

## **Public Land Safety Zoning**

Nick Kludt, Brookings, SD, emailed "To whom it may concern: Please do not restrict hunting opportunity by eliminating the use of rifles in Oakwood State Park. Please consider my opinions and arguments against the proposed change, outlined below. This regulation starts at the base assumption that hunters are not sure of their target and what lies beyond. It further assumes this is a routine occurrence. If this has occurred, and someone recklessly discharged a firearm in the direction of a building, etc., the solution is not a regulation which wouldn't prevent this from happening again. Instead, that person should be cited. It should also be noted that a reckless shot, whether from a slug gun, muzzleloader, or rifle, is still a reckless shot and equally dangerous. While it is possible to create a hypothetical situation where a rifle could pose a danger in the hands of an over-eager, unsafe individual, it would be unreasonable to create a new type of management/regulatory zone to account for every potential contingency we can imagine. Safety is ultimately not something achieved by regulations, but by personal responsibility and accountability. It is just as easy to be unsafe with the proposed arms as it is with the currently allowed arms. The inverse is also true - it is perfectly easy to be safe with the current arms. Furthermore, what then becomes of hunters who wish to use straight-walled cartridges in either carbines or pistols (see Iowa's new firearm regulation) during the firearm season? The ballistics of these cartridges, although certainly capable of taking a deer, are well below those of slugs and even some in-line muzzleloaders. An entire class of firearms "safer" (from the proposal's standpoint) than those proposed would then be disallowed. Finally, consider the hunter access ramifications. A considerable number of SD residents own rifles. Although neither number is quantifiable, it logically follows that a considerably smaller number own slug guns. Given there has never been a slug requirement before, there has not been a need, so ownership of said arm is likely low. I emphasize slug guns, as opposed to bird hunting shotguns firing slugs, as the proposal's aim is greater safety - greater accuracy of slugs is generally achieved through a rifled slug barrel. Do we really want to close one of the largest tracts of public land in Brookings Co. to a majority of the hunters, unless they purchase an additional firearm? While I understand safety is a concern for the Park's management, I do not believe this regulation will achieve the desired goal. It might hypothetically reduce risk, but in reality I believe it will do little-to-no good, as firearm safety ultimately is the result of individual choices. Have a nice day, and thanks for your time."

Brian Pauly, Huron, SD, emailed, "To whom it may concern: I would encourage the commission to consider still allowing muzzleloaders to be used on Oakwood State Park, along with shotguns and archery. Thanks for the consideration,"

## **Bighorn Sheep Hunting Season**

Jeff Olson, Rapid City, SD, emailed "Dear Commissioners Attached are comments on the bighorn sheep management plan from the Greater Dacotah Chapter of SCI. It is a very good plan however we think a suggested 20% harvest of available rams is aggressive compared to neighboring states that are at 8%. We have spent quite a bit of time researching and discussing this plan. Our chapter has

given almost 60,000 to bighorn sheep management over the last 18 years since we formed a chapter. It has been a great working relationship and we want to thank all those with GFP who has worked closely with us and this important resource. Safari Club International (SCI) is the world's leading hunter-conservationist group and has more than 200 active chapters worldwide. The Greater Dacotah Chapter (GDC) is proud to be part of SCI's great tradition of ensuring hunting opportunities and conserving our wildlife resources. GDC was formed in 1999 and our first goal was assist the Department of Game Fish and Parks with bighorn sheep management in South Dakota and 19 years later this is still one of the highest priorities providing support and funding to ensure the future of bighorns sheep and hunting opportunities in South Dakota. Thanks for the opportunity to provide input on this important management plan.

Our Chapter goals and objectives are more clearly outlined

at: <http://greaterdacotahchaptersci.org/main/>

#### GOATS, OUECTTVES & STRATEGTES

The goal for bighorn sheep management in South Dakota is to maximize user opportunity while maintaining populations consistent with ecological, social, aesthetic, and economic values of the people of South Dakota and our visitors. Partnerships are essential to bighorn sheep management, from agencies, private landowners and NGO's, cooperative efforts are essential to introductions, management, and hunter opportunity. Objective 1. Management and monitoring of disease pathogens in bighorn sheep herds across South Dakota. Strategy A. Continue to inventory and document domestic sheep and goats in areas adjacent to wild bighorn herds. Strategy B. Work with conservation organizations to develop cooperative programs to discourage domestic sheep and goat ownership in areas adjacent to wild bighorn herds. Consistent with the partnership at Elk Mountain. Strategy C. Continue to educate the public about bighorn sheep disease and the risk that domestic sheep and goats pose to wild sheep. Develop media options with FNAWS, provide funding for brochures, PSA'S, and other outreach efforts. Strategy D. Continue to offer assistance to owners of domestic sheep and goats in an effort to minimize the risk of disease transmission to wild sheep. Fencing options if appropriate, buy out and replacement with other domestic livestock, with small producers, or hobby farms, Strategy E. Manage and monitor bighorn sheep disease events and attempt to mitigate losses of bighorns through disease mitigation management when feasible; implement testing and removal of bighorns that are identified as shedders of M. ovi. in populations that are experiencing pneumonia die-offs in an attempt to recover these populations at a faster rate. Strategy F. Through tra p-a nd-tra nsfer augment established populations recovering from disease events that are at critically low population levels once M. ovi. are no longer detected. Strategy G. Implement Department policy (Appendix 1) for the lethal take of bighorn sheep when associated with domestic sheep or goats. Develop public support and if possible utilize hunters in the removal, Objective 2. Monitor the status of bighorn sheep populations. Strategy A. Annually conduct surveys including ground and hunter harvest. Males will be classified during surveys according to body and horn size (Geist 1968). Strategy B. Where feasible, conduct aerial surveys and obtain abundance estimates utilizing markresight or other methodologies. Strategy C. Supplement survey data with research findings when available. Utilize all efforts to improve monitoring opportunities without negative impacts on ewes and kids during lambing. Objective 3. Bi-annually

review and set bighorn sheep management objectives; use harvest strategies to provide the public with the available resource. Strategy A. Bi-annually review bighorn harvest strategies, license allocation, and unit boundaries and develop 2-year recommendations based on available biological data, public input, and staff recommendations. strategy B. we will consider: 1) population size and trend, 2) lamb recruitment (lamb: ewe ratios), 3) some index to the number or availability of rams in the population (ram: ewe ratios, the number of mature rams estimated or seen during surveys, average age of harvested rams), and 4) trends in hunter success or hunter effort, or both, from recent hunting seasons. strategy c. when feasible, use subunits and create new units to maximize hunting opportunities, distribute hunters, and minimize hunter conflicts. For the management of bighorn sheep, a season will be closed when <75 sheep are observed during surveys for 3 consecutive survey periods (i.e., years). A season may get opened or reopened when 3 criteria are met: 1) >75 sheep are observed during surveys for 3 consecutive survey periods (i.e., years), 2) observed a ram: ewe ratio of >30 rams/100 ewes for 3 consecutive surveys, and 3) observed a lamb: ewe ratio of >30 lambs/100 ewes for 3 consecutive surveys. consistent strategy for management very similar to Montana. StrateBy D. Maintain high hunter success rates (>90%) and/or high hunter satisfaction in all units. Maintain ram harvest between 10 to 20% of the available rams in the population depending upon ratios and population size. The 20% harvest rate for all available rams is very high considering other state management plans. GDC realizes that disease issues, utilizing hunters in special management actions to harvest rams could reach 20% in certain units; GDC recommends a 10% harvest rates for rams which is more realistic and will maintain quality class 4 rams for hunter harvest. Underspecial circumstances management options could reach 20% to maintain population goals and herd health, and dynamics. Strategy E. Ewe harvest can be implemented depending upon guiding factors found in Matrix (Table 2). Translocation of excess ewes should always be considered prior to the implementation of sport harvest. Utilize translocation into suitable habitats within South Dakota with public involvement. SD Game fish and Parks should also utilize opportunities with other states requesting bighorn sheep ewes to supplement their herds before utilizing hunting seasons for ewes, Objective 4. Maintain, manage, and protect existing bighorn sheep habitat and augment populations to either maintain or establish herds in vacant habitat in South Dakota. Strategy A. Maintain existing partnerships with the USFS, BLM, NPS, private landowners, and other state, local, and private conservation partners to support programs and practices encouraging proper bighorn sheep habitat management on public and private lands. Strategy B. Continue to support and utilize SDGFPs forest service liaison position in USFS planning processes to assure bighorn sheep habitat needs are considered. Strategy C. Through trap-and-transfer augment established populations that are at critically low population levels or create new populations in vacant habitat. Vacant habitat evaluation techniques utilizing GIS models, habitat inventories, and management opportunities to ensure goals are met. Transplants on public or private lands should include a cooperative agreement with the land management agency, or private landowner and SD Game Fish and Parks outlining responsibilities. Provide habitat management opportunities on public lands already supporting bighorn sheep populations by working with NGO's, state and federal agencies to improve forage production, maintain critical openings, viewsheds, water

