

AGENDA
Game, Fish, and Parks Commission
July 9, 2012
Ramkota RiverCentre, Galleries DEFG
920 West Sioux Avenue, Pierre, SD

Call to order 9 AM CDT

Division of Administration

Action items:

1. Approve minutes of the June 6-7, 2012, meeting
2. Approve minutes of the June 18, 2012, meeting
<http://gfp.sd.gov/agency/commission/docs/minutes.pdf>
3. Additional Commissioner Salary Days
4. License List Requests

Information items:

5. License Sales Report
6. Sheps Canyon Outdoor Recreation Complex development plan
7. Mountain lion protocol
8. Comments from the Governor's office

Open Forum

Public Hearing at 10 AM

Finalizations

9. Antelope Hunting Seasons
10. East River Deer Hunting Season
11. Refuge Deer Hunting Season
12. Early Fall Canada Goose
13. Youth Waterfowl Hunting Season
14. Elk License Raffle
15. Dog Training
16. Hunting Requirements and Prohibitions
17. Pet Prohibition Amendment (Big Sioux dog training area)
18. Sheps Canyon Campground Fee

Emergency Rule: August Management Take season dates and daily bag limit

Hunting Season Proposals

19. Duck hunting seasons
20. Goose hunting seasons

Division of Parks and Recreation

Information items:

21. Blood Run updates
22. Angostura Private Trailer Sewer Project
23. June Visitation and Revenue Report

Division of Wildlife

Action items:

24. Proposals
 - a. Closure of waters to taking of bait
 - b. Muzzleloading restrictions
 - c. Hunting accompaniment
 - d. Wildlife rehabilitators permit and rules
 - e. Possession of live furbearers
 - f. Depredation Hunts
25. Depredation Hunt Resolutions
26. Land Acquisition Resolutions
 - a. PWF Land Donation – Salzmann GPA – Lyman County
 - b. Zdenek Property – Bon Homme County

Information items:

27. Rocky Mountain Elk Annual Report
28. Antelope surveys and population status
29. Waterfowl population status report
30. 2012-13 Private Shooting Preserves permits
31. 2012 Antler Auction report
32. Missouri River reservoir fishery update
33. Elk calf survival study update
34. Miscellaneous updates

Adjourn

Next meeting information:

August 2-3 @ Milbank Community Center
1001 East Fourth Avenue, Milbank, SD 57252

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

Duck Hunting Season

Chapter 41:06:16

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	July 9, 2012	Pierre
	Public Hearing	August 2, 2012	Milbank
	Finalization	August 2-3, 2012	Milbank

WILDLIFE DIVISION RECOMMENDATION

Season Dates and Open Areas:

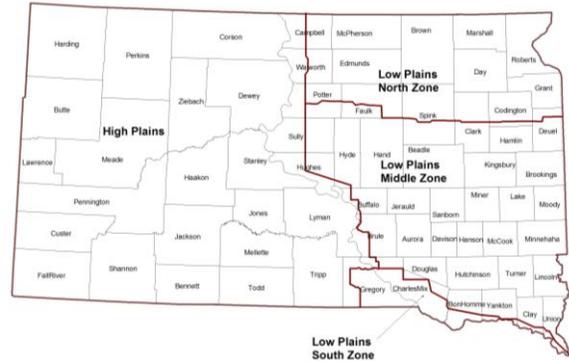
High Plains	October 6, 2012 – January 10, 2013
Low Plains North & Low Plains Middle	September 29 – December 11, 2012
Low Plains South	October 6 – December 18, 2012

Daily Duck Limit: 6

The duck limit may be comprised of no more than:

- 5 mallards (which may include no more than 2 hens)
- 3 wood ducks
- 3 redheads
- 2 scaup
- 2 pintails
- 1 canvasback

Duck Hunting Zones



Daily Coot Limit: 15

Daily Merganser Limit: 5

The daily bag may contain no more than two hooded mergansers.

