



COURTESY DYLAN PATTERSON

A 48-inch Muskellunge caught on Lake No. 20 at the Fremont Lakes State Recreation Area.



COLLIN SPILINEK, FREMONT TRIBUNE

The Fremont Lakes State Recreation Area provides for public fishing at 20 lakes along the Platte River.

During the wintertime, the lakes also provide an area for ice fishing. But Bauer said it's important to remember that the sand-pits still have groundwater flow and that the ice can be thinner in areas like the west end.

"That's where the groundwater flow is coming from," he said. "So certainly you can ice fish in those waters, but just make sure of the ice conditions, make sure it's safe."

The Nebraska Game and Parks has a website at [outdoornebraska.gov/fishing](http://outdoornebraska.gov/fishing), which has information available for fishers of all skill levels.

"If they're beginners, there's some resources on our webpage that'll give you an idea of gear, species of fish, good locations to look for, good baits to use, all of

that," Bauer said. "It just depends on the species of fish that you're fishing for and the time of year."

The website also includes information on a map of family-friendly fishing waters in the state, Bauer said.

"You can also see our fishing guide, which lists the rules and regulations every year, and then we have a fishing forecast we produce every year, too," he said. "So you can look at that and get an idea of what some of the best spots to fish this year are going to be."

Fishers can also find fishing limits, which Bauer said depends on the type of fish. For example, he said fishers won't have to worry about length limits on smaller fish like bluegill.

"You've just got to worry about



TRIBUNE FILES

An angler puts his boat in the water on Victory Lake at Fremont Lakes State Recreation Area.

daily bag limits and things like that," he said. "But with large-mouth bass, you will have to have something to measure the fish, because we do have length limits on them."

Bauer said anglers in Dodge County have several fishing organizations with the state they can join, including the Cornhusker Fly Fishers, Trout Unlimited, Nebraska Walleye Association and Nebraska Bass Federation.

"If you're hooked on fishing, a great way to learn more about it is to join one of those clubs, meet some people," he said. "It's also a great way to get involved and give back to the sport, too."

For those near Fremont, opportunities include Fremont Anglers Club, Fremont Chapter of Izaak

Walton, Fremont Family YMCA Hazel R. Keene Lodge and Rod and Gun Club.

Another organization based out of Fremont is the Fremont Airboat Club, which formed in the late 1950s and early 1960s. The club currently has 43 members, President Michael Ireland said.

"As a club, we promote airboating and conservation, of course," he said. "We've also offered and have had boater safety courses out there."

Ireland has been with the nonprofit for seven years, serving as president for the last two. The Fremont Airboat Club typically had an annual catfish tournament for its members.

"We opened it up to the public last year, and it was really a good