

MUSKIE

— CONNECTION —

MAY 2026



Muskie fishing is ON across much of the range, with the season opening soon in the rest, one of the most important things you can do before hitting the water is make sure you're equipped with the proper tools for a quick, safe, and successful release.

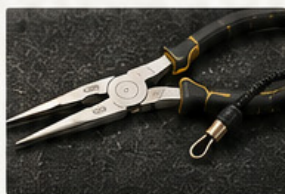
9 MUST-HAVE TOOLS FOR A SUCCESSFUL RELEASE

1 MUSKIE-SIZED NET



- Big hoop
- Long handle
- Fish-friendly mesh
- Never use a gaff

2 LONG-NOSE PLIERS



- 12–15"
- Quality plated steel
- Leash or zip tie

3 WET BUMP BOARD



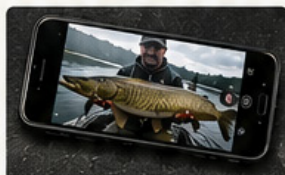
- Wet it
- Measure fast
- Avoid laying fish on deck

4 HOOK CUTTERS & JAW SPREADERS



- Knipex hook cutters
- Jaw spreader with tip guards

5 CAMERA OR PHONE READY



- Have it ready
- Save time at release

6 MICROFIBER TOWELS



- One for clean-up
- One for your hands

7 FIRST AID KIT



- Be ready
- Treat cuts and punctures

8 HELPFUL EXTRAS



- Net Buddy for hands-free handling
- Cut-resistant gloves

9 ZIP TIES



- Repair damaged net webbing on the fly

In states like Minnesota, Wisconsin, and others across muskie country, state legislatures continue to overlook the importance of properly funding muskie stocking programs. The only way our voices will truly be heard is if individual members and local chapters take the time to contact the legislators responsible for funding their state DNRs. As taxpayers, anglers, and conservationists, we need to make it clear that muskie stocking and fisheries management matter.

If enough of us speak up, our collective voice can make a difference. Take the time to reach out to your state representatives and committee members who oversee DNR funding, and encourage them to invest in the future of muskie fisheries through increased stocking support.



Sincerely,
Steve Worrall,
VP Communications & Marketing



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