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Howdy from the shore of beautiful Louis L'Amour Lake.

I was raised on a farm at Plaza in west central North Dakota. I witnessed the filling of Garrison Reservoir and experienced the first phenomenal northern pike and walleye fishing at Van Hook and Parshall Bay. My formal education occurred at the University of North Dakota with degrees earned in 1971 (BS – Fisheries and Wildlife Management) and 1974 (MS – Biology/fisheries emphasis).

My association with the Game and Fish Department started in 1970 as a seasonal employee at Dickinson. From 1972 to 1976, Game and Fish grants funded my education and research on channel catfish in the Little Missouri River, survey of the State's bait fish industry and publication of a handbook for bait vendors. I was hired as Southeast district fisheries manager in 1976 and lived in Jamestown ever since.

My work experience has ranged from artificial fish habitat to zander. The most challenging has been managing fisheries through floods and drought. I frequently say, "I've seen it all," when referring to extremes in water quantity in shallow prairie lakes.

A short historical note about me and my involvement with the Sportfishing Congress (SFC) is in order. I may be the only current fisheries biologist that was at the first meeting in East Grand Forks when Marlin Hvinden and Dale Henegar launched SFC. I helped organize, host and presented at the second SFC event held in Jamestown. Where have I been the last three decades you ask? Well, those were pretty rugged times in North Dakota biopolitics. Despite my youthful naiveté, I recognized these hazards and drifted away but only for while. I'm back and if you wish to chat about contemporary issues in the southeast, just call, click or stop by our office north of town on the east side of Jamestown Reservoir.