

# CATCH & RELEASE APPLICATION

# FOR OFFICIAL WORLD FRESH WATER RECORD SPORTCAUGHT FISH

A NON-PROFIT MUSEUM-EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION

# National Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame

**THIS FORM MAY BE PHOTOCOPIED!**

**NOTE: Do not write! Type or print plainly!**

Return entire form to:

**NATIONAL FRESH WATER FISHING HALL OF FAME**  
 P.O. Box 690, 10360 Hall of Fame Drive  
 Hayward, WI 54843 U.S.A.  
 Phone 715/634-4440  
 Fax 715/634-4440

Use additional sheets for other supporting information. Enclose line sample as per rules.

### APPLICANT'S AGREEMENT:

In submitting this application, the applicant agrees to allow the Hall of Fame to use record photos

## READ THIS BEFORE SUBMITTING CATCH & RELEASE APPLICATION!

This Hall of Fame program encourages "water release." Fish should be released at the catch site as quickly as possible to minimize stress.

Record released fish are recognized by length only and listed in the record book and quarterly updates by line class in their respective division.

Include an accurate measurement of the fish. A clear full length photo. (Fish should always be held in a horizontal position to minimize stress.) One witness is required. The fish must be hooked and played by only one person and only that person should submit this application. Angler may be assisted in landing the fish. Angler species identification is accepted. Fish weighing is defined as stressful and will disqualify entrant. "Catch & Release" is largely an honor program and fish survival of high priority.

*\*NOTE: All fractions in length dropped to even inches.*

**Member applications processed without charge. Non-members, please submit a \$20 processing fee with application.**

### NAME OF ANGLER

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_ Age (if 12 & under) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### NAME OF FISH SPECIES CAUGHT

Common Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Scientific Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Caught (month, day, year) \_\_\_\_\_  
 If Salmon or Trout \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Landlocked or Sea-Run)  
 (NOTE: Private water catches not allowed)  
 Location of Catch \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Name of river, lake, etc.)  
 State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Country (Note: not county) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Closest Town or Village, etc. \_\_\_\_\_

### SUBMIT 25 FEET OF LINE

Used on Rod/Reel or minimum 25 inches Tippet if Fly Fishing. Do not submit Cane/Pole or Ice Fishing line. Hall lab determines line class by test of your sample.

Line Class Used/Make \_\_\_\_\_

### DIVISION APPLIED FOR

CHECK ONE ✓

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DIVISION #1 ROD/REEL          | CAPTURE METHODS ALLOWED |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DIVISION #2 FLY FISHING       |                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DIVISION #3 POLE/LINE/NO REEL |                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DIVISION #4 ICE FISHING       |                         |

### TOTAL LENGTH OF FISH

Inches Only \_\_\_\_\_

Measure tip-to-tip →



Bait/Lure Used \_\_\_\_\_

### HOW CAUGHT?

Conventional Angling \_\_\_\_\_  
 Power Trolling \_\_\_\_\_  
 Outrigger/Downrigger \_\_\_\_\_  
 Snagging (Paddlefish only) \_\_\_\_\_  
 IF ICE FISHING? Tip-Up \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pole & Line \_\_\_\_\_

