

NORTH DAKOTA OUTDOORS

PUBLISHED BY THE NORTH DAKOTA

GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

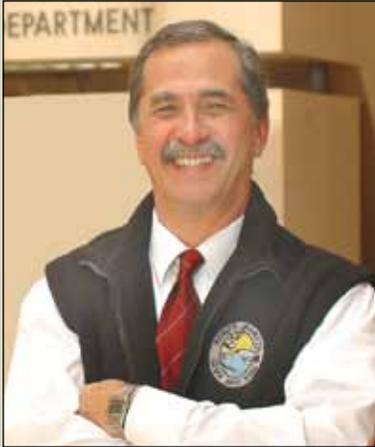
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2016 SPECIAL FISHING ISSUE





MATTERS OF OPINION



Terry Steinwand
Director

It's nearly mid-March as I write this and open water fishing on the Missouri River – from Garrison Dam Tailrace to MacLean Bottoms – has been possible for three weeks already.

Although it isn't unheard of for anglers to get this good of a jump on some open-water walleye fishing, it still seems early. And from what I'm hearing, the fishing, for the most part, has been pretty good.

While the Missouri River, for good reason, attracts a ton of attention, North Dakota is blessed with many quality lakes and reservoirs that harbor a variety of fish species.

For a number of years now, we've been telling anglers about North Dakota having a record-number of fishing opportunities scattered around the state.

This year isn't any different.

In this issue of *North Dakota OUTDOORS*, the Game and Fish Department's special fishing issue, readers will find 420-plus fishing waters listed in the 2016 North Dakota fishing waters report.

The report, among other things, provides driving directions to the waters and glimpses of fish populations. If you are looking for somewhere to wet a line nearby, you'll likely find one in these pages.

For years, Game and Fish Department staff has done its best to educate and inform boaters, anglers and other water users on the negatives of introducing and spreading aquatic nuisance species in North Dakota waters.

This effort to combat exotics is ongoing and remains a concern. Anglers and other water users are reminded of this effort at public ramps around the state where signs

are prominently posted.

In a perfect world, North Dakota waters would be free of all aquatic nuisance species. Unfortunately, that's not the case.

A quick search on the Game and Fish Department's website (gf.nd.gov) and you learn, for example, where curly leaf pondweed has been found. And the same goes for Eurasian water milfoil.

Grabbing much of the attention in the ANS world in 2015 was the discovery of adult zebra mussels in the Red River. Considering that zebra mussel larvae were found in the area before, and that adults were established in the Otter Tail River in Minnesota, this news didn't come as a big surprise.

What we don't want is word that this invasive mussel has spread elsewhere in the state, and we're doing what we can to make sure that doesn't happen.

Even so, we need your help, the assistance of all water users to make sure this exotic mussel, and other invasive species, aren't unintentionally moved from water to water.

To comply with regulations, and help in this important effort of not spreading or introducing ANS to North Dakota waters, go to the Department's website or see the 2016-18 North Dakota Fishing Guide.

Also, the next time you are at one of the state's many public boat ramps, take a minute to read the sign that reminds anglers and others to INSPECT (watercraft for ANS), REMOVE (plants and ANS) and DRAIN (all water).

We are blessed with some incredible resources in North Dakota, but we need to be diligent about keeping it that way.

Terry Steinwand

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NORTH DAKOTA OUTDOORS
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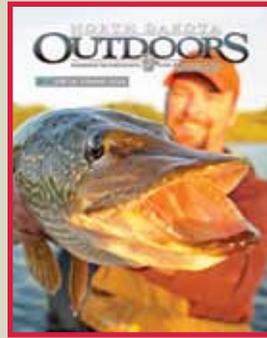
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Front Cover

An angler with a northern pike, North Dakota's state fish. (Photo by Craig Bihrl, Bismarck.)



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• Outdoors Circulation 701-328-6363
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Beyond WETTING A LINE

By Greg Power

Fishing isn't the same as catching. And, at times, catching isn't the same as harvesting. However, if you're an experienced North Dakota angler, you likely have caught and kept your fair share of fish in the past five or so years, and would perhaps agree that fishing in the state has never been better.

Depending on where you live, there are numerous fishing opportunities at more than a hundred lakes that didn't support a fishery a decade ago. Many of those waters now offer a variety of fish species.

Considering that fishing license sales and angler numbers have hit all-time highs in North Dakota in recent years, the question arises concerning the level of public involvement in various fishing issues.

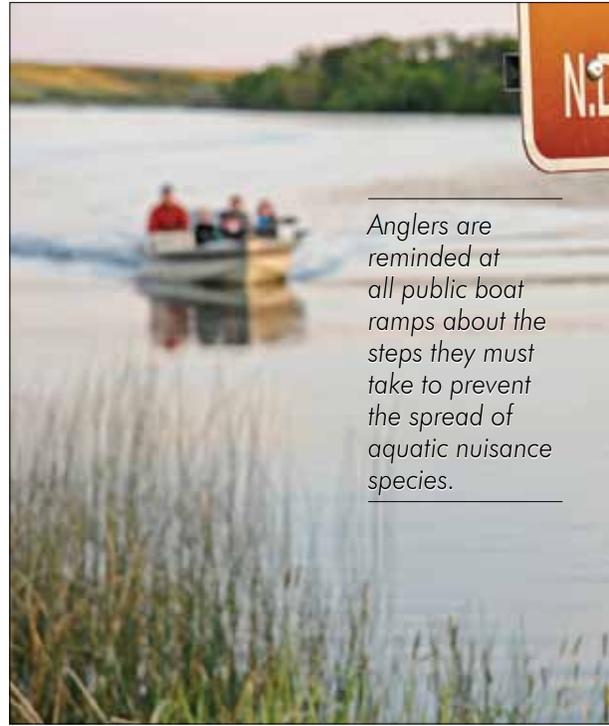
It's fair to say the Game and Fish Department does hear, directly or indirectly, its share of general questions and comments: "We need a slot limit now ... Why isn't there a boat ramp on my lake? ... Shouldn't the Department be stocking more fish?"

These are fair questions that are followed with reasonable explanations from Game and Fish staff. In reality, however, these types of inquiries are generated by the same few dozen individuals. More power to them for making their opinions heard, but how about the other 200,000 active anglers?

While the walleye is the most revered fish species in the state, North Dakota offers many fishing opportunities for a variety of other species as well.



Mike Johnson, Department fisheries biologist in Jamestown, releases a walleye into Horseshoe Lake in Richland County.



Anglers are reminded at all public boat ramps about the steps they must take to prevent the spread of aquatic nuisance species.

The Department relies on public input and involvement for a variety of reasons. For instance:

- Strong working relationships with many local entities across the state, especially in terms of developing boat ramps, is vital.
- Landowners are often critical partners in providing fishing opportunities by providing public access easements.
- Fishing clubs serve as important conduits between Game and Fish and local anglers for information exchange.
- Groups such as the North Dakota Sport-fishing Congress play an important role in protecting, promoting and improving quality recreational fishing in North Dakota.
- Simple one-on-one correspondence with anglers provides the Department with local insight into various matters.

Unfortunately, public input and involvement has been waning for years. Reasons for this sparse civic participation are likely varied, but in the big picture it mirrors national trends where citizens are less and less involved in community matters (not to be confused with volunteerism). This can be seen upfront and personal with service clubs/organizations throughout the country that are aging rapidly,

with little recruitment of younger generations.

Closer to home, despite record numbers of North Dakota anglers, fishing clubs today number around 20, compared to 30 or more 15 years ago. The average age of club members is well into the 50s and, more importantly, club leaders are in their 60s and 70s.

Although every fishing club is welcoming and even actively recruiting younger members, successes have been extremely limited. As baby boomers continue to cross the threshold of 65, this trend will likely become even more apparent.

I read recently that an estimated 10,000 young people turn 21 every day in the United States. Wouldn't it be wonderful to recruit some of these young adults to take a more active role in stewardship of our natural resources?

Easier said than done, certainly, as challenges abound as how to tap into the youthful energy of these newer generations. Compared to their parents, they bring a different value set, which focuses on connectivity to the electronic world and less face-to-face communication.

It's long been understood the primary reasons people fish are to relax and spend time with family and friends. With these motivating factors in mind,



CRAIG BIRHLE



SANDRA JOHNSON

Fishing license sales and angler numbers in North Dakota have hit all-time highs in recent years.

it's easy to understand why individuals don't engage themselves in outdoor issues. Fishing for some, or most, is nothing more than a recreational activity.

Conversely, we also know that for select others, fishing is much more than a leisure activity. It's a passion. In 2015, about 5 percent of all North Dakota open water anglers fished 30 or more days. That's at least a month of fishing for the seven or so open water fishing months that North Dakota offers. In fact, 1 percent fished 60 or more days. This high overall fishing effort and participation, certainly, translates into a lot of money spent to fish. According to a 2011 North Dakota State University angler expenditure study, anglers fishing in North Dakota spend \$425 million, not including indirect expenses.

Extrapolating from that 1 percent of anglers who fished 60 or more days results in nearly 1,600 avid resident anglers. To put that in comparative perspective, the Game and Fish Department conducts 16 advisory board meetings across the state every year. The total attendance for the past 50 or so meetings may total 1,600, but that includes many of the same faces year after year. (And the dominant discussion at any one of these advisory board meetings seldom involves fishing).

The point is, despite North Dakota having a strong

fishing populace and an avid group of active anglers, few even attend one meeting a year.

Looking into a crystal ball, North Dakota's fishing resources face a lot of different challenges in years to come, including aquatic nuisance species and illegal bait transfer issues; erosion of a federal commitment to the two national fish hatcheries in the state; lack of meaningful fisheries input into water management; and inclusion of federal agricultural programs that reduce runoff and help improve water quality.

Without engagement from North Dakota's fishing public, tackling these and other challenges will be difficult. What is needed is the development of a broader base of anglers to become more involved in all things fishing, including attendance at Department-sponsored meetings held periodically across the state; involvement in local fishing clubs; and a show of support for the North Dakota Sportfishing Congress.

Any and all participation is welcomed.

The future doesn't rest solely with the Department and its biological staff, but with the willingness of anglers to become more engaged in their outdoor passion, beyond simply wetting a line.

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

2016 NORTH DAKOTA FISHING WATERS REPORT

FISH

An early summer fishing scene on Crooked Lake in McLean County.

What follows are driving directions and infrastructure information on the state's managed waters, plus fish population remarks for the majority of North Dakota's fisheries.

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 in which they are interested.

The fishery outlooks provided by Game and Fish Department district fisheries supervisors are not all-inclusive reports, but rather peeks into each water's fish populations to help frame angler expectations. With a record number of lakes scattered across North Dakota, fisheries biologists

have yet to conduct thorough population assessments on many of the waters.

Any changes and updates on managed lakes appear on the Game and Fish Department's website at gf.nd.gov.

Most state public fishing waters have boat ramps. Lakes or rivers where no ramp exists are listed as "no ramp." Check signs at each area for further restrictions.

NORTHWEST FISHERIES DISTRICT

Aaron Slominski, district fisheries biologist, Riverdale

BURKE COUNTY

Northgate Dam (097) – 6 miles north, 1 mile west, 2 miles north, .5 miles west of Bowbells. Good populations of walleye, rainbow trout and bluegill. Fair number of

black crappie and a few largemouth bass. (Fishing pier).

Powers Lake (093) – Southeast side of Powers Lake. Pike in good numbers and a variety of sizes. (Fishing pier).

Short Creek Dam (094) – 5.5 miles north of Columbus. Fair populations of northern pike, walleye, yellow perch and bluegill. (Fishing pier).

Smishek Lake (095) – 4 miles northwest

of Powers Lake. Good numbers of yellow perch and bluegill. Also fair numbers of walleye and northern pike, with a few big fish of both species. White suckers are fairly abundant and a management problem. (Fishing pier).

DIVIDE COUNTY

Baukol-Noonan Dam (475) – 2 miles east, .5 miles south of Noonan. Primarily



CRAIG BIRRIE

rainbow trout, along with some walleye, brown trout and largemouth bass. Yellow perch and bluegill are mostly small. (Fishing pier).

Skjermo Lake (126) – 3 miles west, 4 miles northwest of Fortuna. Strong pike population and a fair number of yellow perch. (Fishing pier).

MCKENZIE COUNTY

Arnegard Dam (216) – .5 miles west, 3 miles north, 1.5 miles southwest of Arnegard. Primarily northern pike, with some larger fish. Some adult yellow perch and an abundance of black bullheads. (Fishing pier).

Leland Dam (469) – 11 miles south, 8 miles west, 8 miles south, 2 miles southeast, 1.5 miles east, 1 mile north of Alexander. Strong bluegill and largemouth bass populations. Partial winterkill in 2013-14 didn't hurt fish populations much. Lack of public use facilities and poor access at times tend to limit use.

Sather Dam (217) – 11 miles south, 8 miles west of Alexander. Fish populations recovering after significant winterkill in 2010-11. Good numbers of smaller bluegill and largemouth bass. (Fishing pier).

Watford City Park Pond (640) – Southeast side of Watford City. All fish lost to winterkill nearly every winter. Stocked annually in spring with adult channel catfish and catchable rainbow trout. (Fishing pier, no ramp).

MOUNTRAIL COUNTY

Clearwater Lake (248) – 2 miles east, 3.8 miles north, .5 miles east, 3 miles north-northeast, .5 miles east of Stanley. Strong population of 2- to 4-pound northern pike.

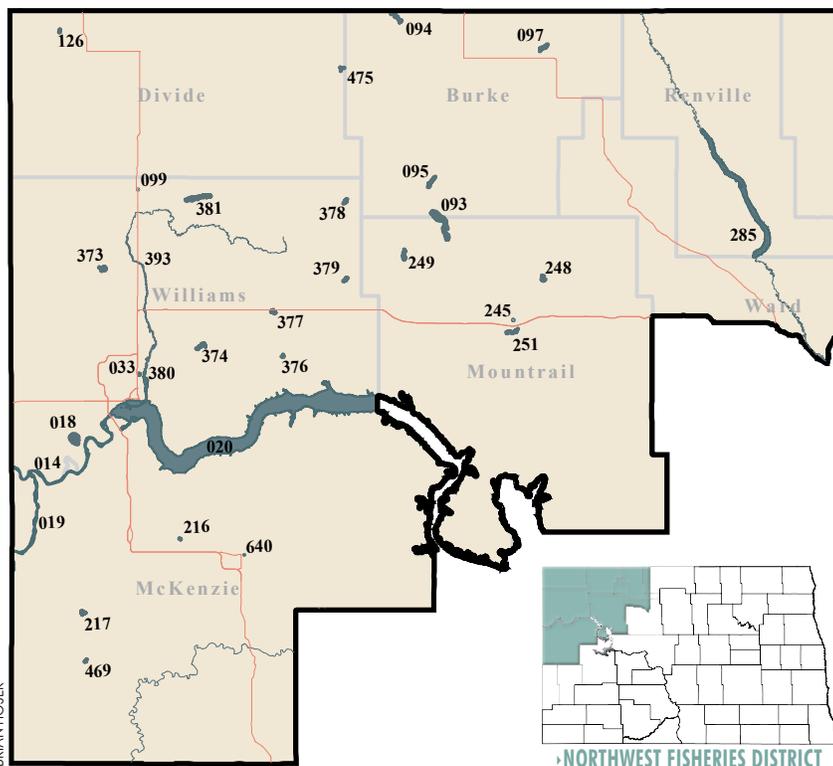
Stanley Pond (245) – Northeast side of Stanley. Suffers from significant winterkill most winters. Stocked annually in spring with adult channel catfish and catchable rainbow trout. (Fishing pier).

Stanley Reservoir (251) – 1 mile south of Stanley. Good number of small northern pike.

White Earth Dam (249) – 6 miles north, 8.5 miles east, 2 miles south of Tioga. Fishery consists primarily of northern pike, but also fair numbers of walleye, bluegill and yellow perch. White suckers are fairly abundant and a management problem. (Fishing pier).

RENVILLE COUNTY

Lake Darling (285) – 16 miles north, 13 miles west of Minot. Strong populations of northern pike, walleye, yellow perch and a few smallmouth



BRIAN HOSEK

NORTHWEST FISHERIES DISTRICT

bass. Black bullheads are abundant and a serious management problem. (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. Good numbers of northern pike, yellow perch and bluegill, and a fair number of walleye. White suckers are abundant and remain a management concern. (Fishing pier).

Cottonwood Lake (381) – 1 mile east, .5 miles north of Alamo. Strong pike and perch populations. (Fishing pier).

East Spring Lake Pond (380) – North side of Williston. Winterkills most years. Fishing opportunities almost totally reliant on annual stockings. Stocked with adult and fingerling northern pike in recent years. (Fishing pier, no ramp).

Epping-Springbrook Dam (374) – 1.5 miles east of Springbrook. Fair populations of northern pike, walleye and yellow perch. Black bullheads are abundant and a serious management problem. (Fishing pier).

Kettle Lake (099) – 3 miles east, 2.5 miles north of Zahl. Primarily a rainbow trout fishery, but also contains some brown trout and largemouth bass. Yellow perch present and fairly abundant, but the population has been greatly reduced in recent years by predation and targeted netting and removal. (Fishing pier).

Kota-Ray Dam (376) – 5 miles south, .5 miles east, 2 miles south of Ray. Primarily a rainbow trout, largemouth bass, yellow perch and bluegill fishery, but also contains some walleye and smallmouth bass. (Fishing pier).

Little Muddy River (393) – East edge of Williston. Highly dependent on high water levels and fish movement from upper Missouri River. Fair populations of northern pike and channel catfish, with many other species present. (Fishing pier).

McGregor Dam (378) – 1 mile south of McGregor. Good numbers of walleye, yellow perch and rainbow trout. (Fishing pier).

McLeod (Ray) Reservoir (377) – Southwest side of Ray. Strong populations of walleye and yellow perch. Bluegill present. (Fishing pier).

Tioga Dam (379) – North side of Tioga. Primarily a northern pike fishery, with a

few perch and bluegill. (Fishing pier).

Trenton Lake (018) – South side of Trenton. Good numbers of northern pike, crappie and channel catfish. Due to periodic interconnection with Missouri River, many other species present. (Fishing pier).

West Spring Lake Pond (033) – North edge of Williston. Stocked annually with rainbow trout. Also stocked with adult channel catfish in 2014. Black bullheads abundant and a serious management problem. (No ramp).

RIVERS AND LAKES

Upper Missouri River (014) – Missouri River from Williston to Montana state line. Primarily a spring and fall fishery for sauger and walleye, but increasing angling effort targeting abundant channel catfish and northern pike populations. Many other species present.

Yellowstone River (019) – Near towns of Buford, Cartwright and Fairview. Primarily a spring and fall fishery for sauger and walleye, but increasing angling effort targeting abundant channel catfish and

northern pike populations. Many other species present. (Fishing pier).

