



P.O. Box 2472 • Bismarck, ND 58502 • www.ndsportfishingcongress.org

Volume 10-01

March 2010

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Clark Williams

2009 was a good year for fishing interests and the North Dakota Sportfishing Congress' efforts, despite wide-range flooding and the depressed economy. Lake Sakakawea resumed its upward climb to full-pool. River fishing improved even more over the previous year. Lake Oahe successfully returned to southern North Dakota. Smaller lakes around the state filled up. Devils Lake's walleye population reached record highs, and the perch were more actively biting. What more could fishermen ask for?

The NDSFC's Spring Fundraiser was a great success. We continued our mission to support and uphold the interests of fishermen in North Dakota and the ND Game and Fish Department. We were instrumental in killing a number of bills in the State Legislature that would have cost fishermen and ND Game and Fish major dollars, time and energy. Our email tree and your responses, commentary and research armed our lobbyist, Duaine Ash, with the feedback and ammunition to defend our interests in the Legislature. According to Duaine and his legislative contacts, your input provided powerful backup to uphold efforts to reach our goals.

And 2010 is presenting more major challenges. With increased numbers of out of state fishermen discovering North Dakota's superior fishing and the increased mobility of all fishermen, environmentally-destructive Aquatic Nuisance Species are creeping closer to prized waters, threatening our outstanding fisheries and the ecologies



that make them possible. Also, unfortunately, this Spring looks to be another wet one promising, again, moderate-to-severe flooding to house, home, business as well as fishing concerns (*see Lake Region Anglers article.*)

Although this is a non-legislative year, we can't afford to decrease pressure on these impending and increasingly complicated crises. It's become more important than ever to strengthen our collective voice in terms of conservation and fishing issues. Towards that end, we need to recruit more interested and proactive individuals and organizations to support our interests. Too many sit on the sidelines now and expect others to take care of business. Our organization is a dynamic one that serves a specific purpose, but we need to enlist more individuals who love our great North Dakota resources and want to see them continue to prosper and improve. This doesn't take a lot of time but it does take commitment and participation.

MAINTAIN YOUR MEMBERSHIP – it's not only cheap but allows your voice to be heard. Get a friend to join. Send us your email address and phone number. Speak out with your feedback and comments when issues come up. Come to the fundraiser. Come to the Annual Board (not "Bored") Meeting, where you'll see and take part in some of the most informative, up-to-date fishing presentations anywhere about fishing and fisheries in North Dakota. Read the article on the "Bored Meeting" in this newsletter. Volunteer to be an Officer, a Board Member, or a delegate. Pass on information. Get involved. Every commitment of time and energy, however limited, coming from many members adds up to a powerful force behind the protection and sustenance of fishing and conservation interests for all.

GOOD FISHING THIS YEAR!

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Clark Williams, Devils Lake (701-662-5008)
Past President	Duaine Ash, Devils Lake (701-662-3989)
Vice President	Lynn Schlueter, Devils Lake (701-662-1772)
Treasurer	Rick Eagleson, Fargo (701-235-6536)
Directors	Mike Anderson, Bismarck (701-224-9048)
	Don Baasch, Valley City (701-845-1693)
	Dave Bement, Bismarck (701-258-3583)
	Ed Dosch, Devils Lake (701-395-4302)
	Paul Haug, Fargo (701-232-0944)
	Rick Lee, Mandan (701-663-2010)
Exec Secretary	Marie Hoerner, Bismarck (701-223-8067)

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NORTH DAKOTA SPORTFISHING CONGRESS

16TH ANNUAL SMOKER AND RAFFLE

* FRIDAY, APRIL 9TH *

Mandan Eagles Club [1400 Collins Avenue]

Please note that the Annual Smoker will be held on **Friday, April 9**. The social and raffles begin at 6:00 p.m., with dinner served at approximately 7:30 p.m. Advanced tickets required.

