



Our Outdoors: Free Flowing

by Nick Simonson

Water is freedom, no more so than in spring. Casting off the icy bonds of winter, breaking them into pieces and then absorbing them is the completion of a flow's self-fulfilling and seasonal prophecy. So too for the angler, flowing water represents the possibilities to not only move with life's direction, but to challenge it and go back in time in a sense and find those places the riffles speak of upstream where trout, or bass or walleyes hide beneath the calm surface. It's been said that we never stand in the same river twice, no matter how many times we might fish it, and with that constant change comes the continued freedom, not only of the water but for the angler as well.

Stepping gently into a small Wisconsin trout stream, my most cautious steps were not enough to avoid stirring up the slightest silt layer that whirled and eddied like a streak of chocolate milk that twisted in a ribbon downstream from me.

I followed it until I lost the swirl in the clear waters of the spring-fed creek and laid a cast to a corner pocket with a smooth surface and connected with a wild brown trout hiding along the edge, not far from the slight slick of stain I had sent spinning

downstream. It seems too that even through the act of exploration and in our mistakes, we find ways of reading the flowing language of water.

Becoming fluent in it is another thing altogether, requiring time on a river translating its dialect, its cadence and how meanings change with the mood of what moves in and out of the banks that define it. When rushing and strong, it's a counter-intuitive slowness that serves to connect with the voice of the residents within. Finding a brace or a pocket in which fish rest comes with time and experience that often doesn't last long. In low times, it's looking for the depths, the holes and the places out of the reach of the harsh sun where sunken secrets lie. In those even-keeled times with the flow just right, is when the language of any given water is truly learned and the words of wisdom for those spaces and places which hold feisty bronzebacks, secretive walleyes and other fish become a regular dialogue between river and angler.

There's a beginning and an end to every river or stream and to every stretch of it.

Whether bounded by dams or shallows that cannot be navigated on the upstream end or emptying

its collection of knowledge from the miles before into a greater flow or lake to in turn add to their character, the end of a stretch of flowing water marks the beginning of a new one, or at least a vital addition to it. There, fish come to seek food, oxygen and the

surface in a canoe or a boat, and explore them top to bottom or as far as your segment of independence from the worries and chores of the day allows. Finding fish will come in looking for those silent spaces of stillness, listening for the slight murmur



The author with a spring Sheyenne River walleye caught from a run near Bald Hill Dam.

things carried with the new water and oftentimes anglers stand there too, sorting through the secrets of both bodies in the setting sun's light.

As the rivers, creeks and streams shed their ice, swell with the influx of melting water and the freed trickle of springs and seeps, and offer up their subtle voices - and quite possibly in some areas in the coming days, their roar - take time to listen to their tales. Stand within their banks, glide across their

of a riffle, or observing just how the dark water of an inflowing creek or the silt stirred by a few errant steps can point to success. But remember that no matter how many times you fish the same river, you stand in a different one each time from season to season and even day to day. Understand that each of those flows provides a chance at freedom unlike any other place... in our outdoors.

Dakota Recreation Report

by Patricia Stockdill



Outdoor notes:

*Ice is never completely safe. Avoid areas with vegetation, moving water, pressure ridges and springs. Check conditions as you go along on the ice.

*April 1: New fishing, trapping, and hunting licenses due.

*April 11: Turkey season opens.

Fishing:

*Devils Lake elevation, March 23: 1,449.01 feet above mean sea level (MSL).

*Stump Lake elevation: 1,448.85 MSL.

*Lake Sakakawea elevation: 1,839.73 MSL; 23,000 cubic feet per second average (CFS) Garrison Dam daily releases.

*N.D. Game & Fish Dept. Dist. game wardens: Some traditional pike areas, such as around flowing water, on Devils Lake starting to produce success. Not much activity overall, including east-central area lakes. No Missouri River System reports.

*Devils Lake, Ed's Bait Shop: Overall fair success with continued good pike activity using frozen smelt or herring. Improving walleye success, as well. 6-Mile Bay producing crappie.

