

**Brent Belland**  
Fisheries Technician  
Fisheries Division  
North Dakota Game and Fish Department



Hello. My name is Brent Belland. I grew up on the family farm south of New England, North Dakota. Growing up on the farm taught me respect for the outdoors and a keen work ethic (to get things done and do them right). After graduating from New England High School in 2000, I attained an Associate Degree of Science in 2002 at Minot State University Bottineau (with an emphasis on Fish and Wildlife Management). I attained a Bachelor of Science in Biology at Dickinson State University in the fall of 2003 while working as a Seasonal Fisheries Aide for the South West District office of the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, in Dickinson. I worked as a Fisheries Aide from spring 2002 to winter 2004 when I was hired full-time as a Fisheries Technician for the Dickinson Game and Fish Department.

As a Fisheries Technician I assist in the fishery management of the reservoirs in south western North Dakota. Spring starts off with yellow perch and bluegill trapping and transporting, as-well-as the beginning of rough fish removal projects, organization of treatment for frame and block netting material, and spring fish-hauling. Summer consists of standard adult population sampling, rough fish removal, electro-fishing, and the completion of fish hauling. Fall is spent completing reproduction sampling, winterizing equipment, and aiding in lake facilities development work. The winter is spent attending meetings and writing reports, repairing nets, performing mid winter water quality assessments, snow removal (some years), and assisting with special projects for other departments.

I enjoy my job very much. The opportunity to do something that impacts the outdoors and people is very fulfilling. Every day brings something new and exciting, from the places I get to go, to what might be brought up in the nets, to the variety of nature (native or not) I see. I work with a great bunch of people and I am proud to work for the North Dakota Game and Fish Department.