



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Policy and Planning
6060 Broadway • Denver, CO 80216

TO: Members of the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission
FROM: Hilary Hernandez, Regulations Manager
RE: September 2-3, 2026 Parks and Wildlife Commission Meeting Regulatory Items
DATE: August 21, 2026

The regulatory and policy items detailed below are scheduled to be addressed at the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission's September 2-3, 2026 meeting. If there are questions about any of the agenda items below, or if additional information is needed, please feel free to contact Hilary Hernandez at hilary.hernandez@state.co.us.

ISSUES IDENTIFICATION

Agenda Item 12: Chapter W-1- "Fishing" 2 CCR 406-1 and those related provisions of Chapter W-0 ("General Provisions" 2 CCR 406-0) and Chapter W-7 ("Herpetofauna" 2 CCR 406-7) necessary to accommodate changes to or ensure consistency with Chapter W-1 (Step 1 of 2)

Open for annual review of the entire chapter including, but not limited to, consideration of regulations regarding season dates, bag and possession limits, licensing requirements, manner of take provisions and special conditions or restrictions applicable to waters of the state. Specific considerations include:

- Require aquatic nuisance species (ANS) inspection and management for aquatic wildlife production facilities in Chapter W-0, Article VII, #014 Aquatic Wildlife Health Management.
- Amend regulations to prohibit the use of any amphibian (alive or dead) as fishing bait.

CITIZEN PETITION

Agenda Item 13: Chapter W-3 - "Furbearers and Small Game, except Migratory Birds" 2 CCR 406-3 (Step 1 of 2)

Division recommendation concerning potential regulatory changes related to the avocational take of prairie dogs on public land and related citizen petition

DRAFT REGULATIONS

Agenda Item 14: Chapter W-0 - "General Provisions" 2 CCR 406-0, and those related provisions of Chapter W- 2 ("Big Game" 2 CCR 406-2), Chapter W-3 ("Furbearers and Small Game, Except Migratory Birds" 2 CCR 406-3), Chapter W-11 ("Wildlife Parks and Unregulated Wildlife" 2 CCR 406-



Laura Clellan, Director, Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Parks and Wildlife Commission: James 'Jay' Tutchton, Chair · Gabriel Otero, Vice-Chair
Jessica Beaulieu · Frances Silva Blayney · Tai Jacober · John Le Coq ·
Peter Maguire · Dallas May · Jack Murphy · Rebecca 'Becky' Niemiec · Richard Reading

11), Chapter W-16 (“Parks and Wildlife Procedural Rules” 2 CCR 406-16), Chapter P-1 (“Parks and Outdoor Recreation Lands” 2 CCR 405-1), Chapter P-4 (“Snowmobile Regulations” 2 CCR 405-4), Chapter P-5 (“Off-Highway Vehicle Regulations” 2 CCR 405-5), and Chapter P-7 (“Passes, Permits, and Regulations” 2 CCR 405-7) necessary to accommodate changes to or ensure consistency with Chapter W-0 (Step 1 of 2)

Open for consideration of regulations to implement the new licensing and registration system in June of 2027.

Agenda Item 15: Chapter W-0 - “General Provisions” 2 CCR 406-0, and those related provisions of Chapter W- 2 (“Big Game” 2 CCR 406-2), Chapter W-3 (“Furbearers and Small Game, Except Migratory Birds” 2 CCR 406-3), and Chapter W-16 (“Parks and Wildlife Procedural Rules” 2 CCR 406-16) necessary to accommodate changes to or ensure consistency with Chapter W-0 (Step 1 of 2)

Open for annual consideration of regulations including, but not limited to, adjusting license fees and license agent commission rates according to adjustments to the Denver-Aurora-Lakewood Consumer Price Index.

ISSUES IDENTIFICATION

Agenda Item 16: Chapter W-2 - “Big Game” 2 CCR 406-2 (Step 1 of 2)

Open for consideration of preference point fees for bear, elk, deer, pronghorn, and turkey.

CONSENT AGENDA

FINAL REGULATIONS

Agenda Item 23.1: Chapter P-1 - “Parks and Outdoor Recreation Lands” 2 CCR 405-1 (Step 2 of 2)

Open for final review of the entire chapter including, but not limited to,

- Updating property-specific regulations at Cameo Shooting and Education Complex to remain current with facility development.
- Updating property-specific regulations at Fishers Peak State Park to remain current with facility development.

ISSUES IDENTIFICATION

Agenda Item 23.2: Chapter P-3 - “River Outfitters” 2 CCR 405-3 (Step 1 of 2)

Open for consideration to update river outfitter regulations to implement HB 26-1197, which revised the statutory definition of “vessel.” Allowing the limited use of single-chamber vessels on regulated trips.

Agenda Item 23.3: Chapter W-1- “Fishing” 2 CCR 406-1 (Step 1 of 2)

Open for annual review of the entire chapter including, but not limited to, consideration of regulations regarding season dates, bag and possession limits, licensing requirements, manner of take provisions and special conditions or restrictions applicable to waters of the state. Specific considerations include:

- Modify bag and possession limits for walleye and saugeye, and remove the restriction limiting angler harvest to a single walleye or saugeye exceeding 21 inches at Boyd Lake.
- Update regulations at Buttonrock Reservoir to remove regulations not directed by CPW.
- Modify property-specific fishing regulations at Golden Park Ponds for largemouth and smallmouth bass for the use of artificial flies and lures.
- Update Lutz Reservoir regulations to establish a 10” minimum size limit on crappie, establish catch and release fishing regulations for largemouth and smallmouth bass, and establish an artificial fly and lure only regulation.
- Restrict harvest and manner of take regulations for cutthroat trout at Mill Creek.
- Update regulations at Willow Bend Natural Area Ponds (Willow Bend, Kingfisher, and Turtle) to implement special regulations for largemouth and smallmouth bass.
- Establish catch-and-release regulations for largemouth and smallmouth bass at the following Front Range locations: Arapahoe Bend Natural Area, Riverbend Ponds, Dixon Reservoir, Prospect Ponds, and Kyger Reservoir.

Agenda Item 23.4: Chapter W-3 - “Furbearers and Small Game, except Migratory Birds” 2 CCR 406-3 (Step 1 of 2)

Open for consideration to add game management unit 26 to the over-the-counter turkey hunt code.

CITIZEN PETITION

Agenda Item 23.5: Chapter W-1 - “Fishing” 2 CCR 406-1

At its September meeting, the Parks and Wildlife Commission will consider whether it should adopt the Director’s written recommendation to DENY a petition for rulemaking related to prohibiting feeding fish on state waters.

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date:

August 21, 2026

Issue:	Should CPW implement aquatic nuisance species (ANS) inspection and management requirements for aquatic wildlife production facilities?
Discussion (facts and figures, explanation of issue):	
In 2025, a group petitioned the Commission to ban all importation of aquatic wildlife for use as bait. They argued the ban was necessary to protect Colorado waters from out-of-state pathogens and invasive species. In its recommendation to deny the petition, the Division highlighted the current regulations requiring annual fish health inspections and certifications for all facilities that produce or import live fish to Colorado and noted that the Division was exploring the idea of requiring annual ANS inspections for these facilities as well. The Commission ultimately denied the petition but expressed support for the Division's development of a rule requiring ANS inspections and certifications for all facilities that produce or import live aquatic wildlife into Colorado. The proposed rule would provide greater protection for Colorado's aquatic resources by requiring any aquatic wildlife production facility—defined as “one or more lakes, ponds, raceways, tanks, or other containers in a single location and under common ownership or management where fish or crustaceans¹ are reared for live transport to or within Colorado or for release in Colorado”—to be annually inspected for ANS. Annual ANS inspections and the reports documenting their results would need to satisfy certain requirements. If an annual ANS inspection detects ANS, the Division would designate the facility “ANS positive,” and the rule would prohibit all importation, exportation, transportation, or release of fish or crustaceans from the facility unless the facility gets an exemption. The rule would allow the Director (in consultation with the Fish Health Board) to grant an exemption if certain requirements are met and to establish a procedure for removing a facility's “ANS positive” designation. See the attached redline for details. _____ ¹Amphibians would not be included in the ANS inspection requirements because a separate proposed rule would ban their use as bait entirely.	
State law requires CPW to solicit input from stakeholders that may be affected positively or negatively by the proposed rules. The following stakeholders have been advised of and invited to provide input on the regulatory changes proposed in this issue paper: *It is assumed that all necessary internal parties have been notified*.	
CPW has worked to inform the general public and impacted stakeholders about the proposed regulation change and to gather feedback. Stakeholders include the aquaculture community (in-state and out-of-state facilities) that rear fish or crustaceans for live transport to or within Colorado or for release in Colorado, as well as the Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) and the Fish Health Board (FHB). The CDA licenses or registers aquaculture facilities that propagate, sell, broker, trade, or transport any live aquatic organism, with a few exceptions. The proposed rule may require corresponding changes to the CDA's regulations, and staff are working with the CDA to make those changes. Engagement methods have included: sending email notifications to all CDA-permitted aquaculture facilities from the past 2 years, sending email notifications to all CPW-licensed aquatic wildlife importation facilities from the past 2 years, meetings with the CDA, meetings with the FHB, and notifying the public, with a focus on potentially impacted and interested parties.	

The FHB recommended approval of the proposed regulation change during their August 3 meeting and provided that recommendation to the CPW commission. Aside from the feedback from the FHB, we have not received any other feedback from other stakeholders.

Alternatives (possible outcomes or possible regulations):

1. ***Preferred Alternative*: Imposing ANS inspection requirements for aquatic wildlife production facilities.** Impacted sections of Chapter W-0 include #014 Aquatic Wildlife Health Management, #000 Definitions, #010 Transportation, and #011 Importation.
2. **Status quo:** No ANS inspection requirements for aquatic wildlife production facilities.

Issue Raised by:	Aquatic Wildlife Branch	
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):		
CC:	Chris Breidenbach (AGO)	
Approved for further consideration by:		Matt Nicholl
Requires new space in the brochure?		NO
Does this change comply with BGSS?		N/A
Are adequate staff and funding resources available to implement?		YES
Region, branch, or section leading implementation:	Aquatic Wildlife Branch	
Any additional regions, branches or sections involved in implementation:	Regions, Information and Education (Licenses, Reservations and Customer Operations)	
Recommended for consent agenda?		NO

DRAFT REGULATIONS - CHAPTER W-0 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE I - Definitions

#000 – The following definitions supplement the statutory definitions found in the Wildlife Act including, but not limited to, those definitions found in section 33-1-102, C.R.S.

A. General Definitions Including Manner of Take Definitions

1. **"Aggregate"** when applied to bag and possession limits, means the total number of species which are covered by such bag and possession limits. Any combination of the species may be possessed up to the total number established as the aggregate bag and possession limits.
2. **"Air gun"** means any rifle or handgun .177 caliber or larger firing pellets, slugs, or round ball ammunition powered by high pressure air or compressed inert gas. This includes devices referred to as pellet guns or pneumatic weapons.
3. **"Archery"** means the use of a hand-held bow.
4. **"Bag Limit"** means the maximum number of wildlife which may be taken in a single day during an established open season. This includes any wildlife which are consumed or donated during the same day they were legally taken. The terms "bag limit," "daily bag" and "bag" are considered to have the same meaning.
5. **"Baiting"** means the placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of any salt, mineral, grain, or other feed so as to constitute a lure, attraction or enticement for wildlife.
6. **"Bison"**
 - a. "Domestic bison" means privately owned bison, bison legally reduced to captivity, bison that have escaped lawful captivity, and bison owned by or lawfully reduced to captivity by an Indian tribe. Domestic bison, including hybrids with domestic cattle, are domestic animals pursuant to regulation #1103.
 - b. "Wild bison" means the big game species bison.
7. **"Crossbow"** means a bow which is attached at a right angle to a stock with a mechanical mechanism for holding the bow string in a cocked position and fired from the shoulder.
8. **"Feral Hog"** means any species or hybrid of species from the family Suidae (European boar, Eurasian boar, Russian boar, feral hog) or the family Tayassuidae (Javelina and peccary), which possesses one or more morphological characteristic distinguishing it from domestic swine including, but not limited to, an elongated snout, visible tusks, muscular shoulders with small hams and short loins, coarse hair, or a predominant ridge of hair along its back. For the purposes of these regulations, any swine running at large which possesses one or more of the above characteristics, may be presumed to be a feral hog, unless a person has received actual notice that the swine has escaped containment and its return is actively sought, in which case the person should report its location to the owner, if known, and the Division and the Department of Agriculture.
9. **"Handgun"** means any pistol or revolver having no shoulder stock or attachment.
10. **"Hand-held bow"** means a long bow, recurved bow, or compound bow on which the string is not drawn mechanically or held mechanically under tension. String releases or

mechanical releases which are hand-drawn and hand-held with no other attachment or connection to the bow other than to the bowstring are lawful devices.

