

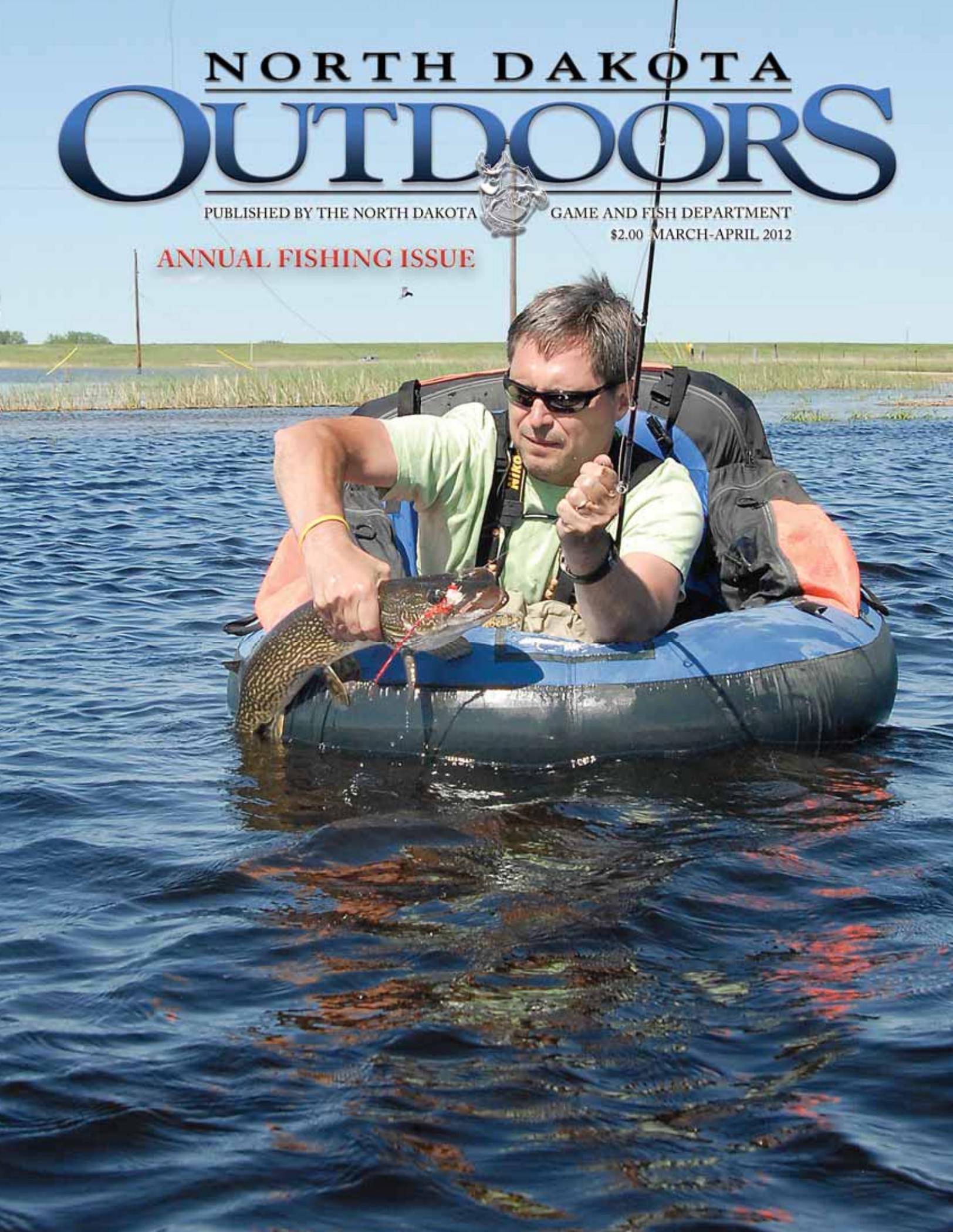
# NORTH DAKOTA OUTDOORS

PUBLISHED BY THE NORTH DAKOTA

GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

\$2.00 MARCH-APRIL 2012

**ANNUAL FISHING ISSUE**





## MATTERS OF OPINION



**Terry Steinwand**  
*Director*

Every year about this time, the Game and Fish Department gets input from anglers who are concerned about harvest of large walleye and northern pike before spawning has taken place.

The general theme is that North Dakota should have a closed season, at least in certain waters, or we should have some type of fish length limit that would prevent anglers from keeping more than one large pike or walleye.

Back in 1993 when I was fisheries division chief, Game and Fish made the decision to have a year-round fishing season statewide. At the time, the Missouri River System was already open to walleye and pike harvest year-round, but the “game fish” season was closed in the rest of the state from mid-March to early May, a regulation that dated back at least into the 1930s.

Before implementing a year-round season, we thoroughly evaluated the pros and cons. Frankly, our biggest concern at the time wasn't whether anglers would over-harvest prespawn fish, but whether eliminating a traditional fishing opener would dampen fishing enthusiasm.

In nearly two decades since then, the year-round season has been mostly well received. Anglers like the extra opportunity, and biologically, any additional harvest of prespawn fish has not shown to be a detriment to any of our fishing waters.

However, every spring, and maybe this spring more than most because we have open water statewide so early, we hear concerns from anglers who witness or see pictures of people keeping some big, heavy, egg-bearing female pike or walleye caught from lakeshores or below dams, or in constricted rivers or channels.

While these fish are potential producers, we all know that there are more out there that are not being caught; and each having tens of thousands of eggs. It's basically a numbers game for fish.

As Game and Fish director, I want the state's anglers, hunters and trappers to question our actions, regulations and policies. Such interest and concern holds us accountable to thoroughly research issues and gather input from various user groups before making decisions that will affect everyone choosing to go out fishing.

Even when that happens, not everyone may agree with the decision, but that comes with the territory.

Plus, periodic questions allow biologists to explain how current regulations are working.

Game and Fish biologists spent a great deal of effort two years ago researching length limits, to determine if any type of special regulation – specifically for walleyes – was warranted on the Missouri River System or elsewhere. Given the Missouri River walleye population and well-documented fishing pressure, we felt then, and feel the same way now, that no fish size restrictions are necessary.

For the most part, a stringer full of big walleyes or pike taken before the spawning run may make the anglers look like game hogs in the eyes of some, but it doesn't hurt the fishery any more than catching and keeping those same fish over Memorial Day weekend.

At times it may be necessary to implement an experimental regulation if it appears there is a need and it can be fairly evaluated. But it needs to be performed in a manner where reliable results can be obtained to ensure that it's the right thing to do for the fishery in the long term.

In the long run, a year-round fishing season provides at least six more weeks of fishing opportunity every year, and gives anglers a chance to pursue trophy fish. This has been especially beneficial for the shore anglers and especially those who target large pike. And in the end, many anglers who catch such fish in spring release them anyway.

Fisheries biologists annually assess adult fish populations and reproduction on major waters, and we monitor fishing success through creel surveys as well. These findings are paramount in determining if and when regulations changes are needed.

We are fortunate to have fishing resources in North Dakota that allow us in most cases to manage for angler opportunity. We are also fortunate to have individuals who aren't afraid to ask for more restrictions when they feel those resources may be threatened.

Whether you choose to keep big fish or release them, it's going to be a great year for fishing, and we devote a good part of this magazine to help anglers discover good fishing waters in every corner of the state.

And again, get out and enjoy what North Dakota has to offer.

*Terry Steinwand*

# NORTH DAKOTA OUTDOORS

PUBLISHED BY THE NORTH DAKOTA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

*The mission of the North Dakota Game and Fish Department is to protect, conserve and enhance fish and wildlife populations and their habitats for sustained public consumptive and nonconsumptive use.*

Editor: Ron Wilson

Graphic Designer: Connie Schiff

Circulation Manager: Dawn Jochim

MARCH-APRIL 2012 • NUMBER 8 • VOLUME LXXIV

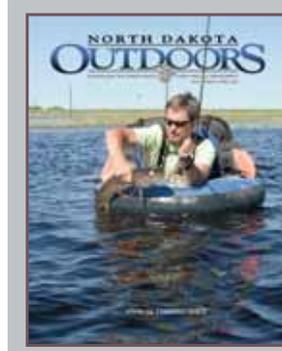
## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### FEATURES

North Dakota's Fishing Report Card .....	2
2012 Fishing Outlook .....	6
Missouri River System Boating Access .....	18
Devils Lake Basin Boating Access.....	21
2011 Fish Stocking Report.....	22
2012 North Dakota Fishing Waters.....	24

### DEPARTMENTS

Buffaloberry Patch.....	34
Back Cast .....	41



### Front Cover

Ron Wilson, editor of *North Dakota OUTDOORS*, with a northern pike from one of North Dakota's many quality pike fisheries.

*Photo by Craig Bibrle, Bismarck*



Official Publication of the North Dakota Game and Fish Department (ISSN 0029-2761)  
100 N. Bismarck Expressway, Bismarck, ND 58501-5095

Website: [gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov) • email: [ndgf@nd.gov](mailto:ndgf@nd.gov)

Information (701) 328-6300 • Administration (701) 328-6305

Hunter Education (701) 328-6615 • Licensing (701) 328-6335

24-Hour Licensing by Phone: (800) 406-6409

The TTY/TTD (Relay ND) number for the hearing or speech impaired is (800) 366-6888

*North Dakota OUTDOORS* is published 10 times a year, monthly except for the months of April and September. Subscription rates are \$10 for one year or \$20 for three years. Group rates of \$7 a year are available to organizations presenting 25 or more subscriptions. Remittance should be by check or money order payable to the North Dakota Game and Fish Department. Indicate if subscription is new or renewal. The numbers on the upper right corner of the mailing label indicate the date of the last issue a subscriber will receive unless the subscription is renewed.

Permission to reprint materials appearing in *North Dakota OUTDOORS* must be obtained from the author, artist or photographer. We encourage contributions; contact the editor for writer and photography guidelines prior to submission.

The NDGFD receives federal financial assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 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 U.S. Department of the Interior and its bureaus in prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex (in education programs or activities) and also religion for the NDGFD. 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: N. D. Game and Fish Department, Attn: Chief Administrative Services, 100 N. Bismarck Expressway, Bismarck, ND 58501-5095 or to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Attn: Civil Rights Coordinator, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP-4020, Arlington, Virginia 22203.

Periodical Postage Paid at  
Bismarck, ND 58501  
and additional entry offices.  
Printed in the United States

**POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:**  
**North Dakota OUTDOORS**  
100 North Bismarck Expressway  
Bismarck, ND 58501-5095

Report All Poachers (RAP) 800-472-2121

In cooperation with North Dakota Wildlife Federation and North Dakota State Radio.

### DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY

Governor Jack Dalrymple

#### ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Game and Fish Director: Terry Steinwand

Deputy Director: Roger Rostvet

Chief, Administrative Services: Kim Molesworth

Business Manager: Corey Wentland

Administrative Assistant: GERALYN M. EVANS

Administrative Officer/Building Maint. Supvr: George Lee

Building Maint. Tech: Dustin Repnow

Chief Accountant: Terry Kreiter

Accountants: Kelly Wike, Melissa Long, Ashley Baker

Information Technology Coordinators: Jerry Gulke, Alan Reile, Sally Sorensen

GIS Specialist: Brian Fosk

Licensing Manager: Randy Meissner

Assistants: Gail Mosset, Katherine Mernitz, Janet Wolf, Amanda Anstrom

Administrative Assistant – Dickinson: Janel Kolar, Stephanie Richardson

Administrative Assistant – Devils Lake: Lisa Toft

Administrative Assistant – Jamestown: Tonya Kukowski

Administrative Assistant – Riverdale: Clare Renner

#### CONSERVATION AND COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

Division Chief: Greg Link, Bismarck

Administrative and Water Safety Coordinator: Nancy Boldt, Bismarck

Communications Supervisor: Craig Bibrle, Bismarck

Editor, *North Dakota OUTDOORS*: Ron Wilson, Bismarck

Website Editor: Pat Headrick, Bismarck

News Editor: Greg Freeman, Bismarck

Video News Director: Tom Jensen, Bismarck

Videographer: Mike Anderson, Bismarck

Information Specialist: Dawn Jochim, Bismarck

Graphic Artist: Connie Schiff, Bismarck

Outreach Supervisor: Chris D. Grondahl, Bismarck

Outreach Biologists: Doug Leier, West Fargo; Greg Gullickson, Minot; Marty

Egeland, Grand Forks; Pat Lothspeich, Bismarck

Education Coordinator: Jeff Long, Bismarck

Hunter Education Coordinator: Jon Hanson, Bismarck

Conservation Supervisor: Steve Dyke, Bismarck

Resource Biologists: Alexis Duxbury, John Schumacher, Bruce Kreft, Bismarck

Conservation Biologists: Sandra Johnson, Patrick Isakson, Bismarck

#### ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Division Chief: Robert Timian, Bismarck

Investigations Supvr: Bruce Burkett, Bismarck

Investigator: Scott Winkelman, Bismarck

Region No. 1 Warden Supvr: Corey Erck, Jamestown

District Wardens: Jackie Lundstrom, Bismarck; Amy Jo Brown, Bismarck; James

Myhre, Dawson; Mark Pollert, Jamestown; Michael Sedlacek, Fargo; Tim Phalen,

Wyndmere; Andrew Dahlgren, Edgeley; Erik Schmidt, Linton

Region No. 2 Warden Supvr: Paul Freeman, Devils Lake

District Wardens: Jonathan Tofteland, Bottineau; Randy Knain, Rugby; Kurt Auf-

forth, Cando; Greg Hastings, Cavalier; Gary Rankin, Larimore; Josh Frey, Devils

Lake; Gene Masse, New Rockford

Region No. 3 Warden Supvr: Doug Olson, Riverdale

District Wardens: Jim Burud, Kenmare; Al Howard, Minot; Tim Larson, Turtle

Lake; Ken Skuza, Riverdale; Michael Raasakka, Stanley; Brent Schwan, Watford City

Region No. 4 Warden Supvr: Dan Hoenke, Dickinson

District Wardens: Ryan Tunge, Hazen; Bill Schaller, Killdeer; Jerad Bluem, Belfield;

Art Cox, Bowman; Courtney Sprenger, Elgin; Jeff Violet, Mandan

Administrative Assistant: Lori Kensington, Bismarck

#### WILDLIFE DIVISION

Division Chief: Randy Kreil, Bismarck

Assistant Division Chief: Jeb Williams, Bismarck

Game Mgt. Section Leader: Michael A. Johnson, Bismarck

Procurement Officer: Ray Parsons, Bismarck

Pilot: Jeff Faught, Bismarck

Upland Game Mgt. Supvr: Stan Kohn, Bismarck

Upland Game Mgt. Biologist: Aaron Robinson, Dickinson

Migratory Game Bird Biologist: Mike Szymanski, Bismarck

Big Game Mgt. Supvr: Bruce Stillings, Dickinson

Big Game Mgt. Biologists: Bill Jensen, Bismarck; Brett Wiedmann, Dickinson,

Jason Smith, Jamestown

Wildlife Veterinarian: Dr. Daniel Grove, Bismarck

Furbearer Biologist: Stephanie Tucker, Bismarck

Game Management Technician: Rodney Gross, Devils Lake

Wildlife Resource Management Section Leader: Scott Peterson, Lonetree

Wildlife Resource Mgt. Supvrs: Bill Haase, Bismarck; Brian Prince, Devils Lake; Kent

Luttschwager, Williston; Brian Kietzmann, Jamestown; Dan Halstead, Riverdale

Wildlife Resource Mgt. Biologists: Arvid Anderson, Riverdale; Randy Littlefield,

Lonetree; Rodd Compson, Jamestown; Judd Jasmer, Dickinson

Wildlife Techs: Tom Crutchfield, Jim Houston, Bismarck; Dan Morman, Robert

Miller, Riverdale; Ernest Dawson, Jamestown; Morgan Johnson, Seth Gaugler,

Lonetree; Alan Roller, Williston; Scott Olson, Devils Lake

Private Land Section Leader: Kevin Kading, Bismarck

Asst. Private Land Coordinator: Doug Howie, Bismarck

Private Land Field Operation Coordinator: Casey Anderson, Bismarck

Private Land Biologists: Jon Roaldson, Colin Penner, Terry Oswald, Jr., Levi Jacobson,

Bismarck; Ty Dressler, Dickinson; Ryan Huber, Riverdale; Nathan Harling, Devils

Lake; Renae Heinle, Jamestown, Todd Buckley, Williston

Administrative Assistant: Dale Repnow, Bismarck

Lonetree Administrative Assistant: Diana Raugust, Harvey

#### FISHERIES DIVISION

Division Chief: Greg Power, Bismarck

Fisheries Mgt. Section Leader: Scott Gangl, Bismarck

Northwest District Supvr: Fred Ryckman, Williston

Southwest District Supvr: Jeff Hendrickson, Dickinson

North Central District Supvr: Jason Lee, Riverdale

South Central District Supvr: Paul Bailey, Bismarck

Northeast District Supvr: Randy Hiltner, Devils Lake

Southeast District Supvr: Gene Van Eeckhout, Jamestown

District Fisheries Biologist: Brandon Kratz, Jamestown

Missouri River System Supvr: David Fryda, Riverdale

Missouri River System Biologist: Russ Kinzler, Riverdale

Fisheries Techs: Shane Shefstad, Williston; Phil Miller, Devils Lake; Pat John,

Jamestown; Justen Barstad, Bismarck; Brian Frohlich, Riverdale; Jeff Merchant,

Dickinson

Production/Development Section Supvr: Jerry Weigel, Bismarck

Aquatic Habitat Supvr: Scott Elstad, Bismarck

Fisheries Development Supvr: Bob Frohlich, Bismarck

Fisheries Dev. Proj. Mgr.: Wesley Erdle, Bismarck

Fisheries Development Technician: Vacant

ANS Coordinator: Lynn Schlueter, Devils Lake

Administrative Assistant: Janice Vetter, Bismarck

#### ADVISORY BOARD

District 1 ..... Jason Leiseth, Arnegard

District 2 ..... Robert Gjellstad, Voltaire

District 3 ..... Tracy Gardner, Devils Lake

District 4 ..... Ronald Houdek, Tolna

District 5 ..... Loran Palmer, West Fargo

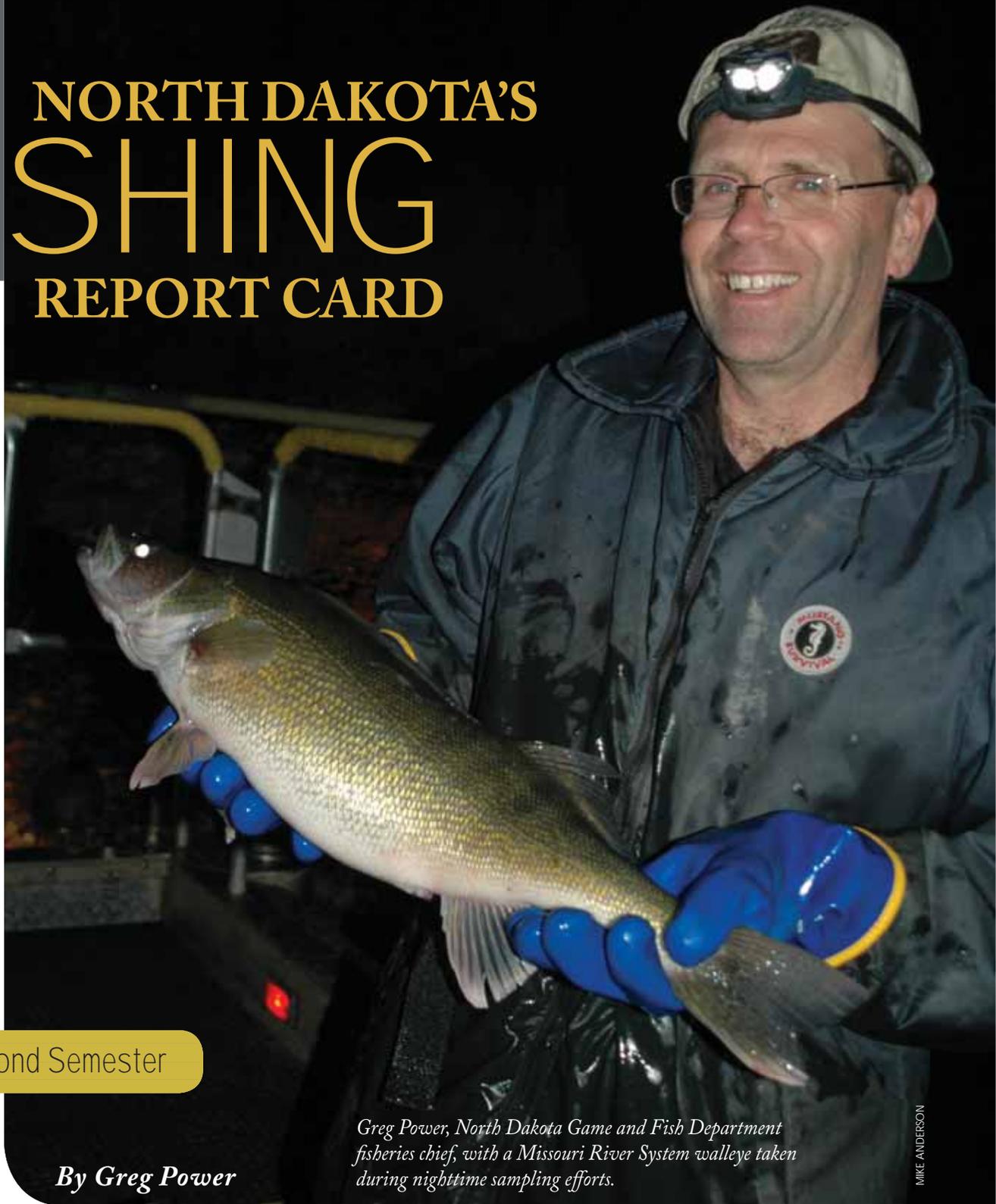
District 6 ..... Joel Christoferson, Litchville

District 7 ..... Frank Karch, Bismarck

District 8 ..... Wayne Gerbig, Amidon

# FISHING REPORT CARD

## NORTH DAKOTA'S



Second Semester

*By Greg Power*

*Greg Power, North Dakota Game and Fish Department fisheries chief, with a Missouri River System walleye taken during nighttime sampling efforts.*

MIKE ANDERSON

**I**n 2009 I played schoolmaster and graded North Dakota's fishing waters. Since then, they have seemingly gone through adolescence and changed significantly.

Because Mother Nature has transformed so much of the state's landscape into a waterscape, it's a good time to update the old report card.

## Habitat (Water Quantity and Quality) 2011: Grade A- 2008: Grade B-

Simply put, fish need water and the cleaner the water, the healthier their environment.

In three years North Dakota has gone from 285 to more than 360 managed fishing water bodies. Snow melt and summer rains from 2009-2011 filled every water body in the state, many to historic highs.

It is rare that every lake and reservoir in all corners of the state is full, but that was the case in 2011. Devils Lake again hit a record high; lakes Darling, Sakakawea and Oahe, and the Missouri River experienced a 500-year flood; and runoff entering Jamestown/Pipestem reservoirs could have filled each reservoir 15 times. As a consequence of all this water, anglers in North Dakota will benefit for a number of years to come.

Although water quantity would have graded out as an A plus, the same is not true for water quality. At best, water quality was perhaps average the past three years, with no notable improvement.

During the bad winters of 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11, North Dakota lost more than 60 lakes to winterkill. While heavy snowpack was the primary contributor, in the big picture poor water quality is often an underlying cause.

*Future challenges* – After historic floods in 2011, a dry fall and open winter have already turned attention to the other word North Dakotans know all too well – drought. However, no matter how dry 2012 is, our waters should remain in good shape for the short term.

Concerning water quality, high commodity prices have done wonders for the breadbasket's pocket-book, but because of this North Dakota's landscape is becoming increasingly black in the fall, which translates into more sediment in our lakes. Some of the best management practices of the past 20 years are compromised as acres enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, which improved water quality, are converted back to cropland.

Finding long-term solutions to landscape changes is a major challenge facing resource professionals. The Game and Fish Department has its Save Our Lakes program to address specific lake problems where possible, but it will take more, much more.

## Access and Opportunity 2011: Grade A 2008: Grade A-

With so much water and so many lakes, fishing opportunity is better than ever. And again, even if the state enters a drought, enough water bodies will hold their own for the next few years to meet fishing demand.

While access to most lakes is suitable, flooding the past few years has challenged Game and Fish to keep up with infrastructure needs. During spring and summer 2011, many farm-to-market roads were inundated, making travel to some lakes difficult, with ramps and fishing piers underwater at numerous locations.

Boat access to Devils Lake was particularly troubling in recent years due to ever-increasing water levels. Fortunately, the Department's development staff upgraded or replaced numerous ramps and parking



*Flooding along the Missouri River in 2011 made boating access impossible for a time, as pictured here at Hazelton boat ramp south of Bismarck. Work continues along the Missouri and elsewhere in North Dakota to provide access to anglers.*

MIKE ANDERSON



GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT PHOTO

*Spawning northern pike (above) is one of the many duties Game and Fish Department fisheries personnel tackle each spring. Walleye, like these take from Devils Lake (below), are the top target of anglers in North Dakota.*



GREG GULLICKSON

lots and this year Devils Lake should have good access at all ramps starting right at ice out.

Generally, the Department continues to meet its overarching goal of improving access and fishing opportunity throughout North Dakota. Development of community lakes is part of this effort. In the past few years, two communities have new fishing ponds and renovations were made to older ponds at another 10 or more locations.

*Future challenges* – Catching up and addressing infrastructure damage from 2011 flooding is a short-term challenge. With all the boat ramp work on Devils Lake and the Missouri River System in recent years, the Department needs a normal year to address needs at smaller water bodies.

