

**AGENDA**  
**Game, Fish, and Parks Commission**

Governance meeting at Days Inn  
Wed, Apr. 4<sup>th</sup>, 8:30-11 AM

**Regular Meeting**

Wednesday, April 4, 2012, 1-5 PM  
Thursday, April 5, 2012, 8 AM-Noon  
Swiftel Center, 824 – 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Brookings, SD

**Call to order 1 PM CDT**

**Executive Session**

**Division of Administration**

Action items:

1. Approve minutes of the March 1-2, 2012, meeting  
<http://gfp.sd.gov/agency/commission/docs/minutes-Draft.pdf>
2. Additional Commissioner Salary Days
3. License List Requests
4. FY12 Budget Spending Authority Adjustment
5. Surplus Property: Rapid City Region Office

Information items:

6. License Sales Report
7. FY13 Budget

**Division of Wildlife Employee Awards**

**Open Forum**

**Public Hearing @ 2 PM**

**Finalizations**

8. Unattended Vehicle Park Entrance License
9. Black Hills Elk Hunting Season
10. Archery Elk Hunting Season
11. CSP Any Elk Hunting Season
12. CSP Late Archery Elk Hunting Season
13. CSP Deer Hunting Season
14. Prairie Elk Hunting Season
15. Bighorn Sheep Hunting Season
16. Family Park Water Zone (Tabled in March)

**Hunting Season Proposals:**

17. Nonresident Waterfowl
18. Special Canada Goose
19. Tundra Swan

### **Division of Parks and Recreation**

Action items:

20. Blood Run land purchase

Information items:

21. Revenue and Visitation Report
22. Big Sioux recreation area land acquisition

### **Division of Wildlife**

Information items:

23. Elk landowner preference licenses
24. Elk depredation program
25. SDSU research partnership with GFP
26. CREP – CRP enrollment update
27. Hunter access program update
28. Pheasant harvest and population update
29. Annual hunter harvest surveys
30. Brookings fishing pond development project
31. Brookings shooting range development project
32. Administrative rule reduction initiative
33. NASP state archery tournament report

### **Adjourn**

Next meeting information:

May 3-4 Custer State Park at Blue Bell Lodge

Minutes of the Game, Fish, and Parks Commission  
March 1-2, 2012

Chairman Jeff Olson called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM in the conference room of the Holiday Inn Express in Fort Pierre, South Dakota. Commissioners present were Jeff Olson, Susie Knippling, John Cooper, Barry Jensen, and Duane Sather. Olson welcomed Duane Sather to his first Commission meeting. Absent were: Jim Spies, Cathy Peterson, and Bill Cerny. Secretary Vonk was present along with staff, media, and public numbering approximately fifty.

Olson asked for changes to the agenda and indicated the budget amendments items 27 and 32 would be combined and added to the Administration action items. Parks added the Big Sioux Recreation Area to their information items.

Chairman Olson requested additions or corrections to the January 12<sup>th</sup> minutes or a motion for approval. Motion by Jensen with second by Knippling TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 12 MINUTES AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

Olson requested additions or corrections to the January 27<sup>th</sup> minutes or a motion for approval. Motion by Cooper with second by Knippling TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 27<sup>TH</sup> TELECONFERENCE MEETING AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

Olson called for any additional salary days and Cooper requested three days for teaching at SDSU and the Conservation Officers meeting. Olson and Spies requested one day each for the 1st Annual SD Wild Sheep Summit in Chamberlain.

Motion by Jensen and second by Knippling TO APPROVE THE ADDITIONAL SALARY DAYS AS REQUESTED. Motion carried unanimously.

Director Chris Petersen provided background information regarding license list requests, fees, and the required Commission action for the requests he presents today.

Petersen presented a request from Dakota Wholesale Bait, Inc. of Brookings for a list of wholesale bait dealers and private fish hatchery dealers. This list will be used to invite the dealers to meetings to share industry information. This request would be at full fee.

Motion by Cooper with second by Knippling TO APPROVE THE LICENSE LIST REQUEST FROM DAKOTA WHOLESAL BAIT AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

Director Peterson presented a list request from the Pierre Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau for a list of nonresident hunters and fish license holders for a direct mailing to promote hunting and fishing in the Pierre area. The fee for this would be waived.

Motion by Jensen with second by Cooper TO APPROVE THE LIST REQUEST FROM THE PIERRE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

Director Petersen presented Resolution 12-01 requesting Commission permission to comply with SB193 should the 2012 Legislature pass the bill providing a one-time payment to employees on March 30, 2012. This bill, when approved by Legislature, requires payment be made prior to the next regular Commission meeting in April and will affect the Wildlife and Snowmobile budgets. Petersen indicated the June 2012 Wildlife and Snowmobile Budgets do not reflect pay increases and a budget adjustment with spending authority will be presented at the April meeting for Commission approval. (See Appendix A)

Motion by Knippling with second by Jensen TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 12-01 AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

Director Petersen brought Resolution 12-01 back to the Commission on Friday morning indicating the Legislature debated the one-time payment on the previous afternoon defeating it but bringing it back in HB1137. Petersen requested Commission approval to change all references to SB193 in Resolution 12-01 to HB1137.

Motion by Jensen with second by Sather TO AMEND RESOLUTION 12-01 TO CHANGE ALL REFERENCES TO SB193 WITH HB1137. Motion carried unanimously. (See Appendix A)

Petersen presented the February 22, 2012, License Sales Report showing increased fishing licenses sales over the February 2011 Sales Report.

Secretary Vonk indicated Jim McMahon served as Commission representative on the South Dakota Parks and Wildlife Foundation Board and a new Commission representative should be appointed. John Cooper agreed to fill the position and Knippling made a motion and Jensen second the motion TO APPROVE JOHN COOPER AS THE GFP COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE ON THE PARKS AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION BOARD. Motion carried unanimously.

The 2012 Legislative Session will complete regular business this week. Secretary Vonk indicated all legislative bills have been dealt with except the budget. The Snowmobile license was changed to an annual license and signed by the Governor. The "Red Tape" bill is on the Governor's desk as is the Boating Under the Influence bill. The bill to transfer the old Wildlife Office in Rapid City to the Department of Ag has been approved. The Legislature approved additional dollars to address the mountain pine beetle infestation and flood recovery efforts. There were several bills regarding mountain lions that kept staff busy. Vonk complimented and thanked the staff for their work during the Legislative Session and thanked the Chris Hesla and Dave Nauman of the Wildlife Federation for their time and assistance on several bills.

Habitat Partner of the Year was presented to Ken McIlravy of Haakon County by Wildlife Director Tony Leif. Leif outlined the many programs Ken has been participated in while operating a 12,000 acre ranch. McIlravy expressed his appreciation for the award indicating his family and the Wildlife Division staff were instrumental in achieving the award.

## Open Forum

Dale Wedekind from the Fall River Gun Club (Club) indicated they have been working for three years on the project to acquire a public shooting range near Hot Springs. The land exchange with Conger is as close to a perfect situation as one could arrange. There is room for a skeet range, a .22 range for kids, a pistol range for law enforcement, and all of these things are needed and is a win-win for everyone. Club President John DiCiacio stated the January membership drive increased membership by 55-60% to 115 members and he anticipates an increase of membership following the land exchange. He indicated the Club will assist with the development of this range and believes nonresidents will participate in shooting events. This will allow the Club to move forward with an environmental impact study for the range.

Craig Solberg of Pierre provided a handout to discuss big game management issues and requested the discontinuance of cow elk tags in the Black Hills units and to discontinue antlerless licenses when herds are in decline. Black Hills elk herds continue to decline as well as the deer and with the last three tough winters, he has seen little reduction of tags. He is concerned as a Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation member - what is benefit of their support if the herd continues to decline. He requested the Commission be proactive in making decisions to improve big game herds before they hit rock bottom.

Kevin Hipple of Pierre supported Solberg's testimony and is concerned about the number of antlerless tags and wants to decrease the antlerless tags to increase populations.

The Public Hearing began at 2:00 PM and concluded at 2:31 PM. Minutes of the Public Hearing will follow the regular commission minutes. Chairman Olson called for a recess at 2:43 PM and meeting resumed at 3 PM.

## Finalizations

### Public Water Zoning 41:04:02

Assistant Director Emmett Keyser presented the proposed changes that create "no wake zones" on Richmond Lake, Mina Lake, and Mitchell Lake during periods of high water. This would assist the homeowners on these lakes, the GFP Department, and the Governor's office to efficiently and timely respond to high water situations. There are no recommended changes to proposal.

1. Create a “no wake zone” on Richmond Lake (Brown County) during certain periods of high water.
2. Create a “no wake zone” on Mina Lake (Edmunds County) during certain periods of high water.
3. Create a “no wake zone” on Lake Mitchell (Davison County) during certain periods of high water.

Motion by Jensen with second by Cooper TO FINALIZE THE CHANGES FOR “NO WAKE ZONES” AS PROPOSED. Motion carried unanimously.

Keyser presented the proposed change to the “no wake zone” on Lake Mitchell that allows homeowners better access to a channel this change is supported by staff and the City of Mitchell. There are no recommended changes to proposal.

Amend the boundaries of the existing “no wake zone” on the west end of Lake Mitchell (Davison County).

Motion by Cooper with second by Knippling TO FINALIZE CHANGES TO THE MITCHELL LAKE “NO WAKE ZONE” AS PROPOSED. Motion carried unanimously.

Keyser presented the proposed change to the Rollings GPA in Lincoln County to allow only electric motors on boats on the Rollings GPA. This comes as a request from homeowners while allowing fishing opportunities on this 7.5 acre pond. There are no recommended changes to the proposal.

Create an “electric motors zone” on the waters of Rollings Game Production Area (Lincoln County).

Motion by Jensen with second by Cooper TO FINALIZE CHANGES TO THE ROLLINGS GAME PRODUCTION AREA AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

Keyser presented the proposed change to Family Park near Sioux Falls to allow electric motors on the thirty-acre body of water allowing additional boat fishing opportunity. Discussion began with public comment received about the change to Family Park fishing, a request by a disabled person, size of boats on this water located adjacent to Sioux Falls, and that the donor of the property was consulted prior to the recommendation.

Amend existing zoning on the waters of Family Park (Minnehaha County) from a “no motors zone” to an “electric motors zone”

Motion by Cooper second by Jensen TO TABLE ACTION ON FAMILY PARK. Motion carried unanimously.

Keyser presented the proposed change to make Canary Beach at Lewis and Clark Recreation Area a “no wake zone” from a “swimming zone”. There are no recommended changes to proposal.

Amend existing zoning on the waters of Lewis and Clark Lake (Yankton County) adjacent to Canary Beach from a “public swimming zone” to a “no wake zone”.

Motion by Cooper with second by Knippling TO FINALIZE THE CHANGE AT LEWIS AND CLARK LAKE CANARY BEACH AS PROPOSED. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Motorboats and Watercraft 41:04:05

Assistant Director Keyser presented the proposed changes with no recommended changes. These changes clarify that fire extinguishers on boats be in working condition and that rescue and enforcement boats have flashing red or blue lights.

1. Add a provision to 41:04:05:03 that would clarify that Coast Guard approved fire extinguishers carried on boats must be in working order.
2. Amend 41:04:05:16 to revise the provisions for emergency signals on law enforcement boats.

Motion by Jensen with second by Knippling TO FINALIZE CHANGES TO MOTORBOATS AND WATERCRAFT 41:04:05 AS PROPOSED. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Special Buck Licenses 41:06:20 and 41:06:21

Chief Tom Kirschenmann provided a handout showing the resident and nonresident projected harvest of the 200 additional proposed Special Buck Licenses. Kirschenmann reminded the Commissioners that all applications for Special Buck require landowner permission and harvest is on private land only. The Department recommended no changes at the January meeting.

Discussion included public comments, landowners currently get 50% of west deer license allocations, the tags should not be a guarantee for operators/outfitters, special buck licenses were not developed as a management tool, and how does this effect the chances in the regular draw.

Motion by Cooper with second by Sather TO FINALIZE CHANGES TO THE SPECIAL BUCK LICENSES AS PROPOSED. Roll call vote: Cooper-no; Jensen-yes; Knippling-no; Sather-yes; Olson-yes. Motion failed the required five votes.

#### Paddlefish 41:07:05

Chief John Lott and Geno Adams presented the proposed changes with no recommended changes. Adams indicated this change would allow harvest on Lake Francis Case and meet the management goal to provide fishing opportunity by stocking paddlefish as it does not have natural reproduction of paddlefish.

41:07:05:03. Paddlefish snagging, processing, and transportation restrictions. Any paddlefish taken below Gavin's Point Dam, by snagging, which measures between 35 inches and 45 inches, inclusive, from the eye to the notch in the fork of the tail must be immediately released to the water from which it was caught. A person may not attempt to snag rough fish or paddlefish after reaching the limit on paddlefish. A gaff hook or other penetrating device may not be used as an aid while landing snagged paddlefish.

Motion by Knippling with second by Sather TO FINALIZE CHANGES TO PADDLEFISH 41:07:05 AS PROPOSED. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Hunting Season Proposals:

##### Custer State Park Bison Hunting Season

Gary Brundige indicated these hunts are used for surplus bison in Custer State Park and there are no recommended changes to the current season regulations.

##### Custer State Park Deer Hunting Season

Brundige presented changes to eliminate 35 antlerless white-tail tags and a change regarding open area as this is in another rule.

1. Eliminate the 35 one-tag antlerless white-tail deer licenses.
2. Delete the last sentence of 41:06:41:01 as this is covered in covered in 41:06:07:10.

Motion by Knippling with second by Cooper TO PROPOSE CHANGES TO THE CSP DEER HUNTING SEASON AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

##### Custer State Park Elk Seasons

Brundige indicated there are no recommended changes to the CSP Early Archery or Antlerless Elk Hunting Seasons.

##### Custer State Park Late Archery Elk Hunting Season

Brundige recommend closing the season by reducing the number of tags from 15 to 0.

Reduce any elk licenses from 15 to 0. The late archery elk season would be closed.

Motion by Knippling with second by Jensen TO PROPOSE CHANGES TO CSP LATE ARCHERY ELK HUNTING SEASON AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

##### Custer State Park Elk Hunting Season (Any Elk)

Brundige recommended reducing the any elk licenses from 11 to 4 with one of the four to be available for the special raffle tag. Surveys indicate there are approximately 38 large bulls in the park and the maximum harvest of four would have little impact on the herd. There is a mandatory check-in of all harvested elk to collect data and the data with hunter comments are provide to the Commissioners. Discussion ensued on the harvest of bulls only.

Reduce any elk licenses from 11 to 4. The license allocation of 4 includes 1 license made available through a special raffle conducted by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

Motion by Sather with second by Cooper TO PROPOSE CHANGES TO THE CSP ANY ELK HUNTING SEASON AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Archery Elk Hunting Season

Chief Tom Kirschenmann presented recommended changes to the season to adjust the total available licenses to 107. Hunter success rates for the past five years run from 26-33% with only seven cows harvested in the 2011 season. He also recommended a boundary change for Unit 7 and to eliminate the season for Unit 30A in Gregory County.

1. Adjust the number of licenses available from 89 "any elk" and 37 "antlerless elk" licenses (total of 126 licenses) to 82 "any elk" and 25 "antlerless elk" licenses (total of 107 licenses).
2. Adjust the boundary of Unit 7 to include the area located within a line beginning at I-90 and Pleasant Valley Rd, then east and south on Pleasant Valley Rd. to Tilford Rd. then west on Tilford Rd. to I-90.
3. Eliminate the archery season for Unit 30A.

Motion by Cooper with second by Jensen TO PROPOSE CHANGES TO THE ARCHERY ELK HUNTING SEASON AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Black Hills Elk Hunting Season

Kirschenmann presented changes to decrease the number of licenses available and to adjust the boundary of Unit 7. Hunter success rate for 2011 was 55% with 295 bulls harvested and 170 cows harvested. The herd in the northern portion of the Black Hills is healthy and calf recruitment is good which allows for the recommended license allocation for the 2012 season.