development, consistent with bighorn sheep ecology. Objective 5. Continue to use science-based research, habitat inventories, and surveys to answer questions related to bighorn sheep ecology and public attitudes towards bighorn sheep management. Strategy A. Annually evaluate and prioritize research/survey needs for bighorn sheep. Develop research/survey proposals and seek funding opportunities. Strategy B. Use research/survey findings to guide bighorn sheep management where available and feasible. Objective 5. The SDGFP will inform and educate the public on bighorn sheep ecology, management, research, and provide viewing opportunities. Strategy A. By March 2018, provide an electronic copy of the "South Dakota Bighorn Sheep Management Plan 2018-2022" on the department's website. Printed copies will be available upon request. Strategy B. Use all available media to educate and inform the public regarding bighorn sheep status, ecology, and harvest. Work with the South Dakota Animal Industry Board and the public to discuss potential risks to bighorn sheep from domestic sheep and goats in South Dakota. Strategy C. Brief bighorn sheep hunters annually to provide them useful information on habits, ecology, and sound management of bighorn sheep. Strategy D: Promote viewability of bighorn sheep for the enjoyment of the public. Opportunities exist where tourism viewsheds such as CSP, Rapid City, and Deadwood provide the public a unique setting to observe their behavior as a quality experience. Urban sheep population management provides public interactions and viewing opportunities, but also negative impacts related to an urban environment. Relocation efforts adjacent to urban environments should be evaluated based upon scientific and biological needs for bighorn sheep, and not be politically driven. An investigative report on the suitability of an urban transplant site should be completed and provided for public comment prior to any relocation efforts. The Greater Dacotah Chapter Board of Directors thanks the Department of Game, Fish and Parks for the opportunity to provide comments to the bighorn sheep draft management plan and look forward to working together to improve bighorn sheep management in South Dakota. In summary, please note the suggested changes/additions are in bold. The GDC of SCDNR would like to see a strong emphasis on habitat and working with their partners (BHNH and NGO'S) to ensure a good plan moving forward. We feel that the suggested zoyo ram harvest is too high and out of line with neighboring states and request that be changed as noted."

### **Muskellunge Harvest Restriction**

Scott Vander Meulen, Sioux Falls, SD, emailed, "Dear GFP Commission, I am sending this email as a formal request to ask for your support of a "Catch & Release Only" option for the South Dakota Musky fishery. Currently, Musky fishing is one area of angling throughout the nation that is seeing one of the biggest rise or surge in popularity. Natural reproduction of musky does not occur in South Dakota lakes and the musky population is supported solely by a very limited stocking program. It is also my understanding that currently musky stocking happens every other year. A separate debate could be made that stocking should happen every year and even into additional lakes in South Dakota. With a limited stocking program and a small musky population it is my concern that the current rule for harvest (40 inch minimum) may not be sustainable. Also the musky population currently is not large enough to support a scientific conclusion or determination on the best management practices for musky in

South Dakota, so it may be prudent to err on the side of caution. A 40 inch musky is definitely a great fish but not considered a true trophy by musky fishing standards. It is common belief that a true trophy is obtained when the length is 50 inch or greater and is basically what every musky fisherman dreams of. South Dakota may not see many 50 inch fish if they are harvested at 40 inch. The time factor is probably the biggest limiting factor in growing the fishery since it may take nearly 15 years to reach 50 inches in length. The SDGFP has spent a significant amount of time and resources to get our musky fishery to where it is today. Please continue to protect the investment and hard work spent on the musky fishery by voting for a "Catch & Release Only" option. "Catch & Release Only" may be considered a proactive step to attempt to better maintain and protect the musky population. If at some time in the future additional scientific data becomes available or the current musky management rules change, then the rules may be considered for further modifications as supported by scientific data. There are also economic and tourism benefits that could also be considered, however without a healthy population of muskies that benefit would be zero. Since Minnesota has actual fishing seasons there are some Minnesota anglers who travel to South Dakota specifically to guide for and fish for musky while awaiting their season to open. In closing, this email is asking for your support of a "Catch & Release Only" option for the South Dakota Musky fishery. Thank you for all you do for the South Dakota Sportsman"

Jonathan P Brown, Brandon, SD, emailed, "Dear Commissioners, I support "Catch and Release Only" for muskies. I know you have already received much input on "Catch and Release Only" so I will not go into a lot of detail here other than to mention that, by and large, all true musky hunters are strictly "Catch and Release Only". There is no purpose in harvesting a musky. If I want to eat a fish, I will catch walleye or perch. The musky, however, needs to be carefully handled and returned safely to the water. A musky is such a valuable resource and should be shared with other sportsmen for as long as possible. It is common for the same fish to be caught and released several times over a period of years. I drive to a "Catch and Release Only" lake in Ontario every year to have a chance to boat (and release) large muskies. In my opinion (and I am not a biologist) Catch and Release Only will result in more and larger fish and, therefore, should attract out of state Musky fisherman to our state and, further, should cause many of us to "stay home" to catch and release muskies (as opposed to spending our money in other states or provinces). Over the past 15 years I (and my family) have traveled to Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Ontario in pursuit of the musky. It is an exciting fish to catch, but the opportunities to catch large fish have, in my opinion, been better outside of South Dakota. I would like to see that change. I firmly believe that Catch and Release is the only way to go in terms of growing larger fish and promoting the musky fishery in South Dakota. Please vote to make the musky a "Catch and Release Only" fish in South Dakota. I very much appreciate all that you and the SDGF&P do to make South Dakota a Great State! Thanks! "

Mitch Hanson, Aberdeen, SD, emailed, "GFP Commission, I am in favor for increasing the statewide minimum length on muskellunge and northern muskellunge to a statewide catch and release. The following will explain my opinion in why we should

go to a catch and release. As a part-time taxidermist I have mounted many large fish and with all species it is nearly impossible to remove all the meat and grease from the head. A taxidermist would commonly use an artificial head in this case to replace the real one for fear of the real head greasing out over time and ruining the mount and to avoid shrinkage of the real head when it properly dries. In this case we are only harvesting a Muskie larger than forty inches as of now to use mainly just the skin from the head on back and throwing the head in the garbage. I believe in using replica/reproduction mounts when it comes to a species of fish like these and I am sure many others will agree. The advantages of a replica Muskie mount would be as follows: The mount will never deteriorate. It will last forever. Will look as lifelike as the real fish. There will be no worry of mould or insect infestations. The catch and release proposal would not only protect the Muskie but would also increase revenue for the state from fisherman coming from other states in search of record muskies knowing we have a catch and release law. Also, I am not sure how many people harvest a Muskie for a meal but I would guess it's quite low with abundance of harvestable species such as walleye, perch, crappie etc..."

