Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

Code Book

The regulations in this Code Book are hereby adopted by the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission under authority of Amendment 35 to the Constitution of the State of Arkansas. All laws, rules, regulations, or orders in conflict with the regulations in this Code Book are hereby repealed by the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission.

30.19 Paddlefish And Sturgeon Harvest And Tackle Restrictions

It is unlawful to take, attempt to take, or possess paddlefish or sturgeon, or their parts, including eggs (roe), from waters of the state from midnight April 10 – sunrise November 20.

EXCEPTIONS:

A. Permitted resident roe buyers/exporters and permitted nonresident roe buyers may possess processed roe only with proper reports of transactions described in Code 30.19.
B. In compliance with Code 25.02.
C. Permitted fish farmers in compliance with Code 35.10.
D. Sturgeon may be taken midnight November 15 – sunrise May 1.
E. Roe takers are required to use only multifilament nets from sunrise November 20 – midnight December 5, and from sunrise March 2 – midnight April 10, in the Arkansas River below James W. Trimble Dam.
F. It is unlawful to possess for commercial purposes any nets other than 3½-inch mesh or 6-inch or larger mesh while fishing for paddlefish in the Arkansas River above Dam 2 during the paddlefish season.

PENALTY: Class 3

As of June 8, 2022