Possession Limits: Twice the daily bag limits

Recommended changes from last year:

1. Increase the redhead daily limit from 2 to 3.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Redhead daily limit change is dependent upon the redhead harvest strategy recommended by the Central Flyway Council and approval by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Year	Resident Hunters	Nonresident Hunters	Ducks Harvested
2007	14,519	3,853	228,000
2008	13,376	4,058	219,125
2009	13,873	4,010	252,882
2010	14,038	4,123	262,302
2011	13,394	4,132	264,740

APPROVE _____ **MODIFY** _____ **REJECT** _____ **NO ACTION** _____

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

Goose Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:16

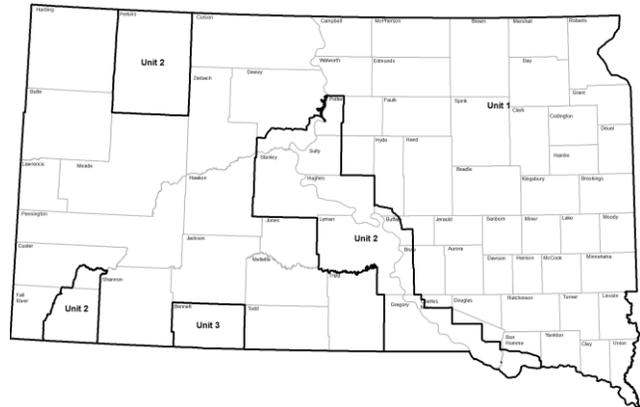
Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	July 9, 2012	Pierre
	Public Hearing	August 2, 2012	Milbank
	Finalization	August 2-3, 2012	Milbank

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Light Geese and White-fronted Geese
September 29 – December 18, 2012, Statewide

Canada Geese (and Brant)
Unit 1 October 1 – December 18, 2012
Unit 2 October 29, 2012 – February 10, 2013
Unit 3 January 7-15, 2013

Canada Goose Units



Daily Limits:

Canada geese: 5
Light geese: 20
White-fronted goose: 1

Possession Limits:

Light geese: Unlimited
All other geese: Twice the daily limit

Recommended changes from last year:

1. Increase the Canada goose daily bag limit from 3 to 5 and possession limit from 6 to 10.
2. Correct boundary descriptions for Units 1 and 2 as found below:

The dark goose season is open statewide as specifically provided for in this section and the special Canada goose hunting units in § 41:06:16:08:

(1) Unit 1: the counties of Campbell, Marshall, Roberts, Day, Clark, Codington, Grant, Hamlin, Deuel, Walworth, that portion of Dewey County north of Bureau of Indian Affairs Road 8, Bureau of Indian Affairs Road 9, and the section of U.S. Highway 212 east of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Road 8 junction, that portion of Potter County east of U.S. Highway 83, that portion of Sully County east of U.S. Highway 83, portions of Hyde, Buffalo, Brule, Charles Mix, and Bon Homme counties north and east of a line beginning at the Hughes-Hyde county line on State Highway 34, east to Lees Boulevard, southeast to the State Highway 34, east 7 miles to 350th Avenue, south to Interstate 90 on 350th Avenue, south and east on State Highway 50 to Geddes, east on 285th Street to U.S. Highway 281, south on U.S. Highway 281 to State Highway 50, east and south to State Highway 50 to the Bon Homme-Yankton county boundary, McPherson, Edmunds, Kingsbury, Brookings, Lake, Moody, Miner, Faulk, Hand, Jerauld, Douglas, Hutchinson, Turner, Lincoln, Union, Clay, Yankton, Aurora, Beadle, Davison, Hanson, Sanborn, Spink, Brown, Harding, Butte, Lawrence, Meade, Pennington, ~~Perkins~~, Shannon, Jackson, Mellette, Todd, Jones, Haakon, Corson, Ziebach, Tripp, McCook, and Minnehaha. The season is open for 107 consecutive days, less the number of days set aside for the Early Fall Canada Goose season as established in chapter 41:06:50 beginning October 1;

(2) Unit 2: the counties of Perkins, Gregory, Charles Mix, Brule, Bon Homme, Buffalo, Lyman, Stanley, Hughes, that portion of Hyde County south of U.S. Highway 3444, that portion of Sully County west of U.S. Highway 83, that portion of Potter County west of U.S. Highway 83, those

APPROVE _____
 MODIFY _____
 REJECT _____
 NO ACTION _____

portions of Hyde, Buffalo, Brule, Charles Mix, and Bon Homme counties south and west of a line beginning at the Hughes-Hyde county line on State Highway 34, east to Lees Boulevard, southeast to State Highway 34, east 7 miles to 350th Avenue, south to Interstate 90 on 350th Avenue, south and east on State Highway 50 to Geddes, east on 285th Street to U.S. Highway 281, south on U.S. Highway 281 to State Highway 50, east and south on State Highway 50 to the Bon Homme-Yankton county boundary, that portion of Fall River County east of State Highway 71 and U.S. Highway 385, that portion of Custer County east of State Highway 79 and south of French Creek, and that portion of Dewey County south of Bureau of Indian Affairs Road 8, Bureau of Indian Affairs Road 9, and the section of U.S. Highway 212 east of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Road 8 junction. The season is open for 105 consecutive days beginning on the Saturday closest to November 1;

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Daily bag limit increase is contingent upon approval from the Central Flyway Council and USFWS.