Blake Anderson, Groton, SD, emailed, "Commissioners, I am emailing in favor of the proposal to put the Muskie size limit to catch and release only. South Dakota has the opportunity to put themselves "on the map" with a regulation like the proposed. I hope that the proposal does not get changed to a length limit of any kind. A economic boost will surely come when anglers see the change and the quality of Muskie in these waters. With all the negativity focused on South Dakota fishing for various reasons this will be a positive to look forward too. Thank you for your time"

Bill Leonard, Eden, SD, emailed, "I am in favor of total catch and release of all muskie. Please vote in that direction.Thank you"

Chris Kassube, Bath, SD, emailed," I would like to say I am in faver of all musky being catch and release. This is an opportunity for our state to be on top of this. Thank you."

Laura Smith, Hazel, SD, emailed "Hello, Please enact an increase in the musky minimum. An increase is needed to protect these fish. Musky fishing is mostly catch and release, so a catch and release only statewide would make sense. There is very little need to harvest one of these fish. "

Taylor Anderson, Groton, SD, emailed, " SDGFP Commission,Thanks for your consideration in enacting an increase in the statewide muskie minimum for South Dakota. I encourage you to pass the statewide catch-and-release proposal. By passing such a regulation you protect and ensure quality muskie fishing for future generations to come. Since the January meeting the amount of positive support regarding this proposal has been great. Support has come from not just muskie anglers, but also from anglers who target panfish and walleyes primarily (like myself). There has been a small amount of negative public input, which always seems to revolve around "stigma and old school thinking" and not biological facts and studies. One thing I ask you to consider is the fact

that we currently are actively managing five lakes for muskies. The SDGFP has spent taxpayer money to stock muskies in these five lakes. Various initial stocking dates on these lakes vary from 2002, 2010, 2011 depending on the fishery. All that anglers are now asking for is protection of these fish. If we are not going to protect these fish and try to produce a trophy class fishery, what was the purpose of even starting muskie fisheries in the first place? The following bullet points lay out various reasons why we should pass a catch-and-release regulation in the state of South Dakota. I have highlighted in red what I think are three of the main reasons for going to a statewide catch and release regulation. Muskellunge and tiger-muskellunge in South Dakota have outgrown their current regulation. Our state currently has fish in the lower 50 inch mark.

- Muskie is an expensive fish for the SDGFP to raise. Other states have shown that it costs roughly \$12 to raise a stocked muskie. It takes 40 stocked fish, to get one muskie 40 inches making that fish worth roughly \$480. It takes 500 stocked fish, to have one of them reach the 50 inch mark, making that fish worth roughly \$6,000. Therefore, if every lake stocked in South Dakota has on average 2-3 muskies in the 50 inch range harvested yearly, that is \$12,000-\$18,000 roughly. Pretend they have another 10-15 fish in the 45 inch range harvested, which puts those fish in the roughly \$2,500 range. Out of five lakes total if the numbers are true, we are potentially looking at a loss of roughly in the \$185,000 range yearly. This dollar amount can only be blamed on one thing, and that's an inadequate minimum length.
- Our state has plenty of other opportunities for harvesting fish for meals, so keeping a muskie is now irrelevant.
- Advancements in replica mounts/artificial amounts have made keeping trophy class muskies obsolete.
- Muskie fishing is primarily catch and release. Our current muskellunge and northern-muskellunge (tiger) regulation allows for the harvest of fish in the 40 inch range. A 40 inch muskie is no longer considered a "trophy fish". Other states have increased their minimums and are experiencing "trophy class fishing".
- Our state is behind others on muskie length minimums. Minnesota is currently at 54 inches. Wisconsin has lakes with minimum length restrictions of 45 inches, 50 inches, 54 inches, and some lakes which are strictly "catch and release". Most Wisconsin waters to my knowledge currently fall under the 50 inch minimum. North Dakota's current minimum length limit is 48 inches.
- This petition/proposal has the current support of anglers, bait shops, fishing guides, lodging, gas stations, restaurants, and other various establishments in areas near waters currently stocked with muskellunge.

Thanks for your consideration in this matter "

Roger McNary, Spearfish, SD, emailed "Dear Commissioners, The High Plains Anglers are opposed to the proposed change in the muskie regulations. We do not want to see "catch and release" instead of the 40 inch minimum. The current 40 inch minimum is definitely adequate and the fisherman (man, woman or child) can make the

choice to keep or release. We want the muskie minimum length kept at 40 inches. We oppose any other change to the muskie minimum length."

Greg Petersen, Warner, SD, emailed "I writing this email to show my support of the State implementing a "catch and release" only on Muskellunge and Tiger Muskellunge. Our state is way behind others on this issue. If we as a state are all in on having Muskie in our fisheries, why limit the fish from reaching their full potential. Local lodges may argue, but this actually is better for them as well. Keeping every 40" Muskie for pictures and their Facebook page may serve as great advertising, but when their gone their gone. This method is not sustainable. Muskie in my view is a fish of sport and challenge, not a fish for family meals or hanging over the fireplace. So why not make them "catch any release" only. Think of the advertising power house this would create. "Another 55" Muskie caught and released on Lynn Lake". "Catch your walleyes, and then search for a monster!". Its time to either be all in, or let the dream of a sustained Trophy Muskie lake die. Thanks for your time."

Chuck Berdan, Belle Fourche, SD, emailed "Dear Commissioners, I am adamantly opposed to any change in the muskie regulations. I do not want a change to "catch and release" or a 50 inch minimum. The 40 inch minimum has been working. I have never caught a muskie but would want the decision to be mine if I did catch one. A 40 inch fish beautiful trophy fish and without there being any biological reasons to change the minimum the decision needs to be the fisherman decision to keep or release the fish. These decision affecting our fish and wildlife in this state need to be made with sound biology and science and what is best for the resource not personal preference and bias I oppose any change in the muskie minimum length. Leave the muskie minimum length at 40 inches."

Rik Bartels, Belle Fourche, SD, emailed, "Dear Commissioners, The Center of the Nation Sportsman's Club is opposed to any change in the muskie length regulations. We do not want it changed to a 50 inch minimum or to a "catch and release". We want it to stay at the 40 inch minimum and the fisherman can make the decision to keep or release the fish. There is no biological reason to change the muskie length minimum. We oppose ANY change in the muskie minimum length."

Shane Spooner, Watertown, SD, emailed. "Please establish laws to help protect our Muskie population. We need to have a catch and release program for our future generations to enjoy."

Casey Adam Baumgarn, Webster, SD, emailed, "I write this email in reference to the Musky petition, I'm 100% for a catch and release for the muskellunge in our state of SD! Over the course of the last 6 years of me fishing for musky I have been educated by many true musky fisherman. They have taught me that they are a true trophy fish and that there are no reasons to keep a musky when the option of doing a replica is an option. At first I was like wow that's crazy, but after releasing multiple fish from 48"-50" it's much more gratifying to watch the fish swim away than to kill something that takes so long to grow to that length let alone the cost to get them to that length. I have seen



multiple pictures of the same fish I released less than a week apart getting kept and taken to the taxidermist. This is very disheartening when the replica option is as good as the real fish. With so few musky our state needs to approve the catch and release and SD will be landslides ahead of other states. Currently we are way behind the times with our 40" minimum. To put that in perspective it's like mounting a 3lb-6lb walleye! So when fisherman realize after they kept a 40"-49" musky they realize it's not truly a trophy and I fear to guess that the majority of them are wasted. It's really no fault of their own because they aren't educated enough to know that it truly isn't a giant like they assumed when they initially caught it. Our lakes can and will grow musky over 50", I've seen them first hand and have received many photos of musky up to 52" in our state. So what does this mean for our state? TOURISM!!!! If we put a catch and release and start growing fish up to 52" and in my opinion we will surpass that and hopefully up to 54" we will with no doubt get more and more people from outside our state coming to fish for these giants! At the rate we are going and me personally knowing of 14 musky 42"-51" KEPT in 2017 out of 1 lake this will KILL the majority of our musky not allowing for the musky to get to trophy length. I ask that you to please pass this law and make it catch and release so we can be landslides ahead of other states and grow some true trophy's in our state!"

