



Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

Trophy Fishing Scale Testing



Non-Commercial Trophy Fish Scales

- **The Division of Measurement Standards & Commercial Vehicle Enforcement (DMS/CVE)**, working in cooperation with **The Department of Fish & Game**, will provide courtesy testing of the non-commercial scales commonly used by fishing guides, clients and individuals who seek entry into state and/or international record books.
- Scales will be tested using the rules established by the International Game Fish Association and not by the more stringent rules used for scales used in commerce. General IGFA information can be found at: <http://www.igfa.org/>
- Department of Fish & Game rules for entry submissions can be found at: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishingSport.trophyfishprogram> or by calling 907-465-4100



Scale Recommendations

- To increase confidence in scale weights and avoid a possible challenge to your submission, DMS/CVE recommends the use of a high quality scale designed for the application.



- The capacity of the scale should be appropriate for the targeted fish; don't use a high capacity halibut scale for weighing rainbow trout.



Scale Recommendations

- Suitable legal-for-trade scales can also be used for trophy weights and are required for derby events where prizes are awarded.
- Other high quality spring type analog scales and quality digital scales will be tested for accuracy but most of the low-cost plastic digital scales available at tackle shops should be avoided.
- Scales tested and approved by DMS/CVE will have a numbered seal attached and will be entered into a database with owner information and test dates. Scales should be tested annually, usually before the fishing season, and IGFA recommends testing the scale again after a record fish has been weighed and witnessed.
- Scales should be treated as precision weighing instruments and should be protected from the difficult environmental conditions found on the fishing grounds.



Contact Information

- Scales can be tested at one of three DMS/CVE offices. As our inspectors are normally working at field assignments, testing is done by appointment only.
- **Anchorage office:**
12050 Industry Way, Building O
907-365-1235
- **Fairbanks office:**
2093 Van Horn Road, Suite 4
907-451-3134
- **Juneau office:**
2201 Industrial Blvd.
907-789-9763