11. Licenses

- a. **"Leftover license"** means a limited license, including an electronic limited license, which is leftover after the primary application and drawing process.
 - b. **"Limited license"** means any license, including an electronic license, which is limited in number by regulation and which is issued through the drawing process.
 - c. **"Over the counter license"** means a license, including an electronic license, that may be purchased at a license agent. Most over the counter licenses are unlimited in number, but some may have an established cap.
 - d. **"Private Land Only license"** means a limited license, including an electronic limited license, valid only for use on private land and State Trust Lands not leased by the Division, excluding those limited licenses issued as part of the Ranching for Wildlife program. Contact the State Land Board for access restrictions.
 - e. **"Unlimited license"** means a hunting license, including an electronic license, and carcass tag when appropriate which is not restricted in quantity and which is sold by license agents throughout the state and is not valid in any unit where licenses are available only through application and computer or hand drawn selection.
12. **"Mentor"** means a person eighteen years of age or older who holds a valid hunter education certificate or who was born before January 1, 1949, and accompanies a youth or apprentice while hunting. A person whose hunting and fishing license privileges are suspended can not be a mentor.
 13. **"Muzzle-loading rifle or musket"** means a firearm fired from the shoulder, with a single barrel which fires a single patched round ball or bullet.
 14. **"Pre-charged pneumatic air gun"** means an air gun that is charged from an external high compression source such as an air compressor, air tank, or external hand pump.
 15. **"Private use"** means the possession of wildlife only for private enjoyment and not intended to be sold, traded, bartered, or entered into commerce.
 16. **"Privately-owned game birds"** means game birds held in private ownership and otherwise acquired in accordance with Commission regulations.
 17. **"Processed meat"** means those edible parts of wildlife which have been cut into normal portions and wrapped for storage. It does not include game meat that is whole, has been quartered, or has not been packaged into normally accepted butcher's portions including but not limited to steaks, roasts, loins, chops, and ground meat.
 18. **"Rifle"** means a firearm fired from the shoulder, with a rifled bore, having a barrel length of sixteen (16) inches or more and a minimum overall length of twenty-six (26) inches.
 19. **"Shotgun"** means a firearm fired from the shoulder with a smooth bore, having a barrel length of eighteen (18) inches or more and a minimum overall length of twenty-six (26) inches.
 20. **"Slingbow"** means a hand-held device, not drawn or held mechanically, with the arms or attachment points to which an elastic band is attached for propelling an arrow. The term

also includes string releases or mechanical releases which are hand-drawn and hand-held with no other attachment or connection to the slingbow other than to the bowstring. Wrist-brace attachments are considered normal components of a slingbow.

21. **"Slingshot"** means a hand-held device, not drawn or held mechanically, with the arms or attachment points to which an elastic band is attached for propelling small stones or metal projectiles. Wrist-brace attachments and non-elastic projectile pouches are considered normal components of a slingshot.
22. **"State Trust Lands"** means those lands owned or under the control of the State Board of Land Commissioners.

B. Definitions related to Aquatic Species or Fish Health

1. **"Aquatic Nuisance Species" or ("ANS")** has the same meaning as in Chapter P-8, #800.A. ~~means exotic or nonnative aquatic wildlife or any plant species that have been determined by the Commission to pose a significant threat to the aquatic resources or water infrastructure of the state.~~
2. **"Aquatic wildlife production facility"** means one or more lakes, ponds, raceways, tanks, or other containers in a single location and under common ownership or management where fish or crustaceans are reared for live transport to or within Colorado or for release in Colorado.
- 2.3. **"Best management practices"** means the most effective, practicable (including technological, economic, constructible, and institutional considerations) means of preventing or minimizing the presence or spread of ANS, parasites, or diseases in a fish production facility.
- 3.4. **"Certification"** means a document issued by the Division certifying that the facility and the fish located thereon, have been tested for regulated fish pathogens in the numbers and by methods meeting the minimum standards established by these regulations, or any analogous document issued by a qualified fish health official from a recognized state, federal, or foreign fish and wildlife agency.
- 4.5. **"Coldwater stream"** - means a segment or reach of a creek, stream, or river that has water temperatures that do not exceed 68 degrees F for 24 consecutive hours.
- 5.6. **"Critical Habitat"** - means the following river reaches and their 100 year floodplains: the Gunnison River downstream of the Uncompahgre River confluence, the Colorado River downstream of the exit 90 north bridge from I-70, the White River downstream of Rio Blanco Dam, the Green River downstream of the Yampa River confluence, and the Yampa River downstream of the Colo 394 bridge.
- 6.7. **"Direct connection"** means waters in the Upper Colorado River Basin that flow directly into critical habitat. This does not include reservoirs, and waters above such reservoirs, where fish escapement has been addressed according to a management plan approved by the Division.
- 7.8. **"Drainages"** - means sub-sets of the USGS hydrologic code system as set forth in the Hydrologic Unit Maps (U.S. Geological Survey Water Supply Paper 2294, U.S. Dept. of Interior U.S. Geological Survey, 1974, State of Colorado section reprinted 1992). This document, but not later amendments or editions, have been incorporated by reference and can be viewed and copies obtained at the Division as set forth in the "Incorporated References" section of Chapter 0 of these regulations.
9. **"Food Production Facility"** – means any operation which raises or produces fish or crustacean for the purpose of human consumption that the Division, after consultation

with the Colorado Fish Health Board, has determined possesses a biosecurity plan and ensures that such fish or crustacean never escapes the facility live.

10. "Gametes" - means eggs or sperm.

8-11. "Inlets" - means the bay or recess at the confluence of a stream with the surface of a lake or reservoir.

9-12. "Isolated Water" - means ponds, lakes, or reservoirs that have no outlet.

40-13. "Myxobolus cerebralis intensity" means average spore levels in salmonid fish as determined by standardized testing in accordance with the provisions of #014 Aquatic Wildlife Health Management.

44-14. "Myxobolus cerebralis negative salmonid fish production facility" means a facility in which *Myxobolus cerebralis* has never been found or in which *Myxobolus cerebralis* has been eliminated in accordance with the provisions of #014 Aquatic Wildlife Health Management.

42-15. "Myxobolus cerebralis negative water" means a lake, pond or coldwater stream segment sampled for a statistically valid number of fish that do not test positive for *Myxobolus cerebralis*, or a water that has not been tested and has not been stocked with salmonid fish from a *Myxobolus cerebralis* positive facility.

43-16. "Myxobolus cerebralis positive water" means a lake, pond or coldwater stream segment sampled and found to have salmonids that test positive for *Myxobolus cerebralis*, or which has been stocked with salmonid fish from a *Myxobolus cerebralis* positive facility.

44-17. "Myxospore (spore)" means the stage of *Myxobolus cerebralis* formed in the cartilage of infected fish which re-infects the alternate host, the *Tubifex tubifex* worm.

45-18. "Nonsalmonid fish" - means all species of fish and their hybrids that are not in the family Salmonidae.

46-19. "Ordinary high water line" – means the point where perennial, hydrophytic plant life converges with bare substrate (rock, gravel, sand, fines) or with substrate interspersed with annual vegetation.

47-20. "Prevalence" is the percentage of individuals in a population found to be infected with a pathogen as determined by standardized testing in accordance with the provisions of #014 Aquatic Wildlife Health Management.

21. "Qualified fish pathologist" means an individual who meets professional standards as set forth by the CPW and who conducts inspections as set forth in #014 Aquatic Wildlife Health Management.

48-22. "Qualified aquatic nuisance species (ANS) professional" means a person duly qualified to inspect facilities for the presence of ANS.

49-23. "Salmonid fish" - means all species of fish and their hybrids in the family Salmonidae, including but not limited to trout, salmon, char, whitefish, and grayling

20-24. "Salmonid fish production facility" - means one or more lakes, ponds, raceways, tanks or other containers in a single location and under the same ownership and management in which salmonid fish are reared for eventual live shipment or release.

24.25. "Salmonid habitat" means any water that supports, is capable of supporting, or is upstream of a water that supports a self-sustaining population of trout, salmon, char, whitefish, or grayling; and includes the drainages listed in Appendix D.

22.26. "Spore concentration technique (SCT)" means tests conducted according to:

- a. "Myxosoma cerebralis: Isolation and Concentration from Fish Skeletal Element - Sequential Enzymatic Digestion and Purification by Differential Centrifugation", Maria E. Markiw and Ken Wolf, Journal Fisheries Research Board of Canada, Volume 31, No. 1, 1974., or
- b. "Whirling Disease *Myxobolus cerebralis* Spore Concentration using the Continuous Plankton Centrifuge", Joseph J. O'Grodnick, Journal of Wildlife Diseases Volume 11 pp 54-57, 1975.

These documents, but not later amendments or editions, have been incorporated by reference and can be viewed and copies obtained as set forth in the "Incorporated References" section of Chapter 0 of these regulations.

23.27. "Triactinomyxons (TAMS)" are a stage of *Myxobolus cerebralis* formed in the gut lining of the *Tubifex tubifex* (tubifex) worm, and which are then released into the water column and re-infect fish with *Myxobolus cerebralis*.

24.28. "Upper Colorado River Basin" - means that portion of the Colorado River drainage that lies within the boundaries of the State of Colorado. This includes all waters in the Yampa, White, Gunnison, Dolores, San Juan, and Colorado River basins.

25.29. " 100-year floodplain"- for the upper Colorado River Basin means river floodplain 5.5 vertical feet above the ordinary high water line (OHWL).

C. Definitions related to Terrestrial Species or Wildlife Health

1. "Pelt" means the skin of a furbearer with pelage intact on the skin.

ARTICLE VII - Aquatic Wildlife

#010 – Transportation of Aquatic Wildlife

- A. Transportation of Approved Aquatic Wildlife: Only the aquatic wildlife approved under #012 of this regulation may be transported within the State of Colorado. It shall be unlawful for any person to transport any live aquatic wildlife not approved under #012 of this regulation.
- B. Requirements for Transportation:
 1. All Aquatic Wildlife: All aquatic wildlife being transported within Colorado must at all times be accompanied by, and may only be transported within Colorado pursuant to:
 - a. A personal fishing license (including the regulations pertaining to live fish as bait set forth in other provisions of CPW regulations, including #104.H),
 - b. A commercial fishing license,
 - c. A donation certificate,
 - d. A receipt from a commercial or private lake licensee, permitted aquaculture facility or permitted pet animal facility,
 - e. An aquaculture facility permit,
 - f. A pet animal facility permit,
 - g. An importation license,
 - h. A scientific collecting license, or
 - i. A bill of lading or other similar documentation evidencing that the wildlife is being transported through Colorado for delivery in another state and containing the name, address and phone number of both the source and receiving person or

facility.

Original documentation is only required when transporting aquatic wildlife pursuant to a personal or commercial fishing license, a donation certificate or any kind of receipt. In all other cases, legible copies of the required documents will suffice.

2. Unless otherwise specified under these regulations or under Title 33, all live ~~aquatic wildlife fish~~ transported within Colorado must be accompanied by ~~a copy of the fish health certificate for the source facility evidencing its compliance with #014 Aquatic Wildlife Health Management, unless the bill of lading or other similar documentation shows that the shipment is being transported through Colorado for delivery in another state, all of the following required by #014 (Aquatic Wildlife Health Management):~~

- a. a valid fish health certification for the source facility;
- b. a valid negative ANS inspection report for the source facility; and/or
- c. a valid exemption from any requirements of #014 for the source facility.

~~This requirement does not apply if a bill of lading or similar documentation shows the live aquatic wildlife are being transported through Colorado for delivery in another state. At the Division's discretion, the Division may waive the requirement that a fish health certification~~ accompany live fish transported in Colorado when transportation occurs from one Food Production Facility to another Food Production Facility.

#011 – Importation of Aquatic Wildlife

- A. Except as provided in these regulations or authorized by the Division or under Title 33 or Title 35 C.R.S., it shall be unlawful for any person to import any live native or nonnative aquatic wildlife into Colorado.
- B. Importation of Approved Aquatic Wildlife: Only the aquatic wildlife approved under #012 of this regulation may be imported. It shall be unlawful for any person to import any aquatic wildlife not approved under #012 of this regulation.
- C. Requirements for Importation License:
 - 1. A person must obtain an Importation License from the Division prior to importing any live aquatic wildlife into Colorado.
 - 2. Application for an Importation License shall be made on the form provided by the Division.
 - 3. Properly completed forms and the license fee must be submitted to the Division at least seven (7) working days prior to the proposed importation date.
 - 4. Upon receipt of the Importation License, a person may import only those species and only from the facility listed on the license. Additional species may be added to the license upon written application to the Division at least seven (7) working days prior to the proposed importation date.
- D. The Division may inspect any shipment of live crustacean, fish or viable gametes imported into Colorado.
- E. Receipt of all wildlife imported must be reported to the Division as specified on the Importation License.
- F. All importations of aquatic wildlife must comply with state fish health management regulations. ~~Each shipment of live aquatic wildlife must be accompanied by all of the following required~~

by #014 (Aquatic Wildlife Health Management):-

1. a valid fish health certification for the source facility;
2. a valid negative ANS inspection report for the source facility; and/or
3. a valid exemption from any requirements of #014 for the source facility. ~~A copy of a facility's health certification, if applicable, must accompany each shipment of live aquatic wildlife.~~

This requirement does not apply if a bill of lading or similar documentation shows the shipment of live aquatic wildlife is being transported through Colorado for delivery in another state.

