



2020 Fishing Contest Permit Drawing For Fishing Contests to be Held During 2021

The Department of Fish and Wildlife invites you to apply for this year's Fishing Contest Permit Drawings. Due to the restrictions on public gatherings relating to the **COVID-19** pandemic, this year's drawing **will not be held in person**. The drawing process will be very different this year due to the changes instituted to align with state and local guidelines. **Please read this letter in its entirety.**

This year there will be two random drawings for waters north of the Tehachapi mountains and for waters south of the Tehachapi mountains to award 2021 fishing contest dates. There will be a **First Chance Draw** to request all initial date/location selections. There will then be a subsequent **Second Chance Draw** to request any leftover date/location selections. Drawings for both waters north of the Tehachapi mountains and for waters south of the Tehachapi mountains will be held separately, but concurrently. Deadlines outlined below apply to requests for both southern and northern California lists.

Request Submission Procedures:

1. Each *permit applicant* wanting to participate should submit a **prioritized** list of all dates/locations they want for **2021**. Submit separate prioritized lists for northern and southern California waters. *Only submit a request for dates you are willing to pay for, payment in full will be required for all selections awarded. Failure to pay for all selections awarded will result in forfeiture of **all** awarded selections.*
 - a. Only one list per permit holder will be accepted
 - b. Only one list per sponsor will be accepted
 - c. List must be received by **July 8th**
 - d. Please submit lists through email (max.fish@wildlife.ca.gov). Make sure you receive a confirmation email that your list was received.
 - e. There are no other restrictions on the number of dates or locations submitted
 - f. Lists will be kept confidential until after the drawing.
2. A draw will be conducted by CDFW employees on **July 13th** (**First Chance Draw**)
 - a. All received lists will be arranged in a randomized order, and the draw order will be snaked
 - b. Each applicant will be awarded one selection per round
 - c. No conflicts will be created
 - d. If date/location is not available, next available date on list (or alternative if provided) is awarded
 - e. Rounds continue until all requests are addressed

3. Preliminary calendar resulting from the **First Chance Draw** will be posted on the CDFW Fishing Contest Webpage on **July 15th** and emailed to all email addresses on file.
4. Any permittees wanting additional dates should send in a second prioritized list
 - a. List must be received by **July 24th**
 - b. Only one list per permit holder will be accepted
 - c. Only one list per sponsor will be accepted
 - d. Please submit lists through email (max.fish@wildlife.ca.gov). Make sure you receive a confirmation email that your list was received.
5. A second draw will be conducted on **July 27th** (**Second Chance Draw**)
 - a. The draw process will be the same as the first drawing
6. A finalized calendar will be posted on the CDFW Fishing Contest Webpage on **July 31st** and emailed to all email addresses on file along with a bill for the total cost for all permits awarded.
 - a. All permit applications and payments are due to Fisheries Branch by **August 14th**. **All** permittees' dates will be forfeited and released if payment is not received on time and in full.
7. Applications for additional dates may be submitted for first-come, first-served consideration through regional offices starting **Aug 21st**.

Please submit your prioritized list to max.fish@wildlife.gov by the deadlines below. You may indicate alternative dates/locations for each selection on your list. Alternatives will be used only in the event of a conflict. If no alternatives are indicated, the next selection on your list without a conflict will be awarded

First Drawing Submission Deadline: **July 8th, 2020**

Second Drawing Submission Deadline: **July 24th, 2020**

Payment Deadline: **August 14th, 2020**

The current filing fee is \$66.44/application. You must have all overdue contest reports from previous tournaments completed and turned in. **If you have overdue contest reports from the previous year, you will not be allowed to reserve dates and locations for 2021 fishing contests.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at max.fish@wildlife.ca.gov

/s/ Maxfield A. Fish
June 18, 2020 08:00

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