



Shane Shefstad

Northwest District Fisheries Technician
Fisheries Division
North Dakota Game and Fish Department

Hello everyone. My name is Shane Shefstad and I'm a fisheries technician working out of Williston. I was born and raised in northwest North Dakota, living on a farm south of Columbus. I attended school in Columbus and Crosby where I graduated in 1987. I attended NDSU-Bottineau for two years and received my A.S. in Fish and Wildlife Management. I then transferred to UND-Grand Forks and received a B.S. in Wildlife management.

I have worked for the North Dakota Game and Fish since 1992. After graduating from college, I have worked either as a full time seasonal or full time permanent employee. In the past couple years I have also assisted the Williams and Burke County NRCS offices studying water quality of various watersheds in conjunction with the State Health Department. Most of my time has been spent on Blacktail Dam, McGregor Dam, and Short Creek Dam. This has made me realize how critical watershed management is for long-term protection of our lakes.

In the winter months my time is mostly spent repairing nets and the maintenance of equipment for the upcoming field season. I also spend some time conducting oxygen checks on the lakes in our district as well as assisting the Wildlife Division.

The real fun starts after ice out, when the field season begins. Conducting rough fish removal, trap and transport or helping with tagging and spawning keeps me very busy. Paddlefish tagging is an especially interesting part of my job and the one I enjoy the most. You can catch me doing just about anything at any lake on any given day during the summer months - from pounding signs, netting, repairing docks, to working on boat ramps. If it is at a lake in the northwest, you can bet I have done something with it.

The nicest part of the job is the diversity of projects we get to work on and the people we get to work with. If any of you have any questions about the northwest part of the state feel free to give me a shout.