This fundraiser is how we pay for most of our expenses for the year. Your participation makes that possible. Tickets are \$25.00 and must be obtained in advance, so we have a count for dinner.

Your \$25 covers a buffet dinner and \$700 in cash door prizes. In addition, there will be several thousand dollars worth of fishing, hunting and camping equipment raffled off at \$1 per ticket, as well as several special raffles of higher value. The smoker is a great time and kicks off the summer season right.

Get your tickets early, check with your club representative or contact Mike Anderson at 701-224-9048; manderson@bis.midco.net or Clark Williams at 701-662-5008; shadrap@gondtc.com.



GUN RAFFLE TICKETS

The North Dakota Sportfishing Congress is holding a gun raffle this spring to support our lobbying efforts for fishing in North Dakota. The raffle is for –

- ✓ One Tikka/Beretta 300 WSN Stainless Steel Rifle
- ✓ One Benelli Nova 12GA Black/Synthetic Shotgun

There will be two drawings at the Sportfishing Fundraiser on April 9th at the Mandan Eagles. The winner need not be present to win. Tickets are \$5.00 with books of 10 available. If you would like a ticket or better yet would like to sell a book or two, contact Clark Williams at shadrap@gondtc.com or 701-662-5008. *Remember all sold tickets must be returned before April 9th.*

Thanks, keep up the support – your fishery needs you!

BORED MEETING (BOARD MEETING)

On **Saturday morning, April 10th** at 10:00 a.m., the North Dakota Sportfishing Congress will hold its Annual Board Meeting at the Game and Fish offices in Bismarck.

This meeting is anything but BORING. This meeting, open to the public, is much more than a Board Meeting. If you are interested in fishery issues in North Dakota this is your best opportunity in the entire year to hear, see and take part in some of the most informative, up-to-date discussions presented by a diverse group of professionals.

Presentations include the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, US Fish and Wildlife, the Garrison Hatchery, Army Corps of Engineers, the ND Legislature, Friends of Lake Sakakawea and anyone else we can entice to attend and participate.

This is the Saturday morning after the Fundraiser Friday night at the Eagles (see separate article). There are some business activities including organization elections which will be held after lunch. Take the time and attend, you won't regret it.



REPORT ALL POACHERS
1-800-472-2121

*This program encourages people to report fish and wildlife violations, remain anonymous if they prefer, and receive monetary rewards for convictions based on their information. Anonymous callers will be given a special code number and are not required to give their name. Rewards range from \$100 to \$1,000 depending on the nature and seriousness of the crime. **Call 800-472-2121.** Call this number only to report game and fish violations. Note: If calling from outside North Dakota, the number is (701) 328-9921. The reward fund is supported by private donations. If you wish to donate to the RAP program, tax deductible contributions can be sent to RAP, Box 188, Valley City, ND 58072-0188.*

Poachers Steal Your Wildlife – Make the Call!



LAKE REGION ANGLERS ASSOCIATION

by Clark Williams

Wet, Wet, Wet. When you're a fisherman your activities focus on water, but enough is enough. Last year Devils Lake came up three feet, pressuring State and Federal Governments to move ahead quickly with plans to raise highways and dikes. This summer will be a train wreck for roads around Devils Lake and getting to Lake Access sites.

Now guess what — it's coming up some more! Predictions are that lake levels will jump at least three more feet. And if we get *more* snow or spring rains, who knows? Consequently, fishermen should be aware that simply getting to traditional fishing spots on Devils Lake will be difficult, if not impossible, in some places. We lost the north ramp at Minnewaukan last summer and dike work has closed Henegar's Landing for this season. Rumors are it may never open again. Only because ND Game and Fish and Grahams Island State Park people were on their toes last spring were we able to save the East Bay, 6 Mile Bay and Black Tiger Access facilities. If the lake comes up no more than the projected three feet they should still be usable, but reconstruction of parts of Hwy 19, Hwy 20, Hwy 57 and Woods-Rutten Road will complicate getting there in the first place.