SOUTHWEST FISHERIES DISTRICT

Jeff Hendrickson, district fisheries supervisor, Dickinson

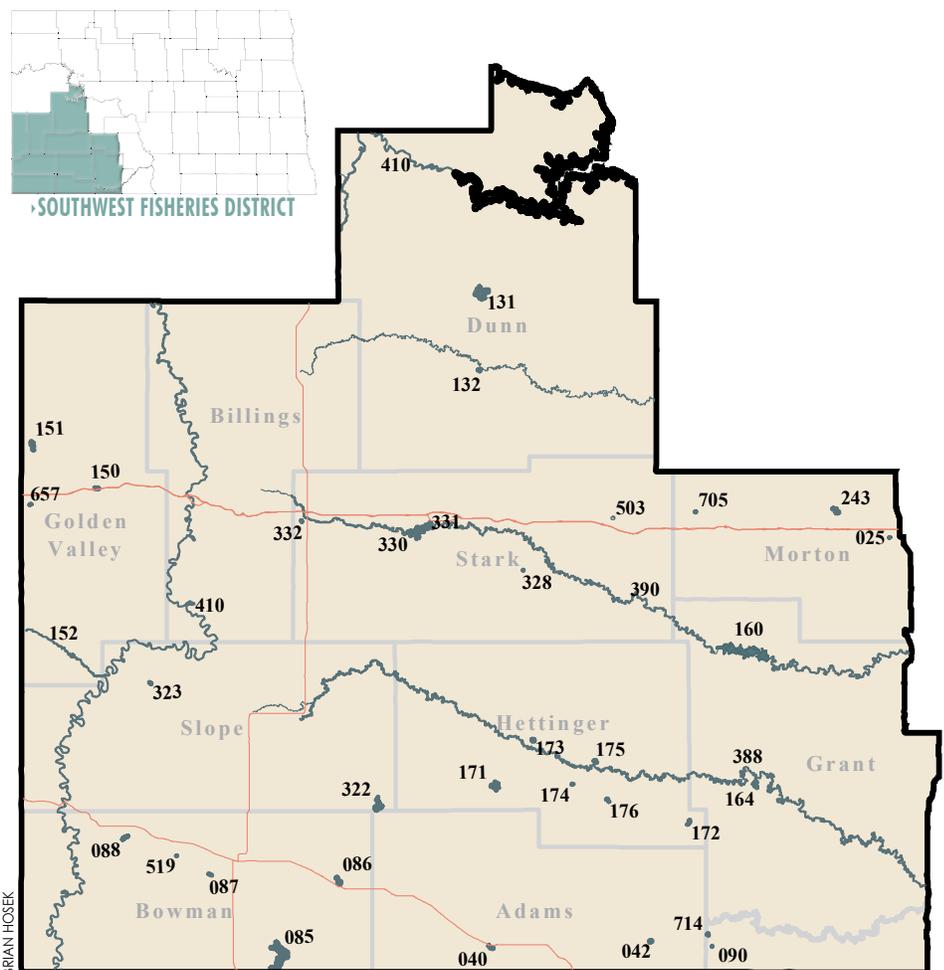
ADAMS COUNTY

Mirror Lake (040) – South side of Hettinger. Some pike up to 2 pounds. Some perch up to a half-pound. Catfish up to 5 pounds stocked most years. Small bullheads abundant. (Fishing pier).

North Lemmon (042) – 5 miles north of Lemmon, South Dakota. Rainbow trout stocked annually. Small brown trout present. Abundant small yellow perch. Fair number of bluegill up to a half-pound. Fair number of largemouth bass up to 5 pounds. Some walleye up to 10 pounds. (Fishing pier).

BOWMAN COUNTY

Bowman-Haley Dam (085) – 11 miles south, 8 miles east, 2 miles south of



Bowman. Dominated by walleye up to 7 pounds, northern pike up to 10 pounds, white bass up to 2 pounds and smallmouth bass up to 2 pounds. Some yellow perch up to about 1 pound and crappie up to a half-pound. Many large carp, good for bowfishing. (Fishing pier).

Gascoyne Lake

(086) – 1.5 miles northwest of Gascoyne. Northern pike stocked annually, with some fish up to 3 pounds. Yellow perch stocked in 2014. Small carp, bullhead and green sunfish abundant at times.

Kalina Dam (087) – 2 miles west, 1 mile south, 1 mile west, 1 mile south of Bowman. Abundant northern pike up to 5 pounds. Yellow perch, bluegill and crappie are mostly small, but some up to 2 pounds. Make sure to access the lake from south shore. (No ramp).

Lutz Dam (519) – 2.5 miles south, 2 miles west, .75 miles north of Griffin. Rainbow trout stocked annually. Winter-killed recently. Abundant bluegill up to a half-pound and small crappie. Small adult largemouth bass stocked in 2012. (No ramp).

Spring Lake (088) – 1 mile south, 4 miles west of Rhame. Recent winterkills significantly reduced pike population. Abundant yellow perch up to a half-pound.

DUNN COUNTY

Dvorak Dam (132) – 3.5 miles south, 5 miles east, .5 miles north of Manning. Yellow perch stocked in 2009. (No ramp).

Lake Ilo (131) – 1 mile west, 1 mile south of Dunn Center. Abundant northern pike up to 10 pounds, some perch up to a half-pound. (Fishing pier).



Crappie fishing in North Dakota.

BRANDON KRATZ

GOLDEN VALLEY COUNTY

Beach City Pond (657) – Southwest side of Beach. Rainbow trout stocked annually. (Fishing pier, no ramp).

Camels Hump Lake (150) – Northeast of Sentinel Butte I-94 Exit 10. Rainbow trout stocked annually, with some up to 2 pounds. Abundant largemouth bass are mostly small, some up to 4 pounds. Abundant bluegill up to a half-pound. Some brown trout and smallmouth bass.

Odland Dam (151) – 7 miles north of Beach. Winterkills often. Abundant perch, mostly 10 to 14 inches. Abundant bluegill, mostly 8 to 9 inches. Some small walleye. (Fishing pier).

Williams Creek Dam (152) – 7 miles south, 5 miles east, 2 miles south of Golva. Recently renovated. Small largemouth bass and bluegill stocked. Green sunfish abundant. (No ramp).

GRANT COUNTY

Heart Butte Reservoir (160) – 15 miles south of Glen Ullin. Dominated by mostly small walleye, but some up to 10 pounds. Fair numbers of northern pike up to 10 pounds, white bass up to 2 pounds, catfish up to 10 pounds, perch up to three quarters of a pound and smallmouth bass up to 2.5 pounds. Some crappie up to 1 pound

and bluegill up to a half-pound. Abundant large buffalo up to 40 pounds and some large carp up to 15 pounds. (Fishing pier).

Sheep Creek Dam (164) – 4 miles south, .5 miles west of Elgin. Rainbow trout stocked annually, with some up to 2 pounds. Fair number of largemouth bass, with some up to 4 pounds, abundant bluegill up to three quarters of a pound, abundant small crappie, with some up to three quarters of a pound. Some walleye up to 3 pounds, brown trout up to 2 pounds and smallmouth bass up to 1 pound. (Fishing pier).

HETTINGER COUNTY

Blickensderfer Dam (176) – 4 miles south, 1 mile east, .5 miles south of Mott. Abundant small bluegill, with some up to 1 pound. Some northern pike up to 3 pounds and some small perch. Walleye stocked in 2014. (No ramp).

Castle Rock Dam (174) – 2 miles west, 1.5 miles south, 1.5 miles west of Mott. Rainbow trout stocked annually. Bluegill stocked in 2009.

Indian Creek Dam (171) – 1.5 miles west, 2 miles south, 2 miles west, 3 miles south of Regent. Abundant walleye up to 10 pounds, small yellow perch, with some up to a half-pound and bluegill up

Fishing for yellow perch on a north central North Dakota lake.



CRAIG BIRBLE

to 1 pound. Some smallmouth bass up to 2 pounds. There was a partial summer kill (primarily walleye and yellow perch) in 2015. Subsequent survey work revealed populations of all species still fairly abundant and oxygen levels have rebounded. (Fishing pier).

Kilzer Dam (172) – 4.5 miles south, 1 mile east of Bentley. Bluegill stocked in 2011 and largemouth bass stocked in 2012. (No ramp).

Larson Lake (173) – .5 miles north and 2 miles east of Regent. Abundant northern pike up to 5 pounds. Abundant perch up to 1 pound.

Mott Watershed Dam (175) – North side of Mott. Rainbow trout stocked annually, with some up to 2 pounds. Abundant bluegill up to 1 pound. Abundant small largemouth bass, with a few up to 3 pounds. (Fishing pier).

MORTON COUNTY

Danzig Dam (243) – 2 miles north, 1.4 miles west, .2 miles north of I-94 Exit 120. Chemically renovated in 2013. Bullheads abundant, with some small perch, walleye and bluegill.

Gaebe Pond (025) – 1.5 miles west of New Salem. Rainbow trout stocked annually. Adult catfish up to 5 pounds stocked most years. Some small perch and bluegill. (Fishing pier, no ramp).

Krieg's Pond (705) – .5 miles east of Hebron. Rainbow trout stocked annually. Adult yellow perch stocked in 2011 and 2013-14. Adult catfish stocked in 2015. (No ramp).

SIoux COUNTY

Labow Lake (714) – 4 miles north, 3 miles west, 1 mile north, 1 mile east of Thunderhawk, South Dakota. Small bluegill and largemouth bass.

(No ramp).

Larson Lake (090) – 4 miles north, 1 mile west of Thunderhawk, South Dakota. History of winterkill. Largemouth bass and bluegill stocked in 2009. (No ramp).

SLOPE COUNTY

Cedar Lake (322) – 13 miles north, 2 miles west of Reeder. Winterkills often. Abundant northern pike, with some up to 5 pounds. Some perch up to a half-pound. Removed 90 percent of bullhead population in 2015. Catfish up to 5 pounds stocked some years.

Davis Dam (323) – 16 miles west, 4 miles north of Amidon. Rainbow trout stocked annually. Some bluegill up to a half-pound. Some small largemouth bass stocked in 2015.

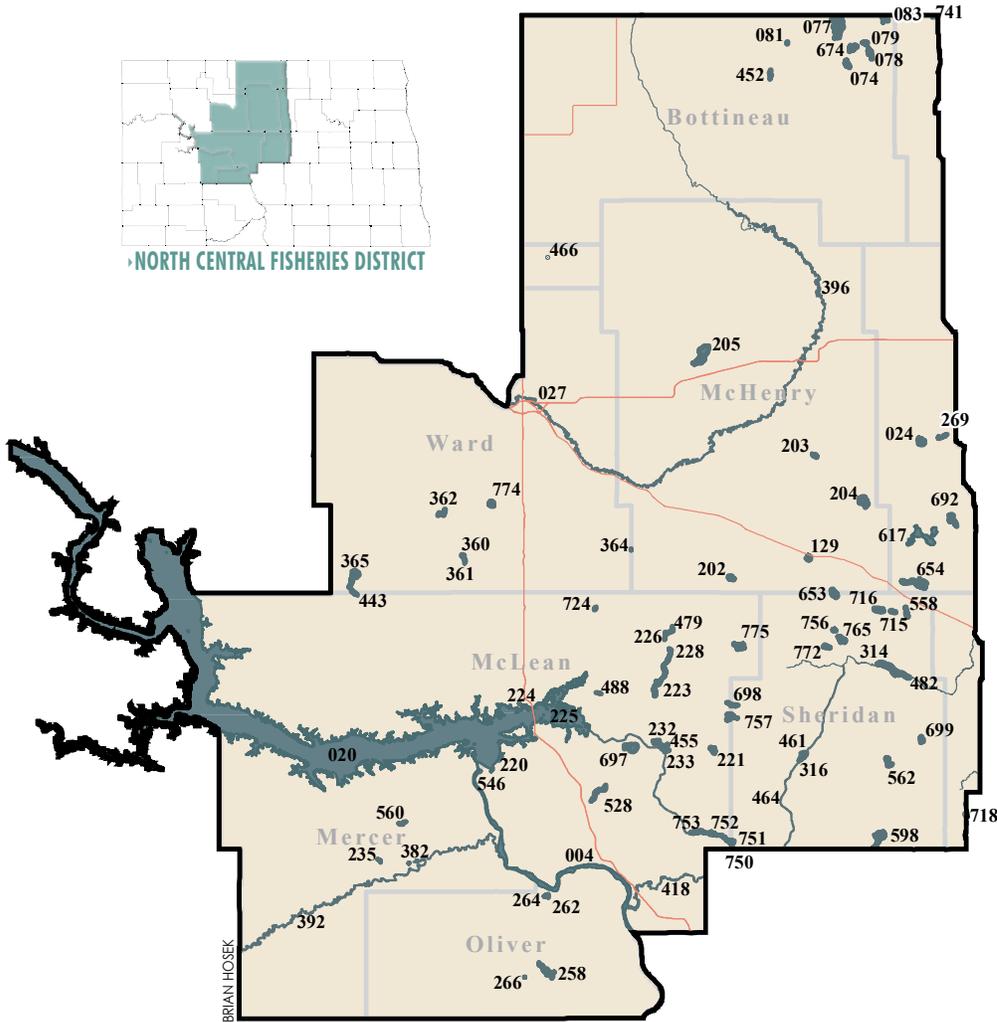
STARK COUNTY

Belfield Pond (332) – Southwest side of Belfield. Rainbow trout stocked annually. Catfish up to 5 pounds stocked most years. Some perch and bluegill up to a half-pound. Abundant green sunfish up to a quarter-pound. (Fishing pier).

Dassinger Pond (328) – 8 miles south, 1 mile east, .8 miles north of I-94 Exit 72. Walk through the gate 500 yards northwest. Adult largemouth bass and bluegill stocked in 2010. (No ramp).

Dickinson Dike (331) – Southwest side of Dickinson. Rainbow trout stocked annually. Adult catfish up to 5 pounds stocked most years. Abundant bass up to 3 pounds and small bluegill up to a quarter-pound. (Fishing pier).

Dickinson Reservoir (330) – 2 miles west of Dickinson. Good numbers of walleye up to 4 pounds, yellow perch up to 1 pound, bluegill up three quarters of a pound. Some small crappie. Many large bullhead present.



Adult catfish recently stocked and some exceed 15 pounds. (Fishing pier).

Slater Pond (503) – From I-94 Exit 84, .75 miles north, 1 mile east, .5 miles north, .5 miles east. Rainbow trout stocked annually. Adult perch stocked in 2009 are abundant. (No ramp).

RIVERS AND LAKES

Cannonball River (388) – In Slope, Hettinger, Grant and Sioux counties. Abundant carp most of the time. Some walleye, northern pike and catfish during spring spawning. (No ramp).

Heart River (390) – In Stark, Grant and Morton counties. Abundant carp and buffalo most of the time. Some walleye, northern pike and catfish during spring spawning. (No ramp).

Little Missouri River (410) – Southwestern part of state. Abundant catfish up to 10 pounds. Some sauger and walleye during spring spawning. (No ramp).

NORTH CENTRAL FISHERIES DISTRICT

*Jason Lee, district fisheries supervisor,
Riverdale*

BOTTINEAU COUNTY

Boundary Lake (083) – 9 miles north, 11 miles east, 2.5 miles north of Bottineau. Decent number of 8- to 9-inch perch. (No ramp).

Carbury Dam (452) – 1 mile south, 1 mile west of Carbury. Significant winterkill in 2013. Restocked with northern pike fingerlings in 2013. (Fishing pier).

Lake Metigoshe (077) – 9 miles north, 4 miles east, 1 mile north of Bottineau. Several sizes of bluegill, including some large fish, along with some nice crappie. Good numbers of walleye, with a wide range of sizes. Good northern pike fishing, with some large fish. (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. Decent pike and walleye populations. Lots of small perch.

Loon Lake (674) – 9 miles north, 4 miles east, 2 miles south, 2 miles east, .5 miles north of Bottineau. Fairly new perch fishery, with high perch numbers and some larger fish. (No ramp).

Pelican Lake (079) – 9 miles north, 8 miles east, .5 miles southwest of Bottineau. Decent number of northern pike.

Strawberry Lake (081) – 4 miles north, 2.5 miles east, .5 miles south of Carbury. Rainbow trout stocked annually. (Fishing pier).

Thompson Lake (074) – 9 miles north, 4 miles east, 2 miles south, 1 mile east, 1 mile south of Bottineau. Yellow perch stocked in 2012. (No ramp).

BURLEIGH COUNTY

New Johns Lake (750) – 11.8 miles south, 3 miles east of Mercer. Decent walleye numbers, with some larger fish. Lots of small- to medium-sized yellow perch. Bluegill numbers have increased in recent years. (Fishing pier).

MCHEMRY COUNTY

Bentley Lake (129) – 3 miles west of Drake. Fair number of small pike and some perch. (No ramp).

Buffalo Lodge Lake (205) – 1 mile east, 3 miles north, 2 miles east of Granville. Excellent pike numbers. Walleye population somewhat reduced with increased pike population. Mostly small perch. (Fishing pier).

Cottonwood Lake (202) – 2.5 miles north of Butte. Decent numbers of pike and smaller perch, and a good number of nice-sized walleye. (Fishing pier).

George Lake (203) – 13 miles north, 1 mile east, 1.3 miles north, .5 miles east of the junction of U.S. Highway 52 and ND Highway 14. Good number of pike, with some large fish. (Fishing pier).

Round Lake (204) – 6 miles north, 4.5 miles east of Drake. Good numbers of pike and 14- to 18-inch walleye. (No ramp).

MCLEAN COUNTY

Brush Lake (221) – 3 miles north of Mercer. Lots of 6- to 8-inch perch. Fair

number of walleye. Good pike population, with some larger fish. (Fishing pier).

Camp Lake (479) – 17.5 miles north, 2 miles east of Turtle Lake. Decent number of pike and lots of small perch. (No ramp).

Camp Loop Pond (546) – 3 miles southwest of Riverdale on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' downstream campground. Stocked annually with rainbow trout. (Fishing pier, no ramp).

Coal Lake (528) – 3 miles south, 1.5 miles east, .75 miles north of Underwood. Good number of 12- to 14-inch walleye. (No ramp).

Crooked Lake (223) – 10 miles north, .2 miles east, .1 mile south of Turtle Lake. Good numbers of nice-sized pike and walleye, with lots of smaller perch. (Fishing pier).

Custer Mine (224) – 4 miles east, 2 miles south of Garrison. A good put-and-take rainbow trout fishery in a small, easy-to-fish pond.

East Park Lake (752) – 9 miles south of Mercer. Decent walleye population, with some larger fish. Fair number of small- to medium-sized yellow perch. Bluegill population has increased in recent years.

(Fishing pier).

Elsie Lake (775) – .7 miles east, 6 miles south of Butte. Stocked with perch in 2014. (No ramp).

Lake Audubon (225) – North of Coleharbor. Good number of walleye and an excellent smallmouth bass fishery. Anglers should see good numbers of 14- to 16-inch walleye. Some large pike. (Fishing pier).

Lake Brekken (232) – 1.5 miles north of Turtle Lake. Good number of 7- to 8-inch perch. Good

number of smaller walleye, with some 16- to 18-inch fish. (Fishing pier).

Lake Gertie (724) – 1 mile south of Benedict. Fairly new lake, with a good number of 20- to 24-inch pike. (No ramp).

Lake Holmes (455) – 1 mile northeast of Turtle Lake. Small perch abundant. Fair number of 14- to 16-inch walleye.

Lightning Lake (233) – .5 miles east of Turtle Lake. A quality trout fishery, with some large fish. (Fishing pier).

Long Lake (228) – 13 miles north, 4 miles east, 2 miles north, 1.5 miles west of Turtle Lake. Good number of 20- to 30-inch northern pike.

Painted Woods Creek (418) – 5 miles southeast of Washburn. Fair number of northern pike. (No ramp).

