**Fish Order 219.18**

**Bow, Spear, and Crossbow Fishing Regulations**  
**Order 219.18**

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, it is ordered on November 9, 2017, the following section(s) of the Fisheries Order shall read as follows:

The seasons, gear, waters, and species where a spear, bow and arrow, or crossbow may be used are as specified in the table below and lists which follow (except as otherwise prohibited). Spearing gear shall be limited to: hand-propelled spear, rubber-propelled spear, spring-propelled spear, bow and arrow, and crossbow. Artificial lights may be used. It shall be unlawful to use a rubber-propelled spear or a spring-propelled spear without being submerged and have the spear under control by means of an attached line not exceeding 20 feet in length. It is unlawful to spear any fish in a waterbody closed to fishing, except as noted in the spearing exceptions list.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEASON</th>
<th>GEAR</th>
<th>WATERS (see Note 1)</th>
<th>SPECIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open all year</td>
<td>spear, bow and arrow, or crossbow</td>
<td>ALL WATERS <em>except:</em> Designated Trout Lakes and Designated Trout Streams</td>
<td>bowfin, bullheads, burbot, carp, catfish, drum, gizzard shad, goldfish, grass carp, cisco (lake herring), longnose gar, smelt, suckers (see Note 2), and whitefish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 1 through March 15</td>
<td>hand-propelled spear</td>
<td>ALL WATERS <em>except:</em> Designated Trout Lakes and Designated Trout Streams</td>
<td>northern pike and muskellunge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 1 - Check the spearing exceptions lists (below) for regulations that differ from those listed in the table above. Designated Trout Lakes are those lakes classified under Type A and Type D trout regulations (see FO-200). Designated Trout Streams are those listed in the following classifications: Type 1, 2, Gear Restricted Streams, Research Areas, and Brook Trout Research Areas. Most of the Type 3 and Type 4 streams are Designated Trout Streams (see FO-200 and FO-210).

Note 2 - For the purpose of this Order the term suckers refers to: suckers (longnose, white, northern hog, spotted), redhorse (silver, golden, black, greater, shorthead), buffalo (bigmouth, black), lake chubsucker, and quillback carpsucker.
SPEARING EXCEPTIONS
LIST A – INLAND WATERS

WATERS CLOSED TO NORTHERN PIKE AND MUSKELLUNGE SPEARING
It shall be unlawful to fish by any means other than hook-and-line for northern pike or muskellunge in the following waters:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Waters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alger County</td>
<td>Kingston Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpena and Montmorency Counties</td>
<td>Fletcher Floodwaters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barry County</td>
<td>Lower Crooked Lake and Thornapple Lake (from McKeown Rd T3N, R8W, S27 to Barger Rd T3N, R7W, S20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clare County</td>
<td>Budd Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinton County</td>
<td>Lake Ovid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delta County</td>
<td>Dana Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dickinson County</td>
<td>East Lake, Island Lake, South Lake, and West Lake (all within Groveland Mines)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron County</td>
<td>Brule Lake, Chicagon Lake, Lake Emily, Paint Lake, Paint Pond (Brule Isle Imp.), Stanley Lake, and Swan Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent County</td>
<td>Campau Lake and Murray Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keweenaw County</td>
<td>Lake Gratiot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenawee County</td>
<td>Lake Hudson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luce County</td>
<td>Round Lake (North Manistique Lake)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schoolcraft County</td>
<td>Grassy Lake and McKeever Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Joseph County</td>
<td>Long Lake (T6S, R12W, S7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Van Buren County</td>
<td>Bankson Lake and Round Lake (T4S, R16W, S31)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WATERS WITH SPEARING AND GAFF HOOK RESTRICTIONS
Cheboygan County
April 1 through June 15, inclusive, it shall be unlawful to take or attempt to take any species of fish with spearing gear or gaff hook from the following waters:
  Black River
  Cheboygan River
  Indian River
DESIGNATED TROUT STREAMS OPEN TO SPRING SPEARING
The following designated trout streams are open to the use of spearing gear from April 1 through May 31, inclusive, for taking bowfin, bullheads, burbot, carp, catfish, drum, longnose gar, gizzard shad, goldfish, grass carp, cisco (lake herring), smelt, suckers (as listed above), and whitefish:

**Alcona County**
- Bryant Creek from Vaughn Lake downstream to Little Lake
- Buff Creek
- Sucker Creek from confluence of Vincent Creek (T27N, R8E, S9) downstream to Hubbard Lake (T28N, R8E, S36)

**Calhoun County**
- Nottawa Creek: from Calhoun County line (T4S, R8W, S31) upstream to T3S, R5W, S35
- Rice Creek: South Branch Rice Creek from confluence of Rice Creek and Kalamazoo River (T2S, R6W, S25) upstream to Concord Road (Jackson County)

**Chippewa County**
- Trout Creek downstream of Big Trout Lake (T42N, R3E, S31)
- Prentiss Creek (T42N, R2E,)

**Delta County**
- Squaw Creek downstream of County Road 513

**Mackinac County**
- Doe Creek (T43N, R10W)
- Foley Creek downstream of I-75
- Hoban Creek downstream of US-2
- Hudson Creek (T41N, R11W, S8)
- Martineau Creek downstream of I-75
- McClouds Creek
- Milakokia River, from Milakokia Lake downstream to Heinz Lake
- Norton Creek from M-135 downstream to South Manistique Lake
- Nunn's Creek downstream of Highway M-134
- Pearson's Creek, T42N, R1W and R1E
- Rabbits Back Creek downstream of Mackinac Trail
- Scrams Creek (T42N, R11W, S11)
- Taylor Creek (T43N, R12W, S2, 11, 12 and 13)

**Mason County**
- Sable River from Freesoil Road downstream to Custer Road (T20N, R16W, S22)

**Van Buren County**
- Dowagiac River and tributaries upstream of 50th Street (T45N, R15W, S35)
- Lake of the Wood Outlet to confluence with Dowagiac River (T45N, R15W, S34)
LIST B – GREAT LAKES AND CONNECTING WATERS

WATERS CLOSED TO MUSKELLUNGE SPEARING
It shall be unlawful to fish by any other means other than hook-and-line for muskellunge in the following waters:

- Lake Erie
- Lake St. Clair
- Detroit River
- St. Clair River

WATERS OPEN TO YELLOW PERCH SPEARING
December 1 through March 15, inclusive.

- Lake St. Clair: a hand-propelled spear, bow and arrow, or crossbow may be used to harvest yellow perch.

This Order shall be assigned number FO-219.18, and is entitled “Bow, Spear, and Crossbow Fishing Regulations.”

This Order supersedes the Order entitled “Spearing Regulations - Statewide,” which became effective October 14, 2016, and is assigned number FO-219.16.

This Order shall take effect April 1, 2018 and shall remain in effect until amended/rescinded.