

**Jeff Hendrickson**

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Hello and Happy New Year from the banana belt. I was born and raised in Devils Lake. After high school I spent three years in the U. S. Army. I then graduated with a B.S. in Fisheries and Wildlife Biology from UND followed by a M.S. in Zoology from NDSU. My masters' work was on the 'Effects of salinity on the reproduction of fishes in Devils Lake'.

After college, I worked for two years on the Garrison Diversion Unit waters for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Bismarck. In 1991, I began working for the Game and Fish Department as the Missouri River System Biologist in Riverdale. Working on the Missouri River System for 16 years was probably the most interesting jobs I ever had and at times, was the most rewarding. In March of 2007 I transferred to the Dickinson office as the Southwest District Fisheries Supervisor. I have always really liked the Dickinson area so when Emil Berard retired I had to make the move.

The job involves a lot of time on lakes and in the Southwest District I have the pleasure of working in the Badlands at least some of the time. This district is in the more 'dry' portion of North Dakota and is comprised almost totally of reservoirs. The fisheries are fairly dynamic and require constant management to maintain viable fisheries. A lot of time is spent trap and transporting perch and bluegills, stocking trout, pike and walleye, and trying to manage around carp and bullhead. The people in the Southwest are great and the country is beautiful, which make working here a real pleasure. As if 'fishing' every day (and getting paid for it) wasn't pleasure enough!

