

AGENDA
Game, Fish, and Parks Commission
March 7-8, 2013
AmericInn Conference Center
312 Island Drive, Ft. Pierre, SD

Call to Order 1 PM Central Time

Division of Administration

Action items:

1. Approve minutes of the January meeting
<http://gfp.sd.gov/agency/commission/archive/2013/january/minutes.pdf>
2. Approve minutes of the February Teleconference meeting
http://gfp.sd.gov/agency/commission/archive/2013/feb_teleconference/minutes.pdf
3. Additional Commissioner Salary Days
4. License List Requests

Information items:

5. License Sales Report
6. 2013 Legislative Update
7. Big Game Management Review and Resolution-Governor's Office

Open Forum

Public Hearing at 2 PM

Finalizations

8. Special Buck Licenses
9. Public Water Swim/Safety Zones
10. Waterfowl Refuges

Hunting Seasons Proposals

11. CSP Non-trophy Bison Hunting Season
12. CSP Trophy Bison Hunting Season
13. CSP Elk Hunting Seasons
14. Archery Elk Hunting Season
15. Black Hills Elk Hunting Season
16. Prairie Elk Hunting Season
17. Mountain Goat Hunting Season
18. Grouse Hunting Season
19. Pheasant Hunting Seasons
20. Partridge Hunting Season
21. Quail Hunting Season
22. Cottontail Hunting Season
23. Squirrel Hunting Season
24. Crow and Crane Hunting Season
25. Snipe and Dove Hunting Season
26. 2013 Hunting Season Dates

Division of Wildlife

Information items:

27. Habitat Partner of the Year Award
28. Pheasant habitat and Farm Bill discussion
29. Spring Canada goose take permit
30. Elk population status
31. Conservation officer staffing structure changes
32. Ice fishing update
33. Black Hills Fisheries Management Plan
34. Mountain lion season update
35. Open house schedule update

Executive Session at 8 AM Friday morning

Division of Parks and Recreation

Action items:

36. Shep's Canyon Lodge Fee Proposal
37. Lyman County/Cedar Shore Leases
38. Cedar Shore Resort Lease Transfer
39. Lewis and Clark Marina Concession

Information items:

40. CSP Mountain Pine Beetle Project
41. Campground Reservation System

Adjourn

Next meeting information:

April 4-5, 2013, at Holiday Inn Express in Winner, SD

Minutes of the Game, Fish, and Parks Commission
Special Teleconference
February 7, 2013

Chairwoman Susie Knippling called the Commission teleconference to order at 2:01 PM Central Time. Answering roll call were Commissioners Susie Knippling, John, Cooper, Jim Spies, Cathy Peterson, Barry Jensen, Duane Sather, and Gary Jensen. The Sioux Falls and Rapid City regional offices were present by conference phone. Present at the Pierre office in the Joe Foss building were Secretary Jeff Vonk, Parks Director Doug Hofer, Parks Concession Manager Sean Blanchette, Attorney Richard Neill, Debra Ascher, Tom Kirschenmann, Al Nedved, and Chuck Schlueter.

Parks Director Hofer presented background information about the Lewis and Clark Marina Concession indicating the Department met with current concessionaire Russ Marsh and his attorney in January. Mr. Marsh is in the ninth year of a ten-year agreement and indicated he would like to sell his assets relating to the concession lease. Mr. Marsh has provided an asset list and is asking about \$2.86 million for the 400 marina slips with walkways; 50 personal watercraft docks; kitchen equipment and fixtures in the restaurant; and furniture, fixtures, and equipment related to the marina repair service, convenience store, and other operations of the concession. The Department will advertise the business opportunity containing the selling price agreed up on between Mr. Marsh and the Department. In order to sell the marina in accordance with Marsh's asking price, the advertisement must take place prior to the final 18-months of the lease when an appraisal of the facilities will be required.

Sean Blanchette outlined the differences between the concession lease to be advertised and current lease agreement. Director Hofer indicated the desire to advertise the opportunity two different ways with the preference for a single concessionaire to operate the marina and the restaurant. The advertisement will also provide for individual bids for the marina or the restaurant and the prospectus will define different criteria for the individual bids. The Commission could be asked to approve a Concession Agreement at the May meeting should a successful bidder(s), Russ Marsh, and the Department reach terms for the upcoming summer season.

