

TENNESSEE FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION**PROCLAMATION 24-02****COMMERCIAL TAKE OF FISH AND TURTLES****COMMERCIAL TAKE OF FISH AND TURTLES**

Pursuant to the authority granted by Title 70, Tennessee Code Annotated, and Sections 70-1-206, and 70-4-107 thereof, the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission hereby proclaims the following regulations pertaining to the commercial take of fish and turtles, hereinafter called commercial fishing.

Commercial fishing is hereby authorized in accordance with the following provisions, except where expressly forbidden by law. All commercial fishing gear must meet the specifications and be fished in the manner provided for in this proclamation.

SECTION I. WATERS OPEN TO COMMERCIAL FISHING

For purposes of this proclamation, "river" means that body of water confined within the identifiable banks. At high river stage, oxbows, sloughs, and backwaters accessible by boat from the river are open to commercial fishing but are considered private water and may be fished only with permission of the landowner or an association of such owners.

RIVERS

The following are open year-round to trotlines, hoop nets, fyke nets, pound nets, trap nets, gill nets, trammel nets, slat baskets, cast nets and turtle traps unless otherwise specified.

1. FORKED DEER RIVER - except that portion of the Middle Fork within the boundaries of the Chickasaw National Wildlife Refuge.
2. FRENCH BROAD RIVER.
3. HARPETH RIVER - fishing authorized only downstream from Tennessee State Route 49 Bridge, except that trotlines may be fished upstream of the bridge.
4. HATCHIE RIVER— Hoop nets, fyke nets, trap nets, and pound nets with a mesh size of one (1) inch or greater on the square can be fished from U.S. Route 51 Bridge to the confluence of the Mississippi River year-round. Hoop nets, fyke nets, trap nets, and pound nets with a mesh size of one (1) inch or smaller and/or three (3) inches or larger on the square may be fished only during the months of October, November, December, January, February, March, and April upstream U.S. Route 51 Bridge. No wings or leads may be attached on hoop nets.
5. HIWASSEE RIVER - fishing authorized only downstream from U.S. Route 11 Bridge (Charleston).
6. HOLSTON RIVER.
7. MISSISSIPPI RIVER - except that portion from the Mississippi (MS) -Tennessee (TN) state line River Mile (RM) 715.2 upstream to MS RM 745 are closed to all commercial fishing, except for the commercial harvest of bighead carp, silver carp and paddlefish. This closure includes the Loosahatchie River and the Wolf River Embayment (WRM) (0.0-18.9). Wardlow's Pocket and Wardlow's Pocket Chute (except those portions within the boundaries of the Chickasaw National Wildlife Refuge) are open. McKellar Lake is open to the commercial harvest of bighead carp, silver carp and paddlefish only. The use of boat ramps

and navigable waters of the Mississippi River upstream of I-40 Bridge at MS RM 735 to MS RM 745 is permissible for navigation only to and from waters open to commercial fishing, except when fishing for bighead carp, silver carp, and paddlefish where all waters are open to commercial navigation.

- a. Open Lake and Chisholm Lake in Lauderdale County are deemed to be backwaters to the Mississippi River and are open to commercial harvest with gill nets for black, bighead and silver carp with permission of the landowner or an association of such owners. Commercial tackle must be attended by a licensed commercial fisherman at all times.
8. NOLICHUCKY RIVER.
9. OBION RIVER.
10. RED RIVER - fishing authorized only downstream from U.S. Route 41A Bridge, except that trotlines may be fished upstream of the bridge.
11. STONES RIVER - fishing closed from confluence with Cumberland River upstream, except that trotlines may be fished upstream of the Cumberland River confluence.
12. WOLF RIVER - Only the section from Germantown Bridge upstream is open to commercial fishing. Gill nets and trammel nets are prohibited. The section upstream of Bateman Bridge in Fayette County is open for trotlines only.
13. CUMBERLAND RIVER - As listed in Section I. RESERVOIRS, except from Cordell Hull Dam upstream is closed.
14. TENNESSEE RIVER - As listed in Section I. RESERVOIRS.
15. DUCK RIVER - That portion of the Duck River from its confluence with Blue Creek at approximate DRM 13.2 downstream to the Hustburg pipeline crossing is open year-round to trotlines, hoop nets, and slat baskets. The Duck River from DRM 4.0 downstream is open year-round to all legal commercial gear types.
16. BEECH RIVER – That portion from the confluence with the Tennessee River upstream to Tennessee State Route 69 Bridge is open year-round to all commercial fishing gear. From Tennessee State Route 69 Bridge upstream is closed year-round to all commercial fishing.

