



Application for State Record Sport Fish Catch Consideration

To report a potential state record catch immediately call 410-991-0748 or email keith.lockwood@maryland.gov. Then, fill out this application, following instructions and submit.

Keep the fish whole until a positive identification of the species of fish is verified by the state. Attempt to have the catch inspected in person by a fisheries biologist from the department. To preserve the weight, immerse the fish in ice water until it can be weighed. All possible state record fish will be reviewed, and the state reserves the right to inspect the catch while it is whole. The state also reserves the right to reject any application based on the results of an investigation.

Angler's Name: _____ Date of Catch: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Species Caught: _____ Date of Catch: _____

Region Caught (Circle One): Atlantic Chesapeake Freshwater

Specific Location Caught (As Best Described, Along with Name of Body of Water): _____

Photo Release for Children Under 18 Years of Age

I hereby grant to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and to its employees, agents, and assigns the right to photograph my dependent and use the photo and or other digital reproduction of him/her or other reproduction of his/her physical likeness for publication processes, whether electronic, print, digital, or electronic publishing via the Internet.

Certified Weight: _____ Date Fish was Weighed: _____

Scale operator's name (Cannot be angler who caught fish): _____

Scale operator's signature: _____

Name of establishment where fish was weighed: _____

Angler signature: _____

State record fish are determined by weight. Most fishing tackle shops do not have certified scales, so call ahead. Establishments that sell products by weight such as grocery stores, seafood retailers and mailing/shipping outlets should have a certified scale and may be willing to help.

Before submitting, please review the department's website with the [rules governing state record catches](#). Except for fish in the invasive species category, all fish must be legally caught with rod and reel during its open season. From the time that a fish strikes, the angler must hook and fight the fish without the aid of any other person. The reel must be operated manually. Once the leader is brought to the rod tip, one or more people may help land the fish. Fish that have been snagged, shot, gaffed*, speared, scaled, or mutilated are not eligible. *Gaffing is illegal in the Chesapeake Bay but is allowed for securing and boating fish in ocean waters, after they have been brought to the side of the boat with rod and reel.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources reserves the right to investigate the methods used in catching the fish, the location caught, and the accuracy of the measuring and/or weighing process.

Submit completed application with clear photograph(s) of fish to DNR within two weeks of catch. Submit via email to keith.lockwood@maryland.gov or mail to Keith Lockwood Att: State Fishing Record, Maryland DNR, 904 South Morris St., Oxford, MD 21654