1. Adjust the number of licenses available from 470 "any elk" and 395 "antlerless elk" licenses (total of 865 licenses) to 395 "any elk" and 260 "antlerless elk" licenses (total of 655 licenses).
2. Adjust the boundary of Unit 7 to include the area located within a line beginning at I-90 and Pleasant Valley Rd, then east and south on Pleasant Valley Rd. to Tilford Rd. then west on Tilford Rd. to I-90.

Motion by Jensen with second by Cooper TO PROPOSE CHANGES TO THE BLACK HILLS ELK HUNTING SEASON AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Prairie Elk Hunting Season

Kirschenmann presented recommendations for a reduction of elk licenses, a boundary adjustment for Unit 27, a season date adjustment for Unit 09A, and the adjustment of the season dates for Unit 30A to coincide with the season dates of this shared unit to align with the date changes made by Nebraska. Discussion included the size of the shared herd with Nebraska and the Pine Ridge boundary change.

1. Adjust the number of licenses available from 49 "any elk" and 79 "antlerless elk" licenses (total of 128 licenses) to 47 "any elk" and 53 "antlerless elk" licenses (total of 100 licenses).

2. Add Unit 27 (Fall River County) to include that portion of Fall River County south of the Cheyenne River and west of Highway 385. Season dates: September 1 – October 31.
3. Adjust the season dates for Unit 09A from September 1-October 31 to a split season of September 15-October 31 and December 1-15.
4. Adjust the season dates for Unit 30A. Currently written in administrative rule as "beginning on August 15 and remains open to the Friday closest to November 12, inclusive, and from the Monday closest to November 22 to December 31, inclusive". Change dates for 2012 season to September 29 – October 28 and from December 1-31. This will coincide with the changes made by Nebraska for this shared elk unit.

Motion by Cooper with second by Sather TO PROPOSE CHANGES TO THE PRAIRIE ELK HUNTING SEASON AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Black Hills Bighorn Sheep Hunting Season

Chad Switzer presented the recommendation to reduce the licenses from two to one in Unit 1. The number of mature rams in the population has declined and overall there are fewer rams available for harvest. A reduction of licenses is needed to ensure that a sufficient number of mature rams are available for hunting opportunities and to ensure adequate reproduction for the next few years.

Adjust the number of licenses available from 2 "any bighorn sheep" to 1 "any bighorn sheep" in Unit 1.

Motion by Jensen with second by Cooper TO PROPOSE THE CHANGE TO THE BLACK HILLS BIGHORN SHEEP HUNTING SEASON AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Hunting Season Proposals and Dates

Chief Kirschenmann indicated there are no recommended changes to any of the additional seasons listed on the agenda. This includes the Hunting Season Dates and with Commission consensus, no action is required on these items at this time. The 2012 Hunting Handbook and season applications will be printed with the dates listed as presented.

#### Division of Parks and Recreation

Operations Director Bob Schneider recommended a change to increase the unattended vehicle park entrance fee in Custer State Park to \$15 and allow the full amount of the unattended vehicle park entrance be applied toward the purchase of an annual park entrance license. The unattended vehicle park entrance fee will remain at \$10 for parks other than Custer State Park. The allowance to apply the full amount of the unattended vehicle park entrance fee towards the purchase of an annual park entrance license will encourage the operators to purchase the annual license and visit the parks more frequently.

Modify 41:03:03:06 Park entrance license fees. If a vehicle does not have a valid park entrance license displayed as required in 41:03:03:02, the operator or the registered owner of the vehicle must pay \$10.00 for a daily park entrance license for each day the vehicle is in

the park, except at Custer State Park where the fee is \$15.00. The operator or registered owner may apply ~~\$7~~ the entire amount of the cost of this daily park entrance license toward the purchase of an annual park entrance license.

Motion by Cooper with second by Knippling TO PROPOSE CHANGES TO PARK LICENSES AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

The mountain pine beetle update was presented by Custer State Park Manager Matt Snyder. Snyder indicated efforts began in 2004 in the Sylvan Lake area in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture. More than 71,000 acres of forest cover has been treated in the last five years. The Governor approved \$2.1 million over the next three years to assist with beetle control efforts. During the fall of 2011 staff, estimated 142,000 trees were infested. After working on this effort this winter, staff believes the number closer to 120,000. Currently, there are five crews consisting of twenty people identifying and marking the beetle infested trees ahead of seven private contractors, four Wildland Fire Crews, and a Department of Corrections Crew. After the trees are identified, these crews cut the trees down. Logs that can be salvaged go to the mill and logs that are in areas inaccessible by logging equipment are cut into two foot chunks and left to dry out killing 80% of the beetles. The marking crews have marked over 91,000 trees and over 67,000 trees have been cut and chunked or removed and taken to the mill. Over 60% of trees that have been cut are salvageable and taken to the mill. The cutting and chunking process needs to be completed by March 17 and the loggers need to have the salvage logs hauled out of the park by June 1.

Another aspect of the beetle effort will be lethal baiting. Lethal baiting consists of spraying an insecticide on cut or chunked trees which attracts the merging beetles to the chunked trees and there they will die. Preventative measures will also be taken on selected trees around the resorts (estimated 250 trees) and campgrounds (110 trees). The 25 private cabin owners throughout CSP have been contacted and made aware of a 50/50 cost share program that will pay up to \$10 per tree not to exceed \$200 through the South Dakota Department of Agriculture.

Park staff also identified approximately 1,500 trees along the Mickelson Trail right-of-way between Custer and Lead. A private contractor is cutting the trees and taking the salvageable logs to the mill and the cull wood is being chipped by park staff. All efforts are going well and the work will be completed by the established deadlines.

Flood restoration efforts update was presented by Al Nedved. He indicated the current estimate is \$9 million for flood damage incurred during 2011 floods. Funding for repairs thus far was achieved by reprioritizing \$1.5 million in the FY12 budget. The Division of Parks and Recreation FY13 budget contains \$3 million for flood repairs and the Governor proposed that \$2 million in general funds be made available through an appropriation to the Office of Emergency Management. The remaining \$2.5 million of unfunded repairs will be deferred until FY14.

Trees in the flooded areas are being monitored and park workers remain optimistic as they are seeing some root growth and additional trees are scheduled to be planted. Shoreline protection and rip rap is taking place on Lake Oahe, Lake

Francis Case, and Lake Thompson. Grass plantings continue and all campsites should be open by June 15<sup>th</sup>. Repair of electrical components continue on camp pads and in comfort stations. Plans are to develop a new boat ramp and parking lot at Farm Island providing access directly to the main channel of the Missouri River.

Fisher Grove has flooded four times in the last five years, damaging the bridge across the river. The campground is currently inaccessible because the bridge has been rated for passenger vehicles only and it would cost about \$800,000 to repair. Discussions are ongoing with the public regarding options for relocating the 21 campsites to the south side of the river while using the bridge for hiking and biking as this may be cost effective in the long run. The campground will be closed for the upcoming summer and decisions will be made by August regarding the FY14 budget request.

Hofer shared the LaFramboise Island funding to replace the causeway and road reconstruction will be the responsibility of the City of Pierre and the US Army Corps of Engineers.

The Blood Run update was presented by Director Doug Hofer indicating the master plan has been completed and is posted online. Additional property has been identified to optimize opportunities for the Blood Run project.

Parks will have a naturalist onsite this summer to work with interested groups and individuals and to develop awareness and enthusiasm for the area. Next year the Legislature will be asked to establish Blood Run as a state park.

Next month the Commission will be asked to purchase a 60 acre parcel of Blood Run property held by the Parks and Wildlife Foundation. This will allow the Parks Division to utilize FY12 spending authority approved by the Legislature for the purchase of this property and it will allow the Foundation to utilize those funds to pay down the loan from The Conservation Fund for the remainder of the Blood Run property acquired from Buzz Nelson.

Doug Hofer indicated that Ramkota has been put a hold its plans to purchase Cedar Shore Resort due to concerns of slumping and slide issues in the marina and along the entrance road. There is no pending sale/transfer and no need for action at this time.

A 12 acres acquisition of land at Big Sioux Recreation Area will be brought to the Commission for consideration in April or May. This property will supplement the existing area and provide for additional trail access on the west side of the Big Sioux River. The City of Brandon supports the acquisition and agreed to provide one third of the cost with the balance coming from the Wildlife Division and Parks Division.

#### Division of Wildlife

Paul Coughlin presented Resolution 12-02 requesting approval to exchange the Buffalo Gap GFP with land from the Conger's to develop a shooting range. The Fall River Gun Club testified supporting the exchange during the open forum.

Coughlin provided background on the exchange of the GPA for a property with good access for the public and providing needed criteria for a shooting range from Tom and Lesta Conger. These properties were appraised at equal value and acres. This exchange works well for the Congers and the Department. The gun club is actively involved in developing the shooting range and with the upkeep of the area.

Motion by Cooper with second by Knippling TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 12-02 AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously. (See Appendix B)

Tom Kirschenmann provided a map showing the locations of the harvested mountain lions for the 2012 hunting season. The season is now closed and information will be gathered for research and season setting guidelines. Most lions were harvested after snow events and some days four five lions were harvested following the snow event. A handful of hunters have harvested more than one lion since the first season in 2005. The CSP limited access hunters will be surveyed to collect additional data for the setting of future seasons.

There was increased interest in the season as 1,100 additional licenses were sold from the 2011 sales. Sixteen of the lions harvested during the 2012 hunting season wore radio-telemetry collars and eleven were functioning. Currently, there are approximately fifty collared lions in the hills with 38 of the collars functioning. The Forest Service road closures affected the hunting opportunities and of those hunters that harvested a lion, 35 hunters reported tracking lions while 27 hunters called the lions in then tracked the lions.

Andy Lindbloom presented an update on the elk population in the Black Hills including CSP and the ongoing research projects. Lindbloom stated the current elk population estimate in SD is approximately 4,000 elk. He then outlined the different types of surveys, how they are conducted, and shared the results and data. Lindbloom also shared recruitment, bull/cow ratios, harvest data, research updates, and that Wind Cave National Park is in the second year of a research project monitoring the movement of elk in and out of the park. He shared about the research on lion predation of sheep, elk, turkey, and deer species in Unit 5 in the hills indicating this is preliminary data.

Gary Brundige presented survey and population status of elk in Custer State Park using helicopter surveys. The elk herd was at its highest in 2000 and the last few years the cow/calf ratios showed a low pregnancy rate that led to the current study. So far, 41 cow elk have been captured with 39 of them pregnant and all were in good health. A lot of data was collected as the cows were checked for body fat, ultra sound for pregnancy, and given an implant to indicate when and where the calf was dropped. Staff will capture the calves within hours of birth, fit them with collars, and monitor them for continued research.

The Bighorn Sheep Population update in Custer State Parks was presented by Gary Brundige. Bighorn sheep were introduced in 1922 from Vancouver and stabilized there. No hunting was allowed and all died off in 1959 and reintroduced in 1965 as a viewable herd. In November 2004, the park had 200 head and in 2004-2005, eagles led staff to the sheep which had contracted pneumonia. The season closed with population of about 48 with no survival of lambs until this past year

(2011). Current estimate is 25, with 14 mature ewes and their lambs are looking healthy.

John Kanta shared that there are four herds of bighorn sheep in the Black Hills showing their locations on a map. Bighorn sheep are easily stressed by a change of habitat, competition of other animals, domestic animals that carry bugs or illness, lions, and fire management suppression efforts.

The Prey Selection Study of female bighorn sheep and their calves and survival rates in the past two years has provided valuable data. Plans are to collar more sheep in 2012. Currently, two lambs are alive and most died of pneumonia. Another research project in the Elk Mountain region will begin very soon to monitor movements, survival, mortality, recruitment, genetic diversity, disease prevalence, and ram locations for hunting seasons and recruitment.

Forest Service Cooperative Fishing project update began with John Lott introducing Ruben Leal from the Forest Service located in Fort Pierre. The Fort Pierre Grasslands contain prairie habitat for wildlife and small lakes that provide fishing opportunities for shore anglers and small boats. An inventory of the grassland dams indicated there are 735 acres of water with 36 bodies of water having road access for fishing. Management practices are taking place on these 36 bodies of water. June of 2011 had significant rain events that threatened some of the dams and due to the cooperative efforts of the Department and the Forest Service, Richland and Sheriff Dam were quickly repaired. The Forest Service and GFP have plans for the continued cooperative management of the fisheries located on the Fort Pierre Grasslands.

“East meets West” was a education event utilizing staff from the Sioux Falls Outdoor Campus and the Rapid City Outdoor Campus to provide a kick off event with four days of activities at the Rapid City Outdoor Campus. Scott Simpson presented photos showing that one day was dedicated for school programs with 300+ students participating in the event. More than 1300 people experienced the Outdoor Campus activities through out the weekend. The event provided staff development opportunities and concluded with a great eagle awareness event.

Emmett Keyser provided open house dates and locations that will take place across the state during the next few months. Keyser indicated the dates and locations are listed on the website under “Agency Info” and Keyser extended an invitation for the Commissioners to attend meetings in their area.

Director Leif shared his desire for an additional meeting to gather public input on the elk seasons especially in the Rapid City area prior to the April Commission meeting. Leif encouraged the Commissioners to attend the Rapid City meeting. He also reported that the email blast sent about this Commission meeting resulted in the additional public participation and comments.

Leif presented information regarding wolves which historically wandered the entire North American Continent. Wolves are not a state endangered species; and

are recovering across the country. Wolves have distinct population segments in the United States and the US Fish and Wildlife Service has delisted wolves in the Great Lakes area and the northern Rocky Mountains of the US. Wyoming wolves will be delisted soon and South Dakota and North Dakota are split down the center with eastern South Dakota as delisted while western South Dakota continues to be listed as a recovery area. The Southern Rocky Mountain population is under recovery and a five year review was published on February 29. The Department is waiting to receive the review. The incidental take of wolves are allowed and is under federal regulation in western South Dakota while eastern South Dakota incidental take is under state regulations. Delisting places the management of the wolf under state authority and GFP does not intend to establish wolf populations anywhere in the state.

Chairman Olson indicated there would be a Governance meeting prior to the April Commission meeting in Brookings.

Motion by Knippling with second by Jensen TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. Motion carried unanimously and meeting adjourned at 11:36 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey R. Vonk, Department Secretary

Appendix A

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-01**

WHEREAS, Governor Daugaard has introduced for consideration by the 2012 Legislature legislation (~~SB193~~) HB1137 which would authorize a one-time payment to active, permanent state employees hired before March 24, 2011, for the purpose of encouraging public service and for continued service in the state government workforce; and

WHEREAS, the 2012 South Dakota Legislature has approved ~~SB193~~ HB1137 which, upon being approved by the Governor, will direct that the one-time payments to employees shall commence on March 30, 2012;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that following the Governor's approval of ~~SB193~~ HB1137, the Game, Fish, and Parks Commission hereby authorizes the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks to comply with the provisions of ~~SB193~~ HB1137.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks is hereby directed to prepare and submit to the Game, Fish, and Parks Commission for the April 2012 meeting, a FY2012 budget adjustment request reflecting the expenditures directly related to complying with the provisions of ~~SB193~~ HB1137.