~~F.G.~~ Release of aquatic wildlife must comply with all applicable regulations including but not limited to the restrictions found in #012, # 013 and 014 of these regulations.

#014 – Aquatic Wildlife Health Management

A. Inspection and Certification for Prohibited and Regulated Fish Diseases

1. Annual fish health inspections and certifications are required for all in-state fish production or holding facilities, which sell or stock live fish, and out of state facilities importing live fish into Colorado. A fish health certification will terminate one year from the effective date of certification or upon discovery of a prohibited or regulated disease, whichever occurs first. However, provided the facility requests its annual fish health inspection within 12 months of the effective date of its last certification, its fish health certification shall be valid for fifteen months or whenever its subsequent inspection report is available, whichever occurs first. In the absence of a timely written request for an annual fish health inspection the fish health certification shall terminate 12 months from the effective date of its last certification. A copy of such certification must accompany each fish shipment within or into Colorado.
2. All such facilities shall be annually inspected by a qualified fish pathologist for both prohibited and regulated diseases as applicable.
 - a. Prohibited diseases

1. All salmonid facilities must be certified to be free of the following diseases:

Infectious Hematopoietic Necrosis Virus (IHNV)
Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia Virus (VHSV)
Oncorhynchus masou Virus (OMV)

2. All non-salmonid fish production or holding facilities, and any non-salmonid fish being exported from or imported to Colorado, must be certified free of Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia Virus (VHSV).
 3. Inspection and Certification for Other Diseases of Concern: susceptible or potentially susceptible species from all importing facilities within the applicable endemic disease areas, including both salmonid and nonsalmonid fish production or holding facilities, must also be annually certified by a qualified fish pathologist to be free of the following diseases:

Ceratomyxa shasta (Ceratomyxosis)
Epizootic Epitheliotropic Disease (EEV)
Infectious Salmon Anemia Virus (ISAV)
Piscirickettsia salmonis

Tetracapsula bryosalmo (Proliferative Kidney Disease – PKD)
Spring Viremia of Carp Virus (SVCV)

- b. Regulated diseases – all salmonid facilities must be certified for the presence or absence of the following diseases:

Myxobolus cerebralis (Whirling Disease – WD)
Renibacterium salmoninarum (Bacterial Kidney Disease - BKD)
Aeromonas salmonicida (Furunculosis)
Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis Virus (IPNV)

3. Testing procedures.

- a. Except for Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia Virus (VHSV) and as otherwise provided in these regulations, all inspections and testing procedures must be conducted as set forth in AFS-FHS (American Fisheries Society-Fish Health Section). 2014. FHS blue book: suggested procedures for the detection and identification of certain finfish and shellfish pathogens, 2020 edition. Accessible at: <https://units.fisheries.org/fhs/fish-health-section-blue-book-2020/>. This document can be viewed and copies obtained at the Division as set forth in the “Incorporated References” section of Chapter 0 of these regulations.
- b. Testing for Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia Virus (VHSV) shall be conducted by the protocols and procedures of:
- 1 AFS-FHS (American Fisheries Society-Fish Health Section). 2014. FHS blue book: suggested procedures for the detection and identification of certain finfish and shellfish pathogens, 2020 edition. Accessible at: <https://units.fisheries.org/fhs/fish-health-section-blue-book-2020/>. or
 2. The Manual of diagnostics for aquatic animals 2021 edition. of the OIE - World Organisation for Animal Health, 12 rue de Prony 75017 Paris, France.

These documents can be viewed and copies obtained at the Division as set forth in the “Incorporated References” section of Chapter 0 of these regulations.

4. Authority to exempt applicants from specific pathogen testing is granted to the Director, upon consultation with, review, and recommendation from the Fish Health Board, when the following criteria are met:
- a. Compliance with testing requirements would result in an unacceptable impact on the sample population.
 - b. There is minimal risk of introducing an exotic pathogen into the state.
 - c. There is minimal risk of exposing free-flowing waters to any specific pathogen.
 - d. Adequate provisions for management and disposition of the fish and adequate disinfection of the water as necessary are made and incorporated as conditions of the importation permit.

Application for such an exemption shall be submitted to the Division at least fourteen (14) working days prior to the proposed importation date. The Director shall have fourteen (14) working days to approve or disapprove the application. The Fish Health Board shall review and submit its recommendation to the Director within seven (7) working days after receipt from the Division.

- B. Reportable Diseases: the presence of any prohibited or regulated disease at an in-state or importing facility shall be immediately reported to the Division.

- C. Management of Prohibited and Regulated Fish Diseases.

1. Prohibited Disease agents.

- a. No fish or gametes (eggs and sperm) with, or exhibiting clinical signs of, any Prohibited Disease, or any other infectious agents determined by the Director to pose a significant threat to Colorado's aquatic resources, may be imported or placed in waters of this state without written approval of the Director. Written approval may be granted only after the following conditions have been met:
 - 1. The Director has determined that no damage or undesirable effects to existing fish populations and their habitat will occur.
 - 2. The nature of any disease(s) must be positively determined and documented.
- b. If fish are found with Prohibited Diseases or any diseased wildlife, which would have a significant detrimental effect on Colorado's wildlife resource as determined by the Director, are found at any fish production or holding facility they may be destroyed or held in quarantine at the owner's expense, in accordance with 33-5.5-102 C.R.S. Possession, transfer or any other act relative to such wildlife contrary to the Director's determination of disposition is prohibited.
- c. The Director shall determine when destruction of wildlife, a quarantine or disinfection is required at any federal, state, private or commercial fish or wildlife production facility. If the Director determines that either destruction, quarantine or disinfection is required, he shall issue a written order to the owner or operator of the facility setting forth the steps for destruction and/or disinfection. Required disinfection of holding facilities will be completed at the owner's expense. If the owner disagrees with the Division's determination he shall have the right to appeal the decision to the Wildlife Commission provided notice of such appeal is given to the Director within seventy-two (72) hours of receipt of the order.

2. Regulated Disease Agents

a. *Myxobolus cerebralis* (Whirling Disease – WD)

1. *Myxobolus cerebralis* testing

- a. At the time of the annual inspection for whirling disease certification, all facilities in Colorado or facilities importing fish into Colorado shall be tested using either of the two methodologies listed below.
 - 1. Spore Concentration Technique: The facility shall provide at least one lot of live salmonids (minimum lot size of 260 fish) for whirling disease testing. As a screening procedure, fish shall be tested for the presence of *Myxobolus cerebralis* using a spore concentration technique ("SCT"). Minimum sample size of lots in aggregate shall be determined at the assumed prevalence level of 5% with 95% confidence.
 - a. Any negative finding will be conclusive for the absence of *Myxobolus cerebralis*.
 - b. Any positive finding will be presumptive for the presence of *Myxobolus cerebralis*. All presumptive SCT findings shall be confirmed by PCR. PCR results shall be conclusive as to the presence or absence of *Myxobolus cerebralis*.
 - 2. Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) Technique: As an alternative to SCT, susceptible salmonids held at least 4 months in the water supply may be tested by PCR. A positive finding in such instance shall be considered

presumptive for the presence of *Myxobolus cerebralis*. Confirmation shall be determined by a second PCR conducted by a different laboratory.

- b. Sample size – for the purpose of annual inspections for *Myxobolus cerebralis*, the minimum sample size for determination of prevalence shall be sixty susceptible fish per water supply in a fish production facility.
 - c. Stocking from facilities which are presumptive for *Myxobolus cerebralis* shall comply with the provisions of release of *Myxobolus cerebralis* positive fish during confirmatory testing. PCR tests for presumptive positives will be the highest priority for testing and every effort will be made to complete the test within 21 days.
 - d. For the purpose of conducting confirmatory testing, should it become necessary, at least 100 fish from each lot tested, with at least 200 total fish from tested lots, shall be held at the facility for up to 3 weeks after the initial inspection date.
 - e. Diagnostic or incidental observations of *Myxobolus cerebralis* by histology (presence of morphologically correct organisms within salmonid skeletal tissues) shall be presumed positive for the organism. Presumptive findings by histology shall be confirmed by PCR.
2. WD Negative Recertification: In order for the *Myxobolus cerebralis* status of a salmonid fish production facility to change from positive to negative, the owner and/or operator of the facility must complete all of the requirements of either aa or bb below:
- a. Method 1 - Facility modifications and testing for *Myxobolus cerebralis*:
 - 1. Render all originating water sources at the facility free of all fish and enclosed so as to prevent outside contamination by *Myxobolus cerebralis*.
 - 2. Construct all rearing spaces and water conveyances of concrete, fiberglass, steel, or other manufactured impermeable materials that are not conducive to colonization by the alternate oligochaete host(s) of *Myxobolus cerebralis*.
 - 3. Completely purge all sediments from rearing spaces and water conveyances at least once every two months.
 - 4. After completion of steps 1 through 3, have the facility tested and found negative for *Myxobolus cerebralis* according to the following procedures and schedule:
 - a. A minimum of three hundred rainbow trout at least four months of age shall be designated as the sentinel lot and must be individually marked by a state fish pathologist. These fish will then be placed in approved rearing spaces selected for optimal exposure, at which time the exposure period shall begin.
 - b. Fish shall be collected and tested for *Myxobolus cerebralis* by a qualified fish pathologist during two inspections. A minimum of sixty fish from the sentinel lot, still bearing the previously placed tags, shall be included in each sample. The inspections shall occur at least ten months and at least fourteen months after the exposure period begins if a Spore Concentration Technique (SCT) is used. The testing shall occur at least 8 months and at least 12 months

after the exposure period begins if Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) is used as the testing technique. The time frame for such testing by PCR may be shortened further if it is determined by the Director after consultation with the Fish Health Board that an additional reduction of the time frame for testing would present a negligible risk of not detecting the presence of *Myxobolus cerebralis*, after consideration of the following criteria:

1. Water supply(s).
2. Distance between water supply(s) and rearing spaces.
3. Nature of connecting pipes and conveyances.
4. Possibility of fish entering and exiting in water supply lines.
5. Nature and construction of rearing spaces.

b. Method 2 - Testing for *Myxobolus cerebralis* with partial or no facility modification.

1. A minimum of three hundred rainbow trout at least four months of age shall be designated as a sentinel lot, and must be individually marked by a qualified fish pathologist. These fish will then be placed in approved rearing spaces selected for optimal exposure to *Myxobolus cerebralis*, at which time the exposure period shall begin.
2. Fish shall be collected and tested for *Myxobolus cerebralis* by a qualified fish pathologist during four inspections. A minimum of sixty fish from the sentinel lots, still bearing the previously placed tags, shall be included in each sample. The inspections shall occur at least ten, fourteen, twenty-four, and twenty-eight months if SCT is used, or at least eight, twelve, twenty, and twenty-four months if a PCR is used as the testing technique after the exposure period begins. A second sentinel lot will be placed in the same rearing spaces after collection of the fourteen month sample for SCT or twelve month sample for PCR. The time frame for testing by PCR may be shortened further if it is determined by the Director that an additional reduction of the time frame for testing would present a negligible risk of not detecting the presence of *Myxobolus cerebralis* after consideration of the following criteria:
 - a. Water supply(s).
 - b. Distance between water supply(s) and rearing spaces.
 - c. Nature of connecting pipes and conveyances.
 - d. Possibility of fish entering and exiting in water supply lines.
 - e. Nature and construction of rearing spaces.
 - f. Nature and reliability of treatment technology.
 - g. System redundancy and back-up power supply.
3. Sampling in these inspections will be conducted at a minimum assumed prevalence level of five percent at the ninety-five percent level of confidence per lot at least eight months old; and at a minimum assumed prevalence level of two percent at the ninety five percent level of

confidence for the facility as a whole.