Sean Grefe, Cold Springs, MN, emailed, "Hello, I'm writing in to support 100% catch and release of muskies and Lynn lake and any other South Dakota lakes that are stocked. I travel to Lynn Lake A multiple times a year to fish musky and I would hate to see that come to an end because of over harvest. Muskies are a very valuable resource.. Their natural reproduction is very limited so catch and release and stocking is very important to keep a good healthy population and to have a chance at a trophy Muskie."

Joe Honer, Eden, SD, emailed, "The subject of size limits or the ability to harvest Muskie basically depends on a few questions. 1. Why did they introduce them in the first place. The answer u would receive from 99 out of 100 people would be, for the chance to catch a very large fish! That experience a lone is why 100 percent of Muskie fishermen incurred the cost time and effort to fish them. Question 2. Why after the cost and effort to plant them and the length of time it takes for them to grow to that large size. Why would we want to harvest them. There is NO evidence anywhere to show they in anyway take over the lake or overpopulate. In the day of fiberglass reproduction there is no need to kill a fish. In an effort to keep this short and to the point weather u increase the minimum or have a no harvest at all. Ask ur selves these questions or more that may logically follow. Thanks for ur concern!!"

Chelsey Sheridan, Groton, SD, emailed, "SDGFP Commission, I am asking that you consider catch and release only for muskies. Muskies are considered a game fish and South Dakota's catch limit of 40" is extremely low compared to surrounding states. By making muskies a catch and release only fish, I'm hoping that the musky population will grow and that the state of South Dakota will attract more musky fisherman. Thank you,"

Trent Baumeister, Aberdeen, SD, emailed, "I wanted to share my thoughts regarding the proposed change to state-wide catch and release only regulations for Muskies in South Dakota. First and foremost, I appreciate that SD GFP is recognizing muskies as a resource that's worth protecting, and as a muskie fisherman, I would love to see larger fish in the lakes where they are stocked. However, I don't agree that this proposed change would have those affects. Also, I don't think it's appropriate to enforce a catch and release only regulation state wide. The muskie community almost exclusively practices catch and release already, so this regulation wouldn't really change anything for us who target these fish. However, if a fish is foul hooked and injured or caught during the summer months and not likely to survive after release, the fisherman should be able to exercise good judgement and harvest that fish rather than put it back in the lake to die and rot. The sport would be better served by having that fish mounted and displayed vs. disappearing in a lake never to be caught or seen again. In my opinion, we lose more fish to hooking mortality than harvest each year. Rather than restrict it to catch and release only statewide, manage these lakes like you would for walleyes. For example, prior to the non-meandered lakes issue, Reetz Lake was managed as a true trophy walleye fishery with a minimum length of 28", not catch and release only. Why not do the same for a lake that is capable of growing 44"+ muskies? Set the minimum length to 44" or 48" on a lake by lake basis. Also If there's a desire to have larger, more abundant muskies in South Dakota, maybe it's worth exploring introducing them to larger, deeper water lakes in NE South Dakota. Waubay and Bitter would both offer deep water refuge during the summer months, as well as more acreage to hide in. I realize both of these lakes see far more pressure than Lynn, 81 ponds, or Sinai do, but I think the amount of structure and deep water areas would allow a good percentage to grow to true trophy size. Thank you for allowing public input on this regulation."

Harley Baumeister, Hutchinson, MN, emailed, "Dear Commissioners, I'd like to offer comments on the proposed rule change to make Muskies a catch and release only fish. I am an avid Muskie fisherman, and by choice, I practice 100% catch and release, with the key point, it's my choice. To mandate that everyone has to make the same choice is short sighted and could do more harm than good. Natural resources are to be enjoyed by the public and managed so everyone can enjoy them. Taking away the chance for a child or someone who doesn't fish much the opportunity to mount and enjoy a very special fish to them takes away that option and makes the fish now less attractive due to the inability for some to enjoy it in a manner of their choosing (a real mount, vs. a replica which can be a lot more expensive). Hooking mortality will most likely be a larger impact to the overall population than the occasional kept fish but the positive impact of being able to keep a few fish by a reduced population of anglers seems well worth it. Imagine what it does to the fisheries if a young person has a fish on the wall and all his/her friends get to see it! Now we have motivated youth wanting to both fish and "catch a big one". They become more knowledgeable about the species, maybe become advocates for more stocking, take on more self-management of their fishing practices, not because they have to, but because they want others to have the chance to catch in their minds, another "big one". Take away the possibility to keep a fish or make it too restrictive, and suddenly we have a fish that the public doesn't want

to fund, finds no practical reason to have, and we end up with another Amsdam lake where the locals want the fish out of the area. Isn't it funny that the lake that has produced almost all the state records isn't be stocked anymore? Why is that? I hope you carefully consider the impacts of such an extreme position and don't go too far. Even a 50" minimum is too extreme in my mind as few lakes can grow of fish of that size. If by chance an exceptional lake comes into play, consider managing it on an exception basis and let the public enjoy the possibility of keeping a special fish on the other lakes. Letting fish die of old age vs. letting the public enjoying them more by letting them select when it's appropriate to keep one seems like a more logical means to grow the sport, gain the support of the public, and increase the number of our youth enjoying the outdoors. Bottom line, manage for the norm (most lakes won't grow a 50" due to a lack of cold water and forage) and know when to have the exception (if Lynn will grow a possible 50", move the limit to 48"), but for the rest, make the limit length a practical value like the 40" or a 44". And if someone really thinks Lynn could become a Leach lake or Vermillion lake world class fisheries, then for that lake only, go to 100% catch and release. But do it in increments, not an all or nothing approach that is being discussed. Thanks for listening, and good luck finding a balance between the general fisherman and the species select group. And hopefully you can appreciate the value of not forcing the will of a few on the backs of the many. "

Brian Jordan, Belle Fourche, emailed, "I disagree with mandatory catch and release proposal. I feel that raising the minimum length to fifty inches and allowing one fish is sufficient. If nothing else handle it like paddlefish with a tag system with an affordable tag that only allows an angler to keep one that size per year. If a person fishes where there is a chance of catching one or you target them you can still practice responsible catch and release with or without the tag. I feel it would be great to treat the musky like the true trophy it is like deer, elk, bighorns, mountain goats and mountain lions. Thank you."