Also, quality habitat can be affected by aquatic nuisance species. Though present in some of the state's water bodies, fortunately to date no negative impacts have yet been documented

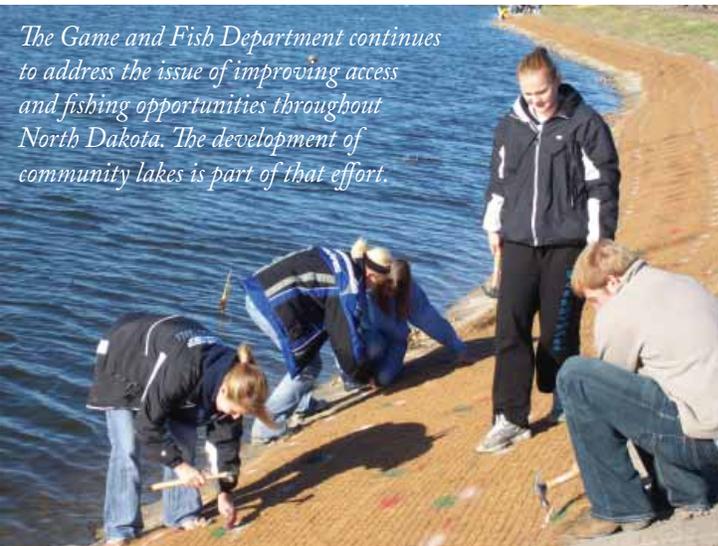
## **Fish Abundance and Health** **2011: Grade A 2008: Grade B+**

Paralleling the record number of lakes and acres of water, fish populations are at record levels and general fish health remains good. Especially robust are northern pike, yellow perch and even walleye populations in many of our smaller lakes.

Since most of these populations are young (strong year-classes the past three or so years), the fishing outlook for the next 2-4 years (at a minimum) is outstanding. In addition, trout, channel catfish, largemouth, smallmouth and white bass populations are respectable in select waters.

Devils Lake's recreational fishery remains in great shape. Pike, walleye and perch are thriving and should continue to do so for years to come. The Missouri River /Lake Oahe fishery has a record number of predators, mainly walleye and pike, and the future is bright on these waters, too.

Lake Sakakawea's fishery made significant improvements coming out of the last drought. Smelt numbers rebounded considerably and both the abundance and health of the reservoir's walleye, pike



*The Game and Fish Department continues to address the issue of improving access and fishing opportunities throughout North Dakota. The development of community lakes is part of that effort.*

SCOTT ELSTAD

and salmon improved.

*Future challenges* – In the short term, only the condition of the Missouri River System's predator species may present a challenge. With so many predators in Lake Oahe, maintaining the proper predator-prey balance is something biologists are monitoring. Similarly, due to record releases out of Garrison Dam last summer, fish loss, especially smelt, from Lake Sakakawea is unknown. Balancing predator abundance with the prey base remains critical.

## Management

**2011: Grade A 2008: Grade A-**

Fisheries biologists in North Dakota understand that Mother Nature sets the table every year. Given the size of the table, it is our job to determine what is best served. Thankfully, the table is larger than ever and fisheries managers are providing a fine buffet of quality fishing.

One of the many duties of a fisheries manager is to survey water bodies for adult fish populations and reproduction success. With the growing number of lakes in each district, not all lakes are sampled annually. However, fisheries crews are able to get to the newer lakes and stock them with needed fish species.

In time, if water levels maintain and a fishery begins to develop, these waters will receive additional attention and may become more "traditional" lakes that are regularly scheduled for sampling. Department staff do an outstanding job and *no* lakes, new or old, are overlooked. Aggressive management should translate into good fishing opportunities in years to come.

Due to a unique partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service hatchery system, Game and Fish is able to meet stocking goals, by species, for the vast majority of lakes. Further, with all the new water in recent years, fisheries staff prioritized an effort to trap adult yellow perch from a handful of lakes with strong populations and stock them into new lakes. These stocked fish then reproduce and often immediately establish a strong year-class.

*Future challenges* – Just in the past five years, fisheries staff has worked around a drought and, more recently, has adapted management approaches due to flooding conditions never before documented in North Dakota. Weather extremes will forever present a challenge.

Other issues include aquatic nuisance species, which will require diligence by both the Department and citizens. Obtaining landowner access easements for all new lakes will require additional time, and assessing biological changes to the Missouri River System fishery due to the 2011 flood is a priority in 2012.

In addition, we are monitoring any potential



*Jerry Weigel, Department production and development section supervisor, stocks trout at Wilton City Pond.*

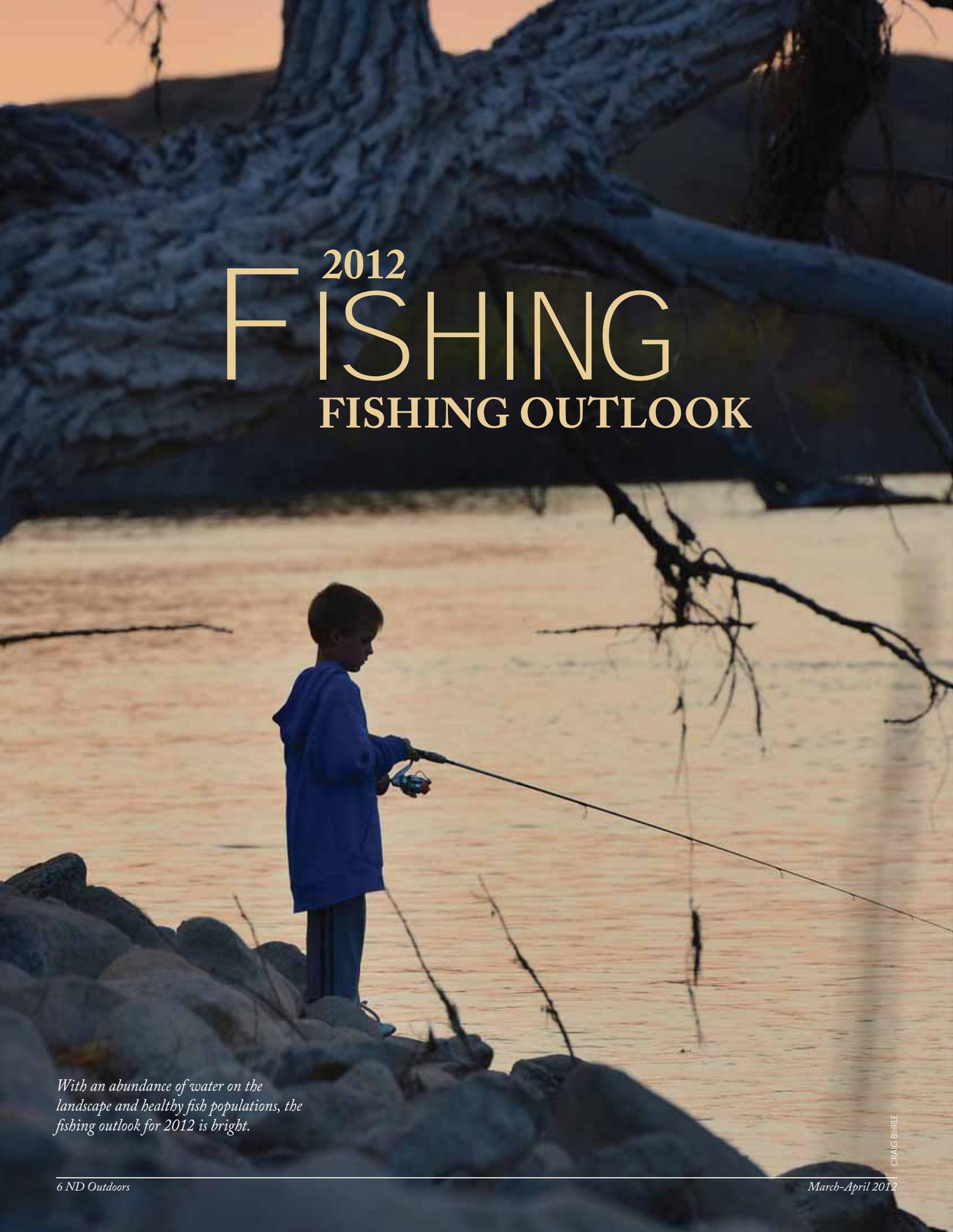
influence from the growing number of new anglers in northwestern North Dakota and at Devils Lake as well.

## Overall 2011: Grade A

A 4.0 grade point average announces superior performance. While students strive for this mark, teachers rarely yield such high scores. As a fictitious teacher, I ask: If not now, when will North Dakota anglers experience so many quality fishing opportunities? The answer remains that North Dakota is amidst a fishing bonanza and deserves an A.

Perfect attendance is required, so all anglers are urged to get out, wet a line and participate.

*GREG POWER is the Game and Fish Department's fisheries chief.*

A young boy in a blue hoodie is fishing on a rocky shore at sunset. The water is calm, and the sky is a warm orange. A large, gnarled tree trunk lies on the shore behind him. The text '2012 FISHING FISHING OUTLOOK' is overlaid in a serif font.

2012  
FISHING  
FISHING OUTLOOK

*With an abundance of water on the landscape and healthy fish populations, the fishing outlook for 2012 is bright.*

North Dakota has more fishable waters today than ever. If you're counting, the State Game and Fish Department is managing 365 waters today, or 140 more than a decade ago.

"We've never had so much water and lakes supporting fish," said Greg Power, Department fisheries chief. "And it's not just pike and perch. Many of these new lakes should be providing good walleye fishing in the next few years."

For Game and Fish Department district fisheries supervisors, reports about the waters they manage are good. "There are currently more viable walleye fisheries in the south central fisheries district than ever, thanks to higher water levels, good natural reproduction and successful stockings," said Paul Bailey, Department south central district fisheries supervisor.

Above-average precipitation the past three years has led to high water in many of the state's fishing districts. "This new water typically results in an increase in the primary productivity (bug production) in many of the lakes, providing an abundance of forage for game fish," said Jason Lee, Department north central district fisheries supervisor. "Some lakes that had a maximum water depth of 8 feet now have over 20 feet of water and provide good environments for fish to thrive. New fish introductions into these newly filled water bodies, along with good natural reproduction in some lakes, has led to an abundance of lakes with excellent numbers of young walleye, perch and northern pike."

In northeastern North Dakota, the story is much the same. "Water levels continue to be good to excellent for many lakes and reservoirs," said Randy Hiltner, Department northeast district fisheries supervisor. "Fish populations are thriving in some lakes that used to be very marginal for fish survival. Devils Lake and Stump Lake, the two premier fisheries in the district, have seen water levels rise about 5 feet the past several years."

The following reports, provided by Game and Fish district fisheries supervisors, highlight fishing opportunities around the state for 2012. To learn more about these waters see the 2012 North Dakota Fishing Waters guide, also appearing in this issue. Readers are also encouraged to review the 2012-14 North Dakota Fishing Guide for details on daily and possession limits and other fishing regulations.

## SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

*Jeff Hendrickson, district fisheries supervisor, Dickinson*

### NORTHERN PIKE

**Blickensderfer Dam** (Hettinger County) – Some pike in the 5-pound range.

**Bowman-Haley Dam** (Bowman County) – A fair spring fishery for smaller pike.

**Cannonball, Heart and Grand rivers and Cedar Creek** – Good spring fisheries for pike, especially downstream of lowhead dams.

**Danzig Dam** (Morton County) – Good numbers of 1- to 2-pound fish.

**Heart Butte Reservoir (Lake Tschida)** (Grant County) – Good numbers of smaller pike, with some fish more than 10 pounds.

**Raleigh Reservoir** (Grant County) – Very good numbers of smaller pike, with some more than 10 pounds.

**Spring Lake** (Bowman County) – Some small pike.

**Kalina Dam** (Bowman County) – Good numbers of pike up to 10 pounds.

**Larson Lake** (Hettinger County) – Good numbers of small pike.

**Gascoyne Lake** (Bowman County) – Good numbers of pike up to 2 pounds.

### WALLEYE

**Indian Creek Dam** (Hettinger County) – Good numbers of walleye, some close to 10 pounds.

**Heart Butte Reservoir (Lake Tschida)** (Grant County) – Good numbers of walleye up to 10 pounds.

**Bowman-Haley Dam** (Bowman County) – Fair numbers of walleye, with some up to 10 pounds.

**Sheep Creek Dam** (Hettinger County) – Some small walleye up to 1 pound.

**Dickinson Reservoir (Patterson Lake)** (Stark County) – Good numbers of small walleye less than 1 pound.

**North Lemmon Lake** (Adams County) – Some very large walleye and young ones coming up.

### CATFISH

**Heart Butte Reservoir (Lake Tschida)** (Grant County) – A fairly good fishery, with many whopper catfish. This fishery extends up the Heart River to Patterson Lake.

**Little Missouri River** – Good fishing found in the river upstream to Medora. Success continues even farther upstream when flows are high.



*Anglers must drain water in their livewells and baitwells prior to leaving a water body. One suggestion is to transport fish in or on ice after leaving the water body.*

## PANFISH (Yellow Perch, Crappie, Bluegill)

**Bowman-Haley Reservoir** (Bowman County) – A limited fishery for large bluegill and yellow perch.

**Camels Hump Dam** (Golden Valley County) – A limited fishery for larger bluegill.

**Davis Dam** (Slope County) – Good numbers of bluegill up to a half-pound.

**Heart Butte Reservoir (Lake Tschida)** (Grant County) – Improved fishery for quality-sized perch, crappie and white bass.

**Indian Creek** (Hettinger County) – Fair numbers of larger bluegill. Good numbers of small perch.

**Odland Dam** (Golden Valley County) – Winterkilled in 2011. Some stocked perch and bluegill present.

**Raleigh Reservoir** (Grant County) – Good numbers of bluegill up to a half-pound.

**Sheep Creek Dam** (Grant County) – Excellent bluegill and crappie populations, with fish up to a half-pound.

**Mott Watershed Dam** (Hettinger County) – Good numbers of bluegill up to a half-pound.

## WHITE BASS

**Heart Butte Reservoir (Lake Tschida)** (Grant County) – Good numbers of white bass up to 2 pounds.



*A Missouri River walleye caught by fisheries biologists during nighttime sampling efforts.*

## BASS (Largemouth, Smallmouth)

**Bowman-Haley Dam** (Bowman County) – Good numbers of smallmouth bass.

**Davis Dam** (Slope County) – A fair largemouth population, with a few fish up to 4 pounds. Catch-and-release is encouraged.

**Camels Hump Dam** (Golden Valley County) – Some largemouth up to 2 pounds.

**Heart Butte Reservoir (Lake Tschida)** (Grant County) – Although smallmouth bass are not common, they are usually large. The tailrace below the dam occasionally attracts good numbers of bass.

**Indian Creek Dam** (Hettinger County) –

Some smallmouth bass up to 2 pounds.

**Mott Watershed Dam** (Hettinger County) – Good numbers of largemouth bass up to 1 pound.

**Raleigh Reservoir** (Grant County) – Boasts a good largemouth bass population that averages 2 pounds.

**Sheep Creek Dam** (Grant County) – A fair number of largemouth bass up to 4 pounds.

## TROUT

**Belfield Dam** (Billings County) – Good numbers of smaller rainbow trout.

**Camels Hump Dam** (Golden Valley County) – Good numbers of smaller rainbow trout, with some exceeding 1 pound. Some brown trout also present.

**Davis Dam** (Slope County) – Good numbers of smaller rainbow trout, with some exceeding 1 pound.

**Dickinson Dike** (Slope County) – Good numbers of smaller rainbow trout.

**Lutz Dam** (Bowman County) – Good numbers of smaller rainbow trout.

**Mott Watershed Dam** (Hettinger County) – Good numbers of rainbow trout up to 2 pounds.

**North Lemmon Lake** (Adams County) – Good numbers of smaller rainbow trout, with some exceeding 1 pound. Some brown trout also present.

**Raleigh Reservoir** (Grant County) – Good numbers of smaller rainbow trout.

**Sheep Creek Dam** (Grant County) – Good numbers of smaller rainbow trout, with some exceeding 1 pound.



*After a summer of high water in 2011, the Missouri River is back in its banks and anglers have returned.*

## MISSOURI RIVER SYSTEM

Dave Fryda, Missouri River System supervisor, Riverdale

The historic winter of 2008-09 set the stage for one of the more dramatic recoveries of Missouri River System fisheries since Garrison Dam closed more than a half-century ago.

Three consecutive harsh winters, and an extremely wet spring in 2011, culminated in record runoff in the Missouri River basin. Reservoirs filled to capacity and releases from Garrison Dam were more than twice the previous record for much of the summer. Flooding caused considerable damage to access sites throughout the Garrison Reach and access was largely nonexistent during most of the summer. However, once access was restored, fishing was excellent in late summer and fall.

While countless fish, especially salmon and rainbow smelt, were lost through Garrison Dam during times of exceptionally high water, many fish populations and river fish habitat benefited from high water levels, and anglers will once again have ample opportunities to pursue a variety of species in 2012.

### NORTHERN PIKE

#### Lake Sakakawea/Lake Oahe

Sakakawea and Oahe's pike populations expanded in the 1990s as a result of excellent spawning success, and then declined throughout the drought. This classic boom/bust cycle has again come full circle as the number of young pike produced in 2009 was the highest in more than 30 years. In fact, pike abundance today is higher than ever in both reservoirs.

However, the population is dominated by young fish and anglers looking for trophy pike will need to be patient for a

few more years as fish mature. In 2012, anglers will find large numbers of pike in the 3- to 7-pound range, with a few large fish in the mix.

### WALLEYE

#### Lake Sakakawea

Lake Sakakawea should provide good opportunities for walleye anglers in 2012. Improved forage conditions and a more balanced predator/prey ratio have allowed Sakakawea walleye to improve dramatically in body condition and growth rates. Anglers are again seeing fish reminiscent of the "footballs" seen prior to the last drought.

In recent years, poor forage led to slow growth and the population was dominated by small fish. Fortunately, conditions improved greatly and those

small fish are now growing to sizes desired by anglers. For the immediate future, trophy-sized walleye will be rare, but the population contains many fish in the 18- to 22-inch range. Additionally, anglers will begin seeing good numbers of small walleye

from two strong recent year-classes. Growth rates have improved so dramatically that the abundant 2010 year-class will reach harvestable-size this season.

#### Missouri River/Lake Oahe

The fishery downstream of Garrison Dam to the South Dakota border has been exceptional the last several years and should remain good in 2012. Walleye abundance remains high, but growth has begun to slow recently, indicating possible forage declines. If this trend continues, anglers can expect high catch rates as forage becomes more limited. This walleye population still contains good numbers of larger fish, but anglers are beginning to catch lots of smaller fish from strong 2008-09 year-classes.

### CATFISH

Fishing opportunities remain abundant throughout the Missouri River System and are largely underutilized.

#### Upper Lake Sakakawea, Missouri River (above the reservoir) and Yellowstone River

A strong catfish population, with some fish exceeding 10 pounds. This is where anglers will find the best chance to catch a big cat in the Missouri River System. Anglers who target the area from Williston to the Missouri River and Yellowstone River confluence are generally quite successful during the open water season, and fair numbers of catfish are caught through the ice.

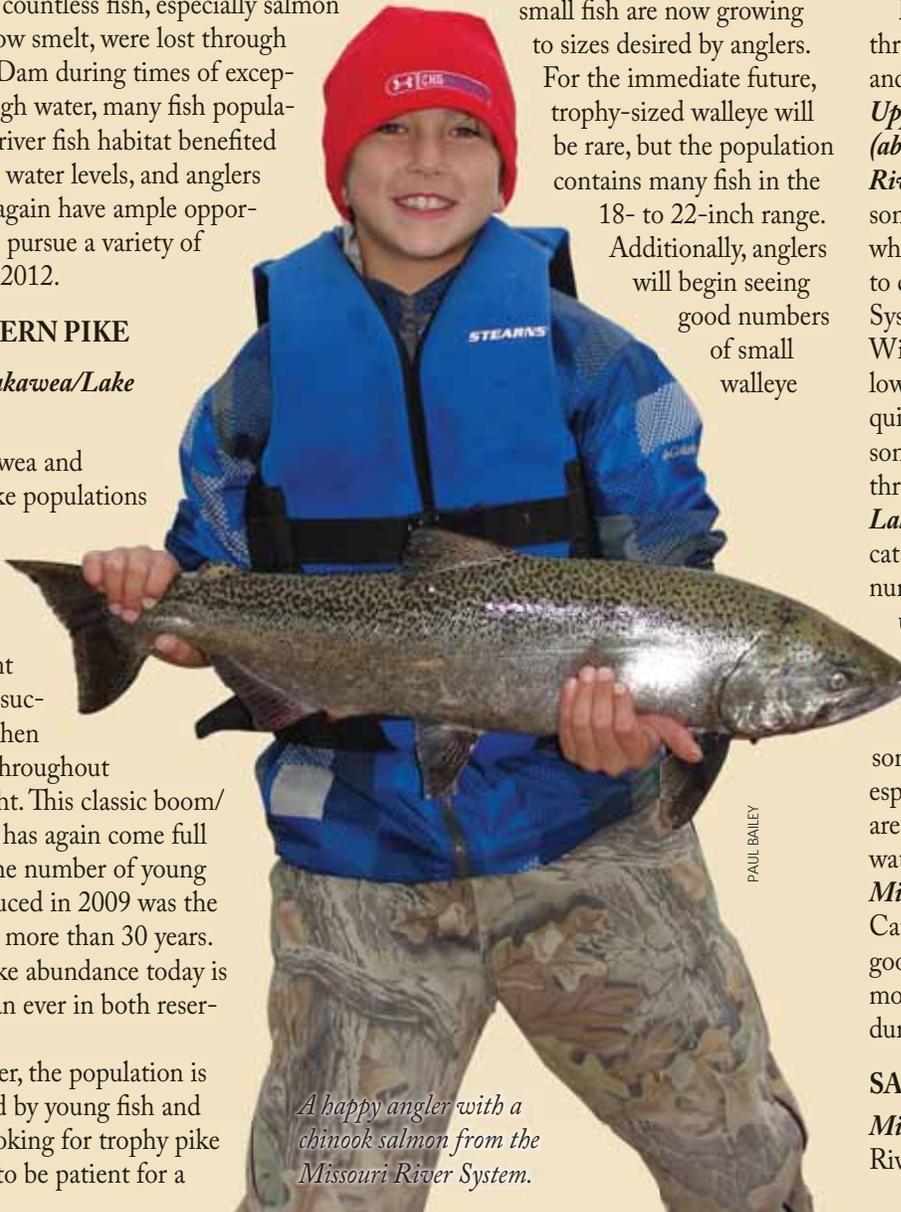
**Lake Sakakawea** – Good population of cats throughout the reservoir, but the best numbers and fishing success are in the upper end. Catfish abundance in Lake Sakakawea generally increased during the drought and remains high.

**Garrison Dam Tailrace** – Provides some good fishing for smaller catfish, especially in summer. Cats from this area are great table fare thanks to relatively cold water throughout summer.

**Missouri River, south of Garrison Dam** – Catfish are abundant in this reach and good fishing often occurs around the mouths of tributaries and well upstream during good flow conditions.

### SALMON

**Missouri River System** – The Missouri River salmon fishery was the most affected



A happy angler with a chinook salmon from the Missouri River System.

by high water in 2011. Anglers using traditional methods in traditional areas on Lake Sakakawea in 2011 generally had a slow summer. Conversely, salmon fishing was likely never better than what many anglers experienced in the Missouri River below Garrison Dam.

Throughout late summer and fall, large numbers of salmon – many of which came through Garrison Dam during record flows – were caught by anglers using just about any technique. Coded wire tagging studies showed that virtually all salmon recovered from the Missouri River in 2011 started as stocked smolts in Sakakawea.

Entrainment rates – fish passing through the dam – of coldwater species were so high that Sakakawea-stocked salmon comprised more than half of all salmon caught in the South Dakota portion of Lake Oahe in 2011. It is likely the Garrison Reach will again have high numbers of salmon in 2012, but the number of fish left in Sakakawea is unknown.

## WHITE BASS

**Missouri River System** – Lake Oahe typically has a much better white bass fishery than Lake Sakakawea. However, white bass experienced a severe die-off in Oahe a few years ago and have not fully recovered. White bass natural reproduction was exceptional in 2009, but a large die-off of young bass was also reported. The fallout of the die-off will not be known for a couple of years.

## SMALLMOUTH BASS

**Lake Sakakawea** – Similar to northern pike, smallmouth bass abundance declined due to low water and poor spawning habitat. However, reproduction was exceptional beginning in 2008 and anglers should find good smallmouth numbers over the next few years, with the occasional trophy fish mixed in.

## TROUT

Garrison Dam Tailrace continues to produce trophy brown, rainbow and cutthroat trout. Rainbow trout stocking only recently resumed, but these fish have done exceptionally well, with fish from the 2007 stocking reaching 7 pounds by 2009.

In 2011, anglers caught many rainbow trout exceeding 10 pounds, and given the abundant forage, trophy rainbow trout should remain numerous and continue to increase in size.

The Tailrace brown trout fishery has slowed in recent years, but still contains world-class-sized fish – a 20-pound fish is always a possibility. Cutthroat trout have not done quite so well in recent years. Following their initial boom in the early 2000s, the population has declined in numbers and quality despite continued stocking.

## NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

*Jason Lee, district fisheries supervisor,  
Riverdale*

## NORTHERN PIKE

**Lake Audubon** (McLean County) – Pike numbers have climbed in the past six years, with some large fish available.

**Brush Lake** (McLean County) – Good pike population, with some larger fish.

**Buffalo Lodge Lake** (McHenry County) – Lots of pike. A rise in lake levels has produced an excellent environment for pike.