- c. Upon satisfactory completion of the requirements under either Method I or Method II, the State Fish Pathologist shall provide certification of negative *Myxobolus cerebralis* status.
3. Operation of *Myxobolus cerebralis* Positive Fish Production Facility.
 - a. No person shall operate a fish production facility which has been diagnosed positive for *Myxobolus cerebralis* in salmonid habitat unless an exemption allowing such operation has been granted by the Director after consultation with the Fish Health Board.
 1. Applications for such exemptions shall be evaluated based on the following factors:
 - a. The ability of the facility to remediate and regain *Myxobolus cerebralis* negative status, and any Whirling Disease Clean-up Plan (WDCP) submitted by the applicant;
 - b. The risk to native cutthroat trout management habitats;
 - c. The risk to any other salmonid habitats;
 - d. The risk to any recreationally valuable salmonid fishery;
 - e. Social and economic impacts to private and public entities, and
 - f. The Whirling Disease Management Plan (WDMP) submitted by the applicant.
 - b. Applications for exemptions to operate a *Myxobolus cerebralis* positive facility within salmonid habitat shall be submitted to the Director within 60 days of notification that the facility has tested positive for *Myxobolus cerebralis*. Persons that submit timely applications for exemptions shall be allowed to continue operation, subject to all other applicable regulations, pending the Director's decision. Persons that fail to submit a timely application or have their application for exemption denied shall cease all fish production operations and shall dispose of the fish located on the facility within 180 days or, if the 60 day notice period runs or the application is denied after April 1st, by October 1st of the following year.
 - c. All applications shall include a Whirling Disease Management Plan (WDMP) and, if the applicant intends to undertake facility remediation, a Whirling Disease Clean-up Plan.
 - d. The WDMP shall include the best management practices (BMP) to be used to minimize the discharge of spores and TAMS into waters of the state should the facility be allowed to continue operation while positive for *Myxobolus cerebralis*, including any temporary operation while the applicant undertakes clean-up of the facility.
 1. BMP's for fish production facilities shall, at a minimum, specifically describe or address the following factors:
 - a. The *Myxobolus cerebralis* status of fish brought onto the facility;
 - b. The size of fish brought onto the facility;

- c. The size of fish introduced into earthen ponds;
 - d. Facility construction and operation;
 - e. Disinfection procedures;
 - f. Disposition of mortalities;
 - g. Species to be reared;
 - h. Treatment of effluent;
 - i. Exposure of vulnerable-sized fish to temperatures optimum for TAM production;
 - j. Monitoring of effluent for spore/TAM levels, and;
 - k. Any other site specific or disease considerations.
- e. Persons granted an exemption to operate a *Myxobolus cerebralis* positive facility within salmonid habitat shall:
- 1. Comply at all times with the terms and conditions of any exemption granted by the Director, including, but not limited to, compliance with WDMP and the BMPs approved for the facility;
 - 2. Submit an annual report to the Division by the anniversary date of the exemption. The annual report shall address operation of the facility and compliance with terms and conditions of the exemption. An annual site inspection may be conducted to determine compliance with the terms and conditions of the exemption.
- f. Exemptions granted by the Director shall be valid unless the applicant fails to comply with the terms of the exemption, fails to submit an annual report, or new and significant information regarding the risks associated with continued operation of the *Myxobolus cerebralis* positive facility, or the availability of BMPs which would improve management of the infection, supports modification of the WDMP and the exemption or revocation of the exemption.
4. Release of *Myxobolus cerebralis* Positive Fish
- a. No live salmonid originating from a facility which has been diagnosed positive or presumptive for *Myxobolus cerebralis* may be released into salmonid habitat unless an exemption allowing such stocking has been granted by the Director after consultation with the Fish Health Board.
 - b. Applications for exemptions shall be submitted to the Director at least 60 days prior to any proposed stocking.
 - c. Applications for stocking exemptions shall be evaluated based on the following factors:
 - 1. The risk to native cutthroat trout management habitats, any other salmonid habitats or any recreationally valuable salmonid fishery, including consideration of:
 - a. M.c. status of free-ranging fish in the water proposed for stocking;
 - b. Proximity to native cutthroat trout waters or planned cutthroat trout

recovery areas;

- c. Size and species of salmonids to be stocked;
 - d. The prevalence or intensity of *Myxobolus cerebralis* infection in and the total number of salmonids to be stocked;
 - e. Connection of the water proposed for stocking to other public or private water at any time during the year;
 - f. The presence of naturally reproducing salmonid species in connected waters;
 - g. The prevalence or intensity of *Myxobolus cerebralis* infection, if any, in naturally reproducing salmonid populations present in connected waters;
 - h. The presence and *Myxobolus cerebralis* status of fish production or distribution facilities in connected waters;
 - i. The physical and operational, if an impoundment, characteristics of the water to be stocked;
 - j. Any other factor which determined by the Director to be important in determining the risk to fish or fish habitat.
2. Social and economic impacts to private and public entities, and;
 3. The Whirling Disease Management Plan (WDMP) submitted by the applicant.
- d. All applications for stocking exemptions shall include a Whirling Disease Management Plan (WDMP). The WDMP shall include the best management practices (BMP's) to be used to minimize the discharge of spores and TAMS to waters of the state due to the stocking of the fish. BMP's for fish stocking shall, at a minimum, specifically describe or address the following factors:
 1. Size of *Myxobolus cerebralis* positive fish to be stocked;
 2. Species of *Myxobolus cerebralis* positive fish to be stocked;
 3. Facility construction and operation;
 4. Disinfection procedures;
 5. Disposition of mortalities;
 6. Treatment of effluent;
 7. Exposure of vulnerable-sized fish to temperatures optimum for TAM production;
 8. Monitoring effluent for spore/TAM levels, and;
 9. Any other site specific or disease considerations.
 - e. Persons granted a stocking exemption shall:
 1. Comply at all times with the terms and conditions of any exemption

granted by the Director, including, but not limited to, compliance with WDMP and the BMPs approved for the stocking.

2. Submit an annual report to the Division on the anniversary date of the exemption. The annual report shall address compliance with terms and conditions of the exemption. An annual site inspection may be conducted to determine compliance with the terms and conditions of the exemption.
 - f. Exemptions granted by the Director shall be valid unless the applicant fails to comply with the terms of the exemption, fails to submit an annual report, or new and significant information regarding the risks associated with the stocking of *Myxobolus cerebralis* positive fish, or the availability of BMPs which would improve management of the infection, supports modification of the WDMP and the exemption, or revocation of the exemption.
- b. *Renibacterium salmoninarum* (Bacterial Kidney Disease - BKD)
1. Bacterial Kidney Disease Management Plans: No later than 60 days of finding and notification that an in-state fish production facility is positive for *Renibacterium salmoninarum*, the owner shall submit a written management plan to the Fish Health Board and to the Director. The plan shall address possible sources of infection, species of fish, types of rearing containers, disinfection, eradication and avoidance of recurrence of the pathogen, and the proposed disposition of positive fish. Within 30 days after submittal, the Fish Health Board shall review the plan and submit it with a recommendation for approval, rejection or modification to the Director. The Director shall then have 15 days to approve, reject, or modify the plan. Before making a final decision, the Director will consider the recommendation of the Fish Health Board and the effectiveness of the plan in controlling and managing the pathogen in the fish production facility.
 2. Re-establishment of Negative Status for BKD: In order for the *Renibacterium salmoninarum* status of a fish production facility or free-ranging fish population to change from positive to negative, the owner and/or operator of the facility must complete all of the requirements of either a or b below:
 - a. Method 1 - Testing for *Renibacterium salmoninarum* without depopulation:

After twelve months and the completion of three consecutive negative inspections at least three months apart, a qualified fish pathologist shall provide notification that the facility or population is considered negative for *Renibacterium salmoninarum*.
 - b. Method 2 - De-population of lots testing positive and testing for *Renibacterium salmoninarum*:

After de-population of lots testing positive and the completion of two consecutive negative inspections at least three months apart, the qualified fish pathologist shall provide notification that the facility or population is considered negative for *Renibacterium salmoninarum*.
 3. No person shall release into any fish production facility or into any waters of this state live salmonid fish or gametes from a free-ranging fish population or fish production facility which is positive for *Renibacterium salmoninarum*, (the causative agent of Bacterial Kidney Disease) except as allowed herein.
 - a. Release is limited to waters and fish production facilities approved by the Director. Waters will not be approved if such stocking is determined to be a significant threat to:

1. any other federal, state, or permitted fish production facility; or
2. stocking restricted cutthroat trout waters identified in Appendix C; or
3. any other free-ranging salmonid fish populations determined to be of special importance to Colorado's fishery resources, considering the uniqueness of the resource, use and/or potential for use as a source of brood fish or gametes.

A list of approved waters and fish production facilities and the maps indicating the location of stocking restricted cutthroat trout waters are available from the manager of the Aquatic Resources Section of the Division, 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216.

- b. The owner and/or operator of a fish production facility receiving gametes from a free-ranging fish population or fish production facility which is positive for *Renibacterium salmoninarum* shall have the progeny tested for *Renibacterium salmoninarum* prior to movement of the progeny from the facility.
- c. *Aeromonas salmonicida* (Furunculosis): No live salmonid fish originating from a facility which has been diagnosed positive for *Aeromonas salmonicida* (Furunculosis) may be stocked within stocking restricted cutthroat trout waters identified in Appendix C.
 1. A state, federal or licensed aquaculture facility shall be considered negative upon the completion of a negative inspection at least 60 days after a positive diagnosis of *Aeromonas salmonicida* (Furunculosis).
 2. Eggs originating from a facility which has been diagnosed positive for *Aeromonas salmonicida* (Furunculosis) shall be disinfected both at the point of origin and at their destination, using the method as set forth in #014 Aquatic Wildlife Health Management of these regulations.
- d. Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis Virus (IPNV): Any aquaculture facility found positive for Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis Virus (IPNV) shall be subject to virus eradication efforts approved by the Director at the owner's expense within one calendar year of the positive finding.
 1. No person shall import into Colorado or release into any waters of this state live salmonid fish or gametes (eggs or sperm) from a water or facility in which Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis Virus (IPNV) has been identified without a plan for the eradication of the virus and disposition of affected fish approved by the Director. Upon a positive finding of Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis Virus (IPNV) in an aquaculture facility in Colorado, the owner shall have 60 days to submit a written plan to the Fish Health Board for the eradication of the pathogen and disposition of the fish. The Fish Health Board shall have 30 days to review the plan and submit it with a recommendation for approval, rejection or modification to the Director. Before making a final decision, the Director will consider the recommendation of the Fish Health Board and the effectiveness of the process outlined in the plan to eradicate the pathogen from the aquaculture facility. No salmonid fish or gametes (eggs or sperm) from a water or facility in which Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis Virus (IPNV) has been identified shall be released into any water of this state without an approved plan. In addition, no live salmonid fish or gametes (eggs or sperm) originating from an aquaculture facility or free-ranging fish population which has been diagnosed positive for Infectious

Pancreatic Necrosis Virus (IPNV) may be stocked if determined by the Director to be a threat to: (A) any other federal, state or permitted aquaculture facilities or (B) stocking restricted cutthroat trout waters identified in Appendix C or (C) free-ranging salmonid populations used or intended for use as gamete (eggs or sperm) sources for state, federal or permitted aquaculture facilities or (D) any other free-ranging salmonid fish populations determined by the Director to be of special importance to Colorado's fishery resources. Criteria for D will include uniqueness of the resource and potential for use as a source of brood fish or gametes.

2. Aquaculture facilities that have undergone adequate efforts to eradicate IPNV may again be considered negative 90 days after the reintroduction of sentinel fish and upon the completion of two negative inspections on all lots present at least eight weeks apart. For these purposes, sentinel fish shall consist of either rainbow trout or brook trout fry between one day and 42 days old.
3. Free-ranging fish populations found positive for IPNV may again be considered negative upon the completion of at least three consecutive negative inspections at least four (4) months apart over a period of at least 24 months.

D. Egg Disinfection

1. The operator and employees of any fish production facility must use the following procedures when disinfecting salmonid eggs received from any source:
 - a. Eggs shall be disinfected by soaking them in a solution containing one hundred parts per million iodine, in the form of povidone iodine, for a minimum of ten minutes before such eggs are allowed to come in contact with other eggs, fish, incubators, rearing spaces, or water supplies on a fish culture facility.
 - b. Hands, gloves, shipping containers and any implements or objects that contact such eggs before disinfection must not come into contact with other eggs, fish, incubators, rearing spaces, or water supplies on a fish culture facility until they have been disinfected using a commercially available disinfectant as directed on the product label.

