

Identification of Striper, Wiper, White Bass, and White Perch

Similar appearances, varying length and creel limits, and the recent appearance of the aquatic nuisance species, the white perch, make proper identification of the striped bass, striped bass hybrid (or wiper), white bass, and white perch very important for Kansas anglers. White perch have become established in Cheney and Wilson reservoir and Kingman State Fishing Lake. White perch are capable of out competing native fish for food and space. Therefore, anglers are prohibited from moving white perch from one body of water to another. The following information will aid in the identification by providing distinguishing characteristics of each species. Individuals in a species and differing water conditions may impact the ease of identification and close examination may be needed. There is no daily creel limit on white bass or white perch. Creel limits on wipers and striped bass is 2/day statewide, check your regs for combined/aggregate limits at some lakes.

STRIPED BASS



Back of tongue has TWO tooth patches

Common to reach and exceed 20 pounds



Slender bodied, less than one-third length

Stripes distinct

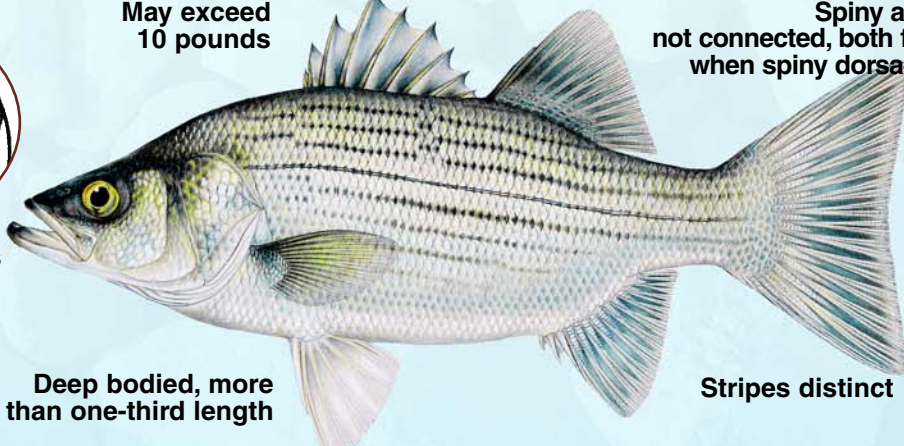
Spiny and soft dorsal fins not connected, both fins do not pop-up when spiny dorsal manually erected

WIPER



Back of tongue has TWO tooth patches

May exceed 10 pounds

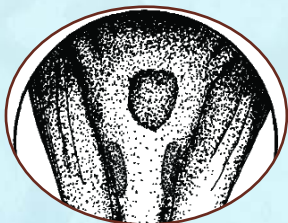


Deep bodied, more than one-third length

Stripes distinct

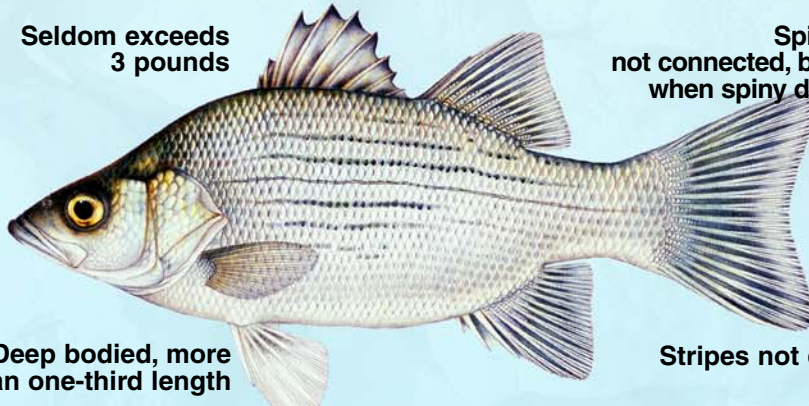
Spiny and soft dorsal fins not connected, both fins do not pop-up when spiny dorsal manually erected

WHITE BASS



Back of tongue has ONE tooth patch

Seldom exceeds 3 pounds



Deep bodied, more than one-third length

Stripes not distinct

Spiny and soft dorsal fins not connected, both fins do not pop-up when spiny dorsal manually erected

WHITE PERCH

Seldom exceeds 1 pound



Deep bodied, deepest part just in front of or at the beginning of the spiny dorsal fin

No distinct stripes

Spiny and soft dorsal fins connected, both fins pop-up when spiny dorsal manually erected