And don't forget: rising water means passage under bridges, especially Hwy 57, will become even chancier, especially with waves from west and northwest winds. If the lake rises the promised three feet, boats with windshields may not be able to make it under at all. There are no plans to raise the bridges when the highways are raised so we will have to find other solutions. Lake Region Anglers will work with other agencies to help find those solutions, but they won't be easy, they won't be quick and they won't be cheap.

Another concern is the access road off Hwy 19 to Grahams Island State Park. The anticipated three foot rise will definitely endanger this important access. Last time the road was threatened ND DOT did not plan on raising it but Senator Dorgan found money to get it done. If ND DOT decides to let it go again the most popular State Park and most heavily used access facility on Devils Lake will be an island again.

On a positive note, the Devils Lake walleye population is at a record high according to Game and Fish. The fish are healthy and plentiful. Perch fishing has picked up. The northern and white bass jump in your boat when you look for them (and often when you don't.). Fishing should be great but be ready for some hassles getting there and new water (again) changing favorite fishing spots. Spring is still too far away, but ice out will be here before you know it. **GOOD FISHIN!!**

ZEBRA MUSSELS ARE NEXT TO OUR STATE

By LR Schlueter,
Statewide ANS Coordinator



The zebra mussel infestation in Pelican Lake, Minnesota was discovered by a concerned angler in fall 2009.

Pelican Lake drains into the Red River, which is part of the Lake Winnipeg/Hudson Bay drainage. What this means is we now have a nasty aquatic nuisance species knocking on North Dakota's door. And it takes only one lack of taking aquatic nuisance species (ANS) precautions to move the problem to other locations. With the popularity of walleye fishing at Devils Lake and the Missouri River from anglers around the Midwest, the risk for infestation has just gone through the roof.

Anglers frequently move between waters to enjoy good fishing. Good fishing can take an angler from eastern North Dakota or western Minnesota to Pelican Lake one weekend, and then to North Dakota inland waters a few days later. ANS can easily be spread when precautions are not taken and taken each time the angler leaves at waterbody.

Prevention is the key. Once a water body is infested with ANS, the problem overwhelms the fish we want and it won't go away. Habitats are degraded, leading to fewer desirable fish. Even the stocking large numbers of fingerlings will not overcome the problems. Keeping the problem out is the only answer to securing the quality fishing we now enjoy in North Dakota.

To prevent ANS infestations and to comply with the newest regulations, anglers, hunters, boaters and personal watercraft users need to:

- Inspect and remove all aquatic vegetation from boats, personal watercraft, trailers and associated equipment such as fishing poles and lures before leaving a water body.
- Remove all aquatic vegetation from bait containers when leaving the water.
- Drain all water from boats and other watercraft, including bilges, livewells and motors, at the ramp site before leaving a water body. Haul baitfish in a small volume of water.
- Do not transport live aquatic bait or aquatic vegetation into North Dakota. All water must be drained from watercraft upon entering the state.
- Do not dump unused bait into any North Dakota water.
- Do not introduce any fish into North Dakota waters.

If ANS prevention is ignored, we stand to lose the quality fishing we now enjoy in North Dakota. For additional information, contact the North Dakota Game and Fish Department headquarters at (701) 328-6301 or at a local field office or visit the Department's website at <http://gf.nd.gov/fishing/>.