Pelican Lake (757) – 7 miles north, 3 miles east, .4 miles north of Mercer. Abundant perch and some smaller pike. (No ramp).

Riverdale City Pond (220) – North side of Riverdale. Popular pond for kids and family outings. Lots of small bluegill. Stocked annually with rainbow trout. (Fishing pier, no ramp).

Strawberry Lake (226) – 17.5 miles north, 2 miles east of Turtle Lake. Good pike population. Lots of small perch and bluegill. (Fishing pier).

Turtle Lake (697) – 4.5 miles west, 1 mile north of Turtle Lake. Decent number of northern pike, with some larger fish. (No ramp).

Weishaar WPA (488) – 8 miles north, 8 miles west, 1 mile north of Turtle Lake. Winter perch fishery. (No ramp).

West Park Lake (753) – 9 miles south, 2 miles west of Mercer. Fair numbers of walleye and small perch. Good number of pike, with some larger fish. (No ramp).

MERCER COUNTY

Beulah Mine Pond (235) – 2 miles north, 2.5 miles east, .5 miles north of Beulah. Some pike and perch. (No ramp).

Harmony Lake (560) – 6 miles north, 1 mile west of Hazen. Good number of bluegill, with some quality-sized fish. Stocked annually with rainbow trout. (Fishing pier).

Hazen Creek (382) – West end of Hazen. Rainbow trout stocked annually. (No ramp).



Game and Fish Department fisheries personnel with smallmouth bass from the McClusky Canal.

JASON LEE

OLIVER COUNTY

East Arroda Dam (262) – 1 mile east of Fort Clark on ND Highway 200A. Good crappie numbers, with some quality fish. Pike numbers have increased in recent years, with mostly smaller pike. Earthen fishing piers for shore-fishing access.

Nelson Lake (258) – 5 miles east, 3 miles south of Center. The best largemouth bass lake in the state. Open water year-round allows fish to grow better than in other lakes. Abundant quality-sized bluegill and crappie. (Fishing pier).

Oliver County Sportsmen's Pond (266) – 4 miles south, .5 miles west of Center. Rainbow trout stocked annually. (No ramp).

West Arroda Dam (264) – 1 mile east of Fort Clark on ND Highway 200A. Good crappie numbers, with some quality fish. Earthen fishing piers for shore-fishing access.

PIERCE COUNTY

Antelope Lake (617) – 3 miles south, 5.4 miles west, 2.4 miles south of the intersection of ND highways 3 and 19. Nice-sized perch abundant. Many 14- to 16-inch walleye, with some larger fish. (No ramp).

Balta Dam (269) – .5 miles south of Balta. Significant winterkill in 2013. Restocked with northern pike fingerlings in 2014 and 2015.

Clear Lake (654) – 6 miles east, .7 miles south of Anamoose. Good numbers of quality-sized walleye and perch. (No ramp).

Davis Lake (024) – 2 miles west, 1.5 miles south of Balta. Significant winterkill in 2013. Stocked with northern pike fingerlings in 2014.

Lesmeister Lake (692) – 3 miles south, 3 miles west, 1.3 miles north of the intersection of ND highways 3 and 19. Newer walleye lake, with a good number of smaller fish. (No ramp).

RENVILLE COUNTY

Glenburn Pond (466) – North side of Glenburn. Small pond stocked annually with trout. Yellow perch and bluegill stocked periodically. (No ramp).

ROLETTE COUNTY

Lake Udall (741) – Through the International Peace Garden, 13 miles north of Dunseith. Small pond stocked annually with rainbow trout. (No ramp).

SHERIDAN COUNTY

Bender Lake (715) – .5 miles south, 4 miles west, .5 miles south of Martin. Fair number of perch, mostly small fish. (No ramp).

Cherry Lake (698) – 7 miles north, 3 miles east, 2 miles north, .3 miles west of Mercer. Abundant small perch, with some quality-sized fish. (No ramp).

Coal Mine Lake (482) – 14 miles south, 5 miles east of Anamoose. Good number of northern pike, mostly smaller fish. (Fishing pier).

Davis WPA (598) – 8 miles south, 1 mile east of Denhoff. Abundant perch, with some quality-sized fish. Walleye population expanding, with a good number of 14- to 20-inch fish. (No ramp).

Heckers Lake (751) – 9 miles south, 2.4 miles east of Mercer. Fair number of perch, with some quality-sized fish. Decent numbers of pike and smallmouth bass. (No ramp).

Hinsz Lake (765) – 18 miles north, 4.2 miles east of McClusky. New fishing lake, first stocked with perch and walleye in 2014. (No ramp).

Kaibel Lake (756) – 10.2 miles south of Drake. Lots of perch, many are smaller-sized. (No ramp).



Anglers and other water users will find some boating restrictions on some lakes around the state.

RON WILSON

Lake Richard (653) – 4.5 miles south of Drake. Abundant yellow perch, with some quality-sized fish. (No ramp).

Miller Lake (772) – 18 miles north, 2 miles east, .2 miles south of McClusky. New perch lake, first stocked in 2014. (No ramp).

Mud Lake (716) – 4.5 miles south of Anamoose. New perch lake, with a fair number of 6- to 9-inch fish. (No ramp).

North (Hoffer) McClusky (461) – 2 miles north, 1 mile west of McClusky. Abundant smaller pike. (No ramp).

Sheyenne Lake (314) – 13.5 miles south, 1.5 miles east, .4 miles north of Anamoose. Pike stocked periodically. (No ramp).

South (Hoffer) McClusky (316) – 2 miles north, 1 mile west of McClusky. Decent numbers of perch, walleye and northern pike. Some bluegill and crappie. (Fishing



While anglers will drive long distances for a good yellow perch bite in winter, these fish provide plenty of fishing opportunities during North Dakota's open water season.

CRAIG BHIRLE

pier).

Stober Lake (562) – 4 miles west, 1 mile north of Goodrich. Good number of 14- to 18-inch walleye and 7- to 8-inch perch. (No ramp).

Vollrath Lake (699) – 5.5 miles north, 1 mile east, 1 mile south of Goodrich. Good number of perch, with some quality-sized fish. (No ramp).

Wolf Lake (558) – .5 miles south, 1.8 miles west of Martin. Significant winterkill in 2013. Restocked with northern pike fingerlings in 2013. (No ramp).

WARD COUNTY

Hiddenwood Lake (443) – 8 miles south of Makoti. Decent numbers of yellow perch,

walleye and northern pike. (Fishing pier).

Lake Korslein (774) – 5 miles west, 3 miles north, .5 miles east of the junction of U.S. Highway 83 and ND Highway 23. New perch lake, first stocked in 2014. (No ramp).

Makoti Lake (365) – 6 miles south of Makoti. Good number of 24- to 28-inch northern pike. (No ramp).

North Carlson Lake (360) – 10 miles east of Ryder. Good number of pike, making it a good place to take a kid fishing.

Rice Lake (362) – 4 miles north, 7 miles east, 2 miles north of Ryder. Winterkilled in 2011, but pike and perch coming back nicely.

South Carlson Lake (361) – 10 miles east

of Ryder. Good fishing in recent years for mostly smaller pike. (Fishing pier).

State Fair Pond (027) – North end of state fairgrounds. Small pond stocked annually with trout and panfish. (Fishing pier, no ramp).

Velva Sportsmen's Pond (364) – 7 miles south, 1.5 miles west, 1 mile south, .5 miles west of Velva. Consistently a quality fishery for nice-sized browns and rainbows.

WELLS COUNTY

Hurd Lake (718) – 2 miles west, 3 miles south of Hurdsfield. New perch lake, with a fair number of fish. (No ramp).

RIVERS AND LAKES

Knife River (392) – In Dunn and Mercer counties. Connected to the Missouri River, so a variety of fish species available. (No ramp).

Lake Sakakawea (020) – Near cities of Williston, New Town, Garrison and Riverdale. See separate Missouri River System report. (Fishing pier).

McClusky Canal (464) – Central part of state in McLean, Burleigh and Sheridan counties. Excellent smallmouth bass fishery, with abundant fish up to 18 inches. (No ramp).

Missouri River (004) – Missouri River from near Riverdale to south of Bismarck. See separate Missouri River System report.

Souris River (Mouse River) (396) – North central part of state. Good numbers of northern pike and walleye. (Fishing pier).

SOUTH CENTRAL FISHERIES DISTRICT

Paul Bailey, district fisheries supervisor, Bismarck

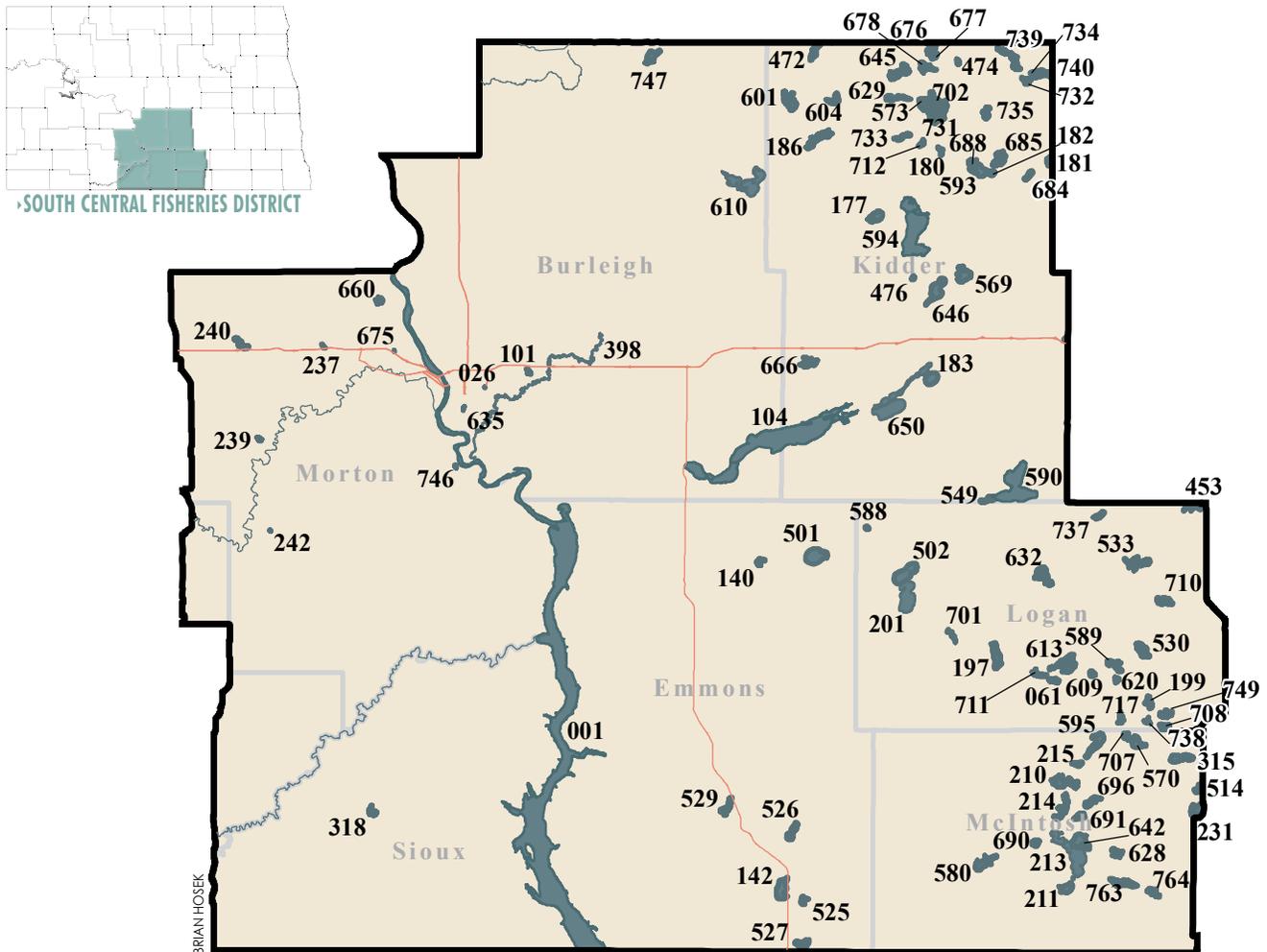
BURLEIGH COUNTY

Apple Creek (398) – Good for northern pike, walleye, crappie and catfish. (No ramp).

Cottonwood Park Pond (635) – On west side of Cottonwood soccer complex in south Bismarck. Adult northern pike (and other species) may be stocked in spring. (Fishing pier, no ramp).

Crimmins WPA (747) – 3 miles west, 11 miles north, .5 miles west of Wing. Small yellow perch and walleye up to 18 inches abundant. (No ramp).

Lake Harriet (Arena Lake) (610) – 8 miles



west, 1 mile south of Tuttle. Northern pike abundant and perch in low numbers. (No ramp).

Long Lake (104) – 1 mile south, 2.5 miles east of Moffit. Northern pike abundant. Contact refuge for specific angling regulations. (Fishing pier, no ramp).

McDowell Dam (101) – 4 miles east, 1 mile north of Bismarck on ND Highway 10. Bluegill and largemouth bass abundant. Trout stocked in spring. (Fishing pier).

OWLS Pond (026) – Just west of Bismarck Game and Fish office. Trout stocked in spring and fall. Other species (bluegill, perch, catfish and white bass) may be stocked. (Fishing pier, no ramp).

EMMONS COUNTY

Baumgartner Lake (529) – 6 miles south of Linton. Northern pike abundant. (No ramp).

Braddock Dam (140) – 2 miles southwest of Braddock. Fair numbers of northern

pike, walleye and yellow perch. Bluegill present.

Goose Lake (501) – 3 miles east of Brad-dock. Northern pike abundant and perch present. (No ramp).

Jake's Lake (527) – 13 miles south, 1 mile east of Strasburg. Northern pike abundant. (No ramp).

Miller Lake (525) – 1 mile west of Hague. Northern pike and perch. (No ramp).

Rice Lake (142) – 8 miles south of Strasburg. Outstanding walleye, northern pike and perch fishery.

Senger Lake (526) – 1 mile north, 6 miles east of Strasburg. Multiple perch year-classes. (No ramp).

KIDDER COUNTY

Alkaline Lake (590) – 15 miles south, 7 miles east, 1.4 miles southeast of Dawson. Walleye abundant. Excellent number of pike, with fish occasionally surpassing 10 pounds.

Cherry Lake (177) – 15 miles north, 3

miles east of Steele. Northern pike abundant and low numbers of yellow perch.

Deer Lake (685) – 8 miles east of Rob-inson. Fair number of yellow perch. (No ramp).

Des Moines Lake (593) – 5.5 miles east of Robinson. Good number of northern pike. (No ramp).

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

Fresh Lake (549) – 15 miles south, 7 miles east, 1 mile south of Dawson. Primarily a northern pike fishery, but a fair number of walleye present. (No ramp).

Frettim Lake (180) – 2 miles east, 1 mile north of Robinson. Good numbers of walleye, northern pike, perch and bluegill.

Geier Lake (740) – 12 miles east, 9.5 miles north of Robinson. Walleye abundant. Yellow perch present. (No ramp).

Helen Lake (601) – 2.5 miles west, 6 miles north of Tuttle. Excellent northern pike

Take a kid fishing.



CRAIG BIRRE

fishery, with fish occasionally topping 8 pounds. Perch present. (No ramp).

Horsehead Lake (594) – 2 miles west, 8 miles south, .25 miles east of Robinson. Northern pike abundant. (No ramp).

Jasper Lake (573) – 7 miles north, .5 miles east of Robinson. Walleye and yellow perch abundant.

Koenig North (676) – 12.25 miles north, 1.5 miles east of Robinson. Multiple perch year-classes present (winter access only). (No ramp).

Koenig South (677) – 12.25 miles north, 1.5 miles east of Robinson. Multiple perch year-classes present (winter access only). (No ramp).

Lake Geneva (666) – 2 miles south, .5 miles east of I-94 Exit 195. Fair numbers of perch and small walleye. (No ramp).

Lake Isabel (183) – 2 miles south, .5 miles east, .75 miles south of Dawson. Good number of small northern pike.

Lake Josephine (186) – 2 miles north of

Tuttle. Walleye and perch abundant. Pike and crappie present. (Fishing pier).

Lake No. 5 (476) – 3.5 miles west, 7.5 miles north, 1.5 miles east, 1 mile south of Dawson. Pike abundant, but the lake frequently winterkills. (No ramp).

Lake Williams (182) – Just south of the town of Lake Williams. Fair numbers of walleye, northern pike and small-mouth bass.

Leno Lake (604) – 1 mile east, 7 miles north of Tuttle. Small northern pike abundant. (No ramp).

Long Alkaline Lake (629) – 3 miles west, 7

miles north of Robinson. Northern pike common and yellow perch present. (No ramp).

McPhail WMA (569) – 7 miles north, 2 miles west of Tappen. Fair numbers of small yellow perch and walleye. (No ramp).

Neustel Lake (712) – 2 miles north of Robinson. Fair number of perch. (No ramp).

North Des Moines Lake (688) – 5.5 miles east of Robinson. Low number of northern pike. (No ramp).

Pelican Lake (474) – 3 miles east, 11 miles north, 1 mile east of Robinson. Yellow perch common. (No ramp).

Plowe Lake (735) – 6 miles east, 5 miles north, 1 mile east of Robinson. Fair number of perch, and low numbers of walleye and northern pike. (No ramp).

Rafferty Lake (734) – 12 miles east, 9.8 miles north of Robinson. Walleye abundant. (No ramp).

Ranch Lake (684) – 1 mile west of Pettibone. Good numbers of northern pike and yellow perch. (No ramp).

Remmick Lake (731) – 3 miles east, 6 miles north of Robinson. Healthy walleye population and low numbers of perch and bluegill. Winter fishing only. (No ramp).

Round Lake (181) – 1 mile north, 1.5 miles east of Pettibone. Excellent walleye fishery, with fair numbers of perch and northern pike. (No ramp).

Schumacher Lake (702) – 7 miles north, 1 mile east, .25 miles south of Robinson. Yellow perch and walleye abundant. (No ramp).

Seil Lake (739) – 6 miles east, 10 miles north, 4.25 miles east of Robinson. Yellow perch abundant. (No ramp).

Sibley Lake (646) – 7 miles north, 2 miles east, 1 mile south of Dawson. Walleye abundant.

Swan Lake (678) – 10.5 miles north of Robinson. Yellow perch abundant. (No ramp).

Trautmann Lake (733) – 1 mile west, 2 miles north, 1 mile west, 1 mile north of Robinson. Small perch and walleye abundant. (No ramp).

Vogel WPA (732) – 12 miles east, 9.5 miles north of Robinson. Walleye abundant. (No ramp).

Willow Lake (645) – 9 miles north, 3 miles west of Robinson. Yellow perch abundant. (No ramp).

Woodhouse Lake (472) – 12 miles north, 12 miles east of Wing. Good numbers of walleye and yellow perch. (No ramp).

LOGAN COUNTY

Beaver Lake (197) – 8 miles south, 8 miles east of Napoleon. Northern pike abundant, with fish occasionally surpassing 10 pounds.

Braun Lake (588) – 18 miles south, 1 mile east of Steele. Yellow perch abundant. (No ramp).

Buchholz WPA (738) – 4 miles east, .75 miles north of Lehr. Fair number of yellow perch. (No ramp).

