

**GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
PROPOSAL**

**GENERAL PROVISIONS Chapter 41:07:01
FISH LIMITS Chapter 41:07:03
HOOP NETS AND SETLINES Chapter 41:07:08**

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	July 8 – 9, 2021	Virtual
	Public Hearing	September 1, 2021	Virtual
	Finalization	September 1 – 2, 2021	Virtual

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

1. Change catfish regulations on Iowa/SD border waters to allow 10 channel catfish daily, 5 flathead catfish daily with allowance for, at most, one flathead catfish 30 inches or longer in length as part of the daily limit and one blue catfish daily.
2. Standardize gear types in inland waters of the Missouri River, western tributaries, Angostura Reservoir, Belle Fourche Reservoir and Shadehill Reservoir allowing hoop nets, traps, setlines and floatlines (add definition to general provisions chapter) to be used to target catfish and rough fish according to regulations.
3. Change title of chapter 41:07:08 to Hoop nets, traps and setlines.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

1. The Commission was petitioned in 2020 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, statewide. To standardize South Dakota statewide regulations with Nebraska border water regulations, staff recommended changing the original petitioned change of one flathead catfish over 28 inches or longer as part of the daily limit to one flathead catfish over 30 inches or longer as part of the daily limit. This regulation change was finalized in 2020.

As part of the initial changes, it was desired to standardize regulations on the Nebraska and Iowa border waters with South Dakota to allow for the harvest of one flathead catfish 30 inches or longer as part of the daily limit. Since that time, Iowa has been attempting to change their border water regulation on the Big Sioux River. That is likely going to occur this year. To match the Iowa border water change, this change is also needed in South Dakota.

2. Currently, with proper permitting, setlines are allowed on inland waters of the Missouri River, western tributaries, Angostura Reservoir, Belle Fourche Reservoir and Shadehill Reservoir. Hoop nets and trap nets are allowed on inland waters of the Missouri River only. There is low use of all three gear types annually. Game, Fish and Parks has been contacted by anglers desiring to use hoop nets and traps on western tributaries of the Missouri River. With the low use of these license types, staff believe there will not be many user conflicts associated with the addition of hoop nets and traps to this area. To standardize, it is suggested to allow hoop nets, traps and setlines on inland waters of the Missouri River, western tributaries, Angostura Reservoir, Belle Fourche Reservoir and Shadehill Reservoir.

Floatlines are a commonly used gear for catfish in many states. Catfish anglers utilize commercially sold floatlines or make their own out of pool noodles or plastic two-liter soda bottles. Floats along with a length of line are thrown out into the water and monitored for fish that may bite the bait. Fish are then retrieved from the floatlines.

APPROVE **MODIFY** **REJECT** **NO ACTION**

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Annually, staff receive multiple inquiries into the legalities of use of floatlines and desire to utilize floatlines in South Dakota. Currently there is not a specific floatline rule in place. Adding the use of floatlines would allow another option for anglers targeting channel catfish in central and western South Dakota, where they are abundant and underutilized. Crafting rules so that floatlines fall under the same rule set as setlines would ensure little by-catch of sportfish. Floatlines would have to be attended, as with rod and reel. Use of whole baitfish would not be allowed. Floatlines would only be allowed in inland waters of the Missouri River, western tributaries, Angostura Reservoir, Belle Fourche Reservoir and Shadehill Reservoir. Allowance for 10 floatlines per person would allow for the use of 10 hooks by one individual. For comparison, an angler can get 6 setline licenses that allow 20 hooks each for a maximum of 120 hooks per licensed angler.

3. Changes to chapter title would better reflect chapter contents.

RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

Not Applicable.

RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate?

No

2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users?

Yes, standardization of hoop nets, traps, setlines and the addition of floatlines for use in inland waters of the Missouri River, western tributaries, Angostura Reservoir, Belle Fourche Reservoir and Shadehill Reservoir will increase opportunity for the limited number of anglers targeting channel catfish in central and western South Dakota.

3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists?

Negligible impact

4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors?

Yes, for those looking to utilize hoop nets, traps and floatlines for take of catfish, this would enhance the quality of life.