Formed in 1986, the North Dakota Sportfishing Congress (NDSFC) gives the North Dakota sportfishermen a unified voice that can respond to a wide range of issues concerning the fishing resource and recreational fishing. The NDSFC is the umbrella organization for all the fishing clubs of North Dakota as well as individual member fishermen. It's primary purpose is to be the liaison between North Dakota's recreational anglers, and the North Dakota Game and Fish Department. The organizations that NDSFC works most closely with include:

- State of North Dakota Administration and Legislature
- North Dakota Game and Fish Department
- United States Congressional Delegates
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- North Dakota Parks and Recreation
- State Water Commission
- US Fish and Wildlife
- US Federal Hatcheries
- North Dakota Department of Health
- North Dakota Tourism Department
- North Dakota Legislature's Aquatic Nuisance Species Committee

The NDSFC has a **full time Lobbyist** during the Biannual Legislative Session. The NDSFC efforts concentrate on sportfishing issues that have statewide significance. In recent years, NDSFC has focused on certain specific areas and provided timely information to its members on:

- Supporting the Game and Fish Department in their mission;

WHAT WE DO FOR YOU

- Protecting Game and Fish funding from outside special interests;
- Promoting fishing access through-out the state;
- Promoting the prevention of Aquatic Nuisance Species introduction;
- Development of the Lake Sakakawea Corps of Engineers Master Plan.

The NDSFC works with the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, member clubs, and individual members to enhance the fishing and fishing opportunities in the state. The NDSFC is a ready conduit for timely distribution of important sportfishing information to members and clubs.

The activities supported by NDSFC membership and by your membership include:

- Correspondence with individual members and member clubs;
- Providing a website on which each member club has their own webpage;
- Email and phone tree that allows quick distribution of information to member organizations and feedback to NDSFC and the North Dakota Game and Fish Department;
- Spring Annual Meeting and fundraiser in Bismarck
- 3 newsletters per year;
- Representing the NDSFC at meetings pertaining to – Lake Access at Lake Sakakawea, Devils Lake, and the Missouri River, Fishing, Tournaments Rules, Regulations and Permits, prevention of the spread of Aquatic Nuisance Species, Report All Poachers Committee.

SOUTHWEST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION

by Miles Bobb



*A non-profit organization
P.O. Box 1473
Dickinson, ND 58601*

Following are upcoming events:

- ✓ On May 7th @ 5:30 @ The Eagles in Dickinson;
- ✓ On June 5th @ 8:00 am Kids Fishing Derby at Dickinson Dike.

Any questions call Miles @ 483-2861. If no answer, leave a message and I will get back as soon as I can.

RED RIVER AREA SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

by Wayne Beyer

The Annual Youth Ice Fishing Derby at Heitkamp Pond, located three miles north of Wahpeton, is scheduled on Saturday, March 6th. 200-300 children, in addition to family members, typically attend. The fishing derby is a partnership with Heitkamp Construction, who provide door prizes for every contestant, free hot dogs and hot cocoa, drill the holes, provide heated ice fishing houses to warm up, trophies for placewinners and just make the event lots of fun. There are normally quite a few crappies caught, and throw in a whopper small-mouth bass, walleyes, perch and northern pike over recent years, too.

Other 2010 fishing tournaments include the Spring Fishing Derby on Saturday, May 1st; Catfish Tournament on Saturday, June 5th and Carp & Sucker Derby on Wednesday, August 4th. All of the derbies are held on the Red River and headquartered at the Kidder Recreation Area on the north side of Wahpeton.

The Sportsmen's Club is partnering with ND Game & Fish with a number of projects, including (1) introduction of forage in Mooreton Lake, (2) another Red River fishing pier along the golf course, (3) Red River dock near Brushvale, MN, (4) fish cleaning station maintenance, (5) surveillance of aquatic nuisance species in the local Red River area and (6) Red River shoreline fishing development.

GAME AND FISH PERSPECTIVES

by Greg Power



REGULATIONS:

The 2010-2012 Fishing Proclamation was signed by the Governor in January. The fishing proclamation along with administrative rules and state statutes are the rules and regulations that govern fishing in North Dakota. The goal of the Game and Fish Department has always been to have the necessary regulations in place to safeguard our resources yet not be too extensive or cumbersome to inhibit angler participation. I believe the fishing public is appreciative that our fishing guide is relatively straightforward and simple.

The number of regulation changes for the upcoming fishing season(s) are some of the fewest we've witnessed in years. At the end of this short article is a list of the more substantial changes and the rationale for the changes.

