

HB 1556 -- Hand Fishing

Sponsor: Behnen

This bill allows hand fishing of catfish and carp any time during the months of June and July within all Missouri waters open for hook-and-line fishing. The number of catfish taken by hand is limited to five per season. Any person engaging in hand fishing will only use his or her bare hands and will not use any artificial breathing apparatus or other artificial structures. The Department of Conservation will furnish a form to each person taking catfish by hand to provide the department with a complete report within 10 days following the close of the season. Failure to do so will be sufficient cause for the denial of a fishing permit for the following season, and any violation of the laws regarding hand fishing will be a class A misdemeanor.