



# FISHING ABC's

C O L O R I N G B O O K

## **ARTWORK**

Mat Merchlewitz  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Division of Wildlife and Refuges  
Regional Sign Center  
Winona, Minnesota

## **GRAPHIC DESIGN**

Barbara Orsich  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Division of Wildlife and Refuges  
Public Use Branch  
Atlanta, Georgia

## **TEXT DESIGN**

Susan Merrifield, Fishery Biologist  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Division of Fisheries and Federal Aid  
Gulf Coast Fisheries Coordination  
Office  
Ocean Springs, Mississippi

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## My Drawing Page

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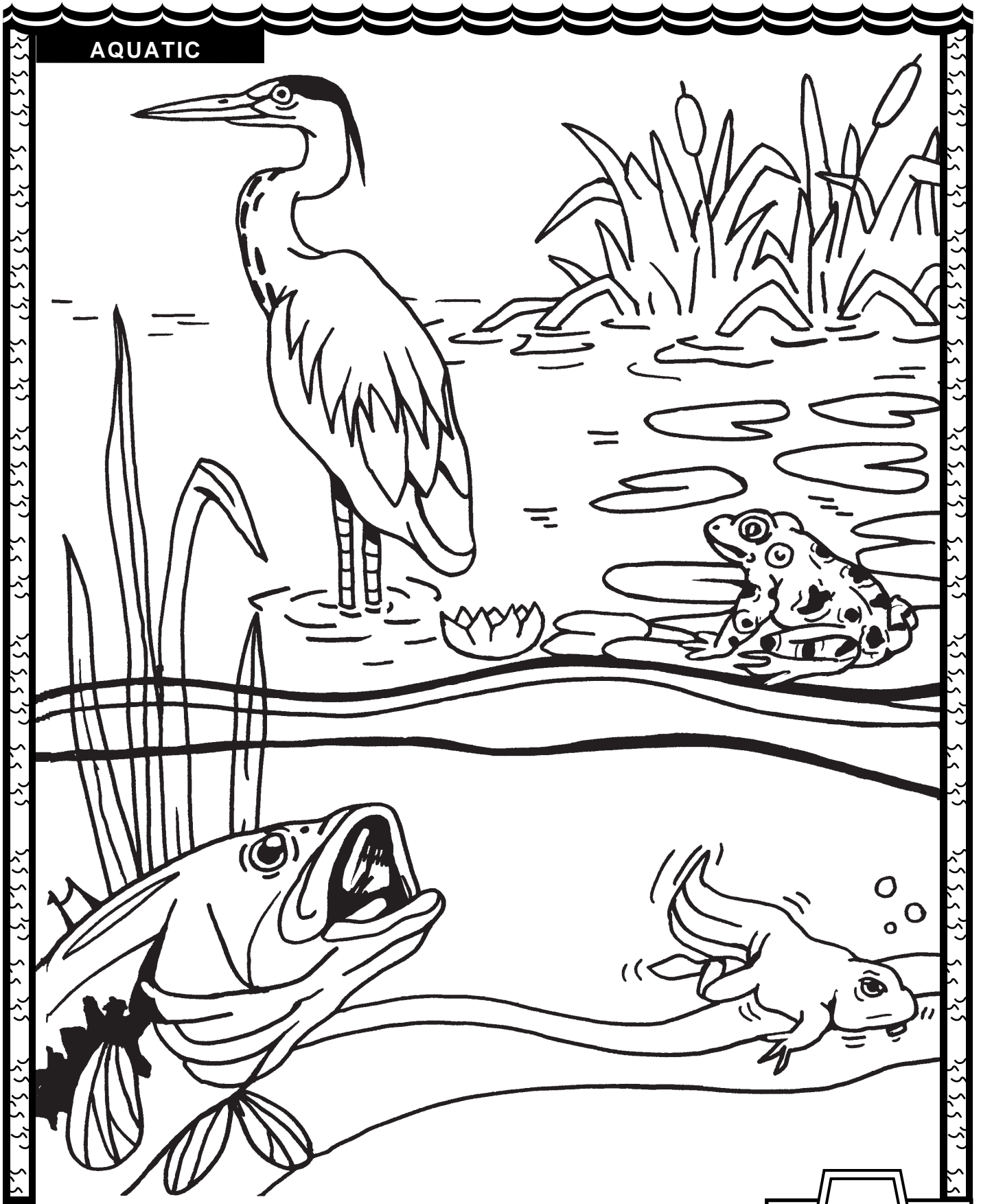
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### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

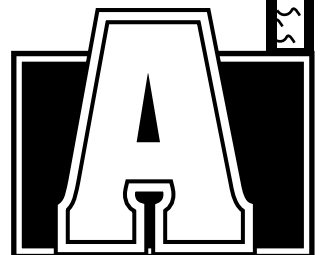
This coloring book was developed with the assistance of a number of Fish and Wildlife Service employees whom we thank. Early text and design assistance came from Dr. Alexander V. Zale, Assistant Unit Leader—Fisheries of

the Oklahoma Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit. Mr. Douglas J. Frugé, Gulf Coast Fisheries Coordinator, provided significant input and support in finalization of the product.

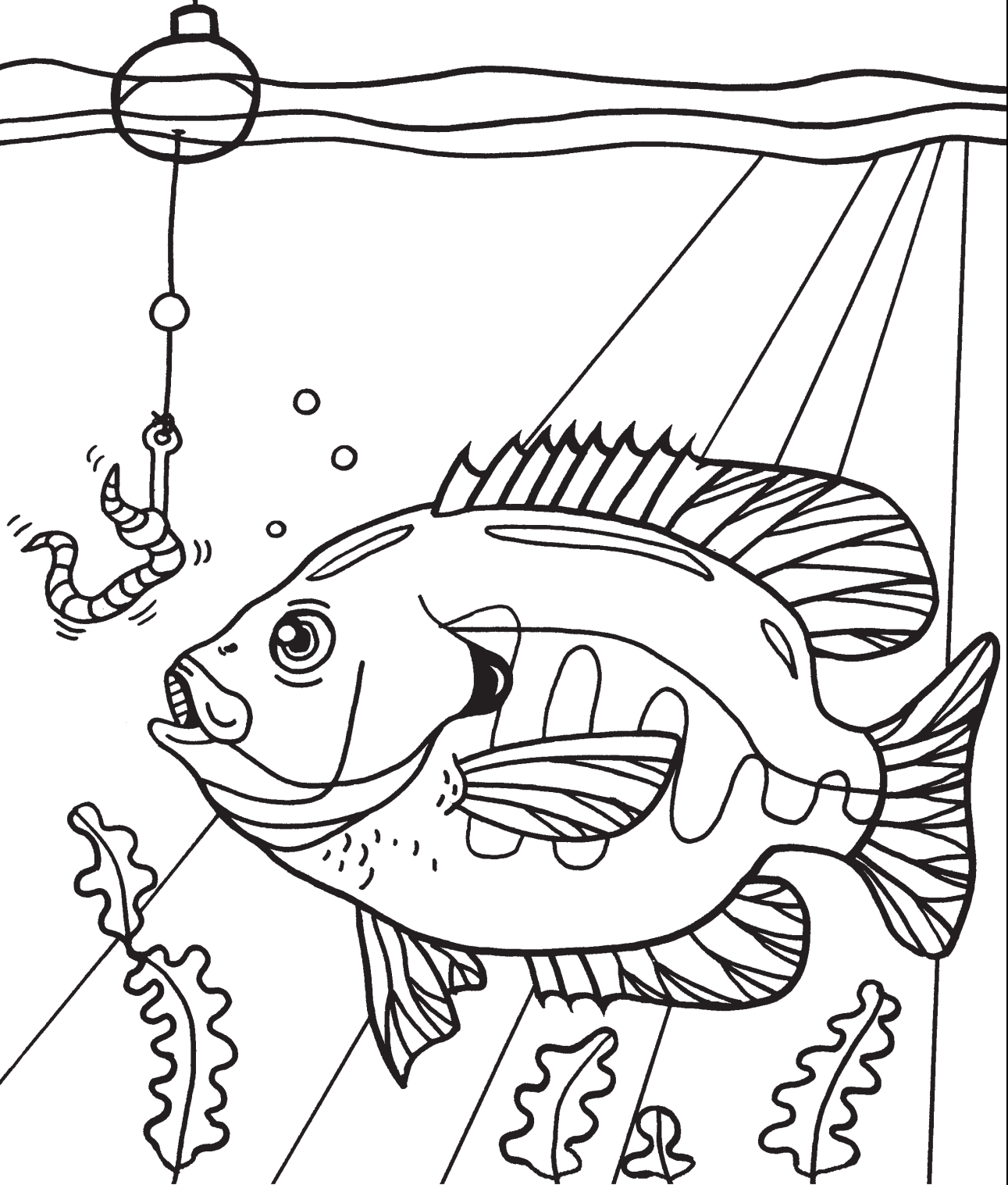
AQUATIC



The **aquatic** environment is home to both aquatic and terrestrial animals. Some of these include fish, frogs and herons. Water is essential to all life.



# BLUEGILL



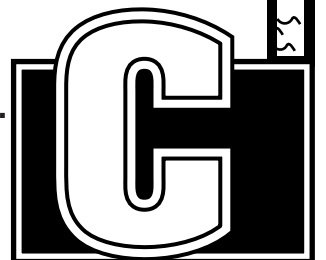
**B**

The **bluegill** is fun to catch! It is a valuable fish because it is an important source of food for other sport fish. It lives in shallow, quiet waters near weed beds. Bluegills build nests in colonies where they deposit their eggs.