Appendix B  
**RESOLUTION 12-02**

WHEREAS, the State of South Dakota (held by and for the use and benefit of the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks [GFP]) owns an interest in real estate described as:

NE1/4, except Tracts A & B, of Section 8, Township 7 South, Range 7 East of the BHM, Fall River County, containing 156.3 acres, more or less, hereinafter referred to as GFP PROPERTY, which is valued at \$109,410.00, hereinafter referred to as GFP PROPERTY; and,

WHEREAS, Conger Ranch, by and through its owners Tom and Lesta Conger (CONGERS), 13831 Beaver Creek Road, Buffalo Gap, SD 57722-9612 own an interest in real estate described as:

S1/2SW1/4SW1/4SW1/4 of Section 13; S1/2SE1/4SE1/4, S1/2NW1/4SE1/4SE1/4, and that portion of SW1/4SE1/4 lying South & East of Highway 79 of Section 14; N1/2NW1/4NE1/4, N1/2NE1/4NE1/4, and N1/2S1/2NE1/4NE1/4 of Section 23; and NW1/4NW1/4 of Section 24, all in Township 7 South, Range 6 East of the BHM, Fall River County, containing 155.8 acres, more or less, which is valued at \$109,410.00, hereinafter referred to as CONGER PROPERTY; and

WHEREAS, South Dakota law (SDCL 41-2-29.2) provides that GFP has the power, authority, and duty to trade or exchange real property owned by the State and held by GFP if the GFP Commission shall first determine that real property more suitable to GFP purposes may be obtained by an exchange, provided the parcels of real property to be exchanged are of equal value; and

WHEREAS, GFP and CONGERS desire to exchange interests in the above described properties, and the GFP Commission having determined that CONGER PROPERTY is more suitable to GFP for GFP purposes than GFP PROPERTY, and that GFP PROPERTY and CONGER PROPERTY are of equal value (\$109,410.00 as determined by a qualified appraiser); and

WHEREAS, South Dakota law requires that the conveyance of GFP PROPERTY be approved and executed in the manner provided by SDCL 5-2-11.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the GFP Commission hereby takes final action on and approves the above referenced exchange of the above described parcels of real property and hereby directs GFP to take all steps necessary to effectuate the exchange of GFP PROPERTY for CONGER PROPERTY under procedures mandated by statute.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the GFP Commission does hereby ratify and confirm the Department's designation of the CONGER PROPERTY being acquired pursuant to the exchange authorized by this Resolution for utilization by the Division of Wildlife for the purpose of game production and, further, does hereby expressly designate and classify the CONGER PROPERTY being acquired pursuant to the exchange authorized by this Resolution for use as a game production area.

Public Hearing Minutes of the Game, Fish, and Parks Commission  
March 1, 2012

Public Hearing Officer Chuck Schlueter began the hearing at 2:00 PM by indicating the public comment would be received on the topics listed under Finalizations on the Agenda. Written and email comments would be presented prior to any oral comments from the attending public. Written and email comments received before Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> were provided to the Commissioners prior to today's meeting and will be reflected in the Public Hearing Minutes.

#### Public Water Markings and Zones

Written testimony:

Randall L. Pratt of Mitchell, SD, emailed his support for the Lake Mitchell No Wake regulations.

James Serfoss of Aberdeen, SD, emailed: "understandable---- but there better be a sign, no more game wardens with some guess work they have enough power."

Steve Marquardt of Aberdeen, SD, emailed: "I agree there is a need for protection during high water events. My fear is that the no wake rule change will be over used. It seems that even with the current method the department is slow to remove it. Even with the high water levels of 2011, the current method functioned well. I did not have any damage due to boats operating during high water events. Most property owners can make adjustments to their docks and beach within a day or two. I feel the rule change will result in arbitrary no wake rules being used for extended periods when they are not needed.

Dave Fischer of Assistant Director, Sioux Falls Parks and Recreation, Sioux Falls, SD, emailed: "After discussions with our staff, city police, and your staff we believe that allowing the use of electric motors for everyone will not only make it much easier for those with disabilities to enjoy the lake, but will also enhance the experience for many others. As a result, I am writing to support the change in regulations that would allow electric motor use at Family Park."

Mike Majeres, of Sioux Falls, SD emailed: "I just read the proposed changes regarding electric motors on Family Park in Sioux Falls. I have to respectfully say that this is a terrible idea... I just think that the GFP and the city of Sioux Falls have a great thing going right now with Family Park just the way it is. I know they took a lot of time to decide on the current regulations there and I think they got it right. I just think the negatives outweigh the positives with this proposal.

Terry Sanderson of Sioux Falls, SD, emailed: "I would not like to see any rule changes that would encourage heavy boat traffic on such a small body of water as I feel it would detract from the shore fisherman's experience. This would be particularly true if the size and type of watercraft was unlimited. My opinion is that I would like the rules to remain as they are with respect to watercraft or at the very least to limit the size of watercraft. The pond is not large enough to accomodate the larger bassboats and fishing boats."

No oral testimony was presented.

#### Motorboat and Watercraft

Clayton Siegfried of Sioux Falls, SD, emailed: "I can see the rule about not having a used Extinguisher on your boat it should be a new one for sure.. Put messing with charging them that is over the top.. If I have a brand new one in my boat that has never been used that should be good enough for the state.. Unless you are looking to generate business for the business's that have an interest in this.. Which is wrong of course.. Just another item that a boater will have to hassle with and how are you going to prove that I did not have mine checked?? What is the fine for not having it checked?? Where do I take the extinguisher to be serviced?? All of these questions should be answered by the State if you are going to mandate this rule up front... Not after I get a fine. Sounds like a rule that may be tough to enforce."

No oral testimony was presented.

#### Special Buck Hunting Licenses

Terry Sanderson of Sioux Falls, SD, emailed: "I am opposed to increasing the number of these licenses. Trophy bucks are a fragile resource and are extremely important in maintaining a quality deer herd... I think that increasing this type of license will only lead to quicker decimation of the quality deer herd."

Robert Eddy of Rapid City, SD, emailed: "I would like to take this time and discourage the increase in the Special Buck tag allotments for the 2012 season... Please consider reducing the number of Special Buck tags in an equal proportion to the number of General tags in the 2012 season. Thank you!"

John H. Johnson of the Grasslake Conservation Club, Inc. of Ortle, SD, faxed a letter opposing the proposal to add 100 more nonresident special buck licenses to the West River deer season.

Jim Twamley of Parker, SD, emailed opposing the increase in Special Buck Tags.

Bob Struck of Platte, SD, emailed; "I think there is enough tags issued already - population seems to be down."

David Peck of Cherokee, IA, emailed: "I agree with the increase in number, but I feel that the \$100 price increase is not."

Russ Roberts of St. Onge, SD, emailed: "There are currently not enough non-resident licenses to supply the demand. As someone who is running a business to trying and accommodate out of state hunters this creates a hardship. It is hard to book repeat clients and plan any kind of schedule without knowing they have a good chance of obtaining a license. Today those repeat clients are the only thing that keeps many businesses running. These hunters are not only benefiting my family but many others in the community every year and everyone needs the business. The West River Special Buck licenses are designed to be used on private land only, so no opportunity is being taken away from anybody that would have had access to that ground otherwise. Having the ability for hunters to draw a Special Buck license allows the landowner to manage their property as they see fit and in many circumstances on land that would have no hunting opportunity otherwise. The only

non-residents that are spending \$505.00 on the Special Buck tag are hunters that are going with an outfitter or paying trespass fees to landowners that would not allow access otherwise. Game and Fish is losing revenue on license sales and local communities are losing out on money that would be generated by non-residents.”

Mike Grunewaldt emailed: “I'm disappointed that east river has failed to offer this option. Chuck S. has stated that the public comment is against any out of state E. river buck tags. Has any attempt been made to poll the landowners(the people who actually provide the habitat and bear the expense of raising the deer) as to their wishes? Personally, I'm tired of all the pickups driving down the right of ways shooting anywhere and everywhere with no regard to the law. At the same time we are not even able to allow my out of state brother-in law to shoot an east river buck. I'm also aware of the tremendous influence that the Minnehaha Sportsman have on your decisions, I'm just asking to please consider the sportsman who are in charge of the factory, not just those who think it is their SD born right to be the sole beneficiary of the bucks.”

Paul and Blair Thomson of Spearfish, SD, emailed: “I encourage you to add more buck licenses to the seasons...You can say all you want about the special licenses that are available for the younger hunter, but if they don't have a license for dad also it probably isn't going to happen as we have already seen. The way the hills buck licensing is handled now is only going to kill the sport and in the future there will be fewer and fewer hunters out there until the sport eventually goes away.”

Greg Van Hull of Brandon, SD, emailed: “. By allowing more and more special buck tags, and raising cost of tags, the residents of SD will be slowly pushed out. As you increase the number of special buck tags to any one, out of state or in state, and decrease by the same number resident tags, you are creating a pay to hunt and a business instead of wildlife being accessible to every resident of SD. SD has one of the lowest pay scales in all 50 states. The wealthy are already purchasing tracts of land for all types of pay hunting. You are only allowing their foot hold on SD's prime hunting resources a stronger hold. This is only the first of many steps to close out recreational hunting.”

Bob Woerman of Brandon, SD, emailed: “My input, keep the tags like they are as it appears GFP is now recommending.”

Doug Lake of Pierre, SD, emailed: “I support more special buck licenses.”

Darrin Christensen of Watertown, SD, emailed: “I am absolutely against the increase number of tags for the special buck tags!”

Larry Crawford of Sturgis, SD, emailed: “I do not believe this is a good idea. If they need more licenses give them access to antlerless permits in area's where deer population control is desired.”

Larry Disanto, of Rapid City, SD, emailed: “Happy to hear these permits will be increased.”

Dayle and Lind Veen of Milbank, SD, emailed: “Special buck licenses should be issued by zone like other west river licenses. Some zones the deer numbers have decreased over the years especially mule deer.”

Scott Stone of Rapid City, SD, emailed: “Why just west river? East river gets a majority of the licenses for west river all ready. People that live west river see nothing but east river licenses plates driving through the hills during elk season &

deer season, while we can't draw a tag. West river should get some preference for living on this side of the state. Increase of tags should be for people that live west river only.”

Randall Callesen of Estelline, SD, emailed: “I personally think that the number of licenses should stay at current level. The reason I think so is because if you increase the license you have more young bucks being harvested and with the decline in populations that I seen this past year only puts stress on the population. “

Robert D. Keeler of Douglas, WY, emailed: “Rasing the price of the nonresident special buck license another \$100.00 is putting it out of my capablity to partiipate in this draw. I am a nonresident landowner and enjoy no special privledges as do the resident landowners other than having access to my own land to hunt. Raising the price to this level is nothing short of extortion.”

William Menne of Doland, SD, emailed: “I really think the special buck permits are wonderful for residents to draw for I have applied often and will continue to do so.”

Chuck Clayton of Huron, SD, emailed: “A proposed rule to allow landowners to increase non-resident tags, or transfer tags, will only divide the hunting community that supports and funds wildlife management.”

Troy S. Kern of Piedmont, SD, emailed: “I am extremely disappointed in the idea of raising the number of West River non-resident special buck tags.”

Donovan Stefanich of Selby, SD, emailed: “The result is many special tags being used all in the same areas.. Any deer tags are hard to get in Campbell and Walworth counties then get people here able to hunt mule deer ahead of those waiting on perference points. Not fair for the local hunters.”

Jay Behrends, of Summerset, SD, emailed: “I fully support the increase. I know of many out of state hunters that want to come to SD and are willing to pay for a special buck tag to do it, but do not get drawn. These hunters also help local small communities with their type of tourism. “

Gene Wallace of Swoope, VA, emailed: “my son and I had the special buck lic this past Nov in the west river area..we had a good hunt...both of us scored...I got a good non-typical mulie (which was what I wanted and my son got a good white tail buck)...we saw lot of deer...mostly females and only 4 bucks )3 white tails and 1 mulie...we would like to get drawn again..but the increase in tags of \$100.00 for non-residents might just be a little much.”

John Wirtz of Brookings, SD, emailed: “Please do not allow deer tags to be sold by commercial outfitters. I believe that if there is one SD res. that missed his lic. he should have first and second choices.”

Jim Dahlberg of Hot Springs, SD, emailed: “I am admantly opposed to the proposal to increase "special buck tags". In a time when it appears that mule deer in many areas are decreasing in numbers, it is time to curtail non-resident tags when those tags may infringe on resident hunting opportunities.

Please do not increase these "special buck tags". Please decrease them.”

Colton Wientjes, Watertown, SD, emailed: “the nonresident special tags should come from the 8% allotted to nonresidents. Tags issued will be down in 2012 due to low deer populations, meaning even more residents will be turned down for a license. However, if the number of “Special Buck Licenses” is increased, the

percentage of tags going to nonresidents will increase and the percentage going to residents will decrease yet again. sounds like this is in the interest of the commerical hunting lodges and not of the intrest of the common hunter. Please really take a good look at this before doing anything!"

Bill Antonides, President, South Dakota Wildlife Federation emailed: "PLEASE take the time to look at the history of the special buck tags before you increase the numbers. If we are concerned with quality buck management at all, it is time to reduce the number of tags to the levels originally agreed to. In addition, the nonresident special buck tags should come from the 8% of tags set aside for nonresidents. "

James Sitter of Aberdeen, SD, emailed: "It is time to cut back on the special treatment of buck tags for the out of state hunters and the people who close there land and only let people in who pay. This is a form of selling our wild life. Turn this practice around."

Micah Mauney of Sioux Falls, SD, emailed: "Reduce the nonresident WR Special Buck tags to 250 and double the cost of the voucher and there will be no revenue loss and it will help our deer herd take a step in the right direction."

Dan Schmeichel of McLaughlin, SD, emailed: "I am so tired of out of state hunters coming here with no regard to whose land they are on. I feel the number of out of state license should be "decreased" not increased! Also the fee should be at least \$800.00 to hunt."

Mark Wolf of Aberdeen, SD, emailed: "It is simply wrong to allow commercial interests to sell one of South Dakota's finest natural resources at the expense of the average sportsman and any semblance of quality deer management. It is time to reduce the number of special buck tags, not increase them. At the very least, the nonresident special tags should come from the 8% allotted to nonresidents."

Tony P. Busche of Brookings, SD, emailed: "My opinion...I suggest you go back to the original Special Buck tag regulations..."

John Morgenstern of Rapid City, SD, emailed: "The number of Special Buck Licenses have already grown substantially since the inception of this program, and in light of current deer herd numbers, increasing landowner allocations to their financial benefit at the expense and disregard of the average resident hunter is simply wrong. Enough is enough! It is simply wrong to allow commercial interests to sell one of South Dakota s finest natural resources at the expense of the average sportsman and any semblance of quality deer management. It is time to reduce the number of special buck tags, not increase them. At the very least, the nonresident special tags should come from the 8% allotted to nonresidents."

Scott Hed of Sioux Falls, SD, emailed: "As a South Dakota resident hunter and member of numerous sporting conservation groups (including SD Wildlife Federation, 29-90 Sportsmen's Club, Dallas Safari Club, Pheasants Forever, and Duck Unlimited), who hunts West River nearly every season for deer, I am asking you to not support the proposed increase in Special Buck tags. It is time for sportsmen to say, "Enough!" It is simply wrong to allow commercial interests to sell one of South Dakota's finest natural resources at the expense of the average sportsman and any semblance of quality deer management. It is time to reduce the

number of special buck tags, not increase them. At the very least, the nonresident special tags should come from the 8% allotted to nonresidents.”

Mike McKnight, President of SD Bowhunters, of Sioux Falls, SD, emailed: “My name is Mike McKnight and I am the President of the South Dakota Bowhunters Inc. On behalf of SDBI I would like to voice opposition to an increase in the special buck tags on Thursday's agenda.”

Kent Carlson of Lake City, SD, emailed: “Every year us non landowners have less and less deer hunting opportunities because of wealthy people and commercial hunting groups. Please reduce the number of special buck licenses available to anyone. We choose the live in South Dakota because of the hunting opportunities and now it is becoming difficult to even go hunting deer. Please help us!!!”

Marvin Bouska of Rapid City, SD, emailed: “I am opposed to increasing special buck licenses for guides/landowners/big game dealers. Is the GFP commission an agent of commercial hunting operators/big game. Please allow resident big game hunters an opportunity to obtain a "first choice" big game tag, by putting a limit on these perpetual requests for more "special" permits.”

Paul Sand of Rosholt, SD, emailed: “Please do not increase non-resident deer tags for the 202 season. We need to decrease all tags period.”

Scott Smallwood of Rapid City, SD, emailed: “The amount of Special Buck Tags given out must decrease. Local hunters should have preference and the tags should be never exceed 8% as a ratio under normal conditions. I know it is a money raiser for many but they should be able to live within the confines of the limitations set forth by our wildlife managers.”