Jim Kath, Lake Shore, MN, emailed, "Dear Commissioners: Greetings from the Brainerd Lakes Chapter of Muskies Inc. We are writing this letter to show our support for the proposed legislation to have South Dakota become a statewide, catch and release muskie fishery. We believe that this policy will benefit the state as well as local community members by providing increased access to trophy fishing opportunities, increased business opportunities, and provide a sustainable resource in the state of South Dakota. Our chapter also believes that the decision to increase muskie fishing opportunities in the state is a valid cause that needs to be supported and followed through on based on scientific data and reasoning. South Dakota has a rich history and growing interest from anglers of surrounding states. Increasing water furthers opportunities for angling as well as providing incredible fish growth potential with the high concentration of eutrophic and mesotrophic lake systems. Despite the increasing fishing opportunities in South Dakota, there are relatively few lakes that are managed for muskies. We believe the proposal to have muskies be a catch and release resource will lead to increased trophy opportunities for our growing number of muskie anglers locally as well as anglers throughout the country. The economic impact of moving to a catch and release fishery and increasing muskie fishing quality in the state is a direct

benefit to the local businesses in the area. Throughout the state of MN, where we reside, resort owners, baits shops, fishing guides, and small business owners report a positive impact of muskie stocking in their areas. Local and statewide fisherman all provide increased economic opportunities to these areas with no negative impact to native fish populations. This has been demonstrated repeatedly through conclusive studies and needs to be the basis of future management decisions. Those areas that are target destination for other fish populations, such as panfish and walleyes, continue to be great fisheries even after muskies are introduced. It is truly a win-win situation. Sustaining and improving our natural resources is the responsibility of both our citizens and the states GFP Commission. Muskies Inc. has been a front-runner in recognizing that the enjoyment of our natural resources does not always need to be a "take" philosophy. Since our inception, catch and release tactics have been encouraged as a way to preserve our fisheries for generations to come and provide true trophy fishing opportunities. This philosophy has set our organization apart from many others as a truly conservation minded group versus a sportsman's rights group. We have over 175 active members in our Brainerd Lakes chapter with multiple family memberships. We commend you for the work you do in your state and encourage you to look at increasing muskie fishing quality as a way to continue your efforts of providing the best outdoor experience for those in and who visit your state. The Brainerd Lakes Chapter of Muskie Inc. believes in the proposed catch and release muskie fishery for the state of South Dakota. We believe there are multiple local economic benefits as well as a resource benefit for the citizens in your state and throughout the country. We thank you for your work with all of our natural resources and commend your efforts to make the best research based decisions for the citizens of your state. "

Jake Rehnstrom, Watertown, SD, emailed, "As a avid muskie angler who spends a lot of time fishing lynn lake and west 81 for muskie i am very much in favor of catch and release only for these fish and think it will provide trophy fishing for many years to come"

Luke Manthey, Eagan, MN, emailed "I support catch and release only for Muskies. "

Aaron Meyer, Sauk Rapids, MN, emailed "I would like to comment on the proposal to change South Dakota's muskie management to total catch and release. I am a multi-species angler and hunter from Minnesota. I have travelled to South Dakota several times on hunting trips. I would strongly **support** your proposal for catch and release regulations on muskies. I have been quite involved in Minnesota's muskie management since several years ago when the lake where I grew up was proposed for muskie stocking. Through many long discussions with fisheries managers and biologists I learned that muskies do not negatively effect any other gamefish or panfish populations. Numerous scientific studies on muskie lakes throughout Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Ontario have all proven these statements. Beyond that, much evidence on our Minnesota lakes suggests that the more we protect our muskie populations, the more they resemble natural, native fisheries. Muskie fishing is the fastest growing

segment of freshwater fishing in the country! It would be great see our neighboring state protecting these exciting fisheries!"

Dan Bather, Brookings, SD, emailed, "After reading the recent article in regards to the recent proposal to make a Muskie a trophy only fish I totally disagree. The last thing South Dakota needs is another fishing regulation. I am not a avid Muskie fisherman, but consider them a unique opportunity. I fish 60 to 70 days a year I. South Dakota and have happened to catch 3 muskies in a matter of 12 years of fishing in South Dakota. Two years ago I was fortunate enough on the 81 ponds to catch and keep a 45.5" 25lb Muskie. That fish was a magnificent fish to me and I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to make it a trophy. I mounted the fish and it currently is in my basement. The fish is a reminder of an amazing event in my life that I got to share with family and friends. There are not enough Muskie fisherman in South Dakota to make them a trophy only fish. Fisherman that have an opportunity to catch one that meets the minimum requirement should have the choice to do as they wish with the fish. Over the course of the past 5 years I have heard of 3 trophy fish being caught one out of Lynn lake and two out of the 81 ponds all of which were mounted. Thank you for your consideration "

Jon Biederman, West Union, IA, emailed," I understand there is a possibility of increasing the size limit for muskies in South Dakota. I fully support a 50" minimum size limit, or larger. I have come to South Dakota for a week each year for the past 15 years and have spent a lot of time fishing for muskies on one of the better known lakes near Webster. We have caught a lot of muskies, released all of them, and have a great time. However, we have noticed the larger ones, greater than 45" are hard to come by and have seen pictures of kept fish. It takes many years for a musky to grow to 45"+ and those are a very valuable resource. Keeping them alive should be a high priority. I also spend time fishing muskies in Minnesota each year and feel the 54" limit they have is a great thing. Last fall I was fortunate enough to catch a 54" musky in MN, truly the fish of a lifetime. I didn't even consider keeping it even though it was a legal fish. Instead I am getting a replica made that will look as good and likely better than a real fish mount would be. Thank you for your time."

Mark Smedsrud, Hartord,SD, emailed, "I FULLY SUPPORT CHANGING THE HARVEST RESTRICTIONS ON MUSKIES TO CATCH AND RELEASE ONLY. TOO MANY LOW 40 INCH FISH ARE NEEDLESSLY BEING KILLED BEFORE THEY REACH TRUE TROPHY SIZE. IF HANDLED WITH CARE, THESE FISH CAN BE CAUGHT AND RELEASED MULTIPLE TIMES. I AM ALSO IN FAVOR OF EXPANDING WATERS IN SOUTH DAKOTA THAT ARE MANAGED FOR MUSKIES. THANK YOU,"

Jim Lilienthal, Cushing, MN, emailed, "I would like to speak in favor of the GFP's proposal for a Catch & Release muskie fishery in South Dakota. With just 5 lakes that have muskie management a harvest limit defeats the purpose of providing a unique trophy fishing experience on these long lived fish. I have worked on muskie management in Minnesota for over 40 years, and can reassure you that a catch &

release muskie fishery will pose no threat to the management of other species in these waters. I come to South Dakota to hunt and fish each year and look forward to enjoying a muskie fishing opportunity.”

Kermit Born, Aberdeen, SD, emailed “What is going on??.....Muskie fishing on Lynn and Middle Lynn.....and these two lake are closed in the meandering water issues.....Why are we supporting any fishing activity (stocking etc) on lakes that are not open to public access.....Something is wrong here.....Either stop supporting stocking etc on lakes that do not have public access, or open the lakes to public access as it probably should have been done.

Cory Kassube, Big Stone City, SD emailed “Good morning, I am writing to show my support to the change of the Muskie regulations to Catch and Release only. Most people that target muskie know how difficult they are to catch and do not want to keep them. I have heard stories of anglers keeping 40” fish just to get them out of the lake, and not because they want to harvest that fish. I have also heard rumors of people cutting the gills and releasing these fish. Muskies need to be protected and a C&R Only would do just that. “

Steve Horswell, Milford, IA, emailed, “Although I haven’t fished for muskies in South Dakota, I applaud the South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks Commission for considering a change to its fishing regulations to make muskies catch-and-release only. I hope the proposal is approved soon. My own state, Iowa, currently has a 40 inch minimum on muskies. I believe this minimum is too low and would support catch-and-release muskie fishing in Iowa as well. Adult muskies are at the top of the predator-prey pyramid. As such, they are relatively scarce and are, therefore, trophies when caught. And although catch-and-release fishing ethic is widely practiced today in bass fishing, the roots of catch-and-release fishing can be traced to efforts by Muskies, Inc. in the 1970’s. Over the past 40 years, Muskies, Inc. members have successfully caught and released over 395,000 muskies. Each of the muskies released helped maintain predator-prey balance and were available to be caught again by other anglers. Muskies, Inc. records contain numerous instances of uniquely colored muskies being later caught, recognized, and released again. Anglers for walleyes and perch frequently complain that the muskies are eating all of “their” fish. I have read a lot of studies showing that muskies have a minimal impact upon walleye and perch numbers. Additionally, research indicates muskies contribute to larger walleyes and perch by helping reduce the competition those fish have. My own observation on lakes in Iowa is that more large predator fish are needed to help prevent stunted perch and reduce the number of yellow bass. Again, I encourage the South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks Commission to approve the catch-and-release proposal for muskies.”

