

ILLINOIS SPORT FISHING AWARDS
(Official Entry Blank)

This entry is for: **STATE RECORD FISH** **BIG FISH** **CATCH & RELEASE FISH**
(See back of this form for rules for each type of entry)

1. Species of fish: _____
2. Total length: _____ inches, Girth: _____ inches
3. Date caught: _____
4. Weight of fish (A or B): A: Spring scale _____ pounds _____ ounces B: Computer (digital scale): _____ pounds
5. Name of water where caught: _____
6. County: _____ 7. Pound test of line: _____
8. Bait/lure used: _____
9. Color and size of lure: _____
10. Type of tackle: rod _____ reel _____

11. I hereby state that I have caught this fish on a pole and line and that the enclosed information is correct to the best of my ability.

Name (print): _____
Signature: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Telephone: Area code (_____) _____

Witness verification: We, the undersigned, witnessed the weighing and/or measuring of the above fish and certify that the above information is correct:

1. Signature: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Telephone: Area Code (_____) _____
2. Signature: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Telephone: Area Code (_____) _____

IF THE ABOVE FISH IS A NEW STATE RECORD:

Certified by: _____ Date: _____
(IDNR Fishery Biologist)

Mail to:
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Division of Fisheries
One Natural Resources Way
Springfield IL 67202-1271

**ILLINOIS SPORT FISHING AWARDS
(Official Entry Form)**

The following rules apply to STATE RECORD, BIG FISH and CATCH AND RELEASE entries:

1. Fish must be caught legally by pole and line from Illinois waters. Fish caught by trotline, jugs, bank poles, gigs, spears, bow and arrow, nets, seines, and snagging are not eligible.
2. Fish caught from Licensed Daily Fee Fishing Areas are not eligible.
3. Qualifying fish must be submitted individually on an official entry form within 90 days of being caught. If fishing alone, the witness verification section may be omitted for BIG FISH and CATCH AND RELEASE fish. All sections must be completed for STATE RECORD eligibility.
4. Each STATE RECORD entry must be accompanied by a clear, sideview photograph of the fish, preferably of the angler with the fish. Photographs of BIG FISH and CATCH AND RELEASE fish are not required.
5. Fish entered for a STATE RECORD award must be weighed on a scale certified for trade in front of two witnesses.
6. Total length is to be measured from the tip of the snout, with the mouth closed, to the tip of the tail to the nearest 1/8 inch. Girth is measured at the greatest distance around the fish (circumference).
7. A fish entered for STATE RECORD fish must be kept intact and frozen until it has been certified, and when necessary, genetically confirmed by an Illinois Department of Natural Resources Fishery Biologist.
8. The entry and photograph become property of the State of Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Photos cannot be returned.
9. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources reserves the right to reject an entry based upon its investigation of the identification, methods used in catching, and the accuracy of measurement and weighing.
10. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources reserves the right to reproduce, duplicate, or otherwise copy via a body cast, any certified STATE RECORD fish. Duplicate mounts will be used solely by the Department for display purposes and will acknowledge the record holder.

AWARDS

A **STATE RECORD** patch, engraved wall plaque, and certificate will be awarded to the angler who catches a fish, only of the species listed below, which equals or exceeds the weight of the current **STATE RECORD**.

A **BIG FISH** patch and certificate will be awarded to the angler who catches and keeps a fish only of the species listed below, which equals or exceeds the minimum qualifying weight.

A **CATCH AND RELEASE** pin and certificate will be awarded to the angler who catches and releases a fish, only of the species listed below, which equals or exceeds the minimum qualifying length.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SPECIES TO BE ENTERED

BIG FISH: minimum qualifying weight in pounds

CATCH AND RELEASE (C&R): minimum qualifying length in inches

SPECIES	BIG FISH (Pounds)	C & R (inches)	SPECIES	BIG FISH (Pounds)	C & R (inches)
Largemouth Bass	6	19	Black bullhead	2	12
Smallmouth Bass	3	16	Yellow bullhead	2	12
Spotted Bass	3	16	Brown bullhead	2	12
White Bass	2	15	Coho salmon	10	25
Yellow Bass	1	11	Chinook salmon	18	34
Striped Bass	12	28	Pink salmon	2	15
Hybrid Striped Bass	7	20	Atlantic salmon	9	25
Northern Pike	13	30	Lake trout	15	27
Muskellunge	15	36	Brown trout	15	27
Tiger Muskie	13	30	Rainbow trout	12	30
Walleye	5	22	Brook trout	2	15
Sauger	3	18	Tiger trout	3	19
Saugeye (hybrid)	3	18	Carp	15	32
Yellow perch	1	12	Bowfin	6	24
Bluegill	1	10	Freshwater drum	10	24
Redear sunfish	1	10	Bigmouth buffalo	15	25
Green sunfish	1	10	Black buffalo	15	25
Rock bass	1	9	Smallmouth buffalo	15	25
Warmouth	1	9	Shovelnose sturgeon	2	24
Other sunfish	1	10	Longnose gar	6	32
Hybrid sunfish	1	10	Shortnose gar	6	30
White crappie	2	13	Spotted gar	6	30
Black crappie	2	13	Grass carp (white amur)	15	27
Hybrid crappie	2	13	Goldeye	1	12
Channel catfish	14	28	Mooneye	1	12
Blue catfish	20	30	Skipjack herring	1	12
Flathead catfish	20	30	Burbot	5	22

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources is requesting this information as outlined under the Fish Code, Chapter 56. This information is voluntary, however, you must fill out and sign the form to qualify for a sport fishing award.