Terry Larson of Rapid City, SD, emailed: “Increasing the number of high dollar special buck tags while reducing the tags available to the average resident hunter who buys tags year after year is not fair to SD hunters. Please consider my opinion as you deliberate this matter.”

Bryan Barness of Sioux Falls, SD, emailed: “There is no justification to even consider an increase in the number of Special Buck licenses. In fact we should be debating just how many licenses should be excluded from that pool.”

Patrick Gross of Vermillion, SD, emailed : “It is time to stop the expansion of commercial hunting at the expense of resident hunters! Please oppose additional tag allocations for outfitters in the name of better wildlife management and the protection of outdoor opportunities for local families.”

Justin Allen of Pierre, SD, emailed: “please do not increase Special Buck Tag in eastern or western SD...Please vote against the proposed increase in special buck tags.”

Leon Callahan of Gettysburg, SD, emailed: “With Deer population down do to disease, cold and wet winters, and over hunting, and early harvest of crops. It makes no sense to me to increase the number of tags from 500 to 600. I would like to see better deer management of the deer in South Dakota. I used to hunt out of state for a second tag. Now I hunt out of state for better quality of deer.”

Francis Barnett of Aberdeen, SD, emailed: “I am apposed to increasing the number of deer tags to nonresidents. Now when a nonresident recieves a tag it is something special to them. Lets keep it special.”

Jeff Albrecht of Brookings, SD, emailed: "I would ask that the commission oppose the increase in Special Buck Tags."

Gary Harr of Brandon, SD, emailed: "South Dakota should not increase the special buck allotments for east or west river. Just change the amount of regular draw tags to regulate the harvest."

Richard Barnett of Sioux Falls, SD, emailed: "There are already too many special buck licenses...we should have never developed them in the first place. Where does it all end?"

Justin Allen of Pierre, SD, emailed: "As a longtime resident of South Dakota and avid sportsman please do not increase Special Buck Tag in eastern or western SD."

Harold and Kristine Goeden of Sioux Falls, SD, emailed: "We are writing because of our concern regarding the number of special buck tags and feel that this number should be looked at closely and a reduction in the number of special buck tags should be made."

Curt Tesch of Rosholt, SD, emailed: "I certainly hope you will not consider any increases in the Special Buck licenses, especially when this increase is being sought by commercialized hunting...Enough, please no more."

Billy Wientjes of Watertown, SD, emailed: "It is time to reduce the number of special buck tags, not increase them. At the very least, the nonresident special tags should come from the 8% allotted to nonresidents."

Cody Warne of Pierre, SD, emailed: "I AM ALL for adding 100 more NON-RESIDENT Special Buck tags but instead of West River, I feel they should got to the East River Special Buck pool. This isn't East or West Dakota, IT'S SOUTH DAKOTA....."

John Simpson of Pierre, SD, emailed: "I would strongly urge the commission to reject this request for an increase in the # on non-res deer tags. Mule deer #'s are down, resident interest is high, if this request is granted the result could be more non-res hunters & fewer resident. The current system was set in place after numerous situations, reviews, lengthy considerations and processes. It has worked well and there is no solid biological reason to grant this request. Please oppose it."

Larry Rezac of Crooks, SD, emailed: "I would like to see NO increase in these tags."

David Larson of Groton, SD, emailed: "It is simply wrong to allow commercial interests to sell South Dakota's finest natural resources at the expense of the average sportsman and any semblance of quality deer management. It is time to reduce the number of special buck tags, not increase them. At the very least, the nonresident special tags should come from the 8% allotted to nonresidents."

Shawn Pliska of Sioux Falls, SD, emailed: "Please do not increase the number of special buck tags. I believe we have accommodated the number of special tags more than enough for nonresident hunters. At what point will the request to increase the number of tags for nonresident stop growing. We are already taking the back seat on pheasant hunting from nonresidents."

John Wrede of Rapid City, SD, emailed: "I respectfully request that the Commission actually lower the number of special buck licenses to pre-1990 levels in consistent relationship with lower license numbers during the regular west river

deer season, and I further request that the Commission seriously consider eliminating entirely, the late West River antlerless season in response to rapidly declining and unstable deer populations, particularly on public lands in Western South Dakota.”

Oral testimony:

Bob Barden of member of SD Bowhunters and on behalf of the organization testified on the number of licenses not fees. SD Bowhunters believe the additional tags would give nonresident hunters more opportunity over residents and with fewer west river deer the only people to benefit from this change are outfitters. This does not benefit the majority of SD residents and opposes the changes.

Brian Heidbrink of Brandon, SD, provided a handout and is opposed to the additional special buck licenses. He feels this is selling out to SD people. He stated his procedural opposition to the change as these should have a unit designation for West River and he feels this is not fair or consistent with management objectives. He provided information on demand and availability and believes these special buck tags are taking away opportunity for resident hunters. The management issue of the special buck licenses does affect the herd and management practices. Please reconsider this proposal and put the tags where the true demand for tags are needed.

Chris Hesla testified for SD Wildlife Federation and commented only on the number of tags as only seven landowners did not received their special tags. If passed, look at earmarking the additional tags to go away when the herd is decreasing. When regular tags are decreased so should the special tag. He stated that he does not agree that the special buck tag has no affect on the management of deer.

Paddlefish Snagging

No written or oral comments were received.

The Public Hearing concluded at 2:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey R. Vonk, Department Secretary

# License Sales Totals

(as of March 27)

6

date updated: 27 March 2012

	2011	2012	% Change
Combination	16,473	23,524	42.8%
Junior Combination	1,025	1,957	90.9%
Senior Combination	0	3,003	
Resident Small Game	3,510	1,885	-46.3%
Resident Youth Small Game	579	583	0.7%
Resident 1-Day Small Game	169	215	27.2%
Furbearer	1,530	2,534	65.6%
Resident Predator/Varmint	748	858	14.7%
Resident 1-Day Fishing	303	567	87.1%
Resident Annual Fishing	7,867	18,917	140.5%
Senior Fishing	4,576	4,776	4.4%
Resident Gamefish Spearing/Archery	958	1,044	9.0%
Resident Migratory Bird Certificate	10,042	12,440	23.9%
Nonresident Small Game	3,066	3,017	-1.6%
Nonresident Youth Small Game	200	208	4.0%
Nonresident Spring Light Goose	2,736	2,702	-1.2%
Nonresident Youth Spring Light Goose	83	105	26.5%
Nonresident 1-Day Fishing	817	1,661	103.3%
Nonresident 3-Day Fishing	693	1,548	123.4%
Nonresident Annual Fishing	1,910	4,544	137.9%
Nonresident Family Fishing	936	1,889	101.8%
Nonresident Youth Annual Fishing	45	121	168.9%
Nonresident Migratory Bird Certificate	81	98	21.0%
Nonresident Annual Shooting Preserve	164	128	-22.0%
Nonresident 5-day Shooting Preserve	514	447	-13.0%
Nonresident 1-day Shooting Preserve	185	175	-5.4%
Nonresident Furbearer	61	7	-88.5%
Nonresident Predator/Varmint	529	697	31.8%
Nonresident Gamefish Spearing/Archery	118	81	-31.4%
<b>TOTAL ON FILE =</b>	<b>59,918</b>	<b>89,731</b>	<b>49.8%</b>

# Rolling Budget Summary Report

FY 2013

	Actual FY10	Actual FY11	Budgeted FY12	Inflation FY13	Exp/Red FY13	Request FY13	Recommended FY13	Rec. Inc/Dec FY13
<b>Personal Services</b>								
EMPLOYEE SALARIES	19,488,910	19,785,991	20,010,740	0	736,203	20,746,943	20,746,943	736,203
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	5,352,389	5,778,786	5,571,062	84,912	105,226	5,761,200	5,761,200	190,138
FTE	552.4	556.2	563.1		0.0	563.1	563.1	0.0
<b>Funding Types</b>								
GENERAL	2,909,077	2,926,140	2,276,140	7,595	76,392	2,360,127	2,360,127	83,987
FEDERAL	3,814,290	3,607,538	4,062,197	13,340	90,398	4,165,935	4,165,935	103,738
OTHER	18,117,932	19,031,100	19,243,465	63,977	674,639	19,982,081	19,982,081	738,616
<b>Total PS</b>	<b>24,841,299</b>	<b>25,564,778</b>	<b>25,581,802</b>	<b>84,912</b>	<b>841,429</b>	<b>26,508,143</b>	<b>26,508,143</b>	<b>926,341</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>								
TRAVEL	770,852	735,970	998,635	0	-19,800	978,835	978,835	-19,800
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	27,716,310	21,555,585	24,900,080	0	764,208	25,664,288	25,664,288	764,208
SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	5,397,357	5,860,052	5,522,024	0	950	5,522,974	5,522,974	950
GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES	2,593,571	2,824,017	3,804,140	0	0	3,804,140	3,804,140	0
CAPITAL OUTLAY	18,334,827	28,816,083	20,938,844	0	-4,737,250	16,201,594	16,201,594	-4,737,250
OTHER	233,956	355,129	297,809	0	0	297,809	297,809	0
<b>Funding Types</b>								
GENERAL	2,202,082	2,228,315	2,401,142	0	-421,954	1,979,188	1,979,188	-421,954
FEDERAL	15,792,229	25,903,170	23,673,862	0	-3,742,535	19,931,327	19,931,327	-3,742,535
OTHER	37,052,562	32,015,348	30,386,528	0	172,597	30,559,125	30,559,125	172,597
<b>Total OE</b>	<b>55,046,873</b>	<b>60,146,834</b>	<b>56,461,532</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-3,991,892</b>	<b>52,469,640</b>	<b>52,469,640</b>	<b>-3,991,892</b>
<b>TOTAL FOR 06</b>								
<b>Funding Types</b>								
GENERAL	5,111,159	5,154,455	4,677,282	7,595	-345,562	4,339,315	4,339,315	-337,967
FEDERAL	19,606,519	29,510,708	27,736,059	13,340	-3,652,137	24,097,262	24,097,262	-3,638,797
OTHER	55,170,494	51,046,448	49,629,993	63,977	847,236	50,541,206	50,541,206	911,213
<b>Total</b>	<b>79,888,171</b>	<b>85,711,612</b>	<b>82,043,334</b>	<b>84,912</b>	<b>-3,150,463</b>	<b>78,977,783</b>	<b>78,977,783</b>	<b>-3,065,551</b>

7

# Rolling Budget Summary Report

FY 2013

Center 0601	Actual FY10	Actual FY11	Budgeted FY12	Inflation FY13	Exp/Red FY13	Request FY13	Recommended FY13	Rec. Inc/Dec FY13
<b>Personal Services</b>								
EMPLOYEE SALARIES	1,273,927	1,275,448	1,282,504	0	68,645	1,351,149	1,351,149	68,645
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	344,281	372,104	370,065	6,536	10,049	386,650	386,650	16,585
FTE	25.7	26.0	25.1		0.0	25.1	25.1	0.0
<b>Funding Types</b>								
GENERAL	83,809	84,252	84,252	1,835	3,795	89,882	89,882	5,630
FEDERAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	1,534,399	1,563,300	1,568,317	4,701	74,899	1,647,917	1,647,917	79,600
<b>Total PS</b>	<b>1,618,208</b>	<b>1,647,552</b>	<b>1,652,569</b>	<b>6,536</b>	<b>78,694</b>	<b>1,737,799</b>	<b>1,737,799</b>	<b>85,230</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>								
TRAVEL	80,049	55,389	109,183	0	0	109,183	109,183	0
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	2,099,174	1,833,398	2,100,123	0	-232,180	1,867,943	1,867,943	-232,180
SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	328,796	288,362	352,288	0	0	352,288	352,288	0
CAPITAL OUTLAY	1,535,701	3,175,005	18,200	0	0	18,200	18,200	0
OTHER	39,617	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Funding Types</b>								
GENERAL	1,068,902	1,066,002	1,070,268	0	-244,304	825,964	825,964	-244,304
FEDERAL	1,058,719	2,640,602	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	1,955,716	1,645,551	1,509,526	0	12,124	1,521,650	1,521,650	12,124
<b>Total OE</b>	<b>4,083,337</b>	<b>5,352,155</b>	<b>2,579,794</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-232,180</b>	<b>2,347,614</b>	<b>2,347,614</b>	<b>-232,180</b>
<b>TOTAL FOR 0601</b>								
<b>Funding Types</b>								
GENERAL	1,152,711	1,150,254	1,154,520	1,835	-240,509	915,846	915,846	-238,674
FEDERAL	1,058,719	2,640,602	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	3,490,116	3,208,850	3,077,843	4,701	87,023	3,169,567	3,169,567	91,724
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,701,546</b>	<b>6,999,706</b>	<b>4,232,363</b>	<b>6,536</b>	<b>-153,486</b>	<b>4,085,413</b>	<b>4,085,413</b>	<b>-146,950</b>

# Rolling Budget Summary Report

FY 2013

Center 0610	Actual FY10	Actual FY11	Budgeted FY12	Inflation FY13	Exp/Red FY13	Request FY13	Recommended FY13	Rec. Inc/Dec FY13
<b>Personal Services</b>								
EMPLOYEE SALARIES	11,099,891	11,394,848	11,456,108	0	518,868	11,974,976	11,974,976	518,868
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	3,271,808	3,556,572	3,372,708	48,290	57,254	3,478,252	3,478,252	105,544
FTE	277.6	280.6	286.7		0.0	286.7	286.7	0.0
<b>Funding Types</b>								
GENERAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL	2,890,090	2,836,337	3,289,308	11,921	63,077	3,364,306	3,364,306	74,998
OTHER	11,481,608	12,115,083	11,539,508	36,369	513,045	12,088,922	12,088,922	549,414
<b>Total FS</b>	<b>14,371,699</b>	<b>14,951,420</b>	<b>14,828,816</b>	<b>48,290</b>	<b>576,122</b>	<b>15,453,228</b>	<b>15,453,228</b>	<b>624,412</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>								
TRAVEL	578,081	571,392	733,946	0	-19,800	714,146	714,146	-19,800
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	12,632,060	12,622,833	16,084,972	0	1,135,230	17,220,202	17,220,202	1,135,230
SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	3,372,293	3,869,882	3,194,680	0	-1,050	3,193,630	3,193,630	-1,050
GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES	1,786,160	1,976,262	2,791,640	0	0	2,791,640	2,791,640	0
CAPITAL OUTLAY	6,663,725	11,616,386	2,266,502	0	-123,450	2,143,052	2,143,052	-123,450
OTHER	4,469	14,986	2,000	0	0	2,000	2,000	0
<b>Funding Types</b>								
GENERAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL	8,592,921	14,975,123	10,803,681	0	904,725	11,708,406	11,708,406	904,725
OTHER	16,443,866	15,696,617	14,270,059	0	86,205	14,356,264	14,356,264	86,205
<b>Total OE</b>	<b>25,036,787</b>	<b>30,671,740</b>	<b>25,073,740</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>990,930</b>	<b>26,064,670</b>	<b>26,064,670</b>	<b>990,930</b>
<b>TOTAL FOR 0610</b>								
<b>Funding Types</b>								
GENERAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL	11,483,012	17,811,460	14,092,989	11,921	967,802	15,072,712	15,072,712	979,723
OTHER	27,925,474	27,811,701	25,809,567	36,369	599,250	26,445,186	26,445,186	635,619
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,408,486</b>	<b>45,623,160</b>	<b>39,902,556</b>	<b>48,290</b>	<b>1,567,052</b>	<b>41,517,898</b>	<b>41,517,898</b>	<b>1,615,342</b>