Year	Canada Geese			Light Geese (fall season only)			White-fronted Geese		
	Res Hunters	NR Hunters	Geese Harvested	Res Hunters	NR Hunters	Geese Harvested	Res Hunters	NR Hunters	Geese Harvested
2007	14,026	2,349	100,783	4,377	754	47,023	971	357	853
2008	13,463	2,483	103,449	5,165	849	63,477	903	343	1,767
2009	12,927	1,986	104,453	4,298	733	55,823	902	240	1,534
2010	13,552	2,198	129,628	4,031	551	36,259	985	261	891
2011	13,376	2,167	107,537	3,614	883	42,657	973	288	1,010

APPROVE _____ MODIFY _____ REJECT _____ NO ACTION _____

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

**Waters open to taking of bait
41:09:04:03**

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	July 9, 2012	Pierre
	Public Hearing	Aug 2, 2012	Milbank
	Finalization	Aug 2-3, 2012	Milbank

WILDLIFE DIVISION RECOMMENDATION

1. **Modify 41:09:04:03** "Waters open to taking of bait" as noted below.

Recommended changes:

1. **Modify 41:09:04:03** **Waters open to taking of bait** to include the East Vermillion River, the West Vermillion River and Fire Steel Creek below Lake Mitchell in the list of waters that are closed to the commercial and noncommercial taking of bait.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

ARSD Emergency rule 41:09:04:03 was adopted by the Commission at a conference call meeting on June 18 to include the East Vermillion River, the West Vermillion River and Fire Steel Creek below Lake Mitchell in the waters that are closed to the commercial and noncommercial taking of bait. The emergency rule will expire 90 days after adoption by the Commission. This action is to adopt the emergency rule as the standard rule to prevent these waters from becoming open to the taking of bait once the emergency rule expires. This rule change is recommended to prevent the spread of Aquatic Nuisance Species (e.g., Asian carp) to waters of the state where they are not currently present.

APPROVE **MODIFY** **REJECT** **NO ACTION**

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

**MUZZLELOADING RESTRICTIONS
CHAPTER 41:06:04**

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	July 9, 2012	Pierre
	Public Hearing	August 2, 2012	Milbank
	Finalization	August 2-3, 2012	Milbank

WILDLIFE DIVISION RECOMMENDATION

Amend 41:06:04:14 to allow for the use of smokeless powder and peep sights and other optics that do not employ magnification during seasons restricted to muzzleloading rifles.

Recommended changes:

41:06:04:14. Muzzleloading restrictions. In seasons restricted to muzzleloading rifles, ~~only rifles with open sights may be used. Telescopic~~ telescopic sights and smokeless powder are not allowed. Telescopic sights are those sights that utilize magnification.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

The Department has received additional requests to allow peep sights and other optics that do not utilize magnification on muzzleloading rifles during seasons restricted to those weapons. Currently, only open sights may be utilized. Peep (aperture) sights are not considered open sights and are therefore illegal to use during the muzzleloader season. Past advancements in muzzleloader technology have improved the effectiveness of these hunting weapons. No longer a primitive weapon, muzzleloader enthusiasts desire the use of optics (red dot scopes, aim points, etc.) that improve their sight picture but do not magnify the object (i.e. 1x maximum).

Additionally, the Department feels that the prohibition on smokeless powder has outlived its purpose and would like to allow commonly marketed products such as Blackhorn 209 to be used during muzzleloader-only seasons.

APPROVE **MODIFY** **REJECT** **NO ACTION**

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

**HUNTING ACCOMPANIMENT
CHAPTER 41:06:04**

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	July 9, 2012	Pierre
	Public Hearing	August 2, 2012	Milbank
	Finalization	August 2-3, 2012	Milbank

WILDLIFE DIVISION RECOMMENDATION

Amend 41:06:04:04 to create accompaniment allowances for big game hunters and place the responsibility for adherence to the rule on the unlicensed big game hunter.

