



NORTH DAKOTA SPORTFISHING CONGRESS

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8TH, 2012, 11:00 AM
GAME AND FISH OFFICES, BISMARCK, ND

Participants: President Clark William; VP Ken Cumber; Past President Duaine Ash; Board members: Ed Sweeney, Paul Haul, Dave Bement; Club Delegates: Tony Splonskowski, Wayne Beyer; Guest members: Terry Fleck and Barb Ash; Greg Power, ND Game & Fish; Secretary Marie Hoerner.

- Chairman Clark Williams called the meeting to order.
- Minutes from Annual Board Meeting, April 14, 2012 were approved as distributed and posted on the NDSFC website. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Paul Haug, second by Ed Sweeney, and unanimously passed.
- Financial Report – Treasurer Rick Eagleson, who was unable to attend, provided Paul Haug a written Treasurer's report to be distributed at the meeting, which included a financial report for the April 2012 fundraiser. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Ken Cumber, seconded by Ed Sweeney, and unanimously approved as submitted.
- Game and Fish Report: Greg Power
 - Anticipated Legislative Fishing Issues
 - Terry has been in DC and had prior commitment so was not able to attend.
 - State-of-the-State fishery for the entire state. We are at an all time best.

Five fundamentals for Good Fishing in North Dakota

1. Wet climate conditions
2. Effectively addressing the various Bait Bucket transfer issues during the past 20+ years (i.e. Biota transfer and ANS matters have been manageable)
3. day-to-day fish management decisions
4. hatchery production and the state-federal partnership, and
5. Providing adequate access and opportunity to the states fisheries

Angler trends are going up – license sales and more participation – Example give was Logan County where there now is 15-20 lakes, compared to two lakes in 1992. This similar statewide.

Trying to keep up with the demand

- Development – more ramp needs, costs increases, etc.
- Hatcheries
 - Short-term – GDNFH and spillway repair
 - Longer-term – The State of ND funding the vast majority of present costs.
 - Probable take over by ND as F&W continues to reduce funding and emphasis
- ANS -- Increase need for more monitoring and other activities
- SOL – compensate landowners with today's land prices
- Dam repair and replacement – very expensive to fix but will become more common

ND fishing license revenue, Federal aid funds and expenses – Small percentage of budget is from fishing license.

Changes in Paddlefish Regulations – simple not enough fish for the extreme crowds. SOLUTION: More fish and/or fewer snaggers. They have a 1,000 fish harvest cap on paddlefish. Looking at options for additional snagging season changes – change the season length or time frame; change the area open to snagging; change the allowable snagging hours/day and change the more S&R/less S&H (snag & harvest). Since regulations cannot be liberalized without more fish; however, none of these regulatory changes would do much to address angler congestion or the need for an in-season closure so as not to exceed the harvest cap. Shortening the notice requirement from 36-hour to 24-hour or less would help reduce uncertainty.

Proposals to limit the number of snaggers?

- Sell a limited number of tags
 - first-come, first served?
 - all through Bismarck office?
- Administer a lottery system for tags?
 - definitely through Bismarck office
- Some combination of the above?

G&F needs legislation approval to have a lottery for paddlefish. More than 1300 paddlefish were lost through Garrison Dam during the 2011 flood.

- The 63rd North Dakota legislative session convenes January 8, 2013. President Williams said the NDSFC will continue to communicate legislative issues by email tree. Duaine Ash has agreed to be the lobbyist for NDSFC for the 2013 session. Ash will be paid the same rate as the 2011 session any additional expenses will be reviewed at the end of the session.
- Annual Meeting/Fundraiser is scheduled for Saturday, April 20, 2013 at the Mandan Eagles Club.
 - After discussion of ways to generate more ticket sales, it was the consensus of the group to give 10 (ten) \$1 drum raffle tickets to the seller for every book of 10 sold.
 - Drawing Prizes – Paul will work on getting prizes from Reeds. Clark said he would make the trip to Walker, MN with Paul. NDSFC could again use the Lake Region Anglers Trailer.
 - Gun Raffle – It was the consensus to have a cash raffle drawings, rather than a gun raffle. \$5 tickets will be sold for four cash prizes (\$500, \$250, \$100, \$100).
 - Door Prize incentive for selling \$50 tickets – Paul Haug and Marie Hoerner will come up with an incentive gift.
 - Board Meeting – Mike Anderson is to confirm that the Mandan Eagles is available for the Board Meeting starting at 10:00 a.m.
- Positions up for election
 - Officers: President: Clark Williams, Treasurer: Rick Eagleson
 - Board Positions: Don Baasch, Mike Anderson, Dave Bement, Ed Sweeney
 - A Nominating Committee was selected consisting of Dave Bement, Ken Cumber, Paul Haug and Clark Williams will report on nominees at the April 2013 Board meeting.
- Club Memberships – dues invoices will be mailed to the clubs in February-March.
- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Date Submitted: December 14, 2012
Report Submitted by: Marie Hoerner