

**From:** [info@gfp.sd.us](mailto:info@gfp.sd.us)  
**To:** [clint\\_hay@live.com](mailto:clint_hay@live.com)  
**Cc:** [Kierl, Liz](#); [Harrington, Nick](#)  
**Subject:** Petition for Rule Change Form  
**Date:** Sunday, February 12, 2023 11:19:51 AM

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## South Dakota - Game, Fish, and Parks

### Petition for Rule Change

A new form was just submitted from the <http://gfp.sd.gov/> website with the following information:

**ID:** 179

**Petitioner Name:** Clint Hay

**Address:** 1815 23rd street south  
Brookings, SD 57006

**Email:** [clint\\_hay@live.com](mailto:clint_hay@live.com)

**Phone:** 605-251-7482

**Rule Identification:** Rule 41:07:03:01 sub section 8

**Describe Change:** Change of yellow perch limit to 10 east river, and keep the limit 15 west river

**Reason for Change:** This petition letter is regarding a change in yellow perch limits. Currently, the yellow perch limit is 15 per day, no size limit statewide. I propose a change to the yellow perch limit to 10 per day east river, and keep the limit 15 west river, no size limit. With the influx of people ice fishing, social media sharing, bait shop reports, guiding operations and live imaging sonar our yellow perch populations are decreasing at a steady rate. There have been multiple small sloughs/lakes in Clark County specifically that have been over harvested... examples are Lamb Slough NW of Dry Lake #2, Christopherson WPA north of Dry Lake #2 and Cottonwood Lake NW of the town of Bradley. All those small lakes are prime examples of an over harvest of yellow perch to the point there isn't a sustainable population to support angling. When there's a hot bite on a lake, the word spreads so much faster these days with social media. Anglers flock to that lake and harvest literally thousands of fish out of the lake in a short period of time, to the point where there isn't enough of a sustainable population for the lake to re-populate naturally. Since there is no stocking of yellow perch into our public waters, my concern is there will be no perch left to catch in the future. Anglers from all around the surrounding states come to Northeast South Dakota to target yellow perch specifically in the wintertime. Those anglers don't only bring non-resident license & habitat stamp dollars to our state but bring revenue to small communities. If there's no perch to catch, the state will miss out on a lot of money. The anglers today are not the same as the anglers years ago... with new technology, social media, more people fishing, there's a lot more pressure on our small lakes/sloughs. Fishery management needs to consider adapting and change to accommodate the changes of fisherman today versus what's been done in the past. We need to protect our resources before there is no resource. In summary, I would like to see the daily perch limit be changed to 10 fish per day east river, and keep the limit 15 west river. Our small lakes are very special in terms of being very fertile and grow fish big & fast.