# Rolling Budget Summary Report

FY 2013

GENERAL 0612	Actual FY10	Actual FY11	Budgeted FY12	Inflation FY13	Exp/Red FY13	Request FY13	Recommended FY13	Rec. Inc/Dec FY13
<b>Operating Expenses</b>								
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	6,922,683	252,473	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	120	622	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL OUTLAY	1,494,684	2,821,001	5,356,000	0	-1,074,200	4,281,800	4,281,800	-1,074,200
<b>Funding Types</b>								
GENERAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL	0	419,604	2,466,000	0	17,850	2,483,850	2,483,850	17,850
OTHER	8,417,487	2,654,493	2,890,000	0	-1,092,050	1,797,950	1,797,950	-1,092,050
<b>Total OE</b>	<b>8,417,487</b>	<b>3,074,097</b>	<b>5,356,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-1,074,200</b>	<b>4,281,800</b>	<b>4,281,800</b>	<b>-1,074,200</b>
<b>TOTAL FOR 0612</b>								
<b>Funding Types</b>								
GENERAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL	0	419,604	2,466,000	0	17,850	2,483,850	2,483,850	17,850
OTHER	8,417,487	2,654,493	2,890,000	0	-1,092,050	1,797,950	1,797,950	-1,092,050
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,417,487</b>	<b>3,074,097</b>	<b>5,356,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-1,074,200</b>	<b>4,281,800</b>	<b>4,281,800</b>	<b>-1,074,200</b>

# Rolling Budget Summary Report

FY 2013

Center 0620	Actual FY10	Actual FY11	Budgeted FY12	Inflation FY13	Exp/Red FY13	Request FY13	Recommended FY13	Rec. Inc/Dec FY13
<b>Personal Services</b>								
EMPLOYEE SALARIES	6,849,082	6,855,756	6,997,048	0	137,834	7,134,882	7,134,882	137,834
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	1,672,849	1,784,696	1,769,758	29,540	35,673	1,834,971	1,834,971	65,213
FTE	239.8	240.5	242.2		0.0	242.2	242.2	0.0
<b>Funding Types</b>								
GENERAL	2,825,268	2,841,888	2,191,888	5,760	72,597	2,270,245	2,270,245	78,357
FEDERAL	924,200	771,201	772,889	1,419	27,321	801,629	801,629	28,740
OTHER	4,772,463	5,027,364	5,802,029	22,361	73,589	5,897,979	5,897,979	95,950
<b>Total PS</b>	<b>8,521,931</b>	<b>8,640,453</b>	<b>8,766,806</b>	<b>29,540</b>	<b>173,507</b>	<b>8,969,853</b>	<b>8,969,853</b>	<b>203,047</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>								
TRAVEL	98,599	91,733	132,956	0	0	132,956	132,956	0
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	5,693,396	6,379,515	6,572,878	0	-137,062	6,435,816	6,435,816	-137,062
SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	1,520,962	1,510,754	1,795,306	0	0	1,795,306	1,795,306	0
GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES	640,440	639,945	700,000	0	0	700,000	700,000	0
CAPITAL OUTLAY	695,258	496,711	663,942	0	0	663,942	663,942	0
OTHER	189,870	340,142	295,809	0	0	295,809	295,809	0
<b>Funding Types</b>								
GENERAL	1,029,174	1,162,313	1,330,874	0	-177,650	1,153,224	1,153,224	-177,650
FEDERAL	1,872,098	1,961,052	2,215,531	0	3,665	2,219,196	2,219,196	3,665
OTHER	5,937,253	6,335,436	6,614,486	0	36,923	6,651,409	6,651,409	36,923
<b>Total OE</b>	<b>8,838,525</b>	<b>9,458,801</b>	<b>10,160,891</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-137,062</b>	<b>10,023,829</b>	<b>10,023,829</b>	<b>-137,062</b>
<b>TOTAL FOR 0620</b>								
<b>Funding Types</b>								
GENERAL	3,854,442	4,004,201	3,522,762	5,760	-105,053	3,423,469	3,423,469	-99,293
FEDERAL	2,796,298	2,732,253	2,988,420	1,419	30,986	3,020,825	3,020,825	32,405
OTHER	10,709,716	11,362,799	12,416,515	22,361	110,512	12,549,388	12,549,388	132,873
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,360,456</b>	<b>18,099,253</b>	<b>18,927,697</b>	<b>29,540</b>	<b>36,445</b>	<b>18,993,682</b>	<b>18,993,682</b>	<b>65,985</b>

# Rolling Budget Summary Report

FY 2013

Center 0621	Sports Parks and Recreation Dept								
	Actual FY10	Actual FY11	Budgeted FY12	Inflation FY13	Exp/Red FY13	Request FY13	Recommended FY13	Rec. Inc/Dec FY13	
<b>Personal Services</b>									
EMPLOYEE SALARIES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Funding Types</b>									
GENERAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total PS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>									
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	61,717	333,242	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	165	983	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL OUTLAY	7,544,304	10,179,552	12,332,700	0	-3,688,500	8,644,200	8,644,200	-3,688,500	
<b>Funding Types</b>									
GENERAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL	4,169,335	5,704,728	8,113,650	0	-4,668,775	3,444,875	3,444,875	-4,668,775	
OTHER	3,436,850	4,809,050	4,219,050	0	980,275	5,199,325	5,199,325	980,275	
<b>Total OE</b>	<b>7,606,185</b>	<b>10,513,778</b>	<b>12,332,700</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-3,688,500</b>	<b>8,644,200</b>	<b>8,644,200</b>	<b>-3,688,500</b>	
<b>TOTAL FOR 0621</b>									
<b>Funding Types</b>									
GENERAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL	4,169,335	5,704,728	8,113,650	0	-4,668,775	3,444,875	3,444,875	-4,668,775	
OTHER	3,436,850	4,809,050	4,219,050	0	980,275	5,199,325	5,199,325	980,275	
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,606,185</b>	<b>10,513,778</b>	<b>12,332,700</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-3,688,500</b>	<b>8,644,200</b>	<b>8,644,200</b>	<b>-3,688,500</b>	

# Rolling Budget Summary Report

FY 2013

Center	Actual FY10	Actual FY11	Budgeted FY12	Inflation FY13	Exp/Red FY13	Request FY13	Recommended FY13	Rec. Inc/Dec FY13
<b>Personal Services</b>								
EMPLOYEE SALARIES	266,011	259,939	275,080	0	10,856	285,936	285,936	10,856
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	63,451	65,414	58,531	546	2,250	61,327	61,327	2,796
FTE	9.2	9.2	9.1		0.0	9.1	9.1	0.0
<b>Funding Types</b>								
GENERAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	329,461	325,353	333,611	546	13,106	347,263	347,263	13,652
<b>Total PS</b>	<b>329,461</b>	<b>325,353</b>	<b>333,611</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>13,106</b>	<b>347,263</b>	<b>347,263</b>	<b>13,652</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>								
TRAVEL	14,123	17,455	22,550	0	0	22,550	22,550	0
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	203,275	134,124	142,107	0	-1,780	140,327	140,327	-1,780
SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	175,020	189,448	179,750	0	2,000	181,750	181,750	2,000
GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES	166,970	207,810	312,500	0	0	312,500	312,500	0
CAPITAL OUTLAY	401,155	527,428	301,500	0	148,900	450,400	450,400	148,900
<b>Funding Types</b>								
GENERAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL	99,155	202,063	75,000	0	0	75,000	75,000	0
OTHER	861,389	874,202	883,407	0	149,120	1,032,527	1,032,527	149,120
<b>Total OE</b>	<b>960,544</b>	<b>1,076,265</b>	<b>958,407</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>149,120</b>	<b>1,107,527</b>	<b>1,107,527</b>	<b>149,120</b>
<b>TOTAL FOR 0622</b>								
<b>Funding Types</b>								
GENERAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL	99,155	202,063	75,000	0	0	75,000	75,000	0
OTHER	1,190,850	1,199,555	1,217,018	546	162,226	1,379,790	1,379,790	162,772
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,290,005</b>	<b>1,401,618</b>	<b>1,292,018</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>162,226</b>	<b>1,454,790</b>	<b>1,454,790</b>	<b>162,772</b>

**GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION  
FINALIZATION**

**Park Licenses  
Chapter 41:03:03**

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 1-2, 2012</b>	<b>Fort Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>April 4-5, 2012</b>	<b>Brookings</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>April 4-5, 2012</b>	<b>Brookings</b>

**COMMISSION PROPOSAL**

Modify 41:03:03:06 to adjust the amount a vehicle operator must pay for a park entrance license if the vehicle is in the park without a valid entrance license.

**Proposed changes:**

Modify 41:03:03:06 (5)

(5) If a vehicle does not have a valid park entrance license displayed as required in 41:03:03:02, the operator or the registered owner of the vehicle must pay \$10.00 for a daily park entrance license for each day the vehicle is in the park, except at Custer State Park where the fee is \$15.00. The operator or registered owner may apply ~~\$7~~ the entire amount of the cost of this daily park entrance license toward the purchase of an annual park entrance license.

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION**

Recommended changes from proposal: None

**SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION**

The daily park entrance license fee is \$4.00 for each person or \$6.00 per vehicle except at Custer State Park where the temporary park entrance license is \$15.00 per vehicle or \$10.00 per motorcycle for a visit of one to seven consecutive days. While a \$10.00 charge for vehicles not displaying the required entrance license is an adequate incentive to encourage park visitors to purchase the required \$4.00 or \$6.00 daily park entrance license, it provides inadequate incentive for Custer State Park visitors to purchase the required \$15.00 per vehicle or \$10.00 per motorcycle park entrance license.

Allowing visitors the option to apply 100% rather than a portion of the charge towards purchase of an annual park entrance license, would help achieve the Division's goal of selling more annual PELs. Annual license holders are likely to utilize the park system more often.

# GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION FINALIZATION

## Black Hills Elk Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:26

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 1-2, 2012</b>	<b>Ft. Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>April 4, 2012</b>	<b>Brookings</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>April 4-5, 2012</b>	<b>Brookings</b>

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Season Dates:** "Any elk" licenses October 1-31, 2012  
 "Antlerless elk" licenses October 16-31 and December 1-15, 2012

**Open Area:** See attached map

**Licenses:** 395 "any elk" and 260 "antlerless elk" licenses (total of 655 licenses)

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. No person may possess more than one (1) elk license of any type in a year.
2. No more than two persons may submit applications together.
3. Except for landowner/operator preference applicants, no person who receives a license in the first drawing for this season shall be eligible to apply for a Black Hills elk license in first drawings for the next 9 years.
4. One-half of the licenses allocated in each unit are available for landowner/operator preference. One member of each qualifying landowner/operator household may apply every year.
5. Each elk harvested must be inspected by a Conservation Officer or designee within 24 hours after kill.

**Proposed changes from last year:**

1. Adjust the number of licenses available from 470 "any elk" and 395 "antlerless elk" licenses (total of 865 licenses) to 395 "any elk" and 260 "antlerless elk" licenses (total of 655 licenses).
2. Adjust the boundary of Unit 7 to include the area located within a line beginning at I-90 and Pleasant Valley Rd, then east and south on Pleasant Valley Rd. to Tilford Rd. then west on Tilford Rd. to I-90.

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: None.

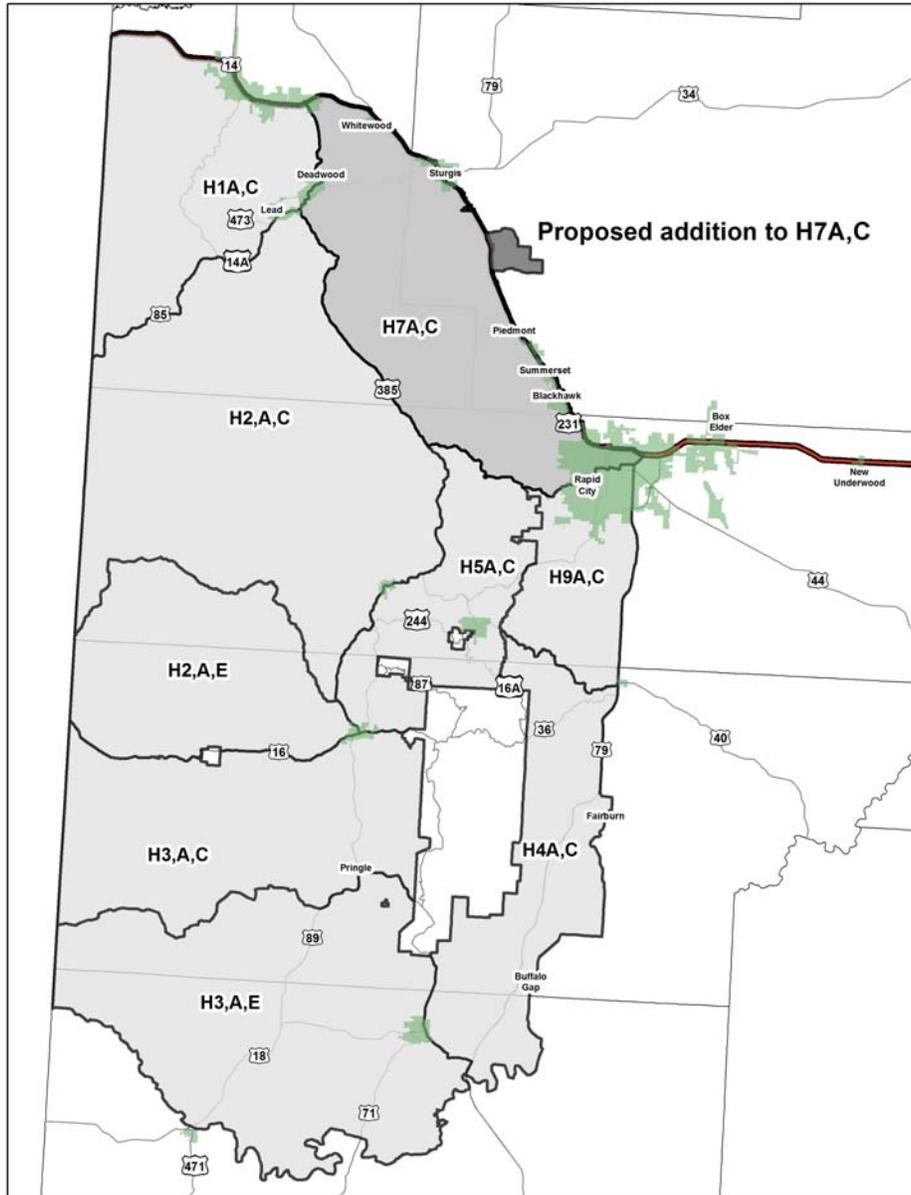
### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

	Licensed	Hunter	Bulls	Cows
Year	Hunters	Success	Harvested	Harvested
2007	2,075	52%	560	509
2008	1,675	52%	475	402
2009	1,366	58%	404	388
2010	1,059	53%	303	257
2011	866	55%	298	179

2011 Unit	"Any Elk"					"Antlerless Elk"				
	Appl.1st Choice	Licensed Hunters	Harvest Success	Bulls Harvested	Cows Harvested	Appl.1st Choice	Licensed Hunters	Harvest Success	Bulls Harvested	Cows Harvested
H1	1,334	100	52%	48	3	42	100	33%	3	30
H2	7,522	200	81%	151	10	264	134	60%	0	45
H3	1,407	125	67%	74	9	70	134	31%	5	36
H4	69	20	27%	4	1	6	20	31%	2	5
H5	59	10	29%	3	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
H7	230	10	78%	8	0	2	5	25%	0	1
H9	25	5	0%	0	0	1	5	25%	0	1

<b>APPROVE</b> _____ <b>MODIFY</b> _____ <b>REJECT</b> _____ <b>NO ACTION</b> _____
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# BLACK HILLS ELK UNITS



Unit	2011			2012		
	"Any" Elk Tags	"Antlerless" Elk Tags	Total Tags	"Any" Elk Tags	"Antlerless" Elk Tags	Total Tags
H1	100	100	200	75	75	150
H2	200	130	330	200	100	300
H3	125	135	260	100	80	180
H4	20	20	40	0	0	0
H5	10	0	10	10	0	10
H7	10	5	15	10	5	15
H9	5	5	10	0	0	0
ALL	470	395	865	395	260	655

**GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION  
FINALIZATION**

**Archery Elk Hunting Season**

**Chapter 41:06:43**

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 1-2, 2012</b>	<b>Ft. Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>April 4, 2012</b>	<b>Brookings</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>April 4-5, 2012</b>	<b>Brookings</b>

**COMMISSION PROPOSAL**

**Season Dates:** Black Hills Units: September 1-30, 2012  
**Open Area:** See attached map  
**Licenses:** 82 "any elk" and 25 "antlerless elk" licenses (total of 107 licenses)

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. No person may possess more than one (1) elk license of any type in a year.
2. No more than two persons may submit applications together.
3. Except for landowner/operator preference applicants, no person who receives a license in the first drawing for this season shall be eligible to apply for an archery elk license in first drawings for the next 9 years.
4. One-half of the licenses allocated in each unit are available for landowner/operator preference application. One member of each qualifying landowner/operator household may apply every year.
5. Each elk harvested must be inspected by a Conservation Officer or designee within 24 hours after kill.
6. Each unsuccessful hunter must mail the report card to the Department of Game, Fish and Parks within 10 days after the close of the season.

