

This is an amendment to 19.31.4 NMAC, Section 11, effective December 14, 2007

19.31.4.11 DAILY BAG, POSSESSION LIMITS AND REQUIREMENTS OR CONDITIONS:

A. Trout

(1) Waters with reduced bag limit: No person shall fish waters regulated for reduced limits while having in excess of that limit in possession.

(2) Brown, rainbow, cutthroat, lake, Brook trout and Kokanee salmon:

(a) The daily bag limit shall be 5 trout and no more than 10 trout shall be in possession, unless otherwise specified in special trout waters, Paragraph (4) of Subsection A of 19.31.4.11 NMAC.

(b) The daily bag limit for cutthroat trout shall be 2 trout and no more than 2 cutthroat trout may in possession. Cutthroat trout are included in the bag and possession limits for trout explained in Subparagraph (a) of Paragraph (2) of Subsection A of 19.31.4.11 NMAC (above).

(c) The daily bag limit for lake trout shall be 2 trout and no more than 4 lake trout shall be in possession.

(3) Special Kokanee salmon season: During the special Kokanee salmon season, the daily bag limit shall be 12 Kokanee salmon in addition to the daily bag limit for trout, and no more than 24 Kokanee salmon may be possessed in addition to the possession limit for trout. It shall be unlawful to possess Kokanee salmon at Heron lake and Pine river during the closed Kokanee salmon season (October 1 through the second Thursday of November).

(4) Special trout waters - On certain waters, hereafter referred to as "Special Trout Waters", the following exceptions shall apply:

(a) On those sections of the following waters the daily bag limit shall be 2 trout and no more than 2 trout shall be in possession. Anglers must stop fishing in those waters when the daily bag limit is reached: In Rio Arriba county: all waters lying within or adjacent to the Little Chama valley ranch (Edward Sargent wildlife area) including the Rio Chamito, Sexton creek, and Rio Chama, excluding Nabor creek and Nabor lake; In Colfax county: the Shuree lakes on the Valle Vidal; In Taos county: a posted portion of the Rio Pueblo between the bridge at mile marker 55 on state hwy. 518 upstream approximately 1 mile to the Canon Tio Maes trailhead; In San Miguel county: an approximately 1-1/2 mile posted portion of the Pecos river beginning approximately 1/2 mile above the confluence of the Mora river (Mora-Pecos) upstream to approximately 1/4 mile above the bridge crossing at Cowles; In Rio Arriba county: a posted portion of the Chama river approximately 2.9 miles within the boundaries of the Rio Chama wildlife and fishing area; ~~In Catron county: a posted portion of Gilita creek from the Gila wilderness boundary downstream approximately 5 miles to its confluence with Snow creek;~~ In Rio Arriba county: a posted portion of the Rio de los Pinos from USFS Boundary 24 at the junction of forest road 284 and 87A, 2.5 miles upstream to the private property boundary; In Taos county: a posted portion of Red River from the confluence of Goose creek 1 mile upstream. In Catron county: Iron creek in the Gila wilderness upstream of the constructed waterfall barrier located in T12SR17WSec16NE. Every person angling for fish on this portion of Iron creek must be in possession of a Gila trout permit, issued in their name by the department or its designee. A photocopy, duplicate copy or computer printout of this permit will suffice as evidence of receiving such permit.

(b) In San Juan county, in a posted portion of the San Juan river, from a point beginning approximately 1/4 mile downstream of Navajo dam and extending downstream 3.5 miles to the east side of section 16: the daily bag limit shall be 1 trout and no more than 1 trout shall be in possession except in the catch-and-release section. The angler must stop fishing in the section defined once the daily bag limit is reached.

(c) On those sections of the following waters every person must comply with any special requirements listed and no fish may be kept or held in possession while fishing in the posted portions of the following waters: In San Juan county: a posted portion of the San Juan river from Navajo dam downstream approximately 1/4 mile; In Sandoval county: a posted portion of the Rio Cebolla from the Seven Springs day use area upstream to its headwaters; In Sandoval county: a posted portion of the San Antonio river from the Baca location boundary downstream approximately 2.0 miles (T. 19 N., R. 03 E., S 16 and 20); In Sandoval county: a posted portion of the Rio Guadalupe from the Porter landing bridge downstream approximately 1.3 miles to Llano Loco Spring; In Taos county: a posted portion of the Rio Costilla from the Valle Vidal tract of the Carson national forest downstream for approximately 2.4 miles to the confluence of Latir creek; In Sierra county: the Rio las Animas within the Gila national forest, Black range ranger district; In Mora county: the Pecos river in the Pecos wilderness, above Pecos falls; In Rio Arriba county: Nabor creek and Nabor lake on the Edward Sargent wildlife area; In San Miguel and Santa Fe counties: Doctor creek from 1/4 mile above its confluence with Holy Ghost creek upstream to its headwaters; In Mora county: Rio Valdez in the Pecos wilderness from 1/4 mile below Smith cabin upstream to its headwaters; In San Miguel and Mora counties: Jack's creek from the water falls located 1/4 mile downstream of NM highway 63 crossing upstream to its headwaters; In Taos and Colfax counties: any stream on

the Valle Vidal (Vermejo tract - Carson national forest); In Grant county; Black canyon creek in Grant county upstream from lower Black canyon campground. Every person angling for fish on this portion of Black canyon must be in possession of a Gila trout permit, issued in their name by the department or its designee. A photocopy, duplicate copy or computer printout of this permit will suffice as evidence of receiving such permit.