RESERVOIRS

Group A: The following reservoirs are open year-round unless otherwise specified to trotlines, hoop nets, fyke nets, pound nets, trap nets, gill nets, trammel nets, slat baskets, cast nets and turtle traps. The reservoir boundary for commercial fishing regulations is the full pool elevation unless otherwise specified.

Unless otherwise specified below, all commercial fishing gear except slat baskets, turtle traps, and trotlines is prohibited in all creeks entering reservoirs from 6 a.m. to one (1) hour after sunset during the months of April and May; all commercial fishing gear is permitted in all creeks from one (1) hour after sunset to 6 a.m. daily during the months of April and May, except that whip-sets (the driving of fish into trammel and gill nets by the use of noise and disturbing the water) are not permitted in any creeks which have operating commercial docks.

1. BARKLEY - All commercial fishing gear is prohibited in all creeks entering reservoirs from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. during the months of April and May except for slat baskets, turtle traps, and trotlines. Whip-sets (the driving of fish into trammel and gill nets by the use of noise and disturbing the water) are not permitted in any creeks which have operating commercial docks.

2. CHEATHAM - Commercial fishers must contract with Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) and abide by the contract provisions as determined by TWRA in order to commercial fish this reservoir.
3. CHICKAMAUGA.
4. DAVY CROCKETT (Greene County).
5. GUNTERSVILLE.
6. JOHN SEVIER.
7. NICKAJACK.
8. PICKWICK- All commercial fishing gear is prohibited in all creeks entering reservoirs from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. during the months of April and May except for slat baskets, turtle traps, and trotlines. Whip-sets (the driving of fish into trammel and gill nets by the use of noise and disturbing the water) are not permitted in any creeks which have operating commercial docks.

Group B: The following reservoirs are open year-round except for specific restrictions as listed:

Unless otherwise specified below, all commercial fishing gear except slat baskets, turtle traps, and trotlines is prohibited in all creeks entering reservoirs from 6 a.m. to one (1) hour after sunset during the months of April and May; all commercial fishing gear is permitted in all creeks from one (1) hour after sunset to 6 a.m. daily during the months of April and May, except that whip-sets (the driving of fish into trammel and gill nets by the use of noise and disturbing the water) are not permitted in any creeks which have operating commercial docks.

1. CHEROKEE - Trammel nets, gill nets and fyke nets are prohibited. The taking and possession of blue catfish and paddlefish by commercial fishing methods are prohibited.
2. DOUGLAS - Trammel nets, gill nets, fyke nets and hoop nets are prohibited above Point 14 from January through June. Trammel nets, gill nets and fyke nets are prohibited from the mouth to the headwaters of Indian, McGuire, Muddy and Flat Creeks from October through February.
3. KENTUCKY - commercial fishing gear is prohibited in the New Johnsonville Steamplant Harbor and within fifty (50) yards of the Danville Railroad Bridge dikes (approximate TRM 78.3).
 - a. Duck River from its confluence with Blue Creek at approximate DRM 13.2 downstream to the Hustburg pipeline crossing is open year-round to trotlines, hoop nets, and slat baskets. The Duck River from DRM 4.0 downstream is open year-round to all legal commercial gear types.
 - b. The Beech River embayment from the confluence with the Tennessee River upstream to HWY 69 Bridge is open year-round to all commercial fishing gear. Upstream of HWY 69 Bridge is closed to commercial fishing.
 - c. Paddlefish harvest and all entanglement type commercial fishing gear with mesh sizes greater than four (4) inches is prohibited year-round in the Big Sandy River Embayment (all waters west of a line drawn from Pace Point to the mouth of Eagle Creek). Additionally, unattended entanglement type commercial fishing gear is prohibited from November 25 through March 15 in waters of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Refuge located within the Big Sandy River Embayment and in all of the waters of the West Sandy Creek Arm of the Big Sandy River Embayment.