### FISH SPECIES RECOGNIZED

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Amur, White (Grass Carp)            | (Inland)                                 |
| 2. Bass, Largemouth                    | 42. Salmon, Atlantic (Sea-Run)           |
| 3. Bass, Peacock                       | 43. Salmon, Chinook (King) (Inland)      |
| 4. Bass, Redeye                        | 44. Salmon, Chinook (King) (Sea-Run)     |
| 5. Bass, Rock                          | 45. Salmon, Chum                         |
| 6. Bass, Shoal                         | 46. Salmon, Coho (Silver) (Inland)       |
| 7. Bass, Smallmouth                    | 47. Salmon, Coho (Silver) (Sea-Run)      |
| 8. Bass, Spotted or Kentucky           | 48. Salmon, Kokanee                      |
| 9. Bass, Striped (Inland)              | 49. Salmon, Pink (Inland)                |
| 10. Bass, White                        | 50. Salmon, Pink (Sea-Run)               |
| 11. Bass, Whiterock or Rockfish Hybrid | 51. Salmon, Pinook (Hybrid)              |
| 12. Bass, Yellow                       | 52. Salmon, Red (Sockeye)                |
| 13. Bluegill, (Brim) (Bream)           | 53. Sauger                               |
| 14. Bluegill, Hybrid                   | 54. Saugeye, Hybrid                      |
| 15. Bowfin or Dogfish                  | 55. Splake (Hybrid Trout)                |
| 16. Bullhead, Black                    | 56. Sturgeon, Lake                       |
| 17. Bullhead, Brown                    | 57. Sturgeon, White                      |
| 18. Bullhead, Yellow                   | 58. Sucker, White                        |
| 19. Carp, Common                       | 59. Sunfish, Green                       |
| 20. Carp, Mirror                       | 60. Sunfish, Longear                     |
| 21. Carpsucker (Quillback)             | 61. Sunfish, Pumpkinseed                 |
| 22. Catfish, Blue                      | 62. Sunfish, Redbreast                   |
| 23. Catfish, Channel                   | 63. Sunfish, Redear (Shell Cracker)      |
| 24. Catfish, Flathead (Mud-Cat)        | 64. Tilapia                              |
| 25. Char, Arctic                       | 65. Trout, Brook                         |
| 26. Crappie, Black                     | 66. Trout, Brown                         |
| 27. Crappie, White                     | 67. Trout, Bull                          |
| 28. Drum, Freshwater (Sheepshead)      | 68. Trout, Cutthroat                     |
| 29. Gar, Florida                       | 69. Trout, Dolly Varden                  |
| 30. Gar, Longnose                      | 70. Trout, Lake (Mackinaw)               |
| 31. Gar, Spotted                       | 71. Trout, Rainbow (Steelhead) (Inland)  |
| 32. Grayling, Arctic                   | 72. Trout, Rainbow (Steelhead) (Sea-Run) |
| 33. Inconnu                            | 73. Walleye                              |
| 34. Koi                                | 74. Warmouth                             |
| 35. Muskellunge, Natural               |  |
| 36. Muskellunge, Hybrid or Tiger       |  |
| 37. Perch, Yellow                      |  |
| 38. Pickerel, Chain                    |  |
| 39. Pike, Blue-Silver                  |  |
| 40. Pike, Northern                     |  |
| 41. Salmon, Atlantic                   |  |

### WITNESS TO RELEASE & MEASURE

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### DID YOU SUBMIT ...?

- One application per envelope?
- A photo for further species I.D.?
- A line sample if applicable?
- Your application notarized?
- Legal catch - legal season?

Local Radio Call Letters \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Your Area Newspaper \_\_\_\_\_

### AFFIDAVIT OF APPLICANT

I, \_\_\_\_\_, state that the fish described in this application was legally caught by me in accordance with the rules as established by the National Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame for "World Record Fish". The line submitted with this application is the actual line used to catch the fish. I further declare that all the information and statements in this application are true and correct.

Subscribed to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

(SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT)  
 All persons read before signing

(SIGNATURE OF NOTARY)  
 My commission expires (is)

## YOU RECEIVE AS A WORLD RECORD HOLDER ...

If qualified as a world record holder, you will receive a parchment certificate for framing, and a colorful garment sleeve emblem. Your record will be listed in the annals of the Hall of Fame for posterity and in the Hall's annual official world book of records.

# KEPT FISH APPLICATION

# FOR OFFICIAL WORLD FRESH WATER RECORD SPORTCAUGHT FISH

A NON-PROFIT MUSEUM-EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION

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# National Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame

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P.O. Box 690, 10360 Hall of Fame Drive  
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Fax 715/634-4440

Use additional sheets for other supporting information. Enclose line sample for Div. 1 and 2, and photos.

## Attest of Witnesses

*Important!*

Read before testifying with your signature.

### WITNESSES TO CERTIFIED SCALE WEIGHING

We, the undersigned, witnessed the weighing of the fish described above and attest to the weight as listed.