**North Carlson Lake** (Ward County) – Good numbers of smaller pike, making it a good place to take a kid fishing.

**South Carlson Lake** (Ward County) – Good fishing in recent years for mostly smaller pike.

**Coal Mine Lake** (Sheridan County) – Lots of small pike. Winterkilled in 2008-09.

**Cottonwood Lake** (McHenry County) – Good numbers of young pike.

**Crooked Lake** (McLean County) – Good numbers of smaller pike.

**George Lake** (McHenry County) – Decent numbers of pike, with some large fish available.

**Long Lake** (Bottineau County) – Decent pike population, with a wide range of sizes.

**Long Lake** (McLean County) – Pike population bouncing back nicely after winterkill.

**Lake Metigoshe** (Bottineau County) – Good northern pike fishing, with some large fish.

**Rice Lake** (Ward County) – Pike numbers down after winterkill in 2010-11.

**Round Lake** (McHenry County) – Pike numbers have increased greatly in the last year, with some nice-sized fish.

**Strawberry Lake** (McLean County) – Fair pike population.

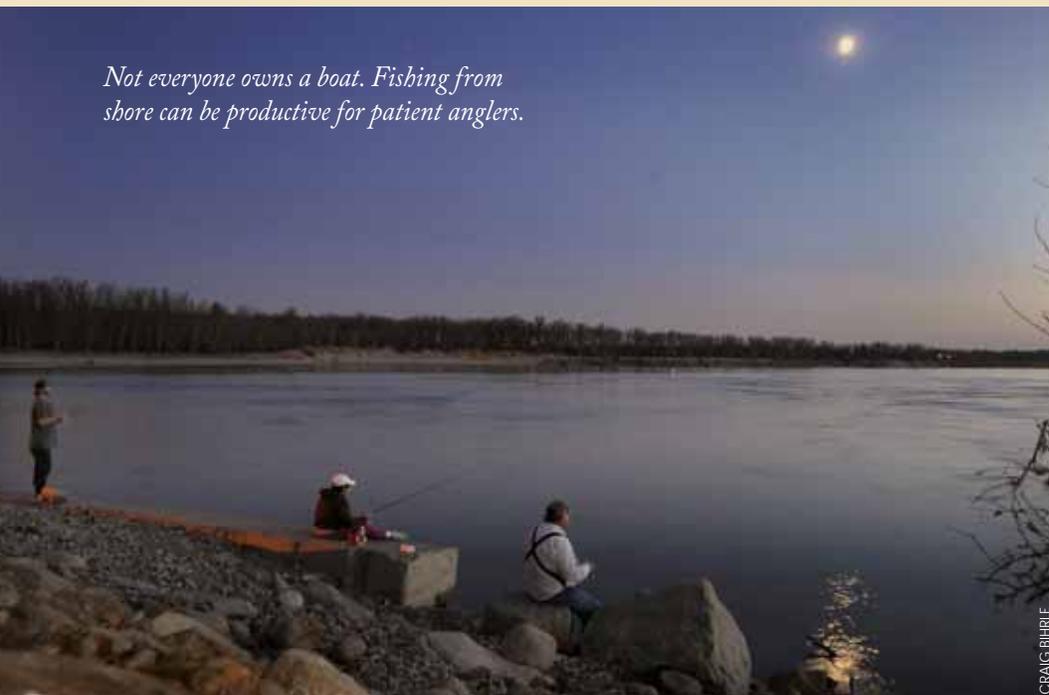
## WALLEYE

**Antelope Lake** (Pierce County) – Good numbers of walleye. Many 11- to 14-inch fish, with some larger fish available.

**Lake Audubon** (McLean County) – Good numbers of quality-sized fish. As a result of recent strong year-classes, anglers should see good numbers of 14- to 24-inch fish the next couple of seasons.

**Lake Brekken** (McLean County) – Adjacent to, but not part of the McClusky

*Not everyone owns a boat. Fishing from shore can be productive for patient anglers.*



CRAIG BIRLIE



GREG GULLICKSON

Walleye fishing in spring at Devils Lake.

Canal chain of lakes. Good numbers of quality-sized walleye.

**Brush Lake** (McLean County) – Fair numbers of walleye.

**Buffalo Lodge** (McHenry County) – Walleye population reduced with increase in pike numbers.

**Clear Lake** (Pierce County) – Newly stocked lake with good numbers of 12- to 16-inch fish.

**Crooked Lake** (McLean County) – Fair numbers of young walleye. Lake winter-killed in 2008-09, greatly reducing fish numbers.

**Garrison Diversion Lakes (New Johns, Heckers, East Park and West Park)** – Decent walleye abundance in recent years, and some large fish available. A strong 2008 year-class should result in improved fishing the next several years.

**Hiddenwood Lake** (Ward County) – Good numbers of small walleye.

**South Hoffer** (Sheridan County) – Fair numbers of walleye, with some nice fish.

**Holmes Lake** (McLean County) – Connected to Lake Brekken by a large culvert.

Recent netting surveys show decent numbers of small- to medium-sized fish.

**Lake Metigoshe** (Bottineau County) – Good numbers of walleye, with a wide range of sizes.

**Round Lake** (McHenry County) – A newly stocked walleye lake with good numbers of 13- to 16-inch fish.

**PANFISH (Yellow Perch, Crappie, Bluegill)**

**Antelope Lake** (Pierce County) – Abundant nice-sized perch.

**Arroda Lakes** (Oliver County) – Good crappie numbers, with some quality fish. Earthen fishing piers recently constructed to improve shore-fishing access.

**Lake Audubon** (McLean County) – Periodically provides decent winter fishing for nice-sized perch, with many small perch in the lake.

**Lake Brekken** (McLean County) – Decent numbers of perch, some larger fish.

**Brush Lake** (McLean County) – Good numbers of 6- to 10-inch perch.

**Buffalo Lodge** (McHenry County) – Lots of small perch.

**Crooked Lake** (McLean County) – High density of small perch, with some bigger fish.

**Custer Mine Pond** (McLean County) – Good numbers of small bluegill.

**Garrison Diversion Lakes (New Johns, Heckers, East Park and West Park)** – Lots of small- to medium-sized yellow perch. Bluegill numbers have increased throughout the McClusky Canal chain, but most

are small. Nice-sized crappies are occasionally caught.

**Harmony Lake** (Mercer County) – Good numbers of bluegill, with some nice fish available.

**Loon Lake** (Bottineau County) – Very high perch numbers, with some larger fish.

**Long Lake** (Bottineau County) – Lots of small perch.

**Lake Metigoshe** (Bottineau County) – Holds several sizes of bluegill, including some large fish, along with some nice crappie.

**Nelson Lake** (Oliver County) – Abundant quality-sized bluegill and crappie.

**Round Lake** (McHenry County) – Good numbers of smaller perch.

**Strawberry Lake** (McLean County) – Lots of small perch and bluegill.

**BASS (Largemouth, Smallmouth)**

Catch-and-release strongly encouraged for bass.

**Lake Audubon** (McLean County) – An excellent smallmouth bass population, with some large fish.

**Garrison Diversion Lakes (New Johns, Heckers, East Park and West Park)** – Excellent smallmouth bass fishery, with abundant fish up to 18 inches. Largemouth bass in lower numbers.

**Nelson Lake** (Oliver County) – The best largemouth bass lake in the state. Open water year-round allows fish to grow better than in other lakes. The state record fish – 8 pounds, 7 ½ ounces – was caught here in 1983.

**TROUT**

**Custer Mine Pond** (McLean County) – A good put-and-take fishery in a small, easy-to-fish pond.

**Harmony Lake** (Mercer County) – Put-and-take rainbow trout available each year.

**Lightning Lake** (McLean County) – A quality fishery, with some large trout.

**Strawberry Lake** (Bottineau County) – Produces keeper fish by midsummer.

**Velva Sportsmen's Pond** (Ward County) – Consistently a quality fishery for nice-sized browns and rainbows.

## SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

*Paul Bailey, district fisheries supervisor,  
Bismarck*

### NORTHERN PIKE

**Alkaline Lake** (Kidder County) – Abundant 2- to 5-pound pike, with fish occasionally surpassing 8 pounds.

**Baumgartner Lake** (Emmons County) – Pike were first stocked in 2010 and 1- to 3-pound fish are abundant.

**Beaver Lake** (Logan County) – Pike are common, with fish occasionally hitting 10 pounds.

**Braddock Dam** (Emmons County) – Pike numbers are continuing to recover following 2008-09 winterkill.

**Cherry Lake** (Kidder County) – Pike stocked since 2008-09 winterkill have done well and 2- to 5-pound fish are abundant.

**Clear Lake** (McIntosh County) – Pike up to 6 pounds are common.

**Des Moines Lake** (Kidder County) – Fair numbers of small pike.

**Dry Lake** (McIntosh County) – Pike are not as abundant as previous years, but 2- to 4-pound pike are common.

**Etta/Alkaline Lake** (Kidder County) – Small pike are abundant.

**Fresh Lake** (Kidder County) – Abundant 2- to 5-pound pike, with fish occasionally surpassing 8 pounds.

**Frettim Lake** (Kidder County) – Fair numbers of pike with most fish 4-6 pounds.

**Froelich Dam** (Sioux County) – Natural reproduction was excellent in 2009 and small pike are abundant.

**Goose Lake** (Emmons County) – Fair numbers of 2- to 4-pound pike.

**Harriet/Arena Lake** (Burleigh County) – Abundant 2- to 6-pound pike.

**Helen Lake** (Kidder County) – A consistent pike producer in recent years, with abundant pike up to 8 pounds.

**Homestead Lake** (McIntosh County) –

Pike were first stocked in 2010 and 1- to 3-pound fish are common.

**Horsehead Lake** (Kidder County) – Pike were aggressively stocked with the return of high water levels and 2- to 5-pound fish are common.

**Lake Hoskins** (McIntosh County) – Good numbers of 2- to 5-pound pike.

**Lake Isabel** (Kidder County) – Abundant 2- to 5-pound pike.

**Jake's Lake** (Emmons County) – Pike were reintroduced with the return of high water in spring 2009 and fish up to 4 pounds are common.

high water in spring 2009 and fish up to 5 pounds are abundant.

### WALLEYE

**Alkaline Lake** (Kidder County) – Walleye were first stocked in 2003 and fish up to 6 pounds are abundant.

**Dry Lake** (McIntosh County) – After years of slow decline, walleye numbers have increased in Dry Lake following increases in water levels.

**Frettim Lake** (Kidder County) – Walleye are not exceptionally abundant, but most are longer than 18 inches.



*Anglers test their luck on a June morning at Devils Lake.*

**Miller Lake** (McIntosh County) – Good numbers of 2- to 4-pound pike.

**Mudd Lake** (McIntosh County) – High water connected Clear Lake to Mudd Lake and small pike are now abundant in Mudd.

**Pfeifle Lake** (McIntosh County) – Fair numbers of pike, with fish occasionally surpassing 10 pounds.

**Rice Lake** (Emmons County) – Natural reproduction was excellent in 2009 and small pike are abundant.

**Lake Williams** (Kidder County) – Fair numbers of pike up to 8 pounds.

**West Lake Napoleon** (Logan County) – Pike were reintroduced with the return of

**Froelich Dam** (Sioux County) – Small walleye from the 2009 year-class are abundant, but fish up to 8 pounds are present.

**Green Lake** (McIntosh County) – Walleye are abundant, with occasional fish surpassing 8 pounds.

**Jasper Lake** (Kidder County) – Walleye were first stocked in 2008 and fish up to 20 inches are abundant.

**Lake Josephine** (Kidder County) – Walleye from the 2008-09 year-classes are abundant, but larger fish are present.

**Lehr WMA** (McIntosh County) – Walleye were first stocked in 2008 and fish up to 20 inches are abundant.

**Marvin Miller Lake** (Logan County) – Walleye were first stocked in 2002 and fish up to 8 pounds are abundant.

**Mundt Lake** (Logan County) – Walleye were first stocked in 2005 and are now abundant, with many fish longer than 20 inches.

**Rice Lake** (Emmons County) – Walleye from the 2009 year-class are abundant, but larger fish are present.

**Round Lake** (Kidder County) – Walleye were first stocked in 1999 and Round Lake currently supports an excellent fishery.

**Sibley Lake** (Kidder County) – Walleye were first stocked in 2009 and fish up to 16 inches are abundant.

**Sweet Briar Dam** (Morton County) – Small walleye from the 2009 year-class are abundant, but larger fish are present.

**Thurn Lake** (Logan County) – Walleye were first stocked in 2002 and Thurn now supports a healthy population.

**Lake Williams** (Kidder County) – Walleye are not very abundant, but fish surpassing 6 pounds are present.

### PANFISH (Yellow Perch, Crappie, Bluegill)

Yellow perch were stocked extensively as many sloughs gained water following winter 2008-09. Most of these lakes lack boating access and are most accessible to ice anglers.

Several lakes contain good numbers of catchable-sized perch, including Frettim Lake, North Koenig Lake, South Koenig Lake, Schumacher Lake and Swan Lake (Kidder County); Senger Lake (Emmons County); Railroad Lake (Logan County); Becker-Schlepp Lake, Dollinger-Schnabel Lake and Rueb-Eszlinger Slough (McIntosh County); Sweet Briar Dam (Morton County); and Froelich Dam (Sioux County).

Many other perch introductions have had initial success, but will still take several years to produce good numbers of catchable-sized fish. Perch were recently introduced into the following lakes, many of which should produce for anglers in upcoming years: Bond Lake, Kunkel Lake, Lake Geneva, Pelican Lake, Willow Lake and Woodhouse Lake (Kidder County); Goose Lake (Emmons County); Braun Lake, DeWald Lake, Doyles Lake, Hauff

Lake, Kautz WPA, Kleingartner WPA, Lepp Lake, Logan WMA, North Lake Napoleon, Roesler Lake and Wentz WPA (Logan County); and Dorfman Lake, Harr Lake, McIntosh WMA and Nagel Lake (McIntosh County).

Bluegill and crappie populations were severely affected by drought during most of the 2000s. However, increased water levels have led to a recent rebound in panfish numbers for many fisheries.

**Fish Creek Dam** (Morton County) – Black crappie numbers have increased following years of decline.

**Harmon Lake** (Morton County) – Young-of-the-year black crappie were abundant in fall 2011, so good numbers of catchable-sized crappie may be just a few years away.

**McDowell Dam** (Burleigh County) – Small bluegill abundant, with a few larger fish present.

**Nygren Dam** (Morton County) – Small bluegill abundant.

**Sweet Briar Dam** (Morton County) – Both bluegill and crappie numbers continue to recover following years of low water levels.

### BASS (Largemouth, Smallmouth)

**Crown Butte Dam** (Morton County) – Young-of-the-year largemouth bass were abundant in fall 2011, and this fishery should continue to develop in coming years.

**Fish Creek Dam** (Morton County) –

Outstanding numbers and sizes of both largemouth and smallmouth bass.

**Froelich Dam** (Sioux County) – Low numbers of big largemouth bass.

**Harmon Lake** (Morton County) – Small largemouth bass are abundant and this fishery should continue to develop in coming years.

**McDowell Dam** (Burleigh County) – Fair numbers of larger largemouth bass.

**Nygren Dam** (Morton County) – A variety of sizes and good numbers of largemouth bass.

**Sweet Briar Dam** (Morton County) – Low numbers of big largemouth bass.

### TROUT

Catchable-sized trout are stocked in several waters each spring (Cottonwood Park Pond, McDowell Dam, OWLS Pond and Porsborg Dam), but these trout typically do not survive warmer waters of summer. Anglers wishing to target larger trout should try the following waters:

**Crown Butte Dam** (Morton County) – Both rainbow and brown trout present.

**Fish Creek Dam** (Morton County) – Good numbers of both rainbow and brown trout, with a few fish surpassing 3 pounds.

**Harmon Lake** (Morton County) – This newly constructed lake filled in spring 2009 and has been stocked with rainbow, brown and cutthroat trout.

**Nygren Dam** (Morton County) – Both rainbow and brown trout present.



North Dakota has more fishable waters today than ever. The Game and Fish Department manages 360-plus waters today.

## NORTHEAST DISTRICT

*Randy Hiltner, district fisheries supervisor,  
Devils Lake*

### NORTHERN PIKE

**Carpenter Lake** (Rolette County) – Consistent pike fishery that provides a lot of winter recreation.

**Devils Lake** – As Devils Lake water levels rise, the upper regions of the lake continue to expand and provide excellent spawning habitat. As a result, pike natural reproduction has been high the past several years.

There will be great pike fishing opportunities in 2012. Pike can save a slow day of fishing as they are willing biters, especially in spring. Pike can be found lake-wide and typically average over 4 pounds in netting surveys. Some pike weigh more than 10 pounds.

**Goose Lake** (Wells County) – Some heavy-bodied pike available as well as numerous smaller fish.

**Island Lake** (Rolette County) – Excellent pike fishery, with good numbers of fish.

**Juanita Lake** (Foster County) – Typically produces good pike fishing.

**Lake Irvine** (Ramsey County) – High numbers of pike, most under 5 pounds.

**Lake Laretta** (Nelson County) – Continues to have an excellent pike population, with fish of all sizes.

**Mt. Carmel Dam** (Cavalier County) – Some good pike fishing available.

**Red Willow Lake** (Griggs County) – Continues to provide good pike fishing. Anglers may not take pike measuring less than 24 inches.

**School Section Lake** (Rolette County) – A good pike population, but fishing is not always fast and furious.

**Silver Lake** (Benson County) – Continues to produce nice northern pikes. Anglers are reminded to check with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for specific dates the lake is open to fishing.

**Stump Lake** (Nelson County) – Pike are now common in this large, deep lake connected to Devils Lake. Good average size.

**Sweetwater Lake/Morrison Lake** (Ramsey County) – With mild winters and high water, anglers continue to do well on these lakes, which are primarily winter fisheries.

### WALLEYE

**Bisbee Dam** (Towner County) – Continues to produce nice-sized walleye.

**Devils Lake** – Devils Lake continues to support a good walleye population, with many small- to medium-sized fish. The past several years of above-average reproduction have produced many fish of 8-14 inches in length. Larger fish are available, but at lower densities than, say, three years ago. The walleye population continues to thrive with significant natural reproduction and periodic stocking. Walleye fishing opportunities will extend into the future as good densities of young fish are recruited into the fishery. The younger year-classes will need to fill in expanded lake acreages of recent years.

**Dion Lake** (Rolette County) – When last netted in 2010, there were lots of nice walleye.

**Fordville Dam** (Grand Forks County) – A decent population of keeper-sized walleye.

**Goose Lake** (Wells County) – Walleye are doing well with good numbers of nice fish.

**Lake Irvine** (Ramsey County) – Good densities of walleye, with most under 20 inches.

**South Golden Lake** (Steele County) – Netting surveys show nice walleyes present.

**Stump Lake** (Nelson County) – Good population of walleye, most less than 18 inches.

### CATFISH

**Red River** – Catfishing is excellent over the length of the river. The catfish population is stable in northern reaches and the southern stretch holds more, but smaller fish. The area from Drayton to Pembina produces lots of trophy fish. Red River (and Bois de Sioux) anglers may take daily no more than one channel catfish greater than 24 inches long.

### PANFISH (Yellow Perch, Crappie, Bluegill)

**Bisbee Dam** (Towner County) – Perch are making a comeback after some lean years.

**Devils Lake** – Perch densities in Devils Lake have increased as a result of two strong hatches in 2006-07. The population size structure is somewhat top heavy with bigger fish because of limited hatching success in recent years. However, the 2011 hatch looked strong so future recruits are present. Perch fishing was much improved last winter as anglers caught decent numbers of large perch, maybe not limits, but more than in recent years.

**Goose Lake** (Wells County) – Ice fishing was good for keeper perch.

**Homme Dam** (Walsh County) – Contains a decent crappie and perch population, with mostly smaller fish.

**Lake Upsilon** (Rolette County) – A good perch lake, with some perch in the 12-inch range.



*Catfishing along the length of the Red River in eastern North Dakota is excellent. This fish was caught in 2011 during a Becoming an Outdoors-Woman catfishing outing.*



CHRIS GRONDAHL

*Robust year-classes makes for some wonderful northern pike fishing in many waters around the state.*

## SOUTHEAST DISTRICT

*Gene Van Eeckhout, district fisheries supervisor, Jamestown*

### NORTHERN PIKE

**Lake Ashtabula** (Barnes County) – Consistent pike producer. Population contains mostly midsized fish.

**South Eckelson Lake** (Barnes County) – Fairly abundant population of medium-sized pike.

**Boom Lake** (LaMoure County) – Pike population took off after recent winterkill. An excellent fishery for small- to medium-sized pike.

**Diamond Lake** (LaMoure County) – Good pike fishery during summer 2011 and winter 2012.

**Flood Lake** (LaMoure County) – Excellent pike population. Water is deep enough that boats can travel between South and North Flood lakes.

**Kalmbach Lake** (LaMoure County) – Pike escape from Kalmbach when it overflows into a large lake to the east. Shore-fishing on the east lake is excellent.

**Lake LaMoure** (LaMoure County) – Supports a respectable pike population. Big fish are occasionally harvested.

**Twin Lakes** (LaMoure County) – Pike fishery is developing nicely and size structure improving.

**Arnies Lake** (Logan County) – Access to this relatively new fishery is difficult. Good to excellent pike population for those willing to put in the effort to get there.

**Bisek, Silver and Kreiser lakes** (Richland County) – These adjoining lakes are about 2 miles northwest of Lidgerwood. Pike entered from Wild Rice River during recent floods. Good to excellent fishing for small pike.

**Pipestem Reservoir** (Stutsman County) – Overall pike abundance has improved. Small pike are numerous. Though rare, Pipestem is still a good place to catch a trophy pike.

**Spiritwood Lake** (Stutsman County) – Pike population has improved after several years of depressed numbers and small size structure. Spearfishing enthusiasts report better action than previous winters. Regulation change provides for darkhouse spearfishing to open on December 1, 2012.

**Larimore Dam** (Grand Forks County) – Crappie, bluegill and perch to keep kids happy. Most are smaller.

**McVile Dam** (Nelson County) – Lots of small perch and bluegill.

**Red Willow Lake** (Griggs County) – This small lake has lots of bluegills and some are nice.

**South Golden Lake** (Steele County) – Good numbers of perch, most are less than 10 inches.

**Whitman Dam** (Nelson County) – Some nice perch and crappie.

**Stump Lake** (Nelson County) – Perch population densities are improving, with some big fish.

### WHITE BASS

**Devils Lake** – White bass densities have likely decreased from a recent high in 2008, however, bass are still abundant, with lots of 2-pound-plus fish and some “great whites” (3-plus pounds).

### BASS (Largemouth, Smallmouth)

**Fordville Dam** (Grand Forks County) – Some nice largemouth, but not abundant.

**Homme Dam** (Walsh County) – Decent largemouth bass fishery, with some big fish.

**Larimore Dam** (Grand Forks County) – This small reservoir has several size-classes of largemouth bass, with some fish more than 3 pounds. Catch-and-release is encouraged.

**McVile Dam** (Nelson County) – A small reservoir with some nice largemouth bass. Catch-and-release is encouraged.

**Red Willow Lake** (Griggs County) – Low density population, but some big fish.

**Wood Lake** (Benson County) – Bass are common, some more than 3 pounds.

### TROUT

**Hooker Lake** (Rolette County) – A good rainbow population in a beautiful setting.

**Ryan Park Pond** (Grand Forks County) – A nice place for kids to catch some trout.

**Turtle River** (Grand Forks County) – Game and Fish continues stocking catchable-sized trout in spring and fall in Turtle River State Park for anglers who appreciate the opportunity to catch river trout.

**James River** (Dickey, LaMoure and Stutsman counties) – Lowhead dams and bridge crossings congregate fish and provide excellent shore-fishing opportunities for northern pike.

## WALLEYE

**Lake Ashtabula** (Barnes County) – Despite three years of significant flushing, Ashtabula's walleye population appears to have endured flooding. Repeal of the decades-old walleye length limit currently allows for harvest of smaller fish.

**Fox Lake** (Barnes County) – Up and coming walleye fishery on new water between Jamestown and Valley City.

**Diamond Lake** (LaMoure County) – The most consistent walleye producer in southeast district in 2011. Fish aren't big, but plentiful.

**Lueck Lake** (Richland County) – New walleye fishery with excellent prospects. Experimental walleye minimum length limit established in 2012.

**West Moran Lake** (Richland County) – New walleye fishery with excellent prospects. Experimental walleye minimum length limit established in 2012.

**Alkali Lake** (Sargent County) – Established walleye fishery also regulated by experimental minimum length limit starting in 2012.

**Buffalo Lake** (Sargent County) – Supports an excellent walleye population most years. Good numbers of small fish are about ready to enter the sport fishery. Experimental walleye minimum length limit in 2012.

**Kraft Slough** (Sargent County) – Despite continuing efforts, this walleye population is slow in developing.

**Jamestown Reservoir** (Stutsman County) – Always produces some keeper fish, but walleye population is dominated by young fish.

**Spiritwood Lake** (Stutsman County) – Recent survey suggests good relative abundance and excellent size structure. Repeal of 14-inch minimum length limit allows selected harvest.

**Sheneye River** (Barnes, Cass and Ransom counties), **Wild Rice River** (Richland and Sargent counties) and **James River** (Dickey, LaMoure and Stutsman counties) all provide excellent shore-fishing



CRAIG BHIRLE

*Pipestem Reservoir in Stutsman County is North Dakota's answer to good crappie fishing.*

opportunities for walleye where lowhead dams and bridge crossings congregate fish.

## PANFISH (Yellow Perch, Crappie, Bluegill)

**Brewer Lake** (Cass County) – Fair adult bluegill population, with good reproduction. Future prospects are improving.

**Lake LaMoure** (LaMoure County) – Large adult crappie are present, but in low numbers.

**Coldwater Lake** (McIntosh County) – After several years of poor production, perch population appears to be making a comeback.

**Dead Colt Creek** (Ransom County) – Historically a good choice for either crappie or bluegill. Presently contains medium-sized crappie.

**Jamestown Reservoir** (Stutsman County) – Contains a healthy population of 8- to 10-inch crappie.

**Pipestem Reservoir** (Stutsman County) – Without question, the jewel of crappie angling in North Dakota at this time. Pipestem contains an excellent population of 10-11-inch crappie. A special creel limit (10 daily, 20 in possession) was established to spread harvest over time.

## BASS (Largemouth, Smallmouth)

**Brewer Lake** (Cass County) – Improving

largemouth population. Excellent reproduction bodes well for future. Catch-and-release encouraged.

**Heinrich-Martin** (LaMoure County) – Excellent largemouth population. This little lake is a consistent producer. Catch-and-release encouraged.

**Spiritwood Lake** (Stutsman County) – Fairly strong adult smallmouth population. Many of these fish are quite large and certainly warrant trophy status. Catch-and-release strongly encouraged.