Brett Waldera, West Fargo, ND, emailed, “To whom it may concern, I am writing to support the proposal for the Catch and Release only season for muskellunge in South Dakota. I am a non-resident who has been specifically fishing for muskies in SD since 2002. I live in West Fargo, ND but travel to fish in SD for muskie fishing a few times a year in May on Lynn Lake or Amsden Dam. Last spring I had a

group of 12 guys planning to go to Lynn Lake for a weekend until the non-meandering water issue hit and we had to unfortunately cancel our trip. I often spend hundreds of dollars during my trips in SD for lodging, gas, and food.

I am a multi-species fisherman who fishes for Perch, Smallmouth Bass, Pike, and Walleyes also in South Dakota. I know that this proposal will not have any adverse effects on other fish species due to the natural low density management of muskies. I hope the proposal passes and I can continue to spend time enjoying the trophy muskie fishing opportunities that SD has to offer. Thanks,"

Gary Rutherford, Pengilly, MN, emailed, "Dear Commision Members, I am a past local President of Muskie Inc. I was very excited to hear you are considering putting Your Muskies on a catch & release only. I wish all the State with Muskie would head in that direction. Thanks for your time."



We the undersigned support increasing the minimum length limit to take muskellunge and northern-muskellunge in South Dakota from 40 inches, to a statewide catch-and-release.

This petition will be sent to the SDGFP Commission and will be made available to the public.

	Printed Signature	Signature	City, State
1.	Taylor Anderson	Taylor Anderson	Broton, SD
2.	T. J. Johnson	T. J. Johnson	Broton SD
3.	Nathan Troske	Nathan Troske	Turton SD
4.	Blala Jeschke	Blala Jeschke	Aberdeen SD
5.	mark Ellingson	mark Ellingson	Britton SD
6.	Andrew Schuster	Andrew Schuster	Eden SD
7.	Sam Strickland	Sam Strickland	Verbley, S.D.
8.	Daniel E. Pass	Daniel E. Pass	Eden, S.D.
9.	Travis Pass	Travis Pass	Eden, S.D.
10.	Justin Manson	Justin Manson	Langford, SD
11.	Max Stollfussing	Max Stollfussing	Aberdeen SD
12.	ody Tolustud	ody Tolustud	Mellott, SD
13.	Doug Sombke	Doug Sombke	Broton, S.D.
14.	Chad Weissauer	Chad Weissauer	Herridon S.D.
15.	Brad Jones	Brad Jones	Britton S.D.
16.	Brett Sombke	Brett Sombke	Conde, S.D.
17.	Bryan Sombke	Bryan Sombke	Conde, SD
18.	Nathan Hadlec	Nathan Hadlec	Ipswich, SD
19.	JEFFREY A. CLARK	JEFFREY A. CLARK	Verbley, SD
20.	Kevin Pitzl	Kevin Pitzl	Eden, SD
21.	Dan Summe	Dan Summe	Broton SD
22.	Shane Rein	Shane Rein	Verbley, SD
23.	Andrea Rein	Andrea Rein	Verbley, SD
24.	Chad Osterkamp	Chad Osterkamp	Northville, S.D.
25.	Michael Loeb	Michael Loeb	Aberdeen, SD
26.	Ryan C Patterson	Ryan C Patterson	Britton, SD
27.	Alan Schuster	Alan Schuster	Foslyn SD
28.	Ronald Anderson	Ronald Anderson	Broton SD
29.	Justin Toole	Justin Toole	Aberdeen, S.D.
30.	Barry Winkler	Barry Winkler	Aberdeen, SD
31.	Andy Johnson	Andy Johnson	Aberdeen, SD
32.	Michael Bledsoe	Michael Bledsoe	Aberdeen, SD
33.	MARK A Bledsoe	MARK A Bledsoe	Aberdeen, SD
34.	Tom Skette	Tom Skette	Mina SD
35.	Bryan Sutton	Bryan Sutton	Aberdeen, SD
36.	Gunnar Hanson	Gunnar Hanson	Broton, SD
37.	Carleen Johnson	Carleen Johnson	Ferney, SD
38.	London Jurg	London Jurg	Aberdeen, SD



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39.	Matthew Klefer	Matthew Klefer	Aberdeen, SD
40.	Anna Smith	Anna Smith	Haupt SD
41.	Doug Bragg	Doug Bragg	Watertown SD
42.	Janet Bragg	Janet Bragg	Watertown, SD
43.	Jacob Pi Smith	Jacob Pi Smith	Hazel, SD
44.	Cathy Smith	Cathy Smith	Hazel, SD
45.	Austin Clark	Austin Clark	Groton SD
46.	Michael Ewalt	Michael Ewalt	Groton SD
47.	Amber Sombke	Amber Sombke	Conde, SD
48.	Lee Forman	Lee Forman	Britton, SD
49.	Danny Michtitsch	Danny Michtitsch	Eden S.D.
50.	Mate Petersen	Mate Petersen	Northville SD
51.	Dana Dargatz	Dana Dargatz	Aberdeen SD
52.	Mitch Hansen	Mitch Hansen	Aberdeen SD
53.	Greg Petersen	Greg Petersen	Warner SD
54.	Ron Anderson	Ron Anderson	Groton SD
55.	Jonathan Weller	Jonathan Weller	Groton SD
56.	Dale Pitzel	Dale Pitzel	Eden S.D.
57.	Terry J Sattler	Terry J Sattler	Eden So Dak
58.	Charles Gray	Charles Gray	Verdon SD
59.	BLANE STEINER	Blane Steiner	Lake City, SD.
60.	Kallie Neether	Kallie Neether	Eden, SD
61.	Susan Heitmann	Susan Heitmann	Lake City SD
62.	Larry A. Schuster	LARRY SCHUSTER	EDEN SD,
63.	Curtis Healy	Curtis Healy	Lake City, SD
64.	Ernest Schuster	Ernest Schuster	Burlington SD
65.	Mark Johnson	Mark Johnson	Pierpont SD
66.	Audrey Johnson	Audrey Johnson	Pierpont SD
67.	Nert Bien	Nert Bien	Verdon SD
68.	Robert Harley	Robert Harley	Britton S. Dak
69.	Rolland K. Storrer	Rolland K. Storrer	Britton S. Dak
70.	Kent Holler	Kent Holler	Pierpont SD
71.	TIM RONSHAUGEN	Tim Ronshaugen	PIERPONT SD
72.	JOHN SEVERSON	John Severson	PIERPONT SD
73.	Galen Jensen SR	Galen Jensen	Pierpont SD
74.	Marty Bucholz	Marty Bucholz	Pierpont SD
75.	Karen Bremman	Karen Bremman	Pierpont SD
76.	SARA Ronshaugen	Sara Ronshaugen	Pierpont, SD
77.	Ryan Quiggle	Ryan Quiggle	Groton, SD



