

# S.D. fishing regulations update

## Plus, news on N.D. archery licenses

Some of the best fishing available in this region occurs in the northeastern corner of South Dakota, an area commonly referred to as the Glacial Lakes region. For those willing to explore and learn some of the waters in that region the reward is some excellent fishing action on walleyes, northern pike, large and smallmouth bass and panfish. Before you go, be aware that some fishing regulation changes went into effect on Jan. 1.

The 14-inch minimum length for walleyes on Waubay Lake and Lake Kampeska has been eliminated and the daily limit on Waubay Lake has increased from two to four walleyes per day. Other lakes, such as Mitchell, Enemy Swim, Pickerel, Bitter, Roy, Shadehill, Angostura and Poinsett also have a four walleye per day limit with a 15-inch minimum length restriction.

The bass fishing on some of the lakes listed above can be phenomenal, especially for smallies, my favorite freshwater fish. I make several trips a year to tangle with the smallmouth bass and it's always catch and release. That's why I cringe a bit at a regulation change that increases the daily bag limit from three to five bass. The protected slot of 14 to 18 inches with only one

## VIEW FROM THE DAKOTAS



BY CURT WELLS

of these licenses. The any-deer tags are also valid for either sex as well as either species of deer, mulies or whitetails.

The number of these any-deer licenses available is determined by taking 15 percent of the number of mule deer licenses issued during the previous year's gun season. There were 8,700 mule deer licenses issued in 2009.

These licenses will go on sale beginning March 1. However, nonresidents will want to get their application in before that date. That's because if more than 1,305 applications are received by March 1 there will be a lottery. If there are licenses left over the remainder will go on sale on a first-come, first-served basis. There have been licenses left over after March 1 over the past few years but it doesn't pay to gamble and wait. It is possible to apply as a party and the cost is \$200. Applications can be downloaded online at [gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov) or you can call (701) 328-6300 and request an application.

Nonresident bowhunters who don't plan to hunt mule deer can purchase an either-sex whitetail license over-the-counter for the same cost.



**BEST BUCK ENTRY.** John Wawack, of Blaine, arrowed this 9-point nontypical buck while hunting in Burleigh County in North Dakota last November. The rack had a 21-inch inside spread.

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8TH ANNUAL! **Big Lake Area Jaycees** 8TH ANNUAL!

## Ice Fishing Contest

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH, 2010 NOON-3PM

At Lakeside Park in Big Lake

Prizes given away for largest fish in several categories!

\$5.00 Raffle Tickets on sale for even more prizes!

Bring the Family! Kids/Adult Contests!

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