## TROUT

**Blumhardt Lake** (McIntosh County) – Mix of brown and rainbow trout. Trout do well if bird predation isn't too severe. Blumhardt is a good destination for an ice-out fishing trip.

**Mooreton Pond** (Richland County) – Catchable-sized trout are stocked annually. Harvest is encouraged prior to midsummer when trout succumb to thermal stress. Bird predation has been a problem in recent years.

**Moon Lake** (Barnes County) – Trout have been doing well in Moon Lake. Survival is good despite some bird predation. Some of the best angling can occur through the ice.

## NORTHWEST DISTRICT

*Fred Ryckman, district fisheries supervisor, Williston*

### NORTHERN PIKE

**Blacktail Dam** (Williams County) – Good pike numbers, with some exceeding 10 pounds.

**Lake Darling** (Renville County) – Good pike numbers, with a few trophy-sized fish.

**Little Muddy River** (Williams County) – Good natural reproduction in 2008-09 has resulted in a strong pike population. Extremely high flows in the Missouri River in summer 2011 allowed many pike to move upstream into the Little Muddy. Pike fishing was very good all of 2011, and is expected to remain good especially if the water level remains fairly high. Although most pike caught are 2- to 3-pound fish, a few larger fish are present.

**Powers Lake** (Burke County) – Although some pike were lost to winterkill, fair numbers are present.

**Skjermo Lake** (Divide County) – Despite its small size, Skjermo contains a surprisingly good pike population. Most fish caught are 3-5 pounds, but some are well over 10 pounds.

**Smishek Lake** (Burke County) – Fair pike numbers, with a few trophy-sized fish.

**Trenton Lake** (Williams County) – As in the Little Muddy River, good natural reproduction in 2008-09 resulted in a strong pike population. Extremely high flows in the Missouri River in summer 2011 allowed many pike to move into this backwater lake. Flooding greatly limited access and angling opportunities last year, but pike fishing was good in winter and should remain good during the coming year. Although most fish caught are 2-3 pounds, a few larger fish are present.

### WALLEYE

**Blacktail Dam** (Williams County) – Fair walleye numbers, with several year-classes present.

**Lake Darling** (Renville County) – Strong population of smaller walleye, but also a few trophy-sized fish.

**McGregor Dam** (Williams County) – Fair walleye numbers, with a few trophy-sized fish.

**Northgate Dam** (Burke County) – Despite

significant fish kills during summer 2008-09, fair numbers of walleye remain. **Smishek Lake** (Burke County) – Fair walleye numbers, with a few trophy-sized fish.

### CATFISH

**Little Missouri River** – Good catfishing success at times upstream as far as Medora. Success is dependent upon flows. High flows generally move greater numbers of catfish farther upstream.

**Little Muddy River** (Williams County) – During high water in 2011, good catfishing was found in the lower reach of the river along the east edge of Williston. Good catfish numbers are likely to be found in this same area in 2012.

### PANFISH (Yellow Perch, Crappie, Bluegill)

**Blacktail Dam** (Williams County) – Good numbers of perch and bluegill, although most are fairly small.

**Lake Darling** (Renville County) – Perch population has increased in both numbers and size in recent years. Arguably the best perch fishery in the northwest district.

**Epping-Springbrook Dam** (Williams County) – Increasing numbers of quality-sized perch.

**Kota-Ray Dam** (Williams County) – Fair populations of both perch and bluegill, although most are small.

**Leland Dam** (McKenzie County) – Good bluegill numbers in all sizes.

**McGregor Dam** (Williams County) – Increasing numbers of quality-sized perch.

**Northgate Dam** (Burke County) – Summer kills in 2008-09 greatly reduced bluegill and crappie populations, but both species are rebuilding.

**Skjermo Lake** (Divide County) – Contains fair numbers of quality-sized perch.

**Smishek Lake** (Burke County) – Contains fair numbers of decent-sized perch and also good numbers of bluegill, with some exceeding 1 pound.

**Trenton Lake** (Williams County) – Good crappie numbers, with some trophy-sized fish.

### BASS (Largemouth, Smallmouth)

**Baukol-Noonan Dam** (Divide County) – Limited largemouth numbers, but a few larger fish.

**Lake Darling** (Renville County) – By far

the best smallmouth population in the northwest district, although the population has trended downward in the past few years.

**Kota-Ray Dam** (Williams County) – Strong largemouth population, but only a remnant population of smallmouth.

**Leland Dam** (McKenzie County) – Good largemouth bass population, although most fish are smaller.

### TROUT

**Baukol-Noonan Dam and East Mine Pond** (Divide County) – These waters each contain fair rainbow trout numbers, including a few larger fish.

**Kettle Lake** (Williams County) – Good rainbow trout numbers and a few larger brown trout. Catch-and-release is encouraged.

**Kota-Ray Dam** (Williams County) – Good rainbow trout numbers, but mostly smaller fish. Because the lake receives relatively high angler use and harvest, catch-and-release is encouraged.

**McGregor Dam** (Williams County) – Fairly strong rainbow trout population, including some larger fish.

**Northgate Dam** (Burke County) – Good rainbow trout population, but fewer larger fish because of recent summer kills.



*Trout destined for the OWLS Pond at Game and Fish Department headquarters in Bismarck. This community fishery is catch-and-release only.*



MIKE ANDERSON

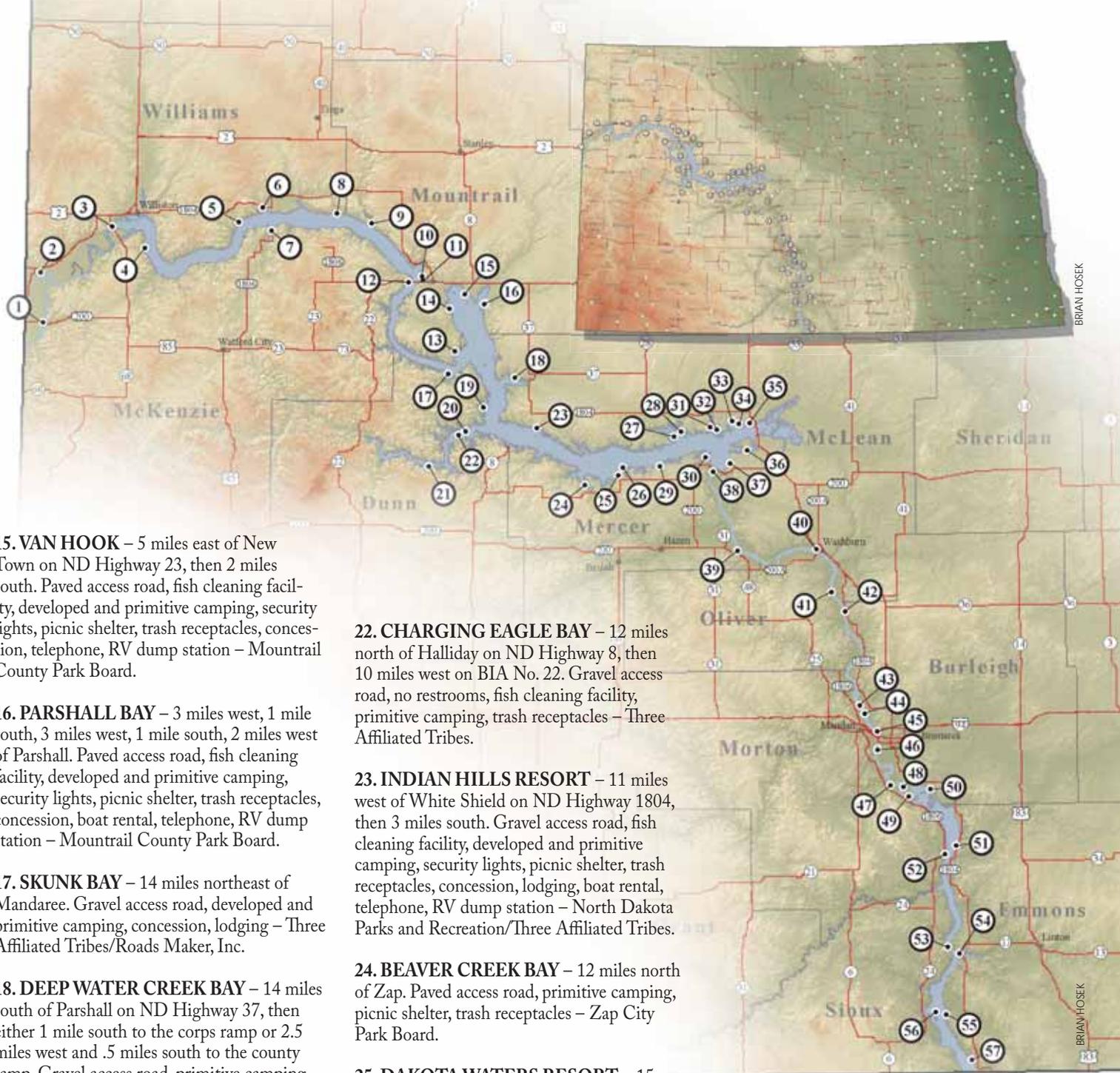
# MISSOURI RIVER SYSTEM BOATING ACCESS

Following is a list of boating access sites on the Missouri River System in North Dakota. All sites have a boat ramp, courtesy dock and restrooms unless otherwise noted. Due to damage from flooding in 2011, access at some of these sites may not be available. For updated access information, check the North Dakota Game and Fish Department's website ([gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov)) or contact the appropriate managing authority noted at the end of each listing.

- 1. SUNDHEIM PARK** – 2 miles west of Cartwright on ND Highway 200, on west side of Yellowstone River and south side of ND Highway 200. Paved access road, no courtesy docks, primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – Sundheim Park Board.
- 2. CONFLUENCE AREA** – 1.5 miles south of Buford on ND Highway 1804. Paved access road, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – Williams County WRD.
- 3. LEWIS AND CLARK BRIDGE** – 4 miles west of Williston on U.S. Highway 2, 3 miles south on U.S. Highway 85, on south side of Missouri River, and east side of U.S. Highway 85. Paved access road, no courtesy docks, primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – Williams County WRD.
- 4. AMERICAN LEGION PARK (RAUMS)** – 4 miles west of Williston on U.S. Highway 2, 6 miles south on U.S. Highway

- 85, then 4 miles east. Gravel access road, no courtesy docks, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – American Legion Post 37.
- 5. LEWIS AND CLARK STATE PARK** – 16 miles east of Williston on ND Highway 1804, then 3 miles south. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, lodging, access fee, telephone, RV dump station – North Dakota Parks and Recreation.
- 6. WHITETAIL BAY (LUND'S LANDING)** – 22 miles east of Williston on ND Highway 1804. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, lodging, boat rental – Williams County WRD.
- 7. TOBACCO GARDEN CREEK BAY** – 2 miles east of Watford City on ND Highway 23, then 25 miles north and east on ND Highway 1806. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, lodging, RV dump station – McKenzie County Park Board.
- 8. LITTLE BEAVER BAY** – 32 miles northwest of New Town on ND Highway 1804, then 3 miles south. Gravel access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – Williams County WRD.
- 9. WHITE EARTH BAY** – 28 miles northwest of New Town on ND Highway 1804, then 2 miles south, 1 mile east, 3 miles south,

- 3 miles east. Gravel access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, telephone, RV dump station – Mountrail County Park Board.
- 10. SANISH BAY (AFTEM)** – 1 mile north, 2 miles west of New Town. Gravel access road, no restrooms – New Town Park Board/Afterem Development.
- 11. NEW TOWN MARINA** – 2 miles west of New Town on ND Highway 23. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, telephone, RV dump station – New Town Marina Association.
- 12. FOUR BEARS** – 4 miles west of New Town on ND Highway 23. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, lodging, telephone, RV dump station – Three Affiliated Tribes.
- 13. POUCH POINT** – 7 miles south, 2 miles east, 2 miles south, 1 mile east, 3 miles south of New Town. Paved access road, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession – Three Affiliated Tribes.
- 14. LITTLEFIELD BAY** – 5 miles south, 2 miles east of New Town. Gravel access road, no restrooms, no courtesy docks, primitive camping – North Dakota Game and Fish Department.



BRIAN HOSEK

BRIAN HOSEK

**15. VAN HOOK** – 5 miles east of New Town on ND Highway 23, then 2 miles south. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, telephone, RV dump station – Mountrail County Park Board.

**16. PARSHALL BAY** – 3 miles west, 1 mile south, 3 miles west, 1 mile south, 2 miles west of Parshall. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, boat rental, telephone, RV dump station – Mountrail County Park Board.

**17. SKUNK BAY** – 14 miles northeast of Mandaree. Gravel access road, developed and primitive camping, concession, lodging – Three Affiliated Tribes/Roads Maker, Inc.

**18. DEEP WATER CREEK BAY** – 14 miles south of Parshall on ND Highway 37, then either 1 mile south to the corps ramp or 2.5 miles west and .5 miles south to the county ramp. Gravel access road, primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers/McLean County Park Board.

**19. HALE MARINA** – 18 miles southeast of Mandaree. Gravel access road, no restrooms, no courtesy docks – Three Affiliated Tribes.

**20. MCKENZIE BAY** – 22 miles southeast of Mandaree. Gravel access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, lodging, telephone, RV dump station – Watford City Park Board.

**21. LITTLE MISSOURI BAY** – 16 miles northeast of Dunn Center. Gravel access road, security lights – Dunn County.

**22. CHARGING EAGLE BAY** – 12 miles north of Halliday on ND Highway 8, then 10 miles west on BIA No. 22. Gravel access road, no restrooms, fish cleaning facility, primitive camping, trash receptacles – Three Affiliated Tribes.

**23. INDIAN HILLS RESORT** – 11 miles west of White Shield on ND Highway 1804, then 3 miles south. Gravel access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, lodging, boat rental, telephone, RV dump station – North Dakota Parks and Recreation/Three Affiliated Tribes.

**24. BEAVER CREEK BAY** – 12 miles north of Zap. Paved access road, primitive camping, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – Zap City Park Board.

**25. DAKOTA WATERS RESORT** – 15 miles north of Beulah. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, lodging, boat rental, telephone, RV dump station – Dakota Waters Resort.

**26. BEULAH BAY** – 17 miles north of Beulah. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, lodging, telephone, RV dump station – Beulah City Park Board.

**27. DOUGLAS CREEK BAY** – 5 miles south, 4 miles east of Emmet to corps ramp or 2 miles south, 1 mile east, 1 mile south of Emmet to county ramp. Gravel access road,

primitive camping, trash receptacles – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers/McLean County Park Board.

**28. CAMP OF THE CROSS** – 4 miles west, 1.5 miles south, 1 mile west, 1 mile south, 1 mile west, .5 miles south of Garrison. Gravel access road, no restrooms, primitive camping – Camp of the Cross.

**29. HAZEN BAY** – 14 miles north of Hazen. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, lodging, telephone, RV dump station – Hazen City Park Board.

**30. LAKE SAKAKAWEA STATE PARK** – Just east and north of Pick City. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, lodging, boat rental, access fee, telephone, RV dump station – North Dakota Parks and Recreation.

**31. GARRISON CREEK** – 2 miles west of Garrison on ND Highway 37, 3 miles south, 1 mile east. Gravel access road, no restrooms – Garrison Cabin Association.

**32. FORT STEVENSON STATE PARK** – 3 miles south of Garrison. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, lodging, boat rental, access fee, telephone, RV dump station – North Dakota Parks and Recreation.

**33. STEINKE BAY** – 3 miles west of the junction of ND Highway 37 and U.S. Highway 83, then 2 miles south. Gravel access road, primitive camping – McLean County Park Board.

**34. SPORTSMENS CENTENNIAL PARK** – 1 mile west of the junction of ND Highway 37 and U.S. Highway 83, then 2 miles south, 1 mile west. Gravel access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, telephone – McLean County Park Board.

**35. WEST TOTTENTRAIL** – 7 miles north of Coleharbor on U.S. Highway 83, then .5 miles west, or 2 miles south of the junction of U.S. Highway 83 and ND Highway 37, then .5 miles west. Gravel access road – McLean County Park Board.

**36. WOLF CREEK** – 1 mile east of Riverdale on ND Highway 200, then 2 miles north, 1 mile east, 1 mile north, .5 miles east. Gravel access road, fish cleaning facility, primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, RV dump station – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

**37. GOVERNMENT BAY** – Just north of Riverdale. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, trash receptacles – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

**38. GARRISON DAM TAILRACE** – Directly below Garrison Dam with the campground located south of the fish hatchery. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed camping, security lights, trash receptacles – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

**39. UPA SITE (STANTON)** – Just west of UPA power plant on ND Highway 200A near Stanton. Paved access road, security lights, trash receptacles – city of Stanton.

**40. WASHBURN** – On east side of Missouri River near Washburn, north of ND Highway 200A bridge. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, RV dump station – Washburn City Park Board.

**41. SANGER (CROSS RANCH)** – Just east of Sanger townsite on west side of Missouri River. Gravel access road, primitive camping, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – North Dakota Parks and Recreation.

**42. STECKEL BOAT LANDING (WILTON)** – 22 miles north of Bismarck on ND Highway 1804, or 5.5 miles west, 1 mile south, and 1.5 miles west of junction of U.S. Highway 83 and ND Highway 36. Paved access road, primitive camping, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – Burleigh County Park Board.

**43. HOGE LANDING** – On east side of Missouri River near Bismarck, 6.4 miles north of I-94 bridge on River Road, then .7 miles west and 1.5 miles south/southwest. Gravel access road, no courtesy docks, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – Bismarck Parks and Recreation.

**44. KNIEFEL LANDING** – On east side of the Missouri River near Bismarck, 3 miles north of I-94 bridge on River Road, then 1 mile west. Paved access road, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession – Burleigh County Park Board.

**45. GRANT MARSH BRIDGE** – On east side of Missouri River near Bismarck, south side of the I-94 bridge on River Road. Paved access road, security lights, trash receptacles – Bismarck Parks and Recreation.

**46. FOX ISLAND PARK** – From Washington Street, .75 miles west on Riverwood Drive (1 block south of Expressway), 1.5 miles south and .5 miles west. Heavy pleasure boat use in summer. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, security lights, trash receptacles – Bismarck Parks and Recreation.

**47. LITTLE HEART BOTTOMS (SCHMIDT)** – 11 miles south of Mandan on ND Highway 1806, then 1 mile north. Paved access road, trash receptacles – Morton County Park Board.

**48. KIMBALL BOTTOMS (DESERT)** – 8 miles south of Bismarck on ND Highway 1804, then 2 miles south. Paved access road, primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – Burleigh County Park Board.

**49. GRANER BOTTOMS (SUGAR LOAF)** – 19 miles south of Mandan on ND Highway 1806, then 1 mile east, or about 3 miles north of Huff. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, RV dump station – Morton County Park Board.

**50. MACLEAN BOTTOMS (GUN RANGE)** – 14 miles south of Bismarck on ND Highway 1804, then 2 miles south. Paved access road, primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – Burleigh County Park Board.

**51. HAZELTON** – 31 miles southeast of Bismarck on ND Highway 1804 or 13 miles west and 2 miles north of Hazelton. Campground located just south of boat ramp. Paved access road, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

**52. FORT RICE** – 28 miles south of Mandan on ND Highway 1806, then .5 miles east. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – Morton County Park Board.

**53. WALKER BOTTOMS (PRAIRIE KNIGHTS MARINA)** – 10 miles south of the Cannonball River on ND Highway 1806, then 3.5 miles east. Gravel access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, telephone, RV dump station – Prairie Knights Casino.

**54. BEAVER BAY** – 13 miles west of Linton on ND Highway 13, then 2 miles south on ND Highway 1804. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, telephone, RV dump station – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

**55. CATTAIL BAY (WINONA)** – 10 miles west of Strasburg, 1 mile south, 7 miles west, then 1 mile north on ND Highway 1804, 2 miles west, 2 miles south, 1 mile west. Gravel access road, primitive camping, trash receptacles, concession – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

**56. FORT YATES** – North edge of Fort Yates. Paved access road, primitive camping, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – Standing Rock Sioux Tribe.

**57. LANGELIERS BAY** – 10 miles west of Strasburg, 1 mile south, 7 miles west, then 11 miles south on ND Highway 1804, and .75 miles west. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, primitive camping, security lights, trash receptacles – Emmons County Park Board.



GREG GULLICKSON

# DEVILS LAKE BASIN

## BOATING ACCESS

Following is a list of boating access sites in the Devils Lake basin (Lake Irvine, Devils Lake and Stump Lake) in North Dakota. All sites have a boat ramp, courtesy dock and restrooms unless otherwise noted. For updated access information, check the North Dakota Game and Fish Department's website ([gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov)) or contact the appropriate managing authority noted at the end of each listing.

**1. ROUND LAKE BAY** – 3 miles south of Minnewaukan on U.S. Highway 281. Paved access road, trash receptacles – Minnewaukan Community Club.

**2. PELICAN LAKE BAY** – 15 miles west of Devils Lake on ND Highway 19. Paved access road, no restrooms, trash receptacles – Devils Lake Access Committee.

**3. GRAHAMS ISLAND STATE PARK** – 10 miles west of Devils Lake on ND Highway 19, then 6 miles south. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, lodging, access fee, telephone, RV dump station – North Dakota Parks and Recreation.

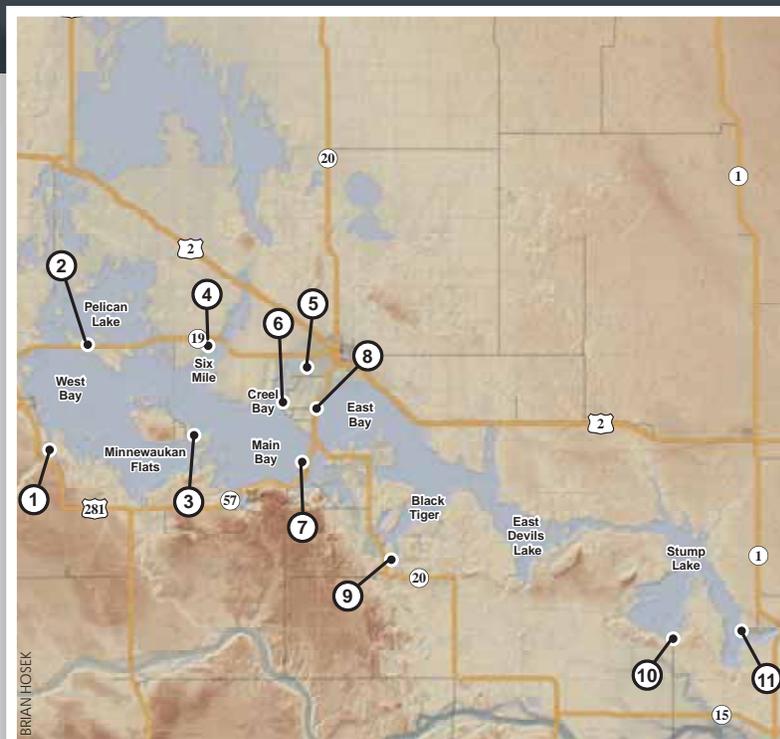
**4. SCHWAB LANDING** – 7 miles west of Devils Lake on ND Highway 19. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession – Devils Lake Access Committee.

**5. HENEGAR LANDING** – 1 mile west of Devils Lake on ND Highway 19, then .75 miles south. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, security lights, trash receptacles – City of Devils Lake.

**6. CREEL BAY** – 3 miles south of Devils Lake on ND Highway 20, then 2 miles west and .25 miles north. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – Devils Lake Access Committee.

**7. SPIRIT LAKE CASINO** – 6 miles south of Devils Lake on ND Highway 20/57. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, trash receptacles, concession, lodging, boat rental, telephone, RV dump station – Spirit Lake Casino.

**8. EAST BAY** – 3 miles south of Devils Lake on ND Highway 20. Paved access road, security lights, trash receptacles – Devils Lake Access Committee.



BRIAN HOSEK

**9. ESTENSON LANDING (BLACK TIGER BAY)** – 15 miles south of Devils Lake on ND Highway 20. Paved access road, no restrooms – Devils Lake Access Committee.

**10. TOLNA LANDING (STUMP LAKE)** – 3 miles north of Tolna. Gravel access road, no restrooms – Tolna Community Club.

**11. STUMP LAKE PARK** – 11 miles south, 1 mile west of Lakota. Gravel access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, lodging, RV dump station – Nelson County Park Board.

# 2011 FISH STOCKING REPORT



CRAIG BIHRLE

All numbers more than 1,000 are rounded to the nearest 1,000. Stocked fish are fingerlings unless otherwise noted.