Recommended changes:

41:06:04:04. ~~Accompaniment by nonlicensee~~ Nonlicensee armed accompaniment prohibited -- Exception. ~~While hunting in the field during a big game season, no licensee possessing a firearm big game license may be accompanied by another person carrying~~ No person possessing a firearm, including a muzzleloading firearm, or a bow and arrow ~~may accompany a big game hunter in the field or cooperate as part of a big game hunting group~~ unless the accompanying person possesses a ~~firearm~~ big game license that is valid for the same geographic area and time of year as the licensee. ~~For the purposes of this section, firearm big game license means any license that authorizes the licensee to use a firearm, including a muzzleloading firearm, in the taking of big game animals.~~ The provisions of this section do not apply to any person who is carrying a pistol and possesses a valid concealed pistol permit as provided in SDCL chapter 23-7-, ~~nor do they apply to a person who is legally licensed to hunt small game (or exempt from license requirements as provided by SDCL 41-6-2) and hunting only with a shotgun using shotshells.~~ A person hunting small game and accompanying a licensed firearm big game hunter in the field may not use dogs while accompanying a big game hunter.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Currently, a person licensed in a firearm big game season cannot be accompanied in the field by another person carrying a firearm or bow and arrow unless that individual has a firearm big game license valid for the same geographic area and time of year as the licensee. The licensed big game hunter is held as the responsible party if other armed individuals accompany him/her and do not have the same type of license. The proposed amendment would place the responsibility for adherence to the rule on the unlicensed big game hunter(s). In addition, the rule would allow a person who is legally licensed to hunt small game the ability to accompany a licensed big game hunter in the field provided the person hunting small game uses only a shotgun and shotshells. This rule would also clarify that a person hunting small game may not use dogs in the field while accompanying a licensed firearm big game hunter.

APPROVE MODIFY REJECT NO ACTION

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

Wildlife Rehabilitation Chapter 41:09:18

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	July 9, 2012	Pierre
	Public Hearing	August 2, 2012	Milbank
	Finalization	August 2-3, 2012	Milbank

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

To initiate a formalized Resident Wildlife Rehabilitation Program for the temporary care, rehabilitation, and release of certain resident wildlife species.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

SD Game, Fish and Parks (SDGFP) does not presently have a formalized process to allow temporary care, rehabilitation and release of resident wildlife species. Wildlife Division administrative regions have handled this in various ways but do not satisfy the needs of rehabilitation efforts.

The task of developing a framework for a wildlife rehabilitation system was to meet the needs of non-migratory species. Migratory bird rehabilitation is authorized by federal permits issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, thus SDGFP recognizes federal permits for these rehabilitation activities.

Create a new chapter 41:09:18 (Wildlife Rehabilitation)

41:09:18:00 Definition of terms. Terms used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, mean:

(1) "Rehabilitation," is the process of rescuing, raising, or arranging for veterinary medical care of orphaned, sick, displaced, or injured wild, non-migratory animals with a goal of releasing them back to their natural habitats.

(2) "Rehabilitator," an individual legally permitted to carry out the act of rehabilitation.

(3) "Nonreleasable animal," an animal that cannot be released back into the wild because of physical injuries or behavioral problems.

(4) "Veterinarian commitment", a signed declaration that a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine will assist the permitted rehabilitator in such activities as assessing initial health and injury status and potential for rehabilitation, determining the need for and administering humane euthanasia tools, and in assessing health status and survival potential prior to release to the wild.

41:09:18:01 Wildlife Rehabilitator Permit Required - Expiration. It is unlawful to possess any wildlife species, except migratory birds, for the purpose of rehabilitation without obtaining and complying with the terms and conditions of a valid wildlife rehabilitator's permit issued by the Department. A wildlife rehabilitator permit expires on January 31st. A wildlife rehabilitator permit is not required for a person to provide temporary care of migratory birds for rehabilitation purposes, provided the person possesses a valid Migratory Bird Rehabilitation Permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

APPROVE ____	MODIFY ____	REJECT ____	NO ACTION ____
---------------------	--------------------	--------------------	-----------------------

41:09:18:02 Application for wildlife rehabilitator permit. Only residents of South Dakota at least 21 years of age may apply for a wildlife rehabilitator permit. Applicants for wildlife rehabilitator permits shall fill out application forms furnished by the department and have a veterinarian commitment. The department reserves the right to limit the number of permitted wildlife rehabilitators.