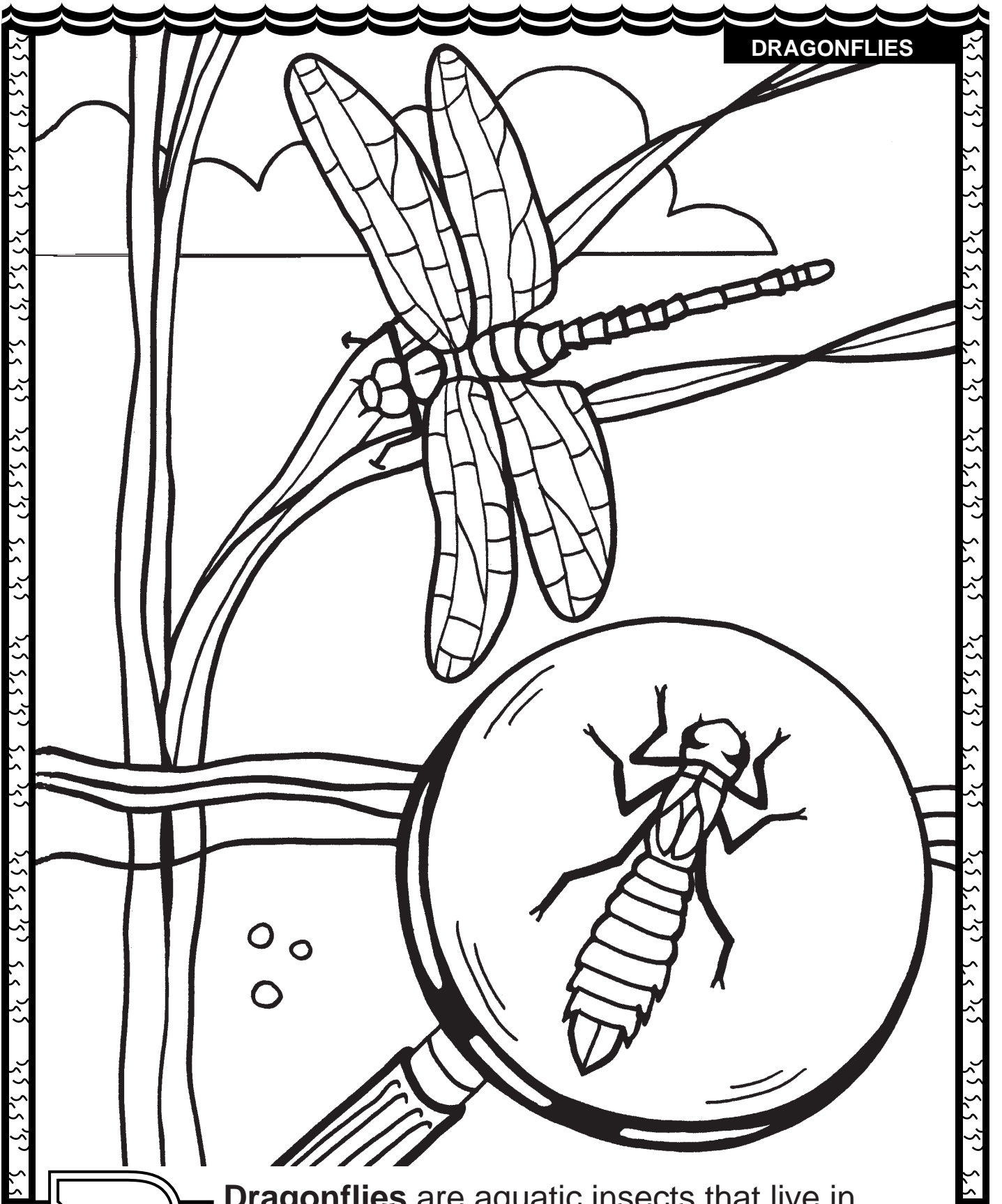
## CHANNEL CATFISH



The **channel catfish** is highly rated by many anglers because it bites hard and is very good to eat. It can be found in all kinds of freshwater habitats. Catfish feed mostly at night on insects and other fish. Whisker-like sensory barbels on the upper and lower jaw help the catfish to find its food in the dark.



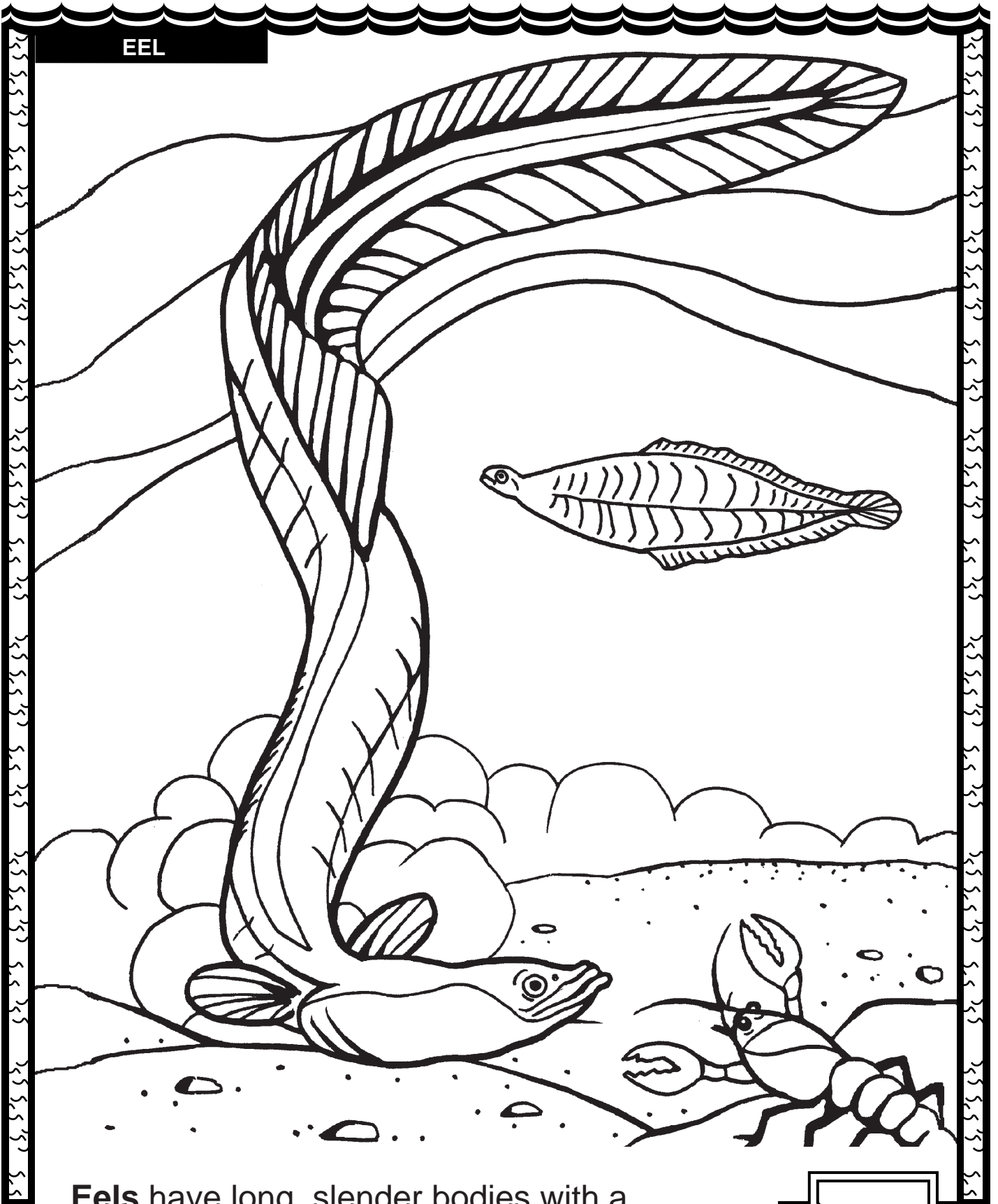
## DRAGONFLIES



# D

**Dragonflies** are aquatic insects that live in marshes, lakes, creeks and rivers. They are eaten by fish, both as nymphs (young dragonflies) which live underwater and as adults which spend most of their time in the air.

EEL



**Eels** have long, slender bodies with a continuous fin that consists of united dorsal, caudal, and anal fins. The young eels are leaf-like in shape and are called leptocephalous larvae. Most eels live in fresh water and spawn in the ocean.

**E**

## FISHING

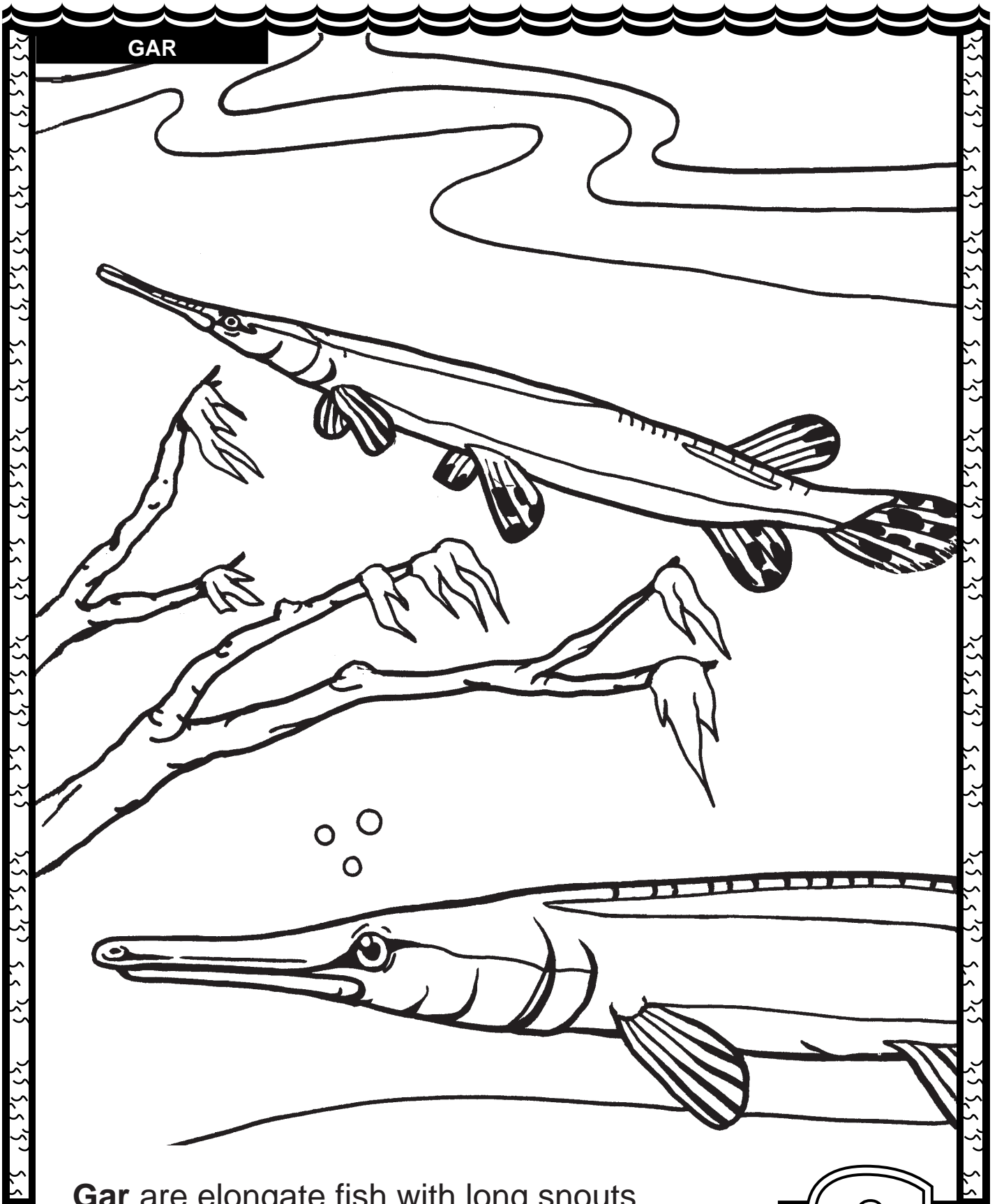


**F**

**Fishing** can be enjoyed alone or shared with family and friends, regardless of age. Some anglers enjoy just being outdoors and combine fishing with boating and camping. Fishing is fun, relaxing, and can provide tasty meals!