~~E~~-E. Inspection For and Management of Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS)

1. ANS Inspections and Reports

- a. All aquatic wildlife production facilities must be annually inspected for ANS as provided in this subsection. A copy of a valid negative ANS inspection report or valid exemption under subsection E.1.e. (exemption from ANS inspection requirements) or E.2.b.3. (exemption from prohibition on importing, exporting, transporting, or releasing fish or crustaceans from an ANS positive facility) must accompany any shipment of live fish or crustaceans into or within Colorado.
- b. This subsection E. does not apply to aquatic wildlife production facilities that import only gametes or red swamp crayfish as provided in W-012.C.2.b.iv.
- c. An annual ANS inspection must satisfy the following requirements:
 1. the inspection must be conducted by a qualified ANS professional;
 2. the inspection must be conducted between June 15 and October 15;
 3. the inspection must include a physical inspection of the facility, the facility's water sources, the areas of the facility occupied by fish or crustaceans and where fish or

crustaceans are handled, and the equipment the facility uses for producing, handling, or transporting fish or crustaceans; and

4. the inspection must be for the presence of any ANS and, in the case of out-of-state aquatic wildlife production facilities, the presence of any prohibited, invasive, or nuisance species under the laws of that state.

d. The Division will conduct annual ANS inspections (including the collection and analysis of samples) for every in-state aquatic wildlife production facility at the Division's expense. An in-state aquatic wildlife production facility may select a second laboratory to confirm the results of the Division's analysis at the facility's own expense. An out-of-state aquatic wildlife production facility is responsible for the cost of all ANS inspections and confirmatory testing.

e. Exemptions From ANS Inspection Requirements

1. The Director may, in consultation with the Fish Health Board, exempt an aquatic wildlife production facility from ANS inspection requirements when the following criteria are met:

a. compliance with the inspection requirements would result in an unacceptable impact on the sample population;

b. there is minimal risk of introducing ANS into Colorado; and

c. there is minimal risk of exposing waters within Colorado to ANS.

2. An aquatic wildlife production facility must submit an application for exemption from ANS inspection requirements to the Division Aquatic Animal Health Program (aquatic.health@state.co.us). After receiving an application for exemption, the Director shall consult with the Fish Health Board no later than its next regularly scheduled meeting and issue a written decision granting or denying the application.

f. After conducting an ANS inspection of an aquatic wildlife production facility, a qualified ANS professional must prepare an ANS inspection report documenting the absence or presence of ANS at the facility. In the case of an out-of-state aquatic wildlife production facility, the report must also include the absence or presence of any prohibited, invasive, or nuisance species under the laws of that state.

g. A "negative ANS inspection report" documents that the inspection found no ANS at the facility. A "positive ANS inspection report" documents that one or more ANS were found at the facility. A negative ANS inspection report prepared or approved by the Division is valid for 13 months after the inspection date unless a subsequent ANS inspection detects ANS at the aquatic wildlife production facility.

2. Management of ANS at Aquatic Wildlife Production Facilities

a. Aquatic Wildlife Production Facilities With a Negative ANS Inspection Report That Subsequently Detect ANS

1. An owner or manager of an aquatic wildlife production facility with a valid negative ANS inspection report who becomes aware that ANS may be present at the facility must immediately notify the Division Invasive Species Program at invasive.species@state.co.us. The notification should include the date and time the ANS was detected, the exact location of sighting at the facility, the suspected species, and the name and contact information of the reporter.

2. Upon receiving a notification described in subsection E.2.a.1. or upon reasonable belief that ANS may be present at an aquatic wildlife production facility with a valid negative ANS

inspection report, the Division may confirm whether ANS are present at the facility by (1) requiring the facility to complete a new ANS inspection and to submit a new ANS inspection report or (2) making alternate arrangements with the facility to confirm whether ANS are present at the facility. The Division shall notify the facility that its negative ANS inspection report is temporarily invalid pending the result of any confirmatory testing.

3. If the confirmatory testing described in subsection E.2.a.2. detects the presence of ANS, the Division shall invalidate the facility's negative ANS inspection report. If the confirmatory testing described in subsection E.2.a.2. does not detect the presence of ANS, the Division shall reinstate the aquatic wildlife production facility's negative ANS inspection report or prepare or approve a new negative ANS inspection report.

b. ANS Positive Aquatic Wildlife Production Facilities

1. If an annual ANS inspection or confirmatory testing described above detect ANS at an aquatic wildlife production facility, the Division shall promptly designate the facility "ANS positive" and notify the facility of the designation.
2. Except as provided in this subsection E.2.b., no person may import, export, transport, or release fish or crustaceans from an ANS positive aquatic wildlife production facility.
3. Exemption From Prohibitions for an ANS Positive Aquatic Wildlife Production Facility
 - a. Within 60 days after the Division notifies an aquatic wildlife production facility it has been designated "ANS positive," the facility may apply for an exemption from the prohibition on importing, exporting, transporting, or releasing fish or crustaceans from an ANS positive facility. The application must include an ANS management plan (ANSMP) and any best management practices (BMPs). The facility must consult with the Division in the development of the ANSMP and any BMPs.
 - b. The Director may, in consultation with the Fish Health Board, exempt an ANS positive facility under this subsection E.2.b.3. if the facility submits a timely and complete application and the Director finds granting the exemption adequately protects the aquatic resources of Colorado. In making this decision, the Director must consider the following factors:
 1. the ability of the facility to become ANS negative;
 2. whether the facility's ANSMP and any BMPs are sufficient to prevent the spread of ANS;
 3. the risk to Colorado wildlife or habitat or the Division's management of wildlife resources in Colorado; and
 4. any known social or economic impacts of granting or denying the exemption.
 - c. An exemption from the prohibition on importing, exporting, transporting, or releasing fish or crustaceans from an ANS positive facility must include the following terms and conditions:
 1. the aquatic wildlife production facility must comply with the ANSMP and any BMPs;
 2. the aquatic wildlife production facility must submit a report at least every 12 months from the exemption date that describes the facility's compliance with the ANSMP, any BMPs, and any other conditions of the exemption;
 3. the aquatic wildlife production facility must allow the Division or an agent of the Division to inspect the facility at least once per year; and

4. any other conditions the Director finds reasonably necessary to protect the aquatic resources of Colorado.
- d. The Director may revoke, suspend, or modify an exemption from the prohibition on importing, exporting, transporting, or releasing fish or crustaceans from an ANS positive facility if:
 1. the aquatic wildlife production facility fails to comply with any term or condition of the exemption;
 2. the Director finds revocation, suspension, or modification necessary to protect the aquatic resources of Colorado; or
 3. the Director finds revocation, suspension, or modification necessary to avoid substantial danger to public health and safety.
4. The Director may order that any aquatic organisms at an ANS positive in-state aquatic wildlife production facility be destroyed or held in quarantine or that the facility be disinfected. The order must be in writing and include (1) an explanation of why the destruction, quarantine, or disinfection is reasonably necessary to protect the aquatic resources of Colorado and (2) instructions for any required destruction or disinfection. The order is subject to review by the Fish Health Board as provided in section 33-5.5-102(6), C.R.S. A facility must comply with a destruction, quarantine, or disinfection order issued under this subsection at its own expense. Any violation of a destruction, quarantine, or disinfection order issued under this subsection is a violation of a rule of the Commission under section 33-6-104(1)(b), C.R.S.
5. The Division shall remove an aquatic wildlife production facility's "ANS positive" designation when the facility shows the following criteria are satisfied:
 - a. the facility has complied with any ANSMP and BMPs;
 - b. the facility has completed 2 consecutive negative ANS inspections each year, where the inspections were at least 3 months apart and one of the inspections was completed between June 15 and October 15, for 5 years; and
 - c. for an out-of-state facility, the state where the facility is located has authorized the facility to resume normal operations as an ANS negative facility.

COLORADO FISH HEALTH BOARD

6060 Broadway
Denver, Colorado 80216

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission
Via email to: dnr_cpwcommission@state.co.us

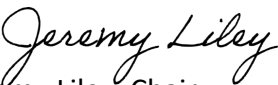
August 13, 2026

Dear Commissioners:

The Colorado Fish Health Board is a statutory body charged with reviewing, prior to presentation to the Commission, “every rule which is to regulate or control, or otherwise relates to, fish health, the spread of aquatic disease within private aquaculture facilities or cultured aquatic stock, or the importation into the state or the distribution of any exotic aquatic species.” § 33-5.5-102(1), C.R.S. The five members of the Board include two private aquaculturists, an employee of the Colorado Department of Agriculture, an employee of the Division of Parks and Wildlife, and an employee of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Board has reviewed the Division of Parks and Wildlife’s proposal to add Aquatic Nuisance Species regulations to 2 CCR 406-0 (Chapter W-0, Article VII). After discussion and minor amendments the FHB, by a unanimous vote, is recommending that the Commission adopt the attached proposed rules.

Sincerely,


Jeremy Liley, Chair
Colorado Fish Health Board
jeremy@lileyfisheries.com
970-381-2490

MAILINGISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date:

August 21, 2026

Issue:	Should regulations be amended to prohibit the use of any amphibian (alive or dead) as fishing bait?
Discussion (facts and figures, explanation of issue):	
Colorado fishing regulations allow two amphibians to be taken and used as fishing bait in Colorado: the aquatic gilled form of the tiger salamander (<i>Ambystoma mavortium</i>), also known as “water dog,” and all forms of the bullfrog (<i>Lithobates catesbeianus</i>). CPW is proposing to amend regulations to prohibit the use of any amphibian as fishing bait (dead or live). By doing so, Colorado will be joining neighboring states, including Utah and Wyoming, in: • preventing the establishment of invasive species; • reducing the risk and spread of amphibian diseases; and • protecting native amphibian species and their genetic diversity. Borzee et al. (2025) report that amphibians are the most threatened vertebrate group on Earth, with 41% of species classified as globally threatened. Declines have been attributed to multiple threats, including but not limited to those from invasive species, disease, climate change, and habitat degradation. CPW continues to document several of these threats to Colorado amphibians. Accidental or illegal introduction of bullfrogs (<i>Lithobates catesbeianus</i>) and tiger salamanders (<i>Ambystoma tigrinum/mavortium</i>) used as fishing bait could lead to the spread of disease and establishment of ecologically disruptive species. Using bullfrogs as bait can expand the range of this invasive species, which competes with and preys upon native amphibians, birds, fish, small mammals, and other wildlife. Using bullfrogs and tiger salamanders as bait can also spread amphibian diseases, including ranavirus, chytrid fungus (primarily <i>Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis</i> or Bd), and a newly emerging pathogenic chytrid fungus (<i>Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans</i> or Bsal) that can cause significant morbidity and mortality in salamanders. Both tiger salamanders and bullfrogs are known to carry Bd, and may be asymptomatic and not experience significant mortality events (Peterson & McKenzie, 2014; Reeder et al., 2012; Davidson et al., 2003). Medina (2023) reports that Colorado boreal toads (<i>Anaxyrus boreas boreas</i>), a state-endangered species, have experienced steep population declines throughout the Southern Rocky Mountains, largely due to Bd, which causes Chytridiomycosis, an infectious skin disease that affects amphibians worldwide. In addition to Chapter W-1 (Fishing), Chapter W-7 (Herpetofauna) allows take of tiger salamanders and bullfrogs. Table 1 below describes current regulations for tiger salamanders and bullfrogs.	

Table 1. Current tiger salamander and bullfrog regulations in Chapter W-1 Fishing and Chapter W-7 Herpetofauna.

Species	Reg. Chapter	Take Allowed	Methods of Take	Daily Bag & Poss. Limits	License Req.
Tiger salamander	W-1: Aquatic gilled form of the tiger salamander (<i>Ambystoma tigrinum/ mavortium</i>)	Yes, for private and commercial use as fishing bait (live or dead)	Personally attended line, seine, hand, dip net, artificial light, or bait	50, <5" in length	Yes, Personal Fishing License; Commercial Fishing License
	W-7: Barred or western tiger salamander (<i>Ambystoma mavortium</i>)	Yes	Hand, dip net, handheld loop, snake hook, or snake tong	4, live indivs. in any license year	Yes, Resident Herpetofauna Collection & Poss. License
Bullfrog	W-1	Yes, for private and commercial use as fishing bait (live or dead)	Personally attended line, archery, slingbow, gig, hand, dip net, artificial light, or bait	Unlimited	Yes, Personal Fishing License; Commercial Fishing License
	W-7: Designated as invasive	Yes (must be immediately killed; may not be possessed, transported, or exported live)	Artificial light, night vision equipment, hand, dip net, or gig		No

When reviewing these regulations, CPW considered allowing people to use only captive-bred amphibians as bait, but was concerned that this would not meaningfully reduce the disease risks because, unlike those for fish, health inspection protocols for detecting disease in amphibians are not well established. Salamanders imported from out-of-state sources risk introducing disease or compromising the conservation status and genetic structure of resident western (aka barred) tiger salamanders.

CPW proposes removing the take and use of the aquatic gilled form of the tiger salamander as fishing bait. The revisions would not affect the provisions of Chapter W-7, allowing limited take, possession, and transportation of tiger salamanders under a Resident Herpetofauna Collection and Possession License.

Under the proposed revisions, bullfrogs would be removed from Chapter W-1 and governed exclusively by Chapter W-7. Per Chapter W-7, Article II, #708 Invasive Herpetofauna, bullfrogs can currently be taken without a valid license, but only by hand, dip net, or gig as methods of take. Additionally, bullfrogs must be immediately killed, and only dead bullfrogs are allowed to be possessed, transported, or exported. Proposed revisions to Chapter W-7 include adding a provision allowing people to take bullfrogs by personally attended line, archery, or slingbow provided the person has a valid personal or commercial fishing license.