- d. All commercial fishing gear is prohibited in all creeks entering reservoirs from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. during the months of April and May except for slat baskets, turtle traps, and trotlines. Whip- sets (the driving of fish into trammel and gill nets by the use of noise and disturbing the water) are not permitted in any creeks which have operating commercial docks.
- e. Whip-Sets may be fished within one hundred (100) yards of a commercial boat dock or resort, Monday through Thursday from 9 pm through 5 am.
- 4. REELFOOT - The taking of grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*) is prohibited.
- 5. OLD HICKORY.
 - a. Trammel nets, gill nets, and fyke nets are prohibited from U.S. Route 231 upstream to Cordell Hull Dam and including the Caney Fork River.
 - b. Trammel nets, gill nets, and fyke nets are prohibited from Tennessee State Route 109 upstream to U.S. Route 231 except fishing of legal entanglement gear by whip-set or trammeling method are permitted by contract with the TWRA.
- 6. FORT LOUDOUN - the possession of all species of catfish taken by commercial methods from Fort Loudoun Dam upstream to the confluence of the French Broad and Holston rivers is prohibited.

PRIVATE PONDS

Only Common Snapping Turtles, *Chelydra serpentina serpentina*, can be harvested from privately owned ponds if the commercial fisher possesses written permission from the pond owner and all applicable licenses and permits. Turtle traps, dip net and hand collection are the only legal commercial fishing gear in private ponds and all other statewide regulations and reporting requirements apply.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS AND REFUGES

Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 70-1-101, State Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) and State Refuges have been defined as a specific land, water area or both that have been established for specific purposes relating to management and protection of wildlife and habitat. Waters bordering a State WMA or State Refuge at high river stage, such as oxbows, sloughs, and backwaters accessible by boat from the river or reservoir are open to commercial fishing unless otherwise specified. No water can be accessed by dragging, pulling or running a boat over a land barrier to another waterbody. All impoundments and sub- impoundments are closed to commercial fishing unless otherwise specified. For federal refuges see 50 Code of Federal Regulations 32.62 (Tennessee) as it may be amended from time to time.

Group A: The following is open, both land and water areas, year-round to trotlines, hoop nets, fyke nets, pound nets, trap nets, gill nets, trammel nets, slat baskets, cast nets, turtle traps, dip net and hand caught, unless otherwise specified.

- 1. Reelfoot WMA – except that portion within the boundaries of the Reelfoot State Resort Park and the Reelfoot National Wildlife Refuge.

Group B: Listed State WMA and State Refuge water areas accessible by boat from the main river channel are open with the following restrictions.

- 1. State Refuges are closed Nov. 15 to the last day of February to all forms of use and trespass, except fishing is permitted on the main river channel; State WMA waters accessible by boat from the main river channel are closed November 15 to February 15.

2. Dyson Ditch Refuge – Commercial fishers must contract with TWRA and abide by the Cheatham reservoir commercial contract provisions as determined by TWRA in order to fish commercially.
3. Hiwassee Refuge.
4. Old Hickory Lock 5 Refuge – Commercial fishers must contract with TWRA and abide by the contract provisions as determined by TWRA in order to fish commercially.
 - a. Trammel nets, gill nets, and fyke nets are prohibited from U.S. Route 231 upstream to Cordell Hull Dam.
5. Old Pardue Pond Refuge – Commercial fishers must contract with TWRA and abide by the Cheatham reservoir commercial contract provisions as determined by TWRA in order to fish commercially.
6. Barkley WMA (Unit 2).
7. Cheatham Lake WMA – Commercial fishers must contract with TWRA and abide by the Cheatham Reservoir commercial contract provisions as determined by TWRA in order to fish commercially.
 - a. The closed season does not apply to that portion of the Harpeth River downstream from state Highway 49 Bridge.
8. Obion River WMA.
9. Old Hickory WMA.
 - a. Trammel nets, gill nets, and fyke nets are prohibited from U.S. Route 231 upstream to Cordell Hull Dam.
 - b. Trammel nets, gill nets, and fyke nets are prohibited from Tennessee State Route 109 upstream to U.S. Route 231 except fishing of legal entanglement gear by whip-set or trammeling method are permitted by contract with TWRA.
10. Tigrett WMA.
11. Moss Island WMA – Willow Chute and Rhodes Lake
 - a. Open to the harvest of black, bighead and silver carp with the use of gill nets. Commercial tackle must be attended by a licensed commercial fisherman at all times.
12. Camden WMA – All commercial fishing gear is permitted during April through August, except as follows. All commercial gear except slat baskets, turtle traps, and trotlines are prohibited from 6 a.m. to one (1) hour after sunset during the months of April and May. All commercial fishing gear is permitted from one (1) hour after sunset to 6 a.m. during April and May.
13. White Oak WMA - All commercial fishing gear is permitted March 15 through August 31, except as follows. All commercial gear except slat baskets, turtle traps, and trotlines are prohibited from 6 a.m. to one (1) hour after sunset during the months of April and May. All commercial fishing gear is permitted from one (1) hour after sunset to 6 a.m. during April and May.