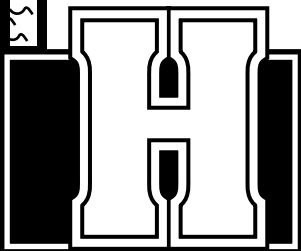
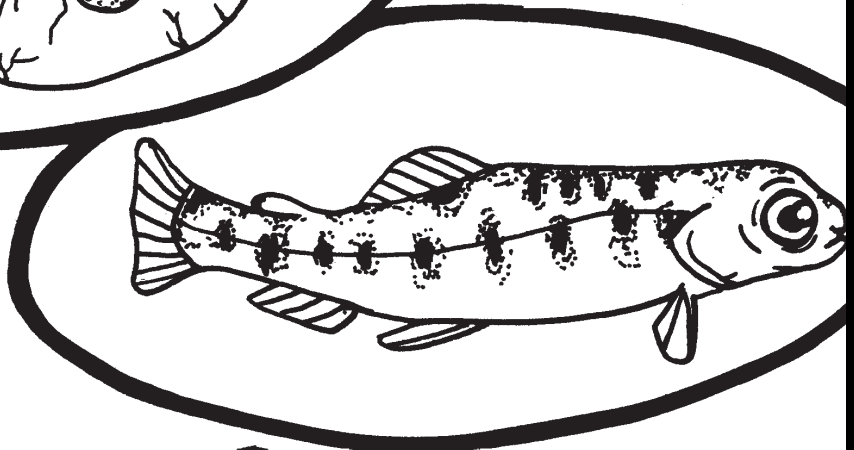
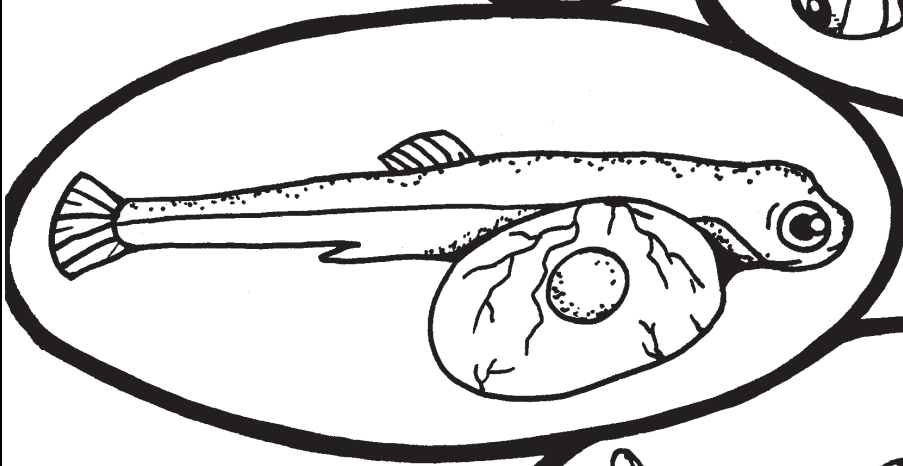
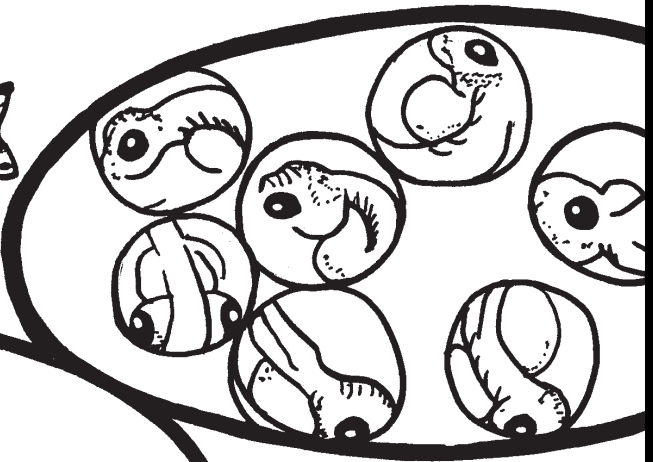
GAR



**Gar** are elongate fish with long snouts equipped with sharp teeth. Their bodies are cylindrical and covered with hard diamond-shaped scales. Gars inhabit relatively clear, sluggish waters where they feed entirely on small fishes.



# HATCHERY

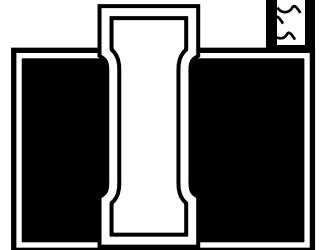


A **hatchery** helps improve fishing by hatching, and raising fish for stocking in streams, rivers and lakes. Both state agencies and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service share in the responsibility of providing fishing recreation for you.

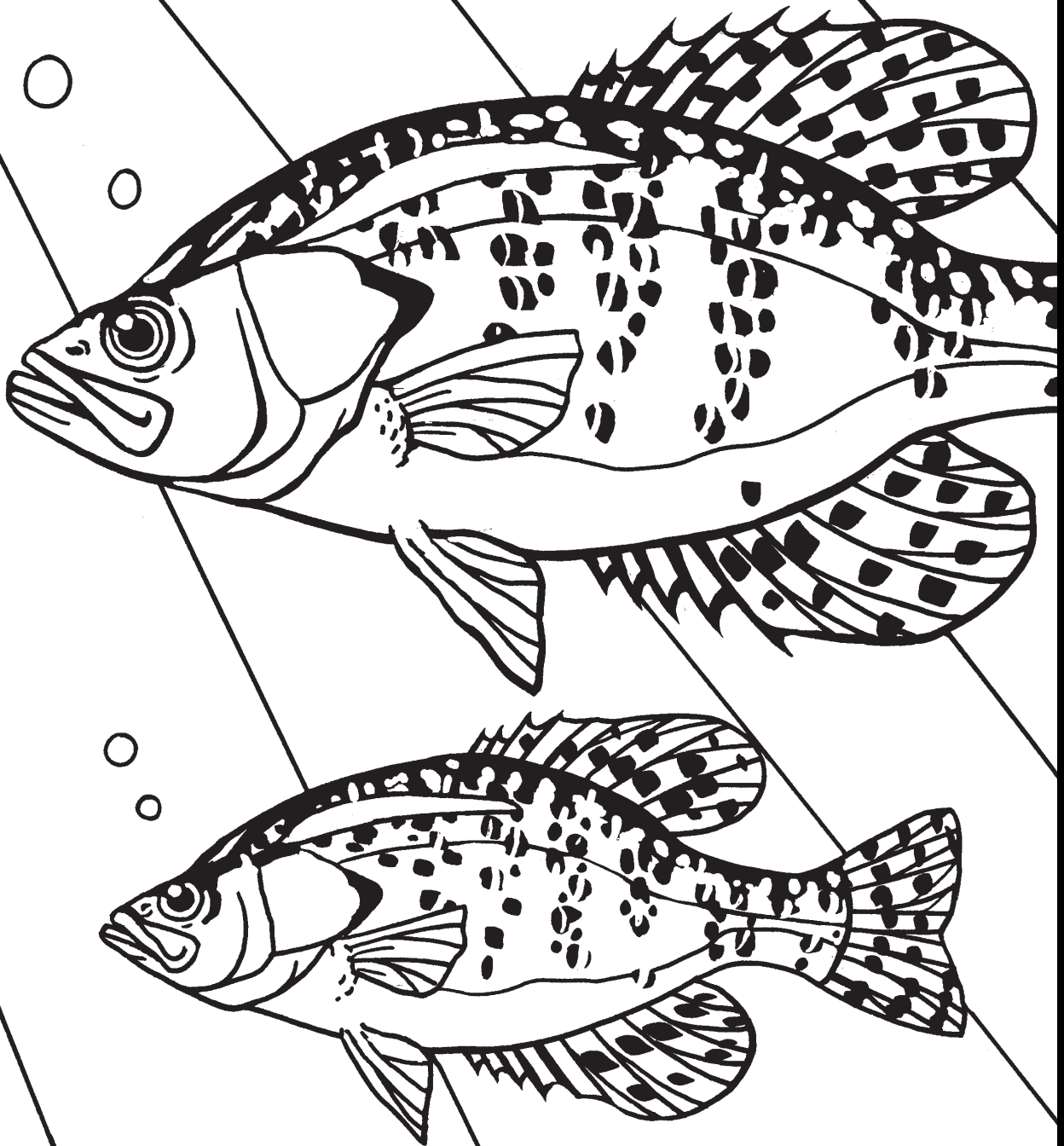
## ICE FISHING



**Ice fishing** is fun in winter when the ice is thick enough to hold you up. Most ice fishing is done on large lakes in the northern states. "Shanties" are built to protect the anglers from the cold.



