The fish must have been caught legally in Arkansas, where a sport fishing license is required. Fish taken from hatcheries and pay lakes are not eligible. Fish taken from club waters and private ponds will be considered if all other requirements are met.

The fish must be caught on rod or pole using hook and line. Fish caught on handheld snagging equipment will be considered if taken from water where snagging is legal. Exception: A fish caught using other legal sport tackle (trotline, limbline, jug, yo-yo, etc.) can be submitted for consideration in the "unrestricted tackle" category, if it exceeds the record weight established for that species by an angler using rod or pole. However, only catches made by an angler possessing a valid sport fishing license using legal sport fishing methods will be considered. Regardless of what type of tackle is used, only one person may be involved in subduing the fish, except for help in netting or gaffing.

To apply for a state record, the angler must submit a fully completed State Record Fish Application, which is printed on the opposite side of this flier.

On all record claims, witnesses to the catch are highly desirable. Unwitnessed catches may be disallowed if questions arise regarding their authenticity. In addition, a digital photograph of the fish and angler must accompany the application.

An employee of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service must witness the weigh-in. An AGFC or USFWS fisheries professional must identify the species of fish. The professional’s and/or employee’s name, signature and title must appear on the application form to verify the species and the weight. Fish identification may be verified by another AGFC or USFWS fisheries professional at a later time if identification is questionable.

The fish must be weighed on a certified scale legal for trade. Certified scales may be found in stores, post offices, feed mills, farm supply stores and other places of business. Only the weight witnessed at the official weigh-in will be acceptable, regardless of the fish’s weight when it was caught. Any fish that establishes a record weight will be considered, regardless of the size and species. One-ounce graduations are used for record purposes. Fractions of an ounce will be dropped. The fish cannot be altered by any means to induce additional weight beyond the fish’s normal weight. Contact the AGFC at 1-800-364-4263, or AGFC website (www.agfc.com) to obtain a list of certified scales for your area. AGFC employees will have the list of certified scales, as well. Scales certified up to 100 pounds can be found at the Mountain Home Office, Rogers Office, Hot Springs Regional Office and Monticello Regional Office. It is incumbent upon the applicant to find certified scales to weigh the fish.

To assure the integrity of the record listings, the AGFC may reject any fish believed to have been taken in violation of the official rules for recognition. Its decision will be final. The AGFC reserves the right to establish genetic verification of an entry if it’s deemed necessary.

For a copy of the state fish records, write:

State Fish Records
Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
Fisheries Division
2 Natural Resources Drive
Little Rock, AR 72205

Additional witness(es) to weigh-in (name, address, phone number and signature)

Additional witness(es) to catch (name, address, phone number and signature)
Arkansas Game and Fish Commission State Record Fish Application

Failure to completely fill out this application voids the entry.

Angler Information

Name ____________________________________________
Address __________________________________________
City ____________________________________________ State __________ ZIP __________
Phone ________________________________ Fishing License Number __________________________

Witness(es) to the catch (optional but recommended)

Name ____________________________________________
Address __________________________________________
City ____________________________________________ State __________ ZIP __________
Phone ________________________________
Signature __________________________
Date __________________________

Statement of applicant: By my signature, I certify that the information on this application is correct and the fish described was caught by me in accordance with state record rules.

Signature __________________________
Date __________________________

Only AGFC employees fill out information below (all information is mandatory).

Date and location of catch, including nearest town and county.

Measurements of Fish

Total length, tip of nose to tip of tail ______________ inches
Fork length, tip of nose to V in tail ______________ inches
Girth, around fish in front of dorsal fin ______________ inches

Species Information

Common Name __________________________
Scientific Name __________________________

The undersigned, being a fisheries professional of the AGFC or USFWS, does hereby verify the species of the described fish. Species identification of fish MUST be witnessed and recorded by AGFC or USFWS fisheries professional.

Signature of AGFC or USFWS Employee __________________________ Date __________________________
Printed Name and Title of AGFC or USFWS Fisheries Professional __________________________ Date __________________________

Other witnesses to weigh-in or catch of fish may supply address, phone number and signature on the back of this application.

Method of Fishing (circle one)

Rod and reel   Snagging   Other (describe) ______________

Bait/Lure Used __________________________

Weigh-in Information

Weight ______________ Pounds ______________ Ounces
Location of scale (name of store, post office, etc.) __________________________
Date scale last certified __________________________

The undersigned, being an employee of the AGFC or USFWS, does hereby verify the weight of the described fish. Weigh-in of fish MUST be witnessed and recorded by AGFC or USFWS employee.

Signature of AGFC or USFWS Employee __________________________ Date __________________________
Printed Name and Title of AGFC or USFWS Fisheries Professional __________________________ Date __________________________

Photo Information: A digital photo of the angler with the fish is required and must accompany application or be emailed within four days of verified catch. Send to Fisheries Staff Biologist: AGFC, 2 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205. Questions? Call Fisheries Division at 501-223-6428.

Arkansas State Record Fish Approval: __________________________ Date __________________________

Chief of Fisheries __________________________ Date __________________________