41:09:18:03 Permit Renewal - Required documentation. A wildlife rehabilitator may renew a wildlife rehabilitator permit upon submission to the department of a permit renewal application together with a report of all wildlife rehabilitated, released, and euthanized during the previous calendar year on forms furnished by the department. A permit holder shall maintain a log of each animal taken into custody to include date the animal was received, county of origin, treatment, condition and disposition.

41:09:18:04 Inspection of Facilities. Before issuance of a permit allowing the rehabilitation of wildlife, a department representative shall inspect the applicant's facilities for rehabilitating wildlife. The facilities and equipment shall comply with the most current edition of the Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation compiled by the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association and International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council. A permitted wildlife rehabilitator shall allow any department representative to enter the rehabilitation facilities during normal hours of operation for the purpose of inspecting the facilities, logs, and wildlife held in the facilities to assure compliance with the provisions of this chapter.

41:09:18:05 Allowed Wildlife Species. Only those wildlife species allowed by the Department listed on a permit are approved for temporary care.

41:09:18:06 Release of Wildlife. Successfully rehabilitated individuals may not be released without approval from the department's respective regional wildlife manager.

41:09:18:07 Temporary care of Wildlife. Wildlife under the temporary care of wildlife rehabilitation permits remain the property of the state of South Dakota. Permitted wildlife rehabilitators may not permanently possess animals that are deemed nonreleasable. Rehabilitators may not display animals in their temporary care. When necessary, humane euthanasia must be administered.

41:09:18:08 Financial Assistance – Wildlife Rehabilitation Fees. The department assumes no financial obligations for and shall not provide any financial assistance to a permitted wildlife rehabilitator. Permitted wildlife rehabilitators shall not charge any fees for wildlife rehabilitation services.

41:09:18:09 Indemnification and Liability. A person providing temporary care for animals under the authority of a rehabilitation permit is neither an employee nor agent of the State of South Dakota. By accepting a wildlife rehabilitator's permit, a rehabilitator assumes all liability for and indemnifies and holds harmless the State of South Dakota, its officers, representatives and employees, against liability for personal injury, death and property damage caused by any animal or bird under the rehabilitator's care and control.

41:09:18:10 Suspension and revocation of permits. The Department may pursuant to SDCL Chapter 1-26 revoke or suspend a wildlife rehabilitator for any violation of the provisions of this chapter or any other state or federal wildlife laws and regulations committed by the permitted wildlife rehabilitator or any person involved in the operation of the wildlife rehabilitation facilities.

APPROVE ____	MODIFY ____	REJECT ____	NO ACTION ____
---------------------	--------------------	--------------------	-----------------------

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

Possession of Live Furbearers Chapter 41:08:05

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	July 9, 2012	Pierre
	Public Hearing	August 2, 2012	Milbank
	Finalization	August 2-3, 2012	Milbank

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Repeat 41:08:05 (Possession of Live Furbearers):

~~**41:08:05:01. Possession of live wild furbearer prohibited** -- Exception. A person may not possess a live furbearing animal, as defined in SDCL [41-1-1](#), with the following exception: no more than one raccoon, jackrabbit, skunk, red or grey fox, or coyote per household may be kept as a pet under humane and sanitary conditions.~~

~~**41:08:05:03. Purchase of live wild furbearer prohibited.** A person may not offer for sale, sell, or purchase a live wild furbearing animal.~~

~~**41:08:05:04. Killing or release of wild furbearer required** -- Exception for pet. Unless the animal is to be kept as a pet as provided in § 41:08:05:01, a person who takes a live furbearing animal in the wild shall immediately and humanely kill the animal or release it.~~

~~**41:08:05:05. Possession of physically altered furbearer prohibited** -- Exception. A person may not possess a pet furbearing animal, as authorized by § 41:08:05:01, which has been physically altered except for a de-scented skunk. Alteration includes, but is not limited to, the clipping of tendons and removal of teeth, claws, or other parts.~~

~~**41:08:05:07. Seizure and disposition of live furbearer possessed unlawfully.** A live furbearing animal possessed contrary to this chapter or to statute shall be immediately seized by the conservation officer and shall be disposed of in the manner directed by the secretary.~~

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Based on staff research, this rule was enacted in part to allow trappers to possess wild furbearers for the purpose of extracting lure material. Artificial sources of lure material are readily available. As part of the development of a wildlife rehabilitation permit process, a number of South Dakota health professionals were contacted regarding this existing rule. They expressed a serious concern about potential disease transmission, i.e. rabies, tularemia, and Q-Fever. Additionally, many furbearers are obtained as young. Upon maturation, many people look to release those animals. However, locating a suitable release site can be difficult and may serve as little or no biological benefit to both the animal being released or the environment into which it is being released.