Group C: Listed State WMA water areas not accessible by boat from the main river channel are open with the following restrictions.

1. John Tully WMA - Heathright Pocket, Cold Creek, and the Chute, within the boundaries of the WMA in Lauderdale County are open, except for common snapping turtle harvest; all other ponds, lakes, arms, sloughs, bayous, and pockets within the WMA are closed.
2. Camden WMA – All commercial fishing gear is permitted during April through August, except as follows. All commercial gear except slat baskets, turtle traps, and trotlines are prohibited from 6 a.m. to one (1) hour after sunset during the months of April and May. All commercial fishing gear is permitted from one (1) hour after sunset to 6 a.m. during April and May.
3. White Oak WMA - All commercial fishing gear is permitted March 15 through August 31, except as follows. All commercial gear except slat baskets, turtle traps, and trotlines are prohibited from 6 a.m. to one (1) hour after sunset during the months of April and May. All commercial fishing gear is permitted from one (1) hour after sunset to 6 a.m. during April and May.

SECTION II. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- A. The following fish species may be taken and sold commercially year-round unless otherwise restricted by this proclamation, by other Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission proclamations and rules, or by the Tennessee Code Annotated.

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>
*, ** Paddlefish	Polyodon spathula
Spotted gar	Lepisosteus oculatus
Longnose gar	Lepisosteus osseus
Shortnose gar	Lepisosteus platostomus
Bowfin	Amia calva
*** Skipjack herring	Alosa chrysochloris
*** Gizzard shad	Dorosoma cepedianum
*** Threadfin shad	Dorosoma petenense
Grass carp	Ctenopharyngodon idella
Common carp	Cyprinus carpio
*** Silver carp	Hypophthalmichthys molitrix
*** Bighead carp	Hypophthalmichthys nobilis
*** Black carp	Mylopharyngodon piceus
River carpsucker	Carpiodes carpio
Quillback	Carpiodes cyprinus
White sucker	Catostomus commersoni
Smallmouth buffalo	Ictiobus bubalus
Bigmouth buffalo	Ictiobus cyprinellus
Black buffalo	Ictiobus niger
Spotted sucker	Minytrema melanops
Silver redhorse	Moxostoma anisurum
Golden redhorse	Moxostoma erythrurum
Black bullhead	Ameiurus melas
Yellow bullhead	Ameiurus natalis
Brown bullhead	Ameiurus nebulosus
* Blue catfish	Ictalurus furcatus
Channel catfish	Ictalurus punctatus
Flathead catfish	Pylodictis olivaris
Freshwater drum	Aplodinotus grunniens
Yellow bass	Morone mississippiensis
*** Inland silversides	Menidia beryllina

*** Brook silversides	Labidesthes sicculus
Fathead minnow	Pimephales promelas
Golden shiner	Notemigonus crysoleucas

* The taking and possession of blue catfish and paddlefish from Cherokee Reservoir by commercial fishing methods is prohibited.