Prohibiting the use of amphibians as fishing bait can reduce the risks associated with invasive species and the introduction and spread of amphibian diseases, thereby protecting Colorado's native amphibian species and diversity. Such measures could directly benefit the western tiger salamander, with additional positive impacts on other resident amphibians, including the boreal toad and northern leopard frog, both designated as Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the 2025 Colorado State Wildlife Action Plan.

Lastly, we have modified the regulatory language to specify that a receipt is needed when buying baitfish from a "fish production facility or bait dealer" instead of a "commercial source."

References

Borzee, A., Prasad, V. K., Neam, K., Tarrant, J., Kosch, T. A., Barata, I.M., Rais, M., Bickford, D., Da Fonte, L. F., Wilcken, J., Ghosh, D., Mindje, M., Naik, H., Chanson, J., & Wren, S. (2025). Conservation priorities for global amphibian biodiversity. *Nature Reviews Biodiversity*, 1(12), 754-771.

Davidson, E. W., Parris, M., Collins, J. P., Longcore, J. E., Pessier, A. P., & Brunner, J. (2003). Chytridiomycosis in Arizona Tiger Salamanders (*Ambystoma tigrinum stebbinsi*) from Southeastern Arizona. *Journal of Wildlife Diseases*, 39(2), 313–319.

Medina, D., Alexiev, A., Melie, T., Martindale, R., DeLacey, C., Quandt, C. A., & McKenzie, V. J. (2023). Mr. Toad's wild fungi: Fungal isolate diversity on Colorado boreal toads and their capacity for pathogen inhibition. *Fungal Ecology*, 66, 101297.

Peterson, A. C., & McKenzie, V. J. (2014). Investigating differences across host species and scales to explain the distribution of the amphibian pathogen *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*. *PLOS ONE*, 9(9), e107441.

Reeder, N. M. M., Pessier, A. P., & Vredenburg, V. T. (2012). A reservoir species for the emerging amphibian pathogen *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* thrives in a landscape decimated by disease. *PLOS ONE*, 7(3), e33567.

State law requires CPW to solicit input from stakeholders that may be affected positively or negatively by the proposed rules. The following stakeholders have been advised of and invited to provide input on the regulatory changes proposed in this issue paper:

***It is assumed that all necessary internal parties have been notified*.**

CPW has worked to (1) inform the general public and impacted stakeholders about the proposed regulation change and to (2) gather feedback through a public comment form on opinions regarding the prohibition and the current use of amphibians as fishing bait. Stakeholders include anglers who currently use bullfrogs or the aquatic gilled form of tiger salamanders (water dogs) as fishing bait, importation licensees who import water dogs, and bait dealers who sell water dogs as fishing bait.

Engagement Process

- CPW launched a dedicated page on the EngageCPW public engagement portal on June 25, 2026. Information on the proposed change, including background and rationale, was shared through the page. A public comment form asking for feedback on the proposal and current use of amphibians as fishing bait was provided.
- CPW issued a press release requesting public input through the EngageCPW comment form following the launch of the page. The comment form was open for three weeks from June 25 through July 16, 2026.
- An informational virtual public meeting was held the evening of July 1, 2026. More information about the issue, proposal, and input opportunities was shared through a presentation and attendees had the opportunity to ask questions and share feedback. The meeting was recorded and made available via the EngageCPW site.
- Emails were sent to stakeholders to notify them about the proposal and input opportunity. Stakeholders contacted included various fishing groups and organizations, CO Department of Agriculture licensed aquaculture facilities and bait dealers, and all companies who held an aquatic importation license in the past two years. CPW's citizen roundtables, consisting of

consumptive and non-consumptive wildlife interest groups, were also notified about the issue and encouraged to provide feedback.

- CPW presented this proposal to the Southeast Region Sportsperson's meeting on July 21, 2026, the Northwest Region Sportsperson's meeting on July 28, 2026, and the statewide Sportsperson's Roundtable on August 1, 2026.

Feedback Received

CPW received 33 responses through the EngageCPW comment form. The majority of respondents were generally supportive of the proposal (21 comments; 64% of total). A total of 12 comments (36%) were opposed to the proposal.

Of the commenters who supported the proposal, arguments included biosecurity concerns and protecting vulnerable ecosystems and species (11 responses; 33% of total); that the practice is unnecessary due to available alternatives (9%); or the belief that using amphibians is unethical or cruel (6%). Commenters who oppose the proposal argued that the restriction is unnecessary or unjustified (27%), with some suggesting limiting commercial importation and sales rather than restricting individuals who catch and fish with wild amphibians (12%).

The majority of respondents fish but have never used amphibians as bait (23 responses; 70%), with a smaller proportion of respondents consisting of occasional users (9%), past users (9%), frequent users (6%), or those who do not fish at all (6%).

CPW presented the proposed changes to the Southeast Region Sportsperson's Caucus meeting on July 21, 2026, the Northwest Region Sportsperson's Caucus meeting on July 28, 2026, and to the statewide Sportsperson's Roundtable on August 1, 2026. There were no comments or questions received during the Northwest meeting. At the Southeast Region meeting, no one clearly spoke in favor of or against the proposal. At the statewide meeting, roundtable members questioned whether a rule change is necessary, given the limited use of amphibians as fishing bait.

Alternatives (possible outcomes or possible regulations):

1. ***Preferred Alternative*:**
 - a. **Prohibiting the use of any amphibian (alive or dead) as fishing bait.** Impacted regulations include W-0 General Provisions, W-1 Fishing, and W-7 Herpetofauna, with the majority of revisions proposed in W-1. The redlines of all three Chapters are attached.
 - b. Modifying the regulatory language to specify that a receipt is needed when buying baitfish from a "fish production facility or bait dealer" instead of a "commercial source."
2. **Status quo:** Continuing to allow the use of bullfrog or the aquatic gilled form of tiger salamander taken from the wild or acquired from commercial sellers/producers as fishing bait (dead or live).

Issue Raised by:	Aquatic Branch	
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):		
CC:	Chris Breidenbach	
Approved for further consideration by:		Matt Nicholl
Requires new space in the brochure?		YES
Does this change comply with BGSS?		N/A
Are adequate staff and funding resources available to implement?		YES
Region, branch, or section leading implementation:		Aquatic Wildlife Branch
Any additional regions, branches or sections involved in implementation:		Regions, Field Services, Information and

		Education (Licenses, Reservations and Customer Operations)
Recommended for consent agenda?		NO

CHAPTER W-0 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE VII - Aquatic Wildlife

#010 – Transportation of Aquatic Wildlife

- A. Transportation of Approved Aquatic Wildlife: Only the aquatic wildlife approved under #012 of this regulation may be transported within the State of Colorado. It shall be unlawful for any person to transport any live aquatic wildlife not approved under #012 of this regulation.
- B. Requirements for Transportation:
 - 1. All Aquatic Wildlife: All aquatic wildlife being transported within Colorado must at all times be accompanied by, and may only be transported within Colorado pursuant to:
 - a. A personal fishing license (including the regulations pertaining to live fish as bait set forth in other provisions of CPW regulations, including #104.H),
 - b. A commercial fishing license,
 - c. A donation certificate,
 - d. A receipt from a commercial or private lake licensee, permitted aquaculture facility or permitted pet animal facility,
 - e. An aquaculture facility permit,
 - f. A pet animal facility permit,
 - g. An importation license,
 - h. A scientific collecting license, or
 - i. A bill of lading or other similar documentation evidencing that the wildlife is being transported through Colorado for delivery in another state and containing the name, address and phone number of both the source and receiving person or facility.

Original documentation is only required when transporting aquatic wildlife pursuant to a personal or commercial fishing license, a donation certificate or any kind of receipt. In all other cases, legible copies of the required documents will suffice.

- 2. Unless otherwise specified under these regulation or under Title 33, all live fish transported within Colorado must be accompanied by a copy of the fish health certificate for the source facility evidencing its compliance with #014 Aquatic Wildlife Health Management, unless the bill of lading or other similar documentation shows that the shipment is being transported through Colorado for delivery in another state. At the Division's discretion, the Division may waive the requirement that a fish health certificate accompany live fish transported in Colorado when transportation occurs from one Food Production Facility to another Food Production Facility.

- C. This rule #010 does not apply to aquatic herpetofauna, which are governed by Chapter W-7.

#011 – Importation of Aquatic Wildlife

- A. Except as provided in these regulations or authorized by the Division or under Title 33 or Title 35 C.R.S., it shall be unlawful for any person to import any live native or nonnative aquatic wildlife into Colorado.
- B. Importation of Approved Aquatic Wildlife: Only the aquatic wildlife approved under #012 of this regulation may be imported. It shall be unlawful for any person to import any aquatic wildlife not approved under #012 of this regulation.
- C. Requirements for Importation License:
 - 1. A person must obtain an Importation License from the Division prior to importing any live aquatic wildlife into Colorado.
 - 2. Application for an Importation License shall be made on the form provided by the

Division.

3. Properly completed forms and the license fee must be submitted to the Division at least seven (7) working days prior to the proposed importation date.
 4. Upon receipt of the Importation License, a person may import only those species and only from the facility listed on the license. Additional species may be added to the license upon written application to the Division at least seven (7) working days prior to the proposed importation date.
- D. The Division may inspect any shipment of live crustacean, fish or viable gametes imported into Colorado.
- E. Receipt of all wildlife imported must be reported to the Division as specified on the Importation License.
- F. All importations of aquatic wildlife must comply with state fish health management regulations. A copy of a facility's health certification, if applicable, must accompany each shipment of live aquatic wildlife.
- G. Release of aquatic wildlife must comply with all applicable regulations including but not limited to the restrictions found in #012, # 013 and 014 of these regulations.
- H. ~~This rule #011 does not apply to aquatic herpetofauna, which are governed by Chapter W-7.~~

#012 – Possession of Aquatic Wildlife

- A. Except as provided in these regulations or authorized by the Division or under Title 33 or Title 35 C.R.S., it shall be unlawful for any person to possess any live native or nonnative aquatic wildlife in Colorado.
- B. No person shall, at any time, have in possession or under their control any wildlife caught, taken or killed outside of this state which were caught, taken or killed at a time, in a manner, for a purpose, or in any other respect which is prohibited by the laws of the state, territory or country in which the same were caught, taken or killed; or which were shipped out of said state, territory or country in violation of the laws thereof.
- C. The following aquatic wildlife may be possessed by any person in the State of Colorado:
1. Amphibians
 - ~~a. Bullfrogs. Possession of this species is subject to the restrictions set forth in Chapter W-1, #104.H.4 and #107.A.1.m of these regulations.~~
 - ~~b. Aquatic gilled forms of tiger salamanders. Possession of this species is subject to the restrictions set forth in Chapter W-1, #104.H.4 and #107.A.1.o of these regulations.~~
 - ~~c.a.~~ Any possession of amphibians ~~allowed~~ authorized under by Chapter W-7 of these regulations.
 2. Crustaceans
 - a. The following crustaceans may be possessed east of the Continental Divide:
 - i. Virile crayfish
 - ii. Waternymph crayfish
 - iii. Calico crayfish
 - iv. Ringed crayfish

- v. Southern plains crayfish
- b. The following crustaceans may be possessed on either side of the Continental Divide:
 - i. Freshwater shrimp
 - ii. Commercially available brine shrimp
 - iii. Commercially available krill
 - iv. Subject to the requirements of #010 and #011, red swamp crayfish (*Procambarus clarkii*) for purposes of importing, transporting, or possessing the species for human consumption, provided the following criteria are satisfied:
 - a. no person may possess an individual of the species alive for more than 72 hours; and
 - b. any person who possesses the species alive must have:
 - i. a copy of an importation license issued under #011 that authorizes the importation of the crayfish in the person's possession; and
 - ii. a receipt or delivery confirmation reflecting the date the person took possession of the crayfish.
- 3. Fish. Possession of these species is subject to the restrictions set forth in Chapter W-1 of these regulations.
 - a. Brown, brook, cutthroat, golden, lake and rainbow trout, and their hybrids
 - b. Arctic char
 - c. Grayling
 - d. Kokanee salmon
 - e. Whitefish
 - f. Sculpin
 - g. Smallmouth, largemouth, spotted, striped, and white bass
 - h. Wipers
 - i. Common carp
 - j. Triploid grass carp
 - k. Bullhead, blue, channel, and flathead catfish
 - l. Black and white crappie
 - m. Drum
 - n. Northern pike
 - o. Tiger muskie
 - p. Sacramento and yellow perch, and their hybrids
 - q. Sauger and saugeye

- r. Speckled dace
 - s. Rainbow smelt
 - t. Tench
 - u. Walleye
 - v. Bluegill and bluegill hybrids
 - w. Green, redear and pumpkin-seed sunfish
 - x. Gizzard shad
 - y. Longnose and white suckers
 - z. Fathead minnow
 - aa. Families of fish classified Cyprinidae except for bighead carp, black carp, and silver carp.
 - bb. Any fish designated as unregulated wildlife under Chapter W-11, #1103.B of these regulations.
- D. In addition to those species identified in Chapter W-0, #012.C, any Food Production Facility may possess the following aquatic wildlife in the State of Colorado:
- 1. Fish
 - a. Blue tilapia and their hybrids
 - b. Mozambique tilapia and their hybrids
 - c. Nile tilapia and their hybrids
 - d. Barramundi
 - e. Any other fish that the Division, after consultation with the Colorado Fish Health Board determines can securely be kept within a Food Production Facility and which does not present a risk to native species, their habitat, the aquatic environment, or other Food Production Facilities.
 - 2. Crustacea
 - a. Redclaw crayfish
- E. The possession of any aquatic wildlife in the State of Colorado not listed in this section #012 is unlawful unless otherwise authorized by the provisions of Chapter W-11 of these regulations pertaining to unregulated wildlife, or Chapter W-13 of these regulations ("Possession of Wildlife, Scientific Collecting and Special Licenses"). Any person who takes any fish species from the wild in Colorado not listed in this section may take and possess them year round and in any quantity for personal use, provided that the fish are not listed as nongame, threatened, or endangered under Chapter W-10 and provided that the fish are killed prior to transportation from the point of take.
- F. No person shall import, transport, possess, or release any aquatic nuisance species (ANS) except as authorized by the Division or permit issued under Title 35 C.R.S.