Dewald Lake (530) – 8 miles north, 2 miles east, 1 mile north, 1 mile east of Lehr. Small yellow perch common. (No ramp).

Doyles Lake (711) – 2.5 miles north, 2 miles east, 4 miles north, 1 mile east, .5 miles north of Wishek. Fair number of

yellow perch. (No ramp).

Hauff Lake (589) – 7 miles north of Lehr. Small yellow perch common. (No ramp).

Kautz Lake (061) – 5 miles north, 6 miles west of Lehr. Yellow perch abundant. (No ramp).

Kleingartner Lake (710) – 10 miles south, 5 miles west of Gackle. Fair numbers of northern pike and yellow perch. (No ramp).

Lepp Lake (717) – 1 mile east, 1 mile north of Lehr. Northern pike and yellow perch in good numbers. (No ramp).

Logan (Mueller) WMA (613) – 8 miles north, 5 miles west, .5 miles south of Lehr. Walleye abundant, with a low number of yellow perch. (No ramp).

Logan Lake (453) – 1 mile west of Gackle. Small yellow perch abundant. (No ramp).

Marvin Miller Lake (533) – 6.5 miles south, 8 miles west, .5 miles north of Gackle. Excellent walleye fishery. Fair number of yellow perch and a low number of northern pike.

Mundt Lake (199) – 3 miles east, 4 miles north, 1 mile east, .5 miles south of Lehr. Walleye abundant and a quality perch population. (Fishing pier).

North Napoleon Lake (502) – 4.5 miles west, 1 mile north, 1 mile east of Napoleon. Northern pike and yellow perch abundant. (No ramp).

Ost Lake (749) – 7 miles east, 1 mile north, 1 mile west, .5 miles north of Lehr. Yellow perch abundant. (No ramp).

Railroad Lake (708) – 5.5 miles east of Lehr. Yellow perch abundant and low walleye numbers. (No ramp).

Ruff Lake (609) – 5 miles north, 3 miles west, 1 mile north, .5 miles east of Lehr. Yellow perch present. (No ramp).

Thurn Lake (620) – 5 miles north of Lehr, .5 miles east. Fair numbers of walleye and perch. (No ramp).

Weigel Lake (701) – 5 miles south, 3 miles east of Napoleon. Small northern pike abundant and yellow perch present. (No ramp).

Wentz WPA (632) – 12 miles east of Napoleon. Walleye abundant. (No ramp).

West Lake Napoleon (201) – 1 mile west of Napoleon. Northern pike abundant and a fair number of large yellow perch. (Fishing pier, no ramp).

Wetzel Lake (737) – 11 miles west, 1 mile

south of Gackle. Northern pike abundant and yellow perch present. (No ramp).

MCINTOSH COUNTY

Becker-Schlepp Lake (628) – 3 miles north, 1 mile east, 1 mile north, .5 miles east of Ashley. Fair number of yellow perch. (No ramp).

Clear Lake (215) – 6 miles east, 2 miles south of Wishek. Northern pike abundant. (No ramp).

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

Dorfman Lake (642) – 5 miles north, 2 miles west of Ashley. Yellow perch and walleye abundant, with a fair number of pike. (No ramp).

Dry Lake (213) – 5 miles west, 4 miles north, 2 miles east, .5 miles south of Ashley. Excellent walleye and northern pike fishery. Large yellow perch in low numbers.

Green Lake (210) – 2 miles east, 4 miles south, 1 mile east of Wishek. Quality walleye and perch fishery, with a low number of pike. (Fishing pier).

Harr Lake (514) – 10 miles east, 12 miles north of Ashley. Fair number of large yellow perch. (No ramp).

Homestead Lake (696) – 8 miles south, 8 miles east, 2 miles north of Wishek. Northern pike abundant and yellow perch present. (No ramp).

Kislingbury Lake (763) – .5 miles east, 1.5 miles north of Ashley. Fair number of yellow perch. (No ramp).

Lake Hoskins (211) – 3 miles west of Ashley. Fair numbers of walleye, northern pike and yellow perch. (Fishing pier).

Lehr WMA (570) – 2 miles east, 1 mile south of Lehr. Excellent walleye fishery. Low number of large yellow perch.

McIntosh WMA (231) – 10 miles east, 9 miles north of Ashley. Yellow perch abundant. (No ramp).

Miller Lake (315) – 7.5 miles east, 2.5 miles south of Lehr. Northern pike abundant and yellow perch present. (No ramp).

Mudd Lake (595) – 1 mile west of Lehr. Fair number of northern pike, with low numbers of yellow perch. (No ramp).

Nagel Lake (Koeplin WPA) (707) – 1 mile east, 1 mile south, 1 mile east of Lehr. Fair number of walleye made their way

into Nagel Lake from Lehr WMA. Yellow perch in good numbers. (No ramp).

Pfeifle Lake (690) – 10 miles south, 2 miles east of Wishek. Northern pike abundant. (No ramp).

Pintail Lake (764) – 5 miles east of Ashley. Small perch abundant. (No ramp).

Pudwill Lake (214) – 9 miles south, 4 miles west, 1 mile north, .5 miles west of Lehr. Low number of northern pike. (No ramp).

Rueb-Eszlinger (691) – 7.5 miles north, 2 miles west of Ashley. Yellow perch abundant. (No ramp).

MORTON COUNTY

Crown Butte Dam (237) – 4 miles west on access road on north side of I-94 Exit 147. Largemouth bass and bluegill abundant. Crappie present. (Fishing pier).

Fish Creek Dam (239) – 8 miles south, 2 miles east, 1 mile south of I-94 Exit 134. Largemouth bass and rainbow trout abundant. Smallmouth bass, brown trout and crappie in lower numbers. (Fishing pier).

Harmon Lake (660) – 8 miles north of Mandan on ND Highway 1806. Largemouth bass, bluegill and crappie abundant. Rainbow trout and northern pike in lower numbers. (Fishing pier).

Little Heart Pond (746) – 11 miles south of Mandan on ND Highway 1806. Catchable-sized trout stocked in spring. (No ramp).

Nygren Dam (242) – 6 miles north, 1 mile east, 3 miles north, .5 miles east of Flasher. Winterkilled in 2014. Catchable-sized trout stocked in spring and small bluegill present. (Fishing pier).

Porsborg Dam (675) – Northwest Mandan. Trout (and other species) may be stocked in spring. (No ramp).

Sweet Briar Lake (240) – 18 miles west of Mandan I-94 Exit 134. Fair numbers of walleye, northern pike, yellow perch, bluegill, crappie and largemouth bass. (Fishing pier).

SIoux COUNTY

Froelich Dam (318) – 9 miles north, 2 miles west of Selfridge. Walleye and northern pike abundant. Yellow perch, crappie, bluegill and largemouth bass present.

RIVERS AND LAKES

Lake Oahe (001) – Near cities of Bismarck, Fort Yates, Hazelton, Linton and Strasburg. See separate Missouri River System listing. (Fishing pier).

NORTHEAST FISHERIES DISTRICT

Randy Hiltner, district fisheries supervisor, Devils Lake

BENSON COUNTY

Fort Totten Dam (663) – .5 miles east of Fort Totten. No recent information. (No ramp).

Gravel Pit Lake (661) – 4.5 miles west of Fort Totten. No recent information. (No ramp).

Mission Lake (662) – 5 miles south, 1.5 miles east, 2 miles south of Devils Lake. No recent information. (No ramp).

Silver Lake (058) – 4 miles west, 4.7 miles south, 2 miles east of Churchs Ferry. Connected to Devils Lake. Same species available. (No ramp).

Wood Lake (054) – 2 miles west, 1 mile south of Tokio. Perch and bluegill numerous, but small. Good number of bigger walleye and some large pike.

CAVALIER COUNTY

Langdon City Pond (115) – South side of Langdon. Put-and-take trout lake, with most fish caught in May. (Fishing pier).

Mount Carmel Dam (114) – 9 miles north, 2 miles east, 2 miles north of Langdon. Fair number of perch, with some larger fish. Walleye numbers fair, with most fish under 2 pounds. Lots of nice pike. (Fishing pier).

EDDY COUNTY

Adams Lake (603) – 10 miles south of Warwick. Lots of smaller perch and a few walleye. (No ramp).

Battle Lake (136) – .5 miles south, 1.5 miles west, 1.5 miles south of Hamar. High density pike lake, with catchable, thin fish. (No ramp).

Lake Coe (652) – 10 miles south of Warwick on east side of Eddy County Road 8. Good number of walleye, with several size-classes. Lots of perch, but most are less than 10 inches.

New Rockford Reservoir (137) – North side of New Rockford. Bluegill available, but primarily a pike fishery. (Fishing pier, no ramp).

Warsing Dam (135) – 1 mile northeast of

Sheyenne. Recovering from a partial winterkill in 2013. Good number of pike, with most fish about 25 inches. Some perch and small walleye. (Fishing pier).

FOSTER COUNTY

Dry Lake (548) – 7 miles east, 5 miles south, 2 miles east of Carrington. Good number of walleye, and most are eater-size. Some big walleye present. Fewer perch and a strong bullhead population. (No ramp).

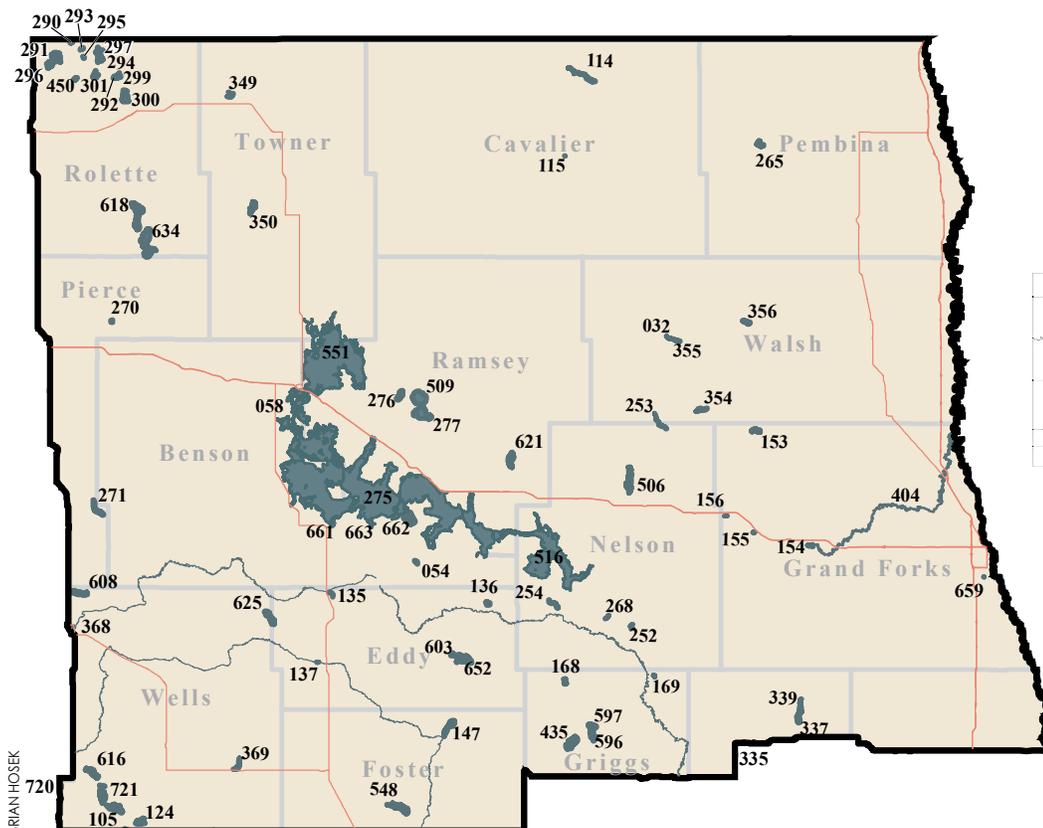
Juanita Lake (147) – 2 miles east of Grace City. Winterkill in 2013 sharply reduced pike and perch populations. (Fishing pier).

GRAND FORKS COUNTY

Fordville Dam (153) – 5 miles west, 1 mile north, .5 miles west, .5 miles north of Inkster. Fair numbers of larger walleye and pike, with good numbers of perch under 10 inches. Bullheads remain a management issue. (Fishing pier).

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

Larimore Dam (154) – 2 miles northeast of Larimore. Walleye, pike, largemouth bass, perch, crappie and bluegill provide angling opportunities. Walleye average 18 inches. (Fishing pier).



Niagara Dam (156) – North of Niagara. Reservoir winterkills often. When a series of nice winters occur, nice-sized pike available.

Ryan Park Pond (659) – South side of Grand Forks. This small urban fishery is a good place to take a kid fishing and is stocked annually with trout. Bluegill also introduced. (Fishing pier, no ramp).

GRIGGS COUNTY

Carlson-Tande Dam (169) – 1 mile south, 5 miles west of Aneta. Some pike, perch and panfish.

Lake Addie (596) – 4 miles east, 1 mile south, 1 mile west of Binford. Managed as a walleye and perch fishery. Walleye are nice-sized, with an average length of 18 inches. Perch numbers high, with some fish up to 12 inches.

Lake Jessie (597) – 4 miles east, 1 mile south, 1 mile west of Binford. Primarily an ice fishing lake for pike that average about 30 inches. (No ramp).

Red Willow Lake (168) – 6 miles north, 2 miles west of Binford. Walleye, pike, perch and bluegill common. Some nice walleye available, but more pike. Bluegill common, with some up to 10 inches. Perch typically small. (Fishing pier).

Sibley Lake (435) – 1 mile west, 3 miles south of Binford. Good pike population. Some perch. (No ramp).

NELSON COUNTY

Lake Laretta (506) – 2 miles west, 3 miles north of Michigan. Excellent pike fishery, with high numbers of medium-sized fish, but some pushing 15 pounds. Perch that survive pike predation are large, but uncommon. Some walleye present, but uncommon. (No ramp).

McVille Dam (252) – 1 mile east of McVille. Some larger walleye, largemouth bass and pike available, but at low densities. Perch and bluegill typically small. (Fishing pier).

Silver Creek Dam (268) – 4 miles west, .5 miles south of McVille. Small reservoir, with a winter pike fishery. (No ramp).

Tolna Dam (254) – 1 mile south, 2 miles east of Tolna. Some larger walleye and good densities of pike under 5 pounds. Perch numbers fairly low.

Whitman Dam (253) – 1.5 miles north, 3 miles east of Whitman. Keeper-sized perch, with most under 10 inches. Fair fishing for pike and walleye. Low density crappie population, with some large fish. (Fishing pier).

PEMBINA COUNTY

Renwick Dam (265) – 6 miles west, 1 mile north of Cavalier. Mostly pike and perch, with some crappie. Most crappie are under 8 inches. Perch are numerous, but typically smaller. White suckers and bullheads abundant. (Fishing pier).

PIERCE COUNTY

Buffalo Lake (271) – 4 miles west, 1 mile south of Esmond. Winterkills often and pike fishing opportunities occur when winters are mild. (Fishing pier).

Sand Lake (270) – 4 miles north of Pleasant Lake. Good pike and perch fishery. Average perch size has increased. Pike common up to 5 pounds. (Fishing pier).

RAMSEY COUNTY

Cavanaugh Lake (276) – 9 miles north, 1 mile west, .5 miles north of Devils Lake. Winterkills often. Oxygen levels were low again this winter. (No ramp).

Fenster Lake (621) – 3 miles north, 4 miles east of Crary. Partial winterkill in 2013. Pike in fair numbers, with most fish around 4 pounds. (No ramp).

Morrison Lake (509) – 3 miles east, 2 miles south of Webster. Typically has good winter pike fishing until oxygen levels decline. Most fish less than 5 pounds. (No ramp).

Sweetwater Lake (277) – 3 miles east, 7 miles north of Devils Lake. Low winter oxygen levels may have caused a partial fish kill. (No ramp).

ROLETTE COUNTY

Belcourt Lake (300) – 2 miles north of Belcourt. No recent information.

Cain Lake (450) – 2 miles south, 9 miles west, .5 miles north of St. John. No recent information. (No ramp).

Carpenter Lake (291) – 12 miles west of St. John. Good pike population, even during tough winters. Most fish less than 5 pounds. A few perch, but most less than 8 inches.

Dion Lake (293) – 10 miles west, 2 miles north, 1 mile east of St. John. Managed for walleye. Good densities of fish up to 20 inches. Perch numbers expanding from illegal stocking, most are small. Pike young netted fall 2013 and larger adults were netted in 2014. (Fishing pier).

Gordon Lake (299) – 4.5 miles north, 1 mile west, .25 miles northwest of Belcourt. No recent information.

Gravel Lake (294) – 6 miles west, .5 miles north of St. John. Pike and perch fishery. Pike average about 25 inches and most perch under 10 inches. (Fishing pier).

Hooker Lake (295) – 8 miles west of St. John. One of a few rainbow trout lakes in the district. Trout stocked annually and attain maximum size in fall. (Fishing pier).

Island Lake (634) – 3 miles west, 2 miles south of Mylo. Suffered a significant winterkill in 2013. Good number of 2- to 3-pound pike.

Jarvis Lake (301) – .75 miles southwest, 6 miles west of St. John. No recent information. (No ramp).

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

Long Lake (618) – 2 miles south, 5.3 miles east of Rolette. Fair number of pike, with fish over 5 pounds. (No ramp).

School Section Lake (296) – 9 miles north, 2.5 miles east of Dunseith. Partial winterkill in 2013. Pike numbers still good, some perch available.

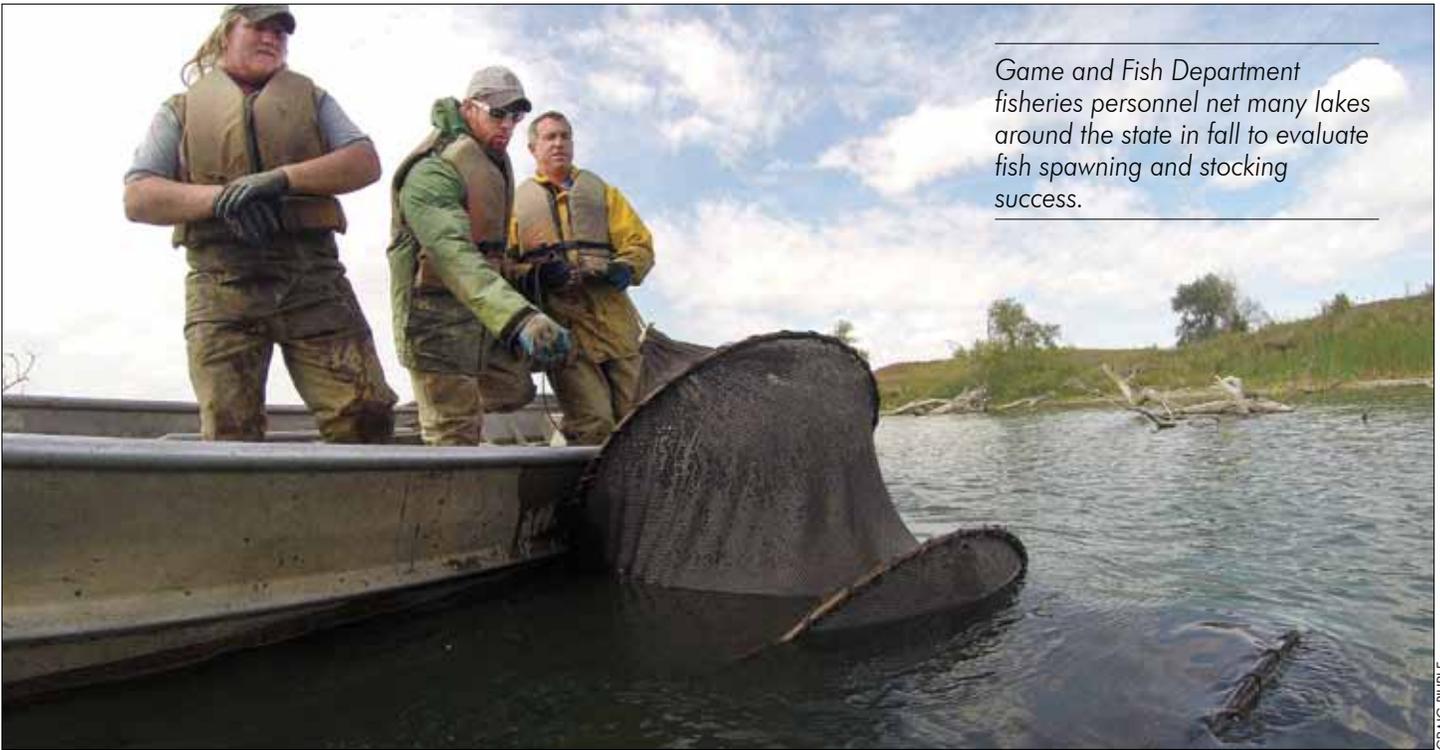
Upsilon Lake (297) – 6 miles west, 1 mile north of St. John. Perch fishing fair, with lower numbers and fewer jumbos. Pike common, with some large fish. Walleye in low numbers despite aggressive stocking. Bluegill numbers and size improving. (Fishing pier).

