

1. What does recreational fishing mean?

Recreational fishing is a fishing activity performed by natural persons with the intention to catch aquatic species with personal gear, for sport, leisure or pleasure, with non-profit purposes.

2. What method of fishing does the Recreational Fishing Law cover?

This law covers all recreational fishing activities performed in fresh water, inland waters, and territorial waters and within Chile's exclusive economic zone. Submarine fishing is also included, inasmuch as such method is performed with non-profit purposes.

3. What is submarine fishing?

Submarine fishing is a fishing method that requires the practice of apnea diving (skin diving) and the use of one or more elastic or compressed air harpoons.

4. What does personal gear imply?

Personal gear refers to any system or device prepared to capture aquatic species associated to recreational fishing, consisting in a line, baited or not, with hooks, hand held or maneuvered with the use of a fishing rod.

5. What is the aim of Recreational Fishing?

The aim of recreational fishing is to encourage the practice of this sport, ensure the conservation of aquatic species and protect their ecosystems, encourage related economic and tourist activities and strengthen regional participation.

6. What is a preferential area?

It is a section of a course or body of fresh water located in a basin that consists of interdependent sectors that require integrated management to ensure the conservation of ictic fauna and the development of recreational fishing.

7. What is a degraded area?

Frequent Questions About the Recreational Fisheries Law

Written by Administrator
Monday, 08 March 2010 13:58

It is a section, course or body of fresh water located in a basin that has been altered by the action of man or by natural means, leading to a significant reduction in the abundance of species that are important native ictic fauna and others that are targeted by recreational fishermen. Management efforts in these areas aim toward recovering the habitat of such species in order to increase their abundance and size.

8. What is a course or body of water of special regime?

These courses of water are surface waters that run through artificial canals or bodies of water that accumulate in an artificial deposit. They are used to develop recreational fishing activities, and are profit oriented. They also refer to courses or bodies of water that are formed by spring waters that run and come to an end within the same pool, in small lakes that are non-navigatable by vessels over one hundred tons, lagoons and marshes located within a single property which do not have third party access rights.

9. What rules must be complied with when practicing recreational fishing in courses of water of special regime?

Recreational fishermen that fish in courses of water of special regime are exempt from complying the general conditions set forth in Title II (fishing gear, holding a recreational fishing license) and management measures adopted in accordance to Title III of this law (capture limits, closures, gear limitations, among others).

10. What is a fishing guide?

A natural person experienced in recreational fishing that performs tourism activities on his or her own account, or hired by a third party, and who personally leads recreational fishing expeditions.

11. How can someone obtain certification as a fishing guide?

Fishing guides may voluntarily request their certification to carry out this activity in a specific region of Chile at the offices of the National Tourism Service.

12. How can I qualify for a Fishing Guide Certification?

Fishing guides must be:

- a) Chilean or foreign nationals with permanent residence in Chile. Foreign nationals who do not have permanent residence may request certification under conditions of reciprocity, whereby his/her country of origin may grant the same treatment to Chilean nationals;
- b) Of legal age;
- c) Establish, as per the regulation to be issued with this aim, his/her knowledge regarding nature, geography and local history, recreational fishing regulations, safety and first aid, as well

Frequent Questions About the Recreational Fisheries Law

Written by Administrator
Monday, 08 March 2010 13:58

as experience in recreational fishing.

Once the above conditions are complied, the National Tourism Service shall issue a personal and non-transferable credential. The regulation mentioned in letter c) shall establish the amount of duties required to obtain such credential.

13. What is the cost of practicing recreational fishing and submarine fishing?

The cost is 0,7 “Unidades de Fomento” for national fishermen or foreign residents and 1,5 “Unidades de Fomento” for foreign tourists.

14. Is the price of the license based on the daily value of the UF?

The price is based on the daily value of the UF. The National Fisheries Service informs the authorized offices, the price for both categories (0,7 and 1,5 UF) every day of each month.

15. Is the recreational fishing license issued by fishing zone?

No, the price of the fishing license does not vary according to areas and the holder may practice sport fishing in any part of the domestic territory, inland or coastal, except in established as water courses under special regime under the Recreational Fishing Law. Fishing in preferential areas requires a license issued by the National Fisheries Service, and an eventual additional fee established for such area.

16. Who is exempt from the payment of the recreational fishing license fee?

Only nationals and foreign residents with physical or mental disabilities, people over 65 years of age or under 12 years of age, are exempt from payment of the fee but are entitled to a license.

17. What documents must a person submit to establish disability or the fact of being over 65 years old or under 12?

Nationals or foreign residents with disabilities must be registered at the National Disability Registry, and must submit a copy of the credential or certificate issued by such agency, to establish his/her disability. This copy shall be filed together with the payment voucher of the license and maintained by the Fisheries Service.

Nationals or foreign residents under 12 years of age or over 65 must submit their identification card and submit a simple copy to the person issuing the license, which shall be maintained together with the payment voucher of the license at the Fisheries Service.

18. Where can I purchase a license to perform recreational fishing or submarine fishing?

You can purchase your license through the Recreational Fishing Portal of the National Fisheries Service (Sernapesca), at any of its offices across the country and in locations authorized by the Fisheries Service. You can find a list of these authorized locations in the Recreational Fishing

Frequent Questions About the Recreational Fisheries Law

Written by Administrator
Monday, 08 March 2010 13:58

Portal or at Sernapesca's website.

19. What is a Pro Bono Recreational Fishing Inspector?

A Recreational Fishing Inspector is a natural Chilean person or foreign national authorized by the Fisheries Service to perform enforcement tasks in the area of recreational fishing.

20. How can I apply for the post of Recreational Fishing Inspector?

You can apply by sending an application letter to any of the Fisheries Service's offices, indicating the reasons why you are interested in applying and the geographic area where you intend to perform enforcement tasks, attaching the following documents:

- a) Police record certificate must be submitted to the Fisheries Service (within 30 days of the issue date)
- b) Two photographs (4x3 cm) displaying the applicant's complete name and id number.
- c) Sworn Affidavit stating that the applicant has not been sanctioned for having violated recreational fishing regulations.
- d) Legal photocopy of high school certificate or college degree.
- e) Simple photocopy of recreational fishing license.
- f) Medical certificate (compatible physical condition).

Once these documents are submitted, the applicant must attend and pass a training course offered once a year in the facilities of every Regional Fisheries Service office.

21. Where can I find more information?

For more information please visit our Recreational Fishing Portal directly at PescaRecreativa.Sernapesca.cl or through our web site at www.Sernapesca.cl, where you will find the icon of this portal.

For a step by step explanation on how to purchase a recreational fishing license, call our Help Desk by dialing +56 - 32 – 2819391 or +56 - 32 - 2819392.