** Except for the Mississippi River, fishing for paddlefish or taking parts thereof shall not occur during the period from April 8 through 12:00 pm (noon) on November 20, nor shall they be possessed during this period unless they were previously taken during a legal taking season. Fishing for paddlefish or taking parts thereof from the Mississippi River shall not occur during the period from April 16 through 12:00 pm (noon) on November 1, nor shall they be possessed during this period unless they were previously taken during a legal taking season. Those persons possessing paddlefish or parts thereof during these closed periods must have in their possession reports denoting pounds of flesh or eggs (or both if applicable) in their possession, name and address of supplier/fishermen, the name of the water body from which fish were harvested, and date of harvest or date obtained. Gravid (with eggs) female paddlefish must be thirty-eight (38) inches or larger from the front of the eye to the fork of the tail (eye to fork length) and are the only paddlefish legal for harvest from all waters open to harvest except the Mississippi River. Gravid (with eggs) female paddlefish must be thirty-four (34) inches or larger from the front of the eye to the fork of the tail and are the only paddlefish legal for harvest from the Mississippi River. Paddlefish may not be possessed alive away from the harvested waters. The cutting or mutilation of paddlefish to check for eggs is prohibited except that a stainless steel 12-gauge needle may be inserted into the abdomen between the pectoral and pelvic fins to determine the presence of eggs. Paddlefish may be checked once with a needle on either side of the abdomen for a total of two (2) times per paddlefish season. Repeated checking of paddlefish is not permitted. This needle and syringe device must be on board every roe fishing vessel and kept in a sanitary manner. Paddlefish less than the legal-size limit (eye to fork length) must be returned immediately to the water without being checked. Female paddlefish from which eggs are taken must be kept whole and transported with its roe to a licensed wholesale roe fish dealer. Ovaries may be removed from gravid females, screened and must be placed together in a single marked storage container that corresponds to the harvest date and length of each harvested female paddlefish. Storage containers must be marked and distinguishable from each other, so they can be matched with the harvested female paddlefish. Removal of the rostrum is permissible as long as the fish is not mutilated, so that the legal size of the harvested paddlefish can be determined from an eye to fork length measurement. Legal paddlefish may be eviscerated, except that a two (2) inch portion of ovary must remain attached to each harvested female paddlefish until the fish and eggs are received by a licensed Wholesale Roe Fish Dealer.

*** Listed species may not be transported away from the water alive.

- B. Only the Common Snapping Turtle, *Chelydra serpentina serpentina*, with a carapace (upper shell) length of at least twelve (12) inches, may be taken during the period from March 1 through October 31 and statewide without limit by any legal commercial fishing method. Turtle carapace length is measured as a straight-line distance on top of the turtle shell along the mid-line from the scute directly behind the turtle's head (nuchal scute), to the base of the notch where the two most posterior scutes meet. This length is used in determining the size category (legal or sub-legal) for reporting purposes.
- C. Only at Reelfoot Wildlife Management Area can the following turtle species be taken and sold commercially during the period from March 1 through October 31 and at all sizes unless otherwise restricted by this proclamation, by other Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission proclamations and rules, by the Tennessee Code Annotated.

Common Name

Scientific Name

eastern river cooter	<i>Pseudemys c. concinna</i>
yellow-bellied slider	<i>Trachemys s. scripta</i>
red-eared slider	<i>Trachemys s. elegans</i>
musk turtle	<i>Sternotherus odoratus</i>
eastern mud turtle	<i>Kinosternon subrubrum</i>
spiny softshell turtle	<i>Apalone spinifera</i>
smooth softshell turtle	<i>Apalone mutica</i>
midland painted turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta marginata</i>
southern painted turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta dorsalis</i>
western painted turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta bellii</i>
northern map turtle	<i>Graptemys geographica</i>
false map turtle	<i>Graptemys p. pseudogeographica</i>
Mississippi map turtle	<i>Graptemys p. kohni</i>
common snapping turtle	<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>