Wheaton Lake (292) – 4.5 miles north, 2 miles west of Belcourt. No recent information.

STEELE COUNTY

Finley Dam (Lynch Lake) (335) – 1 mile south of Finley. Pike stocked regularly. (No ramp).

North Golden Lake (339) – 10 miles east, 4 miles north, .5 miles west of Finley. Good number of perch, with most less than 10 inches. Fair to good numbers of



Game and Fish Department fisheries personnel net many lakes around the state in fall to evaluate fish spawning and stocking success.

CRAIG BIRHLE

keeper pike and walleye. Walleye over 20 inches and pike to 5 pounds not uncommon. Low bluegill numbers, but decent-sized.

South Golden Lake (337) – 10 miles east, 3 miles north, .5 miles west of Finley. Primarily a walleye and perch fishery, with some pike and bluegill. Walleye get large, with fish up to 8 pounds. Decent number of 24-inch fish as well. Pike numbers low, but bigger fish available. (Fishing pier).

TOWNER COUNTY

Armourdale Dam (349) – 9 miles east, 1.5 miles north of Rolla. Significant winter-kill in 2013. Good pike numbers and fair numbers of smaller walleye. (Fishing pier).

Bisbee Dam-Big Coulee (350) – 1 mile east of Bisbee. Pike, walleye, perch, bluegill and crappie. Some walleye and pike up to about 6 pounds. A few more perch showing up, and the occasional large bluegill and crappie. (Fishing pier).

WALSH COUNTY

Bylin Dam (355) – 3 miles east, 3 miles south of Adams. Nice population of smaller pike to keep youngsters entertained with some keeper walleye. (Fishing pier).

Dougherty Dam (032) – 1 mile west of

Bylin Dam. Located just upstream from Bylin Dam. Holds some pike. (No ramp).

Homme Dam (356) – 2 miles west of Park River. Lots of smaller perch and crappie, with some nice pike and walleye. White suckers and bullheads abundant and problematic. (Fishing pier).

Matejcek Dam (354) – 6 miles south of Lankin. Smaller walleye in decent numbers. Perch numbers appear lower. Pike and crappie numbers fair. White suckers abundant.

WELLS COUNTY

Georgeson Lake (625) – 3 miles north, 3 miles east, .25 miles north of Bremen. Good yellow perch population of various sizes. Fewer bigger fish than last year due to harvest. (No ramp).

Goose Lake (608) – 3 miles north, 3 miles east, 1 mile north of Harvey. Fair number of pike, with increasing size structure. Walleye population in good shape, with lots of fish 15 inches and up. Perch common, but down in numbers. (No ramp).

Harvey Dam (368) – Southeast side of Harvey. Significant winterkill in 2013.

Subsequent netting survey produced several pike and still lots of bullheads, which will continue to be a problem. Adult

perch stocked since the kill. (Fishing pier).

Hurdsfield-Tuffy Lake (616) – 3.5 miles east of Hurdsfield. Lots of walleye between 12 and 20 inches, with the occasional big fish. Perch abundant, with most about 8 inches and some up to 13 inches. (No ramp).

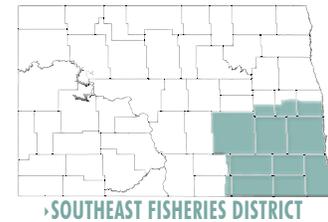
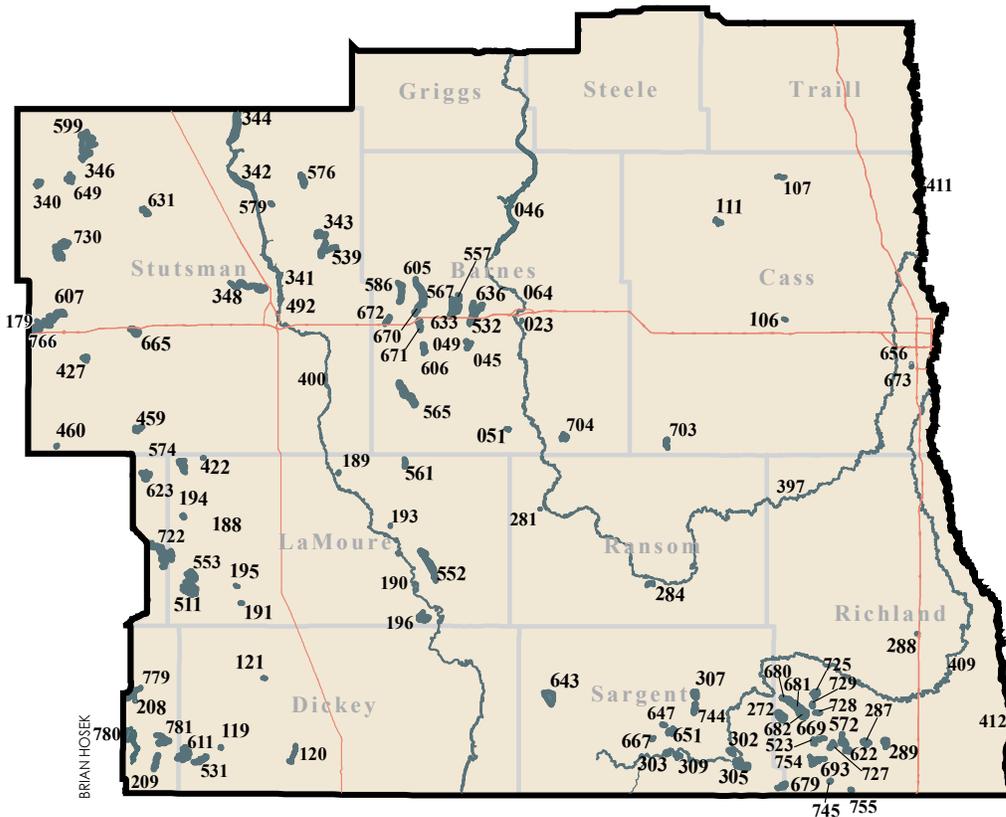
Monson Lake (124) – 1 mile south, 1 mile east, 8 miles south, 1 mile west of Bowdon. Strong perch population, with a balanced size structure. Walleye population is small, with some big fish. (No ramp).

Silver Lake (105) – 1 mile west, 7.5 miles south, 2 miles west, 2 miles north of Bowdon. High perch densities. Lots of fish from 9 to 12 inches. Occasional 13- to 14-inch fish possible. (No ramp).

Silver Lake WMA (721) – 3 miles south of Chaseley. Lots of 5- to 8-inch perch, with catchable numbers of 10- to 12-inch fish. The occasional jumbo possible. (No ramp).

Sykeston Dam (369) – Northwest side of Sykeston. Decent pike population, with some fish up to 8 pounds. Bullheads a major problem. A few perch and bluegill present. (Fishing pier).

Weisz Lake (720) – 2 miles west, 1.5 miles south of Hurdsfield. Mostly smaller perch. (No ramp).



RIVERS AND LAKES

Turtle River (404) – In Grand Forks County. Rainbow trout stocked twice in spring and once in fall to provide a unique riverine trout fishery. Mostly a put-and-take fishery. (No ramp).

SOUTHEAST FISHERIES DISTRICT

Brandon Kratz, district fisheries supervisor, Jamestown

BARNES COUNTY

Blumers Pond (023) – 1 mile south of Valley City. Good shore-fishing for early season trout. (No ramp).
Clausen Springs (051) – 3 miles north, 1 mile east, .5 miles north of the junction of ND highways 46 and 1. Abundant largemouth bass and bluegill. (Fishing pier).
Clauson Lake (704) – 4 miles west, .5 miles south, .5 miles east of Nome. Perch abundant up to 12 inches. (No ramp).
Eckelson Lake North (605) – 3 miles north, .5 miles east, 1 mile north, .5 miles east of Eckelson. Good perch population, with large fish. (No ramp).
Eckelson Lake South (671) – 4 miles south, 1.5 miles east of Eckelson. Low population of larger pike. Fair number of

perch, with some large fish. (No ramp).
Fox Lake (586) – 1 mile north, .5 miles west of Eckelson. Good walleye population.

Hatchery Kids Pond (064) – 2 miles northwest of Valley City. Good shore-fishing for early season trout. (No ramp).
Hobart Lake North (636) – 3.5 miles northwest of I-94 Exit 288. Perch abundant, with some large fish. (No ramp).
Hobart Lake South (532) – 1.4 miles south, 3.4 miles west of I-94 Exit 288. Perch abundant. (No ramp).
Island Lake (672) – 3 miles south, .5 miles east of Urbana. Medium-sized walleye abundant. (No ramp).
Kee Lake (606) – 7 miles south, 2 miles east of Eckelson. Good perch and walleye populations. A few pike. (No ramp).
Lake Ashtabula (046) – 10 miles north of Valley City. Walleye and pike abundant, with good numbers of large fish. Perch abundant. Occasional crappie, white bass and smallmouth bass. (Fishing pier).
Meadow Lake (565) – 6 miles west, 6 miles north of Litchville. Perch up to 14 inches. Occasional walleye. (No ramp).
Middle Eckelson (670) – 2 miles east of Eckelson. Various sizes of pike and perch. (No ramp).

Moon Lake (049) – 2 miles west, 5.5 miles south, 4 miles west, 2 miles north of Valley City. Perch and walleye abundant. Occasional smallmouth bass, with some brown and rainbow trout.

Olson WPA (633) – 1.5 miles north of I-94 Exit 283. Fair number of medium-sized perch. (No ramp).

Sanborn Lake (557) – 2 miles east, 1 mile north, .5 miles east of Sanborn. Small perch abundant. Fair number of pike. (No ramp).

Sanborn WPA (567) – 1 mile east of Sanborn. Perch and pike present. (No ramp).

St. Mary's Lake (045) – 2 miles west, 5.5 miles south, 4 miles west, 1 mile north of Valley City. Perch abundant. Medium-sized walleye abundant. (No ramp).

CASS COUNTY

Brewer Lake (111) – 1 mile south, 1 mile west of Erie. Good largemouth bass and bluegill populations. Some larger bass. (Fishing pier).
Casselton Reservoir (106) – Just west of Casselton. Good numbers of pike and bluegill. (Fishing pier).
Hunter Dam (107) – .5 miles west of Hunter. Stocked with adult pike and crappie in 2015. (No ramp).
Lindemann Lake (703) – 2 miles north, 1 mile east, .5 miles north of Enderlin. Developing walleye population. Good perch population. (No ramp).
North Woodhaven Pond (656) – 2.25 miles south, .25 miles east of I-94 Exit 348. Rainbow trout stocked annually. Bluegill present. (Fishing pier, no ramp).
South Woodhaven Pond (673) – 2.8 miles south, .25 miles east of I-94 Exit 348. Small- to medium-sized perch abundant. (Fishing pier, no ramp).

DICKEY COUNTY

Heinrich Lake (611) – 17.5 miles east, 1 mile south of Ashley. Yellow perch up to



A 15-inch walleye from one of North Dakota's many prairie walleye lakes.

CRAIG BIRKLE

14 inches. (No ramp).

Moores Lake (119) – 18.5 miles west, 1 mile north of Ellendale. Fair number of pike. (No ramp).

Pheasant Lake (120) – 6 miles west of Ellendale. Low numbers of pike, perch and walleye. Developing bluegill fishery. (Fishing pier).

Shimmons Lake (531) – 20.5 miles west, 1 mile south of Ellendale. Pike abundant. (No ramp).

Wilson Dam (121) – 7.5 miles west of Monango. Fair numbers of perch and small bluegill. Occasional pike. (Fishing pier).

LAMOURE COUNTY

Alfred Lake (574) – 7 miles east, 1.5 miles south of Gackle. Various sizes of pike and perch. (No ramp).

Boom Lake (Marion Lake) (561) – .5 miles west of Marion. Walleye, pike and small perch.

Diamond Lake (553) – 5 miles north of Kulm. Walleye and perch abundant.

Flood Lake (511) – 3.5 miles north of Kulm. Fair number of pike. Perch up to 13 inches. Some walleye.

Heinrich-Martin Dam (189) – .75 miles east, .5 miles south of Adrian. Largemouth bass abundant. Bluegill and crappie in fair numbers. Dam repair in fall 2015.

Kalmbach Lake (194) – .5 miles south, 4.5 miles west, .5 miles south of Jud. Medium-sized pike.

Kulm-Edgeley Dam (191) – 4 miles west,

2 miles south of Edgeley. Northern pike common. Low population of medium to large walleye. Perch abundant.

Lake LaMoure (196) – 1 mile south, 1 mile east, 2.5 miles south, 1 mile west, .5 miles south of LaMoure. Walleye and crappie common. Low pike population. Bluegill present. (Fishing pier).

Limesand-Seefeldt Dam (193) – 8 miles south, 3 miles west of Marion. Fair numbers of bluegill and crappie. Largemouth bass uncommon.

Slecht-Thom Dam (195) – 5 miles west, .5 miles north of Edgeley. Small bluegill and a few pike.

Schlenker Dam (Lehr Dam) (422) – 11 miles west, .5 miles south of the junction of U.S. Highway 281 and ND Highway 46. Bluegill and perch abundant. Fair number of pike.

Twin Lakes (552) – 4 miles north of LaMoure. Walleye and perch abundant. Some large pike.

LOGAN COUNTY

Arnies Lake (623) – 1.5 miles south of Gackle, 2 miles east, 1 mile south. Fair numbers of pike, perch and walleye. (No ramp).

Erickson Lake (722) – 8.5 miles north, 3 miles west, 1 mile north, 1.5 miles west, .5 miles south of Kulm. Perch up to 13 inches. (No ramp).

MCINTOSH COUNTY

Berlin Lake (779) – 9.5 miles east, 7 miles

north, 2 miles east, 2 miles north of Ashley. Perch present. (No ramp).

Blumhardt Dam (208) – 9.5 miles east, 7 miles north, 1.5 miles east of Ashley. Brown and rainbow trout. Some larger fish.

Coldwater Lake (209) – 15.5 miles east, 1 mile south, 1 mile west of Ashley. Established walleye and pike populations. (Fishing pier).

Dragon Lake (780) – 10.5 miles east of Ashley. No recent information. (No ramp).

Serpent Lake (781) – 13.5 miles east, 2 miles north, 1 mile east of Ashley. Pike present. (No ramp).

RANSOM COUNTY

Dead Colt Creek (284) – 5 miles south, 1 mile east, .5 miles north, .5 miles east of Lisbon. Largemouth bass and bluegill abundant. Some large bass. (Fishing pier).

Mooringsstone Pond (281) – .75 miles west of the city of Fort Ransom. Rainbow trout stocked annually. (No ramp).

RICHLAND COUNTY

Arndt Lake (755) – 6 miles east, 7 miles south, .5 miles west, 1 mile south, .25 miles east of Lidgerwood. Developing bluegill fishery. (No ramp).

Bisek Slough (682) – 2 miles north, .5 miles west of Lidgerwood. Small pike when Wild Rice River overflows and allows fish access.

Elm Lake (693) – .5 miles east, 3.5 miles south of Lidgerwood. Good pike and

crappie populations. (No ramp).

Four Corners Lake (727) – 3.5 miles east, 2 miles south, .5 miles west of Lidgerwood. Fair number of walleye up to 21 inches. (No ramp).

Grass Lake (272) – 2 miles west, 1 mile north, 1 mile west, 1 mile north, 1.5 miles west of Lidgerwood. Crappie abundant. (Fishing pier).

Gullys Slough (572) – 4 miles east, 1 mile south of Lidgerwood. Fair number of pike. Expanding walleye population. (No ramp).

Haus Lake (745) – 2 miles east, 7 miles south, .25 miles east of Lidgerwood. Small- to medium-sized perch and walleye. (No ramp).

Heley Lake (725) – 5 miles north, 1 mile east, .5 miles south of Lidgerwood. Fair number of walleye up to 27 inches. Occasional perch. (No ramp).

Horseshoe Lake (287) – 4 miles west, 1 mile south of Hankinson. Fair numbers of pike, perch, bluegill and walleye. Some large walleye. (No ramp).

Kreiser Slough (680) – 4 miles north, 3 miles west of Lidgerwood. Small pike when Wild Rice River overflows into fishery. (No ramp).

Lake Elsie (289) – 1 mile south, 1.5 miles west of Hankinson. Walleye abundant, with some large fish. Crappie abundant. Smallmouth bass present. Perch and channel catfish common. (Fishing pier).

Lueck Lake (622) – 6 miles east, 2.5 miles south of Lidgerwood. Walleye abundant, with some large fish. (No ramp).

Mooreton Pond (288) – 2 miles east of Mooreton. Small bluegill abundant. Fair number of walleye, with some large fish. Good number of rainbow trout. Occasional perch, smallmouth bass and channel catfish. (Fishing pier).

Reiland Lake (729) – 3 miles north, .5 miles east of Lidgerwood. No recent information. (No ramp).

Shriner Lake (754) – 4.5 miles south, .25 miles east of Lidgerwood. Fair numbers of pike and perch. (No ramp).

Silver Lake (681) – 2 miles north, 2 miles west of Lidgerwood. Small pike when Wild Rice River overflows. (No ramp).

Vislifel Lake (728) – 1 mile north, 2 miles east, 1 mile north, 1 mile west of Lidgerwood. No recent information. (No ramp).

Wahl Lake (523) – 1 mile east, 2 miles south of Lidgerwood. Walleye and bluegill abundant. (No ramp).

West Moran Lake (669) – 2 miles east, .5 miles south of Lidgerwood. Abundant medium- to large-sized walleye. Perch common. Walleye length restriction. (No ramp).

