

## Striped Bass

- 1) I support all recommendations of part 1 and 2 especially the creel limit changes on Striped Bass on lake Murray for the summer months.

*Comment acknowledged.*

- 2) SECTION 50-13-110. Striped Bass; possession limits
  - a. On Lake Murray and the middle reach of the Saluda River from October first through June thirtieth it is unlawful to possess a striped bass less than twenty one inches in total length. From July first through September thirtieth there is no minimum length limit. Provided, during that time it is unlawful to take, attempt to take or possess more than five striped bass on these water bodies.

The above proposed restriction does not read well. This could be interpreted to mean that if I keep no fish less than twenty one inches in total length from July through September, I can continue to catch and cull small fish? I believe the intent here is to protect the fishery by forcing anglers to keep all fish caught (up to the possession limit of five) during the months of July through September.

*Based on comments received, the proposed statute has been redrafted to read, “(E) On Lake Murray and the middle reach of the Saluda River it is unlawful to possess more than five striped bass per day. From July first through September thirtieth it is unlawful to take, attempt to take, or possess more than five striped bass per day.*

*This proposed statute does not allow for catching and culling small fish. Once an angler has reached his/her limit of five fish, he/she cannot attempt to take additional striped bass. The intent is indeed to protect the fishery by disallowing catch and release in an attempt to take additional larger fish.*

- 3) I fully support the proposed new limits on Stripers for Lake Russell. I would support further restrictions up to and including NO STRIPERS allowed to be taken. But I will take what we can get!

*After these draft statutes were distributed for review, a new striped bass statute for Lake Russell was passed by the legislature. The new statute is as follows:*

*“(H) On Lake Richard B Russell and the Lake Hartwell tailwater it is unlawful to possess more than two striped bass per day, only one of which may be over thirty-four inches total length.”*

- 4) Section 50-13-70 would make it illegal to have more than 5 trout that are purchased for use as bait for Striped Bass fishing. What are the requirements to be able to use trout as bait in South Carolina for Striped Bass fishing and can those requirements be incorporated into this proposed regulation?

## **Striped Bass**

*It is correct that the proposed statutes make it illegal to have more than five trout (except in Lake Jocassee where the creel limit on trout is proposed to be 3 fish). If you choose to use trout as bait, you must comply with the creel limits for that game fish.*