Discussion included timeframe for the process with viable bids or if no bids are received, operations for the coming season, franchise fees, profitability, and past revenues. The process to request bids will change if no viable concessionaire agreement(s) are secured through this process and the current lease is within 18-months of expiration. The Department would then advertise a new prospectus with the value of Mr. Marsh's marina assets determined by an appraisal.

Motion by Petersen, second by Cooper TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT TO DRAFT AND ADVERTISE FOR 60 DAYS A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR A CONCESSIONAIRE OR CONCESSIONAIRES AT LEWIS AND CLARK RECREATION AREA TO PURCHASE AND OPERATE THE MARINA AND/OR RESTAURANT AS EITHER A COMBINED OPERATION UNDER A SINGLE CONCESSION AGREEMENT OR INDIVIDUALLY UNDER SEPARATE CONCESSION AGREEMENTS WHICH WILL

INCLUDE THE PROPOSED MINIMUM REQUIRED SERVICES AND FEE STRUCTURES. FINAL CONCESSIONAIRE SELECTION(S) AND CONCESSION AGREEMENT(S) WILL BE SUBJECT TO COMMISSION APPROVAL. Roll call vote: Cooper-yes; Barry Jensen-yes; Gary Jensen-yes; Peterson-yes; Sather-yes; Spies-yes; Knippling-yes. Motion carried.

Gary Jensen made motion to adjourn the meeting and Spies second the motion. Motion carried and the teleconference meeting ended at 2:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey R. Vonk, Department Secretary

Minutes of the Game, Fish, and Parks Commission
January 10-11, 2013

Chairman Jeff Olson called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM at the AmericInn Conference Center in Fort Pierre, South Dakota. Commissioners Jeff Olson, Susie Knippling, Cathy Peterson, John Cooper, Barry Jensen, and Jim Spies were present. Commissioner Duane Sather participated by phone. Secretary Jeff Vonk was present along with staff, media, and public numbering approximately forty. Newly appointed Gary Jensen was present in the audience.

Division of Administration

Chairman Olson called for additions, corrections, or approval of the December 6-7, 2012, minutes.

Motion by Cooper with second by Spies TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER MINUTES AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Olson asked Commissioners for any additional salary days and Knippling requested four salary days for the Winter WAFWA Conference and Cooper requested one day for the December 12, 2013, Access Committee meeting.

Motion by Spies with second by Peterson TO APPROVE THE ADDITIONAL SALARY DAYS AS REQUESTED BY KNIPPLING AND COOPER. Motion carried unanimously.

License List Requests

Director Chris Petersen presented two license list requests at the reduced fee. The South Dakota Bowhunters, Inc. requested a list of archery license holders to promote their annual convention in Aberdeen in February. The Delta Waterfowl Foundation requested a list of resident and nonresident license holders to send a pamphlet about the organization and to solicit membership.

Motion by Jensen second by Peterson TO APPROVE THE LICENSE LIST REQUESTS FROM SOUTH DAKOTA BOWHUNTERS, INC. AND DELTA WATERFOWL FOUNDATION AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

2012 License Sales Report

Director Petersen presented the Final License Sales Report for 2012. Sales ended on December 15 with 414,479 licenses sold for actual revenue of \$26,388,664. Petersen indicated resident and nonresident small game sales make up 20% of the Wildlife Division budget and with fewer small game sales and fewer deer tags the revenue was lower than projected; however, fishing license sales out-paced the projected revenue for 2012.

Petersen thanked Commissioners Peterson, Knippling, Gary Jensen, and John Cooper for attending the Joint Appropriations Committee Hearing earlier today as this

sent a strong message to the Appropriations Committee of Commission involvement and support for the Department budget.

Discussion ensued regarding the loss of pheasant habitat thus creating a decrease in nonresident small game sales and revenue. Budget projections, budget reserves, and increase federal dollars from recreational tax dollars were included in the discussion.

Department Sponsored Legislation

Secretary Vonk, also thanked the Commissioners for attending the Budget Hearing this morning and indicated the Joint Appropriations Committee appreciated it as well.

