

Great Lakes Region

Today's Missouri River is far from the muddy, winding waterway Lewis and Clark traveled some 200 years ago. Four massive dams, completed in the early 1960s, mitigated the river and created more than 900 square miles of open water and 3,000 miles of shoreline. In addition, the dams created a world-class freshwater fishery.

If large waters intimidate you, a trip to a prairie stock dam may be more to your liking. From one to 100 acres, these small ponds were built to water livestock and conserve soil and water. Stock dams can be easily fished from shore or with the aid of a small boat, canoe or float tube.

Great Lakes

Most Fished Species: Walleye, sauger, northern pike, channel catfish, white bass, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, Chinook salmon, tiger muskie and a variety of panfish

Popular Waters: Lake Oahe, Lake Sharpe, Lake Francis Case and Lewis and Clark Lake (Missouri River reservoirs)

Fishing Techniques

Walleye are the most abundant and popular fish in the four Missouri River reservoirs. River anglers fish depths from 5 to 20 feet using jigs and minnows in the spring and night crawler-spinner combinations and crankbaits in the summer. Reservoir anglers use similar baits, but spring fishing depths range to 25 feet. Summer depths may extend to 45 feet or more.

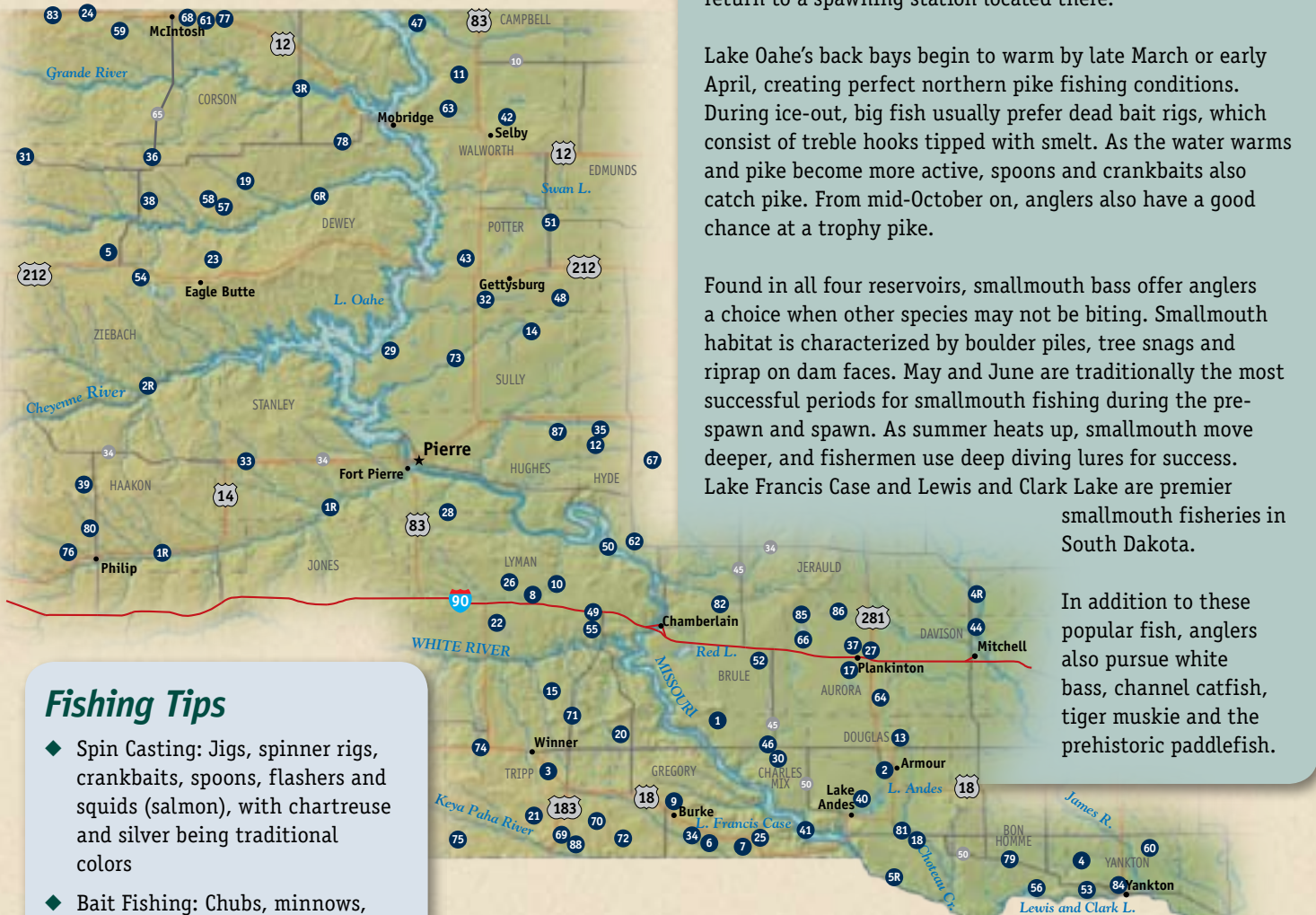
For Lake Oahe Chinook salmon, spring and summer fishing depths range from 50 to more than 100 feet. Most salmon fishing is done with the aid of downriggers or side planers. Flashers, squids, deep diving plugs and crankbaits work well with chartreuse and silver being predominant colors. The best salmon lures imitate rainbow smelt, salmon's primary prey. Anglers catch the majority of salmon in an area from the face of Oahe Dam northward to the Cheyenne River.