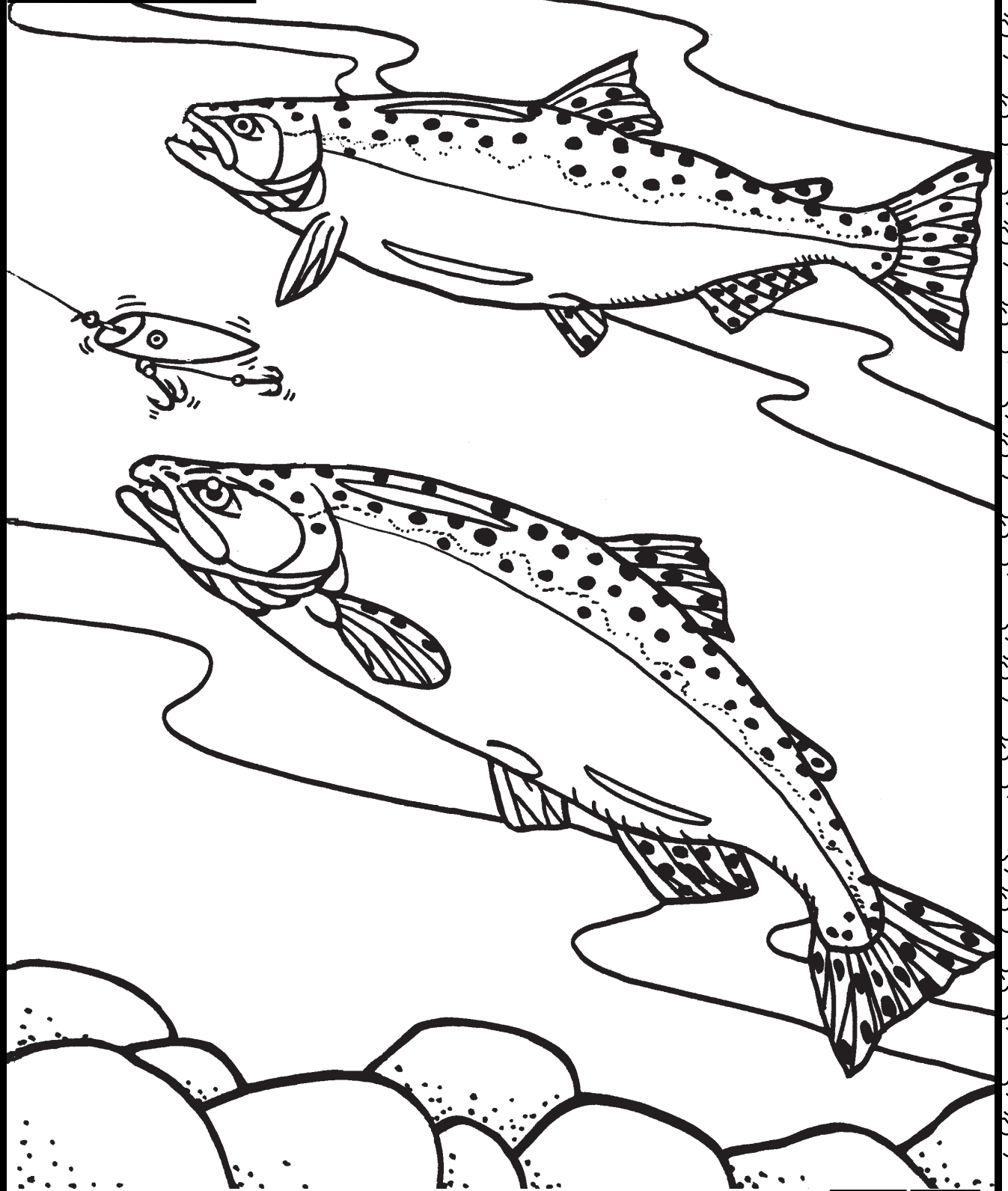
JUVENILE



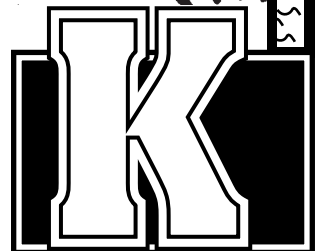
J

A **juvenile** fish looks just like an adult fish, but is not yet old enough to reproduce. Juvenile fish need clean water and good habitat to grow into adults big enough to catch.

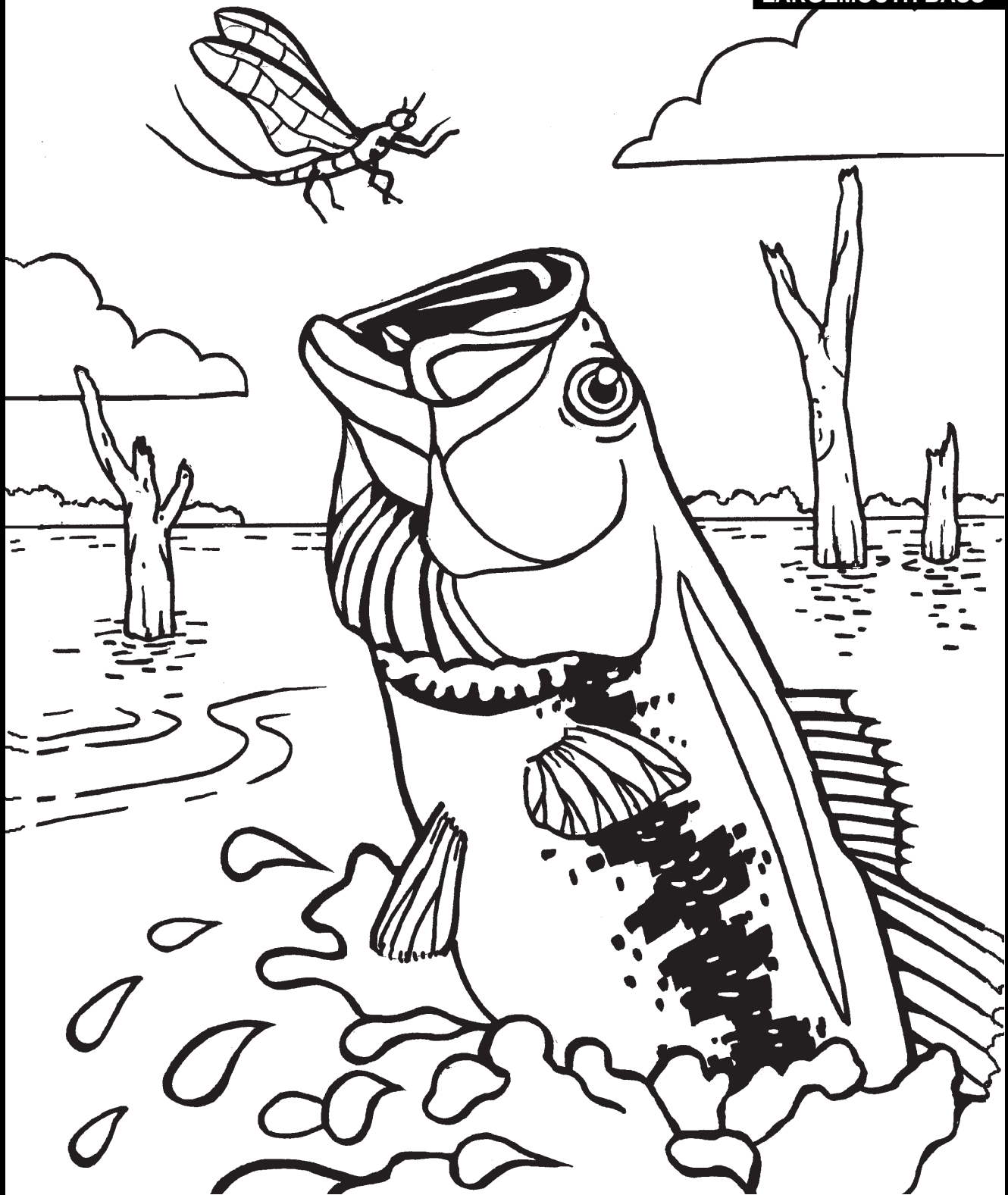
## KING SALMON



The **king salmon** (also known as the chinook) is the largest of the Pacific salmon. Adults return from the sea and move into freshwater streams to reproduce. They are an important part of the Native subsistence fisheries of Alaska.



## LARGEMOUTH BASS

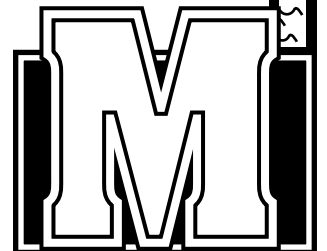


**L** The largemouth bass is the most popular sport fish in America. It prefers warm, quiet waters of lakes and streams around weed beds and submerged logs. It feeds on small fishes, frogs, crayfishes, worms and insects.

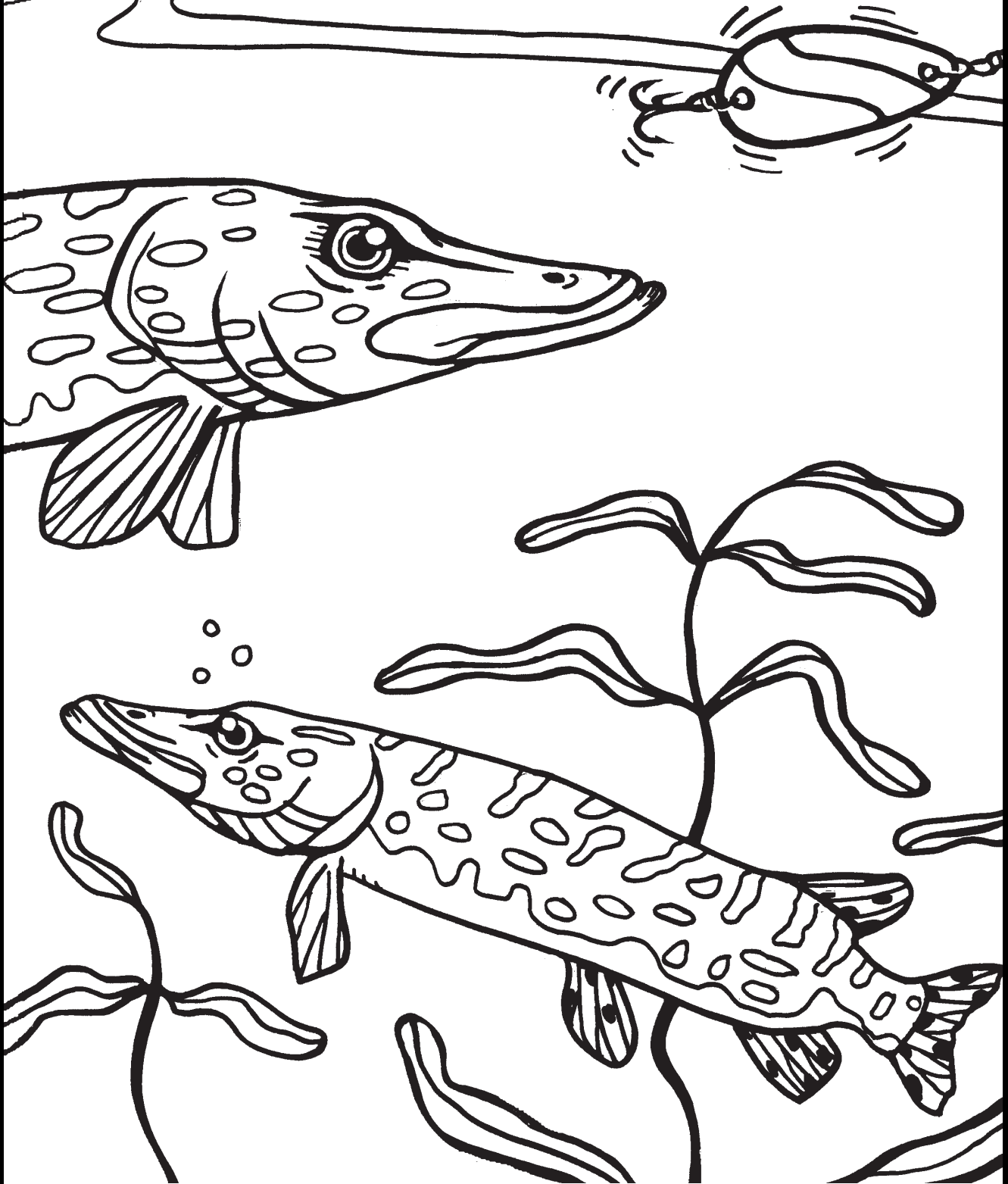
MANAGEMENT



**Management** of fish means improved fishing! Surveys of fish populations, construction of man-made fish habitats and recommendations on harvest regulations make fishing better for you!