- D. Commercial fishing gear may not be set within one thousand (1,000) yards downstream of any TVA or Corps of Engineers Dam, or within one hundred (100) yards of the mouth of any stream or river any time. For purposes of this proclamation, wingwalls and lock walls are considered to be a part of the "dam", and measurements will be made from their downstream end. Commercial fishing gear may not be set within three hundred (300) yards of any commercial boat dock or resort, except for whip-sets on Kentucky Reservoir.
- E. No catfish less than eight (8) inches in length or greater than thirty-four (34) inches in length may be kept alive. The commercial harvest of catfish greater than thirty-four (34) inches in length is restricted to those commercial fishers holding license types 100, 101, and 103 and may not exceed one (1) catfish per day greater than thirty-four (34) inches in length. The possession limit of catfish greater than thirty-four (34) inches is two (2).
- F. Gill nets, trammel nets, turtle traps, and trotlines must be checked at least once every twenty-four (24) hour period. Other types of commercial fishing gear must be checked at least once every seventy-two (72) hour period. Each time a gear is checked, any and all species must be removed from the net.
- G. Fyke nets, trap nets, and pound nets with a mesh size of one (1) inch or smaller on the square may be fished only during the months of October, November, December, January, February, March, and April, except the Mississippi River, which is open year-round.
- H. A fish seine may be used in private waters and in waters which are replenished by overflows from the Mississippi, Tennessee, Obion, Hatchie, Wolf, Loosahatchie, and Forked Deer rivers, but which during the dry season of the year have no outlet to these rivers. Fish seines as defined in this proclamation may be used in the dewatering areas of Kentucky Reservoir.
- I. No commercial fishing gear shall be set so as to extend more than three-quarters (0.75) across any stream, river, chute, or embayment.
- J. Commercial bowfishing is defined as the act of taking fish with archery equipment for the express purpose of harvest and sale. Archery equipment may only be used to harvest silver, bighead and grass carp.
- K. All nets and traps shall be marked using a buoy that floats on top of the water, except for slat baskets and hoop nets. The minimum size of a buoy shall be eight inches long, five inches wide, and two inches tall (8x5x2) or larger. Black or gray are not legal colors for buoys. Each piece of commercial fishing gear, including trotlines, fished commercially, shall bear securely fastened to the gear at the head end of the line or net or to the float, a current and valid identifying tag to be supplied by the commercial fisher. The tag shall measure at least one (1) inch by three (3) inches and shall have the name of the commercial fisher along with the commercial fisher's current license number.

- L. A commercial fisher (type 100, 101 and 103) that has purchased a commercial roe fish permit (supplemental) (type 108 or 110) is limited to fishing twelve (12) gill nets during paddlefish season, except when fishing on the Mississippi River where fifteen (15) gill nets may be fished. When fishing the Mississippi River in combination with another waterbody a commercial roe fish permit holder is restricted to a daily limit of twelve (12) gill nets. The only legal gear for the taking of paddlefish is six (6) inch bar mesh or greater, except on the Mississippi River where five (5) inch bar mesh and greater is legal. Paddlefish season starts noon on November 20 through April 7, except for the Mississippi River where paddlefish season starts at noon on November 1 through April 15. Gill nets with a bar mesh of six (6) inch or greater are only legal from noon on November 20 through April 7, except for the Mississippi River where five (5) inch or greater bar mesh is only legal at noon on November 1 through April 15.
- M. A commercial fisher (with a type 100, 101 and 103) may fish an unlimited number of gill nets year- round and statewide, except for those fishers that purchased a commercial roe fish permit (supplemental) (type 108 or 110) (see sub-section "L").
- N. A commercial fisher (type 100, 101 and 103) that has purchased a commercial roe fish permit (supplemental) (type 108 or 110) and that is enrolled in the Tennessee Carp Harvest Incentive Program (TCHIP) by a contracted State of Tennessee vendor (wholesale fish dealer) is allowed to fish up to twenty-four (24) gill nets only on Kentucky and Barkley Reservoirs with the following stipulations.
 - a. A commercial fisher (type 100, 101 and 103) that has purchased a commercial roe fish permit (supplemental) (type 108 or 110) cannot exceed the maximum twelve (12) gill net (6-inch bar mesh or greater) limit unless the remaining gill nets have a square mesh measurement of 3 inches to 4.5 inches and are being fished for Invasive Carp in the TCHIP program. The TCHIP program commercial roe fish permit fisherman can fish less than his/her maximum limit of twelve (12) gill nets (6-inch bar mesh or greater) provided that he/she does not exceed the twenty-four (24) gill net maximum.
 - b. All gill nets shall be marked using a buoy that floats on top of the water with a minimum size of six (6) inches in diameter by fourteen (14) inches long. Buoys used to identify paddlefish gill nets will be marked with an orange float and buoys used to identify Invasive carp gill nets will be marked with a yellow float matching the dimensions listed above. All buoys will be identified with the commercial fishermen's TWRA #, name and an TCHIP program label.
- O. A commercial fisher (type 100, 101 and 103) may fish one (1) gill or trammel net that exceeds three hundred (300) yards daily in combination with other gill or trammel nets. Gill or trammel nets may not exceed six hundred (600) yards. A gill or trammel net that is greater than three hundred (300) yards must be fished using a whip-set method. A gill or trammel net that is greater than three hundred (300) yards can only be fished on Kentucky, Pickwick, Barkley, Cheatham, and Old Hickory reservoirs. Gill or trammel nets that exceed three hundred (300) yards must have a minimum mesh size of three (3) inches and the mesh size cannot be greater than four and one-half (4.5) inches. Only silver, bighead, grass and black carp can be harvested from any net that is greater than three hundred (300) yards. All other commercial species caught in a gill or trammel net that exceeds three hundred (300) yards must be released immediately.
- P. A Resident or Nonresident Mississippi River Roe Fish Permit-Supplement holder can only commercially fish the Mississippi River, Reelfoot Lake, Forked Dear River, Hatchie River, Obion River portions that are open to the commercial harvest of paddlefish. A Resident or Nonresident West/Middle Tennessee Roe Fish Permit- Supplemental holder can only commercially fish Kentucky Reservoir, Pickwick Reservoir, Barkley Reservoir, Cheatham Reservoir, Old Hickory Reservoir, Red River, Harpeth River, Duck River and Beech River