*Devils Lake, Lakeview Lodge, Minnewaukan: Continued improving walleye and pike success working shallow water. Try live bait or tip-ups. Limited perch numbers but those taken are nice-sized. Work deep.

*Devils Lake, West Bay Resort, Minnewaukan: Fair for a mix of walleye and perch. Work shallow for walleye and deep for perch.

*Devils Lake, Woodland Resort, Devils Lake: Ice conditions remain good with good mobility throughout the lake. Not many anglers, though, but those going are finding a mix of success ranging from slow to good for walleye and perch.

*Foster County area lakes, Dry Dock, Carrington: No new reports.

*Jamestown Reservoir, Pioneer Bait & Tackle, Jamestown: Some activity along the river but overall quiet on area lakes.

*Jamestown Reservoir, Sooper Stop, Jamestown: Continue to watch ice conditions and shorelines with warmer weather but, ice conditions permitting, anglers on area lakes continue finding fair success.

*Lake Ashtabula, Ashtabula Crossing, Luverne: A few anglers out but limited reports.

*Lake Ashtabula, Bayshore, Valley City: Warm weather bringing more anglers out. Look for fair success, including crappie, but limited perch activity. Watch thin ice and flowing water in areas.

*Lake Sakakawea, Cenex Bait & Tackle, Garrison: Weather permitting, look for good number of anglers on the Missouri River with spotty walleye success from boats. Some ling and catfish mixed in. Some activity on Lake Audubon by the east end embankment. Use caution, though, with flowing water through the culverts. Back bays of Lake Sakakawea producing pike through the ice on the east end. Use caution along shorelines, however.

*Lake Sakakawea/Lake Audubon/Missouri River, Scott's Bait and Tackle, Pick City: Missouri River tailrace has good angler numbers with nice weather but walleye success slowed. Look for some trout, though. Try jigs and minnows or 3-way swivels for a mix of walleye, trout, and catfish in the chutes from boats. Some shore success but not many reports.

*Lonetree WMA area lakes, Harvey: Area lakes remain quiet.

*Spiritwood Lake, Sooper Stop, Jamestown: A few anglers out with hit-and-miss success. Watch springs and thin ice.

Migration:

*Few snow goose reports yet but look for some movement to start with warmer weather. Canada geese migrating, however, and loafing on areas with open water and field sheet water.

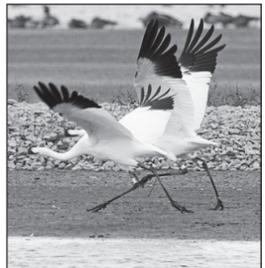
Numbers to know:

*N.D. Game and Fish Department, main Bismarck office: (701) 328-6300, website: (<http://gf.nd.gov>).

*N.D. Game and Fish Department, Devils Lake office: (701) 662-3617.

*N.D. Game and Fish Department, Jamestown office: (701) 253-6480.

*Report All Poachers: (800) 472-2121 or (701) 328-9921.



Whooping cranes taking flight
Whooping Crane Migration

Whooping cranes are in the midst of their spring migration and sightings will increase as they make their way into and through North Dakota over the next several weeks. Anyone seeing these endangered birds as they move through the state is asked

to report sightings so the birds can be tracked.

The whooping cranes that do make their way through North Dakota each spring are part of a population of about 500 birds that are on their way from their wintering grounds at Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas to their nesting grounds at Wood Buffalo National Park in Canada, a distance of about 2,500 miles.

Whoopers stand about 5-feet-tall and have a wingspan of about 7-feet, from tip to tip. They are bright white with black wing tips, which are visible only when the wings are outspread. In flight they extend their long necks straight forward,

while their long, slender legs extend out behind the tail. Whooping cranes typically migrate singly, or in groups of 2-3 birds, and may be associated with sandhill cranes.

Other white birds such as snow geese, swans and egrets are often mistaken for whooping cranes. The most common misidentification is pelicans, because their wingspan is similar and they tuck their pouch in flight, leaving a silhouette similar to a crane when viewed from below.