During the fall, salmon move into the shallows to spawn and can be caught by casting from shore with spoons and crankbaits. Spawning salmon can be caught in most creeks from the face of the dam to the North Dakota border. The Whitlock Bay area, near Gettysburg, is especially good since salmon return to a spawning station located there.

Lake Oahe's back bays begin to warm by late March or early April, creating perfect northern pike fishing conditions. During ice-out, big fish usually prefer dead bait rigs, which consist of treble hooks tipped with smelt. As the water warms and pike become more active, spoons and crankbaits also catch pike. From mid-October on, anglers also have a good chance at a trophy pike.

Found in all four reservoirs, smallmouth bass offer anglers a choice when other species may not be biting. Smallmouth habitat is characterized by boulder piles, tree snags and riprap on dam faces. May and June are traditionally the most successful periods for smallmouth fishing during the pre-spawn and spawn. As summer heats up, smallmouth move deeper, and fishermen use deep diving lures for success. Lake Francis Case and Lewis and Clark Lake are premier smallmouth fisheries in South Dakota.

In addition to these popular fish, anglers also pursue white bass, channel catfish, tiger muskie and the prehistoric paddlefish.



Fishing Tips

- ◆ Spin Casting: Jigs, spinner rigs, crankbaits, spoons, flashers and squids (salmon), with chartreuse and silver being traditional colors
- ◆ Bait Fishing: Chubs, minnows, night crawlers, leeches and smelt

Prairie Areas of the Great Lakes

Most Fished Species: Largemouth bass, bluegill, perch, northern pike, bullhead and crappie

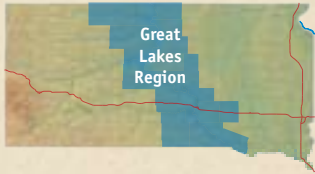
Popular Waters: Little Moreau Recreation Area, Lake Isabel, National Grasslands stock dams, Brakke Dam, Cheyenne River, Lake Pocasse, Molstad Lake, Cottonwood Lake, Burke Lake and Lake Yankton

Fishing Tips

- ◆ Spin Casting: Spinners, crankbaits, jerkbaits, spinnerbaits, spoons and lead-head jigs
- ◆ Bait Fishing: Crayfish, night crawlers, frogs, wigglers, leeches and minnows

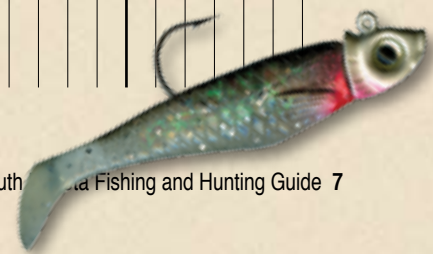
Fishing Techniques

For panfish, most anglers rely on small teardrop hooks tipped with wigglers or worms. Spinners and small spoons work on panfish, while larger versions of these lures attract feeding pike. Fly fishing anglers have luck with panfish species by casting small poppers to top-feeding fish and using wet flies to drop into fish-feeding zones. Largemouth bass anglers use a variety of lures including plastic worms in various colors, jerkbaits, crankbaits and the popular pork rind.



