

FISHERIES ORDER

LAKE STURGEON FISHING REGULATIONS - STATEWIDE Order 240.26

By authority conferred on the Natural Resources Commission and the Department of Natural Resources by Part 487 of 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.48701 to 324.48740, ordered on September 11, 2025, the following section(s) of the fisheries order shall read effective April 1, 2026, except as otherwise provided:

1) Fishing for Lake Sturgeon

- A) Except on waters where specific regulations are in place, as identified in paragraph 4) Special Provisions, fishing for Lake Sturgeon on all waters of the State shall be prohibited.

2) Mandatory Registration of Harvested Lake Sturgeon

- A) On waters where harvest of Lake Sturgeon is allowed as specifically identified in paragraph 4) Special Provisions:
- i) Except as otherwise specifically provided in paragraph 4) Special Provisions, anglers are required to register Lake Sturgeon harvest within 24 hours. Anglers must report their harvest online (www.michigan.gov/registerfish), toll-free by calling 844-345-FISH(3474), or in person at any DNR Customer Service Center during normal state business hours with advanced notice of arrival.

3) Harvest Limit

- A) On waters where harvest of Lake Sturgeon is allowed as specifically identified in paragraph 4) Special Provisions, an angler shall not harvest more than one (1) Lake Sturgeon per year.

4) Special Provisions:

- A) Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River (St. Clair, Macomb, and Wayne Counties)
- i) Fishing seasons
- a) The hook-and-line harvest season for Lake Sturgeon shall be July 16 - September 30, inclusive.
- b) The hook-and-line, catch-and-immediate-release season for Lake Sturgeon shall be July 16 - March 15, inclusive.
- ii) Size Limit
- a) Between 42 and 50 inches, inclusive.
- B) Detroit River (Wayne County)
- i) Fishing season
- a) The hook-and-line, catch-and-immediate-release season for Lake Sturgeon shall be July 16 - March 15, inclusive.
- C) St. Marys River from Soo Locks/Compensating Works downstream to the De Tour Village and Drummond Island ferry terminals to the south, and from Hay Point to Cherry Island then north to the International boundary for the northeast (Chippewa County)
- i) Fishing season
- a) The hook-and-line, catch-and-immediate-release season for Lake Sturgeon shall be July 16 - March 15, inclusive.

- D) Portage and Torch Lakes, all waters including Portage River, Portage Canal, and north and south entry (Houghton County)
 - i) Fishing season
 - a) The hook-and-line, catch-and-immediate-release season for Lake Sturgeon shall be July 16 - March 15, inclusive.
- E) Ontonagon River (Ontonagon County), from the mouth of Lake Superior up to the Victoria Dam Road
 - i) Fishing season
 - a) The hook-and-line, catch-and-immediate-release season for Lake Sturgeon shall be July 16 - March 15, inclusive.
- F) Otsego Lake (Otsego County)
 - i) Fishing seasons
 - a) The hook-and-line harvest season for Lake Sturgeon shall be July 16 - March 15, inclusive.
 - b) Fishing for Lake Sturgeon shall be prohibited from March 16 - July 15, inclusive.
 - ii) Size Limit
 - a) 50 inches minimum.
- G) Black Lake (Cheboygan/Presque Isle County)
 - i) Fishing season
 - a) The harvest and fishing season for Lake Sturgeon shall be from the 1st Saturday in February through the following Monday or until the harvest quota is reached (whichever comes first). Daily fishing hours will be 8:00am through 2:00pm while the season is open. The State recreational Lake Sturgeon harvest quota will be determined annually based on harvest allocation numbers established between the State and tribal governments as stated in the 2007 Inland Consent Decree.
 - b) The Director and the Commission will set conditions for the Lake Sturgeon fishing season and post them on the DNR website no later than January 15 each year. The Director and the Commission may amend the Lake Sturgeon fishing season conditions up to 48 hours prior to the start of the season if circumstances pose a significant risk to safe and effective implementation of the harvest allocation. The Department will post amendments to the DNR website and provide electronic notification through established modes of communication with anglers.
- H) Menominee River
 - i) All regulations governing fishing for Lake Sturgeon and the harvest of Lake Sturgeon in the Menominee River system are established in Fisheries Order 205 - Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Water Fishing Regulations.
- I) All Other Waters of the State not specifically identified in this Paragraph 4) Special Provisions
 - i) Fishing season
 - a) No fishing season for Lake Sturgeon.

This order shall be assigned number FO-240.26 and is entitled "Lake Sturgeon Fishing Regulations - Statewide."

This order supersedes the order entitled "Sturgeon Regulations - Statewide," which became effective October 11, 2024, and is assigned number FO-240.24A.

This order shall take effect April 1, 2026, and shall remain in effect until amended/rescinded.

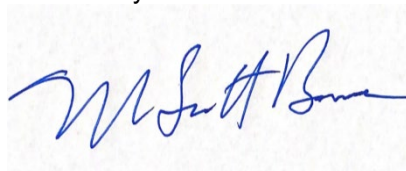
Issued on this 11th day of September 2025.

Approved as to matters over which the Natural Resources Commission has authority.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. A. Humphries", written over a light-colored rectangular background.

Rebecca Humphries, Vice Chair
Natural Resources Commission

Approved as to matters over which the Director has authority.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Scott Bowen", written over a light-colored rectangular background.

M. Scott Bowen
Director