portions that are open to the commercial harvest of paddlefish. A Resident or Nonresident East Tennessee Roe Fish Permit, Supplement holder can only fish Gunter'sville Reservoir, Nickajack Reservoir, Chickamauga Reservoir, Fort Loudoun Reservoir, Douglas Reservoir, Davy Crocket Reservoir, Nolichucky River, French Broad River, Hiwassee River, and Holston River portions that are open to the commercial harvest of paddlefish.

SECTION III. COMMERCIAL FISHING GEAR

Legal gear types are listed below:

1. **Slat Basket**
A slat basket is defined as a device used for taking of commercial fish only. Slat baskets may have only one outside funnel opening, and may be made of wood, plastic, or cane slats or splits which are placed lengthwise and so constructed that there must be a minimum of four openings in the catching area, each being at least one and one-half (1.5) inches wide and six (6) inches long.
2. **Hoop Net**
A barrel shaped net made of synthetic cotton, linen, or nylon, and supported by hoops or a reinforced metal frame constructed of six by six (6x6) inch or greater wire mesh with square mesh pattern covered with a mesh (made of synthetic cotton, linen, or nylon) wrapped exterior. All hoop net throats must be made of synthetic cotton, linen, or nylon fiber. A hoop net is also known as a barrel net, set net, and funnel net. One or more throats are attached inside the hoop structure. Legal mesh size of hoop nets is one (1) inch or greater on the square. No wings or leads may be attached. Hoop nets may be fished year-round.
3. **Fyke Net, Trap Net and Pound Net**
A fyke net, also known as a wing net, is a net to which as many as three (3) wings or leads may be attached. Trap nets or pound nets which have rectangular, or box shaped traps shall also be legal by this definition. The wings or leads are equipped with floats and sinkers, and the webbing of the wings shall be constructed of twine not smaller than number fifteen (15) in cotton or linen. The maximum length of each wing is 100 feet with a restriction of one (1) inch or smaller on the mesh size on the square. The legal mesh size of fyke nets is one (1) inch or smaller or three (3) inches or larger on the square.
4. **Trammel Net**
A trammel net is defined as a net having three (3) webs (nets) hung to a single top (float) and bottom (lead) line. The two outside webs are called walling, and the inside web is called webbing. The inside webbing shall have a mesh size of not less than three (3) inches on the square. Webbing with square mesh greater than four (4) and less than six (6) inches is prohibited except on the Mississippi River where webbing with square mesh greater than four (4) and less than five (5) inches is prohibited. The outside walling shall have a mesh size of not less than six (6) inches on the square. The maximum mesh size of the outside walling shall consist of vertical ties or hobbles on each side of the webbing at six (6) foot intervals along the float and lead line. A net may not be hobbled to less than two thirds the height of the net. Maximum length of a trammel net is three hundred (300) yards, except when used for fishing for silver, bighead, grass and black carp when the maximum length is six hundred (600) yards. A trammel net with an overall length greater than three hundred (300) yards can only be fished using a whip-set method while fishing for silver, bighead, grass and black carp and must have marker floats at least every fifty (50) yards. The minimum size of a marker float shall be eight inches long, five inches wide, and two inches tall (8x5x2). Trammel nets must be fished in a stationary manner except in the Mississippi River.
5. **Gill Net**
A gill net is defined as a single net attached to a float and a weighted line. Gill nets must

