

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 29, 2020

Governor Burgum Proclaims July, Lakes Appreciation Month

BISMARCK, N.D. – Governor Doug Burgum has proclaimed July Lakes Appreciation Month in North Dakota. When thinking of North Dakota, images of the Badlands, wheat and corn fields, and even oil wells will most likely pop into your mind before lakes. However, you may be surprised to learn that North Dakota has about 4,500 lakes. Of that number, 450 lakes have public access and some degree of oversight.

North Dakota lakes are desirable destinations for boating, fishing, camping and swimming. Lake festivities in the summer and fishing derbies in both summer and winter attract in-state and out-of-state recreational enthusiasts alike.

Most state residents get their drinking water from groundwater or river sources. However, about 67,000 North Dakotans depend on a lake for their source of drinking water.

As you venture out to your favorite lake for a fishing trip, a weekend of camping or just a leisurely boat ride, remember it depends on you to help keep the shorelines clean and the water Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) free. Most importantly...If You Pack It In...Pack It Out!

To help celebrate Lakes Appreciation Month, consider leading or taking part in activities such as:

- Organizing a lake cleanup project
- Organizing a biking or hiking event at a local lake
- Helping organize a local lake festival

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NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION ===

LAKES APPRECIATION MONTH JULY 2020

WHEREAS, North Dakota is home to many scenic lakes and reservoirs that include one of the country's premier destination fisheries — Devils Lake with abundant perch and walleye — and more than 400 bodies of water to fish in from every corner of the state; and

WHEREAS, July marks a time for North Dakota citizens to celebrate their appreciation for the benefits lakes provide; and

WHEREAS, lakes are an integral part of North Dakota's way of life and the state's environment; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota's lakes support healthy, outdoor activity and contribute to healthy, vibrant communities across the state; and

WHEREAS, lakes are sources of recreation, scenic beauty and habitats for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota's lakes are a valuable economic resource for businesses, the tourism industry and municipalities; and

WHEREAS, many volunteers and local organizations have demonstrated the importance of protecting the quality of North Dakota's lakes by actively monitoring their health.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim July 2020, LAKES APPRECIATION MONTH in the State of North Dakota.

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Doug Burgum GOVERNOR

Alvin A. Jaeger SECRETARY OF STATE