APPROVE _____	MODIFY _____	REJECT _____	NO ACTION _____
---------------	--------------	--------------	-----------------



SD ANIMAL INDUSTRY BOARD

411 South Fort Street
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-4503
Phone: (605) 773-3321
Fax: (605) 773-5459

July 3, 2012

TO: South Dakota Game Fish and Parks Commission

RE: Repeal of Administrative Rule 41:08:05

The South Dakota Animal Industry Board supports the Repeal of SDAR 41:08:05. Many of the animals covered in this rule (fox, coyotes, and skunk) are subject to the captive non-domestic ownership permitting process of the Animal Industry Board. The safety and health of other animals as well as humans must be assured during this process in order for the permit to be issued. Permittees must also notify the board of any disease issue in their permitted animals, providing a level of assurance of good health not contained in SDAR 41:08:05.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Dustin Oedekoven, DVM'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dustin Oedekoven, DVM
State Veterinarian and Executive Secretary
South Dakota Animal Industry Board

Division of Health and Medical Services
Disease Prevention
Family and Community Health Services
Health Promotion
State Epidemiologist

29 June 2012

To: Game Fish and Parks Commission
RE: Repeal of Administrative Rule 41:08:05

I support the repeal of 41:08:05 due to human health and safety concerns. The animals covered in this rule (raccoon, skunk, fox, jackrabbit, coyote) may carry diseases that can be transmitted to humans. The diseases include rabies, plague, tularemia and Q fever, all of which are endemic in South Dakota. Last year, 2011, there were 8 cases of human tularemia and 1 Q fever case reported among South Dakota residents.

Thank you for your consideration,



Lon Kightlinger, Ph.D.
State Epidemiologist
South Dakota Department of Health

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

Depredation Permits Chapter 41:06:46

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	July 9, 2012	Pierre
	Public Hearing	August 2, 2012	Milbank
	Finalization	August 2-3, 2012	Milbank

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Between December 1 and March 31, the Department may issue up to 600 permits.
2. Hunters that register for the pool from December 1-31 will be randomly ordered to determine the order in which they are contacted if a pool hunt is needed in a county where they are willing to hunt. After December 31, additional hunters will be registered in the pool in the order that they enroll.
3. The Department may issue up to 200 landowner/operator depredation permits in addition to the depredation permits.
4. The maximum number of landowner/operator depredation permits that may be issued is four permits per household.

Recommended changes from last year: None.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Due to warm weather and limited snow accumulation, no big game depredation hunts were initiated during the winter of 2011-2012.

APPROVE _____ MODIFY _____ REJECT _____ NO ACTION _____

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

**Elk Depredation Permits
Chapter 41:06:52**

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	July 9, 2012	Pierre
	Public Hearing	August 2, 2012	Milbank
	Finalization	August 2-3, 2012	Milbank

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. The commission by resolution shall specify the number and type of elk depredation permits that may be issued.
2. For any hunt conducted in a geographic area lying outside of an established elk hunting unit, the hunt may be conducted within any time period determined by the department.
3. For any hunt conducted in a geographic area lying within an established elk hunting unit, the hunt may be conducted anytime except during the regular elk season.
4. Landowners are eligible for 1 permit for each ranch unit if they are qualified for landowner preference and if they have not received an elk license for the current elk season.
5. Any elk depredation permit holders would not lose any preference points they accumulated over the years; landowners who participate in a hunt would not lose their eligibility to apply for a license for the subsequent elk season.

Recommended changes from last year: None.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Two depredation hunts were initiated during the winter of 2011-2012 which resulted in two cow elk being harvested.

APPROVE _____	MODIFY _____	REJECT _____	NO ACTION _____
----------------------	---------------------	---------------------	------------------------