(d) In Colfax county: on a posted section of the Cimarron river from the lower end of Tolby campground downstream approximately 1.4 miles to the first bridge of N.M. 64 the daily bag limit shall be 1 fish and no more than one fish may be in possession.

(e) At Conservancy park/Tingley beach in Albuquerque: the southernmost pond shall be catch-and-release only.

~~(5) On the following waters, the daily bag limit shall be 3 trout and no more than 3 trout may be in possession, although there are no special restrictions regarding the use of legal gear.~~

~~(a) In Taos county: a posted portion of the Rio Grande beginning at the New Mexico/Colorado state line downstream to the Taos junction bridge.~~

~~(b) In Taos county: a posted portion of the Red River beginning approximately 1/2 mile downstream of the walking bridge at Red River state fish hatchery downstream to its confluence with the Rio Grande.~~

~~(c) In Taos county: the designated fishing pond at Red River state fish hatchery.~~

~~(d) In Rio Arriba county: on a posted portion of the Rio Chama from the base of Abiquiu dam downstream approximately 7 miles to the river crossing bridge on U.S. 84 at Abiquiu.~~

~~(e) In Sierra county: the Rio Grande from Elephant Butte dam downstream to and including Caballo lake.~~

~~(f) In Lincoln county: The Rio Ruidoso from the boundary between the Mescalero Apache reservation and the city of Ruidoso downstream to Fridenbloom drive.~~

~~(g) In Rio Arriba county: Laguna del campo at Los Ojos trout hatchery.~~

~~(h) In Taos county: the Red River city ponds.~~

~~(6) Gila trout: It shall be unlawful for any person to possess Gila trout (*Oncorhynchus gilae*).~~

(f) On those sections of the following waters the daily bag limit shall be 3 trout and no more than 3 trout shall be in possession. Anglers must stop fishing in those waters when the daily bag limit is reached. Any legal angling gear and legal bait for trout waters may be used. In Taos county: a posted portion of the Rio Grande beginning at the New Mexico/Colorado state line downstream to the Taos junction bridge; In Taos county: a posted portion of the Red River beginning approximately 1/2 mile downstream of the walking bridge at Red River state fish hatchery downstream to its confluence with the Rio Grande; In Taos county: the designated fishing pond at Red River state fish hatchery; In Taos county: the Red River city ponds; In Rio Arriba county: on a posted portion of the Rio Chama from the base of Abiquiu dam downstream approximately 7 miles to the river crossing bridge on U.S. 84 at Abiquiu; In Rio Arriba county: Laguna del campo at Los Ojos trout hatchery; In Sierra county: the Rio Grande from Elephant Butte dam downstream to and including Caballo lake; In Lincoln county: The Rio Ruidoso from the boundary between the Mescalero Apache reservation and the city of Ruidoso downstream to Fridenbloom drive.

(g) On those sections of the following waters the daily bag limit shall be 2 Gila trout and no more than 2 Gila trout in possession, and the bag limit and possession limit for brown trout is unlimited. Anglers must stop fishing in those waters when the daily bag limit is reached. Any legal angling gear and legal bait for trout waters must be used. In Catron county: waters upstream from the confluence of Gilita creek and Snow creek including Gilita, Willow and Little Turkey creeks.

B. Warm-water fishes: The daily bag limit for game fish other than trout shall be as listed below and the possession limit shall be twice the daily bag limit.

- (1) striped bass 3 fish;
- (2) largemouth, smallmouth, and spotted bass 5 fish;
- (3) walleye 5 fish;
- (4) crappie 20 fish;
- (5) white bass and white bass x striped bass hybrid 25 fish;
- (6) northern pike 10 fish;
- (7) catfish (all species, except bullheads) 15 fish;
- (8) yellow perch 30 fish;
- (9) all other warm-water game species 20 fish.

C. The following exception shall apply:

(1) At Conservancy park/Tingley beach in Albuquerque; lake Van (Chaves county); Oasis state park; Greene Acres lake (Curry county); Burn lake (Dona Ana county); Escondida lake (Socorro county); McGaffey lake

(McKinley county); Bataan lake (Eddy county); Chaparral lake (Lea county); Bosque Redondo (De Baca county); Carrizozo lake (Lincoln county); Green Meadow lake; Eunice lake; Estancia Park lake (Torrance county); Corona lake (Lincoln county); Grants city pond (Cibola county); and Jal lake (Lea county): the daily bag limit for channel catfish will be 2 fish and the possession limit shall be twice the daily bag limit.

(2) In San Juan county, in the San Juan and Animas rivers, not including Navajo lake, there is no daily bag limit or possession limit for channel catfish and striped bass.

(3) Statewide, all tiger muskie (*Esox lucius x E. masquinongy*) caught must immediately be released.

(4) In Eddy county, the Pecos river beginning at the north boundary of Brantley wildlife management area to Brantley reservoir dam including Brantley reservoir, all fish caught must immediately be released, except during official fishing tournaments during which fish may be held in a live well until they are weighed and measured, on site, and then immediately released back into the lake.

[19.31.4.11 NMAC - Rp 19.31.4.11 NMAC, 4-15-02; A, 10-31-02; A, 6-25-03; A, 8-13-04; A, 5-13-05; A, 9-15-05; A/E, 01-03-06; A, 1-31-06; A/E, 3-31-06; A/E, 5-31-06; A, 5-1-07; A, 9-14-07; A, 12-14-07]