**Proposed changes from last year:**

1. Adjust the number of licenses available from 89 "any elk" and 37 "antlerless elk" licenses (total of 126 licenses) to 82 "any elk" and 25 "antlerless elk" licenses (total of 107 licenses).
2. Adjust the boundary of Unit 7 to include the area located within a line beginning at I-90 and Pleasant Valley Rd, then east and south on Pleasant Valley Rd. to Tilford Rd. then west on Tilford Rd. to I-90.
3. Eliminate the archery season for Unit 30A.

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION**

Recommended changes from proposal: None.

**SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION**

Year	Licensed Hunters	Hunter Success	Bulls Harvested	Cows Harvested
2007	237	27%	43	22
2008	198	28%	45	7
2009	185	33%	47	7
2010	144	27%	33	5
2011	126	26%	25	8

2011	"Any Elk"					"Antlerless Elk"				
	Unit	Appl.1st Choice	Licensed Hunters	Harvest Success	Bulls Harvested	Cows Harvested	Appl.1st Choice	Licensed Hunters	Harvest Success	Bulls Harvested
H1	591	25	9%	2	0	5	20	25%	0	5
H2	2,413	40	39%	16	0	13	10	14%	0	1
H3	344	15	38%	5	1	1	5	0%	0	0
H4	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
H5	22	2	50%	1	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
H7	69	5	33%	2	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
H9	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
30A	26	2	0%	0	0	2	2	0%	0	0

**APPROVE** \_\_\_\_\_ **MODIFY** \_\_\_\_\_ **REJECT** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO ACTION** \_\_\_\_\_



# GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION FINALIZATION

## Custer State Park Elk Hunting Season (Any Elk) Chapter 41:06:27

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal Public Hearing Finalization	March 1-2, 2012 April 4, 2012 April 4-5, 2012	Ft. Pierre Brookings Brookings
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### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Season Dates:** September 15 – September 30, 2012

**Licenses:** 4 resident "Any Elk" licenses

#### Requirements and Restrictions:

- 1) The unit is open within the boundaries of Custer State Park for the 16-day period beginning the third Saturday of September.
- 2) Hunters must attend a mandatory briefing.
- 3) 24 hour inspection of harvested elk.

#### Proposed changes from last year:

1. Reduce any elk licenses from 11 to 4. The license allocation of 4 includes 1 license made available through a special raffle conducted by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: None.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

In 2011, all hunters reported and 10 of 11 hunters harvested elk and all elk harvested were bulls. The success rate increased over last year and was 91%. Comments mostly focused on very few elk were seen and that the population density is very low. Winter surveys indicate fewer elk being available in CSP compared with last year. Mature branch antlered bulls are also on a decline and this season recommendation mirrors current availability of mature bulls available in the population.

Year	Licenses	Applicants	Success Rate	HRD
2006	41	11,709	95%	140
2007	41	12,768	93%	167
2008	36	12,572	97%	137
2009	36	13,063	86%	194
2010	21	13,065	80%	99
2011	11	12,060	91%	60

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ MODIFY \_\_\_\_\_ REJECT \_\_\_\_\_ NO ACTION \_\_\_\_\_

**GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION  
FINALIZATION**

**Custer State Park Late Archery Elk Hunting Season  
Chapter 41:06:48**

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 1-2, 2012	Ft. Pierre Brookings Brookings
	Public Hearing	April 4-5, 2012	
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2012	

**COMMISSION PROPOSAL**

**Season Dates:** Closed

**Licenses:** 0 licenses

**Proposed change from last year:**

1. Reduce any elk licenses from 15 to 0. The late archery elk season would be closed.

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION**

Recommended change from proposal: None.

**SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION**

In 2011, all 15 hunters reported and 2 hunters that received a license did not hunt. Hunters were not successful for a harvest success rate of 0%. An estimated 84 days of recreation with an average of 6.5 days of recreation/hunter was lower than last year. Most comments focused on not seeing many elk and they indicated that made the hunt less enjoyable. Winter surveys indicate fewer elk being available in CSP compared with last year. Mature branch antlered bulls are also on a decline and this season recommendation mirrors current availability of mature bulls available in the population. Late season archery hunters are more likely to harvest cow elk and this closure will ensure adequate numbers of elk being available in CSP and meet current management objectives.

Year	Licenses	Applicants	Success Rate	HRD
2007	50	2,333	5%	370
2008	50	2,532	14%	338
2009	50	2,791	13%	312
2010	30	2,852	0%	200
2011	15	2,842	0%	84

**APPROVE** \_\_\_\_\_ **MODIFY** \_\_\_\_\_ **REJECT** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO ACTION** \_\_\_\_\_

# GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION FINALIZATION

## Custer State Park Deer Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:41

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 1-2, 2012</b>	<b>Ft. Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>April 4, 2012</b>	<b>Brookings</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>April 4-5, 2012</b>	<b>Brookings</b>

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Season Dates:** November 3-16, 2012

**Licenses:** 10 "any whitetail"; 2 "any deer"

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. Season open from the first Saturday in November for 14 consecutive days.
2. Hunters must attend a briefing prior to the hunt.
3. 41:06:41:02. Number and type of licenses available.
  - (1) CUD-CU1: 10 "one-tag any whitetail deer licenses";
  - (2) CUD-CU2: 2 "any deer licenses";
  - (3) CUD ZZ1: no deer licenses may be issued. However, an applicant for this unit shall accrue a preference point as provided in § 41:06:01:09.
4. Applicants successful in drawing an "any" tag type are ineligible for the license again for 10 years.

**Proposed changes from last year:**

1. Eliminate the 35 one-tag antlerless whitetail deer licenses.
2. Delete the last sentence of 41:06:41:01 as this is covered in 41:06:07:10.

**41:06:41:01. Custer State Park deer hunting season established -- Open area.** The Custer Park deer hunting season is open for 14 consecutive days beginning on the first Saturday of November. ~~Except for an area within 300 feet of any Custer State Park paved public access roadway, the area within the boundaries of Custer State Park is open to deer hunting during this season.~~

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: None.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Forty-six of 47 hunters reported. For the whitetail doe season 6 of 34 reported hunters did not hunt; however, for the 28 hunters that hunted, 23 killed antlerless deer (82%). During the antlerless season, some hunters were not successful ( $n = 5$ , 18%). Overall, roughly half the number of antlerless deer were harvested compared to the previous year (44 antlerless deer in 2010). For the any deer seasons both mature mule deer and whitetail bucks were killed. Department staff recommends reducing the license numbers for antlerless whitetail deer. The reduction is based on poor fawn recruitment as surveys indicate the whitetail fawn/doe ratio has decreased from 0.83 in 2008 down to 0.53 in 2011. This is a 30% reduction in fawn recruitment from previous years and fewer antlerless licenses will allow population recovery. Transects also indicate the number of deer counted is down 25% from the previous year. Wildlife viewing is also important for Custer State Park and fewer whitetail deer being viewed in CSP is a concern by Park officials.

Year	Tag Type	Applicants*	Licensed Hunters	Success Rate	Recreation Days
2010	Any W-T	1334	10	80%	47
	Any Deer		2	100%	22
	W-T antlerless		35 <sup>a</sup>	73%	97
2011	Any W-T	1831	10	100%	48
	Any Deer		2	100%	5
	W-T antlerless		35 <sup>b</sup>	82%	49

\*Number of applicants is for all seasons combined.

<sup>a</sup>two-tag antlerless whitetail licenses.

<sup>b</sup>one-tag antlerless whitetail licenses.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ MODIFY \_\_\_\_\_ REJECT \_\_\_\_\_ NO ACTION \_\_\_\_\_

# GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION FINALIZATION

## Prairie Elk Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:59

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 1-2, 2012</b>	<b>Ft. Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>April 4, 2012</b>	<b>Brookings</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>April 4-5, 2012</b>	<b>Brookings</b>

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

<b><u>Season Dates:</u></b>	Unit 09A	September 15 – October 31, 2012 and December 1-15, 2012
	Unit 11A	July 15 – August 31, 2012
	Unit 11B	September 1 – October 14, 2012
	Unit 11C	October 20 – December 31, 2012
	Unit 15A	September 8 – October 31, 2012 and December 1-31, 2012
	Unit 27A	September 1 – October 31, 2012
	Unit 30A	September 29 – October 28 and December 1-31, 2012

<b><u>Open Area:</u></b>	Unit 09A	Portions of Butte and Lawrence County
	Unit 11A&B&C	Bennett County and portions of Mellette County
	Unit 15A	Portions of Butte County
	Unit 27A	Portions of Fall River County
	Unit 30A	Portions of Gregory County and portions of Boyd Co., NE

<b><u>Licenses:</u></b>	Unit 09A	10 “any elk” and 10 “antlerless elk” licenses
	Unit 11A&B&C	15 “any elk” and 20 “antlerless elk” licenses
	Unit 15A	10 “any elk” and 16 “antlerless elk” licenses
	Unit 27A	10 “any elk” and 5 “antlerless elk” licenses
	Unit 30A	2 “any elk” and 2 “antlerless elk” licenses

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. No person may possess more than one (1) elk license of any type in a year.
2. No more than two persons may submit applications together.
3. Except for landowner/operator preference applicants, no person who receives a license in the first drawing for this season shall be eligible to apply for a prairie elk license in first drawings for the next 9 years.
4. One-half of the licenses allocated in each unit are available for landowner/operator preference. One member of each qualifying landowner/operator household may apply every year.
5. Each elk harvested must be inspected by a Conservation Officer or designee within 24 hours after kill.

**Proposed changes from last year:**

1. Adjust the number of licenses available from 49 “any elk” and 79 “antlerless elk” licenses (total of 128 licenses) to 47 “any elk” and 53 “antlerless elk” licenses (total of 100 licenses).
2. Add Unit 27 (Fall River County) to include that portion of Fall River County south of the Cheyenne River and west of Highway 385. Season dates: September 1 – October 31.
3. Adjust the season dates for Unit 09A from September 1-October 31 to a split season of September 15-October 31 and December 1-15.
4. Adjust the season dates for Unit 30A. Currently written in administrative rule as “beginning on August 15 and remains open to the Friday closest to November 12, inclusive, and from the Monday closest to November 22 to December 31, inclusive”. Change dates for 2012 season to September 29 – October 28 and from December 1-31. This will coincide with the changes made by Nebraska for this shared elk unit.

APPROVE _____	MODIFY _____	REJECT _____	NO ACTION _____
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**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION**

Recommended changes from proposal: None.

**SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION**

Year	Licensed Hunters	Hunter Success	Bulls Harvested	Cows Harvested
2007	76	51%	21	18
2008	76	48%	17	18
2009	133	39%	26	22
2010	134	41%	24	31
2011	128	28%	19	17

2011	"Any Elk"				"Antlerless Elk"			
Unit	Licensed hunters	Harvest success	Bulls harvested	Cows harvested	Licensed hunters	Harvest success	Bulls harvested	Cows harvested
09A	15	40%	5	2	15	0%	0	0
11A/B/C	19	58%	11	0	36	22%	0	8
15A	10	50%	4	1	20	27%	0	5
30A	2	0%	0	0	6	0%	0	0

APPROVE _____	MODIFY _____	REJECT _____	NO ACTION _____
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Elk

**2011**

Black Hills Elk			
Unit	Resident Licenses		
	Any Elk	Atl Elk	
	21	23	
H1A	100		
H1C		100	
H2A	200		
H2C		70	
H2E		60	
H3A	125		
H3C		15	
H3E		120	
H4A	20		
H4C		20	
H5A	10		
H7A	10		
H7C		5	
H9A	5		
H9C		5	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>865</b>
Unit	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	

**2012**

Black Hills Elk			
Unit	Resident Licenses		
	Any Elk	Atl Elk	
	21	23	
H1A	75		
H1C		75	
H2A	200		
H2C		50	
H2E		50	
H3A	100		
H3C			
H3E		80	
H4A			
H4C			
H5A	10		
H7A	10		
H7C		5	
H9A			
H9C			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>655</b>
Unit	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	

**2011**

Archery Elk			
Unit	Resident Licenses		
	Any Elk	Atl Elk	
	21	23	
H1A	25	20	
H2A	40	10	
H3A	15	5	
H4A			
H5A	2		
H7A	5		
H9A			
30A	2	2	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>126</b>
Unit	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	

**2012**

Archery Elk			
Unit	Resident Licenses		
	Any Elk	Atl Elk	
	21	23	
H1A	20	10	
H2A	40	10	
H3A	15	5	
H4A			
H5A	2		
H7A	5		
H9A			
30A			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>107</b>
Unit	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	

**2011**

Prairie Elk			
Unit	Resident Licenses		
	Any Elk	Atl Elk	
	21	23	
9A	15	15	
11A		20	
11B	14	10	
11C	8	8	
15A	10	20	
27A	NA	NA	
30A	2	6	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>128</b>
Unit	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	

**2012**

Prairie Elk			
Unit	Resident Licenses		
	Any Elk	Atl Elk	
	21	23	
9A	10	10	
11A		10	
11B	10	5	
11C	5	5	
15A	10	16	
27A	10	5	
30A	2	2	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>100</b>
Unit	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	

**GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION  
FINALIZATION**

**Black Hills Bighorn Sheep Hunting Season  
Chapter 41:06:56**

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 1-2, 2012</b>	<b>Ft. Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>April 4, 2012</b>	<b>Brookings</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>April 4-5, 2012</b>	<b>Brookings</b>

**COMMISSION PROPOSAL**

**Season Dates:** September 1 – December 31, 2012

**Open Area:** Unit 1: Pennington County west of Highway 79, except Mount Rushmore National Memorial  
Unit 2: Custer County west of Highway 79, except Custer State Park, Wind Cave National Park, and Jewel Cave National Park

**Licenses:** Unit 1: 1 “any bighorn sheep” license  
Unit 2: 1 “any bighorn sheep” license



**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. All licensees are required to attend an orientation meeting on the day preceding the opening day of the season at the regional office in Rapid City.
2. Application for a license may be made by any resident hunter who has not been previously issued a bighorn sheep license in South Dakota.
3. Hunters who are eligible for bighorn sheep license may apply for both a Black Hills Bighorn Sheep License and a Custer State Park Bighorn Sheep License.
4. Hunters can only apply for one of the two Black Hills Bighorn Sheep units.
5. Land operator preference is not applicable to these licenses.
6. All successful hunters must submit their bighorn sheep to a conservation officer or Department representative for inspection and permanent marking within 24 hours after the kill.

**Proposed change from last year:**

1. Adjust the number of licenses available from 2 "any bighorn sheep" to 1 "any bighorn sheep" in Unit 1.

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION**

Recommended changes from proposal: None.

**SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION**

Bighorn sheep sub herds in Unit 1 have been experiencing poor lamb recruitment for the last several years. Preliminary data from ongoing research through SDSU suggests that the majority of lamb recruitment is being lost primarily due to pneumonia (46% of total mortality) and predation (28% of total mortality). This in turn has significantly reduced the recruitment of rams into the population, resulting in fewer Class I and II rams. Furthermore, the number of mature rams in the population has declined and overall there are fewer rams available for harvest. A reduction of licenses is needed to ensure a sufficient number of mature rams are available for hunting opportunities and to ensure adequate reproduction for the next few years. Continued loss of lamb recruitment in future years could result in further license reductions.

