

State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Fish and Wildlife
New Jersey State Record Fish (Spearfishing) Application Form
SALTWATER SPECIES

Rules:

1. Fish must be caught off New Jersey's coast or any other marine waters. Species taken from a boat must have been caught from a boat that left from and returned to a New Jersey port during the same trip.
2. Divers can harvest fish by free diving or with scuba equipment.
3. Allowable devices are spear gun (either pneumatic, springs or rubber bands) or Hawaiian sling.
4. Divers must be fully submerged in the water.
5. New Jersey spear fishing records are determined by weight alone and only certain species qualify.
6. Fish must be weighed on a certified scale as soon as possible. A copy of the current scale Registration Certificate and valid Inspection/Test Report issued by the County Office of Weights and Measures is required to achieve record status.
7. A *clear, side-view* color photograph of the fish must be submitted. All photo entries become property of the Division of Fish and Wildlife and will not be returned.
8. Entry **MUST** be inspected by a marine biologist for identification purposes. Call the Division's Nacote Creek Research Station at 609-748-2020 to make arrangements. The fish will need to be brought to this office. Fishes should be kept refrigerated prior to inspection.
9. Application **MUST** be submitted within one month of catch.

Please note that 17 species of marine fish are currently eligible for entry in the spearfishing Record Fish Program. Divers are reminded that the objective of the Record Fish Program is to increase the awareness of spearfishing opportunities for species that are regularly sought after and routinely found off the coast of New Jersey.

The spearfishing category was created to recognize spear fishers who have obtained a level of proficiency that allows them to harvest exceptional specimens. The spearing of a fish, whether record size or not, requires extensive knowledge of fish behavior to complete a successful stalk; knowledge of spearfishing equipment, operation and rigging to insure a well-placed and effective shot; and skill in the water to successfully hunt and capture a large fish.

It is the Division of Fish and Wildlife's strong admonishment that no diver attempts any record venture without proper preparation and education and to abort and seek safety in a time of danger while diving. Persons who fish by spear are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure the fish meets the minimum size limits before being killed or injured.

Application Must Be Filled Out Completely

The following is submitted for consideration as a New Jersey State Record Fish (Spear fishing):

Species: _____

Weight: _____ Lbs. _____ Oz.

Length (in inches): _____ In.
(Tip of jaw with mouth closed to tip of tail)

Girth (in inches): _____ In. (Thickest portion around fish)

Date harvested: _____

Place caught: _____

Method of harvest (free diving, scuba diving, etc.) _____

Harvested from: Boat Shore Surf Jetty

Other (specify): _____

Boat name: _____

Captain: _____

Type of spear: Pnuematic Rubber Bands Springs Hawaiian Sling

Certification

Important: This section must be filled out completely. A copy of the current scale Registration Certificate and valid Inspection/Test Report issued by the County of Weights and Measures must accompany this application.

I hereby certify that on _____
(Date)

I weighed a _____ that
(Species)

Was brought in by _____
(Spear Fishers' Name)

I found the weight to be _____ Lbs. _____ Oz.

I further certify that the scale on which this fish was weighed was tested and its accuracy certified within the 12 months prior to this weigh-in by the Superintendent of Weights and Measures of _____ County.

Scale certification number _____

Date of last certification _____

Signed _____
(Person weighing the fish)

Witnessed by: _____
(Store manager/employee)

Store/Business name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Species Verification (To be completed by biologist)

Species: _____

Identified by: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

Angler Affidavit

I, the undersigned, attest that the fish described in this application was speared by me without assistance and that it was caught in New Jersey waters or from a boat that immediately left from and returned to a New Jersey port, and that all aspects of the harvest conform to federal and NJ State Law and the rules and regulations pertaining to saltwater fishing.

Spear fishers' Name: _____
(Please print)

Address: _____

Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Spear fishers' Signature: _____

Sworn before me this _____ day of _____ 20____

Notary Public of New Jersey

My commission expires: _____

Submit application to:

Record Fish Program
NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife
605 Pequest Rd.
Oxford, NJ 07863