

WHAT MAKES LAKE SHARPE SPECIAL

From 2005-2015, Lake Sharpe supported between 26,321 and 97,339 angler days annually and generated between \$1.8 and 6.2 million in direct economic input to the local and regional economies (based on a value of \$77 per angler trip). The Lake is an important resource in South Dakota and its habitat and fisheries assemblage must be managed to enhance its value to various user groups. Lake Sharpe is special because it sustains high angling pressure and continues to be a consistent producer of high quality walleye populations. Anglers can catch a variety of species from rainbow trout in the tail waters to panfish and smallmouth bass in the backwaters. White bass and channel catfish are an abundant yet underutilized resource and the walleye fishery is exceptional. The extensive state park system along the lake provides excellent opportunities for camping, hiking and fishing.



To obtain more information visit: gfp.sd.gov

You can also speak directly to fisheries managers at the Ft. Pierre GFP Office:
20641 SD Hwy 1806
Ft. Pierre, South Dakota
Phone: 605.223.7700
Email: WildInfo@state.sd.us

Plans can be found at:
gfp.sd.gov/fishing-boating/tacklebox

Learn about aquatic invasive species at:
SDLeastWanted.com



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FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR LAKE SHARPE 2017 - 2021

Lake Sharpe and its fisheries are part of a reservoir system which supports 40% of the angler use in South Dakota. Strategic planning is required to allocate use of resources to provide recreational opportunities that meet user expectations now and into the future. Plans for the management of these resources are fundamental to their sustained and equitable use. This plan identifies current issues related to fisheries management of Lake Sharpe and objectives to address these issues. Fisheries management strategies are outlined to accomplish specific objectives.

MAJOR ISSUES IDENTIFIED FOR LAKE FRANCIS CASE:

- Shoreline and boat access can be limited due to a variety of factors.
- Habitat quantity and/or quality may negatively impact anglers and fish populations.
- Many knowledge gaps exist for fish population and community dynamics.
- Long term impacts of aquatic invasive species are not well understood.
- User group conflicts exist.
- New and established aquatic invasive species could potentially impact the fishery and recreational opportunities.
- Challenges of public and government interactions.

OBJECTIVES ADDRESSING SOME OF THESE ISSUES INCLUDE:

- Increase shore fishing opportunities at two locations on Lake Sharpe.
- Improve boat access at two locations along Lake Sharpe.
- Improve connectivity of Hipple Lake with the main channel of Lake Sharpe to benefit fish populations and improve boat access.
- Conduct six research studies on critical sport- and prey-fish on Lake Sharpe.
- Increase knowledge of status of native species in Lake Sharpe, its tributaries, and intermittent streams.

STRATEGIES TO ACCOMPLISH THESE OBJECTIVES INCLUDE:

- Work with the Parks Division, the USACE, local municipalities, and anglers to identify priority areas, with specific consideration for locations downstream of Ft. George, for access development and improvement based on potential use and feasibility.
- Develop designs to rebuild or renovate boat access sites at Ft. George, DeGrey, Antelope Creek and/or Cedar Creek.
- Work with engineers to determine the feasibility, including cost estimates, of options to improve connectivity and boat access from Hipple Lake to the main channel of Lake Sharpe.
- Determine appropriate sampling effort and methods for Lake Sharpe sport- and prey-fish based on Lake Sharpe's reservoir characteristics, management needs and fishery potential.
- Evaluate current and future habitat enhancement projects on their impacts to fish and anglers.
- Work with USF&WS to conduct native species surveys and determine native species presence and status in Lake Sharpe.

