

## Fishing Contest (Tournament) Update

There are four (broadly framed) groups who are affected or have expressed an interest in North Dakota fishing tournaments ... and the fishery conservation fee of 10% minimum

### *Support the current 10% minimum*

- 1) **North Dakota non-tournament resident licensed anglers** (currently there are about 145,000 resident licensed anglers in North Dakota) - overwhelmingly support (92%) the 10% minimum conservation fee with no exceptions\*

*\*(Results based on responses from 1468 individuals )*

- 2) **North Dakota resident tournament participants** (collectively represent about 15,000 (~10%) of all licensed anglers)- support (68%) the 10% minimum conservation fee with no exceptions\*

*\*(Results based on responses from 1468 individuals )*

- 3) **North Dakota tournament sponsors** - support (58%) the 10% minimum conservation fee with no exceptions\*

*\*(Results based on responses from ~60 of the 130 surveys sent (~ 45% response rate); because many sponsor names were voluntarily included when surveys were returned, it was noted that most of the 'bigger' tournament sponsors provided responses)*

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### *Seek a reduction in the 10% minimum fee or reinstatement of the \$5000 (\$7500?) maximum exemption*

- 4) A few from the **CVB/Tourism community and a small group of avid/(professional?) tournament anglers** - support a reduction in the 10% minimum conservation fee or reinstatement of the \$5000 (or perhaps \$7500) maximum cap

#### *Possible actions to address issue –*

- *Game and Fish could readdress the matter and adjust admin rules*
  - *Likely not to occur given strong support expressed by three groups noted on the previous slide*
- *Commerce/Tourism could create and implement a small grant program to subsidize select (or all) tournaments by paying some/all their fisheries conservation fees*