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78.	Scott Swanson	Scott Swanson	Aberdeen SD 57401
79.	Kevin Pitzl	Kevin Pitzl	Eden SD 57232
80.	Keith Pitzl	Keith Pitzl	Eden SD 57232
81.	Jeremy Schuster	Jeremy Schuster	Eden SD 57232
82.	John Kuehl	John Kuehl	Eden SD 57232
83.	Nathan Steiner	Nathan Steiner	Eden SD 57232
84.	Nathan Steiner	Nathan Steiner	Eden SD 57232
85.	Glen Steiner	Glen Steiner	Eden SD 57232
86.	James Michlitsch	James Michlitsch	Langford SD 57454
87.	Andrew Michlitsch	Andrew Michlitsch	Eden SD 57232
88.	Danny Michlitsch	Danny Michlitsch	Eden SD 57232
89.	Darce Michlitsch	Darce Michlitsch	Eden SD 57232
90.	Lyle Michlitsch	Lyle Michlitsch	Langford SD 57454
91.	Teddie Hoop	Teddie Hoop	Andover SD 57422
92.	Trudy Smith	Trudy Smith	Andover SD 57422
93.	Dale Henriksen	Dale Henriksen	Bristol SD 57219
94.	Tommy Hoops	Tommy Hoops	Pierpont SD 57468
95.	Barry Smith	Barry Smith	Andover SD 57422
96.	Carl Schwarz	Carl Schwarz	Andover SD 57422
97.	KOD HANSON	KOD HANSON	PERNEY SD 57439
98.	Nicole K. Kotzer	Nicole K. Kotzer	Groton SD 57445
99.	Kevin RADKE	Kevin RADKE	Conde SD 57434
100.	Jeff Harg	Jeff Harg	Groton SD 57445
101.	Dalton Locke	Dalton Locke	Groton SD 57445
102.	Kasey Waage	Kasey Waage	Groton SD 57445
103.	Brett Anderson	Brett Anderson	Groton SD 57445
104.	Bruce Kraeger	Bruce Kraeger	Stratford SD 57474
105.	Scott Kampa	Scott Kampa	Groton SD 57445
106.	Nick Kaseh	Nick Kaseh	Bath SD 57427
107.	Myndi Kampa	Myndi Kampa	Groton SD 57445
108.	Darci Spanier	Darci Spanier	Groton SD 57445
109.	Bob Walter	Bob Walter	Andover SD 57422
110.	Roger Spanier	Roger Spanier	Groton SD 57445
111.	Mike Siegel	Mike Siegel	Groton SD 57445
112.	Brad Waage	Brad Waage	Groton SD 57445
113.	Rick Carlson	Rick Carlson	Groton SD 57445
114.	Douglas JONGENSA	Douglas JONGENSA	Groton SD 57445
115.	Chris Kaseh	Chris Kaseh	Bath SD 57427
116.	Brad Larson	Brad Larson	Groton SD 57445



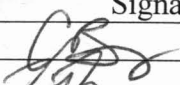


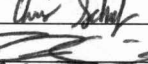
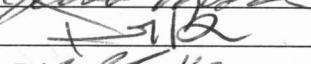
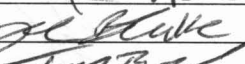
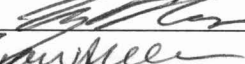
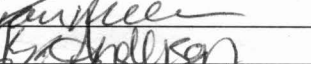
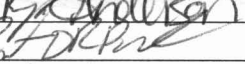
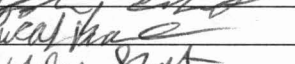
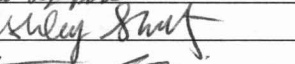


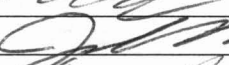
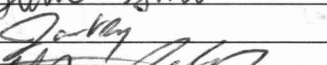
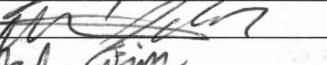
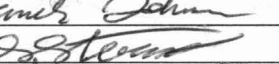
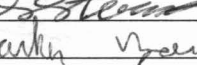
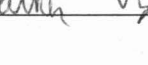

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117.	Karen Spanier	Karen Spanier	Groton SD 57445
118.	Ron Belden	Ron Belden	Groton SD 57445
119.	Randy Stanley	Randy Stanley	Groton SD 57445
120.	Shawn Lambert	Shawn Lambert	Groton SD 57445
121.	Spencer Loch	Spencer Loch	Groton SD
122.	Dixie Smith	Dixie Smith	Hazel, SD 57242
123.	Doris Anderson	Doris Anderson	Groton, SD 57445
124.	Laura Anderson	Laura Anderson	Groton, SD 57445
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	Printed Signature	Signature	City, State
1.	Casey Baumann		Webster SD
2.	Jason Becker		Groten, SD
3.	Alex Heesch		Watertown, SD
4.	DARIN EICHACKER		SIOUX FALLS, SD
5.	Chris Schaefer		Bryant SD
6.	Zack Kirsch		Aberdeen, SD
7.	Riley Schott		MOBRIDG, SD
8.	Zach Hildebrand		Brookings, SD
9.	Jeremiah Rorl		Brookings, SD
10.	Daniel Bloom		Florence SD
11.	JOE Blake		SIOUX FALLS, SD
12.	Trot Berch		Sioux Falls, SD
13.	Lynn Nelson		Redfield SD
14.	Craig Evenson		Craig Clear Lake, SD
15.	Evan McClary		Aberdeen, SD
16.	Kayla Anderson		Scotland, SD
17.	Preston Pratt		Watertown, SD
18.	Ethan Herdahl		Howard, SD
19.	Shelby Bailey		Watertown, SD
20.	Kyle Schwert		Miller SD
21.	Lucas Buechler		Doland SD
22.	Ashley Shultz		Roberts Hazel, SD
23.	Anna Misar		Hartford, SD
24.	Makenna Macdonald		Hartford, SD
25.	Chad Overvoid		Clark, SD
26.	Ashley Long		Watertown, SD
27.	Kyle Steffen		Watertown, SD
28.	Steve Biteler		Harrisburg, SD
29.	Jacob Garkowski		Sioux Falls, SD
30.	Tyler Pringle		Sioux Falls, SD
31.	Steven Smith		Yankton, SD
32.	Jason Vilsby		Aberdeen SD
33.	Matt Pavel		Yankton, SD
34.	Josh Fields		Watertown, SD
35.	Wds Jensen		Roslyn, SD
36.	Emily Johnson		Roslyn SD
37.	Sawyer Steward		Watertown, SD
38.	Parker Xnap		Watertown, SD

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39.	Austin Blouk	Austin Blouk	Watertown, SD
40.	Joshua Hoes	Joshua Hoes	Clear Lake SD
41.	Brandon Fitch	Brandon Fitch	Pallock SD
42.	Gage Schmidt	Gage Schmidt	Watertown, SD
43.	Brandon Thyne	Brandon Thyne	Watertown, SD
44.	Wesley Sudbeck	Wesley Sudbeck	Dinock, SD
45.	James Bruns	James Bruns	Watertown, SD
46.	Austin Schwarz	Austin Schwarz	Bristol, SD
47.	Steve Tractner	Steve Tractner	Webster, SD
48.	Matt Harmel	Matt Harmel	Watertown, SD
49.	John Tractner	John Tractner	Webster, SD
50.	Marty Harmel	Marty Harmel	Watertown, SD
51.	Logan Martin	Logan Martin	Sioux Falls, SD
52.	Matt Selover	Matt Selover	Baltic, SD
53.	Austin Hansen	Austin Hansen	Watertown, SD
54.	Jacob Killam	Jacob Killam	Sioux Falls, SD
55.	Tyler Valsky	Tyler Valsky	Watertown, SD
56.	Kris Konradi	Kris Konradi	Webster, SD
57.	Chris Wold	Chris Wold	Watertown, SD
58.	Ryan Briggs	Ryan Briggs	Wyn SD
59.	Tiffany Bindert	Tiffany Bindert	Clear Lake, SD
60.	MATTHEW BAUMGARDN	MATTHEW BAUMGARDN	Webster SD
61.	McGraw, Reed	Reed McGraw	Clark S.D.
62.	Jason Muller	Jason Muller	Mitchell, SD
63.	Austin Dutenhoeffer	Austin Dutenhoeffer	Gettysburg, SD
64.	Kurt Bies	Kurt Bies	Salem, SD
65.	Cody Becker	Cody Becker	Gretna, SD
66.	Guy Arnold	Guy Arnold	Hayti, SD
67.	Eric Lewis	Eric Lewis	Watertown, SD
68.	Patrick Brown	Patrick Brown	Watertown, SD
69.	JUST BRYANT	Just Bryant	Watertown, SD
70.	Philip Keller	Philip Keller	Watertown, SD
71.	Todd R. Wierjes	Todd R. Wierjes	Brookings, SD
72.	Cory W. Richardson	Cory W. Richardson	Mobridge, SD
73.	Joe Aldentuler	Joe Aldentuler	Watertown, SD
74.	Beth Rame	Beth Rame	Aberdeen SD
75.	Jamie Bachman	Jamie Bachman	Watertown SD
76.	Darin Kus	Darin Kus	Aberdeen SD
77.	Jason Bain	Jason Bain	Madison SD
			Brookings, SD



We the undersigned support increasing the minimum length limit to take muskellunge and northern-muskellunge in South Dakota from 40 inches, to a statewide catch-and-release.