One thing to note is the lack of more restrictive regulations in terms of size of walleye harvested. In response to concerns expressed by a few, Department biologists again reviewed all information and quickly determined that the current (and recent past) harvest of walleye has not had any negative biological impact on this resource. At the same time, an effort was made to also address the matter as a social issue – that is, could the 'big' (relatively speaking) fish resource be extended so that others could experience the opportunity to catch a large fish. After a thorough assessment of all available data (including information from the Missouri River/Lake Oahe in 2009) it was determined that at current fishing effort and exploitation rates, a one-over regulation (or any slot limit) would simply be an unnecessary rule that would serve no biological or social purpose at this time.

Relatively recent information including regulation discussions can be found on the Departments website at – <http://gf.nd.gov/multimedia/news/fish-mtg-2009.html>

FISHERY STATUS:

As spring approaches, we all look forward to what another year of fishing may bring. In the big picture, North Dakota's recreational fishery is in excellent shape. We currently have in the neighborhood of 325 fishable water bodies in the state and hopefully a few more in the years to come. A heavy snowpack this winter hasn't yet translated into numerous winterkills (as was the case last year) so hopefully this springs runoff will complete what started last year – the filling of all lakes in the state.

Given the Departments stocking of adult perch into numerous water bodies throughout the state last spring, good winter perch fishing should be in the offering in a few winters. Also, with the assistance of the Garrison and Valley City National Fish Hatcheries, a record number of walleye and northern pike were stocked last summer into North Dakota waters. Couple these stockings with some spectacular reproduction of various game species in numerous/most water bodies across the state should result in some fantastic fishing in years to come. Especially noteworthy may be pike and perch opportunities. It probably doesn't take much but here's an important reminder – with spring knocking at the door...get out and wet a line!!! 2010 should be a good one. Happy angling!

GAME & FISH PERSPECTIVES – continue on Page 8

GARRISON DAM NATIONAL FISH HATCHERIES UPDATE

Submitted by Rob Holm



Currently the hatchery is growing out 396,000 trout and salmon for release this spring and summer. There are 55,000 eleven inch rainbows that will be stocked out this spring in 'city ponds' across the state with the intention of providing a fishery for North Dakota's younger generation anglers. Be sure to take advantage of the trout stockings and consider introducing a kid, grandkid, or neighbor kid to the sport and get them hooked on fishing. The stockings usually occur the first week of May and there is a good chance the fishing action will keep the kids entertained. Another 20,000 twelve inch 'Hot Creek' rainbow trout and 23,000 cutthroat trout are on hand for stocking the Missouri River below Lake Sakakawea. We have 200,000 Chinook salmon scheduled for spring stocking in Lake Sakakawea and another 50,000 for the river below. That's four times as many Chinooks going into the lake as we have seen in the past couple years. Unfortunately you'll have to wait a few years before you'll be harvesting them but you know they are coming. Aside from the coldwater fish we have 9,400 pallid sturgeon in the hatchery tanks for release this spring and summer.

Pond liners were installed this past summer on the nine remaining west unit ponds with federal stimulus funding. The pond liners have been very effective in the past increasing our walleye and pike production capabilities and the timing couldn't be better as this year's fish stocking request for walleye is the largest this hatchery has ever seen. The preliminary request from the North Dakota Game and Fish is for just over 10 million walleye with Lake Sakakawea returning to the mix in receiving walleye stockings. That exceeds the previous high of 7 million in 2004 and 2005. Between the two federal hatcheries of Valley City and Garrison we are looking at producing 3.5 million pike; 115,000 largemouth bass; 188,000 crappie and 423,000 bluegill as well for stocking in 2010.