## NORTHERN PIKE

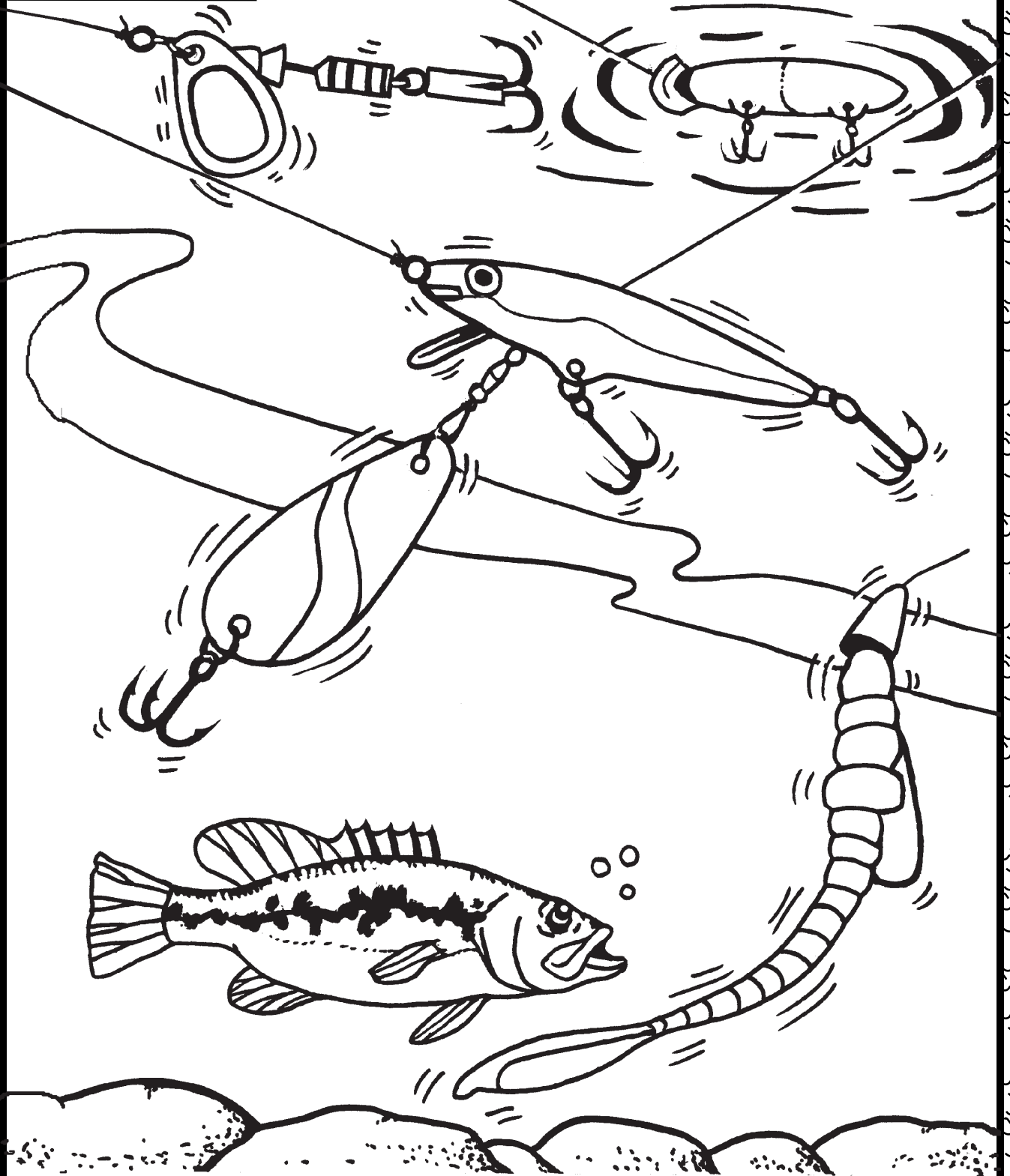


# N

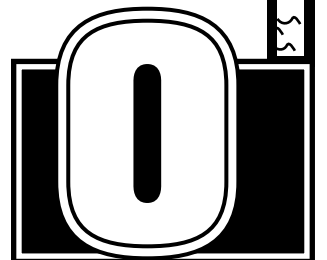
The **northern pike** has a tremendous fighting spirit. It eats almost anything that swims (frogs, crayfish, mice, young ducks and insects). It can usually be found in shallow waters of lakes and streams.

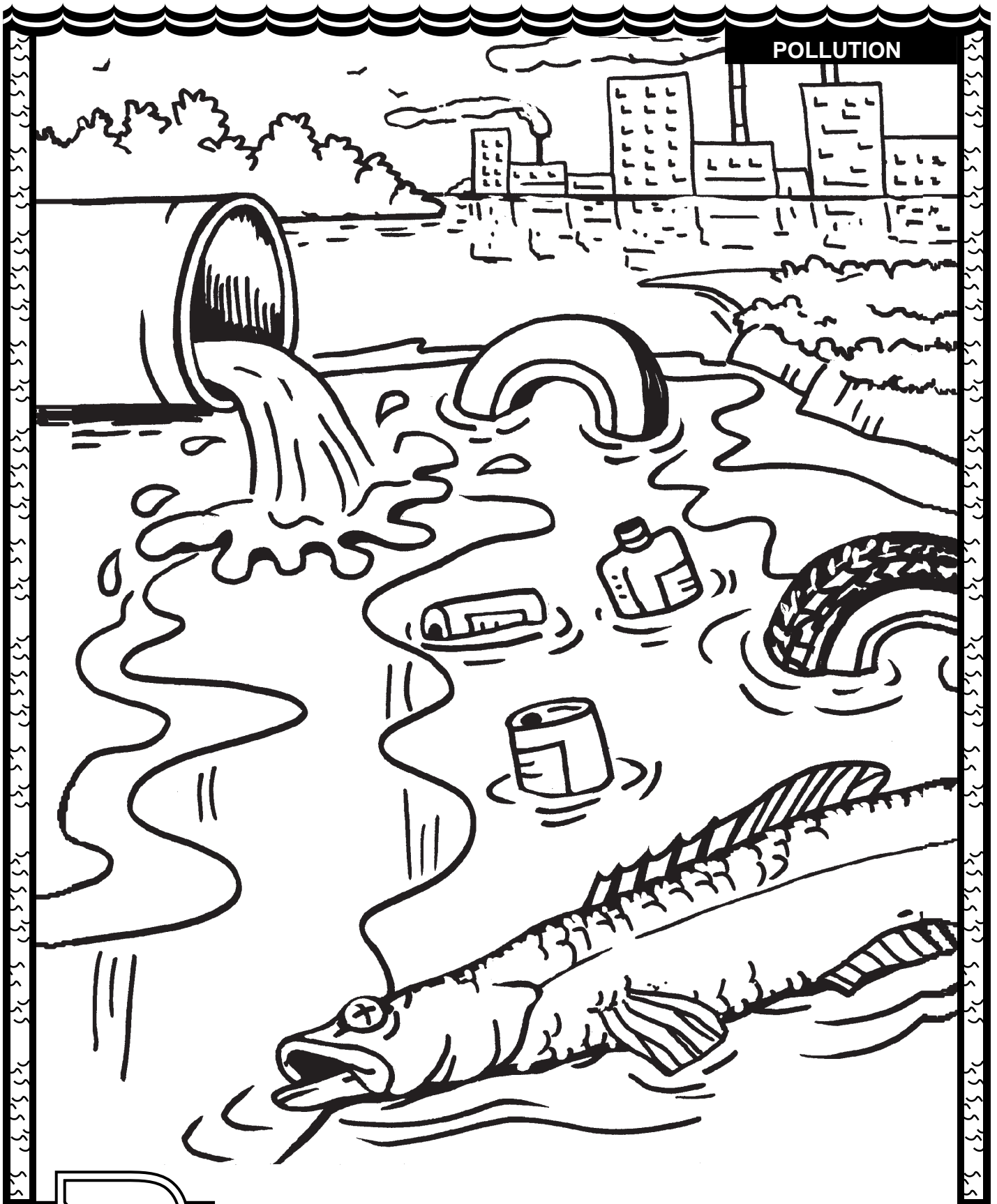


## OVER-FISHING



**Over-fishing** results when more fish are removed from a body of water in a single year than can be replaced through reproduction or hatchery stocking before the following year. Limits on fish may only be needed for some species.



