

## **NDG&F August 24th Newsletter**

### **Deer Archery Season Opens Sept. 4**

North Dakota's deer archery season opens Friday, Sept. 4 at noon, and bowhunters are reminded that deer bow licenses and accompanying tags are only available through electronic purchase.

Bowhunters can buy a license online at the State Game and Fish Department website, [gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov); by calling 800-406-6409; or at license vendors in counties that are linked to the Game and Fish Department's online licensing system. Hunters who purchase bow licenses at an online vendor will receive a tag at the time of purchase; otherwise, hunters who purchase their license over the phone or personal computer should allow for several days to receive their tag in the mail.

Bowhunters must follow all regulations of the managing agency when using tree stands on public hunting areas, including displaying the owner's name, address and telephone number on tree stands left unattended on Game and Fish wildlife management areas.

In addition, hunting big game over bait is prohibited on both public and private land in deer unit 3C west of the Missouri River, and all of units 3E1, 3E2, 3F1 and 3F2.

The archery season is open through Jan. 3, 2016. Hunters should refer to the 2015 deer hunting guide for season information and regulations.

### **Another Year of Record Fishing License Sales**

The number of anglers buying fishing licenses in North Dakota during the 2014-15 season established a new record in license sales for the third consecutive year.

Statistics compiled by the State Game and Fish Department revealed more than 222,000 fishing licenses were sold last year, an increase of 3,000 from 2013-14. Resident license sales were down slightly from last year's record, but the number of nonresident licenses issued grew by 5,000, establishing a new mark of nearly 65,000.

More than 201,000 anglers actively participated, and ice fishing accounted for 25 percent of all fishing activity.

A record number of fishing lakes and aggressive fish management in North Dakota have helped produce record fishing license sales.

Lake Sakakawea, Devils Lake and Lake Oahe/Missouri River remain the top three fisheries in the state, as has been the case for decades.

### **Agencies Prohibit Hunting over Bait**

Hunters are reminded that hunting big game over bait is prohibited on all state owned or managed wildlife management areas, all U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service national wildlife refuges and waterfowl production areas, U.S. Forest Service national grasslands, and all North Dakota state school, state park and state forest service lands.

The governor's proclamation relating to chronic wasting disease also includes a provision that prohibits hunting big game over bait on both public and private land in deer unit 3C west of the Missouri River, and all of units 3E1, 3E2, 3F1 and 3F2.

In addition, any firearms, equipment or accessories used by hunters on Private Land Open To Sportsmen acreage may not be left unattended and must be removed when the hunter leaves the area. This includes, but is not limited to, guns, blinds, stands, baits, scents and decoys. This means a hunter cannot place bait on PLOTS prior to or during the season and leave it there. Any bait would have to be brought to the PLOTS tract by the hunter the same day and taken out by the hunter the same day he/she leaves.

Hunting over bait is defined as the placement and/or use of baits for attracting big game and other wildlife to a specific location for the purpose of hunting. Bait, in this case, includes grain, seed, mineral, salt, fruit, vegetable nut, hay, any naturally derived scent or lure, or any other natural or manufactured food placed by an individual. Bait does not include agricultural practices, gardens, wildlife food plots, agricultural crops, livestock feeds, fruit or vegetables in their natural location such as apples on or under an apple tree, or unharvested food or vegetables in a garden.

### **Pronghorn Lottery Held**

North Dakota's pronghorn lottery has been held and [individual results](#) are available online at the State Game and Fish Department's website, [gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov).

A total of 410 licenses were available in units 3B, 4A, and 4C. Over 6,500 applications, including 144 gratis, were received.

Unsuccessful applicants who submitted their application online or through the department's 800 licensing telephone number will receive a refund back to their credit card. Individuals who submitted paper applications will receive a refund check.

### **Dove Season Opens Sept. 1**

North Dakota's dove season opens statewide Sept. 1, and hunters are reminded to register with the Harvest Information Program prior to hunting.

The daily limit is 15 and possession limit is 45. Shooting hours are 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset. The season is open through Nov. 9.

All dove hunters must possess a fishing, hunting and furbearer certificate and a general game and habitat license, regardless of age. In addition, hunters ages 16 and older need a small game license.

Hunters who purchase a hunting license through the State Game and Fish Department's electronic licensing system ([gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov)) or instant licensing telephone number at 800-406-6409 can easily get HIP certified.

Otherwise, hunters can access the department's website, or call 888-634-4798 and record the HIP number on their fishing, hunting and furbearer certificate.

Those who registered to hunt the spring light goose season in North Dakota do not have to register with HIP again, as it is required only once per year. However, hunters must HIP register in each state for which they are licensed before hunting migratory game birds.