On another topic, I spend some time looking into the economics of fishing in North Dakota. The latest survey, The 2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation indicated there were 106 thousand anglers in North Dakota over the age of 16 and another 23 thousand next-generation anglers in the 6-15 year old age bracket. These anglers fished on average 9 days and spent \$37 per trip on food, bait, gas and lodging. The total economic impact of fishing in North Dakota if you add in boats, campers and fishing equipment in 2006 was \$94 million. That's \$6 million in bait, \$19 million gas, \$14 million in food/lodging, \$16 million in fishing gear, \$37 million in boats/campers and another \$2 million in licenses, magazines and other stuff. Anglers are doing their part in stimulating the economy! Keep it up – and hope to see you on the lake.

BIS-MAN REEL AND REC



Bis-Man Reel & Rec Club "Take-a-Kid Fishing" Day • June 6, 2009

Our annual kid's day is here again. We call it kid's day but it's meant for those less fortunate, regardless of age. The date for this year's event is Saturday, June 6, 2009. It will be held at Sweetbriar Dam, shelter #2 (west side) from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. I've volunteered to organize the event again but I need your help. Come join us won't you? Anybody that can help out would be greatly appreciated. Please contact me, Jim Steinman at 220-4282 or e-mail at JMP716@msn.com. It's always been a great day of fun for the kid's and the volunteers.

Thank you
Jim Steinman
Kid's Day Director

DAKOTA ANGLERS

by Nathan Selchert



Dakota Anglers 2010 Calendar of Events:

TOURNAMENTS

- **May 22-23** 34th Annual Dakota Anglers Walleye / Northern Tournament
- **June 5** Little Britches Tournament for kids/adults, Jamestown Reservoir (Free fishing weekend)

MEETINGS (7:00 pm @ Buffalo City Grille)

- January 20th
- February 17th
- March 17th
- April 3rd (Awards Banquet) – Knights of Columbus (KC's)
- April 21st (Annual Meeting)
- May — TBD
- August — TBD
- November — TBD

SUMMER OUTINGS (Fishing tournaments followed by a potluck meal)

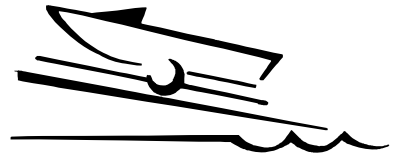
- **June 19th** fish Fry at Spiritwood Lake
- **July 17th** Pork Roast at Jamestown Reservoir (Joos Grove)
- **August 14th** Steak Fry at Jamestown Reservoir (Pelican Point Campground)

North Dakota Sportfishing Congress
**SPORTSMEN'S SMOKER
AND RAFFLE**

PLAN TO ATTEND

**2010 Smoker & Fund Raiser on
Friday, April 9**
Eagles Club, Mandan
and the
Annual Meeting on
Saturday morning, April 10
at the Game & Fish Department,
Bismarck.



AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES (ANS)

**LOSE the HITCHHIKERS
or
LOSE the LAKE**

It's YOUR CHOICE!

If you have any questions about ANS,
please contact:

North Dakota Game & Fish Department
100 N. Bismarck Expressway
Bismarck, ND 58501
(701) 328-6300; Email: ndgf@nd.gov

More information can be found at:
<http://www.gf.nd.gov/fishing/ans.html>

ANNUAL DUES NOW DUE

This newsletter will serve as a notice to the Club Members and the Individual Members (who have not already paid their dues) that the annual dues are now due. (Your membership paid-up date is at the top of your mailing label listed as the month/year, e.g., 04/11.)

Club Member's dues are \$50 and are due on or before the annual meeting that is held in April of each year. To maintain your club's voting rights for 2010-11, please complete the *Club Membership Application* in this newsletter and return it along with your payment to North Dakota Sportfishing Congress, P.O. Box 2472, Bismarck, ND 58502.

NOTE: Don't forget to list the names, addresses, and e-mail addresses of the club delegates.

Individual Member's dues are a minimum of \$5. Please complete the *Individual Membership Application* in this newsletter and return it along with your payment to the same address indicated above.

