

Inland Warmwater Fishes



Warmwater fishing in California covers a broad range of fish and fishing techniques. At one extreme is the simplicity of a youngster fishing for bluegill in a farm pond with a willow pole and a worm on a hook. At the other end of the scale may be the finesse and sophistication of a tournament bass angler in search of a 'kicker' fish, tearing across the lake in a fiberglass boat full of a variety of rods and reels, fish finders, and the latest custom-colored, handmade, artificial lures.

The common link among warmwater fishing experiences is that the anglers target fish that prefer water temperatures generally too warm for trout. This is not to say that trout and warmwater fish cannot occur in the same body of water. Many of California's lakes and reservoirs support excellent "two-story" fisheries where warmwater species such as bass and sunfish can be caught in warmer surface waters and trout in deeper, cooler areas.

Warmwater fish can be found throughout California in urban and rural streams, rivers, ponds, lakes, and reservoirs, and can provide excellent sport and good table fare. They have not only introduced millions to the sport of fishing, they continue to provide a lifetime of angling challenges for many.



Inland Warmwater Fishes

Largemouth Bass

Date of catch

Catch-and-release?
Yes No



Location of catch

Witness signature

place
stamp
here

Redeye Bass

Date of catch

Catch-and-release?
Yes No



Location of catch

Witness signature

place
stamp
here

Smallmouth Bass

Date of catch

Catch-and-release?
Yes No



Location of catch

Witness signature

place
stamp
here

Spotted Bass

Date of catch

Catch-and-release?
Yes No



Location of catch

Witness signature

place
stamp
here

Inland Warmwater Fishes



Striped Bass (landlocked)

Date of catch _____ *Catch-and-release?*
Yes No

place
stamp
here

Location of catch

Witness signature



White Bass

Date of catch _____ *Catch-and-release?*
Yes No

place
stamp
here

Location of catch

Witness signature



Black Bullhead

Date of catch _____ *Catch-and-release?*
Yes No

place
stamp
here

Location of catch

Witness signature



Brown Bullhead

Date of catch _____ *Catch-and-release?*
Yes No

place
stamp
here

Location of catch

Witness signature

Inland Warmwater Fishes

Yellow Bullhead

_____ *Date of catch*

Catch-and-release?
Yes No



_____ *Location of catch*

_____ *Witness signature*

*place
stamp
here*

Blue Catfish

_____ *Date of catch*

Catch-and-release?
Yes No



_____ *Location of catch*

_____ *Witness signature*

*place
stamp
here*

Channel Catfish

_____ *Date of catch*

Catch-and-release?
Yes No



_____ *Location of catch*

_____ *Witness signature*

*place
stamp
here*

Flathead Catfish

_____ *Date of catch*

Catch-and-release?
Yes No



_____ *Location of catch*

_____ *Witness signature*

*place
stamp
here*

Inland Warmwater Fishes

White Catfish



Catch-and-release?

Yes No

Date of catch _____

place stamp here

Location of catch _____

Witness signature _____

Common Carp



Catch-and-release?

Yes No

Date of catch _____

place stamp here

Location of catch _____

Witness signature _____

Black Crappie



Catch-and-release?

Yes No

Date of catch _____

place stamp here

Location of catch _____

Witness signature _____

White Crappie



Catch-and-release?

Yes No

Date of catch _____

place stamp here

Location of catch _____

Witness signature _____

Sacramento Perch

_____ *Date of catch*

Catch-and-release?
Yes No



_____ *Location of catch*

_____ *Witness signature*

*place
stamp
here*

Tule Perch

_____ *Date of catch*

Catch-and-release?
Yes No



_____ *Location of catch*

_____ *Witness signature*

*place
stamp
here*

Yellow Perch

_____ *Date of catch*

Catch-and-release?
Yes No



_____ *Location of catch*

_____ *Witness signature*

*place
stamp
here*

Bluegill

_____ *Date of catch*

Catch-and-release?
Yes No



_____ *Location of catch*

_____ *Witness signature*

*place
stamp
here*

Inland Warmwater Fishes



Pumpkinseed

_____ *Date of catch*

Catch-and-release?
Yes No

place stamp here

_____ *Location of catch*

_____ *Witness signature*



Green Sunfish

_____ *Date of catch*

Catch-and-release?
Yes No

place stamp here

_____ *Location of catch*

_____ *Witness signature*



Redear Sunfish

_____ *Date of catch*

Catch-and-release?
Yes No

place stamp here

_____ *Location of catch*

_____ *Witness signature*



Warmouth

_____ *Date of catch*

Catch-and-release?
Yes No

place stamp here

_____ *Location of catch*

_____ *Witness signature*

Inland Warmwater Fishes

Tilapia

Date of catch

Catch-and-release?

Yes

No



Location of catch

Witness signature

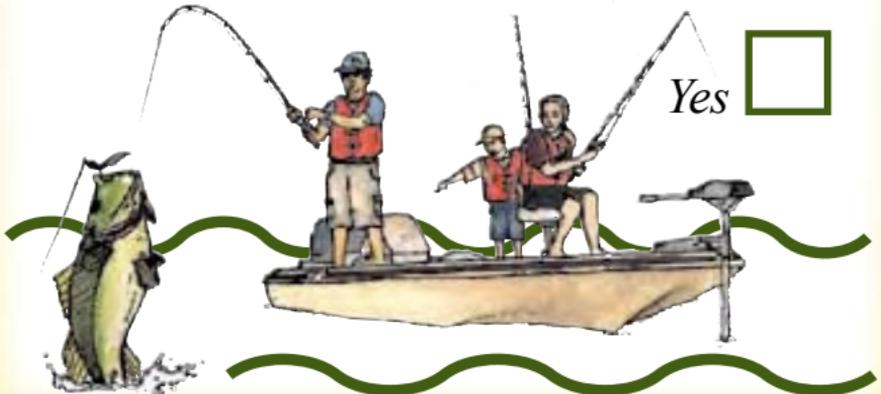
place
stamp
here

Practice Safe and Responsible Fishing

*I do not transport
fish, live bait, or
water plants between
waterways – it can be
harmful and it is illegal.*



Yes



Trophy Black Bass Recognition Program



courtesy J. Banacky

Hankering to catch a trophy-sized bass? You're in the right state! Twenty-two of the 25 heftiest largemouth caught in the U.S. were taken from California waters.

To recognize anglers who land California's monster black bass, the Department created the Trophy Black Bass recognition program as part of the Black Bass Conservation and Management Act of 1980. This program:

-  Recognizes the extraordinary accomplishment of landing a trophy bass
-  Helps the Department maintain records of trophy bass landings
-  Assists Department managers in producing more trophy bass in designated waters

To qualify, bass must meet or exceed the following weight criteria:

**largemouth bass: 10 lb. smallmouth bass: 6 lb.
spotted bass: 6 lb.**

Two witnesses are required to the weighing and measuring of the fish. The Department will award a certificate of recognition, suitable for framing, to anglers who catch verified trophy black bass; anglers who catch and release their trophy bass also receive a California Trophy Bass catch-and-release hat or lapel pin.

If you've successfully caught a trophy-sized black bass, complete and mail a Trophy Black Bass application form along with supporting documentation to the Department. Application forms are available on the Trophy Black Bass Angler Recognition Web site and at all Department offices. For more information about the Trophy Black Bass Angler Recognition Program, call (916) 358-2847 or visit

www.dfg.ca.gov/fishing