CHAPTER 1 - FISHING

ARTICLE I - GENERAL PROVISIONS

#100 – DEFINITIONS

See also 33-1-102, C.R.S and Chapter 0 of these regulations for other applicable definitions.

- A. **"Artificial flies and lures"** means devices made entirely of, or a combination of, natural or synthetic non-edible, non-scented (regardless if the scent is added in the manufacturing process or applied afterward), materials such as wood, plastic, silicone, rubber, epoxy, glass, hair, metal, feathers, or fiber, designed to attract fish. This definition does not include anything defined as bait in #100.B below.
- B. **"Bait"** means any hand-moldable material designed to attract fish by the sense of taste or smell; those devices to which scents or smell attractants have been added or externally applied (regardless if the scent is added in the manufacturing process or applied afterward); scented manufactured fish eggs and traditional organic baits, including but not limited to worms, grubs, crickets, leeches, dough baits or stink baits, insects, crayfish, human food, fish, fish parts or fish eggs. **"Bait" does not include amphibians, alive or dead, or any part thereof.**
- C. **"Chumming"** means placing fish, parts of fish, or other material upon which fish might feed in the waters of this state for the purpose of attracting fish to a particular area in order that they might be taken, but such term shall not include fishing with baited hooks or live traps.
- D. **"Game fish"** means all species of fish except unregulated species, prohibited nongame, endangered and threatened species, which currently exist or may be introduced into the state and which are classified as game fish by the Commission. This includes, but is not limited to brown, brook, cutthroat, golden, lake (mackinaw), and rainbow trout; cutbow (rainbow trout x cutthroat trout hybrids), splake (lake trout x brook trout hybrids), and tiger trout (brown trout x brook trout hybrids); arctic char; grayling; kokanee salmon; whitefish; sculpin; smallmouth, largemouth, spotted, striped, and white bass; wipers (striped bass x white bass hybrids); carp; bullhead, blue, channel, and flathead catfish; black and white crappie; drum; northern pike; tiger muskie; sacramento and yellow perch; sauger; saugeye (walleye x sauger hybrids); speckled dace; rainbow smelt; tench; walleye; bluegill; bluegill hybrids (bluegill x green sunfish); green, redear and pumpkin-seed sunfish; gizzard shad; longnose and white suckers; and minnows.
- E. **"Float tube"** means a floating device which suspends a single occupant in the water from the seat down and is not propelled by oars, paddles or motors.
- F. **"Gig"** means a barbed fork with one or more tines which is attached to a handle.
- G. **"Jugs"** means floats to which are attached a line and common hook.
- H. **"Minnow"** means all members of the families of fish classified Cyprinidae (which includes but is not limited to Carp, Chub, Dace, Fathead Minnow, Shiner, Stoneroller, and Tench) Cyprinodontidae (including but not limited to Killifish) and Clupeidae (Gizzard Shad), except those designated as nongame, threatened, or endangered in Chapter 10 of these regulations, or those designated as Unregulated Wildlife in Chapter 11 of these regulations.

- I. **"Natural stream"** means an existing stream course where water naturally flows regularly or intermittently for at least part of the year. Ditches or other water conveyance channels which are man-made are not considered natural streams.
- J. **"Net"** means seine, dip net, gill net, cast net, trap net, hoop net or similar devices used to take or as an aid in taking fish ~~; amphibians bullfrogs;~~ or crustaceans.
- K. **"Personally attended line"** means a rod and line, hand line, or tip up that is used for fishing and which is under the personal control of a person who is in proximity to it.
- L. **"Common hook"** means any hook or multiple hooks having a common shank. All hooks attached to a manufactured artificial lure shall be considered a common hook.
- M. **"Size" or "Length"** means the total length of a fish with head and tail attached measured from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail.
- N. **"Seining"** means the capture of live fish with the use of a net that hangs vertically in the water and is used to enclose fish when its ends are pulled together, or are drawn ashore.
- O. **"Snagging"** means the taking of fish by snatching with hooks, gang hooks, artificial flies or lures, or similar devices where the fish is hooked in a part of the body other than the mouth.
- P. **"Trotline"** means a single, anchored line with a float at each end from which droplines are attached.

#101 - SEASON DATES AND HOURS

- A. Except as otherwise provided in these regulations, all waters of the state shall be open to fishing using all manners of take day and night, year around.

#102 - LICENSE AND STAMP REQUIREMENTS

See also 33-6-107 C.R.S. for general fishing license requirements

- A. **A valid commercial fishing license is required to take or possess bait fish, ~~bullfrogs, amphibians,~~ or crustaceans for commercial purposes.**
 - 1. Commercial fishing licenses shall be available from the Division at a cost of forty dollars (\$40.00). Applications for licenses are available from the Division. Licenses issued by the Division can be restricted to specific waters, specific bag limits and times designated by the Division on the basis of the following criteria:
 - a. Negative impacts on sport fishing opportunity.
 - b. Effects of commercial harvest on populations of target species.
 - c. Detrimental effects of transplanting a species outside its current range.
 - d. Presence of threatened or endangered species and species of special concern.
 - 2. All commercial fishing license holders shall submit an annual report as specified on the commercial fishing license application to the Division within thirty (30) days of the expiration date of the license.
 - 3. All commercial fishing license holders shall be required to provide each purchaser of live fish with a written receipt stating the seller's name, the date of

sale, the species, and the number sold.

4. The taking of mollusks listed in Chapter 10 is prohibited.

B. Free fishing dates - The following dates are open to fishing without a license or Habitat Stamp in all waters of the state: The first full weekend of the month of June.

C. Second rod stamp – Any person may use one additional (second) personally attended line statewide when a second rod stamp is purchased, as identified on the user's fishing license.

1. Any person under 16 years of age who is not required to have a fishing license must have a second rod stamp with their signature in possession in order to use a second personally attended line.
2. Second rod stamps are not transferable to any other person, nor do they confer fishing privileges to any person other than the license-holder.
3. A second rod stamp is not required when fishing with a trotline or jugs only.

#103 - MANNER OF TAKE

A. The following are legal methods of take for species listed in this chapter. Any method of take not listed herein shall be prohibited, except as otherwise provided by statute or these regulations:

1. One personally attended line, except as otherwise authorized in these regulations.
 - a. Each line shall have no more than 3 common hooks attached.
2. Trotlines
 - a. Trotlines may only be used on waters specified in regulation #108.
 - b. No one may use more than one trotline.
 - c. Trotlines shall be anchored, marked at each end by floats, be no more than 150 feet in length, have no more than 25 droplines, and shall be weighted to place the line a minimum of 3 feet beneath the surface of the water.
 - d. There shall be no more than 3 barbed hooks on a common hook on each dropline.
 - e. Trotlines shall be tagged with the user's customer identification number and date set. If the user does not have a customer identification number, trotlines must be tagged with the user's name.
 - f. All trotlines shall be personally checked at least once in each 24-hour period.
3. Jugs
 - a. Jugs shall only be used only on waters specified in regulation #108.
 - b. No one may use more than 10 jugs, each of which shall not have more than a single line with one common hook attached.
 - c. Jugs shall be tagged with the user's customer identification number. If the user does not have a customer identification number, jugs must be tagged with the user's name.
 - d. Jugs shall be personally checked at least once every hour.
4. Underwater spearfishing, archery, slingbows and gigs
 - a. Underwater spearfishing, archery, slingbows and gigs may be used

statewide for the taking of carp and northern pike, except as otherwise prohibited by these regulations or land management agencies. East of the Continental Divide, gizzard shad, and white or long-nose suckers may also be taken, unless otherwise prohibited in regulation #108. Other game fish species may only be taken when authorized in regulation #108 for a specific water.

- b. The following additional restrictions apply to underwater spearfishing:
 - 1. CO₂ guns or cartridge-powered spears are prohibited.
 - 2. Guns must be loaded and unloaded while the gun is submerged.
 - 3. Divers must stay within a radius of 100 feet of a float bearing the National Divers' Symbol.
 - 4. Spears must be attached by a safety line.
 - c. Archery and slingbows may be used for the taking of kokanee salmon during times and in locations otherwise open to snagging of salmon, as established in #108 of these regulations.
 - d. Archery, slingbows and gigs may be used for the taking of bullfrogs.
 - e. The following additional restrictions apply to fishing with archery hand-held bows and slingbows:
 - 1. All archery hand-held bows and slingbows must have a reel, fishing line and arrow attached to the bow.
 - 2. All archery hand-held bows must have an arrow safety slide mechanism, which maintains the fishing line in front of the arrow rest at all times.
5. Snagging
- a. Snagging shall be used for the taking of kokanee salmon only, and only where specifically authorized in regulation #108.
 - b. Snagged fish species other than kokanee salmon must be returned to the water immediately upon catch.
6. Seines and cast-nets
- a. Seines shall be used only for fish taken in accordance with regulation #104(H), ~~the gilled form aquatic tiger salamander larvae~~, and crayfish; or when authorized for emergency salvage.
 - b. Seines shall be made of one-fourth (1/4) inch or less non-metallic square mesh.
 - c. Seines shall not exceed 20 feet in length by 4 feet in depth
7. By hand or with the aid of dip nets
- a. ~~Bullfrogs and, cCrayfish, and the gilled form aquatic tiger salamander larvae~~ may be taken by hand or with the aid of dip nets.
 - b. Fish may be taken by hand or with the aid of dip nets or any other method approved by the Director, when emergency public salvage of fish has been approved in accordance with regulation #104(G).
 - c. Hand held dip nets may be used for fish taken in accordance with regulation #104(H).
8. Livetraps
- a. Cage or box traps, including set pots, shall be used only for the taking of crayfish, snapping turtles, and fish taken in accordance with regulation #104(H). All cage or box traps, including set pots, shall be tagged with the user's customer identification number. If the user does not have a customer identification number, traps must be tagged with the user's name.
9. Artificial light
- a. Artificial light may be used as an aid in taking.
10. Bait

- a. Bait may be used as an aid in taking, except by chumming, in accordance with regulation #104(H).

#104 - SPECIAL CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

- A. Any fish released upon catch must be released alive and into the same body of water from which it was taken. Transfer or transport of live fish is prohibited, except as otherwise permitted in the provisions of Article VII, #010 and Article I #104(H).
- B. When fishing through the ice, the following additional restrictions apply:
 - 1. Ice fishing holes shall not exceed 10 inches in diameter, or 10 inches on any side.
 - 2. All fires on the ice must be enclosed in a container.
 - 3. No litter may be left on the ice.
 - 4. On waters where only portable shelters are permitted, all ice fishing shelters must be removed from the ice at the end of the day.
 - 5. On waters where permanent ice fishing shelters are permitted; the name and customer identification number of the owner or user must be displayed on the outside, shore side, of the shelter, in legible, contrasting color letters at least 2 inches high.
- C. Only those persons designated by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service may take fish, amphibians, mollusks or crustaceans within the boundaries of any Federal fish hatchery or rearing unit.
- D. Molesting, disturbing, or damaging gill nets, traps, seines or trot-lines set by the Division is prohibited.
- E. Fishing may be prohibited as posted pending the adoption of water-specific regulations when necessary to:
 - 1. Protect threatened or endangered species.
 - 2. Protect spawning areas.
 - 3. Protect waters being used in Division research projects.
 - 4. Protect newly acquired access to fishing waters.
 - 5. Protect the integrity of sport fish, native fish or other aquatic wildlife populations.
- F. Emergency Closure of Fishing Waters
 - 1. The Director may authorize emergency closure of fishing waters in the state for a period of up to 9 months when it is determined that environmental conditions in these waters are such that fishing could result in unacceptable levels of fish mortality. Such closures **may** be enacted when any one of the following criteria are met:
 - a. Daily maximum water temperature exceeds 71 ° F;
 - b. Measured stream flows are 50% or less of the daily average flow;
 - c. Fish condition is deteriorating such that fungus and other visible signs of deterioration and/or stress may be present;
 - d. Daily minimum dissolved oxygen levels are below six (6) parts per million (ppm).
 - e. When a natural or man-caused environmental event such as wildfire, mudslides, oil spills or other similar event has occurred, resulting in the need for recovery time or remedial action for a fish population

When such determination has been made, public notice will be given, including

posting at the site.