SARGENT COUNTY

Alkali Lake (302) – 3 miles south of Cayuga. Abundant small crappie. Walleye size restriction.

Bergh Slough (647) – 1 mile south, 2.5 miles east of Forman. No recent information. (No ramp).

Buffalo Lake (307) – 6 miles north, 1 mile east of Rutland. Good walleye and pike populations. Large crappie present. Walleye size restriction.

Consolidated Lake (651) – 2 miles south, 3 miles east of Forman. Pike abundant. Largemouth bass present. (No ramp).

Kraft Slough (643) – 1 mile south, 9 miles east, 2.5 miles north of Oakes. Small- to medium-sized walleye abundant. Perch abundant.

Lake Tewaukon (305) – 5 miles south of Cayuga. Contact Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge for most recent information. (Fishing pier).

Lake Walstead (667) – 4 miles south, 1 mile east, 1 mile north of Forman. Fair numbers of pike and walleye. (No ramp).

Ole Breum Lake (744) – 5 miles north, 1 mile east of Rutland. Fair number of perch. Low number of pike. Occasional walleye and crappie. (No ramp).

Silver Lake (303) – 3 miles west, 2 miles south of Rutland. Fair number of walleye. (Fishing pier).

Sprague Lake (309) – 6 miles west, 4 miles south, 1.5 miles west of Cayuga. Fair number of walleye.

Tosse Slough (679) – 7.5 miles south, 1 mile east, 2 miles south, 1 mile east of Geneseo. Low walleye population, with some large pike.

STUTSMAN COUNTY

Alkali Lake (539) – 11 miles north, 5 miles east, .5 miles south of Jamestown. Perch, pike and walleye abundant. (No ramp).

Arrowood Lake (344) – 3 miles south, 5

miles west of Kensal. No recent information. (No ramp).

Bader Lake (427) – 4 miles south, 1 mile east of I-94 Exit 228. Fair perch, pike and walleye populations.

Barnes Lake (346) – 1 mile east, 6 miles north of Woodworth. Low perch numbers. Fair pike and walleye fishery.

Big Mallard Marsh (599) – 9 miles north, 2.5 miles east of Woodworth. Walleye abundant. Fair number of medium-sized pike. Low perch numbers.

Clark Lake (340) – 1 mile west, 3 miles north, 4 miles west of Woodworth. Good walleye, pike and perch populations.

Cleveland Slough (665) – .5 miles south of Cleveland along County Road 67. Perch up to 12 inches, and the occasional large pike. (No ramp).

Crystal Springs (179) – 1 mile east of Crystal Springs. Fair number of pike.

Hehn-Schaffer Lake (459) – 4 miles north of Gackle. Fair number of pike. Occasional walleye and perch. (Fishing pier).

Hoggarth Dam (576) – 3 miles west, 3 miles south of Courtenay. Perch fishery. (No ramp).

Jamestown Reservoir (341) – 2 miles north of Jamestown. Small- to medium-sized walleye abundant. Very abundant medium-sized crappie. Some large pike. (Fishing pier).

Jim Lake (342) – 6 miles east of Pingree. No recent information. (No ramp).

Little Britches Pond (492) – Next to Jamestown Reservoir marina. Rainbow trout common during early summer. Occasional crappie, perch and walleye. (No ramp).

Manley Lake (631) – 4 miles south, 9 miles west, .25 miles north of Pingree. (No ramp).

Mud and Pearl Lakes (730) – 10 miles north, 2.5 miles west of Medina. Perch abundant, with some large fish. (No ramp).

Pipestem Reservoir (348) – 5 miles northwest, .8 miles west, 1 mile south of Jamestown. Large crappie abundant. Fair number of pike. Low walleye and perch populations.

Walleye fishing in early summer on Devils Lake.



RON WILSON

R and M Lake (579) – 4 miles east, 5 miles north of Buchanan. Medium-sized walleye abundant. (No ramp).

Reule Lake (607) – 2 miles north, 5 miles west, 1.7 miles south of Medina. Walleye abundant, with some large fish. (No ramp).

Spiritwood Lake (343) – 11 miles north, 4 miles east of Jamestown. Walleye, small-mouth bass and perch abundant. Fair number of pike. (Fishing pier).

Stink Lake (766) – 2.5 miles east of Crystal Springs. Walleye present. Occasional perch and pike. (No ramp).

Streeter Lake (460) – South side of Streeter. Low pike population.

Sunday Lake (649) – 1 mile west, 3 miles north of Woodworth. Fair number of pike. Some perch. (No ramp).

RIVERS AND LAKES

Bois de Sioux River (412) – Southeast corner of state in Richland County. Good catfish and walleye populations. (No ramp).

James River (400) – Southeastern part of state. Shore-fishing opportunities where lowhead dams and bridge crossings congregate pike and walleye.

Red River (411) – Eastern edge of state. Catfish abundant, with large fish common.

Fair number of walleye, with large fish present. Low pike population. (Fishing pier).

Sheyenne River (397) – Southeastern part of state. Excellent fishing where access permits. (Fishing pier).

Wild Rice River (409) – Southeastern part of state. No recent information. (No ramp).

MISSOURI RIVER SYSTEM

Dave Fryda, Missouri River System supervisor, Riverdale

NORTHERN PIKE

Lake Sakakawea/Lake Oahe – Northern pike abundance in Lake Sakakawea has declined from record highs the last couple years, but still remains exceptional. However, the population is maturing and average size is increasing. Pike exceeding 15 pounds will become more common in 2016 and the next few years. Northern pike abundance in Lake Oahe has declined from recent years, but average size is excellent, with many fish in the 15- to 20-pound range.

WALLEYE

Lake Sakakawea – Walleye fishing was good in 2015 and should remain so in 2016. High forage abundance and good habitat conditions have allowed Sakakawea walleye to maintain good body condition, good growth rates and high abundance. Overall walleye abundance is the second highest documented in the last 45 years due to several strong year-classes in recent years. Fish exceeding 20 inches are not real abundant, but anglers will find excellent numbers of 15- to 20-inch walleye in 2016.

Missouri River/Lake Oahe – The fishery downstream of Garrison Dam to the South Dakota border was greatly impacted following the flood of 2011. The upper Lake Oahe fishery has recovered much better than the Garrison Reach. Forage conditions have improved and walleye growth rates have followed. Like the Garrison Reach, the dominant 2009 year-class will provide most of the harvest for anglers in 2016. The majority of those fish should be 15 to 20 inches in 2016.

The Garrison Reach upstream of Bismarck has been slow to recover and still suffers from depressed forage conditions. Fishing will likely remain good in

the coming year due to depressed forage conditions and decent walleye abundance, but anglers should expect to encounter few large walleye. The catch will be dominated by fish from the 2008-09 year-classes that have been slow growing, but most should reach the 14- to 16-inch size in 2016.

CATFISH

Upper Lake Sakakawea, Missouri River (above the reservoir) and Yellowstone River – A strong catfish population, with some fish exceeding 10 pounds.

Lake Sakakawea – Good population of cats throughout the reservoir, but the best numbers and fishing success are in the upper end.

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 – Channel catfish are abundant and underutilized throughout the entire reach. Catfish are at record abundance throughout upper Lake Oahe.

SALMON

Missouri River System – Missouri River salmon fishery was greatly affected by high water in 2011 and the effects continue to be felt. Salmon fishing in 2015 was decent and the average size was exceptional. However, overall abundance of females in the spawning run was fairly low. Young male salmon were very abundant in the 2015 spawning run, suggesting the 2014 year-class is very strong and fishing should be good over the next couple years. With a strong smelt forage base and declining effects of the 2011 flood, salmon fishing should continue to improve in coming years.

SMALLMOUTH BASS

Lake Sakakawea – Smallmouth bass reproduction was exceptional beginning in 2008 and anglers have been encountering good numbers of fish the last couple years. The population also contains good numbers of whopper-sized fish.

TROUT

Garrison Dam Tailrace – Continues to produce trophy brown and rainbow trout. Rainbow trout have done especially well, with good numbers of 5- to 10-pound fish caught by anglers, with the occasional larger fish landed. The Tailrace brown trout fishery continues to produce exceptional fish, with a 20-pound fish 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.

DEVILS LAKE BASIN

Randy Hiltner, district fisheries supervisor, and Todd Caspers, fisheries biologist, both Devils Lake

WALLEYE

Devils Lake – Walleye population continues to do well. Reproduction in recent years has generally been good and there are many fish that are less than 18 inches. The number of walleye that are 15 to 20 inches is holding steady and a bit above the long-term average. The number of walleye over 20 inches is less than smaller fish, but the larger fish are right around their long-term average. The number of larger walleye would likely be better, but weak hatches from 2003-05 are likely contributing to their lower numbers.

Stump Lake – Walleye population is doing well, with a variety of sizes available and good numbers of fish from 16 to 19 inches. Larger fish seem to be showing up more frequently, as the population continues to mature.

Lake Irvine – Walleye population is doing well. Most walleye are between 14 and 20 inches, but there are decent numbers of larger fish.

NORTHERN PIKE

Devils Lake – Northern pike will continue to provide excellent angler opportunities in 2016. Pike are doing well and continue to reproduce naturally. Pike are abundant and found throughout the lake, particularly in shallower areas. Most pike are between 20 and 28 inches, but fish up to about 42 inches are in the lake. Pike are underuti-

lized in Devils Lake, so anglers should not be shy about keeping their limit.

Stump Lake – Northern pike are abundant. Most are medium-sized, but there are some larger fish.

Lake Irvine – Northern pike are abundant. Most pike are medium-sized, but there are some larger fish. Pike in Lake Irvine are underutilized, so anglers should not be shy about keeping their limit.

YELLOW PERCH

Devils Lake – The number of catchable-sized yellow perch have remained similar to last year. Perch from 8 to 10 inches and perch longer than 12 inches are a bit below the long-term average, while numbers of 10- to 12-inch fish are above the long-term average.

Overall, there should be a fair number of perch for anglers to pursue in 2016. There was a record-setting perch hatch in 2013, so if these fish can escape the jaws of pike and walleye, there may be some good perch fishing coming in perhaps another year or two.

Stump Lake – Yellow perch numbers are good, following strong hatches in 2006, 2007, 2009 and 2011. There should be good perch fishing opportunities in 2016, as there are still good numbers of 8- to 12-inch fish, with some larger fish mixed in. Like Devils Lake, there was a record perch hatch in 2013, so if these fish can escape pike and walleye, there may be some good perch fishing to look forward to in a year or two.

Lake Irvine – Yellow perch numbers are low, but the few fish in the lake tend to be bigger.

WHITE BASS

Devils Lake – White bass numbers have declined and are lower than average and much lower than the last boom in 2007 and 2008. However, they are still relatively common and are good-sized, as most are between 12 and 15 inches. White bass numbers should remain comparatively low in the near future as they have not had a strong hatch in several years.

Stump Lake – White bass numbers in Stump remain low.

Lake Irvine – White bass numbers are low, but fish tend to be good-sized.

2015 FISH STOCKING REPORT

Stocking adult catfish in the OWLS Pond west of the Game and Fish Department office in Bismarck.



LARA ANDERSON

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

BLACK CRAPPIE



Sweetwater Lake, Barnes County (adult)	100
OWLS Pond, Burleigh County (adult)	233
Casselton Reservoir, Cass County (adult).....	100
Hunter Dam, Cass County (adult)	200
Limesand-Seefeldt Dam, LaMoure County (adult)	100
Four Corners Lake, Richland County (adult)....	33
Gullys Slough, Richland County (adult)	33
Upsilon Lake, Rolette County	99,000
Sprague Lake, Sargent County	76,000
Lake Tewaukon, Sargent County	275,000

BLUEGILL



OWLS Pond, Burleigh County (adult)	1,000
Ryan Park Pond, Grand Forks County (adult) ..	63
Nygren Dam, Morton County (adult).....	205
Glenburn Pond, Renville County (adult).....	90
Four Corners Lake, Richland County (adult)...	100
Gullys Slough, Richland County (adult)	100
Belfield Pond, Stark County (adult)	790
Dickinson Reservoir, Stark County (adult).....	150
State Fair Pond, Ward County (adult).....	759

BROWN TROUT



North Lemmon, Adams County	350
Moon Lake, Barnes County	700
Camels Hump Lake, Golden Valley County...350	
Blumhardt Dam, McIntosh County.....	350
Lightning Lake, McLean County	700
Fish Creek Dam, Morton County.....	700
Missouri River	15,000
Velva Sportsmen's Pond, Ward County	700
Kettle Lake, Williams County.....	350

CHANNEL CATFISH



Mirror Lake, Adams County (adult)	246
Pheasant Lake, Dickey County (adult).....	100
Watford City Park Pond, McKenzie County (adult)	160
Danzig Dam, Morton County (adult)	179
Krieg's Pond, Morton County (adult).....	150
Stanley Pond, Mountrail County (adult)	90
Belfield Pond, Stark County (adult)	158
Dickinson Dike, Stark County (adult).....	164
West Spring Lake Pond, Williams County (adult)	180

CUTTHROAT TROUT



Missouri River (smolt).....	17,000
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CHINOOK SALMON



Lake Sakakawea (smolt)	415,000
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LARGEMOUTH BASS



Mirror Lake, Adams County (adult)	333
Sweet Briar Lake, Morton County.....	10,000
Davis Dam, Slope County (adult)	137

PURE MUSKELLUNGE



Wood Lake, Benson County	200
Lake Audubon, McLean County	4,000
East Park Lake, McLean County	1,000

TIGER MUSKELLUNGE

New Johns Lake, Burleigh County.....	774
Lake Audubon, McLean County.....	2,000
East Park Lake, McLean County.....	774

NORTHERN PIKE

Lake Ashtabula, Barnes County.....	6,000
Carbury Dam, Bottineau County.....	16,000
Cottonwood Park Pond, Burleigh County (adult).....	600
Casselton Reservoir, Cass County (adult).....	50
Hunter Dam, Cass County (adult).....	50
Warsing Dam, Eddy County.....	5,000
Baumgartner Lake, Emmons County.....	22,000
Jake's Lake, Emmons County.....	20,000
Miller Lake, Emmons County.....	11,000
Fordville Dam, Grand Forks County.....	11,000
Kolding Dam, Grand Forks County.....	1,000
Niagara Dam, Grand Forks County.....	1,000
Des Moines Lake, Kidder County.....	38,000
Helen Lake, Kidder County.....	17,000
Horsehead Lake, Kidder County (fry)...	1,050,000
Lake Isabel, Kidder County.....	16,000
Lake No. 5, Kidder County.....	5,000
Lee Leno Lake, Kidder County.....	10,000
Long Alkaline Lake, Kidder County.....	40,000
Wolf Lake, McIntosh County.....	35,000
Aneta Pond, Nelson County (adult).....	59
Whitman Dam, Nelson County.....	11,000
East Arroda Dam, Oliver County.....	3,000
West Arroda Dam, Oliver County.....	3,000
Balta Dam, Pierce County.....	11,000
Buffalo Lake, Pierce County.....	8,000
Lake Elsie, Richland County (adult).....	78
Island Lake, Rolette County.....	39,000
Long Lake, Rolette County.....	22,000
Silver Lake, Sargent County.....	9,000
Cherry Lake, Sheridan County.....	37,000
Hehn-Schaffer Lake, Stutsman County.....	14,000
Homme Dam, Walsh County.....	20,000
Matejcek Dam, Walsh County.....	5,000
Harvey Dam, Wells County.....	19,000
Sykeston Dam, Wells County.....	11,000
East Spring Lake Pond, Williams County (adult).....	112

RAINBOW TROUT

North Lemmon, Adams County.....	3,000
Blumers Pond, Barnes County.....	350
Hatchery Kids Pond, Barnes County.....	350
Moon Lake, Barnes County.....	3,000
Strawberry Lake, Bottineau County.....	700
Lutz Dam, Bowman County.....	350
Northgate Dam, Burke County.....	5,000
McDowell Dam, Burleigh County.....	700
OWLS Pond, Burleigh County.....	956
North Woodhaven Pond, Cass County.....	700
Langdon City Pond, Cavalier County.....	350
Baukol-Noonan Dam, Divide County.....	3,000

Beach City Pond, Golden Valley County.....	350
Camels Hump Lake, Golden Valley County.....	3,000
Ryan Park Pond, Grand Forks County.....	1,000
Sheep Creek Dam, Grant County.....	4,000
Castle Rock Dam, Hettinger County.....	700
Mott Watershed Dam, Hettinger County.....	700
Blumhardt Dam, McIntosh County.....	1,000
Watford City Park Pond, McKenzie County...	350
Camp Loop Pond, McLean County.....	700
Custer Mine, McLean County.....	700
Lightning Lake, McLean County.....	700
Riverdale City Pond, McLean County.....	700
Harmony Lake, Mercer County.....	1,000
Hazen Creek, Mercer County.....	200
Fish Creek Dam, Morton County.....	4,000
Gaebe Pond, Morton County.....	350
Harmon Lake, Morton County.....	5,000
Krieg's Pond, Morton County.....	700
Little Heart Pond, Morton County.....	700
Nygren Dam, Morton County.....	700
Porsborg Dam, Morton County.....	700
Stanley Pond, Mountrail County.....	700
Turtle River, Grand Forks County.....	3,000
Oliver County Sportsmen's Pond, Oliver County.....	200
Glenburn Pond, Renville County.....	350
Mooreton Pond, Richland County.....	3,000
Hooker Lake, Rolette County.....	1,000
Lake Udall, Rolette County.....	350
Davis Dam, Slope County.....	1,000
Belfield Pond, Stark County.....	700
Dickinson Dike, Stark County.....	3,000
Slater Pond, Stark County.....	350
Little Britches Pond, Stutsman County (adult).....	24
Little Britches Pond, Stutsman County.....	100
State Fair Pond, Ward County.....	350
Velva Sportsmen's Pond, Ward County.....	700
Kettle Lake, Williams County.....	700
Kota-Ray Dam, Williams County.....	2,000
McGregor Dam, Williams County.....	3,000
West Spring Lake Pond, Williams County.....	350

SMALLMOUTH BASS

Lake Williams, Kidder County (adult).....	300
Mundt Lake, Logan County (adult).....	400

