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

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Outdoor Recreation Is Important To Our Economy!

Outdoor recreation is an important economic driver for the State and strengthens our economy by diversification from the fluctuations of commodity based business. Billions of dollars per year are generated in the State for these activities. We have had the luxury of an abundance of outdoor resource opportunities in the past, thus it is an important heritage for our citizens. The list of users includes hunters and fishermen, campers and hikers, bird watchers and photographers, skiers and snowshoers, boaters and kayakers, mountain bikers and horseback riders, trappers, and the list goes on and on. But we are losing wildlife habitat and clean water needed to maintain these activities. Therefore it is our responsibility to recognize the importance of outdoor recreation to the State citizens and economy, and plan to sustain it in the future.

For more information on this message or other conservation topics, contact: Mike McEnroe, President, North Dakota Wildlife Federation, (memcenroe@bis.midco.net) or Rick Nelson, President elect, North Dakota Chapter, The Wildlife Society, (bluebill@bis.midco.net).