Lakes and Reservoirs	Map Number	Acreage	Warmwater Species										Coldwater Species					Facilities										
			Largemouth Bass	Smallmouth Bass	White Bass	Bluegill	Bullhead	Catfish	Crappie	Muskie	Northern Pike	Perch	Sauger	Saugeye	Tiger Muskie	Walleye	Chinook Salmon	Brook Trout	Brown Trout	Cutthroat Trout	Lake Trout	Rainbow Trout	Camping	Toilet	Boat Ramp	Dock	Fish Cleaning	Handicap Access
Academy Lake	1	25	■			■																						
Armour (Kids Pond)	2	2	■			■																						
Beaulieu Lake	3	26	■			■																			■	■		
Beaver Lake	4	72	■			■																						
Bedner Dam	5	75	■			■																						
Berry Lake	6	12	■			■	■																					
Bonesteel Dam	7	5	■			■	■																					
Brakke Dam	8	130	■			■	■																		■	■	■	
Burke Lake	9	27	■			■	■																					
Byre Lake	10	138	■			■	■																					
Campbell Lake	11	40	■			■	■																					
Chapelle Lake	12	34	■			■	■																					
Corsica Lake	13	110	■			■	■																					
Cottonwood Lake	14	454	■			■	■																					
Covey Dam	15	10	■			■	■																					
Crow Lake	16	540	■			■	■																					
Crystal Lake	17	200	■			■	■																					
Dante Lake	18	25	■			■	■																					
Dewberry Dam	19	65	■			■	■																					
Dixon Dam	20	92	■			■	■																					
Dog Ear Lake	21	254	■			■	■																					
Dybing Dam	22	4	■			■	■																					
Eagle Butte Dam	23	85	■			■	■																					
East Morristown Lake	24	96	■			■	■																					
Fairfax Lake	25	21	■			■	■																					
Fate Dam	26	150	■			■	■																					
Fish Lake	27	175	■			■	■																					
Fort Pierre National Grassland Ponds	28	-	■			■	■																					
Fuller Dam	29	30	■			■	■																					
Geddes Lake	30	70	■			■	■																					
Glad Valley Dam	31	21	■			■	■																					
Gorman Lake	32	67	■			■	■																					
Hayes Lake	33	74	■			■	■																					
Herrick Dam	34	12	■			■	■																					
Holabird Lake	35	20	■			■	■																					
Isabel Lake	36	81	■			■	■																					
Jail Pond (Kids Pond)	37	.5	■			■	■																					
Jewett Lake	38	30	■			■	■																					
* Kroetch Dam	39	17	■			■	■																					
Lake Andes	40	4,817	■			■	■																					

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Lakes and Reservoirs	Map Number	Acreage	Warmwater Species												Coldwater Species					Facilities												
			Largemouth Bass	Smallmouth Bass	White Bass	Bullhead	Bullhead	Catfish	Carp	Muskie	Northern Pike	Perch	Sauger	Sauger	Sturgeon	Tiger Muskie	Walleye	Chinook Salmon	Brown Trout	Cutthroat Trout	Lake Trout	Rainbow Trout	Camping	Boat Ramp	Toilet	Dock	Fish Cleaning	Handicap Access				
Lake Francis Case	41	100,000	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Lake Hiddenwood	42	28	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Lake Hurley	43	75	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Lake Mitchell	44	670	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Lake Oahe	45	265,000	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Lake Platte	46	100	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Lake Pocasse	47	1,800	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Lake Potts	48	26	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Lake Reliance	49	46	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Lake Sharpe	50	55,000	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Lake Simon	51	41	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Lake Sixteen	52	8	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Lake Yankton	53	250	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Lantry Dam	54	80	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Larson Dam	55	3	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Lewis and Clark Lake	56	29,000	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Little Moreau Dam(#1)	57	36	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Little Moreau Dam(#2)	58	8	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Mallard Lake	59	60	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Marindahl Lake	60	139	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
McGee Lake	61	35	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Mission Lake	62	58	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Molstad Lake	63	100	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
New Stickney Lake	64	24	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
* Ottumwa Lake	65	35	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Patton Dam	66	5	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Peno Lake	67	48	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Pudwell Dam	68	112	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Rahn Dam	69	26	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Roosevelt Lake	70	65	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Snow Dam	71	76	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Star Lake	72	9	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Sully Lake	73	200	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Sully Lake	74	92	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Sundahl Dam	75	15	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
* Sunshine Dam	76	10	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Tatanka Lake	77	27	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Trail City Dam	78	80	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Tyndall (Kids Pond)	79	2	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Waggoner Lake	80	98	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Wagner Lake (Kids Pond)	81	8	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Wells Lake	82	7	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
West Morristown Lake	83	110	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Westside (Kids Pond)	84	1	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
White Lake	85	2,300	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Wilmarth Lake	86	100	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Woodruff Dam	87	110	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Woolheizer Dam	88	10	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Rivers and Streams			Total miles																													
Bad River	1R	138	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
Cheyenne River	2R	288	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
Grand River	3R	144	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
James River	4R	307	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
* Missouri River	5R	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
Moreau River	6R	289	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				

* See L. Oahe, L. Sharpe, L. Francis Case and Lewis & Clark L. listings.

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