

115-25-14. Fishing; creel limit, size limit, possession limit, and open season. (a) The open season for the taking of fish in Kansas shall be January 1 through December 31, with the following exceptions:

(1) The flowing portions and backwaters of the Missouri river and any oxbow lake through which the Kansas-Missouri boundary passes, for which the open snagging season for the taking of paddlefish shall be March 15 through May 15;

(2) the flowing portions of the Kansas river from its origin downstream to its confluence with the Missouri river and the flowing portions of the Arkansas river from its origin downstream to the Kansas-Oklahoma border and on federal reservoirs from 150 yards away from the dam to the upper end of the federal property, for which the open hand-fishing season for the taking of flathead catfish shall be from sunrise to sunset, June 15 through August 31;

(3) for floatline fishing, only on designated federal reservoirs; and

(4) those areas closed by posted notice.

(b) Pursuant to K.A.R. 115-18-12, a trout permit shall be required for each individual who wants to fish on the following waters during the specified time periods:

(1) November 1 through April 15 (type one waters):

(A) Dodge City Lake Charles;

(B) Coffeyville LeClere Lake;

(C) Eisenhower State Park Pond;

(D) Fort Scott Gun Park Lake;

(E) Garnett Crystal Lake;

(F) Glen Elder Reservoir Outlet;

(G) Glen Elder State Park Pond;

(H) Kanopolis Seep Stream;

(I) Lake Henry, located in Clinton State Park;

(J) Unit number 30, located in the Mined Land Wildlife Area;

(K) Pratt Centennial Pond;

(L) the following Sedgwick County Park waters:

(i) Vic's Lake; and

(ii) Slough Creek;

(M) Scott State Park Pond;

(N) Topeka Auburndale Park;

(O) Walnut River Area, located in El Dorado State Park;

(P) Webster Stilling Basin;

(Q) Willow Lake, located in Tuttle Creek State Park;

(R) King Lake-Emporia; and

(S) OJ Watson Park.

(2) November 1 through October 31: unit number 30, located in the Mined Land Wildlife Area.

(c) Pursuant to K.A.R. 115-18-12, a trout permit shall be required for each individual who wants to fish for and possess trout on the following waters from November 1 through April 15 (type two waters):

(1) Atchison City Lake No. 1;

(2) Belleville City Lake (Rocky Pond);

(3) Cameron Springs, located on Fort Riley;

(4) Cedar Bluff Stilling Basin;

- (5) Cherryvale City Lake (Tanko);
- (6) Cimarron Grasslands Pits;
- (7) Great Bend Veterans Memorial Park Lake;
- (8) Great Bend Stone Lake;
- (9) Herington-Father Padilla Pond;
- (10) Holton-Elkhorn Lake;
- (11) Hutchinson Dillon Nature Center Pond;
- (12) Kanopolis State Park Pond;
- (13) Lake Shawnee, located in Shawnee County;
- (14) Meade State Fishing Lake;
- (15) Moon Lake, located on Fort Riley;
- (16) Salina Lakewood Lake;
- (17) Sandsage Bison Range and Wildlife Area Sandpits;
- (18) Scott State Fishing Lake;
- (19) the following Sedgwick County Park waters:
 - (A) Moss Lake; and
 - (B) Horseshoe Lake;
- (20) Solomon River between Webster Reservoir and Rooks County #2 Road;
- (21) Syracuse-Sam's Pond;
- (22) Colby-Villa High Lake; and
- (23) Sherman County Smokey Gardens Lake.

(d) The following daily creel limits and size limits shall apply to each pond, lake, impoundment, and other water of the state that is open to public fishing access and to all perennial and intermittent watercourses of the state, unless special creel limits and size limits apply pursuant to subsection (f).

Species	Creel Limit	Size Limit
Black bass: largemouth, spotted, or smallmouth	5*	15"
Channel catfish (fewer than 30 rays in the anal fin)	10	--
Blue catfish (30 or more rays in the anal fin)	5	--
Trout	5*	--
Flathead catfish	5	--
Walleye, sauger, saugeye	5*	15"***
Pike family: northern pike, tiger, or muskellunge	2*	30"
Striped bass	5	--
Wiper: striped bass hybrid	5	--
Paddlefish	2**/2#	--
Crappie: white or black	50*	--
All other species	No limit	--

* The daily creel limit shall be composed of a single listed species or a combination of the species in the listed species group.

** The total snagging creel limit of paddlefish per calendar year shall be six paddlefish.

*** The 15” length limit on walleye, sauger, and saugeye shall not apply to streams, rivers, and tailwaters.

Any individual younger than 16 years of age may use an adult’s paddlefish permit while accompanied by that adult with at least one unused carcass tag in possession. Each paddlefish snagged and kept by the individual younger than 16 years of age shall be included as part of the daily creel limit of the permit holder.

(e) The possession limit shall be three daily creel limits.

(f) Special size limits, creel limits, and bait restrictions for designated waters shall be those limits and restrictions specified in the department’s “Kansas special size limits, creel limits, and bait restriction tables,” dated September 7, 2023, which is hereby adopted by reference. All fish caught from these designated waters that are of a size or number that is illegal to possess shall be released unrestrained to the water immediately. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 32-807; amended June 21, 2024.