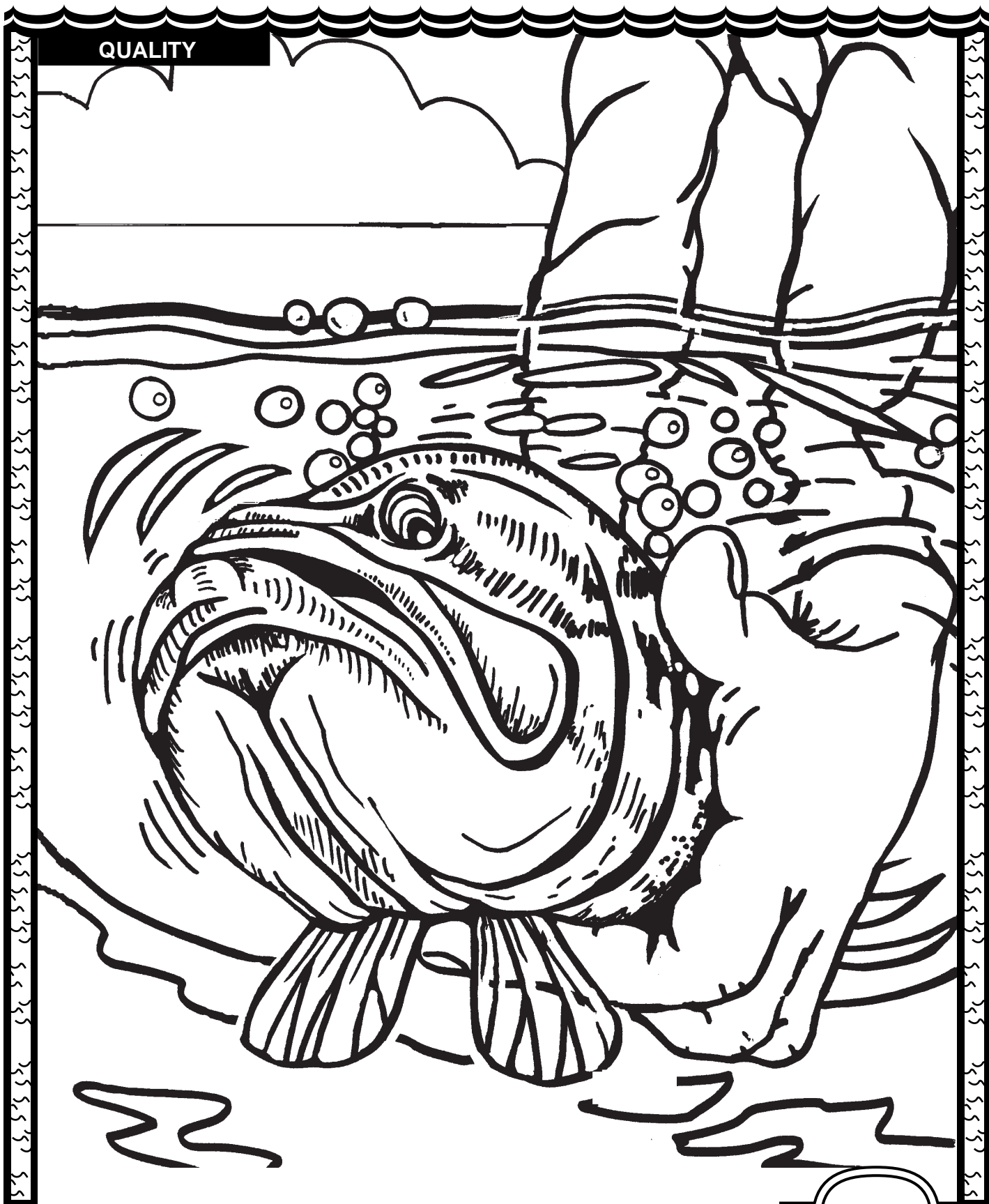


## POLLUTION

**P**

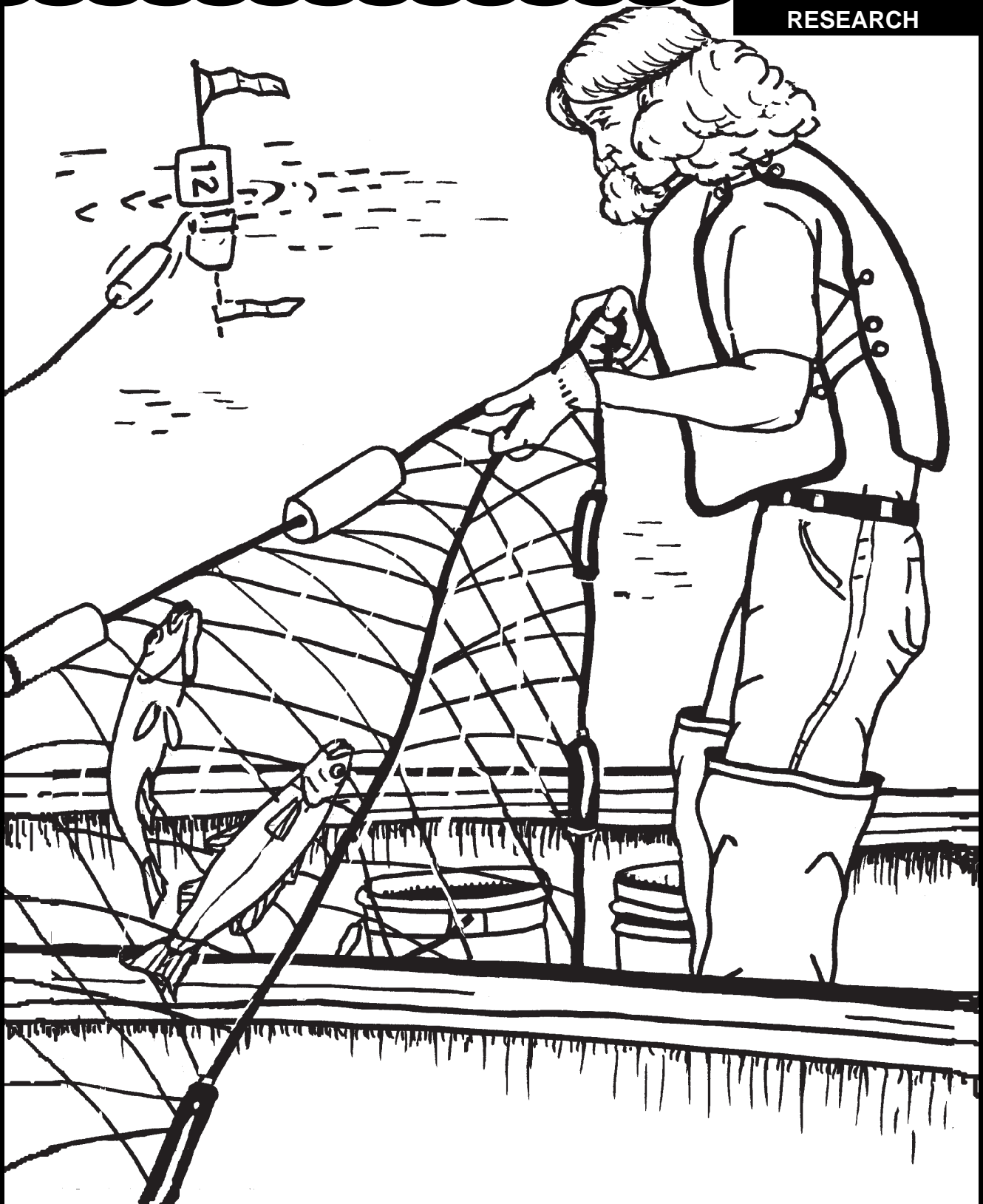
**Pollution** is a growing problem in our aquatic environment. It threatens the health and safety of both animals and people. Pollution free waters are essential for high quality recreational fishing.

QUALITY



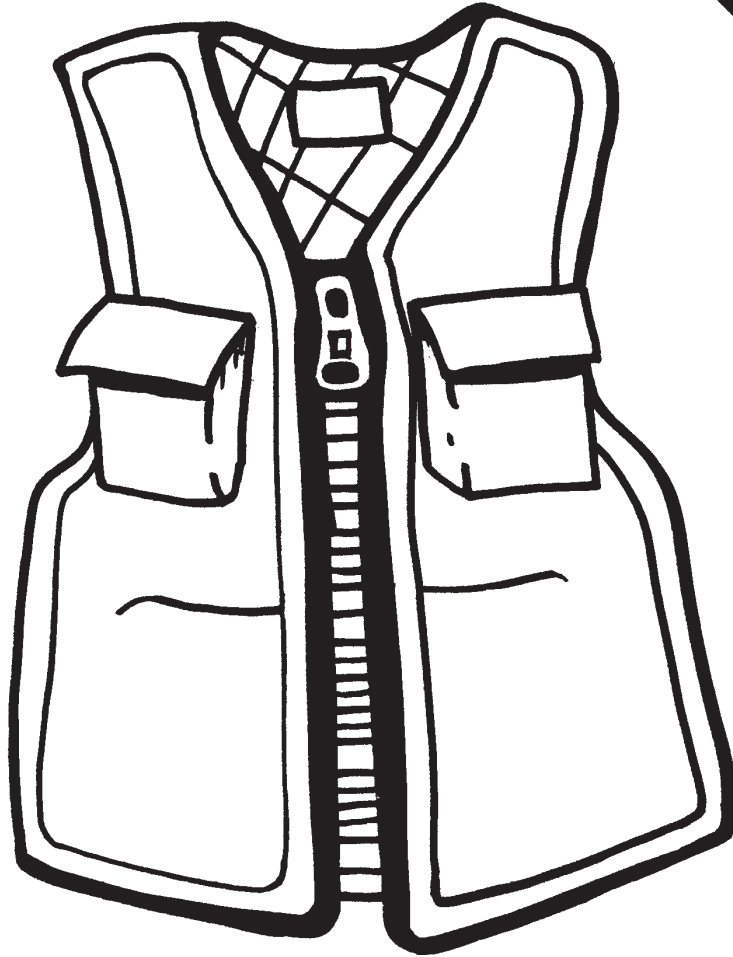
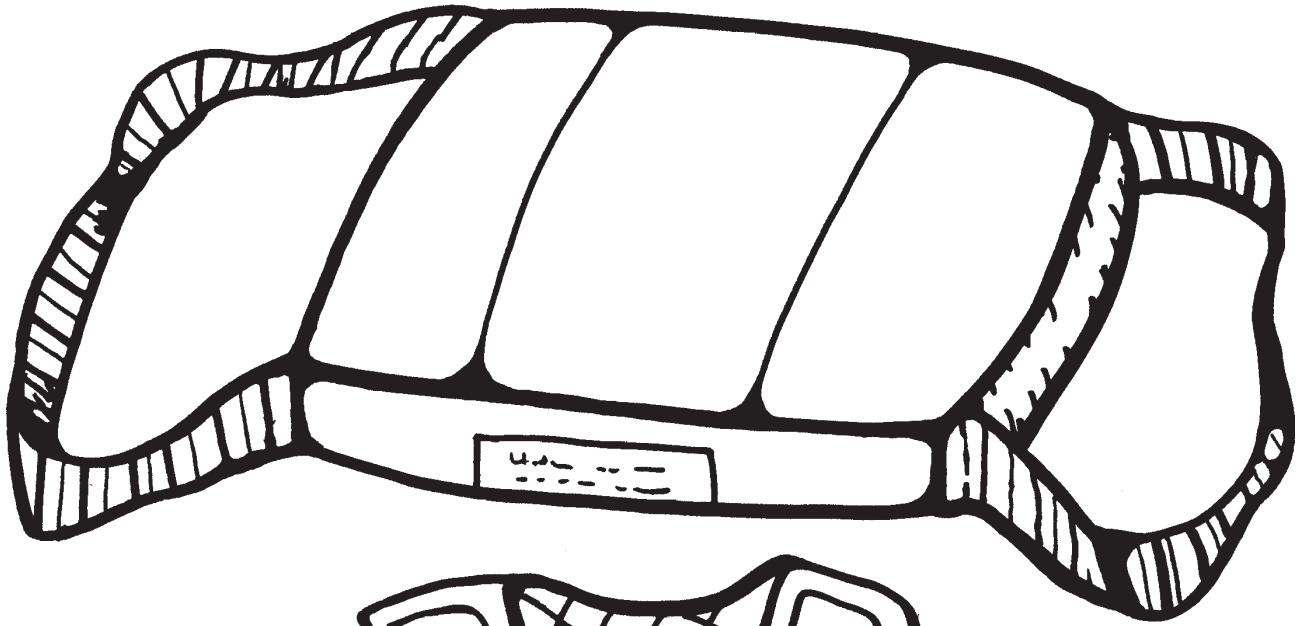
The **quality** of fishing may be maintained with creel limits (the number of fish allowed per day) or size limits. Size limits allow fish to grow up and reproduce before ending up on a stringer.

