



## 2023 Bill Morris Memorial Fishing Derby

**Free Fishing & Park Entry Day - Saturday, May 20, 2022**

Free Fishing and Park Entry Day is held annually in Nebraska's State Parks. It means anyone can fish without a permit or visit a state park area without a park entry permit that day only. Even though fishing and park entry permits are not required, anglers must observe all fishing regulations. The Bill Morris Memorial Fishing Derby also is a great opportunity to participate in the Take 'em Fishing challenge, in which anglers pledge to take new or inexperienced anglers fishing.



**Rainbow Trout**



**Largemouth Bass**



**Bluegill**

### Tournament Rules:

- Tournament fishing will occur on Saturday, May 20, 2022 starting at 8:00am
- Individual entries only. Age groups: 6 & under, 7-12, 13 & older.
- The Ponca State Park pond is catch and release only; except for trout. Daily trout limit is 5.
- Anglers must take a picture of their fish appropriately placed on the tape measure provided by Ponca State Park. Pick up at the Resource & Education Center between 8:00am-5:00pm on Saturday, May 20.
- All submissions must be emailed before 10:00pm on Saturday, May 20 to [katie.leware@nebraska.gov](mailto:katie.leware@nebraska.gov). Include your full name, age, hometown, fish species, length, and picture.
- Results will be posted on the Ponca State Park's Facebook page (Ponca State Park NE) on Monday, May 22rd.
- Tournament winners will be notified via email.



Bill Morris was an Assistant Superintendent at Ponca State Park from 1973-2010. He passed away suddenly in January of 2017. Bill had a passion for Ponca State Park, his family, and the sport of fishing. To honor his 37 years of service and his love of fishing, Ponca State Park hosts an annual Bill Morris Memorial Fishing Derby.

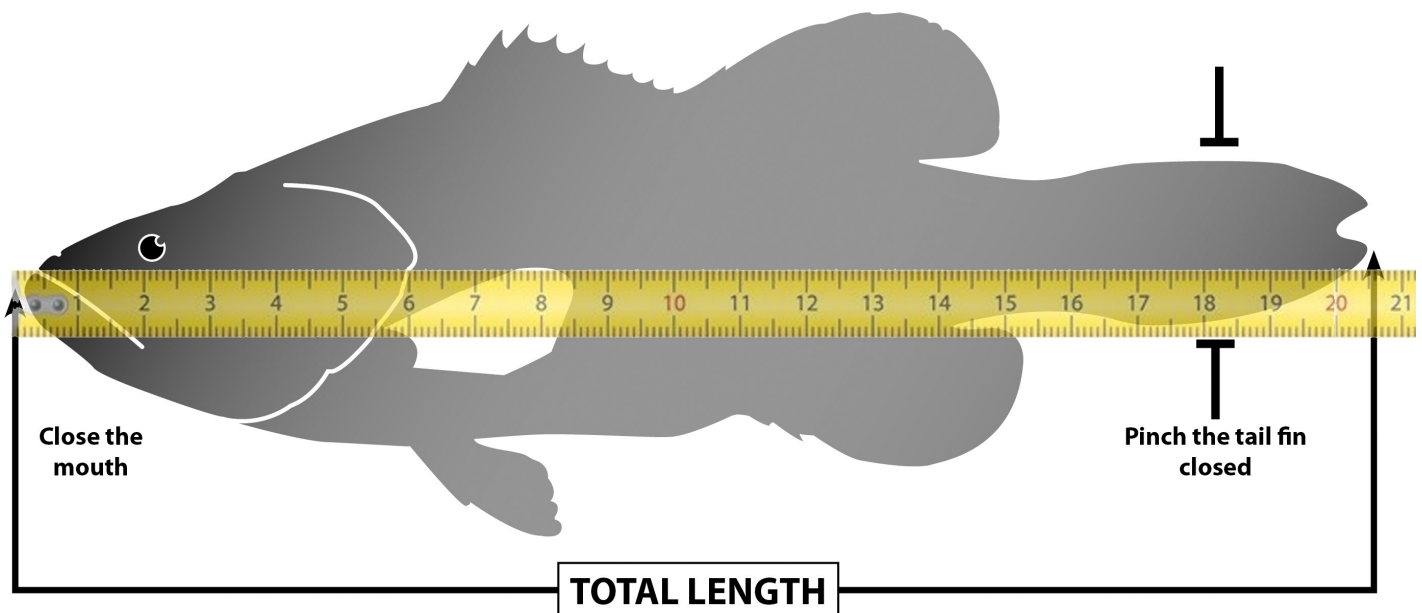
**The Bill Morris Memorial Fishing Derby PRIZES were donated by  
Stephanie Batenhorst and the Nebraska Game and Parks Youth Fishing Program**

**1. Longest fish by species in each age group:**

- 5 and under
  - Bluegill
  - Bass
  - Trout
- Ages 6-12
  - Bluegill
  - Bass
  - Trout
- 13 and older
  - Bluegill
  - Bass
  - Trout



**2. Smallest fish overall**



**With mouth closed and the fish laying along a tape measure, pinch the tail fin closed to measure the total length**