

# *Great Plains Fish & Wildlife Conservation Office*

February 2020



Steam rising off the Missouri River on a cold morning

# Partnerships and Employee Development



## Essentials of R



A Continuing Education Workshop on the use of program R for fisheries data.

Program R offers a free-to-use platform for conducting basic statistics, analyzing fisheries data, and producing publication-quality figures. This workshop is intended to provide an introduction into R covering topics such as data entry and manipulation, basic statistical testing, calculating common fisheries metrics, and developing high-quality graphics. The instructors for the course will be BJ Schall and Cameron Goble from the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks, each having experience using R with fisheries data.



Staff attended the Dakota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society annual meeting in Spearfish, SD.

- Dan moderated the “Sturgeon and Catfish” session of presentations.
- As Continuing Education Committee Chair, Dan coordinated and organized the “Essentials of R” continuing education course.
- Jason presented “The James River Confluence: A Hotspot for Pallid Sturgeon”.

DAKOTA CHAPTER

# Partnerships and Employee Development

- Jennifer presented “New Observations of Pallid Sturgeon in the James and Vermillion Rivers, South Dakota: an Important Habitat for Recovery?”.
- Landon presented “Comparison of sampling strategies for rare fishes in a large river”.
- Former employee, Dylan Turner, received the David Willis Outstanding Young Professional Award. Congratulations!

## New Observations of Pallid Sturgeon in the James and Vermillion Rivers, South Dakota: an Important Habitat for Recovery?



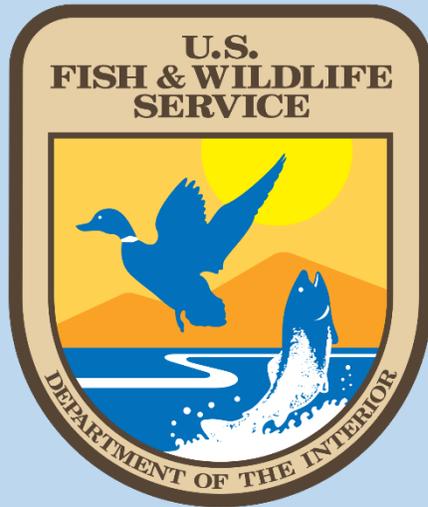
Jennifer Johnson - Great Plains Fish & Wildlife Conservation Office



Photo: Sam Stukel



# Partnerships and Employee Development



Staff attended the Fisheries Summit Meeting, an annual coordination meeting among the USFWS, North Dakota Game and Fish and South Dakota Game Fish & Parks.

# *Upcoming Activities & Staff*

## Upper Basin Pallid Sturgeon Workgroup Meeting

- March 3-4, Billings, MT.

## U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Adaptive Management Workshop

- March 10-13, Nebraska City, NE.

Sikes Act report completion and submission.

Pallid Sturgeon Population Assessment mark-recapture sampling in the Missouri River, Segment 7 (a 59 mile reach from Gavins Point Dam, SD to Ponca, NE).

## **Staff**

### *Pierre*

Project Leader: Vacant (33 months)  
Acting Project Leader/Fish & Wildlife Biologist: Dan James  
Fish & Wildlife Biologist: Landon Pierce  
Administrative Officer: Kristen Grohs  
Bio. Sci. Technician: Vacant (3 months)

### *Yankton*

Fish Biologist: Jennifer Johnson  
Fish Biologist: Jason Kral

# *About Us*

*The Great Plains Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office provides fish and wildlife management technical assistance to Native American Tribes and federal agencies including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Defense, and National Wildlife Refuges within South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas.*

Sunset on the Missouri River

<https://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/fisheries/greatPlainsFWCO.php>