

NEWS | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | July 6, 2021

Governor Burgum proclaims July Lakes Appreciation Month

BISMARCK, N.D. – Governor Doug Burgum has proclaimed July Lakes Appreciation Month in North Dakota. North Dakota invokes images of the Badlands, wheatfields, and even oil wells. People certainly think of the Missouri River and the recreational opportunities it provides. Still, they may be surprised to learn that North Dakota has about 4,500 lakes—of which 450 are accessible to the public.

North Dakota lakes are desirable destinations for boating, fishing, camping, and swimming. Lake festivities in the summer and fishing derbies 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 as 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 keep it Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) free. Rinse your watercraft thoroughly before and after entering any body of water. Also, you can keep the shorelines clean by “Packing Out what you Pack In.”

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

- Organizing a lake cleanup project
- Hosting a biking or hiking event at a local lake
- Helping to facilitate a local lake festival

Enjoy your time on North Dakota’s waters!

Attached: Governor’s Proclamation

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STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

LAKES APPRECIATION MONTH

JULY 2021

WHEREAS, North Dakota is home to more than 400 bodies of water in every corner of the state including many local lakes and reservoirs that provide readily accessible fishing and water recreation opportunities; 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

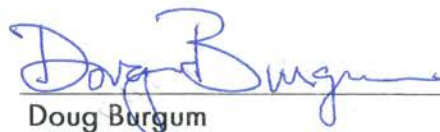
WHEREAS, lakes are sources of recreation, scenic beauty and habitats for wildlife; and

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 2021, LAKES APPRECIATION MONTH in the State of North Dakota.




Doug Burgum
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: 
Alvin A. Jaeger
SECRETARY OF STATE