This petition will be sent to the SDGFP Commission and will be made available to the public.

78.	Cory Ribenberg	CSA	Platte, SD
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Recipient: GFP Commision

Letter: Greetings,

Changing the South Dakota Muskellunge minimum from 40" to catch and release only.

# Signatures

Name	Location	Date
Brad Sheridan	Groton, SD	2018-02-18
Chelsey Sheridan	Groton, SD	2018-02-19
Randy Fetherhuff	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-19
Adam Ehrk	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-19
Marisa Sundermeyer	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-19
Nathan Miller	Houghton, SD	2018-02-19
McKensey Konold	Clear Lake, SD	2018-02-19
Tony Konold	Clear Lake, SD	2018-02-19
Brett Herman	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-19
Shelby Schleusner	Lake Lillian, MN	2018-02-19
Douglas Yockey	Conde, SD	2018-02-19
Brendan Letsche	Roslyn, SD	2018-02-19
Jared Gauer	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-19
Daniel Morrow	Riverfalls, WI	2018-02-19
Timothy Kaiser	Brookings, SD	2018-02-19
Jamie Hintz	Clear Lake, SD	2018-02-19
Bryan Olson	Clark, SD	2018-02-19
Eric Garrett	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-19
Alexius Gallagher	Montevideo, MN	2018-02-19
Forsting Forsting	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20



Name	Location	Date
Craig Kolb	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Kari Ehrk	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Merisa Weigel	Omaha, NE	2018-02-20
Daniel Lopez	Bismarck, ND	2018-02-20
Andrew Buller	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Leah Morrow	La Crosse, WI	2018-02-20
Jeremy Nelson	US	2018-02-20
Ann Sheridan Kolb	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Hannah Morrow	Minneapolis, MN	2018-02-20
Kyle Maple	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Eleanore Fontenelle	Searsmont, ME	2018-02-20
Karen Wolter	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Jennifer Grenier	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Kenzie Morrow	Eau Claire, WI	2018-02-20
Jacob Stauber	Chisago City, MN	2018-02-20
Brandee Buro	Lamoure, ND	2018-02-20
Sophia Lucas	New Richmond, WI	2018-02-20
Brady Lacher	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Jamie Rossow	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Sammantha Hoyles	Brookings, SD	2018-02-20
Sarah Breitag	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Cassandra Kaup	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20

Name	Location	Date
Rick Shea	Clear Lake, SD	2018-02-20
Katie Moulsoff	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Wendell Niewenhuis	aberdeeen, SD	2018-02-20
Grace Regan	Omaha, NE	2018-02-20
Stacy Lein	Saint Croix Falls, WI	2018-02-20
Nicole Jacobsen	Pierre, SD	2018-02-20
Brett Andrews	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Craig Oyler	Rapid City, SD	2018-02-20
Chad Schoffelman	Sioux Falls, SD	2018-02-20
Grant Gappa	Nicollet, MN	2018-02-20
Chris Daniels	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Eric Reisenweber	Sioux Falls, SD	2018-02-20
Robbi buller	Parker, SD	2018-02-20
Clint hay	Brookings, SD	2018-02-20
Daniel Morrison	Britton, SD	2018-02-20
Max Woodrich	Brookings, SD	2018-02-20
Alex Meland	US	2018-02-20
Kyle Pietig	Brandon, SD	2018-02-20
Tyler Wanttie	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Trevor Hanson	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Blair Andrews	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
ryan strugar	Perham, MN	2018-02-20

Name	Location	Date
Brady Will	Estelline, SD	2018-02-20
Cody Klein	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Karl Gaalaas	Grand Rapids, MN	2018-02-20
Bridget Nelson	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Justin Bailey	Keewatin, MN	2018-02-20
Ivan Hofer	Pella, IA	2018-02-20
Jeffrey Nelson	Parker, SD	2018-02-20
Michael Dallager	Watertown, SD	2018-02-20
Ann Sanger	Manchester, IA	2018-02-20
Riley Greenhoff	Sioux Falls, SD	2018-02-20
Chase Severson	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Jade Gauer	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Gabe Dutenhoeffer	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-20
Jessica Freeseaman	Minneapolis, MN	2018-02-20
Andy strugar	North st Paul, MN	2018-02-21
Nick Hickman	Minneapolis, MN	2018-02-21
Kory Kolb	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-21
James Havelaar	US	2018-02-21
Ella Harrison	US	2018-02-21
Abigail Mongan	US	2018-02-21
Ben Cunningham	Colorado Springs, CO	2018-02-21
Eric Weiszhaar	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-21

Name	Location	Date
Amanda McKnelly	Sioux Falls, SD	2018-02-21
Mike West	Saint Michael, MN	2018-02-21
Ms G	Newport News, VA	2018-02-21
Beau Baker	Sioux Falls, SD	2018-02-21
Mitch Hanson	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-21
Kylie Reiners	Papillion, NE	2018-02-22
Darcey Fetherhuff	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-22
Breanna Potter	Mandan, ND	2018-02-23
Tonya Howard	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-23
Justin Roemmick	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-24
Julie Lee	US	2018-02-24
Stephanie Schneider	US	2018-02-24
Laura Russell	US	2018-02-24
nick estes	US	2018-02-24
Evelyn Ortiz	US	2018-02-24
Hanna Wilson	US	2018-02-24
Michelle Smith	US	2018-02-24
Philip Guerin	US	2018-02-24
Carrie Eipper	US	2018-02-24
Scott Shelton	US	2018-02-24
Rene Farlow	US	2018-02-24
Jeremiah Holman	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-24

Name	Location	Date
Julie Malsom	Mina, SD	2018-02-24
Dennis Beusch	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-24
Miquette Morehouse	US	2018-02-24
David Beckler	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-24
carrie hammer	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-24
Mary Vance	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-24
Brittney Bushman	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-24
Joshua Cowan	Omaha, NE	2018-02-24
Kori Wieting	US	2018-02-24
Lisa Cavanaugh	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-24
Clinton Lauseng	Watertown, SD	2018-02-24
Jason Unruh	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-24
Jordan Kjellsen	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-24
Diane Bird	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-24
Kelly Sexton	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-24
Brad Blobaum	Mina SD, SD	2018-02-24
Cheryl Carlson	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-24
Steven Hamman	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-24
Renee Berger	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-24
Toni Cady	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-25
Barb Miller	Houghton, SD	2018-02-25
Kari Maple	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-25

Name	Location	Date
Myron Haar	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-25
Patty Johnson	Frederick, SD	2018-02-25
Dennis Chasteen	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-25
mary Arndt	Aberdeen, SD	2018-02-25
Haydn Herman	Miller, SD	2018-02-25
Michael Schwingler	Wessington, SD	2018-02-25