G. Emergency Public Salvage of fish

1. The Director may authorize emergency public salvage when substantial numbers of fish in waters of the state are found to be in imminent danger of being lost. Such loss is deemed to be imminent when the volume and depth of water, water temperature and/or oxygen content are such that fish cannot survive. Measurements shall be made of these criteria as a basis for making a judgment on the total loss of fish and when such loss will occur, and will include:
 - a. Water storage levels in lakes, reservoirs, or ponds of less than twenty-five (25) percent of total capacity or,
 - b. River or stream flow essentially eliminated with only pools left standing or,
 - c. Visual evidence of substantial numbers of sick or dying fish, or
 - d. Reclamation projects.
2. When such determination has been made; public notice will be given, including posting at the site, that fish may be taken by hand or by dip net, or any other method authorized by the Director. When practical the Director shall exercise this authority within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the information or at such earlier time as the emergency necessitates.
3. Numbers of fish to be salvaged and possessed by an individual shall be determined by Division personnel at the site.
4. Emergency salvage shall be permitted only during daylight hours.

H. Take, Possession and Use of Fish, ~~Amphibians~~, and Crustaceans for bait, personal or commercial use

1. The seining, netting, trapping, and dipping of fish is prohibited statewide in all natural streams, springs, all waters in Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Gilpin, Elbert, Jefferson, and Park counties, and all public standing waters in Rio Grande, Saguache, Conejos, Costilla, Alamosa, Mineral and Hinsdale counties in the Rio Grande drainage.
 - a. Fish handled or produced on commercially licensed aquaculture facilities are exempt from this regulation.
2. The only fish species allowed to be ~~used as bait (alive or dead)~~ or taken ~~and used~~ for personal use as bait (~~either alive or dead~~) by fishing, seining, netting, trapping, or dipping are minnows, bluegill, hybrid bluegill, carp, sunfish, gizzard shad, sculpin, white and longnose suckers, yellow perch and rainbow smelt. Statewide bag limits apply to sunfish, bluegill, hybrid bluegills and yellow perch.
 - a. Restrictions on Live Fish Used as Bait.
 1. The collection, use, or possession of live fish for use as bait is prohibited in the following waters:
 - a. All waters east of the Continental Divide above 7,000 feet elevation
 - b. The Arkansas River above Parkdale – Fremont and Chaffee counties
 - c. Watson Lake - Larimer County
 - d. All waters west of the Continental Divide, except in Navajo Reservoir.
 2. Except as otherwise provided by these regulations, live fish collected for use as bait may only be used in the same body of water from which they were collected. In addition, collection and use is allowed in any man-

made ditches and canals within one-half mile of the adjoining lake or reservoir. Use of any baitfish collected in those ditches and canals is restricted to only the water from which it was collected and the adjoining lake or reservoir. Baitfish collected under this provision may not be otherwise transported or stored for later use.

3. In Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero and Prowers Counties, live fish collected for personal use as bait may be transported, stored or used anywhere within the listed counties. Transportation to or use of any such baitfish in any other county is prohibited,

4. Only the following live fish may be used as bait in Colorado:

- a. live fish collected from the wild and used as provided in this subsection H.2;
- b. live fish acquired from a fish production facility with a valid aquaculture facility permit as required by § 35-24.5-109, C.R.S.; or
- c. live fish acquired from a bait dealer registered under 8 CCR 1201-21:2.

All live fish acquired from a fish production facility or bait dealer as provided in this subsection H.2.a.4 ~~baitfish acquired from a commercial source and transported by anglers~~ must at all times be accompanied by a receipt from the ~~source~~ fish production facility or bait dealer.

3. The only fish species allowed to be taken for commercial use are minnows, gizzard shad, white and longnose suckers and carp.

~~Bullfrogs and Salamanders. The taking, possession and use of bullfrogs and the aquatic gilled form of the tiger salamander for private and commercial use is permitted. Statewide bag limits apply.~~

4. Crustaceans.

- a. The taking, possession and use of any crustacean under the authority of a commercial fishing license is subject to the following restrictions:
 1. The minimum size for crayfish taken for commercial food purposes shall be three (3) inches. (Measured from the tip of the acumen (bony spike between the eye) to the telson (last bony plate in the tail)).
 2. All crayfish taken with eggs attached must be returned to the water immediately.
 3. All set pots and traps shall be labeled with the user's customer identification number. If the user does not have a customer identification number, all set pots and traps must be labeled with the user's name.
- b. In all waters west of the Continental Divide - All crayfish must be returned to the water of origin immediately or killed and taken into possession immediately upon catch with kill being effected by separating the abdomen from the cephalothorax (tail from body).

5. Mollusks. The taking of mollusks is prohibited.

~~I. Take, Possession, and Use of Bullfrog~~

1. ~~Under the authority in Chapter W-7, #708, bullfrog are considered invasive, and an unlimited number may be taken without a license from the wild, year-round~~

~~using artificial light, night vision equipment, hand, dip net or gig. Bullfrog must be immediately killed, and only dead bullfrog are allowed to be possessed, transported, or exported. Under the authority of a valid fishing or commercial fishing license, bullfrog may be taken using any of these additional methods: a personally attended line, archery, or slingbow. Bullfrog may only be taken and used for human consumption.~~

#106 - FISHING CONTESTS AND RELEASE OF TAGGED FISH

A. Fishing Contests using tagged or marked released fish

1. No person shall advertise, promote, conduct or offer to conduct any fishing contest where the object of such contest is to take marked or tagged fish released in any waters open to public fishing, except licensed commercial and private lakes, or release marked or tagged fish for this purpose, unless such contest is first approved by the Director.
 - a. Application shall be made on a form provided by the Division at least sixty (60) days prior to the proposed contest date. Such application shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable fee of forty dollars (\$40.00).
 - b. Approval shall be granted to any person meeting the requirements of this regulation unless the Director determines the proposed contest would be significantly detrimental to the wildlife resource. In such cases, approval may be granted if conditions can be placed on the conduct of the contest which will avoid such detrimental effects. When an application for a contest is denied the applicant shall be promptly notified with a written notice stating the reason(s) for such denial.
2. Contests involving tagged or marked trout will be permitted only on lakes and reservoirs greater than 200 surface acres and managed primarily as a catchable fishery by Colorado Parks and Wildlife. "Catchable fishery" means any lake or reservoir which is annually stocked with hatchery reared trout averaging eight (8) to ten (10) inches in length.
3. No tagged or marked fish contest shall be permitted on any stream, river or other flowing water or any water designated as a Gold Medal or Wild Trout water.
4. Written approval shall be obtained from the person(s) or agency(s) who owns or controls the land and water area involved prior to making application to the Division
5. All statutes and regulations including license provisions, manner of taking, size restrictions and daily bag and possession limits for fish shall remain in effect during any contest.
6. Any public fishing area shall remain open to public fishing without charge, regardless of any special contest fee or changes, during a fishing contest.
- ~~5.6.~~ All fish obtained for use in any contest shall be certified disease free in accordance with #009, prior to release.
- ~~6.7.~~ Contest sponsor(s) shall provide a written report to the appropriate Parks and Wildlife office within twenty (20) days of the close of such contest. Said report shall include an estimate of the number of participants, the average time spent by participants in fishing and the estimated total fish catch by species.

#107 - STATEWIDE DAILY BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS AND SPECIAL SEASONS

A. Daily Bag, Possession Limits and size limits:		
1. Daily bag and possession limits – except as otherwise provided in these regulations for certain waters, the daily bag and possession limits will be as follows:		
Species	Daily Bag and Possession Limit (except as otherwise noted)	Special Conditions
a. Trout (Brook, Brown, Cutbow, Cutthroat, Golden, Lake, Rainbow, Splake, and Tiger); Arctic Char; Salmon (except kokanee); Grayling; and Mountain Whitefish:	Daily Bag: 4 fish in the aggregate Possession Limit: 8 fish in the aggregate	Brook Trout - additional daily bag and possession limit: 10 fish, 8 inches or less in length
b. Kokanee salmon:	10 fish	
c. Walleye, Saugeye, Sauger:	5 fish in the aggregate	Arkansas and South Fork of the Republican River drainages - bag and possession limit: 10 fish in the aggregate
d. Largemouth Bass, Spotted Bass, and Smallmouth Bass:	5 fish in the aggregate	West of the Continental Divide- for Smallmouth Bass only: Unlimited bag and possession limit.
e. White Bass, Striped Bass, Wiper:	10 fish in the aggregate	Arkansas and South Fork of the Republican River drainages - bag and possession limit: 20 fish in the aggregate
f. Channel Catfish, Blue Catfish, Flathead Catfish:	10 fish in the aggregate	
g. White Crappie, Black Crappie:	20 fish in the aggregate	
h. Bluegill, Hybrid Bluegill, Green Sunfish, Redear Sunfish, Pumpkinseed Sunfish:	20 fish in the aggregate	
i. Yellow Perch:	20 fish	West of the Continental Divide: Unlimited
j. Tiger Muskie:	1 fish, at least 36 inches in length	
k. Northern Pike and Bullhead:	Unlimited	
l. Speckled Dace, and Sculpin:	Unlimited	West of the Continental Divide - bag and possession limit: 20 fish in the aggregate
m. Bullfrogs	Unlimited	
nm. Crayfish (crawdads)	Unlimited	
o. Aquatic Tiger Salamander-larvae (gilled form)	50, less than 5 inches in length	

- Any fish caught and placed on a stringer, in a container or in a live well, or not returned to the water immediately, will be counted as part of the established daily bag or possession limit. Any fish taken and subsequently smoked, canned, frozen or otherwise preserved for consumption is considered part of the established possession limit until it is consumed.

3. There are no daily bag or possession limits for game species not specifically listed.

CHAPTER W-7 – HERPETOFAUNA

ARTICLE I – General Provisions

#701 Prohibition

- A. Except as provided in this chapter, ~~Chapter W-1 (governing fishing)~~, Chapter W-3 (governing small game), Chapter W-10 (governing nongame, threatened, and endangered wildlife), Chapter W-11 (governing wildlife parks), Chapter W-13 (governing scientific collection), Chapter W-14 (governing wildlife rehabilitation), title 33, C.R.S. and federal law, it is unlawful for any person to take, possess, sell, offer for sale, purchase, import, export, transport, or release any live herpetofauna in Colorado.
- B. This prohibition does not apply to:
 - 1. the Cheyenne Mountain Zoological Society, Denver Zoological Foundation, Landry's Downtown Aquarium, or Pueblo Zoological Society; or
 - 2. Division employees acting within the scope of their employment.

ARTICLE II – Exceptions

#708 Invasive herpetofauna

- A. The following invasive herpetofauna are detrimental to Colorado wildlife and habitat:
 - 1. Red-eared slider (*Trachemys scripta elegans*)
 - 2. Bullfrogs (*Lithobates catesbeianus*)
- B. A natural person may take an unlimited number of invasive herpetofauna from the wild year-round using the following methods:
 - 1. Any invasive herpetofauna: artificial light and night vision equipment.
 - 2. Red-eared slider: hand or dip net.
 - 3. Bullfrog: hand, dip net, or gig; ~~or personally attended line, archery, or slingbow provided the person has a valid Colorado fishing license (personal or commercial). The use of archery or slingbow to take bullfrogs must comply with the restrictions in W-1, #103.A.4.e. – Under the authority of Chapter W-1, #104.I.1., a valid fishing license or commercial fishing license is required to take bullfrog with a personally attended line, archery, or slingbow.~~
- C. Except as provided in ~~Chapter W-1 or~~ regulation #708.C, any invasive herpetofauna taken from the wild must be immediately killed and may not be possessed, transported, or exported alive.
 - 1. A person may possess, transport, or export, but not propagate, a red-eared slider taken from the wild in Colorado for the life of the animal.