Year	Licensed hunters	Rams harvested	Ewes harvested
2007	4	4	0
2008	5	5	0
2009	5	5	0
2010	5	5	0
2011	3	3	0

**APPROVE** \_\_\_\_\_ **MODIFY** \_\_\_\_\_ **REJECT** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO ACTION** \_\_\_\_\_

# GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## Waterfowl Hunting Seasons – Nonresident Waterfowl Licenses Chapter 41:06:16

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>April 4-5, 2012</b>	<b>Brookings</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 3, 2012</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 3-4, 2012</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

**41:06:16:11. Maximum number of nonresident waterfowl licenses -- Open units -- Dates -- License restrictions.** The maximum number of nonresident waterfowl licenses to be issued by lottery is 4,000 special nonresident waterfowl licenses, 2,000 early fall Canada goose temporary nonresident licenses, 2,000 fall three-day temporary nonresident waterfowl licenses, and 10,000 spring snow goose temporary nonresident licenses divided for administrative purposes as follows:

- (1) Unit NRW-00A: the counties of Union, Clay, Yankton, Bon Homme, and Charles Mix. No more than 250 special nonresident waterfowl licenses may be issued;
- (2) Unit NRW-00B: all open counties not in Units NRW-00A or NRW-11A. No more than 3,725 special nonresident waterfowl licenses may be issued;
- (3) Unit NRW-00C: those counties as described in § 41:06:50:02. No more than 2,000 early fall Canada goose temporary nonresident waterfowl licenses may be issued;
- (4) Unit NRW-11A: Bennett County. No more than 25 special nonresident waterfowl licenses may be issued. The season in this unit is open for 65 consecutive days beginning on the third Saturday of October and during any period that Bennett County is open in January as described in subdivision 41:06:16:07(3);
- (5) Unit NRW-00X: the counties of Potter, Stanley, Sully, Hughes, and Lyman. No more than 1,500 fall three-day temporary nonresident waterfowl licenses may be issued. These licenses are valid only on private property as provided by SDCL 41-6-18.4;
- (6) Unit NRW-00Y: the counties of Brown, Marshall, Roberts, Day, Grant, Clark, Codington, Deuel, and Hamlin. No more than 500 three-day temporary nonresident waterfowl licenses may be issued;
- (7) Unit NRW-ST1: statewide. No more than 10,000 spring snow goose temporary nonresident licenses may be issued. These licenses are valid only during a Conservation Order.

**Recommended changes from last year:** None.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Unit	2010			2011		
	Licenses Available	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice Applicants	Licenses Sold	Licenses Available	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice Applicants	Licenses Sold
NRW-00A	250	299	251	250	349	251
NRW-00B	3,725	4,878	3,718	3,725	5,451	3,719
NRW-00C	2,000	387	387	2,000	379	379
NRW-11A	25	13	23	25	14	25
NRW-00X	1,500	38	536	1,500	12	500
NRW-00Y	500	713	500	500	825	500
NRW-ST1	10,000	N/A	3,021	10,000	N/A	3,773

APPROVE _____	MODIFY _____	REJECT _____	NO ACTION _____
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# GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## Waterfowl Hunting Season – Special Canada Goose Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:16:08

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>April 4-5, 2012</b>	<b>Brookings</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 3, 2012</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 3-4, 2012</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

**Season Dates:** October 20 – December 23, 2012

**Open Area:** Bennett County

**Licenses:** 800 three-tag Canada goose licenses

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. In addition to the resident license allocation, 25 2-tag permits will be provided to successful nonresident waterfowl license applicants in Unit NRW-11A (Bennett County) according to separate proposal for nonresident waterfowl licenses.
2. One-half of the permits will be available to landowners.
3. Geese must be taken in accordance with regular season bag, possession limits and shooting hours.
4. After the second application period, a permit holder may purchase up to two additional permits or a person without a permit may purchase up to three permits.

**Recommended changes from last year:** None.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Year	Licenses Available	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice Applicants	Licenses Sold	Geese Harvested
2007	800	828	800	1,016
2008	800	740	800	720
2009	800	665	800	589
2010	800	524	800	810
2011	800	429	800	952

APPROVE _____	MODIFY _____	REJECT _____	NO ACTION _____
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# GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## Waterfowl Hunting Season – Tundra Swan Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:16

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>April 4-5, 2012</b>	<b>Brookings</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 3, 2012</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 3-4, 2012</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

**Season Dates:** October 1, 2012 through the end of the light goose hunting season

**Open Area:** All counties east of the Missouri River except Charles Mix, Bon Homme, Yankton, Clay, Union, Lincoln, Turner, Hutchinson and Douglas counties.

**Licenses:** 1,100 resident and 200 nonresident single tag licenses

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. Each resident and nonresident hunter may apply for and receive only one permit from the respective resident and nonresident permit pools in the first drawing. Nonresident permits are issued only in conjunction with a prerequisite nonresident waterfowl license, and must be applied for at the same time.
2. For the second drawing, if permits remain unsold, only those residents and nonresidents who do not have a permit may submit one application for a permit remaining in the respective resident and nonresident pools.
3. For the third drawing, if any resident or nonresident permits remain unsold, any resident or nonresident may apply for a first or second permit but, in total, may only have up to two permits.
4. Licenses required include all licenses needed for waterfowl hunting.
5. One tag will be issued with each permit and each swan must be tagged immediately upon retrieval.
6. All licensees receiving a hunter report card will be required to complete and return the report card.
7. Preference certificates will be issued to applicants who are unsuccessful in the first drawing.

**Recommended changes from last year:** None.

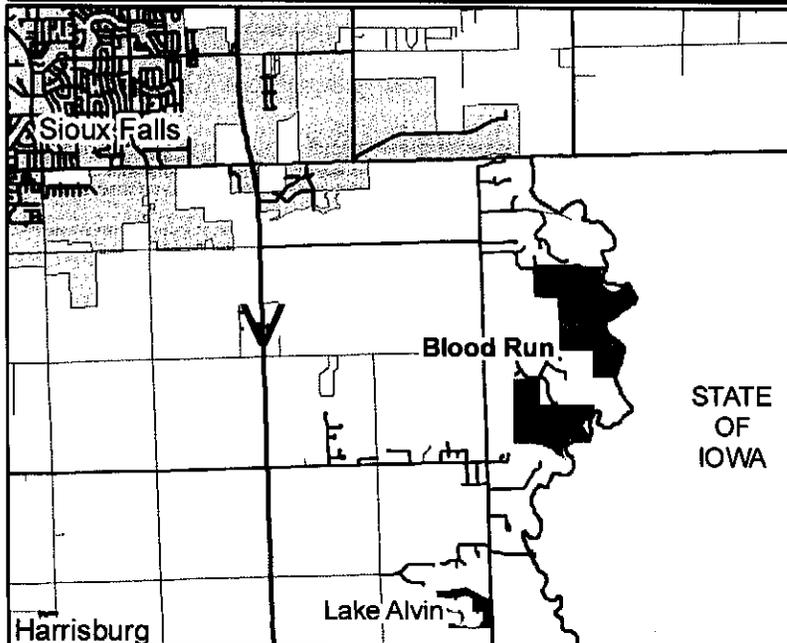
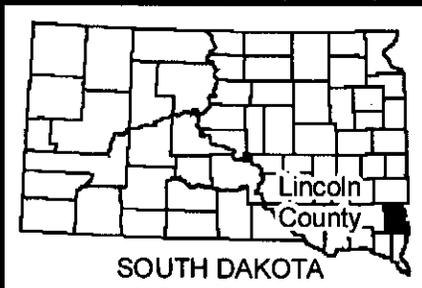
### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Year	Residents			Nonresidents			Total Swans Harvested
	Licenses Available	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice Applicants	Licenses Sold	Licenses Available	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice Applicants	Licenses Sold	
2007	1,100	303	783	200	414	281	144
2008	1,100	229	758	200	117	200	220
2009	1,100	457	1,034	200	148	208	361
2010	1,100	363	991	200	154	243	196
2011	1,100	321	978	200	109	178	261

**APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ MODIFY \_\_\_\_\_ REJECT \_\_\_\_\_ NO ACTION \_\_\_\_\_**

# BLOOD RUN - LINCOLN COUNTY

Parks & Wildlife Foundation  
60 Acres



## Projects for Final Commission Approval

Parks and Wildlife Foundation - 60 Acres



## Legend

-  Parks & Wildlife Foundation
-  The Conservation Fund
-  Game, Fish & Parks

## JANUARY- MARCH 2012 REVENUE COMPARISON BY DISTRICT

	2011		2012		% Change
	# Sold	\$ Sold	# Sold	\$ Sold	
Annual	775	\$ 21,700.00	1,915	\$ 53,608.00	147.0%
Second Vehicle	333	\$4,655.00	240	\$ 3,353.00	-28.0%
Combo	929	\$39,018.00	1,259	\$ 52,878.00	35.5%
Transferable	75	\$4,504.00	107	\$ 6,419.76	42.5%
Daily / Person (\$4)	206	\$822.65	704	\$ 2,814.39	242.1%
Daily / Vehicle (\$6)	337	\$2,019.00	1,429	\$ 8,571.25	324.5%
Unattended Vehicle Daily (\$4)	18	\$70.00	90	\$ 360.00	414.3%
Unattended Vehicle Daily (\$10)	14	\$140.00	141	\$ 1,412.00	908.6%
Motorcoach Permit	0	\$0.00	0	\$ -	#DIV/0!
GSM Annual Trail Pass (\$15)	86	\$1,290.00	132	\$ 1,980.00	53.5%
GSM Daily Trail Pass (\$3)	139	\$417.00	310	\$ 930.00	123.0%
CSP Temp Daily / Person (\$6)	399	\$2,394.00	0	\$ -	-100.0%
CSP Temp Daily / Vehicle (\$15)	791	\$11,865.00	866	\$ 12,990.00	9.5%
Bike Band (\$10)	0	\$0.00	0	\$ -	
Rally Bike Band \$10)	0	\$0.00	0	\$ -	
One-Day Special Event	N/A	\$650.00	N/A	\$ 550.00	-15.4%
	<u>4,100</u>	<u>\$89,544.65</u>	<u>7,191</u>	<u>\$145,866.40</u>	<u>62.9%</u>
Camping Services Permits		\$1,578,691.83		\$ 1,578,741.30	0.0%
Picnic Reservations		\$1,065.10		\$ 1,651.80	55.1%
Firewood	150	\$451.00	382	\$ 1,145.00	153.9%
		<u>\$1,580,207.93</u>		<u>\$1,581,538.10</u>	<u>0.1%</u>
<b>Totals:</b>		\$1,669,752.58		\$1,727,404.50	3.5%

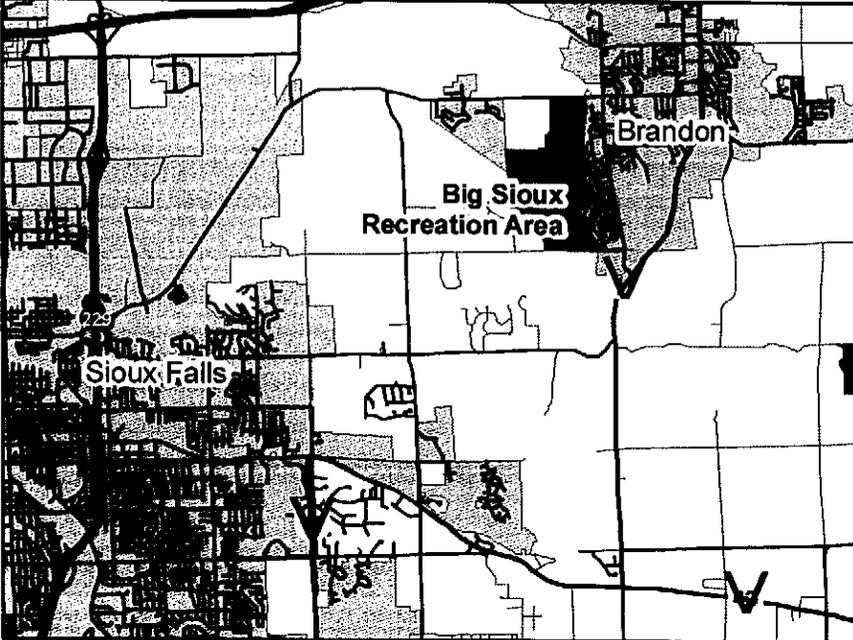
## JANUARY - MARCH 2012 VISITATION COMPARISON

Dist Park	2011	2012	% Change	Dist Park	2011	2012	% Change
1 Roy Lake	17,303	15,861	-8.3%	9 Lewis & Clark	72,621	71,150	-2.0%
Sica Hollow	5,973	4,914	-17.7%	Springfield	21,721	21,360	-1.7%
	<u>23,276</u>	<u>20,775</u>	<u>-10.7%</u>	Chief White Crane	0	0	
2 Richmond Lake	4,563	8,691	90.5%	Pierson Ranch	<u>1,324</u>	<u>1,535</u>	<u>15.9%</u>
Mina Lake	515	2,895	462.1%		<u>95,666</u>	<u>94,045</u>	<u>-1.7%</u>
Lake Louise	3,545	3,708	4.6%	10 North Point	5,307	4,374	-17.6%
Fisher Grove	375	410	9.3%	North Wheeler	682	1,181	73.2%
Fort Sisseton	<u>1,272</u>	<u>1,307</u>	<u>2.8%</u>	Pease Creek	501	950	89.6%
	<u>10,270</u>	<u>17,011</u>	<u>65.6%</u>	Randall Creek	2,861	11,817	313.0%
3 Sandy Shore	363	2,518	593.7%	Ft. Randall Marina	<u>220</u>	<u>403</u>	<u>83.2%</u>
Hartford Beach	6,182	7,138	15.5%		<u>9,571</u>	<u>18,725</u>	<u>95.6%</u>
Lake Cochrane	358	904	152.5%	11 Farm Island	15,217	22,186	45.8%
Pelican South	1,011	3,274	223.8%	West Bend	<u>875</u>	<u>1,813</u>	<u>107.2%</u>
Pickeral Lake	<u>878</u>	<u>3,217</u>	<u>266.4%</u>		<u>16,092</u>	<u>23,999</u>	<u>49.1%</u>
	<u>8,792</u>	<u>17,051</u>	<u>93.9%</u>	12 Oahe Downstream	22,700	43,859	93.2%
4 Oakwood Lakes	8,507	6,853	-19.4%	LaFramboise Island	3,539	0	-100.0%
Lake Poinsett	5,186	4,949	-4.6%	Cow Creek	21,229	67,723	219.0%
Lake Thompson	<u>6,243</u>	<u>5,373</u>	<u>-13.9%</u>	Okobojo Point	3,303	4,149	25.6%
	<u>19,936</u>	<u>17,175</u>	<u>-13.8%</u>	Spring Creek	<u>9,206</u>	<u>9,427</u>	<u>2.4%</u>
5 Lake Herman	5,800	12,231	110.9%		<u>59,977</u>	<u>125,158</u>	<u>108.7%</u>
Walkers Point	<u>2,550</u>	<u>4,165</u>	<u>63.3%</u>	13 West Whitlock	1,206	1,619	34.2%
	<u>8,350</u>	<u>16,396</u>	<u>96.4%</u>	Lake Hiddenwood	1,781	1,125	-36.8%
6 Snake Creek	3,597	4,900	36.2%	Swan Creek	1,601	1,593	-0.5%
Platte Creek	2,412	3,023	25.3%	Indian Creek	4,420	4,802	8.6%
Burke Lake	2,595	3,330	28.3%	Revheim Bay	337	1,493	343.0%
Buryanek	<u>2,948</u>	<u>2,490</u>	<u>-15.5%</u>	West Pollock	<u>3,144</u>	<u>3,123</u>	<u>-0.7%</u>
	<u>11,552</u>	<u>13,743</u>	<u>19.0%</u>		<u>12,489</u>	<u>13,755</u>	<u>10.1%</u>
7 Palisades	6,863	10,451	52.3%	14 Bear Butte	<u>2,413</u>	<u>6,971</u>	<u>188.9%</u>
Lake Vermillion	6,780	12,066	78.0%		<u>2,413</u>	<u>6,971</u>	<u>188.9%</u>
Big Sioux	6,033	9,517	57.7%	15 Shadehill	4,692	10,417	122.0%
Beaver Creek	<u>2,577</u>	<u>4,797</u>	<u>86.1%</u>	Llewellyn Johns	411	335	-18.5%
	<u>22,253</u>	<u>36,831</u>	<u>65.5%</u>	Little Moreau	777	794	2.2%
8 Newton Hills	6,136	7,586	23.6%	Rocky Point	<u>4,598</u>	<u>5,007</u>	<u>8.9%</u>
Lake Alvin	7,157	6,182	-13.6%		<u>10,478</u>	<u>16,553</u>	<u>58.0%</u>
Union Grove	768	1,423	85.3%	16 Custer	<u>108,906</u>	<u>122,902</u>	<u>12.9%</u>
Adams	13,860	12,899	-6.9%		<u>108,906</u>	<u>122,902</u>	<u>12.9%</u>
Spirit Mound	<u>1,473</u>	<u>2,524</u>	<u>71.4%</u>	17 Angostura	<u>8,571</u>	<u>11,212</u>	<u>30.8%</u>
	<u>29,394</u>	<u>30,614</u>	<u>4.2%</u>		<u>8,571</u>	<u>11,212</u>	<u>30.8%</u>
				<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>457,986</b>	<b>602,916</b>	<b>31.6%</b>