**Q**

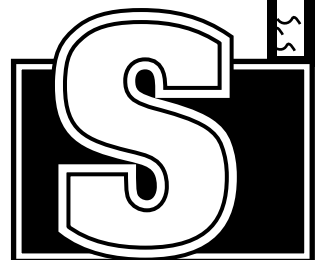
**R**

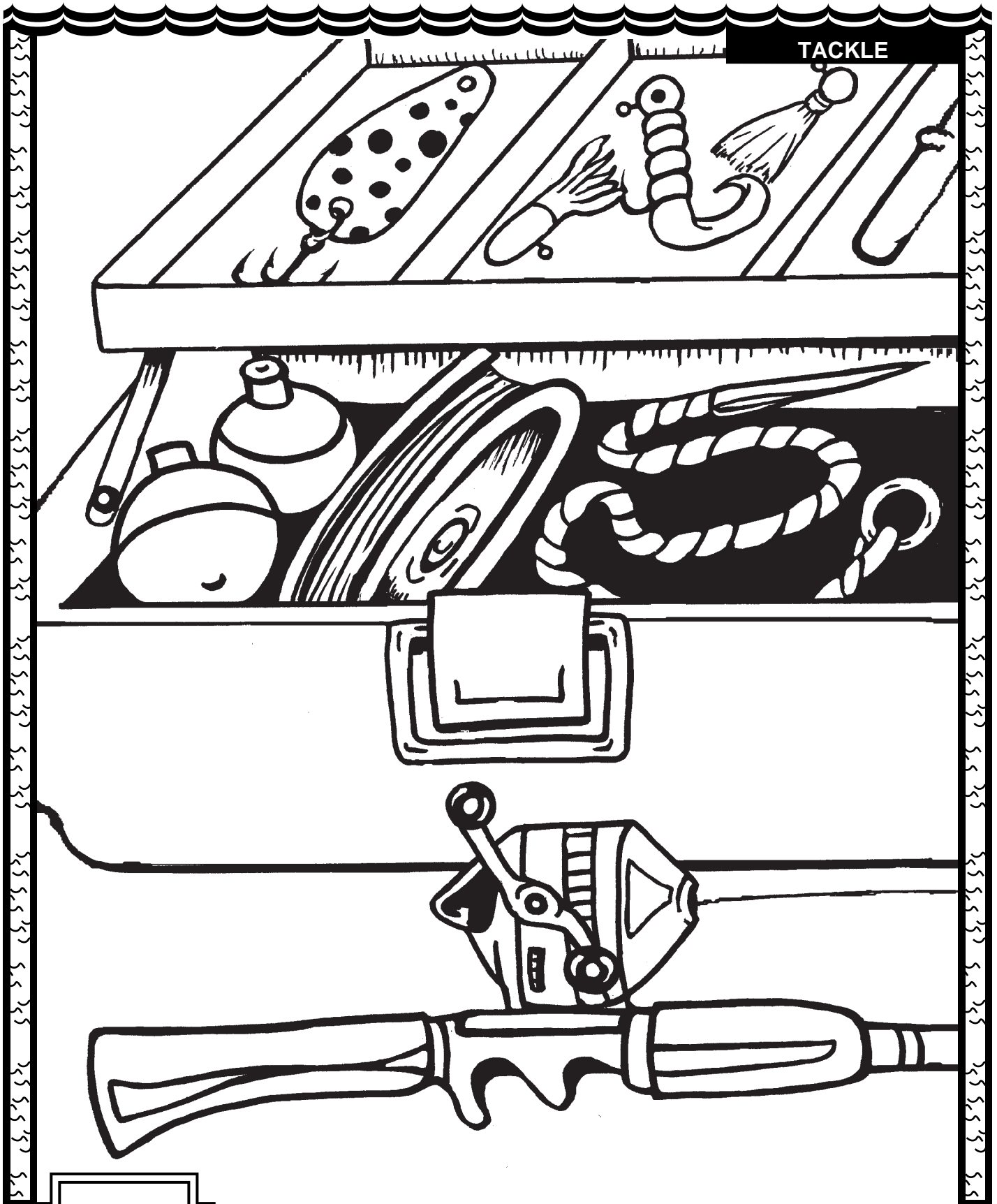
Research by state and federal agencies provides answers to problems facing anglers and fisheries managers. Research projects can tell us the condition of the fish and give us information to help improve our fisheries resources.

**SAFETY**



**Safety** comes first! Fishing and boating can be fun, but remember to take along these important items for your safety!





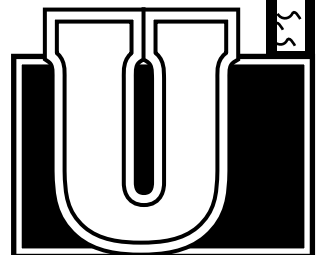
**T**ackle is the equipment used to catch fish. This includes the tacklebox, rods, reels, line, lures, and bobbers. The type of fishing you do will determine the type of tackle you use.

UNITED STATES

# U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE



The **United States Fish and Wildlife Service** is the federal agency responsible for the conservation and protection of our country's fish and wildlife resources. This includes promoting the wisest use of our land and water and all the living creatures which live there.





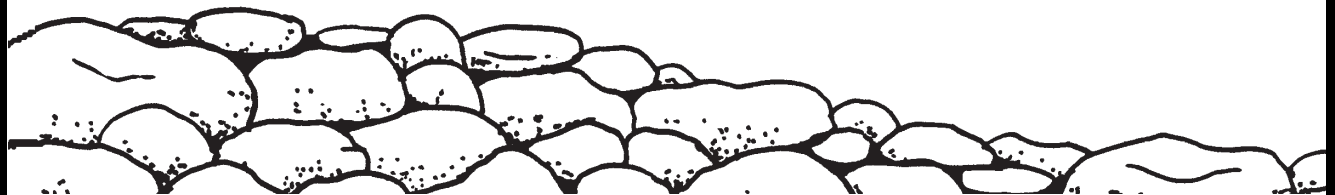
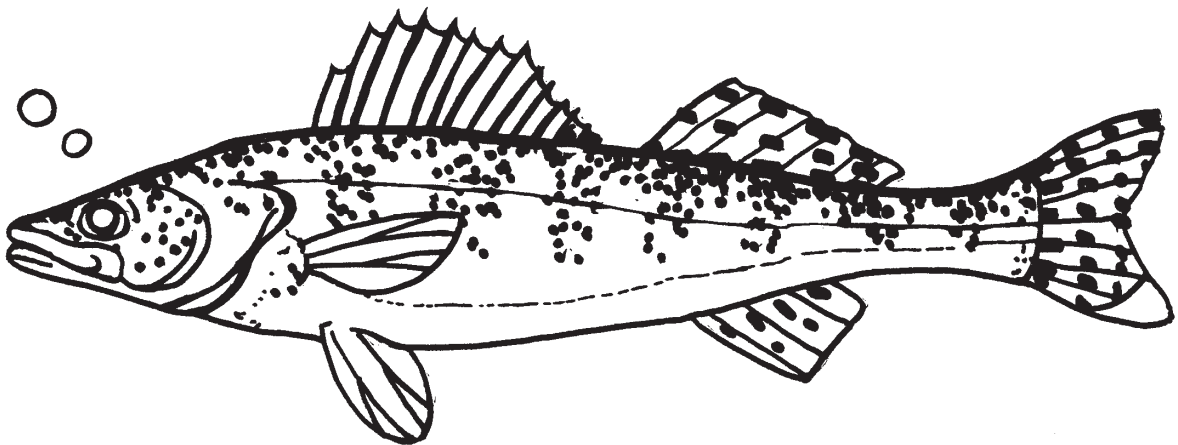
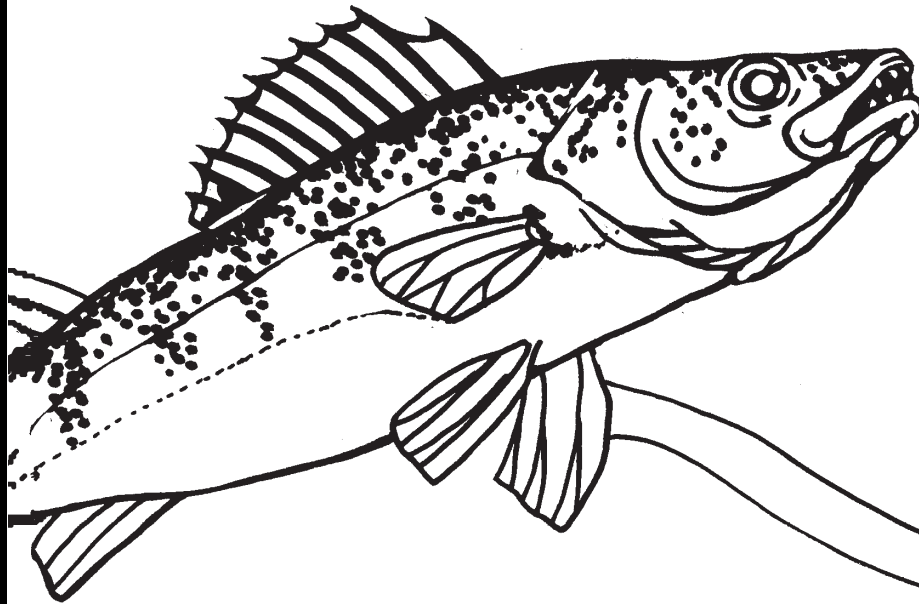
VEGETATION

**V**

**Vegetation** that grows in the aquatic environment provides food and cover for many animals that live in or near the water. It provides spawning and nursery sites for fish — two important elements in maintaining a good fishery.

