

## North Dakota Fishing Contest Directives

As directed and authorized by North Dakota Century Code (NDCC 20.1-02-04.20), the North Dakota Game and Fish Department is to adopt rules and issue permits for conducting fishing contests (tournaments).

*NDCC 20.1-02-04.20*

**20. Adopt rules and issue permits for conducting fishing contests involving public waters of the state. The director by rule shall define the term "fishing contest" and shall set criteria for which a fishing contest permit is required. The director may deny permits. No person may conduct a fishing contest on public waters without first receiving a permit issued by the director.**

To address HB 1538, the following could be added to NDCC 20.1-02-04.20

***Payback requirements and procedures, as stated in fishing contest rules (30-03-05-03), do not apply to the following:***

- 1. Organized youth fishing events. (Needs to be better defined in new admin rules)***
- 2. Nonprofit veterans, charitable, education, religious, and fraternal organizations, civic and service clubs, and public-spirited organizations, as those organizations are defined in North Dakota Century Code chapter 53-06.1, if entry or participation fees generated from the contest are not greater than \$4000.***

***For all other fishing contests, a minimum of five percent of the gross proceeds from entry or participation fees to be paid as a conservation fee. Conservation fees must be expended on fishery conservation projects (including youth fishing or education events) or for providing public access to fishing areas.***