Anyone sighting whoopers should not disturb them, but record the date, time, location, and the birds' activity. Observers should also look closely for and report colored bands which may occur on

one or both legs. Whooping cranes have been marked with colored leg bands to help determine their identity.

Whooping crane sightings should be reported to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service offices at Lostwood, (701) 848-2466, or Audubon, (701) 442-5474, national wildlife refuges; the North Dakota Game and Fish Department in Bismarck, (701) 328-6300, or to local game wardens across the state. Reports help biologists locate important whooping crane habitat areas, monitor marked birds, determine survival and population numbers, and identify times and migration routes.



Place your classified ad in every North Dakota Newspaper for as low as \$160
Contact this newspaper for details.

HELP WANTED

POLICE OFFICER - City of Cavalier, ND. Post Academy Required. Contact Chief Jeff Osvoild at jeosvoild@nd.gov or 701-520-8852.

HVAC TECHNICIAN. ND-SCS has a FT, 12 month benefited position performing tasks involving installation, preventive maintenance and repair of mechanical equipment including refrigeration, air conditioning, heating /ventilation systems, etc in Wahpeton. Includes full benefits: Health/Life, Retirement, EAP, Leave, Tuition Waiver, Dependent Tuition Discount, etc. Screening begins immediately - applications accepted until filled. Interested candidates must complete the online application. For more information go to: www.ndscs.edu/hr/EOE

HELP WANTED: BARRETT PHARMACY in Watford City is seeking a Licensed Pharmacy Technician. Experience preferred but not required. Contact Josslyn Dodds, 701-842-3311.

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WE MAKE IT easy to place an ad in one or all the North Dakota newspapers. One order, one bill, one check. We provide the ad design and tear sheets. Call the North Dakota Newspaper Association, 701-223-6397.



WANTED: Looking for Valmar or Gandy seeders to buy, most models. Call Paul 763-286-2037

Public Notice

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) will receive bids for the construction of the following project(s):
Job No.: 27
Project No(s): NH-3-281(136)112
Length: 12.618
Type: MICROSURFACING
County(s): EDDY & FOSTER Cos
Location: US 281 FROM JCT ND 200 AT CARRINGTON, NORTH TO S JCT ND 15

Bids will be received via the Bid Express on-line bidding exchange at www.bidx.com until 09:30AM, April 17, 2020. Bids will be opened at that time at the NDDOT building on the capitol grounds in Bismarck and the bid results will be distributed and posted online at <https://www.dot.nd.gov/business/bidinfo.htm> approximately 30 minutes after bids are opened.

The proposal forms, plans, and specifications are available on the NDDOT website at <http://www.dot.nd.gov> and may be inspected at the Construction Services Division, 608 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck, North Dakota.

All bidders not currently pre-qualified with NDDOT must submit an online Contractor's Prequalification request to the Department at least ten (10) business days prior to the bid opening. The online application can be found on the NDDOT website at <https://www.dot.nd.gov/business/contractors.htm>

NDDOT reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, waive technicalities, or to accept such as may be determined in the best interests of the state.

For disability/language assistance, call 701-328-2978.

Requested by:

William T. Panos, Director
North Dakota
Department of Transportation
Published March 30, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE DISTRICT COURT,
SOUTHEAST JUDICIAL
DISTRICT

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PROBATE DIVISION
COUNTY OF EDDY

Court File No.14-2019-PR-00013

In the Matter of the Estate of Gertrude Omoth, a/k/a Sadie Gertrude Omoth, Deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within three (3) months after the date of the first publication or mailing of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to Kathleen A. Steinbach, Personal Representative of the Estate, at 6023 23rd Street Northeast, New Rockford, North Dakota 58356, or filed with the Court.

Dated this 30th day of March, 2020.

Timothy G. Richard,
ND #05454, of
SERKLAND LAW FIRM.

10 Roberts Street
P.O. Box 6017
 Fargo, North Dakota 58108-6017

701-232-8957
trichard@serklandlaw.com

Attorney for
Personal Representative

Published Mar. 30, April 6 & 13, 2020

Dated this 30th day of March, 2020.

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ND #05454, of
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