You will note there is a checkoff for payment of multiple years' dues for individual members. For convenience, an individual may choose to prepay several years' dues at one time.

NOTE

If you would like to receive the newsletter via email, please email Marie Hoerner at sportfishing@bis.midco.net with a Subject of "*Sportfishing Newsletter*".

The year/date above your name on the mailing label indicates your membership renewal date. Your support is needed!



P.O. Box 2472
Bismarck, ND 58502

- \$5 - 1 Year
- \$15 - 3 Years
- \$25 - 5 Years

Enclosed: \$ _____

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____)____-____ Email _____

Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

Club Affiliation _____

I would like to receive the newsletter via email. *(please check if applicable)*



P.O. Box 2472
Bismarck, ND 58502

- \$50 - 1 Year

CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Club Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Current President _____

Phone (____)____-____ Email _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ Date Paid ____/____/____

Each Club Member is represented on the Executive Board by two delegates. Please provide the following information on your current delegates:

Delegate 1

Delegate 2

Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

Address _____

Phone (____)____-____-____

Phone (____)____-____-____

Email _____

Email _____

GAME & FISH PERSPECTIVES — continue from Page 5

Forthcoming Changes for the 2010-2012

Fishing Seasons (*summary of major changes*):

- ✓ All livewells and baitwells must be drained of water prior to leaving a water body.
- ✓ Excluding legal live baitfish, no fish species may be transported in water away from the water body in which they were taken with the following exception: ice in a cooler or other container may be used to transport fish.
- ✓ Any container used to transport aquatic bait across land must be five gallons or less.
 - *These rule changes are in response to a recent discovery in Minnesota of zebra mussels in the Red River Basin. Mussels and many other ANS flora/fauna can be easily moved in water and due to their small size, are difficult to visually observe.*
 - *These laws are intended to reduce the risk of aquatic nuisance species transfer between water bodies. The Game and Fish Department acknowledges that these regulations may create minor inconveniences, but without these required precautions, the risk for unwanted ANS movement is substantial. The amount of time to drain water from a boat and inspect and remove vegetation that may be clinging to the boat, motor and/or trailer is generally minimal while the potential consequences of no safeguards could be extremely harmful to North Dakota natural resources.*
- ✓ Added Harmon Lake and Crown Butte Dam (both in Morton Co.) to the list of 'no legal live baitfish'.
 - *Both lakes are new or recently renovated. Due to the*

- species composition of these recreational fisheries, legal live baitfish are not needed.*
- ✓ Added the State Fair Pond (Ward Co.) to the list of closed to all fishing from November 1 through March 31.
 - *A new aeration system is now in place and will be operated during the winter months when angler's safety on the ice would be a real concern.*
 - ✓ Added Carlson Lakes (Ward Co.), Gravel Lake (Rolette Co.) and West Napoleon Lake (Logan Co.) and all waters open to public fishing in Ramsey County to the list of open waters for dark house spear fishing. Closed Patterson Reservoir (Dickinson Reservoir (Stark Co.)) to dark house spear fishing.
 - *The Department has ongoing assessments of potential lakes that could be open to dark house spearfishing and additional pike harvest in these water bodies was deemed acceptable. Patterson will be eliminated as a dark house spearing lake due to future fish management that will focus on walleye as the only predator.*
 - ✓ Lake Metigoshe (Bottineau Co.) daily and possession limit for bluegill will be reduced to 10 and 20 respectively.
 - *Perhaps the state's best quality bluegill lake that at times has some higher effort and perhaps harvest. Fourth lake that will have exceptions to statewide limits – ongoing evaluation to assess effectiveness.*
 - ✓ Eliminated the 14" minimum walleye size limit on Spiritwood Lake (Stutsman Co.) and Lake Ashtabula (Barnes Co.)
 - *After years of being in place, the above length restrictions on these two lakes are being removed as they never achieved any (significant) positive benefits.*

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

P.O. Box 2472
Bismarck, ND 58502