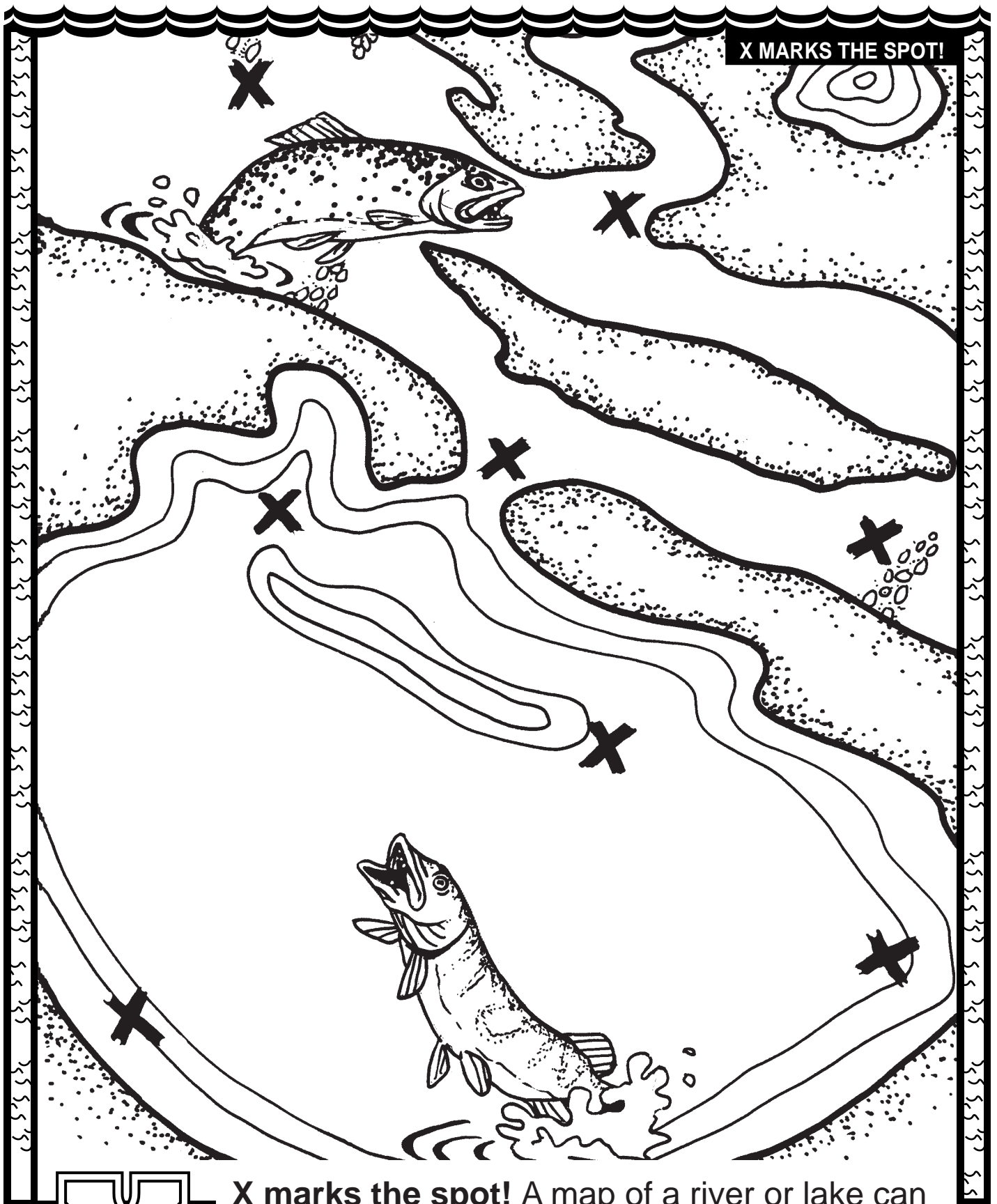


## WALLEYE



The **walleye** is a popular gamefish in large lakes and streams. They feed mostly at night on fish, insects, crayfish and snails. They are considered to be among the best fish to eat.



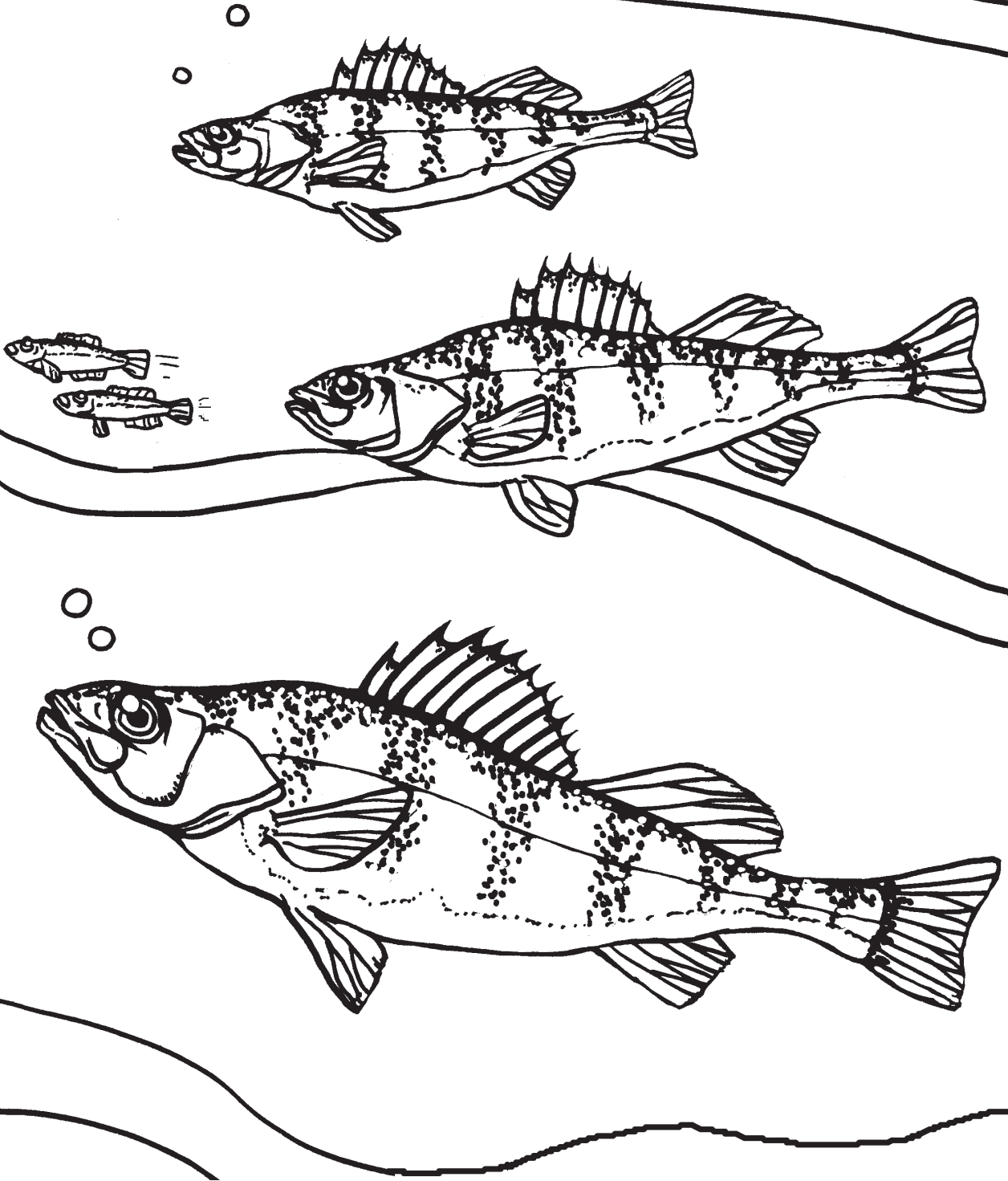


X MARKS THE SPOT!

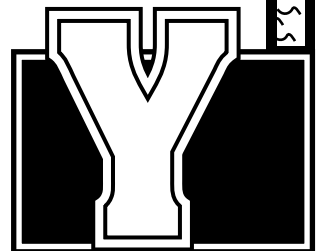
**X**

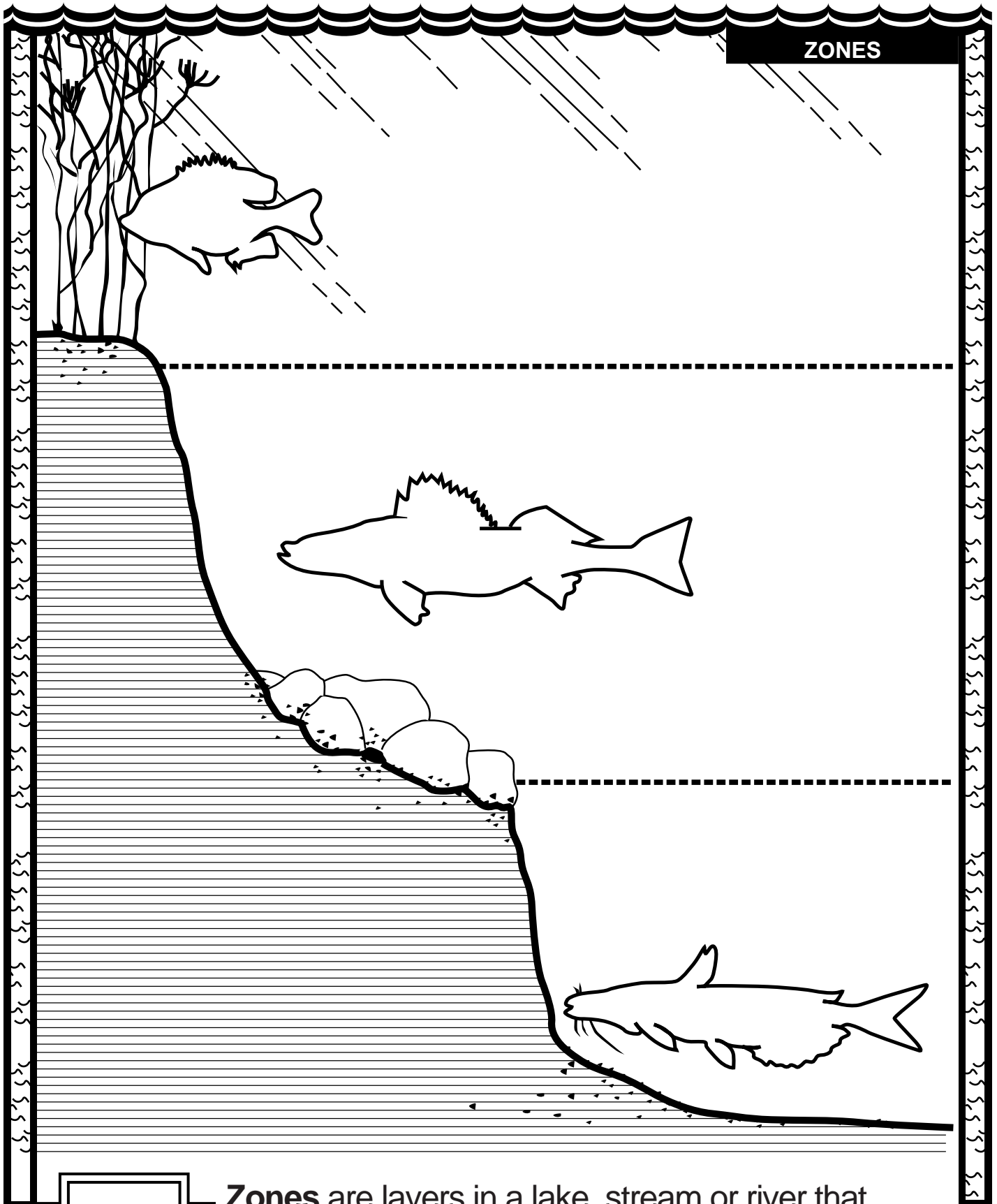
**X marks the spot!** A map of a river or lake can provide useful information to the angler on good fishing spots. Submerged fish attractors and location of the main stream channel are important things to know for successful fishing.

## YELLOW PERCH



**Yellow perch** usually swim in schools (groups of fishes) in both deep and shallow water of lakes, ponds and rivers. This gives anglers a good chance to fill their stringer.





**Zones** are layers in a lake, stream or river that separate different fish habitats. Some fish can be found in the shallow water zone (bluegill), some fish can be found in the open water zone (walleye), and some fish can be found in the deep water zone (catfish).