

FISHERIES ORDER

Statewide - Lake Whitefish, Round Whitefish, Cisco, Burbot, Rainbow Smelt and Arctic Grayling Fishing Regulations Order 252.26

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:

The following regulations are established for Lake Whitefish, Round Whitefish (also referred to as Menominee), Cisco (also referred to as Lake Herring), Burbot, Rainbow Smelt and Arctic Grayling:

As used in this order the following definition is provided:

1. Great Lakes Connecting Waters: refers to specific bodies of water in Michigan that connect the Great Lakes. The designated connecting waters are the St. Marys River, the St. Clair River (begins at the Fort Gratiot Light), Lake St. Clair, and the Detroit River (begins at the imaginary line extending due south of the Windmill Point Light, Wayne County, and ending at the imaginary east/west line drawn through the most southernly point of Celeron Island).

Seasons - General

Except as otherwise noted in FO-200 and FO-254, the fishing and possession seasons on non-designated trout streams and all other inland waters, Great Lakes, Great Lakes Connecting Waters, and other waters not otherwise closed to fishing are open for the entire year for all Lake Whitefish, Round Whitefish, Cisco, Burbot, and Rainbow Smelt.

Lake Whitefish, Round Whitefish and Cisco

Size and daily possession limits for Lake Whitefish, Round Whitefish and Cisco

On all waters, there is no minimum size limit for Lake Whitefish (*Coregonus clupeaformis*), Round Whitefish (*Prosopium cylindraceum*) or Cisco (*Coregonus artedii*). On all Great Lakes, Great Lakes Connecting Waters and Type F lakes (see FO-254) the daily possession limit shall be ten (10) fish in any combination, except the daily possession limit shall be up to an additional ten (10) Round Whitefish in Lake Superior. On inland waters, the daily possession limit shall be five (5) Lake Whitefish, Round Whitefish, or Cisco in any combination. The daily possession limit for Cisco shall be zero (0) for Indiana Lake (Cass County). See FO-205 for inland waters that differ from the five (5) fish daily possession limit.

Burbot

Size, daily possession limits and gear for Burbot

On all waters, there is no minimum size limit for Burbot (*Lota lota*). The daily possession limit for Burbot on all waters of the state shall be five (5) fish.

Rainbow Smelt

Size, daily possession limits and gear for Rainbow Smelt

On all waters, there is no minimum size limit for Rainbow Smelt (*Osmerus mordax*). The daily possession limit for Rainbow Smelt on all waters of the state shall be 2 gallons. See FO-219 for spear, bow and arrow, or crossbow seasons and FO-229 for netting seasons.

Arctic Grayling

Size, daily possession limits, and season for Arctic Grayling

A person shall not at any time take or possess any Arctic Grayling (*Thymallus arcticus*) from any waters over which this state has jurisdiction.

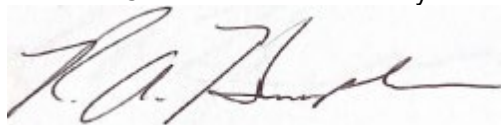
This order shall be assigned number FO-252.26 and is titled "Statewide - Lake Whitefish, Round Whitefish, Cisco, Burbot, Rainbow Smelt and Arctic Grayling Fishing Regulations".

This order supersedes the order titled "Statewide - Lake Whitefish, Round Whitefish, Cisco, Rainbow Smelt and Arctic Grayling Regulations," effective October 13, 2023, and was assigned number FO-252.23.

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

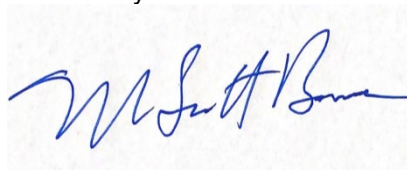
Issued on this 11th day of September 2025.

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

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

M. Scott Bowen
Director