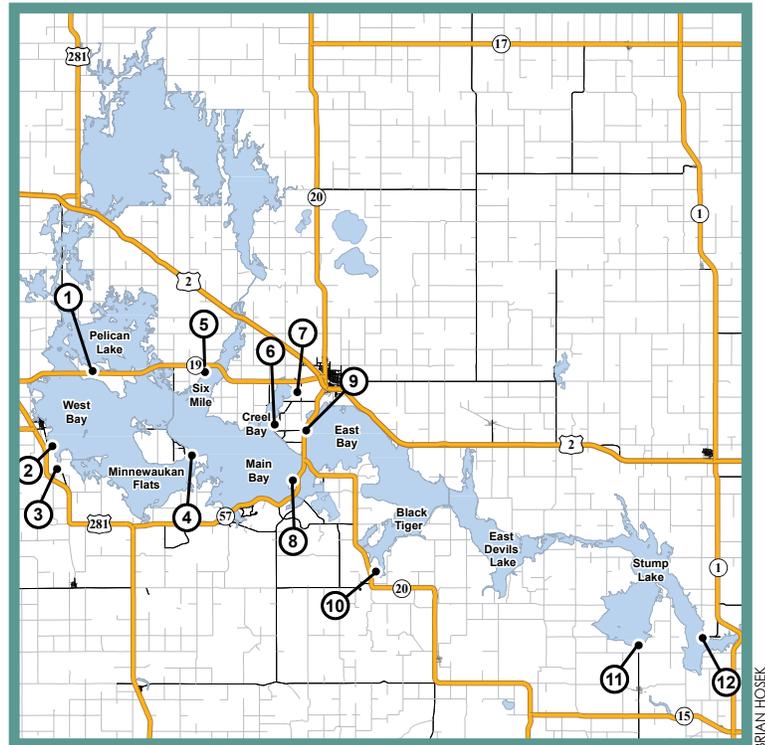
WALLEYE

Mirror Lake, Adams County.....	19,000
Lake Ashtabula, Barnes County.....	262,000
Fox Lake, Barnes County.....	44,000
Island Lake, Barnes County.....	11,000
Kee Lake, Barnes County.....	29,000
Moon Lake, Barnes County.....	15,000
Mosher WPA, Barnes County.....	31,000
Wood Lake, Benson County.....	10,000
Boundary Lake, Bottineau County.....	53,000
Long Lake, Bottineau County.....	29,000
Loon Lake, Bottineau County.....	60,000
Lake Metigoshe, Bottineau County.....	117,000

Bowman-Haley Dam, Bowman County ..	179,000
Northgate Dam, Burke County.....	14,000
Short Creek Dam, Burke County.....	17,000
Smishek Lake, Burke County.....	25,000
Crimmins WPA, Burleigh County.....	41,000
Mount Carmel Dam, Cavalier County.....	30,000
Pheasant Lake, Dickey County.....	25,000
TAD Lake, Dickey County.....	11,000
Wilson Dam, Dickey County.....	6,000
Baukol-Noonan Dam, Divide County.....	5,000
Lake Ilo, Dunn County.....	81,000
Lake Coe, Eddy County.....	47,000
Rice Lake, Emmons County.....	79,000
Dry Lake, Foster County.....	54,000
Odland Dam, Golden Valley County.....	17,000
Fordville Dam, Grand Forks County.....	9,000
Larimore Dam, Grand Forks County.....	9,000
Heart Butte Reservoir, Grant County.....	321,000
Lake Addie, Griggs County.....	66,000
Red Willow Lake, Griggs County.....	32,000
Blickensderfer Dam, Hettinger County.....	4,000
Indian Creek Dam, Hettinger County.....	29,000
Alkaline Lake, Kidder County.....	200,000
Frettim Lake, Kidder County.....	15,000
Geier Lake, Kidder County.....	41,000
Lake Geneva, Kidder County.....	42,000
Jasper Lake, Kidder County.....	39,000
Lake Josephine, Kidder County.....	41,000
McPhail WMA, Kidder County.....	111,000
Plowe Lake, Kidder County.....	29,000
Remmick Lake, Kidder County.....	50,000
Round Lake, Kidder County.....	20,000
Sibley Lake, Kidder County.....	100,000
Trautmann Lake, Kidder County.....	20,000
Woodhouse Lake, Kidder County.....	30,000
Boom Lake (Marion Lake), LaMoure County.....	31,000
Diamond Lake, LaMoure County.....	107,000
Lake LaMoure, LaMoure County.....	61,000
Twin Lakes, LaMoure County.....	101,000
Mundt Lake, Logan County.....	20,000
Railroad Lake, Logan County.....	15,000
Thurn Lake, Logan County.....	10,000
Wentz WPA, Logan County.....	50,000
Buffalo Lodge Lake, McHenry County ..	112,000
Round Lake, McHenry County.....	112,000
Coldwater Lake, McIntosh County.....	51,000
Dry Lake, McIntosh County.....	192,000
Green Lake, McIntosh County.....	40,000
Nagel Lake (Koepplin WPA), McIntosh County.....	20,000
Lake Audubon, McLean County.....	211,000
Coal Lake, McLean County.....	60,000
Crooked Lake, McLean County.....	92,000
Scoby Lake, McLean County.....	45,000
Danzig Dam, Morton County.....	20,000
Sweet Briar Lake, Morton County.....	20,000
White Earth Dam, Mountrail County.....	19,000
Lake Sakakawea.....	1,800,000
McVile Dam, Nelson County.....	7,000
Stump Lake, Nelson County.....	152,000
Tolna Dam, Nelson County.....	22,000
Renwick Dam, Pembina County.....	20,000
Clear Lake, Pierce County.....	73,000
Lesmeister Lake, Pierce County.....	47,000
Lake Darling, Renville County.....	316,000
Elm Lake, Richland County.....	27,000

DEVILS LAKE BASIN

BOATING ACCESS



BRIAN HOSEK



Following is a list of all 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) or contact the appropriate managing authority at the end of each listing.

- 1. PELICAN LAKE BAY** – 15 miles west of Devils Lake on ND Highway 19. Paved access road, trash receptacles – North Dakota Game and Fish Department.
- 2. MINNEWAUKAN DUMP-GROUND** – 1.5 miles south of Minnewaukan on old U.S. Highway 281. Gravel access road, no restrooms – Minnewaukan Community Club.
- 3. ROUND LAKE BAY** – 3 miles south of Minnewaukan on U.S. Highway 281. Paved access road, trash receptacles – Minnewaukan Community Club.
- 4. 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, RV dump station – North Dakota Parks and Recreation.
- 5. 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, RV dump station – North Dakota Game and Fish Department.
- 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 – Ramsey County Park Board.
- 7. 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 – Ramsey County Park Board.
- 8. 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, RV dump station – Spirit Lake Casino.
- 9. EAST BAY** – 3 miles south of Devils Lake on ND Highway 20. Paved access road, security lights, trash receptacles – North Dakota Game and Fish Department.
- 10. ESTENSON LANDING** – 15 miles south of Devils Lake on ND Highway 20. Paved access road, no restrooms, trash receptacles – North Dakota Game and Fish Department.
- 11. TOLNA LANDING (STUMP LAKE)** – 3 miles north of Tolna. Gravel access road, fish cleaning facility, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – Tolna Community Club.
- 12. STUMP LAKE PARK** – 11 miles south, 1 mile west of Lakota. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession, lodging, RV dump station – Nelson County Park Board.

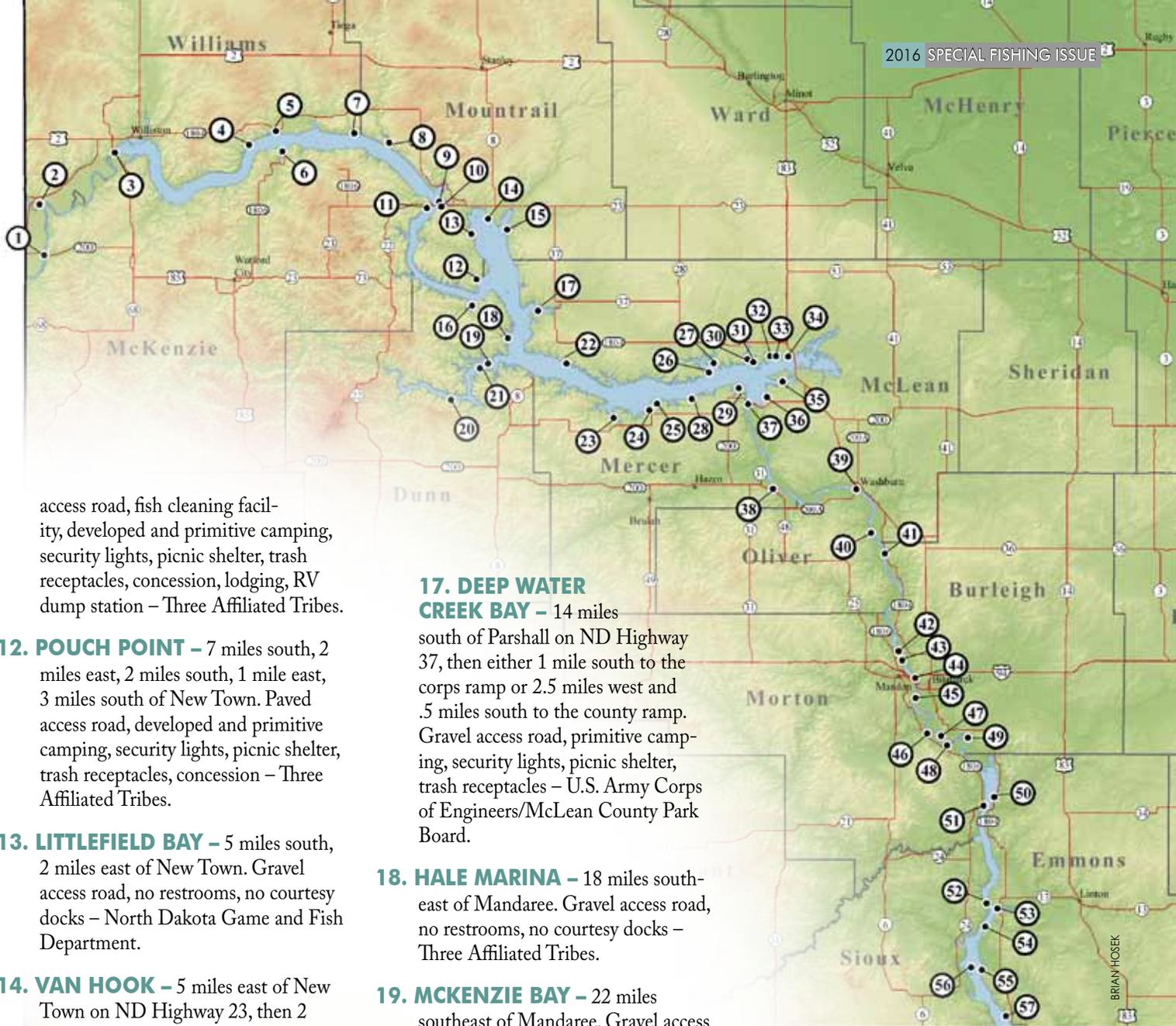
MISSOURI RIVER SYSTEM

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. For updated access information, check the North Dakota Game and Fish Department's website (gf.nd.gov) or contact the appropriate managing authority 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, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – Yellowstone Township.
- 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, security lights, picnic shelter – Williams County WRD.
- 4. 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, RV dump station – North Dakota Parks and Recreation.
- 5. 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.
- 6. 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.
- 7. 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.
- 8. 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, RV dump station – Mountrail County Park Board.
- 9. SANISH BAY (AFTEM)** – 1 mile north, 2 miles west of New Town. Gravel access road, no restrooms – New Town Park Board/Aftem Development.
- 10. 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, RV dump station – New Town Marina Association.
- 11. 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, RV dump station – Three Affiliated Tribes.

- 12. 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.
- 13. LITTLEFIELD BAY** – 5 miles south, 2 miles east of New Town. Gravel access road, no restrooms, no courtesy docks – North Dakota Game and Fish Department.
- 14. 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, RV dump station – Mountrail County Park Board.
- 15. 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, RV dump station – Mountrail County Park Board.
- 16. SKUNK BAY** – 14 miles northeast of Mandaree. Gravel access road, developed and primitive camping, concession, lodging – Three Affiliated Tribes/Roads Maker, Inc.

17. 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.

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

- 19. 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, RV dump station – Watford City Park Board.

- 20. LITTLE MISSOURI BAY** – 16 miles northeast of Dunn Center. Gravel access road, security lights – Dunn County Park Board.

- 21. 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.

- 22. 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, RV dump station – North Dakota Parks and Recreation/Three Affiliated Tribes.

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

- 24. 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, RV dump station – Dakota Waters Resort.

- 25. BEULAH BAY** – 17 miles north of Beulah. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed and primitive camping, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, lodging, RV dump station – Beulah City Park Board.
- 26. 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.
- 27. 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 – Camp of the Cross.
- 28. 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, RV dump station – Hazen City Park Board.
- 29. 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, RV dump station – North Dakota Parks and Recreation.
- 30. 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.
- 31. 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, RV dump station – North Dakota Parks and Recreation.
- 32. STEINKE BAY** – 3 miles west of the junction of ND Highway 37 and

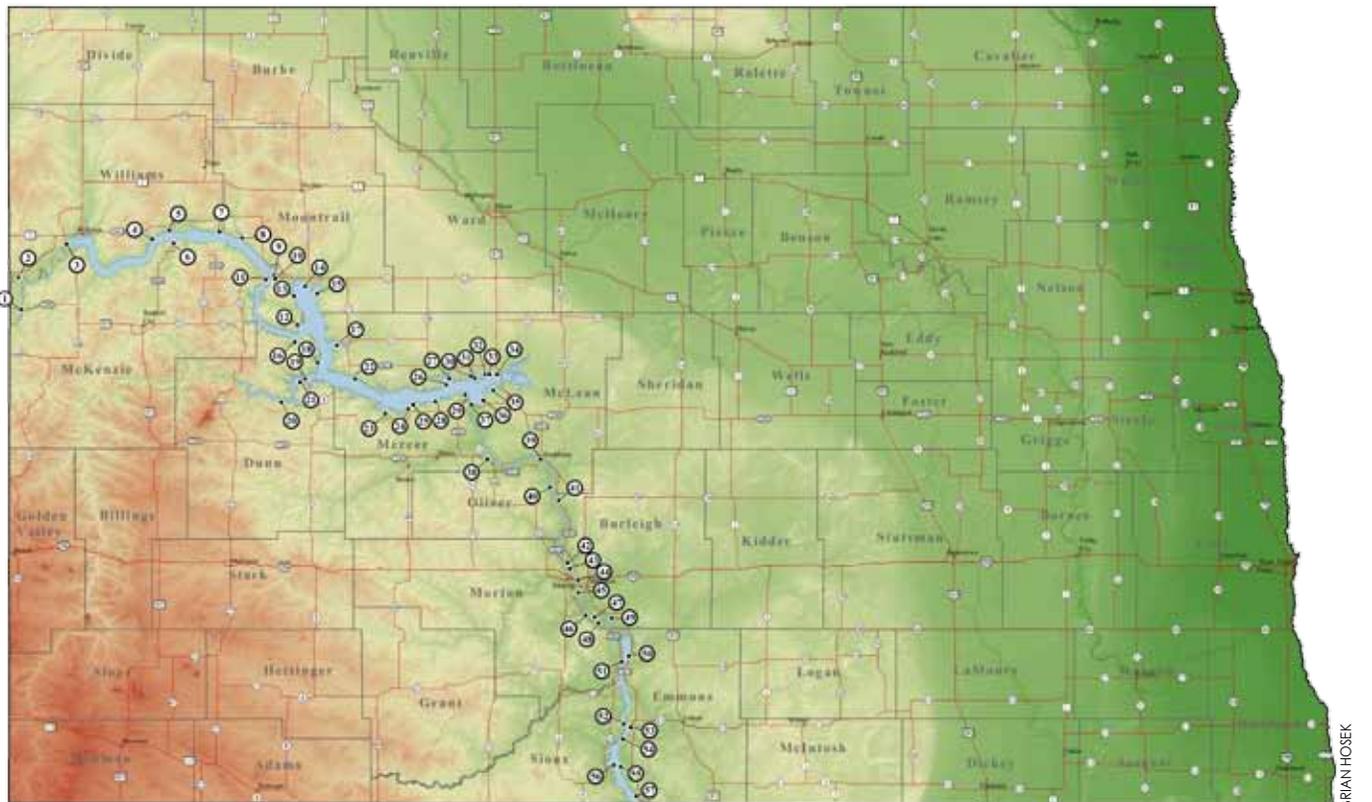
U.S. Highway 83, then 2 miles south. Gravel access road, primitive camping – North Dakota Game and Fish Department.

- 33. 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 – McLean County Park Board.
- 34. WEST TOTTEN TRAIL** – 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.
- 35. 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.
- 36. 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.
- 37. GARRISON DAM TAILRACE** – Directly below Garrison Dam. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, developed camping, security lights, trash receptacles – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
- 38. 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.
- 39. WASHBURN** – On east side of the Missouri River near Washburn, north of ND Highway 200A bridge. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, primitive camping, security lights, trash receptacles, RV dump station – Washburn City Park Board.

40. 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.

- 41. 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.
- 42. HOGE LANDING** – On east side of the 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.
- 43. 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, fish cleaning facility, security lights, picnic shelter, trash receptacles, concession – Burleigh County Park Board.
- 44. GRANT MARSH BRIDGE** – On east side of the 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.
- 45. 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. Paved access road, fish cleaning facility, security lights, trash receptacles – Bismarck Parks and Recreation.
- 46. 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.

- 47. KIMBALL BOTTOMS (DES-ERT)** – 8 miles south of Bismarck on ND Highway 1804, then 2 miles south. Paved access road, primitive camping, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – Burleigh County Park Board.
- 48. 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.
- 49. MACLEAN BOTTOMS (GUN RANGE)** – 14 miles south of Bismarck on ND Highway 1804, then 2 miles south. Paved access road, picnic shelter, trash receptacles – Burleigh County Park Board.
- 50. 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.
- 51. 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.
- 52. 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, lodging, RV dump station – Prairie Knights Casino.
- 53. 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, RV dump station – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
- 54. JENNERVILLE (RIVERY)** – 13 miles west of Linton on ND Highway 13, then 6.5 miles south on ND Highway 1804, and 3.5 miles west at Rivery turnoff. Gravel access road, no restrooms, no courtesy docks – 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.



BRIAN HOSEK



BUFFALOBERRY PATCH

By Greg Freeman, Department News Editor

Fishing Regulation Changes

What follows is a summary of notable regulation changes for the 2016 fishing season. For additional changes and information concerning North Dakota fishing regulations, refer to the 2016-18 North Dakota Fishing Guide.

• **FREE WINTER FISHING WEEKEND** – A free fishing weekend was added for North Dakota residents during the ice fishing season. In the coming winter, the free weekend will be held December 31 through January 1, 2017.

“We wanted to allow family and friends to experience ice fishing without purchasing a fishing license on a weekend during the holiday,” said Greg Power, Game and Fish Department fisheries chief. “Five other states have a free ice fishing weekend, but North Dakota will be the only state to offer a free fishing weekend over the Christmas holiday.”

• **PANFISH POSSESSION LIMIT** – The statewide possession limit for bluegill, yellow perch and white bass was reduced from 80 to 40 each.

“The statewide standard for possession limits is twice the respective daily limits. However, perch, bluegill and white bass possession limits were four times the daily limit,” Power said. “Reducing their respective possession limits to 40 will address the desires of many resident anglers fishing rural lakes, as well as normalize possession limits with the statewide ‘double the daily’ standard for other species.”

• **DRAIN PLUGS** – All drain plugs that hold back water must be removed, and

all draining devices must be open on all watercraft and recreational bilges and confined spaces, during any out-of-water transport.

“We’re trying to be consistent with many surrounding states and current rules already require all water to be drained when leaving a water body,” Power said. “So keeping the drain plug out is not an inconvenience to watercraft owners.”

