

## NDG&F March 17th Newsletter

### 2014-16 Fishing Regulations Set

North Dakota's 2014-16 fishing proclamation is set, with regulations effective April 1, 2014 through March 31, 2016. Anglers are reminded that new fishing licenses are required April 1.

Noteworthy regulation changes include:

Expanded the length of the bowfishing season to include April, October and November.

Expanded the open water spearfishing season to include October and November.

Modified the paddlefish season, including ending the snagging day at 9 p.m.; reducing the notice to close the season to 24 hours; reduced the extended snag-and-release season to four days; all paddlefish snagged and tagged must be removed from the river by 9 p.m.; and changed the days open to harvest to Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.

Eliminated lake-specific reduced panfish limits for Odland Dam.

Reduced the statewide daily and possession limit of crappie to 10 and 20.

Added the Red and Bois de Sioux rivers to waters open to darkhouse spearfishing.

Fishing licenses can be purchased online at the Game and Fish Department website, [gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov). A new state law requires residents age 18 or older to prove residency on the application by submitting a valid North Dakota driver's license number or a North Dakota identification number.

Anglers will notice an increase in license fees required to fish in North Dakota, which were established and set by the 2013 state legislature. The combination license, which includes general game and habitat, small game, furbearer and fishing, increased from \$32 to \$50; resident individual fishing from \$10 to \$16; resident husband and wife from \$14 to \$22; resident age 65 or older from \$3 to \$5; resident totally or permanently disabled from \$3 to \$5; and resident paddlefish tag from \$3 to \$10,

For nonresidents, a paddlefish tag is increasing from \$7.50 to \$25.50; nonresident individual from \$35 to \$45; nonresident husband and wife from \$45 to \$60; nonresident three-day from \$15 to \$25; and nonresident 10-day from \$25 to \$35.

In addition, the state legislature also passed a law that establishes a \$5 fishing license for resident disabled veterans with 50 percent or more service connected disability, or who have an extra-schedular rating, to include individual unemployability, that brings the veteran's total disability ratio to 50 percent. These licenses are available only from the Bismarck Game and Fish office, and also require written verification of eligibility from the Department of Veterans Affairs office.

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department is self-funded and only receives revenue from license sales and federal funds.

[The 2014-16 North Dakota Fishing Guide](#) is available at Game and Fish Department offices and license vendors throughout the state.

## **HIP Certification Required for Spring Goose Hunters**

All spring light goose hunters, regardless of age and residency, are reminded that Harvest Information Program registration is required before hunting this spring.

The HIP number can be obtained online at the North Dakota Game and Fish Department website, [gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov), or by calling 888-634-4798. The HIP number is good for the fall season as well, so spring hunters should save it to record on their fall license. Hunters must HIP register in each state for which they are licensed.

For [detailed season information](#), including licensing requirements and regulations, refer to the Game and Fish Department website.

## **Advisory Board Meetings Announced**

Outdoor enthusiasts are invited to attend a North Dakota Game and Fish Department advisory board meeting in their area.

These public meetings, held each spring and fall, provide citizens with an opportunity to discuss fish and wildlife issues and ask questions of their district advisors and agency personnel.

The governor appoints eight Game and Fish Department advisors, each representing a multi-county section of the state, to serve as a liaison between the department and public.

Any person who requires an auxiliary aid or service must notify the contact person at least five days prior to the scheduled meeting date.

### **District 1 – Counties: Divide, McKenzie and Williams**

Date: March 31 – 7 p.m.

Location: Montana Dakota Utilities, Williston

Host: Pheasants Forever

Contact: Peggy Lokken, 572-7825

Advisory board member: Jason Leiseth, Arnegard, 586-3714

### **District 7 – Counties: Burleigh, Emmons, Grant, Kidder, McLean, Mercer, Morton, Oliver, Sheridan and Sioux**

Date: March 31 – 7 p.m.

Location: Wildlife Club House, Turtle Lake

Host: Turtle Lake Wildlife Club

Contact: Steve Seeger, 448-2448

Advisory board member: Vacant

### **District 2 – Counties: Bottineau, Burke, McHenry, Mountrail, Pierce, Renville and Ward**

Date: April 1 – 7 p.m.

Location: Senior Citizens Center, Makoti

Host: Hiddenwood Sportsmen's Club

Contact: Erik Rensch, 726-5660

Advisory board member: Robert Gjellstad, Voltaire, 338-2281

### **District 4 – Counties: Grand Forks, Nelson, Pembina and Walsh**

Date: April 1 – 7 p.m.  
Location: American Legion Hall, Walhalla  
Host: To be announced  
Contact: Steve Gapp, 265-2448  
Advisory board member: Ronald Houdek, Tolna, 262-4724

**District 5 – Counties: Cass, Ransom, Richland, Sargent, Steele and Trail**

Date: April 7 – 7 p.m.  
Location: Auditorium, Finley  
Host: Finley Wildlife Club  
Contact: Brian Tuite, 789-0930  
Advisory board member: Duane Hanson, West Fargo, 367-4249

**District 8 – Counties: Adams, Billings, Bowman, Dunn, Golden Valley, Hettinger, Slope and Stark**

Date: April 7 – 7 p.m.  
Location: Eagles Club, Dickinson  
Host: Southwest Anglers  
Contact: Curt Decker, 225-6315  
Advisory board member: Dwight Hecker, Fairfield, 575-4952

**District 3 – Counties: Benson, Cavalier, Eddy, Ramsey, Rolette and Towner**

Date: April 8 – 7 p.m.  
Location: Lake Region College, Devils Lake  
Host: To be announced  
Contact: To be announced  
Advisory board member: Tom Rost, Devils Lake, 662-8620

**District 6 – Counties: Barnes, Dickey, Foster, Griggs, Logan, LaMoure, McIntosh, Stutsman and Wells**

Date: April 8 – 7 p.m.  
Location: VFW, Valley City  
Host: Dakota Valley Fowlers Club  
Contact: Joshua Wert, 757-619-6117  
Advisory board member: Joel Christoferson, Litchville, 973-4981

**2013 Deer Gun Season Summarized**

North Dakota deer hunters took approximately 28,600 deer during the 2013 deer gun hunting season. The State Game and Fish Department made available 59,500 deer gun licenses in 2013, and more than 98 percent were issued. Overall hunter success was 55 percent, and each hunter spent an average of 4.6 days in the field.

Hunter success for antlered white-tailed deer was 62 percent, and antlerless whitetail was 55 percent. Mule deer buck success was 82 percent. No mule deer doe licenses were issued in 2013.

Hunters with any-antlered or any-antlerless licenses almost exclusively harvest white-tailed deer. Buck hunters had a success rate of 57 percent, while doe hunters had a success rate of 54 percent.

The department is in the process of determining recommendations for licenses in the 2014 deer proclamation. These recommendations will be discussed at the upcoming spring Game and Fish public advisory board meetings, scheduled for March 31 and April 1, and April 7-8. The proclamation will be sent to the governor's office for approval in late April.

In addition to harvest rates and winter aerial surveys, the department monitors a number of other population indices to determine license numbers, including depredation reports, hunter observations, input at advisory board meetings, and comments from the public, landowners and department field staff.