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Current topics and issues affecting outdoor recreation in our State. Prepared by the North Dakota Chapter, The Wildlife Society, and the North Dakota Wildlife Federation.

Conservation Notes #19, October 2017

Women in the Outdoors

Women make up more than 51% of our population, yet they are a small minority, about 10 percent of our state's hunters and anglers. Increasing women participation in our great outdoors is good for our State economy and maintaining our States quality of life. Both the North Dakota Game and Fish Department's Becoming and Outdoors-Woman (BOW), and the Parks and Recreation Department's Wild Outdoor Woman(WOW) programs are directed at introducing women into outdoor pursuits such as hunting, fishing, canoeing, camping, outdoor photography, and other related activities. These two programs provide an excellent opportunity to recruit women into outdoor activities while promoting the wise use of our natural resources, family outdoor recreation, and the unique outdoor heritage of North Dakota.

But the Department's programs are small in size and scope and don't provide nearly enough opportunity to introduce and engage a significant number of women of all ages in outdoor recreation.

Therefore the North Dakota Game and Fish and Parks and Recreation Departments need to continue to work together to expand programs catered to women in North Dakota's great outdoors supporting our economy and quality of life.

For more information on this message or other conservation topics, contact: Mike McEnroe, Past President, North Dakota Wildlife Federation, (memcenroe@bis.midco.net) or Rick Nelson, President, North Dakota Chapter, The Wildlife Society, (bluebill@bis.midco.net). For a complete list of Conservation Notes visit (www.ndctws.wordpress.com)