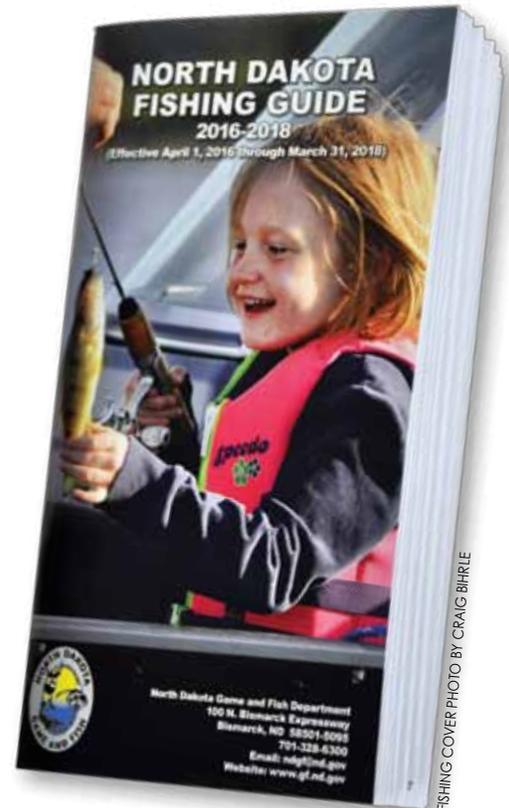
• **BAIT CONTAINERS** – All water must be completely drained from bait containers, including bait buckets, upon leaving the Red River, or any other waters designated as infested with Class 1 prohibited aquatic nuisance species.

“The concern is that by not draining bait buckets, anglers could transport microscopic zebra mussels from the Red River to other waters,” Power said.

• **DARKHOUSE SPEARFISHING** – Sweet Briar Dam and Braun Lake are open to darkhouse spearfishing, and Laramore Dam and Wood Lake are closed to darkhouse spearfishing.

• **MARKING SPEARING HOLES** – Markers must be in the possession of anglers and/or spearers as soon as a hole greater than 10 inches in diameter is made in the ice.

“This measure will be a good reminder to spearers and anglers to think and plan in advance and ensure markers are readily available, versus realizing after-the-fact and then scrambling to find something legal to use as a marker,” Power said.



FISHING COVER PHOTO BY CRAIG BHRLE

• **BASS AND PIKE LENGTH LIMIT** – Largemouth bass and northern pike length restrictions are eliminated on Red Willow Lake, and largemouth bass length restrictions removed on North and South Golden lakes.

• **VISIBLE RODS** – Fishing rods must be easily visible and within a maximum distance of 150 feet of participating anglers.

• **SNAPPERS** – One snapping turtle may be harvested annually between July 1 and November 15.

“There is some evidence that snapping turtle populations are declining,” Power said. “This rule provides some reasonable safeguards, preventing excessive harvest, including closing harvest during their breeding season.”



MIKE ANDERSON

Licenses Available Only Through Electronic Purchase

Hunting, fishing and furbearer licenses for the 2016-17 licensing year are available now for electronic purchase.

This year for the first time, paper license booklets are no longer being used, as participating vendors are only selling licenses electronically. Not all vendors that sold licenses in the past are still selling licenses.

New fishing, hunting and furbearer licenses are required April 1. The 2016-17 licenses are effective April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017.

Hunting and fishing licenses can be purchased using a computer or smartphone by logging on to the North Dakota Game and Fish Department website, gf.nd.gov, or at license vendors that are linked to the Department's online licensing system.

In addition, licenses may also be purchased by calling the Department's instant licensing telephone number at 800-406-6409 any time day or night. A service charge is

added for licenses purchased through the instant licensing telephone number.

More than 70 percent of hunters and anglers already buy their licenses electronically. Benefits of purchasing a license through an electronic licensing system include having the ability to reprint multiple copies of a license, or to replace lost or damaged licenses, from any license vendor or personal computer, without having to pay a fee for a duplicate license.

A list of vendors participating in electronic licensing sales is available on the Game and Fish Department's website at gf.nd.gov/licenses/electronic-licensing-requirements. Vendors on the list as of April 1 will be linked to the Department's online licensing system. Game and Fish will continue to provide paper applications for lottery licenses. These will be available at license vendors and other locations throughout the state.

Deer Samples Negative for CWD

Samples taken from North Dakota deer during the 2015 hunting season have all tested negative for chronic wasting disease, according to Dr. Dan Grove, state Game and Fish Department wildlife veterinarian.

Samples for CWD testing were taken from more than 1,200 deer harvested by hunters last fall in the western third of the state.

Since the Game and Fish Department's sampling efforts began in 2002, more than 27,000 deer, elk and moose have tested negative for CWD. Seven deer have tested positive for CWD, all since 2009, and all were from the same general area within unit 3F2 in southwestern North Dakota.

The hunter-harvested surveillance program annually collects samples taken from hunter-harvested deer in specific regions of the state. In 2016, deer will be tested from the eastern 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.

CWD affects the nervous system of members of the deer family and is always fatal. Scientists have found no evidence that CWD can be transmitted naturally to humans or livestock.



CRAIG EHRLE



RED, BOIS DE SIOUX RIVER LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

Anglers fishing from shore on the North Dakota side of the Red or Bois de Sioux rivers must have a valid North Dakota fishing license.

However, anglers fishing from a boat or on the ice can possess either a valid North Dakota or Minnesota fishing license. Anglers should refer to the 2016-18 North Dakota Fishing Guide for additional information.



Walleye Length Requirement in Some Lakes

Anglers fishing in southeastern North Dakota are reminded of a length requirement when fishing for walleye in designated lakes.

The fishing proclamation includes a 14-inch minimum wall-eye length restriction on six lakes – Alkali Lake, Buffalo Lake and Tosse Slough in Sargent County; and Lake Elsie, Lueck Lake and West Moran Lake in Richland County.

Anglers should refer to the 2016-18 North Dakota Fishing Guide for all fishing regulations.



Paddlefish Snagging Season

North Dakota's paddlefish snagging season opens May 1 and is scheduled to continue through the end of the month. However, depending on the overall harvest, an early in-season closure may occur with a 24-hour notice issued by the state Game and Fish Department.

Snaggers need to be aware that mandatory harvest of all snagged paddlefish is required on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. On those days, all paddlefish caught must be tagged immediately. All paddlefish snagged and tagged must be removed from the river by 9 p.m. of each snagging day. The use or possession of a gaff hook within one-half mile in either direction of the Highway 200 bridge on the Yellowstone River is illegal at any time during the snagging season.

Snag-and-release of all paddlefish is required on Sundays, Mondays and Thursdays. Participants during snag-and-release-only days need to have in their possession a current season, unused paddlefish snagging tag. Use or possession of gaffs is prohibited on snag-and-release-only days, and, if it occurs, during the snag-and-release extension period.

Legal snagging hours are from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. One tag per snagger will be issued. Snagging is legal in all areas of the Yellowstone River in North Dakota, and in the area of the Missouri River lying west of the U.S. Highway 85 bridge to the Montana border, excluding that portion from the pipeline crossing (river mile 1,577) downstream to the upper end of the Lewis and Clark Wildlife Management Area (river mile 1,565).

If the season closes early because the harvest quota is reached, an extended snag-and-release-only period will be allowed for up to four days immediately following the early closure, but not to extend beyond May 31. Only snaggers with a current season, unused paddlefish snagging tag are eligible to participate. Only a limited area at the confluence of the Missouri and Yellowstone rivers is open to this extended snagging opportunity.

All paddlefish snaggers must possess a paddlefish tag in addition to a valid fishing license that may be required. Cost of a paddlefish tag is \$10 for residents and \$25.50 for nonresidents.

2015 MOOSE AND ELK HARVESTS

Harvest statistics released by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department show overall hunter success during the 2015 season was 96 percent for moose and 69 percent for elk.

The bighorn sheep hunting season was closed due to significant sheep mortality in 2014 caused by bacterial pneumonia.

The Department issued 129 moose licenses last year. Of that total, hunters harvested 124 moose – 106 bulls and 18 cows/calves. One additional license was raffled by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and the hunter successfully harvested a moose.

The Department issued 317 elk licenses in 2015. Of that total, 287 hunters harvested 197 elk – 128 bulls and 69 cows/calves. One additional license was raffled by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and the hunter successfully harvested an elk.



CHRIS GRONDAHL

STAFF NOTES

Upland Biologist Named

Game management technician Rodney Gross has been hired as an upland game biologist. The Jamestown native has a bachelor of science degree in zoology-wildlife and fisheries from North Dakota State University, and a master's in biology from the University of North Dakota.



Rodney Gross

Ryckman Retires, Howell Hired

Fred Ryckman, longtime northwest fisheries district supervisor and aquatic nuisance species coordinator, retired in February after more than 37 years with the Department. Jessica Howell was hired as the Department's new ANS coordinator. She received her master of science degree in fisheries science from South Dakota State University, and previously worked as the invasive species coordinator for the Kansas Department of Parks and Wildlife.



Fred Ryckman



Jessica Howell

Francis Fills PLI Post

Curtis Francis has filled the private land biologist position in Dickinson. He has a bachelor of science degree from Lake Superior State University in Michigan and a master's from North Dakota State University.



Curtis Francis

Diehl Joins Agency

Brandon Diehl has been hired as the administrative assistant in the conservation and communications division.



Brandon Diehl

Mattson Earns Air National Guard Honor

Master Sergeant Justin Mattson, Game and Fish Department administrative staff officer, was named the North Dakota Air National Guard's Noncommissioned Officer of the Year in March.

Mattson joined the North Dakota Air National Guard in 2004, and currently serves as the storeroom manager with the 119th Wing Services Flight.

Mattson, of Bismarck, was recognized at the 2015 Outstanding Airman of the Year banquet in Fargo.



Justin Mattson



TOP WHOPPERS

CLUB APPLICATIONS FOR 2015



BLACK BULLHEAD – 2 pounds, 9 ounces, Lake Hoskins; 2-9, Lake Hoskins; 2-8, Lake Hoskins; 2-8, Dry Lake; 2-0, Heart Butte Reservoir.



BLUEGILL – 1-14, Froelich Dam; 1-12, Long Lake; 1-12, Froelich Dam; 1-8, Froelich Dam.



BROWN TROUT – 8-2, Missouri River; 6-14, Missouri River; 6-9, Missouri River.



BUFFALO – 35-8, Missouri River; 33-8, Missouri River; 28-0, Missouri River; 24-5, Missouri River; 23-8, Missouri River.



BURBOT – 8-10, Lake Sakakawea.



CHANNEL CATFISH – 24-4, Lake Sakakawea; 18-0, Red River; 15-4, Red River; 13-0, Red River; 13-0, Lake Tewaukon.



CHINOOK SALMON – 18-12, Missouri River; 18-5, Lake Sakakawea; 16-13, Lake Sakakawea; 16-7, Missouri River; 16-3, Lake Sakakawea.



CISCO – 2-9, Lake Oahe; 2-6, Lake Sakakawea; 2-0, Lake Sakakawea.



COMMON CARP – 27-8, Missouri River; 26-15, Missouri River.



CRAPPIE – 2-4, Bisbee Dam-Big Coulee; 2-4, Bisbee Dam-Big Coulee; 1-15, Devils Lake; 1-14, Devils Lake; 1-13, Devils Lake.



DRUM – 8-9, Lake Sakakawea; 6-2, Lake Audubon.



GOLDEYE – 3-5, McClusky Canal; 3-3, McClusky Canal; 2-9, McClusky Canal; 2-9, McClusky Canal; 2-4, Heart Butte Reservoir.



LAKE WHITEFISH – 5-10, Lake Sakakawea; 5-3, Lake Sakakawea; 4-10, Missouri River.



LARGEMOUTH BASS – 6-1, Riverdale City Pond; 5-14, Nelson Lake; 5-13, Nelson Lake; 5-12, Nelson Lake.



NORTHERN PIKE – 33-6, Lake Oahe; 25-6, Lake Audubon; 24-3, Silver Lake; 24-0, Lake Oahe; 23-13, Missouri River.



PADDLEFISH – 115-0, Missouri River; 112-0, Missouri River; 109-0, Missouri River; 109-0, Yellowstone River; 106-0, Missouri River.



RAINBOW TROUT – 13-2, Missouri River; 10-11, Missouri River; 9-11, Missouri River; 9-3, Missouri River; 7-11, Missouri River; 7-11, Missouri River.



SMALLMOUTH BASS – 4-15, New Johns Lake; 4-14, Lake Sakakawea; 4-10, Spiritwood Lake; 4-10, Lake Oahe; 4-8, Lake Ashtabula.



TIGER MUSKELLUNGE – 26-11, New Johns Lake.



WALLEYE – 13-0, Missouri River; 12-10, Devils Lake; 12-7, Lake Sakakawea; 11-4, Devils Lake; 11-2, Lake Sakakawea.



WHITE BASS – 4-5, Devils Lake; 3-15, Devils Lake; 3-12, Devils Lake; 3-12, Buffalo Lake; 3-12, Devils Lake.



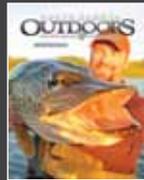
YELLOW PERCH – 2-13, Devils Lake; 2-8, Erickson Lake; 2-7, Devils Lake; 2-5, Lake Irvine; 2-2, West Lake Napoleon.

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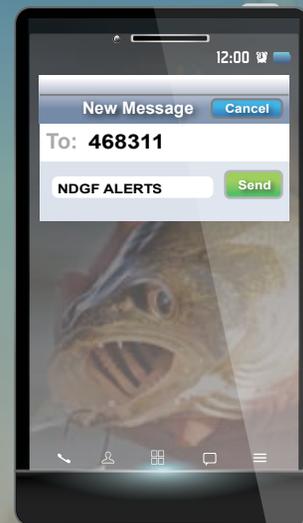
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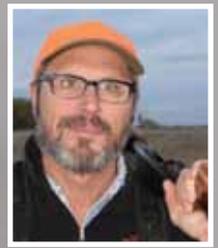
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By Ron Wilson



CRAIG BIRKLE

I hike uphill in the dark, with my hands in front pants pockets, wishing that I'd remembered gloves. Binoculars hang from a strap around my neck and bounce against my chest with each step.

It's not yet mid-March, but close. I turned our clocks ahead before going to bed, knowing after repeated reminders from TV news folks that by doing so I'd be running on less sleep than typical this morning.

Yet, if the hour lost in the time change makes a difference, I'm not feeling it. Black coffee on the drive out here helped. Hiking uphill with some purpose, while shouldering a certain amount of doubt doesn't hurt, either.

The last time I hiked here in the dark was nearly 20 years ago. I'm not looking for the plywood sharp-tailed grouse viewing blind this time because it's gone, but I do want to find the dancing ground where it once sat. The odds of that aren't good, I know, but I'm trying anyway, wishing I'd remembered a flashlight, which is likely parked next to my gloves at home on the basement workbench that sees little work.

Watching male grouse dance is a spectacle. I've hidden in enough blinds to know the drill when birds arrive – out-stretched-wings, inflated neck sacs, rattling

tail feathers and uncorked aggression – but their primal show never gets old.

Any bird book will tell you that grouse dance in spring, peaking sometime in April in North Dakota, yet I've watched them dance from the front seat of my vehicle in October and from a hay bale blind while deer hunting in mid-November.

While biologists likely have a scientific explanation for this off-season celebration, it struck me in both instances as if the birds just couldn't help themselves. They danced because they could.

I know the chance of seeing birds on their lek this morning is slim, especially since I'm conspicuously sitting in the open on a random piece of prairie that may or may not be where the old blind once sat.

But maybe that's not why I'm really here. I haven't decided yet. Perhaps what got me out of bed this morning is that my son has a spring turkey license for this unit and I know I should do some scouting for the April season. Nonetheless, on the drive out here I started thinking about dancing grouse, the old blind ... so here I sit, waiting.

There isn't much wind to speak of this morning and I can easily hear the occasional vehicle pass on the paved road west of here. What I don't pick up is the

familiar, hollow cooing sound male grouse make on the lek. Unless they've gathered elsewhere out of earshot, there's no reason to hang around.

What I know about turkeys is limited. Yet, I know enough to hike toward the tree-covered draws south of here, thinking I can spot birds coming off their roost, or maybe hear them as they thump to the ground.

I'm partway up one of the draws and I hear a gobble, then another. I'm surprised, really, considering I haven't been anything near cat-quiet on my approach. I figure any self-respecting turkeys would be wobbling toward the next township by now.

At the top of the draw the view is considerable, it's nice. I can see my vehicle parked northwest of here. It's mostly a downhill hike and I figure I can make it in about 20 minutes, give or take.

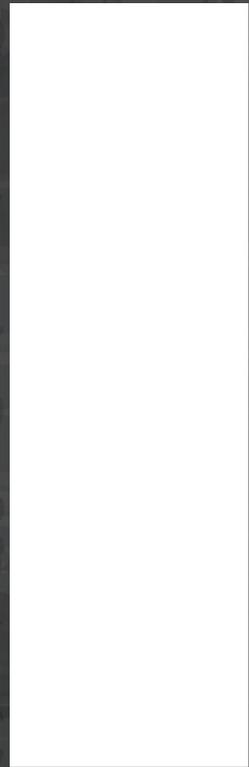
I still haven't decided why I'm here. To simply hear two gobbles? Probably not.

Maybe like a lot of people, I'm just killing time, looking for an excuse to be outside while the ice slowly rots on our local lakes. We'll be fishing soon, which will be excuse enough to start the day before sunup.

RON WILSON is editor of *North Dakota OUTDOORS*.



NORTH DAKOTA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT ARCHIVE PHOTOS



A Look Back

By Ron Wilson

North Dakota and northern pike have some history.

This efficient ambush predator was named the state fish by lawmakers in 1969. At the time, only 11 other states adopted various fish species – salmon, trout, walleye and others – as official symbols.

For North Dakota anglers, appreciation for pike started earlier than that.

“For years pike were the fish of choice, in part, because there weren’t a lot of other options,” said Greg Power, North Dakota Game and Fish Department fisheries chief. “Anglers back then didn’t have the yellow perch and walleye fishing opportunities like they have today, but there certainly was a core of people who had a passion for pike.”

Catching a big pike in North Dakota has been news for years. In dated issues of *North Dakota OUTDOORS*, for example, we learn that a 19-pound, 8-ounce northern caught in Lake

Metigoshe in 1932 was the biggest fish mentioned in the state that year. Same goes for a 25-pound pike taken from the Red River near Grand Forks in 1945.

It’s also noted in old *OUTDOORS* that the first attempt, which was unsuccessful, to take eggs from spawning pike was 1950 in the Red River. Things went better the following year as biologists noted the state’s first successful pike spawning effort from the James River near Ludden.

Which, in roundabout way, brings us to the accompanying photograph, featuring a spring pike spawning crew at Lake Ashtabula in 1954. (From left to right: Martin Van Ray, Albert Nelson, Leon Corning, Bill Gravine, Dale Henegar and Melvin Jorgenson. All were state employees, except Gravine, who was with the federal fish hatchery in Valley City.)

While this image is 62 years old, the effort to take eggs and milt from adult

pike in North Dakota and raise young fish in a hatchery is timeless.

Since the early 1950s when the photograph was taken, untold millions of northern pike have been stocked in North Dakota waters.

“In the late 1950s, those fish were mostly being stocked in North Dakota’s mid-sized reservoirs – Lake Darling, Lake Ashtabula, Heart Butte ... and some rivers,” Power said.

Today, pike in record numbers are found in 200-plus waters scattered across the state.

“When you look at that old black and white photograph, not much has changed, except the vehicles, because some of the same techniques and equipment used back then to spawn pike are still being used today,” Power said.

RON WILSON is editor of *North Dakota OUTDOORS*.