## BLACK CRAPPIE

OWLS Pond, Burleigh County (adult) .....	30
Mount Carmel Dam, Cavalier County (adult) ....	65
Pheasant Lake, Dickey County (adult) .....	379
Crown Butte Dam, Morton County .....	11,000
Harmon Lake, Morton County (adult) .....	699
Harmon Lake, Morton County .....	22,000
Sprague Lake, Sargent County .....	20,000
Lake Tewaukon, Sargent County .....	53,000
Dickinson Reservoir (Patterson Lake), Stark County (adult) .....	428

## BLUEGILL

Kalina Dam, Bowman County (adult) .....	250
Lutz Dam, Bowman County (adult) .....	260
Short Creek Dam, Burke County (adult) .....	53
OWLS Pond, Burleigh County (adult) .....	280
Odland Dam, Golden Valley County (adult) ....	250
Kilzer Dam, Hettinger County (adult) .....	145
Lightning Lake, McLean County (adult) .....	116
Riverdale City Pond, McLean County (adult) ..	516
Crown Butte Dam, Morton County (adult) .....	500
Glenburn Pond, Renville County (adult) .....	345
Dickinson Dike, Stark County (adult) .....	413
Dickinson Reservoir (Patterson Lake), Stark County (adult) .....	420
State Fair Pond, Ward County (adult) .....	129

## BROWN TROUT

North Lemmon, Adams County .....	350
Baukol-Noonan East Mine Pond, Divide County .....	350
Camels Hump Dam, Golden Valley County .....	350
Raleigh Reservoir, Grant County .....	350
Sheep Creek Dam, Grant County .....	350
Blumhardt Dam, McIntosh County .....	350
Crown Butte Dam, Morton County .....	1,000
Fish Creek Dam, Morton County .....	700
Harmon Lake, Morton County .....	700
Nygren Dam, Morton County .....	700
Missouri River .....	19,000
Velva Sportsmen's Pond, Ward County .....	350
Kettle Lake, Williams County .....	350

## CHANNEL CATFISH

Cottonwood Park Pond, Burleigh County (adult) .....	200
OWLS Pond, Burleigh County (adult) .....	44
Watford City Park Pond, McKenzie County (adult) .....	86
Gaebe Pond, Morton County (adult) .....	100
Stanley Pond, Mountrail County (adult) .....	260

Cedar Lake, Slope County (adult) .....	169
Dickinson Dike, Stark County (adult) .....	105

## CHINOOK SALMON

Lake Sakakawea (smolt) .....	264,000
------------------------------	---------

## GIZZARD SHAD

Bowman-Haley Dam, Bowman County (adult) ..	140
Dickinson Reservoir (Patterson Lake), Stark County (adult) .....	71

## LARGEMOUTH BASS

Northgate Dam, Burke County .....	9,000
Limesand-Seefeldt Dam, LaMoure County... ..	5,000
Schlecht-Thom Dam, LaMoure County .....	5,000
Schlenker Dam (Lehr Dam), LaMoure County .....	5,000
Crown Butte Dam, Morton County .....	18,000
Harmon Lake, Morton County .....	51,000
East Spring Lake Pond, Williams County .....	2,000
Iverson Dam, Williams County .....	1,000

## TIGER MUSKELLUNGE

Lake Audubon, McLean County .....	6,000
-----------------------------------	-------

## NORTHERN PIKE

Mirror Lake, Adams County .....	6,000
Mirror Lake, Adams County (fry) .....	200,000
Lake Ashtabula, Barnes County .....	359,000
Sanborn Lake, Barnes County .....	12,000
Spring Lake, Bowman County (fry) .....	100,000
Powers Lake, Burke County .....	125,000
South Woodhaven Pond, Cass County (adult) ...	11
Skjermo Lake, Divide County .....	4,000
Lake Ilo, Dunn County (adult) .....	1,000
Lake Ilo, Dunn County .....	73,000
New Rockford Reservoir, Eddy County .....	1,000
Warsing Dam, Eddy County .....	6,000
Baumgartner Lake, Emmons County .....	39,000
Goose Lake, Emmons County .....	71,000
Jake's Lake, Emmons County .....	30,000
Fordville Dam, Grand Forks County .....	25,000
Kolding Dam, Grand Forks County .....	1,000
Larimore Dam, Grand Forks County .....	10,000
Niagara Dam, Grand Forks County .....	1,000
Heart Butte Reservoir (Lake Tschida), Grant County (adult) .....	38
Lake Jessie, Griggs County .....	30,000
Larson Lake, Hettinger County .....	9,000
Larson Lake, Hettinger County (fry) .....	100,000
Horsehead Lake, Kidder County .....	97,000
Horsehead Lake, Kidder County (fry) .....	230,000

Lake Isabel, Kidder County .....	96,000
Alfred Lake, LaMoure County .....	50,000
Flood Lake, LaMoure County .....	60,000
Kalmbach Lake, LaMoure County .....	8,000
Schlecht-Thom Dam, LaMoure County .....	2,000
Schlecht-Weixel Dam, LaMoure County .....	1,000
Schlenker Dam (Lehr Dam), LaMoure County .....	1,000
West Lake Napoleon, Logan County .....	95,000
Homestead Lake, McIntosh County .....	29,000
Lake Hoskins, McIntosh County .....	22,000
Arnegard Dam, McKenzie County .....	4,000
Long Lake, McLean County .....	32,000
Danzig Dam, Morton County .....	14,000
Danzig Dam, Morton County (fry) .....	210,000
Stanley Reservoir, Mountrail County .....	30,000
White Earth Dam, Mountrail County .....	17,000
Tolna Dam, Nelson County .....	15,000
Whitman Dam, Nelson County .....	15,000
Renwick Dam, Pembina County .....	20,000
Balta Dam, Pierce County .....	10,000
Davis Lake, Pierce County .....	20,000
Cavanaugh Lake, Ramsey County .....	10,000
Grass Lake, Richland County .....	69,000
Gravel Lake, Rolette County .....	10,000
School Section Lake, Rolette County .....	32,000
Wheaton Lake, Rolette County .....	5,000
Buffalo Lake, Sargent County .....	41,000
Coal Mine Lake, Sheridan County .....	55,000
Wolf Lake, Sheridan County .....	20,000
Cedar Lake, Slope County (adult) .....	569
Cedar Lake, Slope County .....	29,000
Cedar Lake, Slope County (fry) .....	210,000
Finley Dam (Lynch Lake), Steele County .....	1,000
North Golden Lake, Steele County .....	30,000
Alkali Lake, Stutsman County .....	64,000
Barnes Lake, Stutsman County .....	54,000
Big Mallard Marsh, Stutsman County .....	50,000
Clark Lake, Stutsman County .....	28,000
Hehn-Schaffer Lake, Stutsman County .....	7,000
Jamestown Reservoir, Stutsman County .....	50,000
Pipstem Reservoir, Stutsman County .....	50,000
Spiritwood Lake, Stutsman County .....	32,000
Sunday Lake, Stutsman County .....	20,000
Homme Dam, Walsh County .....	20,000
Matejcek Dam, Walsh County .....	10,000
Makoti Lake, Ward County .....	31,000
North Carlson Lake, Ward County .....	11,000
Rice Lake, Ward County .....	27,000
South Carlson Lake, Ward County .....	11,000
Harvey Dam, Wells County .....	22,000
Sykeston Dam, Wells County .....	10,000

Cottonwood Lake, Williams County .....	32,000
Epping-Springbrook Dam, Williams County.....	16,000
Tioga Dam, Williams County (adult) .....	132
Tioga Dam, Williams County .....	8,000

## PADDLEFISH

Lake Sakakawea .....	32,000
----------------------	--------

## RAINBOW TROUT

Bolke Dam, Adams County .....	340
North Lemmon, Adams County .....	3,000
Blumers Pond, Barnes County.....	338
Hatchery Kids Pond, Barnes County .....	350
Moon Lake, Barnes County .....	4,000
Strawberry Lake, Bottineau County.....	700
Lutz Dam, Bowman County .....	348
Northgate Dam, Burke County.....	4,000
Cottonwood Park Pond, Burleigh County .....	680
McDowell Dam, Burleigh County (adult) .....	150
McDowell Dam, Burleigh County .....	680
OWLS Pond, Burleigh County (adult) .....	50
OWLS Pond, Burleigh County.....	800
Wilton City Pond, Burleigh County .....	188
North Woodhaven Pond, Cass County .....	700
Langdon City Pond, Cavalier County .....	350
Baukol-Noonan Dam, Divide County .....	4,000
Baukol-Noonan East Mine Pond, Divide County.....	360
Beach City Pond, Golden Valley County .....	350
Camels Hump Dam, Golden Valley County .....	3,000
Ryan Park Pond, Grand Forks County.....	700
Raleigh Reservoir, Grant County .....	3,000
Sheep Creek Dam, Grant County.....	3,000
Castle Rock Dam, Hettinger County.....	680
Mott Watershed Dam, Hettinger County.....	650
Blumhardt Dam, McIntosh County.....	1,000
Watford City Park Pond, McKenzie County.....	350
Custer Mine, McLean County .....	700
Lightning Lake, McLean County .....	1,000
Riverdale City Pond, McLean County .....	680
Harmony Lake, Mercer County .....	1,000
Crown Butte Dam, Morton County .....	312
Fish Creek Dam, Morton County.....	4,000
Gaeb Pond, Morton County.....	339
Harmon Lake, Morton County.....	5,000
Porsborg Dam, Morton County (adult).....	50
Porsborg Dam, Morton County .....	680
Stanley Pond, Mountrail County.....	680
Missouri River .....	19,000
Turtle River, Grand Forks County.....	2,000
Oliver County Sportsmen's Pond, Oliver County.....	200
Glenburn Pond, Renville County .....	350
Mooreton Pond, Richland County .....	936
Hooker Lake, Rolette County .....	1,000
Davis Dam, Slope County.....	1,000
Belfield Pond, Stark County (adult) .....	50
Belfield Pond, Stark County .....	700
Dickinson Dike, Stark County (adult).....	200
Dickinson Dike, Stark County .....	2,000
Slater Pond, Stark County .....	350
State Fair Pond, Ward County .....	350
Velva Sportsmen's Pond, Ward County .....	700
East Spring Lake Pond, Williams County .....	2,000
Iverson Dam, Williams County.....	700
Kettle Lake, Williams County.....	680
Kota-Ray Dam, Williams County.....	2,000
McGregor Dam, Williams County .....	3,000
West Spring Lake Pond, Williams County .....	680

## WALLEYE

Lake Ashtabula, Barnes County.....	536,000
Fox Lake, Barnes County .....	27,000
Island Lake, Barnes County .....	10,000
Kee Lake, Barnes County.....	10,000
Moon Lake, Barnes County .....	10,000
Wood Lake, Benson County .....	19,000
Long Lake, Bottineau County.....	26,000
Bowman-Haley Dam, Bowman County .....	179,000
Short Creek Dam, Burke County.....	18,000
Smishek Lake, Burke County.....	27,000
Casselton Reservoir, Cass County .....	2,000
Mount Carmel Dam, Cavalier County.....	43,000
Wilson Dam, Dickey County.....	5,000
Lake Coe, Eddy County.....	59,000
Rice Lake, Emmons County .....	81,000
Dry Lake, Foster County.....	58,000
Heart Butte Reservoir (Lake Tschida), Grant County.....	171,000
Lake Addie, Griggs County .....	33,000
Red Willow Lake, Griggs County.....	21,000
Indian Creek Dam, Hettinger County .....	30,000
Alkaline Lake, Kidder County.....	250,000
Jasper Lake, Kidder County .....	41,000
Lake Josephine, Kidder County.....	50,000
Round Lake, Kidder County .....	20,000
Sibley Lake, Kidder County .....	30,000
Woodhouse Lake, Kidder County.....	31,000
Boom Lake (Marion Lake), LaMoure County.....	15,000
Diamond Lake, LaMoure County.....	66,000
Kulm-Edgeley Dam, LaMoure County .....	4,000
Lake LaMoure, LaMoure County.....	21,000
Arnies Lake, Logan County.....	10,000
Logan (Mueller) WMA, Logan County (fry).....	200,000
Marvin Miller Lake, Logan County.....	50,000
Mundt Lake, Logan County .....	35,000
Thurn Lake, Logan County.....	10,000
Wentz WPA, Logan County (fry).....	200,000
Round Lake, McHenry County .....	82,000
Coldwater Lake, McIntosh County .....	61,000
Dorfman Lake, McIntosh County (fry) .....	150,000
Dry Lake, McIntosh County.....	200,000
Green Lake, McIntosh County .....	41,000
Lake Audubon, McLean County .....	293,000
Crooked Lake, McLean County .....	100,000
Painted Woods Creek, McLean County .....	10,000
Sweet Briar Dam, Morton County.....	30,000
White Earth Dam, Mountrail County .....	23,000
Stump Lake, Nelson County.....	318,000
Lake Sakakawea .....	2,500,000
Clear Lake, Pierce County .....	52,000
Lesmeister Lake, Pierce County.....	52,000
Devils Lake, Ramsey County .....	262,000
Elm Lake, Richland County.....	35,000
Lake Elsie, Richland County.....	55,000
Grass Lake, Richland County .....	65,000
Gullys Slough, Richland County.....	19,000
Horseshoe Lake, Richland County.....	38,000
Lueck Lake, Richland County.....	22,000
Wahl Lake, Richland County.....	14,000
West Moran Lake, Richland County .....	20,000
Belcourt Lake, Rolette County.....	37,000
Island Lake, Rolette County.....	49,000
Upsilon Lake, Rolette County.....	51,000
Alkali Lake, Sargent County .....	20,000
Buffalo Lake, Sargent County .....	58,000
Consolidated Lake, Sargent County.....	20,000
Silver Lake, Sargent County.....	13,000
Sprague Lake, Sargent County.....	20,000

Lake Tewaukon, Sargent County .....	70,000
Tosse Slough, Sargent County.....	30,000
South (Hoffer) McClusky, Sheridan County.....	19,000
Dickinson Reservoir (Patterson Lake), Stark County.....	160,000
South Golden Lake, Steele County.....	32,000
Bader Lake, Stutsman County .....	20,000
Barnes Lake, Stutsman County .....	78,000
Big Mallard Marsh, Stutsman County .....	95,000
Clark Lake, Stutsman County.....	43,000
Crystal Springs, Stutsman County .....	20,000
Hehn-Schaffer Lake, Stutsman County.....	10,000
Jamestown Reservoir, Stutsman County.....	61,000
Pipestem Reservoir, Stutsman County .....	57,000
R and M Lake, Stutsman County .....	8,000
Reule Lake, Stutsman County.....	46,000
Armourdale Dam, Towner County.....	16,000
Bisbee Dam-Big Coulee, Towner County .....	21,000
Bylin Dam, Walsh County .....	10,000
Hiddenwood Lake, Ward County .....	13,000
Goose Lake, Wells County.....	52,000
Blacktail Dam, Williams County .....	24,000
Epping-Springbrook Dam, Williams County.....	22,000
Kota-Ray Dam, Williams County.....	4,000
McLeod (Ray) Reservoir, Williams County.....	7,000

## WHITE BASS

OWLS Pond, Burleigh County (adult) .....	100
McPhail WMA, Kidder County (adult).....	300

## YELLOW PERCH

Lake Ashtabula, Barnes County (adult) .....	7,000
Hatchery Kids Pond, Barnes County (adult) .....	200
Bowman-Haley Dam, Bowman County (adult) .....	16,000
Kalina Dam, Bowman County (adult).....	3,000
Spring Lake, Bowman County (adult) .....	1,000
Short Creek Dam, Burke County (adult) .....	2,000
Pheasant Lake, Dickey County (adult).....	466
Wilson Dam, Dickey County (adult) .....	466
Lake Ilo, Dunn County (adult) .....	1,000
Odland Dam, Golden Valley County (adult) .....	11,000
Sibley Lake, Griggs County (adult).....	4,000
Lake Geneva, Kidder County (adult) .....	410
Lake No. 5, Kidder County (adult).....	293
Willow Lake, Kidder County (adult) .....	410
Diamond Lake, LaMoure County (adult).....	4,000
Lake Holmes, McLean County (adult) .....	13,000
Triangle Y Pond, McLean County (adult).....	940
Cavanaugh Lake, Ramsey County (adult) .....	4,000
Fenster Lake, Ramsey County (adult) .....	8,000
School Section Lake, Rolette County (adult) .....	600
Cherry Lake, Sheridan County (adult).....	874
Cedar Lake, Slope County (adult).....	1,000
Belfield Pond, Stark County (adult) .....	5,000
Dickinson Reservoir (Patterson Lake), Stark County (adult).....	5,000
Barnes Lake, Stutsman County (adult) .....	3,000
Big Mallard Marsh, Stutsman County (adult) .....	3,000
Rice Lake, Ward County (adult) .....	940
State Fair Pond, Ward County (adult).....	940
Harvey Dam, Wells County (adult).....	3,000
Sykeston Dam, Wells County (adult) .....	1,000
Cottonwood Lake, Williams County (adult).....	540
McLeod (Ray) Reservoir, Williams County (adult) .....	630
Tioga Dam, Williams County (adult) .....	600



# 2012 NORTH DAKOTA FISHING WATERS

CRAIG BIRKLE

The following public fishing waters in North Dakota are listed by county in the six districts managed by the Game and Fish Department. The number in parenthesis that follows each fishery is simply a code used by biologists to help identify those waters. The codes are also found on the maps to help readers locate waters.

Primary fish species present in the lake are noted. Most state public fishing waters have boat ramps. If a boat ramp is lacking, it is listed as “no ramp.” Check signs at each area for further restrictions.

## NORTHWEST

### BURKE COUNTY

**Northgate Dam (097)** – 6 miles north, 1 mile west, 2 miles north, .5 miles west of Bowbells (walleye, bluegill, trout – fishing pier).

**Powers Lake (093)** – Southeast side of Powers Lake (pike, perch – fishing pier).

**Short Creek Dam (094)** – 5.5 miles north of Columbus (walleye, perch, bluegill – fishing pier).

**Smishek Lake (095)** – 4 miles northwest of Powers Lake (pike, perch, walleye – fishing pier).

### DIVIDE COUNTY

**Baukol-Noonan Dam (475)** – 2 miles east, .5 miles south of Noonan (trout, bluegill, largemouth bass – fishing pier).

**Baukol-Noonan East Mine Pond (508)** – 2 miles east, .5 miles south of Noonan (trout, bluegill, perch).

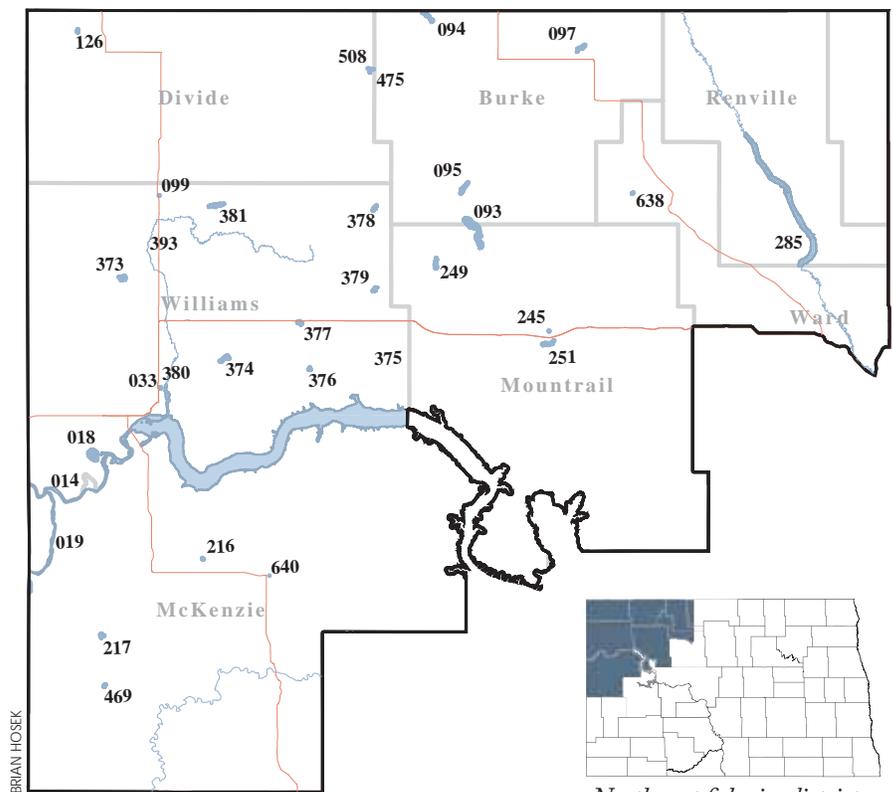
**Skjermo Lake (126)** – 3 miles west, 4 miles northwest of Fortuna (pike, perch – fishing pier).

### MCKENZIE COUNTY

**Arnegard Dam (216)** – .5 miles west, 3 miles north, 1.5 miles southwest of Arnegard (pike, perch).

**Leland Dam (469)** – 11 miles south, 8 miles west, 8 miles south, 2 miles southeast, 1.5 miles east, 1 mile north of Alexander (bluegill, largemouth bass).

**Sather Dam (217)** – 11 miles south, 8 miles west of Alexander (bluegill, largemouth bass – fishing pier).



*Northwest fisheries district.*

**Watford City Park Pond (640)** – Southeast side of Watford City (trout, catfish – no ramp, fishing pier).

#### MOUNTRAIL COUNTY

**Stanley Pond (245)** – Northeast side of Stanley (trout, catfish – fishing pier).

**Stanley Reservoir (251)** – 1 mile south of Stanley (pike).

**White Earth Dam (249)** – 6 miles north of White Earth (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

#### RENVILLE COUNTY

**Lake Darling (285)** – 16 miles north, 13 miles west of Minot (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

#### WARD COUNTY

**Nelson-Landers Pond (638)** – .25 miles west, .5 miles south, .25 miles east of Kenaston (bluegill, largemouth bass – fishing pier).

#### WILLIAMS COUNTY

**Blacktail Dam (373)** – 5 miles north, 5 miles west, 1 mile north of the junction of U.S. highways 2 and 85 (pike, perch, bluegill – fishing pier).

**Cottonwood Lake (381)** – 1 mile east, .5 miles north of Alamo (pike, perch – fishing pier).

**East Spring Lake Pond (380)** – North side of Williston (trout – no ramp, fishing pier).

**Epping-Springbrook Dam (374)** – 1.5 miles east of Springbrook (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Kettle Lake (099)** – 3 miles east, 2.5 miles north of Zahl (trout, largemouth bass – fishing pier).

**Kota-Ray Dam (376)** – 5 miles south, .5 miles east, 2 miles south of Ray (trout, bluegill, largemouth bass – fishing pier).

**Little Muddy River (393)** – East edge of Williston (pike, catfish, walleye – fishing pier).

**McGregor Dam (378)** – 1 mile south of McGregor (walleye, trout, perch – fishing pier).

**McLeod (Ray) Reservoir (377)** – Southwest side of Ray (walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Tioga Dam (379)** – North side of Tioga (pike, perch – fishing pier).

**Trenton Lake (018)** – South side of Trenton (pike, walleye, crappie – fishing pier).

**West Spring Lake Pond (033)** – North edge of Williston (trout – no ramp).

#### RIVERS AND LAKES

**Upper Missouri River (014)** – Missouri River from Williston to the Montana state line (paddlefish, sauger, catfish).

**Yellowstone River (019)** – Near cities of Buford, Cartwright and Fairview (paddlefish, sauger, catfish – fishing pier).

north, .5 miles west, .5 miles north of Lemmon, South Dakota (trout – no ramp).

**Mirror Lake (040)** – South side of Hettinger (pike, perch, bluegill – fishing pier).

**North Lemmon (042)** – 5 miles north of Lemmon, South Dakota (trout, bluegill, largemouth bass – fishing pier).

#### BOWMAN COUNTY

**Bowman-Haley Dam (085)** – 11 miles south, 8 miles east, 2 miles south of Bowman (walleye, perch, smallmouth bass – fishing pier).

**Gascoyne Lake (086)** – 1.5 miles northwest of Gascoyne (pike).

**Kalina Dam (087)** – 2 miles west, 1 mile south, 1 mile west, 1 mile south of Bowman (pike, perch, bluegill – no ramp).

**Lutz Dam (519)** – 2.5 miles south, 2 miles west of Griffin (trout, bluegill, largemouth bass – no ramp).

**Spring Lake (088)** – 1 mile south, 4 miles west of Rhame (pike, perch).

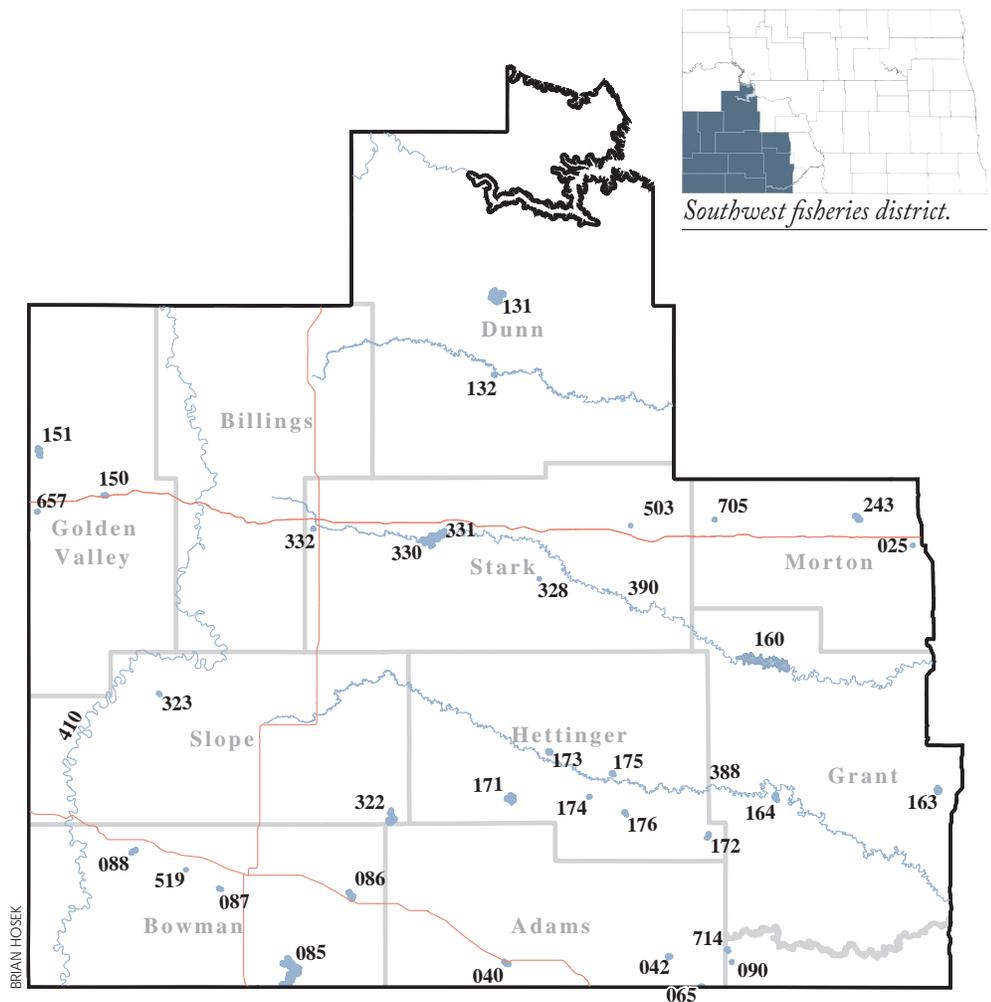
#### DUNN COUNTY

**Dvorak Dam (132)** – 3.5 miles south, 5 miles east, .5 miles north of Manning (perch – no ramp).

**Lake Ilo (131)** – 1 mile west, 1 mile south of Dunn Center (pike, perch – fishing pier).

#### GOLDEN VALLEY COUNTY

**Beach City Pond (657)** – Southwest side of Beach (trout – no ramp, fishing pier).



### SOUTHWEST

#### ADAMS COUNTY

**Bolke Dam (065)** – 5 miles east, .5 miles

**Camels Hump Dam (150)** – Northeast of Sentinel Butte – I-94 Exit 18 (trout, bluegill, largemouth bass).

**Odland Dam (151)** – 7 miles north of Beach (perch, bluegill – fishing pier).

#### GRANT COUNTY

**Heart Butte Reservoir (Lake Tschida) (160)** – 15 miles south of Glen Ullin (walleye, perch, crappie – fishing pier).

**Raleigh Reservoir (163)** – 3.5 miles west, .25 miles south of Raleigh (trout, bluegill, largemouth bass – fishing pier).