have a minimum mesh size of three (3) inches or greater. Gill nets with square mesh greater than four and one-half (4.5) and less than six (6) inches are prohibited except on the Mississippi River where square mesh greater than four (4) and less than five (5) inches are prohibited with a minimum mesh size of three (3) inches on the square. Gill nets fished on Pickwick Reservoir must have a minimum size of three (3) inches and a maximum size of five (5) inches on the square. Maximum length of a gill net is three hundred (300) yards, except when used for fishing for silver, bighead, grass, and black carp when the maximum length is six hundred (600) yards. A gill net with an overall length greater than three hundred (300) yards can only be fished using a whip-set method while fishing for silver, bighead, grass and black carp and must have marker floats at least every fifty (50) yards. The minimum size of the marker float shall be eight inches long, five inches wide, and two inches tall (8x5x2). Gill nets must be fished in a stationary manner except in the Mississippi River. A net may be hobbled to not less than two thirds the original height of the net with each hobble at six (6) foot intervals or greater along the float and lead line.

6. Fish Seine

A fish seine consists of a float and lead line to which netting is attached. The netting of the seine shall be constructed of twine not smaller than number seven (7) nylon or synthetic fiber or number nine (9) cotton or linen. The maximum length of a fish seine is fifty (50) feet. The mesh size of seines shall be one-quarter (0.25) inch or larger or one-half (0.5) inch or smaller on the square. Seines must be constantly attended and may not be fished in a stationary manner.

7. Turtle Traps

A barrel shaped net made of synthetic cotton, linen, and nylon supported by hoops (round and/or D-shape) constructed of plastic, fiberglass or metal. Metal traps can be square or rectangular and constructed of two by four (2x4) inch wire or greater with supporting structures made from metal, plastic, fiberglass or PVC. Only one throat can be attached inside a hoop or metal turtle trap. Legal mesh size for all material, except for metal wire is one (1) to one and a one-half (1.5) inches or three (3) inches and greater on the square. No wings or leads may be attached. Turtle traps must be set so that a portion of the catching area is positioned above the water. No wings or leads may be attached.

8. Cast Net

A cast net is defined as a net having a maximum radius of ten (10) feet and a mesh size (square measure) of not less than one quarter (0.25) inch and not greater than one (1) inch.

9. Trotline

A main line with drop lines. Each drop line has one baited hook. Single, double, or treble hooks each count as one hook. Drop lines must be at least twenty-four (24) inches apart. The use of a main line with only one hook (e.g., limb line) is prohibited.

10. Dip Net

A dip net is a net constructed from natural or synthetic fibers which is attached to a frame that is attached to a pole.

11. Hand Collection

The use of hands to capture animals, without any other apparatus.

12. Archery Equipment

Archery equipment is defined as a bow (longbows, recurves, compounds and crossbows) and arrow.

13. Minnow Trap

Traps must be constructed of half inch or smaller wire mesh. Those traps with a funnel entrance must have an entrance of one (1) inch or greater, not to exceed two and one-half (2.5) inch. Those traps with a vertical entrance must have an entrance of one-half (0.5) inch

or greater, not to exceed one and one-half (1.5) inch.

14. Whip-Set

The act of encircling fish with a trammel or gill net and actively driving fish into nets by creating a disturbance (e.g., vibrations from a boat or using other legal devices) either in the boat or water. A whip-set must be attended at all times.

SECTION IV. REPEAL OF PRIOR PROCLAMATIONS

This proclamation repeals Proclamation 23-11.

Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission

Thomas Woods

Thomas Woods (Feb 22, 2024 05:44 EST)

Chairman

I certify that this is an accurate and complete copy of a proclamation lawfully promulgated and adopted by the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission on the 16th day of February 2024.

[Signature]
Secretary

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 22 day of February 2024.

Elizabeth Uldrich

Notary Public



My commission expires on: 9/7/26

Proclamation 24-02 received and recorded this 22nd day of February, 2024; to be effective the 23rd day of March, 2024.

Tre Hargett

Tre Hargett Secretary of State

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Feb 22 2024, 2:26 pm

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