

GEAR — Housekeeping

What is being considered?

The Department needs to clarify that an individual may only attempt to catch fish when using legal fishing gear. The regulation already says that you can only catch fish with certain gear, but it should say that you can only use that gear to catch or attempt to catch fish.

Why is this change necessary?

It was recently discovered that the regulation is not completely clear.

Who will this affect?

Anyone using recreational fishing gear.

When would this be effective?

The Department projects that this change could be effective in the fall of 2025. However, the exact date cannot be determined. The Department will follow our normal [procedures](#) if this concept moves forward.

Has this change been discussed with advisory bodies?

This idea was scoped with the Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission and the Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission at their meetings in April 2025.