**Sheep Creek Dam (164)** – 4 miles south, .5 miles west of Elgin (walleye, bluegill, largemouth bass – fishing pier).

#### HETTINGER COUNTY

**Blickensderfer Dam (176)** – 4 miles south, 1 mile east, .5 miles south of Mott (walleye, perch, bluegill – no ramp).

**Castle Rock Dam (174)** – 2 miles west, 1.5 miles south, 1.5 miles west of Mott (trout).

**Indian Creek Dam (171)** – 1.5 miles west, 2 miles south, 2 miles west, 3 miles south of Regent (walleye, bluegill, perch – fishing pier).

**Kilzer Dam (172)** – 4.5 miles south, 1 mile east of Bentley (bluegill – no ramp).

**Larson Lake (173)** – .5 miles north and 2 miles east of Regent (pike).

**Mott Watershed Dam (175)** – North side of Mott (bluegill, largemouth bass, trout – fishing pier).

#### MORTON COUNTY

**Danzig Dam (243)** – 2 miles north, 1 mile west, .5 miles north of Bluegrass – I-94 Exit 120 (pike, perch, catfish).

**Gaebe Pond (025)** – 1.5 miles west of New Salem (trout, bluegill, perch – no ramp, fishing pier).

**Krieg's Pond (705)** – .5 miles east of Hebron (trout, perch – no ramp).

#### SIOUX COUNTY

**Labow Lake (714)** – 4 miles north, 3 miles west, 1 mile north, 1 mile east of Thunderhawk, South Dakota (bluegill – no ramp).

**Larson Lake (090)** – 4 miles north, 1 mile west of Thunderhawk, South Dakota (bluegill, largemouth bass – no ramp).

#### SLOPE COUNTY

**Cedar Lake (322)** – 13 miles north, 2 miles west of Reeder (pike, perch).

**Davis Dam (323)** – 16 miles west, 4 miles north of Amidon (trout, bluegill, largemouth bass).

#### STARK COUNTY

**Belfield Pond (332)** – Southwest side of Belfield (trout, perch, catfish – fishing pier).

**Dassinger Pond (328)** – 8 miles south, 1 mile east, 1 mile north of Gladstone (bluegill, largemouth bass – no ramp).

**Dickinson Dike (331)** – Southwest side of Dickinson (trout, bluegill, largemouth bass – fishing pier).

**Dickinson Reservoir (Patterson Lake) (330)** – 2 miles west of Dickinson (walleye, perch, catfish – fishing pier).

**Slater Pond (503)** – From I-94 Exit 84, .75 miles north, 1 mile east, .5 miles north, .5 miles east (perch, trout – no ramp).

#### RIVERS AND LAKES

**Cannonball River (388)** – In Slope, Hettinger, Grant and Sioux counties (pike, walleye, catfish – no ramp).

**Heart River (390)** – In Stark, Grant and Morton counties (pike, walleye, catfish – no ramp).

**Little Missouri River (410)** – Southwestern part of state (sauger, catfish – no ramp).

### NORTH CENTRAL

#### BOTTINEAU COUNTY

**Carbury Dam (452)** – 1 mile south, 1 mile west of Carbury (pike, perch – fishing pier).

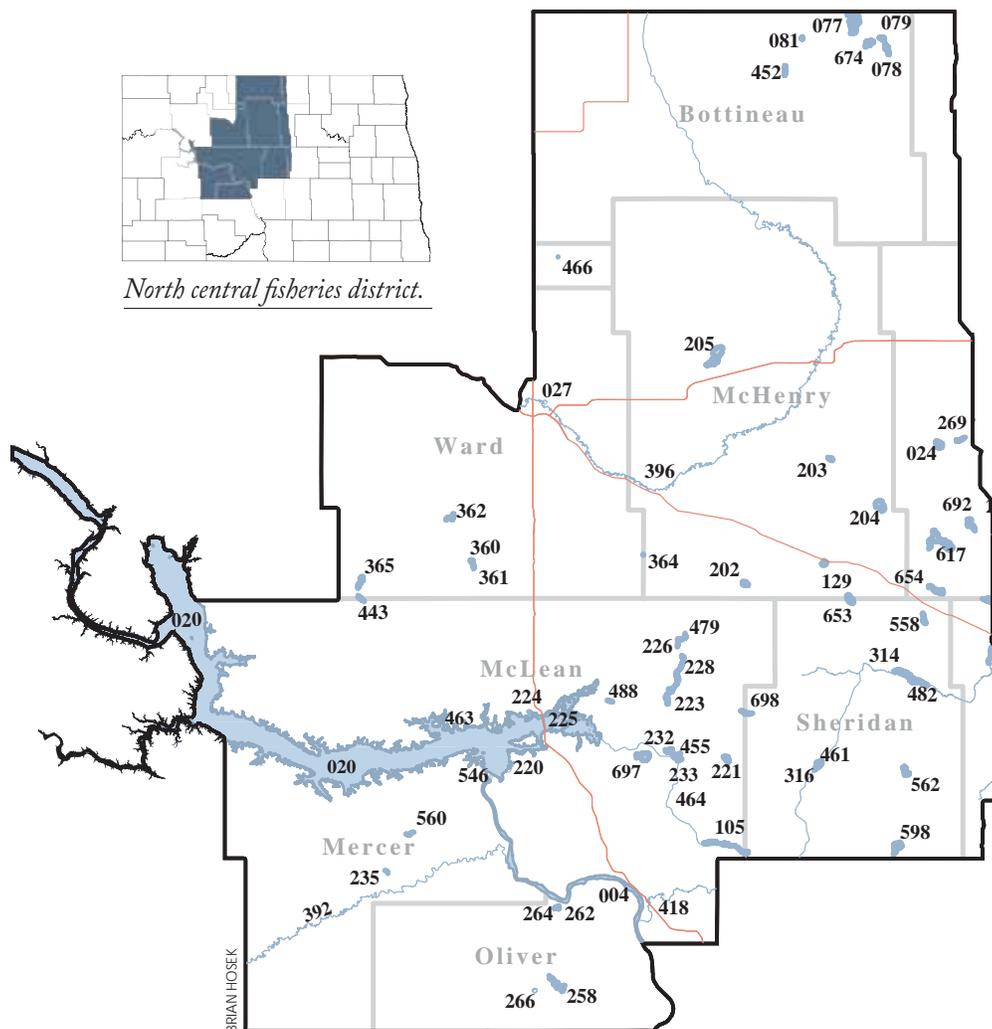
**Lake Metigoshe (077)** – 9 miles north, 4 miles east, 1 mile north of Bottineau (bluegill, pike, walleye – fishing pier).

**Long Lake (078)** – 8 miles north, 7 miles east, 1 mile south, 1 mile east, .5 miles south, .3 miles east of Bottineau (pike, walleye, perch).

**Loon Lake (674)** – 9 miles north, 4 miles east, 2 miles south, 2 miles east, .5 miles north of Bottineau (perch – no ramp).



North central fisheries district.



**Pelican Lake (079)** – 9 miles north, 8 miles east, .5 miles southwest of Bottineau (pike, perch).

**Strawberry Lake (081)** – 4 miles north, 2.5 miles east, .5 miles south of Carbury (trout – fishing pier).

#### MCHENRY COUNTY

**Bentley Lake (129)** – 3 miles west of Drake (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Buffalo Lodge Lake (205)** – 1 mile east, 3 miles north, 2 miles east of Granville (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Cottonwood Lake (202)** – 2.5 miles north of Butte (pike, perch – fishing pier).

**George Lake (203)** – 13 miles north, 3 miles east of the junction of U.S. Highway 52 and ND Highway 14 (pike, perch – fishing pier).

**Round Lake (204)** – 6 miles north, 4.5 miles east of Drake (perch, walleye, pike – no ramp).

#### MCLEAN COUNTY

**Brush Lake (221)** – 3 miles north of Mercer (pike, perch, walleye – fishing pier).

**Camp Lake (479)** – 17.5 miles north, 2 miles east of Turtle Lake (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Camp Loop Pond (546)** – 3 miles southwest of Riverdale on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' downstream campground (trout – no ramp).

**Crooked Lake (223)** – 10 miles north, .2 miles east, .1 mile south of Turtle Lake (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Custer Mine (224)** – 4 miles east, 2 miles south of Garrison (trout, bluegill).

**Lake Audubon (225)** – North of Coleharbor (walleye, perch, smallmouth bass – fishing pier).

**Lake Brekken (232)** – 1.5 miles north of Turtle Lake (walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Lake Holmes (455)** – 1 mile northeast of Turtle Lake (walleye, perch).

**Lightning Lake (233)** – .5 miles east of Turtle Lake (trout, bluegill – fishing pier).

**Long Lake (228)** – 13 miles north, 4 miles east, 2 miles north, 1.5 miles west of Turtle Lake (pike, perch).

**Painted Woods Creek (418)** – 5 miles southeast of Washburn (pike, walleye – no ramp).

**Riverdale City Pond (220)** – North side of Riverdale (trout, bluegill, largemouth bass – no ramp, fishing pier).

**Strawberry Lake (226)** – 17.5 miles north, 2 miles east of Turtle Lake (pike, perch, walleye – fishing pier).

**Triangle Y Pond (463)** – 4 miles west, 1.5 miles south, 1 mile west, 1 mile south, 1 mile west, .5 miles south of Garrison (perch, bluegill – no ramp, fishing pier).

**Turtle Lake (697)** – 4.5 miles west, 1 mile north of Turtle Lake (pike – no ramp).

**Weishaur WPA (488)** – 8 miles north, 8 miles west, 1 mile north of Turtle Lake (perch – no ramp).

#### MERCER COUNTY

**Beulah Mine Pond (235)** – 2 miles north, 2.5 miles east, .5 miles north of Beulah (perch – no ramp).

**Harmony Lake (560)** – 6 miles north, 1 mile west of Hazen (bluegill, trout, largemouth bass – fishing pier).

#### OLIVER COUNTY

**East Arroda Dam (262)** – 1 mile east of Fort Clark – ND Highway 200A (pike, crappie).

**Nelson Lake (258)** – 5 miles east, 3 miles south of Center (bluegill, crappie, largemouth bass – fishing pier).

**Oliver County Sportsmen's Pond (266)** – 4 miles south, .5 miles west of Center (trout – no ramp).

**West Arroda Dam (264)** – 1 mile east of Fort Clark – ND Highway 200A (pike, crappie).

#### PIERCE COUNTY

**Antelope Lake (617)** – 9 miles east, 3 miles north, 1 mile west, 2 miles north of Anamoose (walleye, perch – no ramp).

**Balta Dam (269)** – .5 miles south of Balta (pike, perch).

**Clear Lake (654)** – 2.5 miles north of Martin (perch, walleye – no ramp).

**Davis Lake (024)** – 2 miles west, 1.5 miles south of Balta (pike, perch).

**Lesmeister Lake (692)** – 3.5 miles west, 2 miles south of the intersection of ND highways 3 and 19 (walleye – no ramp).

#### RENVILLE COUNTY

**Glenburn Pond (466)** – North side of Glenburn (trout, bluegill – no ramp).

#### SHERIDAN COUNTY

**Cherry Lake (698)** – 7 miles north, 3 miles east, 2 miles north, 1 mile west of Mercer (perch – no ramp).

**Coal Mine Lake (482)** – 14 miles south, 5 miles east of Anamoose (pike, perch – fishing pier).

**Davis WPA (598)** – 8 miles south, 1 mile east of Denhoff (perch – no ramp).

**Lake Richard (653)** – 4.5 miles south of Drake (perch – no ramp).

**North (Hoffer) McClusky (461)** – 2 miles north, 1 mile west of McClusky (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Sheyenne Lake (314)** – 10 miles south, 1 mile east, 1 mile south of Anamoose (pike, perch – no ramp).

**South (Hoffer) McClusky (316)** – 2 miles north, 1 mile west of McClusky (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Stober Lake (562)** – 4 miles west, 1 mile north of Goodrich (perch – no ramp).

**Wolf Lake (558)** – .5 miles south, 1.5 miles west of Martin (perch, pike – no ramp).

#### WARD COUNTY

**Hiddenwood Lake (443)** – 8 miles south of Makoti (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Makoti Lake (365)** – 6 miles south of Makoti (pike, perch).

**North Carlson Lake (360)** – 10 miles east of Ryder (pike, perch).

**Rice Lake (362)** – 4 miles north, 7 miles east, 2 miles north of Ryder (pike, perch, walleye).

**South Carlson Lake (361)** – 10 miles east of Ryder (pike, perch – fishing pier).

**State Fair Pond (027)** – North end of state fair grounds (trout, bluegill – no ramp, fishing pier).

**Velva Sportsmen's Pond (364)** – 7 miles south, 1.5 miles west, 1 mile south, .5 miles west of Velva (trout).

**RIVERS AND LAKES**

**GDU Canal Lakes (105)** – 9 miles south, 3 miles east and west of Mercer (walleye, perch, smallmouth bass – fishing pier).

**Knife River (392)** – In Dunn and Mercer counties (pike, walleye, catfish – no ramp).

**Lake Sakakawea (020)** – Near the cities of Williston, New Town, Garrison and Riverdale (walleye, salmon, pike – fishing pier).

**McClusky Canal (464)** – Central part of state in McLean, Burleigh and Sheridan counties (walleye, smallmouth bass, perch – no ramp).

**Missouri River (004)** – Missouri River from near Riverdale to south of Bismarck (walleye, catfish, trout – fishing pier).

**Souris River (Mouse River) (396)** – North central part of state (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**SOUTH CENTRAL**

**BURLEIGH COUNTY**

**Cottonwood Park Pond (635)** – West side of Cottonwood soccer complex in south Bismarck (trout – no ramp, fishing pier).

**Lake Harriet (Arena Lake) (610)** – 8 miles west, 1 mile south of Tuttle (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Long Lake (104)** – 1 mile south, 2.5 miles east of Moffit (pike, perch – no ramp, fishing pier).

**McDowell Dam (101)** – 4 miles east, 1 mile north of Bismarck on ND Highway 10 (trout, bluegill, largemouth bass – fishing pier).

**OWLS Pond (026)** – Just west of Bismarck Game and Fish office (trout, perch, bluegill – no ramp, fishing pier).

**EMMONS COUNTY**

**Baumgartner Lake (529)** – 6 miles south of Linton (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Braddock Dam (140)** – 2 miles southwest of Braddock (pike, bluegill, perch).

**Goose Lake (501)** – 3 miles east of Braddock (perch – no ramp).

**Jake's Lake (527)** – 13 miles south, 1 mile east of Strasburg (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Rice Lake (142)** – 8 miles south of Strasburg (pike, perch, walleye).

**Senger Lake (526)** – 1 mile north, 6 miles east of Strasburg (perch – no ramp).

**KIDDER COUNTY**

**Alkaline Lake (590)** – 6 miles north, 7 miles east, 2 miles north, 1 mile east, 2 miles north of Napoleon (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Bond Lake (500)** – 2 miles west, 2 miles south, 1 mile west of Pettibone (perch – no ramp).

**Cherry Lake (177)** – 15 miles north, 3 miles east of Steele (pike, perch).

**Des Moines Lake (593)** – 5.5 miles east of Robinson (pike – no ramp).

**Etta-Alkaline Complex (650)** – 1 mile south, 2.5 miles west, 3 miles south of Dawson (pike – no ramp).

**Fresh Lake (549)** – 6 miles north, 7 miles east, 2 miles north, 1 mile east, 2 miles north of Napoleon (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Frettim Lake (180)** – 2 miles east, 1 mile north of Robinson (pike, walleye, perch).

**Helen Lake (601)** – 2.5 miles west, 6 miles north of Tuttle (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Horsehead Lake (594)** – 2 miles west, 6 miles south of Robinson (pike – no ramp).

**Jasper Lake (573)** – 7 miles north, .5 miles east of Robinson (perch, walleye).

**Koenig North (676)** – 12.25 miles north, 1.5 miles east of Robinson (perch – no ramp).

**Koenig South (677)** – 12.25 miles north, 1.5 miles east of Robinson (perch – no ramp).

**Kunkel Lake (439)** – 5 miles east, 7 miles south, 1 mile east of Robinson (perch – no ramp).

**Lake Geneva (666)** – 2 miles south, .5 miles east of I-94 Exit 195 (perch – no ramp).

**SOUTH CENTRAL**

**BURLEIGH COUNTY**

**Cottonwood Park Pond (635)** – West side of Cottonwood soccer complex in south Bismarck (trout – no ramp, fishing pier).

**Lake Harriet (Arena Lake) (610)** – 8 miles west, 1 mile south of Tuttle (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Long Lake (104)** – 1 mile south, 2.5 miles east of Moffit (pike, perch – no ramp, fishing pier).

**McDowell Dam (101)** – 4 miles east, 1 mile north of Bismarck on ND Highway 10 (trout, bluegill, largemouth bass – fishing pier).

**OWLS Pond (026)** – Just west of Bismarck Game and Fish office (trout, perch, bluegill – no ramp, fishing pier).

**EMMONS COUNTY**

**Baumgartner Lake (529)** – 6 miles south of Linton (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Braddock Dam (140)** – 2 miles southwest of Braddock (pike, bluegill, perch).

**Goose Lake (501)** – 3 miles east of Braddock (perch – no ramp).

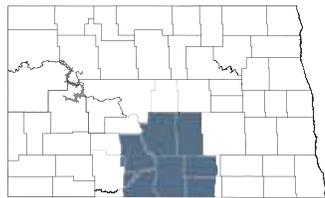
**Jake's Lake (527)** – 13 miles south, 1 mile east of Strasburg (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Rice Lake (142)** – 8 miles south of Strasburg (pike, perch, walleye).

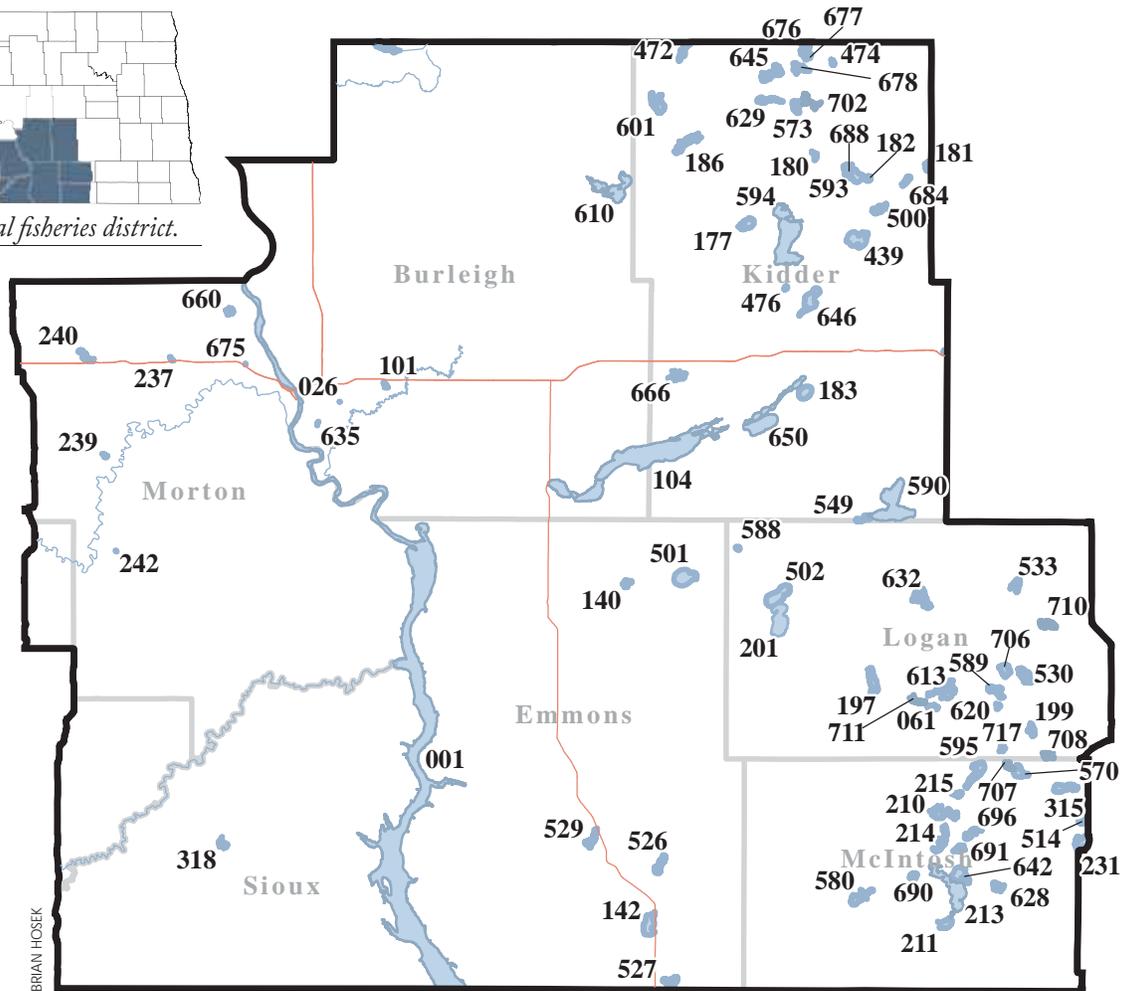
**Senger Lake (526)** – 1 mile north, 6 miles east of Strasburg (perch – no ramp).

**KIDDER COUNTY**

**Alkaline Lake (590)** – 6 miles north, 7 miles east, 2 miles north, 1 mile east, 2 miles north of Napoleon (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).



*South central fisheries district.*



**Lake Isabel (183)** – 2 miles south, .5 miles east, .75 miles south of Dawson (pike, perch – fishing pier).

**Lake Josephine (186)** – 2 miles north of Tuttle (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Lake No. 5 (476)** – .5 miles west, 2 miles north, 3 miles west, 4 miles north of Dawson (perch – no ramp).

**Lake Williams (182)** – Just south of the town of Lake Williams (pike, walleye, perch).

**Long Alkaline Lake (629)** – 3 miles west, 7 miles north of Robinson (perch – no ramp).

**North Des Moines Lake (688)** – 5.5 miles east of Robinson (pike – no ramp).

**Pelican Lake (474)** – 3 miles east, 11 miles north, 1 mile east of Robinson (perch – no ramp).

**Ranch Lake (684)** – 1 mile west of Pettibone (perch – no ramp).

**Round Lake (181)** – 1 mile north, 1.5 miles east of Pettibone (pike, walleye, perch – no ramp).

**Schumacher Lake (702)** – 7 miles north, 1 mile east, .25 miles south of Robinson (perch, walleye – no ramp).

**Sibley Lake (646)** – 7 miles north, 2 miles east, 1 mile south of Dawson (walleye – no ramp).

**Swan Lake (678)** – 10.5 miles north of Robinson (perch – no ramp).

**Willow Lake (645)** – 9 miles north, 3 miles west of Robinson (perch – no ramp).

**Woodhouse Lake (472)** – 12 miles north, 12 miles east of Wing (perch, walleye – no ramp).

#### LOGAN COUNTY

**Beaver Lake (197)** – 8 miles south, 8 miles east of Napoleon (pike, perch).

**Braun Lake (588)** – 18 miles south, 1 mile east of Steele (perch – no ramp).

**Dewald Lake (530)** – 8 miles north, 2 miles east, 1 mile north, 1 mile east of Lehr (perch – no ramp).

**Doyles Lake (711)** – 2.5 miles north, 2 miles east, 4 miles north, 1 mile east, .5 miles north of Wishek (perch – no ramp).

**Hauff Lake (589)** – 7 miles north of Lehr (perch – no ramp).

**Kautz Lake (061)** – 5 miles north, 6 miles west of Lehr (perch – no ramp).

**Kleingartner Lake (710)** – 10 miles south, 5 miles west of Gackle (perch – no ramp).

**Lepp Lake (717)** – 1 mile east, 1 mile north of Lehr (pike – no ramp).

**Logan (Mueller) WMA (613)** – 8 miles north, 5 miles west, 1 mile south of Lehr (perch, walleye – no ramp).

**Marvin Miller Lake (533)** – 6.5 miles south, 8 miles west of Gackle (perch, walleye – no ramp).

**Mundt Lake (199)** – 3 miles east, 4 miles north, 1 mile east, .5 miles south of Lehr (walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**North Napoleon Lake (502)** – .5 miles north, 2 miles east of Napoleon (perch – no ramp).

**Railroad Lake (708)** – 5.5 miles east of Lehr (perch – no ramp).

**Roesler Lake (706)** – 8 miles north, 1 mile east of Lehr (perch – no ramp).

**Thurn Lake (620)** – 5 miles north of Lehr, .5 miles east (perch, walleye – no ramp).

**Wentz WPA (632)** – 12 miles east of Napoleon (perch, walleye – no ramp).

**West Lake Napoleon (201)** – 1 mile west of Napoleon (pike, perch).

#### MCINTOSH COUNTY

**Becker-Schlepp Lake (628)** – 3 miles north, 1 mile east, 1 mile north, .5 miles east of Ashley (perch – no ramp).

**Clear Lake (215)** – 6 miles east, 2 miles south of Wishek (pike – no ramp).

**Dollinger-Schnabel Lake (580)** – 2 miles north, 5 miles west, 3 miles north of Ventura (perch – no ramp).

**Dorfman Lake (642)** – 5 miles north, 2 miles west of Ashley (pike, perch, walleye – no ramp).

**Dry Lake (213)** – 5 miles west, 4 miles north, 2 miles east, .5 miles south of Ashley (pike, walleye, perch).

**Green Lake (210)** – 2 miles east, 4 miles south, 1 mile east of Wishek (walleye, pike, perch – fishing pier).

**Harr Lake (514)** – 10 miles east, 12 miles north of Ashley (perch – no ramp).

**Homestead Lake (696)** – 8 miles south, 8 miles east, 2 miles north of Wishek (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Lake Hoskins (211)** – 3 miles west of Ashley (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Lehr WMA (570)** – 2 miles east, 1 mile south of Lehr (walleye).

