

Notice
Temporary Changes to Fishing Regulations

Reduce Creel Limit for American Shad in
58 Pa. Code § 61.1 (relating to Commonwealth Inland Waters)

The Commission recently adopted an amendment to §61.2 (relating to Delaware River and River Estuary) that reduces the creel limit for American shad on the West Branch and the entire Delaware River mainstem from the confluence of the East and West Branches downstream to the Commodore Barry Bridge from six to three. This change will go into effect on January 1, 2010 or upon publication of an order in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*, whichever occurs later.

Upon further review of its other regulations, the Commission has determined that an amendment to §61.1 (relating to Commonwealth inland waters) is also needed. This section provides for a daily limit for American shad of six on all inland waters that are not covered by other sections within Chapter 61 (relating to seasons, sizes and creel limits). Section 61.2, which is applicable only to those Delaware River tributaries from the mouths of the tributaries upstream to the limit of the tidal influence, does not cover large tributaries upriver of the tidal influence, such as the Lackawaxen River in Pike County. It is likely that a limited number of shad enter the larger tributaries upriver of the tidal influence. Currently, the limit for American shad on those Delaware River tributaries is six under §61.1.

The Executive Director of the Commission, acting under the authority of 58 Pa. Code §65.25 (relating to temporary changes to fishing regulations), has taken immediate action to amend §61.1 to reduce the creel limit for American shad to three in order to be consistent with §61.2. This temporary modification will go into effect on January 1, 2010 and will remain in effect until the Commission, by appropriate action, amends §61.1 in that regard.

FOR THE PENNSYLVANIA FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION:

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Executive Director