## JANUARY- MARCH 2012 CAMPING UNIT COMPARISON REPORT BY DISTRICT

Dist	Park	2011 Units	2012 Units	%	Dist	Park	2011 Units	2012 Units	%
1	Roy Lake	4	4	0.0%	9	Lewis & Clark	27	237	777.8%
	Sica Hollow	0	0			Tabor	0	0	
		<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	0.0%		Sand Creek	3	0	-100.0%
2	Richmond Lake	0	6			Springfield	10	0	-100.0%
	Mina Lake	0	17			Chief White Crane	0	0	
	Lake Louise	1	20	1900.0%		Pierson Ranch	9	43	377.8%
	Fisher Grove	0	0				<u>49</u>	<u>280</u>	471.4%
	Amsden	0	0		10	North Point	9	2	-77.8%
	Fort Sisseton	0	0			North Wheeler	0	7	
		<u>1</u>	<u>43</u>	4200.0%		Pease Creek	0	5	
3	Sandy Shore	0	1			Randall Creek	0	0	
	Hartford Beach	0	8			South Shore	0	3	
	Lake Cochrane	12	0				<u>9</u>	<u>17</u>	88.9%
	Pelican South	0	6		11	Farm Island	5	68	1260.0%
	Pickrel Lake	0	5			West Bend	3	7	133.3%
		<u>12</u>	<u>20</u>				<u>8</u>	<u>75</u>	837.5%
4	Oakwood Lakes	11	58	427.3%	12	Oahe Downstream	3	2	-33.3%
	Lake Poinsett	0	30			Cow Creek	0	10	
	Lake Thompson	18	18	0.0%		Okobojo Point	0	14	
		<u>29</u>	<u>106</u>	265.5%			<u>3</u>	<u>26</u>	766.7%
5	Lake Herman	0	47		13	West Whitlock	0	2	
	Walkers Point	0	33			Lake Hiddenwood	0	0	
	Lake Carthage	0	0			East Whitlock	0	0	
		<u>0</u>	<u>80</u>			Swan Creek	0	0	
6	Snake Creek	7	35	400.0%		Indian Creek	3	8	166.7%
	Platte Creek	0	0			West Pollock	10	15	50.0%
	Burke Lake	1	0	-100.0%			<u>13</u>	<u>25</u>	92.3%
	Buryanek	6	22	266.7%	14	Bear Butte Lake	3	9	200.0%
		<u>14</u>	<u>57</u>	307.1%			<u>3</u>	<u>9</u>	200.0%
7	Palisades	22	78	254.5%	15	Shadehill	14	29	107.1%
	Lake Vermillion	8	114	1325.0%		Llewellyn Johns	0	5	
	Big Sioux	1	102	10100.0%		Rocky Point	4	8	100.0%
		<u>31</u>	<u>294</u>	848.4%			<u>18</u>	<u>42</u>	133.3%
8	Newton Hills	53	196	269.8%	16	Custer	36	108	200.0%
	Union Grove	9	1	-88.9%			<u>36</u>	<u>108</u>	200.0%
		<u>62</u>	<u>197</u>	217.7%	17	Angostura	5	66	1220.0%
							<u>5</u>	<u>66</u>	1220.0%
<b>TOTAL FEE AREA</b>									
<b>CAMPER UNITS</b>							297	1,449	387.9%

# BIG SIOUX RECREATION AREA EXPANSION



## Projects for Advanced Commission Consideration - Information Items

Metz/Risty Property - 15 Acres



## Legend

Metz/Risty Property (15 Acres)

 Big Sioux Recreation Area

# South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks



## Elk Depredation Assistance (Black Hills)

The South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks (GFP) has had an active elk depredation assistance program for landowners in the Black Hills for many years. GFP works directly with cooperating landowners to implement the various components of these programs. These department sponsored programs include: food plots, protective fencing, and elk cable to protect fences. In addition, GFP utilizes many different hazing techniques to alleviate damage to stored feed supplies during the winter months as well as depredation hunts if necessary. The growing season food plot contracts are the most frequently used program which offers landowners a payment (maximum of \$3,000) for elk use to alfalfa fields. Most of these contracts occur in the southern portion of the Black Hills, due to the amount of private land that's interspersed with National Forest.

In 2011, GFP worked directly with 48 landowners to alleviate or reduce damage caused by elk in the Black Hills. These efforts included the implementation of various contracts as well as hazing efforts conducted by GFP staff. Overall expenditures (i.e. staff time, mileage, supplies, and contracts) of these efforts were nearly \$140,000. In contrast, in 2007 GFP worked with 62 landowners and spent over \$190,000 in overall program expenditures. The following graph depicts the reduction in expenditures from 2007 through 2011.

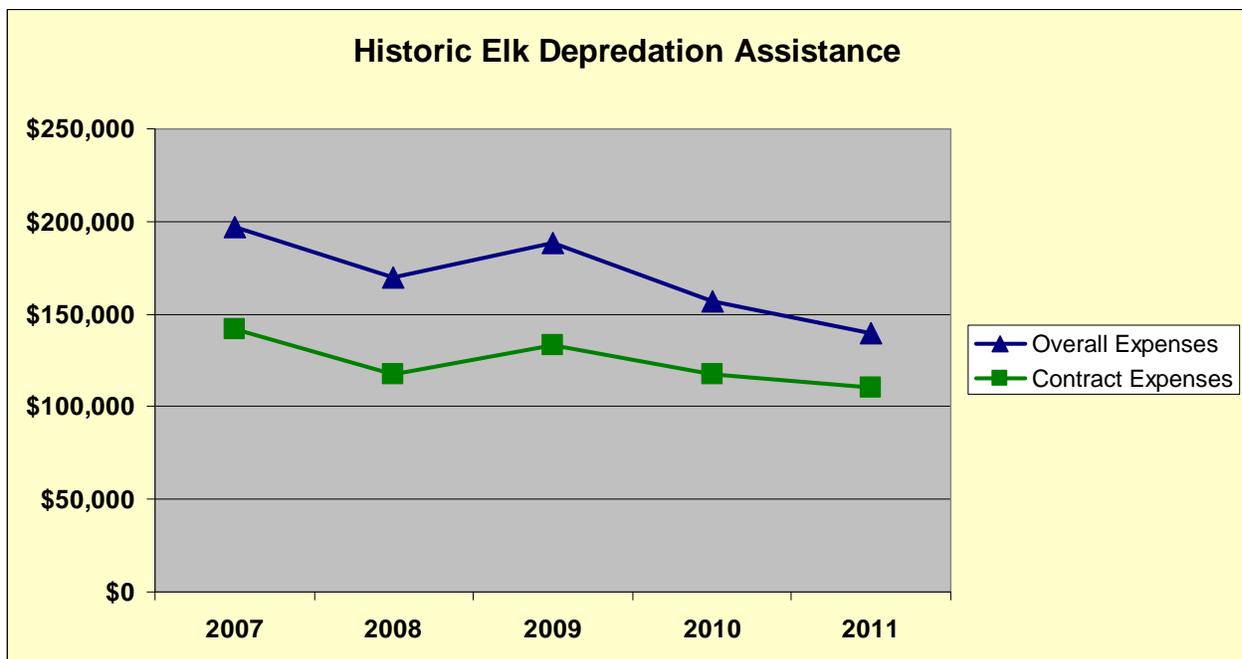


Figure 1. Elk depredation expenditures in the Black Hills (2007-2011).

In addition to the depredation assistance programs, GFP also annually implements an elk hunting access program in the southern Black Hills; the Elk Emphasis Area. GFP works with several cooperating landowners that have elk depredation to establish payments for public access for elk hunting. These areas provide hunters with opportunities to pursue elk as well as directly reduce the number of elk that affect private land. Since 2007, GFP has annually enrolled between 14,000 to 18,000 acres into this program with seven to 12 cooperating landowners at an annual cost of \$14,000 to \$19,000. As a result of this program, hunters have been able to harvest 221 elk from these areas since 2007.

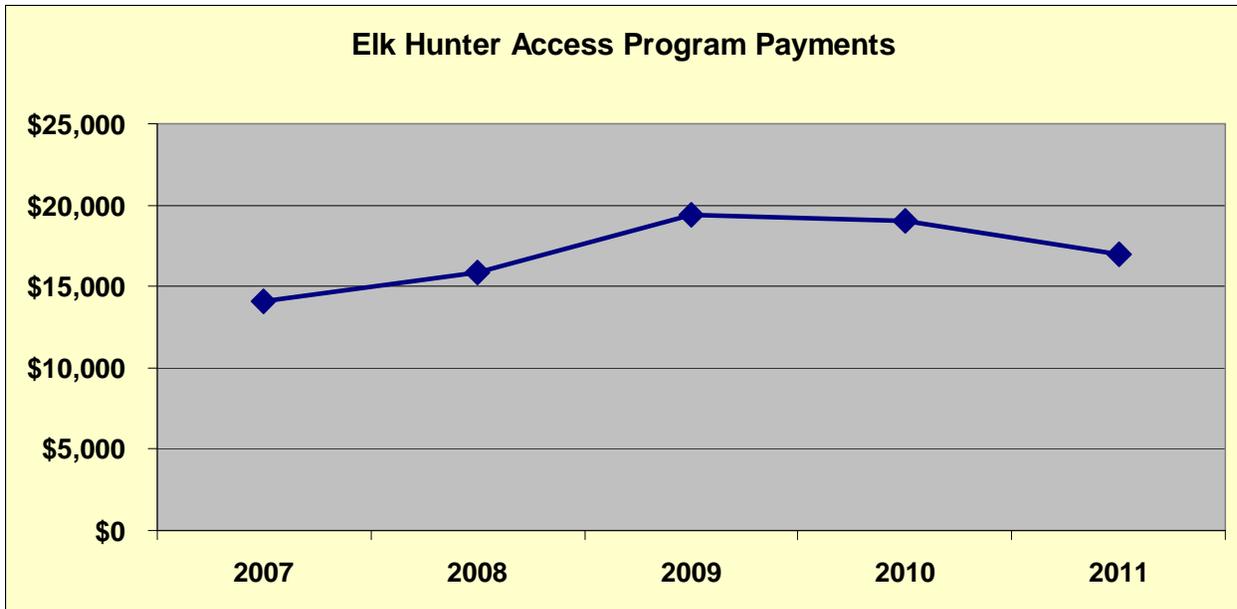


Figure 2. GFP payments to cooperating landowners for elk hunter access within the Elk Emphasis Area.

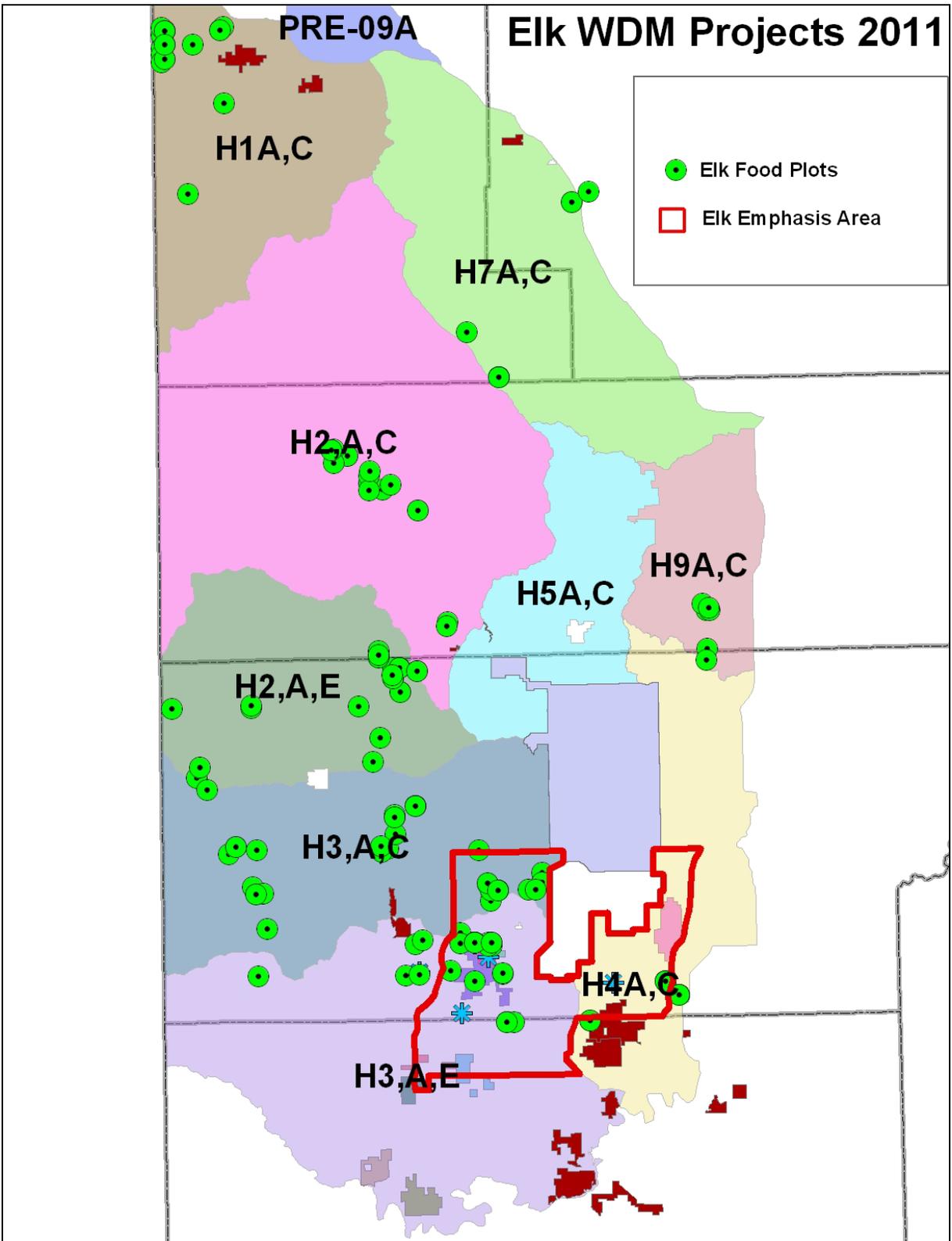


Figure 3. Locations of elk depredation food plot contracts within elk management units within the Black Hills, 2011.