**McIntosh WMA (231)** – 10 miles east, 9 miles north of Ashley (perch – no ramp).

**Miller Lake (315)** – 7.5 miles east, 2.5 miles south of Lehr (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Mudd Lake (595)** – 1 mile west of Lehr (perch – no ramp).

**Nagel Lake (Koeplin WPA) (707)** – 1 mile east, 1 mile south, 1 mile east of Lehr (perch – no ramp).

**Pfeifle Lake (690)** – 10 miles south, 2 miles east of Wishek (pike – no ramp).

**Pudwill Lake (214)** – 9 miles south, 4 miles west, 1 mile north, .5 miles west of Lehr (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Rueb-Eszlinger (691)** – 7.5 miles north, 2 miles west of Ashley (perch – no ramp).

#### MORTON COUNTY

**Crown Butte Dam (237)** – 4 miles west on access road on north side of I-94 Exit 147 (largemouth bass, crappie, trout – fishing pier).

**Fish Creek Dam (239)** – 8 miles south, 2 miles east, 1 mile south of I-94 Exit 134 (trout, crappie, largemouth bass – fishing pier).

**Harmon Lake (660)** – 8 miles north of Mandan on ND Highway 1806 (trout – no ramp, fishing pier).

**Nygren Dam (242)** – 6 miles north, 1 mile east, 3 miles north, .5 miles east of Flasher (trout, bluegill, largemouth bass – fishing pier).

**Porsborg Dam (675)** – Northwest Mandan (perch, crappie, trout – no ramp).

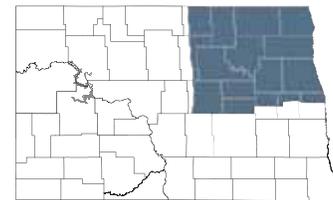
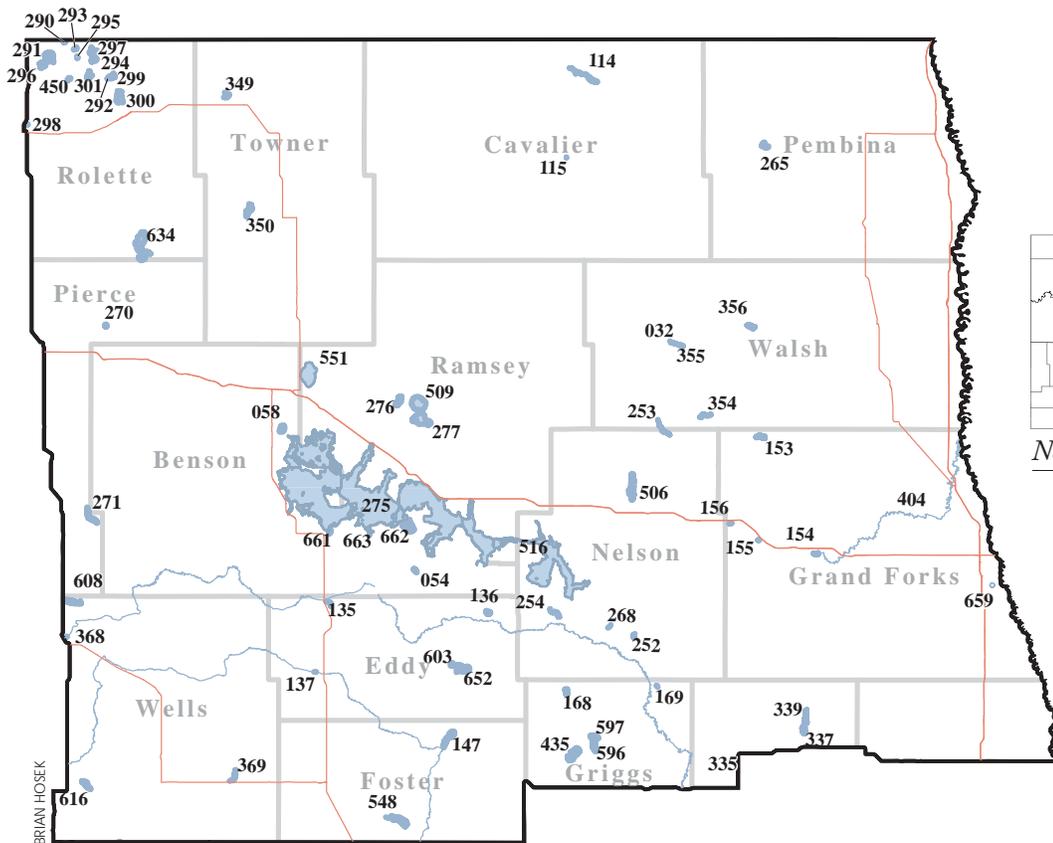
**Sweet Briar Dam (240)** – 18 miles west of Mandan – I-94 Exit 134 (walleye, perch, largemouth bass – fishing pier).

#### SIOUX COUNTY

**Froelich Dam (318)** – 9 miles north, 2 miles west of Selfridge (pike, walleye, perch).

#### RIVERS AND LAKES

**Lake Oahe (001)** – Near the cities of Bismarck, Fort Yates, Hazelton, Linton and Strasburg (walleye, catfish, pike – fishing pier).



*Northeast fisheries district.*

## NORTHEAST

### BENSON COUNTY

**Fort Totten Dam (663)** – .5 miles east of Fort Totten (trout – no ramp).

**Gravel Pit Lake (661)** – 4.5 miles west of Fort Totten (black crappie – no ramp).

**Mission Lake (662)** – 5 miles south, 1.5 miles east, 2 miles south of Devils Lake (walleye, perch, pike – no ramp).

**Silver Lake (058)** – 1 mile west, 6 miles south, 1 mile west, 1 mile north of Churchs Ferry (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Wood Lake (054)** – 2 miles west, 1 mile south of Tokio (pike, walleye, perch).

### CAVALIER COUNTY

**Langdon City Pond (115)** – South side of Langdon (trout – fishing pier).

**Mount Carmel Dam (114)** – 9 miles north, 2 miles east, 2 miles north of Langdon (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

### EDDY COUNTY

**Adams Lake (603)** – 10 miles south of Warwick (perch – no ramp).

**Battle Lake (136)** – .5 miles south, 1.5 miles west, 1.5 miles south of Hamar (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Lake Coe (652)** – 10 miles south of Warwick on east side of Eddy County Road 8 (perch, walleye – no ramp).

**New Rockford Reservoir (137)** – North side of New Rockford (pike, bluegill – no ramp, fishing pier).

**Warsing Dam (135)** – 1 mile northeast of Sheyenne (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

### FOSTER COUNTY

**Dry Lake (548)** – 4 miles east, 5 miles south of Carrington (pike, walleye, perch – no ramp).

**Juanita Lake (147)** – 2 miles east of Grace City (pike, perch – fishing pier).

### GRAND FORKS COUNTY

**Fordville Dam (153)** – 5 miles west, 1 mile north, .5 miles west, .5 miles north of Inkster (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Kolding Dam (155)** – 5 miles southeast, 1 mile south of Niagara on U.S. Highway 2 (pike).

**Larimore Dam (154)** – 2 miles northeast of Larimore (pike, perch, bluegill – fishing pier).

**Niagara Dam (156)** – North of Niagara (pike).

**Ryan Park Pond (659)** – South side of Grand Forks (trout – no ramp, fishing pier).

### GRIGGS COUNTY

**Carlson-Tande Dam (169)** – 1 mile south, 5 miles west of Aneta (pike, perch, bluegill – no ramp).

**Lake Addie (596)** – 4 miles east, 1 mile south, 1 mile west of Binford (perch, walleye).

**Lake Jessie (597)** – 4 miles east, 1 mile south, 1 mile west of Binford (perch, pike – no ramp).

**Red Willow Lake (168)** – 6 miles north, 2 miles west of Binford (pike, walleye, bluegill – fishing pier).

**Sibley Lake (435)** – 11 miles west, 3 miles south of Binford (pike, perch – no ramp).

### NELSON COUNTY

**Lake Laretta (506)** – 2 miles west and 3 miles north of Michigan (pike, perch – no ramp).

**McVile Dam (252)** – 1 mile east of McVile (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Silver Creek Dam (268)** – 4 miles west, .5 miles south of McVile (pike – no ramp).

**Stump Lake (516)** – 12 miles south, 1 mile west of Lakota (perch, walleye, pike – fishing pier).

**Tolna Dam (254)** – 1 mile south, 2 miles east of Tolna (pike, walleye, perch).

**Whitman Dam (253)** – 1.5 miles north, 3 miles east of Whitman (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

#### PEMBINA COUNTY

**Renwick Dam (265)** – 6 miles west, 1 mile north of Cavalier (pike, perch, crappie – fishing pier).

#### PIERCE COUNTY

**Buffalo Lake (271)** – 4 miles west, 1 mile south of Esmond (pike, perch – fishing pier).

**Sand Lake (270)** – 4 miles north of Pleasant Lake (pike, perch – fishing pier).

#### RAMSEY COUNTY

**Cavanaugh Lake (276)** – 9 miles north, 1 mile west, .5 miles north of Devils Lake (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Devils Lake (275)** – Near the city of Devils Lake (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Lake Irvine (551)** – 1 mile north of Churchs Ferry (pike, walleye, perch).

**Morrison Lake (509)** – 3 miles east, 2 miles south of Webster (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Sweetwater Lake (277)** – 7 miles north, .25 miles east of Devils Lake (pike, perch – no ramp).

#### ROLETTE COUNTY

**Belcourt Lake (300)** – 2 miles north of Belcourt (pike, walleye, perch).

**Cain Lake (450)** – 2 miles south, 9 miles west, .5 miles north of St. John (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Carpenter Lake (291)** – 12 miles west of St. John (pike, perch).

**Dion Lake (293)** – 10 miles west, 2 miles north, 1 mile east of St. John (walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Gordon Lake (299)** – 4.5 miles north, 1 mile west, .25 miles north-west of Belcourt (pike, walleye, perch).

**Gravel Lake (294)** – 6 miles west, .5 miles north of St. John (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Hooker Lake (295)** – 8 miles west of St. John (trout, smallmouth bass – fishing pier).

**Island Lake (634)** – 3 miles west, 2 miles south of Mylo (pike, perch).

**Jarvis Lake (301)** – .75 miles southwest, 6 miles west of St. John (pike, walleye, perch – no ramp).

**Jensen Lake (290)** – 9 miles west, 3 miles north of St. John (perch).

**School Section Lake (296)** – 9 miles north, 2.5 miles east of Dunseith (pike, perch).

**Shutte Lake (298)** – .5 miles east of Dunseith (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Upsilon Lake (297)** – 6 miles west, 1 mile north of St. John (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Wheaton Lake (292)** – 4.5 miles north, 2 miles west of Belcourt (walleye, perch).

#### STEELE COUNTY

**Finley Dam (Lynch Lake) (335)** – 1 mile south of Finley (pike, perch – no ramp).

**North Golden Lake (339)** – 10 miles east, 4 miles north, .5 miles west of Finley (pike, perch, walleye).

**South Golden Lake (337)** – 10 miles east, 3 miles north, .5 miles west of Finley (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

#### TOWNER COUNTY

**Armourdale Dam (349)** – 9 miles east, 1.5 miles north of Rolla (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Bisbee Dam-Big Coulee (350)** – 1 mile east of Bisbee (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

#### WALSH COUNTY

**Bylin Dam (355)** – 3 miles east, 3 miles south of Adams (pike, bluegill, walleye – fishing pier).

**Dougherty Dam (032)** – 1 mile west of Bylin Dam (pike, bluegill – no ramp).

**Homme Dam (356)** – 2 miles west of Park River (pike, perch, crappie – fishing pier).

**Matejcek Dam (354)** – 6 miles south of Lankin (pike, walleye, perch).

#### WELLS COUNTY

**Goose Lake (608)** – 3 miles north, 3 miles east, 1 mile north of Harvey (pike, perch, walleye – no ramp).

**Harvey Dam (368)** – Southeast side of Harvey (pike, perch, walleye – fishing pier).

**Hurdsfield-Tuffy Lake (616)** – 3.5 miles east of Hurdsfield (perch, walleye – no ramp).

**Sykeston Dam (369)** – Northwest side of Sykeston (pike, perch, crappie – fishing pier).

#### RIVERS AND LAKES

**Turtle River (404)** – In Grand Forks County (pike, catfish, trout – no ramp).

## SOUTHEAST

#### BARNES COUNTY

**Blumers Pond (023)** – 1 mile south of Valley City (trout – no ramp).

**Clausen Springs (051)** – 3 miles north, 1 mile east, .5 miles north of the junction of ND highways 46 and 1 (perch, largemouth bass, walleye – fishing pier).

**Clauson Lake (704)** – .5 miles south, 3.5 miles west of Nome (perch – no ramp).

**Eckelson Lake North (605)** – 2 miles east of Eckelson (perch – no ramp).

**Eckelson Lake South (671)** – 4 miles south, 1.5 miles east of Eckelson (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Fox Lake (586)** – 1 mile west of Eckelson (perch, walleye – no ramp).

**Hatchery Kids Pond (064)** – 2 miles northwest of Valley City (trout – no ramp).

**Hobart Lake North (636)** – 6 miles west of Valley City (perch – no ramp).

**Hobart Lake South (532)** – 6 miles west of Valley City (perch – no ramp).

**Island Lake (672)** – 3 miles south, .5 miles east of Urbana (walleye – no ramp).

**Kee Lake (606)** – 7 miles south, 2 miles east of Eckelson (perch – no ramp).

**Lake Ashtabula (046)** – 10 miles north of Valley City (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Lake Ashtabula Tailrace (047)** – 10 miles north of Valley City (pike, walleye – no ramp).

**Meadow Lake (565)** – 6 miles west, 6 miles north of Litchville (perch – no ramp).

**Middle Eckelson (670)** – 2 miles east of Eckelson (pike – no ramp).

**Moon Lake (049)** – 2 miles west, 5.5 miles south, 4 miles west, 2 miles north of Valley City (perch, smallmouth bass, walleye – fishing pier).

**Olson WPA (633)** – 1.5 miles east, .5 miles south of Sanborn (perch – no ramp).

**Sanborn Lake (557)** – 2 miles east of Sanborn (perch, pike – no ramp).

**Sanborn WPA (567)** – .5 miles east of Sanborn (perch – no ramp).

**St. Mary's Lake (045)** – 2 miles west, 5.5 miles south, 4 miles west, 1 mile north of Valley City (perch – no ramp).

#### CASS COUNTY

**Brewer Lake (111)** – 1 mile south, 1 mile west of Erie (bluegill, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass – fishing pier).

**Casselton Reservoir (106)** – Just west of Casselton (pike, crappie, bluegill – fishing pier).

**Lindemann Lake (703)** – 2 miles east, 2 miles north, .5 miles west of Enderlin (perch – no ramp).

**North Woodhaven Pond (656)** – 2.25 miles south, .25 miles east of I-94 Exit 348 (trout, bluegill – no ramp, fishing pier).

**South Woodhaven Pond (673)** – 3.5 miles south, .25 miles east of I-94 Exit 348 (perch – no ramp, fishing pier).

#### DICKEY COUNTY

**Moores Lake (119)** – 18.5 miles west, 1 mile north of Ellendale (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Pheasant Lake (120)** – 6 miles west of Ellendale (pike, walleye, bluegill – fishing pier).

**Wilson Dam (121)** – 7 miles west of Monango (pike, perch, largemouth bass – fishing pier).

#### LAMOURE COUNTY

**Alfred Lake (574)** – 7 miles east, 1.5 miles south of Gackle (perch, pike – no ramp).

**Boom Lake (Marion Lake) (561)** – .5 miles west of Marion (perch, walleye, bluegill).

**Diamond Lake (553)** – 5 miles north of Kulm (pike, perch, walleye – no ramp).

**Flood Lake (511)** – 3.5 miles north of Kulm (pike, perch).

**Heinrich-Martin Dam (189)** – 1 mile southeast of Adrian (bluegill, largemouth bass, crappie).

**Kalmbach Lake (194)** – 1 mile south, 4.5 miles west, .5 miles south of Jud (pike, perch).

**Kulm-Edgeley Dam (191)** – 4 miles west, 2 miles south of Edgeley (pike, walleye, perch).

**Lake LaMoure (196)** – 1 mile south, 1 mile east, 2.5 miles south, 1 mile west, .5 miles south of LaMoure (pike, walleye, crappie – fishing pier).

**LaMoure Dam (190)** – West end of LaMoure (pike, walleye – no ramp).

**Limesand-Seefeldt Dam (193)** – 8 miles south, 3 miles west of Marion (pike, bluegill, largemouth bass).

**Schlecht-Thom Dam (195)** – 5 miles west, .5 miles north of Edgeley (perch, largemouth bass, pike).

**Schlecht-Weixel Dam (188)** – 4 miles south of Jud (perch, pike).

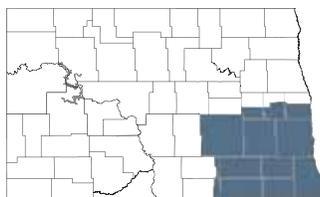
**Schlenker Dam (Lehr Dam) (422)** – 11 miles west, .5 miles south of the junction of U.S. Highway 281 and ND Highway 46 (perch, largemouth bass, bluegill).

**Twin Lakes (552)** – 4 miles north of LaMoure (perch, walleye, pike).

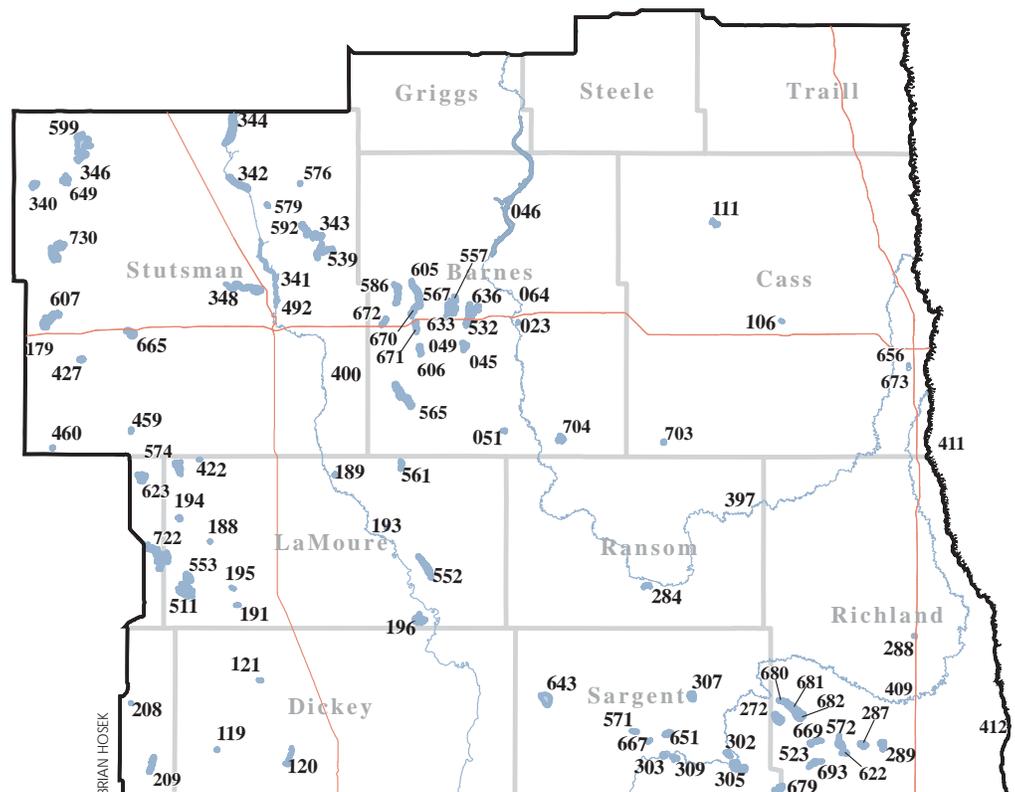
#### LOGAN COUNTY

**Arnies Lake (623)** – 1.5 miles south of Gackle, 2 miles east, 1 mile south (perch, pike – no ramp).

**Erickson Lake (722)** – 8.5 miles north, 3 miles west, 1 mile north, 1.5 miles west of Kulm (perch – no ramp).



*Southeast fisheries district.*



## MCINTOSH COUNTY

**Blumhardt Dam (208)** – 10 miles east, 7 miles north, 1.5 miles east of Ashley (trout).

**Coldwater Lake (209)** – 16 miles east, 1 mile south, 1 mile west of Ashley (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

## RANSOM COUNTY

**Dead Colt Creek (284)** – 5 miles south, 1 mile east, .5 miles north, .5 miles east of Lisbon (bluegill, crappie, largemouth bass – fishing pier).

## RICHLAND COUNTY

**Bisek Slough (682)** – 2 miles north, .5 miles west of Lidgerwood (pike).

**Elm Lake (693)** – .5 miles east, 3.5 miles south of Lidgerwood (walleye, pike – no ramp).

**Grass Lake (272)** – 2 miles west, 1 mile north, 1 mile west, 1 mile north, 1.5 miles west of Lidgerwood (pike, crappie, walleye – fishing pier).

**Gullys Slough (572)** – 4 miles east, 1 mile south of Lidgerwood (perch, pike – no ramp).

**Horseshoe Lake (287)** – 4 miles west, 1 mile south of Hankinson (perch, walleye – no ramp).

**Kreiser Slough (680)** – 4 miles north, 3 miles west of Lidgerwood (pike – no ramp).

**Lake Elsie (289)** – 1 mile south, 1.5 miles west of Hankinson (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Lueck Lake (622)** – 4 miles east, 2 miles south, 1 mile east, .5 miles south of Lidgerwood (perch, walleye – no ramp).

**Mooreton Pond (288)** – 2 miles east of Mooreton (trout, bluegill, catfish – fishing pier).

**Silver Lake (681)** – 2 miles north, 2 miles west of Lidgerwood (pike – no ramp).

**Wahl Lake (523)** – 2 miles south of Lidgerwood (pike, perch, walleye no ramp).

**West Moran Lake (669)** – 2 miles east and .5 miles south of Lidgerwood (perch, walleye – no ramp).

## SARGENT COUNTY

**Alkali Lake (302)** – 3 miles south of Cayuga (walleye).

**Buffalo Lake (307)** – 6 miles north, 1 mile east of Rutland (pike, walleye).

**Consolidated Lake (651)** – 2.5 miles south, 3 miles east of Forman (walleye, crappie, perch – no ramp).

**Fiala Lake (571)** – 1 mile west, 2 miles south of Forman (perch, walleye, pike – no ramp).

**Kraft Slough (643)** – 1 mile south, 9 miles east, 1 mile north, .5 miles west of Oakes (perch, walleye – no ramp).

**Lake Tewaukon (305)** – 5 miles south of Cayuga (pike, walleye, muskie – fishing pier).

**Lake Walstead (667)** – 2.5 miles south, 1 mile east, .5 miles south of Forman (perch – no ramp).

**Silver Lake (303)** – 3 miles west, 2 miles south of Rutland (pike, crappie – fishing pier).

**Sprague Lake (309)** – 6 miles west, 4 miles south, 1.5 miles west of Cayuga (pike, walleye, crappie).

**Tosse Slough (679)** – 7.5 miles south, 1 mile east, 2 miles south, 1 mile east of Geneseo (perch, walleye).

## STUTSMAN COUNTY

**Alkali Lake (539)** – 11 miles north, 5 miles east, 1 mile south of Jamestown (pike, perch – no ramp).

**Arrowwood Lake (344)** – 3 miles south, 5 miles west of Kensal (pike, walleye, perch – no ramp).

**Bader Lake (427)** – 4 miles south, 1 mile east of Medina (pike, perch, walleye).

**Barnes Lake (346)** – 1 mile east, 6 miles north of Woodworth (pike, walleye, perch).

**Big Mallard Marsh (599)** – 9 miles north, 1 mile east of Woodworth (pike, walleye, perch – no ramp).

**Clark Lake (340)** – 5 miles west, 2 miles north of Woodworth (pike, perch, walleye).

**Cleveland Slough (665)** – .5 miles south of Cleveland along County Road 67 (perch – no ramp).

**Crystal Springs (179)** – 1 mile east of Crystal Springs (pike, walleye, perch).

**Hehn-Schaffer Lake (459)** – 4 miles north of Gackle (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Hoggarth Dam (576)** – 3 miles west, 3 miles south of Courtenay (perch – no ramp).

**Jamestown Reservoir (341)** – 2 miles north of Jamestown (pike, walleye, crappie – fishing pier).

**Jim Lake (342)** – 6 miles east of Pingree (pike, walleye, perch – no ramp).

**Little Britches Pond (492)** – Next to Jamestown Reservoir marina (trout – no ramp).

**Mud and Pearl lakes (730)** – 8 miles north, 3 miles west, 2 miles north, .3 miles east of Medina (perch – no ramp).

**Pipestem Reservoir (348)** – 5 miles northwest, .8 miles west, 1 mile south of Jamestown (pike, walleye, crappie – fishing pier).

