

**4VAC15-340-40. Dip nets; generally.**

A. Authorization to take fish with dip nets. A county dip net permit shall authorize the holder to take shad, herring, mullet, and suckers (daily creel (possession) limits for shad and herring are found in 4VAC15-320-25, there is no limit for mullet, and subsection D of this section provides limits for suckers), in the county named on the face of the permit with a dip net in inland waters, except where otherwise prohibited by local legislation or by the sections appearing in this chapter.

B. Persons required to have permit; inspection by conservation police officers. A dip net permit, or valid fishing license, shall be required for all persons using or assisting in the use of a dip net and permits, or licenses, shall be carried at all times while using such nets ~~and shall be subject to inspection by conservation police officers.~~

C. Release of certain fish netted. All fish, except shad, herring, mullet, suckers and carp, when taken with a dip net shall be returned to the water alive with as little injury as possible.

D. Special provisions applicable only to suckers. The following special provisions shall apply only to the taking of suckers, with a dip net:

1. Not more than 20 may be taken by any person in one day;
2. The open season for taking same with a dip net shall be from February 15 through May 15, both dates inclusive; and
3. Dip nets for taking such fish shall not be more than six feet square.

Rationale: Removes unnecessary language from subsection B. Conservation Police Officers do not need this regulatory permission to inspect fishing tackle.