

Trophy Fish Application Form

Form must be filled out completely. Please print.

Angler's Name: _____ Gender: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____ - _____ E-mail Address: _____

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____ Do you qualify for the Master Angler Award? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Fishing License Number (TWRA #) _____

Social Security Number _____

Fish Information

Kind of Fish (species): _____ Date Caught: _____

Length of fish (to the nearest ¼ inch): _____

Body of Water Where Caught: _____ County: _____

Bait: ☐ Natural ☐ Artificial

Type of Water: ☐ Pond ☐ Reservoir/Lake ☐ River/Stream

Was the fish released? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Length Certification: (A and/or B)

A. Witness Signature: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____ - _____

B. Photo: Print your name, birth date, and fish species on back of photo and enclose with application. Photos become property of TWRA and are not returned. Photos may be used in TWRA publications and on website.

(Angler sign here) I, _____
hereby affirm that the above information is true and in taking this fish I complied with all state fishing regulations and rules of the Tennessee Angler Recognition Program and that the witness actually witnessed the measuring of the fish and/or the photo is accurate and was not altered in any way.

Enclose a check or money order for \$5.00 payable to TWRA and mail to:

TARP

Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency

P.O. Box 41729

Nashville, TN 37204



WR-0831
Rev (9/25)

Tennessee Angler Recognition Program



Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency

Fisheries Management Division

5107 Edmondson Pike

Nashville, TN 37211

615-781-6500

www.tnwildlife.org



What is the Tennessee Angler Recognition Program?

The Tennessee Angler Recognition Program (TARP) allows anglers to have their trophy-size fish recognized by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA). Anglers of any age, who catch certain fish that meet or exceed qualifying lengths, may apply. The TWRA Fisheries Management Division sends these accomplished anglers TARP certificates featuring color© copyrighted reproductions of fish artwork by renowned wildlife artist Joseph R. Tomelleri.

The program is designed to acknowledge anglers for outstanding sportfishing accomplishments, encourage catch-and-release of trophy-size fish, and provide the TWRA with information on large fish caught throughout the state.

TARP should not be confused with the State Record Fish program that recognizes anglers who catch a new state record fish (largest fish recorded for that species in the state by weight). Instead, TARP recognizes anglers who catch trophy-size fish that are not necessarily state records, based on length.

Trophy Fish/Master Angler Certificates

TARP features five levels of angler recognition. Anglers catching a fish that meets or exceeds the minimum “trophy” length requirements, listed in the table to the right, will receive a Trophy Fish certificate. These certificates feature Tomelleri artwork representing the species caught by the applicant. After anglers catch five trophy-size fish, in any combination, a Master Angler Level I certificate and patch will be awarded at no cost to the angler.

Anglers submitting five different trophy-size fish will receive a Master Angler Level II certificate and patch. The Master Angler Level III will be awarded to anglers submitting ten different trophy-size fish. In addition to a certificate and patch, the angler will receive a “tackle package,” courtesy of Bass Pro Shops—Kodak, TN.



The next level, Master Angler IV, will be awarded to anglers submitting fifteen different trophy fish. The award will consist of a certificate, a patch, and an engraved trophy.

How Do You Qualify?

- The fish must meet or exceed the minimum length, listed at the right.
- Persons 13 years of age and older must be licensed anglers and must provide their license number (TWRA #) on the application.
- The fish must be caught legally (in accordance with Tennessee Sportfishing Regulations) in Tennessee waters, by sportfishing methods only (rod and reel or cane pole).
- The length of the fish must be verified by either a witness or a photograph. The witness must complete the section on the application and/or the photo must be of the fish lying flat on top of or beside a measuring rule or tape and included with the application.
- Note that photographs of the fish or of the angler holding their catch may be used in TWRA publications, including the Agency's website.

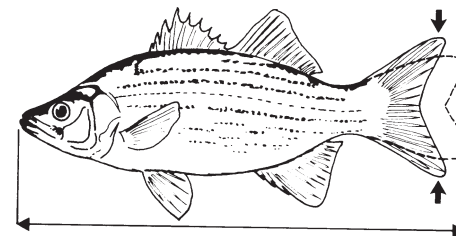
If you believe your catch exceeds the current state record for that species by weight, you should immediately contact a TWRA Fisheries Biologist for positive identification of the fish and the appropriate application.

How Do You Apply?

An application form is located on the back or next page of this brochure. Complete one application form for each fish you are registering. You may include more than one application form per envelope. If the fish length is being verified by photo, the picture must be enclosed with the application. For each Trophy Fish application, a \$5.00 processing fee must be enclosed and mailed **within 90 days** from the date of catch. Make check or money order payable to TWRA and mail, with the application(s) and pictures to the address at the bottom of the application. The processing fee is nonrefundable for nonqualifying applications. For further information about TARP or the State Record Fish program, call **615-781-6575** or visit **www.tnwildlife.org**.

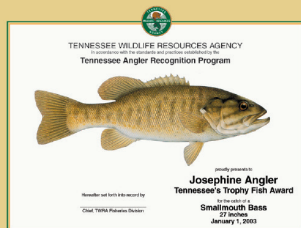
Measuring Your Fish

Lay the fish on top of or beside a flat measuring rule or tape. Do not lay the rule over the curvature of the fish's body. Close the fish's mouth and squeeze the tail lobes together. Measure from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail to the nearest 1/4 inch. See illustration below.



Minimum Trophy Fish Lengths

Species	Length (inches)
Largemouth Bass	22
Spotted Bass	18
Smallmouth Bass	20
Striped Bass	40
Cherokee Bass (Hybrid)	28
White Bass	18
Yellow Bass	11
Black Crappie	14
White Crappie	14
Bluegill	10
Redear Sunfish	11
Rock Bass	10
Sauger	20
Walleye	28
Yellow Perch	11
Muskellunge	40
Brook Trout	10
Brown Trout	26
Rainbow Trout	24
Lake Trout	28
Channel Catfish	28
Blue Catfish	34
Flathead Catfish	34
Common Carp	34
Longnose Gar	45
Bowfin	26
Freshwater Drum	28



Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency is available to all persons without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or military service. TWRA is also an equal opportunity/equal access employer. Questions should be directed to TWRA, Human Resources Office, 5107 Edmondson Pike Nashville, TN 37211, (615) 781-6594 (TDD 781-6691), or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office for Human Resources, 4401 N. Fairfax Dr., Arlington, VA 22203.