### #1

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### #2

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### SCALE INFORMATION

#### WEIGHT ON LEGAL-FOR-TRADE SCALE

Fish Weight/Pounds \_\_\_\_\_ Ounces \_\_\_\_\_

Scale Reading if metric or computer style \_\_\_\_\_

Registered Scale Number/Make \_\_\_\_\_

Date Scale Last Checked \_\_\_\_\_

Where Scale? Name Store, etc. \_\_\_\_\_

Where Scale? Name City/Camp, etc. \_\_\_\_\_

INCLUDE PHOTO OF SCALE IF POSSIBLE

#### WEIGHT ON SPRING-TYPE SCALE

Allowed only if spring scale certified for accurate weight by witnesses, by signed statement, or by qualified agent.

If Spring Scale, Fish Weight/Pounds \_\_\_\_\_ Ounces \_\_\_\_\_  
Describe scale, send documents, photo.

Location of spring scale? \_\_\_\_\_

Make? \_\_\_\_\_

### Positive identity of fish species or hybrid

The undersigned, being a professional fisheries person, does hereby verify the identity of the described fish:

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Employment \_\_\_\_\_

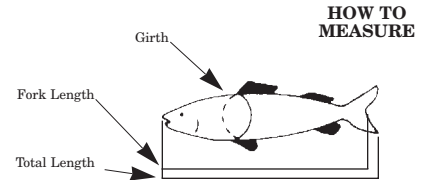
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### MEASUREMENTS FOR KEPT FISH. THIS FORM NOT FOR RELEASED FISH.

Total Length of Fish - Tip to tip \_\_\_\_\_

Fork Length - Tip to 'V' in tail \_\_\_\_\_

Girth - See diagram below \_\_\_\_\_



Name of Reel Used \_\_\_\_\_

Make of Rod & Length \_\_\_\_\_

Make of Line (Define) \_\_\_\_\_

Bait/Lure Used \_\_\_\_\_

### AFFIDAVIT OF APPLICANT

I, \_\_\_\_\_, state that the fish described in this application was legally caught by me in accordance with the rules as established by the National Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame for "World Record Fish". The line submitted with this application is the actual line used to catch the fish. I further declare that all the information and statements in this application are true and correct.

Subscribed to before me this \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_.

(SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT) All persons read before signing

(SIGNATURE OF NOTARY) My commission expires (is)

### NOTICE

Entire form must be filled out. Did you enclose line or tippet sample if applying for Div. #1 or Div. #2?

### NAME OF ANGLER

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_ Age (if 12 & under) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### NAME FISH SPECIES/HYBRID CAUGHT

Common Name \_\_\_\_\_

Scientific Name \_\_\_\_\_

Caught (month, day, year) \_\_\_\_\_

If Salmon or Trout \_\_\_\_\_

(Landlocked or Sea-Run)

(NOTE: Private water catches not allowed)

Line Class Used \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Catch \_\_\_\_\_

(Name of river, lake, etc.)

State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Country (Note: not county) \_\_\_\_\_

Closest Town or Village, etc. \_\_\_\_\_

### DIVISION APPLIED FOR

CHECK ONE ✓

- DIVISION #1 ROD/REEL
- DIVISION #2 FLY FISHING
- DIVISION #3 POLE/LINE/NO REEL
- DIVISION #4 ICE FISHING
- DIVISION #5 PADDLEFISH/SEE RULES

### HOW CAUGHT?

Conventional Angling \_\_\_\_\_

Power Trolling \_\_\_\_\_

Outrigger/Downrigger \_\_\_\_\_

Snagging (Paddlefish only) \_\_\_\_\_

IF ICE FISHING?

Tip-Up \_\_\_\_\_

Pole & Line \_\_\_\_\_

## YOU RECEIVE AS A WORLD RECORD HOLDER ...

If qualified as a world record holder, you will receive a parchment certificate for framing, an elaborate world record lapel pin for dress wear, a colorful garment sleeve emblem and a large companion back-patch for your fishing jacket. Your record will be listed in the annals of the Hall of Fame for posterity and in the Hall's annual official world book of records and your photo displayed in the Hall's Records Gallery. This procedure takes time. Be patient.

