

## **LARGEMOUTH BASS - Scientific Renaming**

### **What is being considered?**

The Department needs to update its references to the scientific name of largemouth bass, formerly *Micropterus salmoides*. In 2023, the American Fisheries Society published their most recent list of common and scientific names of fishes, which reflects a change in the name of Florida bass from *Micropterus floridanus* to *Micropterus salmoides* and in the name of largemouth bass from *Micropterus salmoides* to *Micropterus nigricans*. This means that all of the Department's references to the scientific name of largemouth bass now technically refer to Florida bass. The Department is not changing any rules relating to largemouth bass, does not have Florida bass, and does not support introduction of Florida bass.

### **Why is this change necessary?**

Updating references to the scientific name of largemouth bass is necessary to ensure that the Department's regulations refer to the proper species of black bass.

### **Who will this affect?**

Nobody, as this is a technical housekeeping correction.

### **When would this be effective?**

The Department projects that this change could be effective in the summer 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 January 2025.