



APPLICATION FOR NONCONTRACT COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENSE

North Dakota Game and Fish Department
Licensing Division
SFN 6531 (06/2026)

Mail to:
ND Game and Fish Department
Attn: Licensing
100 N. Bismarck Expressway
Bismarck, North Dakota 58501-5095
Phone: (701) 328-6300

Name of Applicant:	Phone:	Date of Birth:	Sex:	Height:
Address:	ND Driver's License No. or ND Nondriver Photo ID No.:	Weight:	Eye Color:	Hair Color:
City:	State:	Zip:	Social Security Number:	
Number of hoop net or trap tags (\$30 each; maximum of five) – _____ tags x \$30/tag		\$ _____		
Feet of seine (\$30 for each 50 feet or fraction thereof; 100 feet max) – _____ feet x \$30 per 50 feet		\$ _____		
Number of set lines (maximum of ten hooks per line) – _____ set lines				
Check area(s) you intend to commercially fish –		TOTAL COST \$ _____		
		<input type="checkbox"/> a. Lake Oahe/Missouri River <input type="checkbox"/> c. Yellowstone River <input type="checkbox"/> b. Lake Sakakawea/Missouri River <input type="checkbox"/> d. Little Missouri River		
By signing below, I certify that I have read and agree to follow the noncontract commercial fishing regulations listed below.				
Applicant Signature: _____		Date: _____		
Department Use Only:				
TAG NUMBERS ISSUED:				

NONCONTRACT COMMERCIAL FISHING REGULATIONS

General information: All licenses for noncontract commercial fishing are sold only at the North Dakota Game and Fish Department headquarters office at 100 N. Bismarck Expressway, Bismarck, ND 58501-5095. All persons, regardless of age, must have a noncontract commercial fishing license in their possession in order to use noncontract commercial fishing equipment. Noncontract commercial fishing licenses are issued on a calendar year basis and an individual may possess only one valid license per year. The loss of the license will invalidate the license and a new license is then required. A licensed noncontract commercial fisherman may sell their catch at their residence only.

Open Season: May 15 through November 30 of each year.

Legal Equipment: Legal noncontract commercial fishing equipment shall consist of the following:

- Not more than **five hoop nets** with a maximum hoop diameter of four feet;
- Not more than 100 feet of **seine**, with a stretched mesh size of not less than 1-1/2 inches and no larger than 3 inches;
- Not more than **five set lines** with no more than 10 hooks per set line.

All legal equipment used by a noncontract commercial fishing licensee must have at all times permanently attached to it a valid tag provided by the Department. The entire set line, except for the ends used for anchoring, must be below the water level at all times. All set lines must be pulled and checked at least once every 48 hours.

Open Areas: Only the following areas are open to noncontract commercial fishing:

- That portion of the Lake Oahe and the Missouri River from where the electric transmission line crosses Lake Oahe north of Beaver Bay to the Leland Olds Power Station/UPA boat ramp (**with seines and hoop nets only**);
- That portion of Lake Sakakawea and the Missouri River north and west of the Four Bears Bridge to the Montana border (**with seines and hoop nets only**);
- The entire Yellowstone River (**with seines, hoop nets, and set lines**);
- That portion of the Little Missouri River lying west of the ND Highway 22 Bridge (Lost Bridge) (**with set lines only**).

Species Restrictions: The following species of fish shall **not** be taken with noncontract commercial fishing equipment: *legal live baitfish and all game fish with the exception of channel catfish*. All game fish with the exception of channel catfish caught by noncontract commercial fishing equipment must be immediately returned to the water.

License Fees

- *Hoop Nets - \$30 per net
- *Seines - \$30 for each 50 feet or fraction thereof
- *Set Lines - No charge

The NDGFD receives Federal financial assistance from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the US Coast Guard. In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the NDGFD joins the US Department of the Interior and its Bureaus and the US Department of Homeland Security in prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex (in education programs or activities) and also religion. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or you desire further information, please write to: ND Game and Fish Department, Attn: Chief of Administrative Services, 100 N. Bismarck Expressway, Bismarck, ND 58501-5095 or to: Office of Civil Rights, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240. The TTY/TDD (Relay ND) number for the hearing or speech impaired is 1-800-366-6888.