**R and M Lake (579)** – 4 miles east, 5 miles north of Buchanan (perch, walleye – no ramp).

**Reule Lake (607)** – 5 miles west, .5 miles north of Medina (perch, walleye – no ramp).

**Schock Lake (592)** – 11.5 miles north, 3.5 miles east, 1 mile north, .5 miles west of Jamestown (perch – no ramp).

**Spiritwood Lake (343)** – 10 miles north, 4 miles east of Jamestown (pike, walleye, perch – fishing pier).

**Streeter Lake (460)** – South side of Streeter (pike, perch).

**Sunday Lake (649)** – 1.5 miles west and 3 miles north of Woodworth (pike – no ramp).

## RIVERS AND LAKES

**Bois de Sioux River (412)** – Southeast corner of state in Richland County (pike, walleye, catfish – no ramp).

**James River (400)** – Southeastern part of state (pike, walleye).

**Red River (411)** – Eastern edge of state (pike, walleye, catfish – fishing pier).

**Sheyenne River (397)** – Southeastern part of state (catfish, walleye, smallmouth bass – fishing pier).

**Wild Rice River (409)** – Southeastern part of state (pike, walleye, catfish – no ramp).

# BUFFALOBERRY PATCH



By Greg Freeman, Department News Editor

## 2012-14 Fishing Regulations Set

North Dakota's 2012-14 fishing proclamation is set, with regulations effective through March 31, 2014.

Greg Power, North Dakota Game and Fish Department fisheries chief, said the northern pike daily and possession limits increased to five and 10 statewide. "The intent is to provide more of an opportunity for those anglers who like to fish for and keep pike," he said. "This will not affect the population because the pike fishery is in excellent shape. We have a record number of lakes with pike, many with record populations. Pike anglers should be happy the next few years."

Another noteworthy change involves opening most waters to darkhouse spearfishing, except for a small number of lakes that contain muskie. "The merits of different criteria were closely assessed, and the existence of muskie was the only criteria used to exclude a lake," Power said. "We have not observed any significant problems in the past 10 years, and biologically speaking there should be few, if any, in the future."

Lakes where darkhouse spearfishing is not allowed are Braun Lake, Emmons



County; New Johns Lake, Burleigh County; East Park Lake, West Park Lake and Lake Audubon, McLean County; McClusky Canal; Heckers Lake, Sheridan County; Red Willow Lake, Griggs County; Sweet Briar Dam, Morton County; and the

Red and Bois de Sioux rivers.

Other noteworthy regulation changes include:

- Added Sundays for snag-and-release only during the paddlefish season.
- Added a 14-inch walleye length restriction to six lakes in southeastern North Dakota – Alkali Lake, Buffalo Lake and Tosse Slough in Sargent County; and Lake Elsie, Lueck Lake and West Moran Lake in Richland County.
- Increased the minimum harvest length for muskie to 48 inches.
- Added Mott Watershed in Hettinger County and Nelson Lake in Oliver County to the list of "no live baitfish" lakes.
- Eliminated the 24-inch minimum length restriction for northern pike at North and South Golden lakes in Steele County.
- Fishing licenses can be purchased online at the Game and Fish Department website, [gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov). The 2012-14 North Dakota Fishing Guide is available at Game and Fish Department offices and license vendors throughout the state.

## 2011 Bighorn, Moose, Elk Harvests

Harvest statistics released by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department show overall hunter success during the 2011 season for bighorn sheep was 100 percent, 88 percent for moose and 50 percent for elk.

Four bighorn sheep units were open in 2011. Game and Fish issued one license in unit B1/B2, two licenses in unit B3, and two licenses in unit B4. One additional auction license holder was able to hunt any open area. All six hunters tagged adult rams.

The Department issued 163 moose licenses last year. Of that total, 159 hunters harvested 140 animals – 84 bulls and 56 cows/calves. Harvest for each unit follows:

Unit	Hunters	Bulls	Cow/Calf	Success Rate
M4	7	4	1	71
M5	5	2	1	60
M6	15	7	6	87
M8	25	13	10	92
M9	30	14	13	90
M10	67	37	24	91
M11	10	7	1	80

The Department issued 520 elk licenses last year. Of that total, 504 hunters harvested 251 elk – 177 bulls and 74 cows/calves. Harvest for each unit follows:

Unit	Hunters	Bulls	Cow/Calf	Success Rate
E1	69	16	19	51
E2	124	27	35	50
E3	198	88	10	50
E4	113	46	10	50

## Deer Harvest Down in 2011

As expected, North Dakota deer hunters took fewer deer last fall than in previous years, according to State Game and Fish Department harvest statistics.

Slightly more than 95,000 hunters took more than 49,000 deer during the 2011 deer gun season. Hunter success was 51 percent, down from 64 percent in 2010 and well below the annual average of 70 percent during the past decade.

Randy Kreil, Department wildlife division chief, said the final numbers were somewhat expected due to low deer numbers in many parts of the state following three consecutive difficult winters, and a past aggressive harvest approach on antlerless deer in units with deer numbers above management goals.

"There is no question our deer population has been reduced because of these factors," Kreil said. "This mild winter is exactly what is needed for the population to start rebounding. However, hunters should expect a lot fewer licenses this fall."

The Game and Fish Department is in the process of determining recommendations for licenses in the 2012 deer proclamation. These recommendations will be discussed at Game and Fish spring advisory board meetings. The proclamation will be sent to the governor's office for approval in late April.

A number of population indices determine license numbers, including harvest rates, aerial surveys, deer-vehicle collision



*Not unexpectedly, deer harvest in North Dakota was down in 2011.*

RON WILSON

reports, depredation reports, hunter observations, input at advisory board meetings, and comments from the public, landowners and Department field staff.

Game and Fish made available 109,900 deer gun licenses in 2011, with more than 97 percent issued to hunters.

Hunter success for antlered white-tailed deer was 53 percent, and antlerless whitetail was 53 percent. Mule deer buck success was 54 percent, while mule deer doe hunters had a success rate of 59 percent.

Hunters with any-antlered or any-antlerless licenses almost exclusively harvest white-tailed deer. These buck hunters had a success rate of 50 percent, while doe hunters had a success rate of 54 percent.

Hunters drawing a muzzleloader license had a success rate of 35 percent, while young hunters during the youth season had a success rate of 48 percent.



### Application Deadline for 2012 Deer Gun and Muzzleloader

The application deadline for the 2012 deer gun and muzzleloader season is June 6.



DAVE FRYDA

## Angler Breaks Long-Standing Fish Record

Royce Johnston's catch March 6 broke a state record that hadn't been touched in 30 years.

The New Town angler reeled in a 16-pound, 6-ounce lake trout from the Garrison Dam Tailrace.

The 33.5-inch fish broke the old record by more than 2 pounds. The previous record of 14 pounds, 4 ounces was taken from the Tailrace in 1982.

## Youth Grant Program Recruits Young Hunters

Wildlife, shooting, civic and fraternal organizations are encouraged to submit an application for the Encouraging Tomorrow's Hunters program, a grant program developed to assist in recruitment of the next generation of hunters and shooters.

Grant funds will help cover event expenses, including promotional printing;

event memorabilia such as shirts, caps or vests; ammunition and targets, and eye and ear protection.

Past funding has enabled several groups to conduct youth pheasant and waterfowl hunts, while others have sponsored trap and other shooting events, including archery and rifle shooting.

Any club or organization interested in

conducting a youth hunting or shooting event can get more information, including a grant application, from North Dakota Game and Fish Department outreach biologist Pat Lothspeich at (701) 328-6332.

The deadline to apply for a 2012 grant is April 21.

## Remaining Deer Samples Negative for CWD

The remaining North Dakota deer samples tested for chronic wasting disease are negative, according to Dr. Dan Grove, State Game and Fish Department wildlife veterinarian. A mule deer doe taken last fall in western Grant County during opening weekend of the deer gun season had tested positive for CWD.

In all, more than 2,500 targeted and hunter-harvested samples from 2011 were sent to a lab at Michigan State

University.

Since the Game and Fish Department's sampling efforts began in 2002, more than 22,000 deer, elk and moose have tested negative for CWD. The three deer to test positive were mule deer taken from unit 3F2 in southwestern North Dakota. The first two were during the 2009 and 2010 deer gun seasons. All three were within 15 miles of each other.

The hunter-harvested surveillance

program annually collects samples taken from hunter-harvested deer in specific regions of the state. In addition to unit 3F2, samples during the 2011 deer gun season were collected from units in the central third of the state.

The Game and Fish Department also has a targeted surveillance program that is an ongoing, year-round effort to test animals found dead or sick.

# Aquatic Nuisance Species UPDATE

## DRAIN YOUR LIVEWELL



State law now requires boat operators to drain livewells, even if they contain fish, when leaving a water body. "Leaving a water body" means beyond the adjacent boat ramp parking area.

## OTHER ANS PREVENTION MEASURES



*Remove all aquatic plants from boats, trailers and equipment before leaving any water body.*



*Drain all water from boats and other watercraft when leaving a water body.*



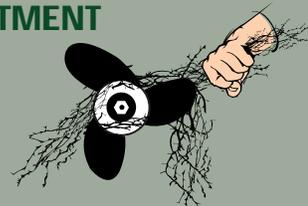
*Do not release baitfish in any North Dakota water, and do not bring in live aquatic bait from another state.*

## KEEP ANS OUT OF OUR WATER



### **NORTH DAKOTA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT**

100 North Bismarck Expressway  
Bismarck, ND 58501-5095  
701.328.6300  
Email: [ndgf@nd.gov](mailto:ndgf@nd.gov)  
Web: [gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov)



# TOP Whopper Club APPLICATIONS FOR 2011



**BUFFALO** – 54 pounds, Heart Butte Tailrace; 35 pounds, Lake Oahe; 31 pounds, 5 ounces, Missouri River; 31-5, Missouri River.



**BULLHEAD** – 3-0, Sweet Briar Dam; 2-2, Sweet Briar Dam.



**BLUEGILL** – 1-10, Lake Metigoshe; 1-9, Northgate Dam; 1-9, Upsilon Lake; 1-8, Northgate Dam.



**BROWN TROUT** – 7-0, Missouri River.



**CHANNEL CATFISH** – 14-8, Missouri River; 13-9, Missouri River.



**CHINOOK SALMON** – 17-10, Missouri River; 14-1, Missouri River; 13-9, Missouri River.



**COMMON CARP** – 26-10, Missouri River; 24-4, Heart River; 16-4, Knife River; 15-2, Lake Oahe.



**CRAPPIE** – 1-15, Devils Lake; 1-14, Upsilon Lake; 1-12, Devils Lake; 1-12, Jamestown Reservoir; 1-11, Devils Lake.



**CUTTHROAT TROUT** – 6-10, Missouri River; 6-4, Missouri River; 5-9, Missouri River; 5-8, Missouri River; 5-1, Missouri River.



**DRUM** – 10-13, Lake Audubon; 6-10, Lake Audubon.



**GOLDEYE** – 3-8, Lake Audubon; 3-4, Lake Audubon; 2-14, Lake Audubon; 2-6, Lake Oahe.



**LAKE TROUT** – 7-13, Missouri River; 7-10, Missouri River.



**LAKE WHITEFISH** – 5-7, Missouri River; 4-14, Missouri River.



**LARGEMOUTH BASS** – 5-8, Nelson Lake.



**NORTHERN PIKE** – 22-14, Lake Ashtabula; 21-12, Red Willow Lake; 21-10, Missouri River; 21-8, Lake Audubon; 21-8, Devils Lake.



**PADDFISH** – 111-0, Yellowstone River; 102-0, Yellowstone River; 100-0, Upper Missouri River; 98-0, Yellowstone River; 95-0, Upper Missouri River.



**RAINBOW TROUT** – 16-4, Missouri River; 15-2, Missouri River; 14-13, Missouri River; 14-7, Missouri River; 14-0, Missouri River.



**SAUGER** – 4-14, Missouri River; 4-11, Missouri River; 4-9, Missouri River; 4-2, Missouri River.



**SMALLMOUTH BASS** – 5-14, Lake Elsie; 5-12, Lake Sakakawea; 5-4, Lake Sakakawea; 5-4, Spiritwood Lake; 5-3, Lake Elsie.



**WALLEYE** – 15-4, Missouri River; 13-5, Lake Sakakawea; 12-11, Lake Sakakawea; 12-6, Missouri River; 12-1, Lake Oahe.



**WHITE BASS** – 3-14, Devils Lake; 3-12, Lake Sakakawea; 3-12, Devils Lake; 3-9, Devils Lake.



**YELLOW PERCH** – 2-9, Devils Lake; 2-8, Devils Lake; 2-4, Devils Lake; 2-3, Devils Lake.

## NORTH DAKOTA RECORD FISH

SPECIES	STATE RECORD WEIGHT	WATER	YEAR	NAME	ADDRESS	MINIMUM WHOPPER WEIGHT	MINIMUM CATCH AND RELEASE CLUB
<b>GAME FISH</b>							
Tiger Muskellunge	40 lbs.	Gravel Lake	1975	Marvin Lee	Rolette ND	25 lbs.	40 Inches
Pure Muskellunge	46 lbs. 8 oz.	New Johns Lake	2007	Cory Bosch	Mandan ND	25 lbs.	40 Inches
Northern Pike	37 lbs. 8 oz.	Lake Sakakawea	1968	Melvin Slind	Roseglen ND	20 lbs.	32 Inches
Channel Catfish	42 lbs. 1 oz.	Moon Lake	2009	Tina Willis	West Fargo, ND	12 lbs.	30 Inches
Burbot (Ling)	18 lbs. 4 oz.	Knife River	1984	Orland Kruckenberg	Hazen ND	8 lbs.	28 Inches
Walleye	15 lbs. 12 oz.	Wood Lake	1959	Blair Chapman	Minnewaukan ND	8 lbs.	25 Inches
Saugeye	11 lbs. 12 oz.	Lake Sakakawea	1984	David Groth	Williston ND	8 lbs.	25 Inches
Lake Trout	16 lbs. 6 oz.	Missouri River-Garrison Dam Tailrace	2012	Royce (Pete) Johnston	New Town ND	5 lbs.	24 Inches
Rainbow Trout	21 lbs. 4 oz.	Missouri River-Garrison Dam Tailrace	1998	Wade Weltz	Anamoose ND	5 lbs.	21 Inches
Brown Trout	31 lbs. 11 oz.	Missouri River-Garrison Dam Tailrace	2005	Timmy Johansen	Beulah ND	5 lbs.	21 Inches
Cutthroat Trout	10 lbs. 1 oz.	Missouri River-Garrison Dam Tailrace	2003	Chris Vernon	Bismarck ND	5 lbs.	21 Inches
Sauger	8 lbs. 12 oz.	Lake Sakakawea	1971	Mike Fischer	Chaseley ND	4 lbs.	20 Inches
Largemouth Bass	8 lbs. 8 oz.	Nelson Lake	1983	Leon Rixen	Minot ND	5 lbs.	18 Inches
White Bass	4 lbs. 8 oz.	Devils Lake	2000	Jordan Neve	Albert Lea MN	3 lbs.	16 Inches
Smallmouth Bass	6 lbs. 13 oz.	Lake Darling	2007	Bruce Elberg	Burlington ND	3 lbs.	16 Inches
Yellow Perch	2 lbs. 15 oz.	Devils Lake	1982	Kyle Smith	Carrington ND	1 lb. 12 oz.	13 Inches
Crappie	3 lbs. 4 oz.	Lake Oahe	1998	Don Newcomb	Mandan ND	1 lb. 8 oz.	13 Inches
Bluegill	2 lbs. 12 oz.	Strawberry Lake	1963	Budd Hystad	Velva ND	1 lb. 8 oz.	11 Inches
Paddlefish	130 lbs.	Upper Missouri River-Confluence Area	2010	Alex Mergen	Black Hawk, SD	70 lbs.	
Chinook Salmon	31 lbs. 2 oz.	Missouri River-Garrison Dam Tailrace	1986	Thomas Schwartz	Beulah ND	12 lbs.	
<b>NONGAME FISH</b>							
Common Carp	31 lbs.	Sheyenne River	2003	Austin Loberg	Thompson ND	15 lbs.	
Bigmouth Buffalo	54 lbs.	Heart Butte Tailrace	2011	Keith Huschka	Dickinson ND	15 lbs.	
Freshwater Drum	26 lbs. 2 oz.	Lake Sakakawea-Bear Den Bay	1988	Larry Harris	Sidney MT	6 lbs.	
Lake Whitefish	8 lbs. 11 oz.	Missouri River-Garrison Dam Tailrace	1984	Bill Mitzel	Bismarck ND	4 lbs.	
Goldeye	3 lbs. 13 oz.	New Johns Lake	1998	Craig Unser	Mandan ND	2 lbs.	
Black Bullhead	4 lbs. 1 oz.	Devils Lake	1988	Riley Zavada	Wolford ND	2 lbs.	
Cisco	2 lbs. 8 oz.	Missouri River-Garrison Dam Tailrace	2000	Tyler/Scott Jr Borup	Pick City ND	1 lb. 12 oz.	

### Whopper/Catch and Release Club Program

Anglers who think they have caught a bigger-than-average fish are reminded to check the qualifications of the North Dakota Whopper and Catch and Release Club programs.

The Game and Fish Department offers a Whopper Club for anglers who catch a fish that meets a minimum weight. In addition, the Catch and Release Club recognizes anglers who catch a fish that meets a minimum length requirement and return it unharmed to the water.

To learn more about these programs access the Game and Fish Department's website, [gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov), and click on the fishing link; or refer to the 2012-14 North Dakota Fishing Guide.





Director Terry Steinwand, right, with Instructor of the Year Larry Thompson, Dickinson.



Director Terry Steinwand, right, with Instructor of the Year Dale Patrick, Bismarck.



35 years of service: Ernie Trudeau, John Jones, Jim Shulind and Steve Seeger.



30 years of service: Tim Dewald, Rod O'Clair, Lori Schweigert and Jim Gross (Not pictured, Lyle Westbrook).



25 years of service, Back Row: Lynda Miller, Terry Fasteen, Scott Mitchell, Thomas Kempf, Susan Harwood, Richard Harwood, Robert Ingold, Albert Ulmer, Allan Goerger, Juel Halstenson. Front row: Dennis Miller, Curtis Wittmayer, Michael Peterson, Darwin Bucholz, Todd Thingelstad, Robert Schwagler and Joe Solseng (Not pictured, Lauren Throntveit).

## Hunter Education Volunteers Recognized

Volunteer instructors for North Dakota's hunter education program were recognized in February for teaching students the importance of hunter safety and ethics.

Instructor of the year and years of service awards were presented at the annual hunter education workshop and awards banquet held in Bismarck. Larry Thompson, Dickinson, and Dale Patrick, Bismarck, were named instructors of the year.

Recognized for a decade or more of service were:

**35 years** – John Jones, Wishek; Steven Seeger, Turtle Lake; Jim Shulind, Grand Forks; and Ernest Trudeau, Jamestown.

**30 years** – Timothy Dewald, Streeter; Jim Gross, Mandan; Rodney O'Clair, Jamestown; Lori Schweigert, Beulah; and Lyle Westbrook, Moffit.

**25 years** – Darwin Bucholz, Rolla; Terry Fasteen, Detroit Lakes, Minn.; Allan Goerger, Barney; Juel Halstenson, West Fargo; Richard Harwood, Lemmon, South Dakota; Susan Harwood, Lemmon South Dakota; Robert Ingold, Manning; Thomas Kempf, Sawyer; Dennis Miller, Mandan; Lynda Miller, Mandan; Scott Mitchell, Rolla; Michael Peterson, Hazen; Robert Schwagler, New Salem; Joe Solseng, Grand Forks; Todd Thingelstad, Grand Forks; Lauren Throntveit, Crosby; Albert Ulmer, LaMoure; and Curtis Wittmayer, Parshall.

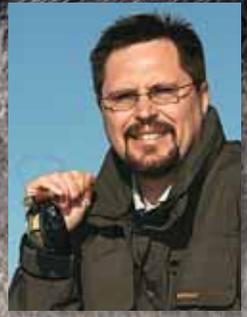
**20 years** – Douglas Bolte, Regent; James Borkowski, Bottineau; Dean Burwick, Dickinson; Dennis Ertelt, Fingal; Gary Ertmann, Devils Lake; Gerard Goldade, Hague; Craig Hoffart, Bottineau; Ruth Hubbard, Minot; James R. Johnson, New Rockford; Alan Klatt, Grand Forks; George Koenig, Gackle; Lynn Lawler, Rolla; Glenn Lemier, Oakes; Richard Leshovsky, Velva; David Meberg, Hebron; Karla Meikle, Bismarck; Brad Pierce, Hatton; Doyle Roeder, Bismarck; Lance Sateren, Bismarck; Daryl Simmons, Garrison; Patricia Stark, Cavalier; and Curtis Walen, Carrington.

**15 years** – Darren Benneweis, Enderlin; Larry Brooks, Bottineau; Bob Campbell, Hannaford; Scott Fasteen, Bismarck; Sean Hagan, Walhalla; Marvin Ingman, Dickinson; Mary Beth Ingman, Dickinson; Doyle Johannes, Underwood; Brad Kilde, Glen Ullin; Joe Lautenschlager, Berthold; Marty Liesener, Ray; Zachary Lindemann, Bismarck; Mike Marquette, Britton, South Dakota; Brad Olson, West Fargo; Dale Patrick, Bismarck; Mike Rieger, Minot; Glen Sargeant, Jamestown; Scott Sigette, Devils Lake; and Paul Vasquez, Grand Forks.

**10 years** – Randy Anderson, Hettinger; Jerod Basol, Portland; Keith Brodie, Arvilla; Harold Capaci, Minot; Kenneth Clouston, Bismarck; Wesley Crosby, Williston; Walter Helfrich, West Fargo; Connie Jorgenson, Devils Lake; Kelly Keller, Center; Jackie Martin, Anamoose; Kevin Mattson, Kindred; Michael Melaas, Minot; Robert Miller, Oakes; Scot Schara, Gladstone; Joseph Schirado, Bismarck; Richard Simon Sr., Grand Forks; Ronald Swenson, Williston; Eric Tilton, Larimore; Sharon Titus, Lincoln; Lavern Vance, Ray.

# back cast

By Ron Wilson



RON WILSON

I did a favor for a friend the other day and she said by way of goodbye on the phone that my good turn should be worth some walleye fillets. The fish is in my freezer, which seems early for such generosity, considering it's just mid-March, days away from the official first day of spring. But I'll happily take it, along with a handful of 70-plus-degree days that filled Missouri River boat ramp parking lots.

While the Missouri flows unencumbered south, massaging the undersides of boats carrying walleye anglers, area lakes harbor just the scattered sheet of rotten ice, but are mostly open, which also seems earlier than we are accustomed.

There was a time I kept track of such things, scribbling in what passed for a fishing journal things that seemed important, like when the ice went off on a favorite local water, at what time in June smallmouth bass aggressively guard their spawning beds from baits cast too close, the color of lure that, for whatever reason, out-fished everything in the tackle box for post-spawn northern pike.

Upon review, and after years of doing it, the significance of some of the notes was

lost in translation. If there were points to be made, and I'm guessing there were at the time, most had gone out of focus and were of little use years later. While I can't say for certain if anything I wrote helped me catch more fish, I could have told you after reviewing my notes, if they hadn't been trashed in an effort to unclutter things at home, whether ice out on local lakes this year was earlier than we've seen in the last decade or so.

I'm guessing that it was, by several days or more.

Early ice-out, much like the open winter we experienced, was a blessing. We can say with a straight face that we deserve it after three pretty ugly winters in a row. With the end of March still days away as I write this, I can honestly claim that I've spent more time casting to ice-out fish than I did shoveling snow the entire winter combined. This is a balance I could get used to, but I'm not naïve enough to believe that it will happen that often.

The handful of lakes we've visited after ice-out looked pretty much how we left them in fall – the grasses lining the shorelines were winter-brown and tinder-dry, and the sweet clover about head-high and

troublesome if you didn't pay attention to your back cast.

Muskrats, that must have spent winter in bank-side burrows as their telltale cattail houses were nowhere to be seen, swam around and around the bay, diving when they got close. It's hard to ever figure what muskrats are doing besides just swimming around, but according to guide books, it's almost breeding season so maybe there was some posturing among males that we missed between untangling monofilament knots and rummaging around in tackle boxes.

While the sun was shining and it was nice to be wandering the banks of good looking water in shorts and a T-shirt in March, the fishing was darn slow. I remember better days, and probably had even written something to that effect in the now discarded journal, but that's OK because the kids were having fun and you'd have to be a knucklehead not to appreciate the opportunity to be fishing open water this early.

**RON WILSON** is editor of *North Dakota OUTDOORS*.

# A CLOSER LOOK

By Ron Wilson



CRAIG BIRLIE

## *Muskellunge*

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department has been stocking muskellunge in state waters for more than a half-century, beginning with pure muskies in the late 1950s.

Under the right habitat conditions, this member of the pike family lives long and can grow to be one of the biggest fish species swimming in North Dakota. The state record is a 46-pound, 8-ounce pure muskie caught in New Johns Lake in 2007. By comparison, only two state record fish, a 54-pound bigmouth buffalo and a 130-pound paddlefish, are bigger.

There are two types of muskellunge in the state, pure and tiger. There are differences between the two, the main being that the tiger muskie is a cross between a female muskie and a male northern pike. The male tiger muskie is sterile and

the female is often fertile. The tiger muskie is said to grow slightly faster than the pure the first several years of life, but the pure live longer and ultimately get bigger.

There is public demand for both pure and tiger muskies in the state and the Game and Fish Department manages for both. Stocking is critical to the fishery because fisheries biologists have yet to document natural reproduction in those North Dakota waters in which muskies are found.

Whether it's pure strain or tiger muskies being released in select North Dakota waters depends a lot on what Department fisheries managers are able to get their hands on from other states where the fish are raised. In 2011, for example, the only muskellunge stocked in the state were tiger muskies from a hatchery in Pennsylvania. The fish were released

into Lake Aubudon. The last time pure strain muskies were stocked was in 2010 in GDU Canal lakes and Red Willow Lake. These fish came from South Dakota.

Muskies are a niche fish that lure anglers away from, say, walleye and pike, because of the possibility to catch a really big fish. The tiger muskie record for the state, which has stood since 1975, is 40 pounds.

While muskies provide some sporting diversity to fishing in North Dakota, these fish are seldom the highlight of an evening fish fry because you have to catch a really big one to be able to keep it. New this year, the minimum harvest length for a muskie is 48 inches.

---

**RON WILSON** is editor of *North Dakota OUTDOORS*.