

**§12664. Unlawful use of lead sinkers and lead jigs**

**1. Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. [PL 2025, c. 132, §7 (RP).]

B. "Lead sinker" means a device that contains lead that is designed to be attached to a fishing line and intended to sink the line and does not include artificial lures, ice-fishing sounders, weighted line, weighted flies or jig heads. [PL 2025, c. 132, §7 (AMD).]

C. [PL 2025, c. 132, §7 (RP).]

D. "Lead jig" means a hook with a lead weight molded to it, regardless of whether it is painted, coated or covered by some other substance or by attached skirts. "Lead jig" does not include a fishing-related lead item, including, but not limited to, a lead core line, spinnerbaits, buzzbaits, spoons, poppers, plugs or flies. [PL 2025, c. 132, §7 (NEW).]

[PL 2025, c. 132, §7 (AMD).]

**2. Unlawful use.** This subsection governs the use of lead sinkers and lead jigs.

A. A person may not:

(3) Beginning September 1, 2026, use a painted lead jig. [PL 2025, c. 132, §7 (AMD).]

A-1. A person may not use a lead sinker or unpainted lead jig that:

(1) Weighs one ounce or less; or

(2) Measures 2 1/2 inches or less in length. [PL 2025, c. 132, §7 (NEW).]

B. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2013, c. 372, §3 (NEW).]

C. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2013, c. 372, §3 (NEW).]

[PL 2025, c. 132, §7 (AMD).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 2013, c. 372, §3 (NEW). PL 2023, c. 231, §2 (AMD). PL 2025, c. 132, §7 (AMD).

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