Local Radio Call Letters \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Your Area Newspaper \_\_\_\_\_

# Rules for Application for a Sport Caught World Fresh Water Hall of Fame Record and Guidelines

DIVISION #1 - ROD/REEL  
DIVISION #2 - FLY FISHING  
DIVISION #3 - POLE/LINE/NO REEL  
DIVISION #4 - ICE FISHING  
DIVISION #5 - MISC. METHODS

## DEFINITIONS FOR ELIGIBILITY:

### Division #1-ROD/REEL

The use of a fixed or revolving spool affixed to a fishing rod both which are carriers of line to which are affixed legal single or multiple hooks by which the fish is captured. All-Tackle (heaviest) and line classes recognized. Submit 25 feet or more of line sample used in the catch.

### Division #2-FLY FISHING

The use of regulation fly fishing equipment cast to the prey in conventional fly fishing manner All-Tackle (heaviest) and line classes recognized. Submit 25 inches of tippet with fly/hook attached. Fly/hook returned on request. (Note: Hybrid equipment not allowed.)

### Division #3-POLE/LINE/NO REEL

The use of a pole and line without a reel for retrieve purpose. (Ice fishing excluded, see Division #4.) Only heaviest catches recognized. No line sample needed.

### Division #4-ICE FISHING

A fish captured through the ice by accepted legal ice fishing devices such as a pole/line, tip up and other varied legal devices. Only heaviest catches recognized. No line sample needed.

### Division #5-MISCELLANEOUS METHODS

The legal capture of fish by methods other than defined in the first four divisions and only those species or methods listed by the Fishing Hall of Fame in its book of records. Currently, only the five heaviest Paddlefish catches are recognized in this division. No line sample needed.

## ELIGIBLE WATERS:

Any world fresh water except private, club or fish hatchery waters or private ponds not accessible for angling by the general public. Fee waters and ponds for angling by permit to public allowed. Inquire.

## SPECIES RECOGNIZED FOR WORLD RECORDS ... MINIMUM WEIGHTS:

Any sport caught fish species will be recognized that meets rules requirements. Species not currently listed because of no demand will be added if demand dictates.

Fish catches less than one (1) pound will not be considered. Weights may be certified in lbs/ozs or metric. One (1) ounce graduations recognized for record purposes. Fractions discounted.

## LEGAL SEASON .. LEGAL CATCH:

Fish must be taken legally during legal season and hours for the specific geographic location.

## THE CATCH:

More than one person involved in subduing the fish may disqualify the catch (except for help in netting or gaffing.)

## THE ROD/POLE:

Hall of Fame world line class or all tackle records are recognized only when a rod/pole (minimum 36" open water conventional angling; minimum 18" ice fishing; minimum 72" fly fishing lengths) to which a line and bait are attached is used.

Hand lines, jig boards, spears, snag-hooks, trot lines, gill nets, set lines, or stub line carriers, etc., will not be considered.

The only exception to the rod/pole regulation

is the use of a tip-up for ice fishing, whose catch may be a contender for only the "heaviest" in Ice Fishing, Division #4, and methods allowed in miscellaneous Division #5 for heaviest in that division.

## THE REEL:

Power driven reels (motor/electric) are prohibited.

## THE BAIT:

The word "bait" as used here is that portion of tackle which entices the fish to bite whether live, plug, lure, fly, etc.

## ALL TACKLE (HEAVIEST) CLASS:

The heaviest fish caught of the species regardless of the line test used. Only rod/bait catches eligible.

## LINE CLASS CLASSIFICATION:

The heaviest fish caught of the species on a line test or strength. The following line classes are recognized:

**DIVISION #1:** 2 lb., 4 lb., 6 lb., 8 lb., 10 lb., 12 lb., 14 lb., 15 lb., 16 lb., 17 lb., 20 lb., 25 lb., 30 lb., 36 lb., 40 lb., 45 lb., 50 lb., 60 lb., 70 lb., 80 lb., 130 lb., and Unlimited

**DIVISION #2:** Tippets 2 lb., 4 lb., 6 lb., 8 lb., 10 lb., 12 lb., 14 lb., 16 lb. ... up to 50 lb. and Unlimited for larger fish.

A range of line classes have been determined for each listed species. Fish caught on line classes beyond the listed range for that species are placed in a record class defined as "Unlimited." Example: Panfish may have a recognition class from 2 lb. test to 12 lb. test, while larger species class recognition may culminate in heavier maximum fine strengths.

