



## North Dakota Game and Fish

### Operation Dry Water: Heightened Boating Enforcement July 3-5

As boating traffic increases over the Fourth of July weekend, North Dakota Game and Fish Department, along with other law enforcement agencies, will increase on-the-water patrols and enforcement as part of Operation Dry Water, a national campaign focused on preventing boating under the influence. From July 3-5, officers will take part in the initiative in partnership with the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Alcohol use remains the leading contributing factor in recreational boating fatalities. As part of Operation Dry Water, Game and Fish will focus on public education, compliance checks, and enforcement efforts designed to identify

and remove impaired vessel operators from the water. Boaters can expect an increased law enforcement presence, including targeted patrols and sobriety checks in high-traffic areas.

"The Fourth of July weekend is one of the busiest times of the year on the water," said Jackie Lundstrom, Department enforcement operation supervisor, "Boating under the influence is completely preventable, and it puts everyone at risk. Our wardens will be actively enforcing BUI laws to help ensure a safe holiday weekend for all waterway users."

Regardless of whether you are operating a vessel or riding as a passenger, alcohol- or drug-impaired boating increases the risk of incidents, injuries and fatalities. In

North Dakota, it is illegal to operate a vessel with a blood alcohol concentration of .08% or higher. The department urges boaters to always boat sober and utilize a life jacket when on or near water.

Visit [operationdrywater.org](http://operationdrywater.org) or [gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov) for more information about safe boating.



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### Deer Lottery Held, Licenses Remain

North Dakota's deer gun lottery has been held. More than 72,000 individuals applied for a deer gun lottery license, in addition to over 12,000 gratis applicants. The 2026 deer gun proclamation allowed for 39,100 deer gun season licenses.

More than 1,200 licenses remain. Only resident applicants who were unsuccessful in the lottery can apply online for remaining licenses beginning July 1, with a deadline of July 15.

Licenses will be mailed to successful applicants in early August.

#### Remaining Deer Gun Licenses:

Unit	Type	Available
3A1	Any antlerless	234
3A2	Any antlerless	129
3F1	Any antlerless	101
3F1	Antlerless white-tail	151
3F2	Any antlerless	478
3F2	Antlerless white-tail	151

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