



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Iowa DNR News

Conservation and Recreation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 5, 2023

- [Lake Restoration Program draft 2023 report and 2024 plan available for public comment](#)
- [2024 hunting, fishing licenses on sale Dec. 15](#)
- [Missouri and Big Sioux River paddlefish license on sale Dec. 15](#)

Lake Restoration Program draft 2023 report and 2024 plan available for public comment

DES MOINES - The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Lake Restoration Program is accepting comments on the newly released draft 2023 Lake Restoration Report and 2024 Plan, beginning Dec. 11.

The report is available for review at: <https://www.iowadnr.gov/Environmental-Protection/Water-Quality/Lake-Restoration>. It highlights restoration projects completed around the state in State Fiscal Year 2023 and outlines plans for upcoming restoration projects.

The Lake Restoration Program works with communities and stakeholders across Iowa to improve water quality and recreational opportunities at publicly-owned lakes. Since the program's creation in 2006, the Iowa legislature has invested over \$147 million in the lake restoration program. To date, DNR and project partners have invested in lake improvement projects at 65 lakes in 47 counties.

Since 2006, 40 shallow lake/wetlands projects have also been completed, improving more than 14,000 wetland acres. The program maintains a list of publicly-owned lakes and shallow lakes/wetlands prioritized for restoration.

Major projects completed in 2023 include a \$6.8 million investment to dredge at Black Hawk Lake (Sac County) and a \$1.7 million program investment at Lake Ahquabi (Warren County). Major projects planned for 2024 include watershed and in-lake restoration work at Casey Lake, located in Hickory Hills County Park (Black Hawk County), and dredging at Three Mile Lake (Union County). Additionally, several large-scale shallow lake/wetland restoration projects are underway, including projects at Eagle Lake (Hancock County), Pleasant Lake and Lily Lake (both in Dickinson County).

The DNR is accepting comments from Dec. 11 to 18. Comments may be submitted via email to George.antoniou@dnr.iowa.gov or sent via mail to George Antoniou, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Wallace State Office Building, 502 East Ninth Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034.

Media Contact: George Antoniou, Iowa Department of Natural Resources Lake Restoration Program Coordinator, 515-201-6775
or George.antoniou@dnr.iowa.gov.

2024 hunting, fishing licenses on sale Dec. 15

Iowans can buy 2024 resident hunting, fishing and other licenses on Dec. 15. Licenses purchased for 2023 expire on Jan. 10.

The menu of license options includes the popular Outdoor Combo annual resident hunting/fishing/habitat combo license for \$55; the Angler's Special three-year fishing license for \$62; and the Hunter's Special three-year hunting license with habitat included for \$101.

Also available is the Bonus Line option for \$14 letting resident and nonresident anglers to fish with one more line in addition to the two lines allowed with the regular fishing license.

Upgrade your paper license to a durable hard card with custom art from Iowa artists for only \$6.

Download the GoOutdoorsIowa mobile app for iPhone and Android devices to buy and access your license information, no matter where you are. Sync your hunting and fishing licenses on the app to show in the field. You may download multiple customer licenses to offer one secure digital license document location for families, groups, and more.

Licenses are available at 650 locations across the state, and on the DNR website at www.iowadnr.gov/GoOutdoorsIowa.

Hunting and fishing are often enjoyed with family and friends. A fishing or hunting license makes a great stocking stuffer.

Missouri and Big Sioux River paddlefish license on sale Dec. 15

Iowa anglers can buy the Missouri and Big Sioux River paddlefish license and tags starting Dec. 15 through Jan. 7.

Buy your special paddlefish license and tags on the Iowa DNR online licenses sales website at <https://gooutdoorsiowa.com>. A resident license sells for \$25.50 and a nonresident license is \$49. You must also have a valid Iowa fishing license.

You can buy up to two tags – one from Dec. 15 to Dec. 31 and an additional tag from Jan. 1 to Jan. 7, or two tags if you didn't buy one in December. A limited number of paddlefish licenses are available - 950 resident and 50 nonresident.

The license, harvest tag(s), and regulations will be mailed to purchasers in mid-January. Purchasers will be asked to complete an electronic survey to help the Iowa DNR evaluate the success of the paddlefish season. Please complete the survey whether you harvested a paddlefish or not. The Iowa DNR is always working to improve the paddlefish season for anglers; any input provided is considered and is greatly appreciated.

The Missouri and Big Sioux River paddlefish season opens Feb. 1 and runs through April 30.

For more information about Iowa's special paddlefish season, visit the DNR website at www.iowadnr.gov/paddlefish - click on Missouri River Paddlefish Season and Regulations.

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