



STATE OF ALABAMA  
**DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**WILDLIFE AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES DIVISION**



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**ROBERT BENTLEY**  
GOVERNOR

**N. GUNTER GUY, JR.**  
COMMISSIONER

**CURTIS JONES**  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

*The mission of the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division is to manage, protect, conserve, and enhance the wildlife and aquatic resources of Alabama for the sustainable benefit of the people of Alabama.*

**CHARLES F. "CHUCK" SYKES**  
DIRECTOR

**FRED R. HARDERS**  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Dear Applicant,

The Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (WFF) is pleased with your interest and involvement with the aquatic resources of Alabama. The WFF has the responsibility of approving or disapproving any public water stocking application based on the potential benefit or harm to the ecosystem. Alabama has more fish, mussel, snail, and crayfish species than any other state. Therefore, it is paramount we evaluate each application thoroughly to ensure adequate protection of Alabama's aquatic resources for benefit of the resource and the people of Alabama.

If you are interested in conducting a public water stocking, it would be advisable to contact your local district fisheries office or the Montgomery Fisheries Section Office (334) 242-3471 to discuss your idea with a fisheries biologist. They will advise you whether your stocking may be beneficial or harmful. Some of the things the fisheries biologist will consider before approving any public water stocking are as follows, but not limited to:

- The stocked organisms potential to spread diseases and parasites to existing populations,
- The stocked organisms potential to compete with existing populations for food and habitat,
- The stocked organisms compatibility with current aquatic resource management goals for the particular waterbody,
- The potential impacts if the stocked organisms origin is different from the stocked waterbody,
- The stocked organisms potential to impact the genetic integrity and diversity of the existing populations,
- The stocked organisms potential to replenish, support, or re-establish declining or extirpated populations,
- The stocked organisms potential to cause habitat alterations, and
- The stocked organisms potential to interfere with fishing interests.

If you have contacted a fisheries biologist and your idea seems beneficial, then the next step would be to complete the application and send it to the Montgomery Fisheries Section Office for evaluation. Please read the Application Process for Public Water Stocking carefully and provide all the required information.

I thank you for your interest in improving Alabama's aquatic resources.

Sincerely,

Stan Cook  
Chief of Fisheries

# Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Fisheries Section



## Application Process for Public Water Stocking



- 1) Pursuant to regulation 220.2-.129, any organization or individual wishing to stock any fishes, mussels, snails, or crayfishes into the public waters of Alabama, must have approval from the Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries.
- 2) It is the responsibility of the organization or individual to obtain a permit before the stocking event. An application should be completed and mailed at least 30 days prior to the event.
- 3) Organizations or individuals can obtain an Application for Public Water Stocking Permit (Attachment 1) by contacting their local district fisheries office or calling the Montgomery Fisheries Section Office at (334) 242-3471.
- 4) The application must be returned to the Fisheries Section office at the following address:  
Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries  
Fisheries Section  
64 N. Union Street, Suite 551  
Montgomery, AL 36130 Fax (334)242-2061
- 5) Table 1 lists prohibited species in Alabama. These species will not be considered for public water stocking in Alabama.
- 6) Fisheries Section Staff will evaluate each application based on the following criteria, but not limited to:
  - 1) The stocked organisms potential to spread diseases and parasites to existing populations
  - 2) The stocked organisms potential to compete with existing populations for food and habitat.
  - 3) The stocked organisms compatibility with current aquatic resource management goals for the particular waterbody.
  - 4) The potential impacts if the stocked organisms origin is different from the stocked waterbody.
  - 5) The stocked organisms potential to impact the genetic integrity and diversity of the existing populations.
  - 6) The stocked organisms potential to replenish, support, or re-establish declining or extirpated populations.
- 7) Fisheries Section Staff will review the application within 10 business days of receipt.
- 8) After reviewing the application, a letter will be sent informing the applicant if the application is approved or denied. If approved, a Permit for Alabama Public Water Stocking will also be sent.
- 9) If the application is approved before the actual stocking date is known, the applicant is required to give the Fisheries Section 7 business days notice (334/242-3471) of the actual stocking date before stocking is to occur.
- 10) The permit holder or their representative must be present at the time of stocking and the approved permit or a copy of it must be in their possession. The stocking agent must also have a copy of the permit.
- 11) An Alabama Public Water Stocking Report (Attachment 2) must be sent to the Fisheries Section office in Montgomery within 7 days after the stocking event.

Table 1. List of prohibited fish species in Alabama.

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Common Name	Species Name
walking catfish	<i>Clarias</i> spp.
piranha	<i>Serrasalmus</i> spp.
black carp	<i>Mylopharyngodon</i> spp.
Chinese perch	<i>Siniperca</i> spp.
snakeheads	<i>Chana</i> spp.
mud carp	<i>Cirrhinus</i> spp.
blueback herring	<i>Alosa aestivalis</i>
rudd	<i>Scardinius erythrophthalmus</i>
roach	<i>Rutilus rutilus</i>
non-native sturgeon species	

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# Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Fisheries Section



## Application for Public Water Stocking Permit



### PERMITTEE INFORMATION

Applicant's Name	Phone Number	Fax Number
Address	City, State, and Zip Code	
Organization		

### SOURCE OF FISH

Hatchery Name	Phone Number	Fax Number
Address	City, State, and Zip Code	
Name of Hatchery Owner/Manager		

### FISHES, MUSSELS, SNAILS OR CRAYFISHES TO BE STOCKED

Species	Stock/Strain	Size (inches)	Number
Origin of Parental Stock			

### WATERBODY TO BE STOCKED

Name of Waterbody	Date of Stocking
Specific Stocking Site(s)	
County	GPS Coordinates (LAT) <span style="float: right;">(LON)</span>
Purpose of Stocking	
List precautions taken to insure no aquatic nuisance species will be introduced with this stocking	
Explain how you will evaluate the effectiveness of this public water stocking	

#### DO NOT WRITE IN THE BOX BELOW

Application	APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/>	DENIED <input type="checkbox"/>	(see attached denial letter)
Permit Number	Issue Date	Expiration Date	

Attachment 1.

# Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Fisheries Section



## Alabama Public Water Stocking Report



### REPORT ON THE STOCKING OF FISHES, MUSSELS, SNAILS, OR CRAYFISHES INTO ALABAMA PUBLIC WATERS

*Submit report within 7 days of stocking.*

Permit Information	
Permit Holder	Phone Number
Organization	Permit Number

Waterbody Stocked		
Name of Water Body	County	Date of Stocking
Specific Stocking Site(s)	GPS Coordinates (LAT)	(LON)

Fishes, Mussels, Snails, or Crayfishes Stocked				
Species	Stock/Strain	Size (inches)	Wet Weight (lbs)	Number
Total Hauling Time	Time of Stocking	Driver's Name and Phone Number		

Submit Report to:  
 Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries  
 Fisheries Section  
 64 N. Union Street, Suite 551  
 Montgomery, AL 36130  
 Fax (334)242-2061

Attachment 2.