management of fish, wildlife and habitat. Sportsmen appointees enact wildlife-related law and influence wildlife policy. Each of the Fish and Game Council members selected by the Federation maintains close contact with us to keep us informed and to understand our positions on various issues.

Involvement from interested sportsmen—JUST LIKE YOU—has made a real difference, and will continue to do so.

If you care about
• Wise management of fish and wildlife populations
• Protection and enhancement of our natural lands and waters
• Preservation of our traditional outdoor sports
If you want to
• Meet others who share similar interests
• Keep informed on current issues affecting NJ sportsmen
• Have fun and participate in Federation-sponsored activities: dinners, conventions, clay target shoots, jamborees, tournaments, etc.

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Send with Check or Money order to:
NJ SFSC • P.O. Box 742, Newfoundland, NJ 07435-0742
8 2003 Freshwater Fishing

REGULATIONS

2003 Summary of New Jersey Freshwater Fishing Laws

(continued from page 6)

Any person with a valid fishing license or those entitled to fish without a license may take baitfish in freshwaters of the state without first obtaining a permit (see p. 3).

Ice Fishing

Ice fishing shall be permitted whenever ice is present. (See separate regulations for trout-stocked waters.)

A person while ice fishing may use not more than five devices for taking fish. The types of devices that may be used are:

1. Ice supported tip-ups or lines with one single pointed hook attached, or one burr of 3 hooks that measure not more than 1/2 inch from point to shaft;
2. An artificial jigging lure with not more than one Burr of three hooks that measure not more than 1/2 inch from point to point;
3. An artificial jigging lure with not more than three single hooks measuring not more than 1/2 inch from point to shaft;
4. An artificial jigging lure with a combination of the hook limitations described in 2 and 3 above.

Expressly prohibited are any devices with automatic hook setting capability. Natural bait may be used on the hooks of the artificial jigging lures. All devices that are not hand-held must bear the name and address of the user and can’t be left unattended.

When ice is not present, open water regulations will be in effect (see separate regulations for Greenwood Lake).

Carp and suckers may be taken with net under the ice. Suckers may be taken through the ice by a means of hooks directly attached to a rigid handle, the hooks not to exceed three in number, between December 1 and March 1.

Bow and Arrow Fishing

Any species of fish, except brook, brown, lake or rainbow trout, landlocked Atlantic salmon, largemouth or smallmouth bass, striped bass or any of its hybrids, pickerel, northern pike, walleye, muskellunge or any of its hybrids, may be taken at any time by use of a bow and arrow with line attached by the holder of a valid fishing license (see regulations for the Delaware River and Greenwood Lake, p. 18).

Pollution—Draining Waters—Dams

It is unlawful to directly or indirectly pollute waters of the state. It is illegal to draw off water or place screens in water without permission of the Division (see p. 3). It is illegal to construct a dam in any water of this state which is a runway for migratory fish without installing a fish ladder or other contrivance that permits fish to pass over the dam in either direction. Report pollution or other offenses to 877-WARNDEP or the Operation Game Thief Line (800-222-0456).

It is illegal to fish or attempt to catch or kill fish by any manner or means in any waters for which the Director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife, upon approval by the Fish and Game Council, issues an Emergency Closure Notice. Such notification is effective and/or rescinded immediately upon public notification. Emergency closures shall be based upon imminent threat to the well-being of the fishery resources, and/or its users, and may include any exceptions to the total ban of fishing that the Director deems practical.

2003 BAIFISH REGULATIONS

This is not the full law. Consult the Division of Fish and Wildlife for further details. All persons are reminded that the statutes (Title 23), code and regulations are the legal authorities. *Red* text in regulations indicates a potential change for this year. See below. For marine waters, see Marine issue of NJ Fish & Wildlife Digest.

**Baitfish Species**

The following are defined as baitfish by New Jersey Statute: alewife (anadromous and land-locked forms), blueback herring, golden shiner, banded killifish, mummichog, spotfin killifish, rainbow killifish, American brook lamprey, fathead minnow, bluntnose minnow, stonecat, tadpole madtom, margined madtom, all shiners, daces, minnows, chubs and the American eel.† In the Delaware River between New Jersey and Pennsylvania, alewife and blueback herring (anadromous and land-locked forms) are regulated as food fish with a one-day possession limit of 35 in aggregate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Minimum Size</th>
<th>Daily Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Year Round</td>
<td>statewide (freshwaters)</td>
<td>No minimum size except 6” for Am. eel</td>
<td>35 per day, species combined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exception: season closed March 24 thru June 15 on trout stocked waters and special regulation trout areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Any person with a valid fishing license or those entitled to fish without a license may take baitfish in freshwaters. Possession limit is 1 day’s limit, regardless of the intent to use these fish. Baitfish may be taken from the freshwaters of the state in numbers greater than 35 per day, in lakes over 250 acres, under a special permit issued by the Division at its discretion. Contact (908) 236-2118 for application information.

**Means of Take (gear)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seine</th>
<th>Not over 50 feet long in ponds &amp; lakes over 100 acres; in all other waters not over 30 feet in length, or half the width of the stream at point of use, whichever is less.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minnow trap</td>
<td>Not larger than 24” in length with a funnel mouth no greater than 2” in diameter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umbrella net</td>
<td>No greater than 3.5 feet square.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dip net</td>
<td>Not more than 24” in diameter; may be used only for alewife or blueback herring.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cast net</td>
<td>No greater than 8 feet in diameter; may be used only in streams that are not trout-stocked or special regulation trout areas (may not be used in lakes).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hook and line</td>
<td>For alewife or blueback herring only.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2003 TURTLE AND FROG REGULATIONS**

**Species**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Minimum Size</th>
<th>Daily Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Snapping turtle</td>
<td>January 1 thru April 30 and June 16 thru December 31</td>
<td>statewide</td>
<td>No min. size</td>
<td>3 per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bullfrog and green frog</td>
<td>January 1 thru March 31 and July 1 thru December 31</td>
<td>statewide</td>
<td>No min. size</td>
<td>15 per day combined</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Any person with a valid fishing license or those entitled to fish without a license may take snapping turtles, bull frogs, and green frogs by means of spears, hooks, dip nets not more than 24” in diameter, traps or by hand. Snapping turtles may not be taken with a gun or bow and arrow. Snapping turtles, bull frogs, and green frogs may be taken from in numbers greater than the daily limit under a special permit issued by the Division at its discretion. Contact (908) 236-2118 for application information.