SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF
GAME, FISH AND PARKS
523 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE | PIERRE, SD 57501

Obtaining Licenses – Licenses are available only from the Game, Fish & Parks License Office, 20641 SD HWY 1806, Ft. Pierre, SD 57532.

Eligibility – Only South Dakota residents with a valid South Dakota fishing license.
Fee – Hoop Net/Trap Licenses are $10 each. Setline/Floatline Licenses are $5 each.
Tags – Each setline, hoop net or trap must be marked with a metal tag furnished with the license.

Size and Construction of Hoop Nets and Traps – Hoop nets must not be more than 18 feet long and four feet wide. No leads or wings are permitted. Only hoop nets constructed of fabric mesh with twine size number 15 or larger and slat catfish traps constructed of wood or synthetic slats with at least two 1-1/2 inch openings in each end are allowed. Wire fish traps are prohibited.
Season: Year-round.

Setline/Floatline license: One setline, or up to ten floatlines, may be used to fish at one time with a setline/floatline license**.**
Setline Restriction – Reels or other mechanical devices that operate a setline are prohibited. No more than 20 hooks may be attached to any one setline.
Floatline Restrictions – Reels or other mechanical devices that operate a floatline are prohibited. No more than one hook may be attached to any one floatline.
Checking – Setlines, hoop nets and traps must be checked and emptied of fish prior to 12 o'clock midnight of the second full calendar day, while being fished. All floatlines used for fishing shall be attended to the extent that they are under the direct supervision of and within the unaided observation of the licensee at all times.
Unauthorized Use – No person may use or tend setlines, floatline, hoop nets or traps of another person without the licensee present.
Legal Setline Bait: Only prepared or cut bait, worms, leopard frogs, and crayfish may be used to bait setlines and floatlines. Whole baitfish (minnows) are prohibited.

Catfish Minimum Length: There is no minimum length limit.
Open Areas – Setline, floatline, hoop net and trap fishing is only allowed on portions of the Missouri River, its impoundment's and its western tributaries. Separate restrictions exist for the following areas:

1. **South Dakota-Nebraska Border Waters:**
   - **Number of Setlines:** Two maximum with up to 10 hooks each.
   - **Floatlines:** are unlawful on the SD/NE border waters.
   - **Legal Setline Species and Limits:** Unlimited number of nongame (rough) fish; channel catfish 10 daily with 20 in possession; and five flathead catfish daily with 10 in possession; and one blue catfish daily, one in possession.
   - **Number of Hoop Nets:** Six maximum.
   - **Legal Hoop Net Species and Limits:** Unlimited number of nongame (rough) fish only. Catfish caught in hoop nets must be immediately released.
   - **Sale of Fish:** May not be sold, bartered or traded.

2. **Inland Waters of the Missouri River from the Nebraska state line to the North Dakota state line:**
   - **Number of Setlines:** Six maximum with up to 20 hooks each.
   - **Floatlines:** no more than ten floatlines.
   - **Number of Hoop Nets or Traps:** Six maximum.
   - **Legal Species and Limits:** Unlimited numbers of nongame (rough) fish, channel and flathead catfish.
   - **Sale of Fish:** Legal fish may be sold, bartered or traded if a receipt of sale is given to each purchaser, a record is kept by the licensee, and a report is provided to the state annually no later than Dec. 31 of the year the transaction took place. Failure to report is grounds for refusing to issue setline and hoop net licenses the following year.

3. **Western Tributaries of the Missouri River upstream to state line:**
   - **Number of Setlines:** Six maximum with up to 20 hooks each.
   - **Floatlines:** no more than ten floatlines.
   - **Hoop Nets and Traps:** Six maximum.

- **Legal Species and Limits:** Unlimited number of nongame (rough) fish, channel and flathead catfish. Blue catfish may not be taken.
- **Sale of Fish:** May not be sold, bartered or traded.

4. **Angostura, Belle Fourche, and Shadehill Reservoirs:**
   - **Number of Setlines:** Six maximum with up to 20 hooks each.
   - **Floatlines:** no more than ten floatlines.
   - **Hoop Nets and Traps:** Six maximum.
   - **Legal Species and Limits:** Unlimited number of nongame (rough) fish, statewide catfish limits apply on these waters.
   - **Sale of Fish:** May not be sold, bartered or traded.