## LINE TESTING PROCEDURE:

### DIVISION #1 - ROD/REEL:

The first 25 feet or more of the line used in the catch **MUST** be submitted with the application for Division #1 - Rod/Reel. Five tests are made of each line to average breaking load. Example: A line may test stronger or weaker than its stated strength due to many variables. To accommodate this, parameters are used.

*Example:* A six (6) lb. test line parameter is from 5.01 to 7.00. An average breaking point below would place that line in the 4 lb. class while an average breaking load above would place that line in the 8 lb. class, etc. Each qualifying applicant receives a detailed lab copy of his line's test results. Our lab uses only certified line test equipment. Line tested wet strength.

## LINE TESTING PROCEDURE:

### DIVISION #2 - FLY FISHING:

Submit tippet with fly/hook attached. Fly/hook will be returned on request. Because of the shortness of the tippet only a single break load test is possible. The .01 to .00 parameter for test is used as in Division #1.

## POLE/LINE/NO REEL ... ICE FISHING ... MISCELLANEOUS DIVISIONS:

Do not submit line samples for these divisions. Only heaviest recognition, no line classes honored.

## APPLICANT'S AGREEMENT:

In submitting this application, the applicant agrees to allow the Hall of Fame to use record photos and stated facts for publication as it sees fit.

**YOU ARE NOW READY TO DO THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE:**

## DO NOT OPEN FISH IF "ALL-TACKLE":

Before status is determined. This may later be required by a biologist to authenticate weight.

## WEIGH-IN ON LEGAL-FOR-TRADE SCALE:

Weigh your potential record *only once* on a certified/balance-type scale *legal for trade* which carries a certification inspection and date or sliding weight and balance type scales. Do not use a spring-type scale unless it has been, or can be, certified for accuracy by quality or later proper authority. Certified scales are found in stores, post offices, feed mills, industry, etc.

## WITNESS TO WEIGHT AND CATCH:

While witnesses to catch are desirable but not mandatory, two disinterested witnesses to weight are positively required. (The applicant cannot be a witness.)

## SPECIES IDENTIFICATION:

A professional fisheries person **MUST** identify your catch as to species and attest to the correct identity by his declaration. If all-tackle record or hybrid, a taxonomist or DNR fish biologist is required.

## SEND IN LINE SAMPLE:

**Division #1 - Rod Reel**—Submit at least the first 25 feet of line used in the catch wound on notched stiff cardboard to prevent tangles or kinks. Line tested wet strength. Do not use tape on line.

**Division #2 - Fly Fishing**—Submit tippet (25 inches) or more with fly/hook attached. Fly/hook returned on request. Line tested wet strength. Do not use tape on fine.

## SEND IN PHOTOS:

A good colored photo of the angler and the fish (taken broadside for further identification) **MUST** be submitted. This photo will ultimately be displayed in the Hall's museum records gallery. Also, submit two (2) or more good black and white photos of you and the fish (broadside), for news and publicity purposes (not mandatory). Fish should predominate in all photos, not the angler. For small fish, waist shots are best.

## NOTARY PUBLIC ATTEST:

All applications must be notarized as provided on the form.

## ONE RECORD PER ENVELOPE:

Each record application must be submitted in its own envelope.

## THE APPLICATION:

Do not submit unless complete. Please print information **PLAINLY**, especially your full name and correct address. You're on your sportsman's honor. Misrepresentation or falsifying an application with intent to defraud the program will disqualify the catch and create suspect of past or future catches.

The National Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame reserves the sole right to grant or reject any record, past or future, for good reason which it has listed or established and its decision will be final.

## INCOMPLETE APPLICATION:

Applications lacking the vital requirements as determined by the qualifier will be returned or rejected.

## QUALIFIER'S OPTIONS:

The qualifier reserves the right to suspect, review, investigate, reject, disqualify or accept any declaration of record submitted, or any record inadvertently granted. In cases of dispute, the Hall's "Records Board of Review" shall be the final authority. In submitting application, the angler voluntarily submits to these options of the qualifier.

## TIME LIMITATION:

Application must be received within 90 days of catch. Exceptions will be allowed for good reason only as determined by the qualifier. Properly documented dated records can be considered.