COMMISSION PROPOSAL

Background Information

- Administrative rules 41:07:03:01 through 41:07:03:03 list harvest restrictions for catfish for South Dakota inland and border waters.
- There are no daily or possession limits for catfish of any species for the inland waters of the Missouri River and the Grand, Moreau, Cheyenne, Belle Fourche, Bad, White, and Little Missouri Rivers.
- The daily and possession limits for all species of catfish, combined, for all other inland waters are 10 and 20 fish, respectively.
- No length restrictions are currently in place for catfish of any species in inland waters or for the Nebraska and Iowa border waters with South Dakota.
- For the South Dakota-Minnesota border waters, at most one catfish 24” or longer may be kept as part of the daily limit.

Proposed Change:

1. Limit the harvest of flathead catfish 28 inches or longer in length to at most one fish daily, as part of the daily limit, statewide.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

The Commission was petitioned to change harvest restrictions for flathead catfish, such that, at most, one flathead catfish 28 inches or longer could be harvested daily, as part of the daily limit and proposed the change at their November 7-8, 2019 meeting in Watertown.

“One Over” regulations are effective at reducing harvest of fish when it is common for anglers to catch two or more fish above the specified length during a fishing trip. No negative impacts of a one-over-28” regulation on flathead catfish populations are anticipated, however, it is questionable if the regulation would contribute to an increase in larger flathead catfish.

RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

Not Applicable.

RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA

Negligible impacts are anticipated. There is no impact of the proposed regulation on an individual’s ability to participate. The only impact on opportunities for new and existing users would be limiting individual anglers to only one larger flathead catfish per day.