The Department will sponsor a bill to exempt a mountain lion hunter from wearing blaze orange while in the field hunting and a bill to repeal the law requiring minors hunting mourning doves to be accompanied by an adult. A third bill will be presented by the Governor requesting a designation of a new state park at the Blood Run site.

Vonk indicated a revenue bond authority bill will be introduced to provide funding for a new sewer system at Angostura Recreation Area near Hot Springs. The Parks Division will participate and benefit from the new sewer system as well as 86 cabin and trailer owners. Eighty of those people have provided earnest money for the project. The revenue bond will provide funding to complete the project in the next couple of years and allow repayment over twenty years, thus keeping it affordable for everyone.

The Outdoor Heritage Project funds introduced by the Governor are for one-time dollars. Vonk believes there is support and it will be important to continue to keep the enthusiasm high for these projects.

Vonk indicated there has been some discussion of possible bills regarding the use of leashed dogs to retrieve wounded big game animals, allow party fishing and party hunting of upland game birds, animal damage control program funding, and a license surcharge on hunting licenses to fund Wildlife Damage Management and Walk-in Areas. Other possible bills include requiring GFP to pay access for hunters on school and public lands, requiring public access easements for access to waters on private land (non-meandered waters), require loss of preference points from people convicted of big game violations, amend definition OHV to include battery-powered vehicles, nonresident waterfowl licenses, and restrict conservation easements for 30 years. Vonk indicated it could be an interesting legislative session for the Department.

Agency Review Update

Nathan Sanderson from the Governor's Office provided an update on the Request for Proposal for review of the Wildlife Division. Four proposals were received and under review by the Governor's staff, who will consult with the GFP Commission Chairman before a recommendation is submitted to the Governor. In March, Sanderson will present the Governor's recommendation to the Commission along with a request for funding from the Commission. Upon funding approval from the Commission, the review would begin shortly thereafter.

Open Forum

Chairman Olson invited the attending public to the Open Forum portion of the meeting and anyone wishing to address the Commission about something other than the Bighorn Sheep Hunting Season to approach the microphone at this time. No one came forward.

Public Hearing

The Public Hearing began at 2:01 PM and concluded at 2:11 PM. (Minutes follow the regular meeting minutes.)

Finalizations

Bighorn Sheep Hunting Season 41:06:56

Tom Kirschenmann presented the proposed changes and reviewed discussion from the December meeting. The license is an "any tag" and harvest history indicates no ewes have been harvested with this license. The Department recommended changing the license designation to a "ram bighorn sheep" tag.

Change all "any bighorn sheep" licenses to "ram bighorn sheep" licenses.

Motion by Spies with second by Cooper TO AMEND THE PROPOSAL TO DESIGNATE THE AUCTION TAG TO A "RAM BIGHORN SHEEP" TAG. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Change all "any bighorn sheep" licenses to "ram bighorn sheep" tags.
2. One "ram bighorn sheep" license will be sold by auction. (Pending approval of auction license rules by the Interim Rules Review Committee.)

Motion by Spies with second by Cooper TO FINALIZE CHANGES TO THE BLACK HILLS BIGHORN SHEEP HUNTING SEASON 41:06:56 AS AMENDED. Motion carried unanimously.

Division of Parks and Recreation

Public Water Swim Zone Proposals

Parks Assistant Director Bob Schneider and Wildlife Chief of Terrestrial Resources Tom Kirschenmann presented recommended changes to Public Water Zoning to repeal four water safety zones in Marshall County and add a new safety zone in Charles Mix County. Two of the safety zones were used for goose feeding sites which are no longer needed and repealing these will increase fishing opportunity for anglers.

A public swim zone on Clear Lake is adjacent to a resort which no longer exists and the beach area is no longer frequented by swimmers. A second public swim zone on Clear Lake is located at a Lakeside Use Area that was previously designated as a recreation area now used by boaters and sees very little swimming activity.

The new safety zone request is to provide a public swim zone at the Platte Creek Recreation Area that sees about 60,000 visitors. The designation prohibits boating within the safety zone and will provide a safe area for swimmers.

1. Repeal the current safety zone designated on Helgeson Slough in Clark County.
2. Repeal the current safety zone designated on portions of Rock Crandall Game Production Area on Opitz Lake and East Stink Lake in Marshall County.
3. Repeal two current public swimming zones on Clear Lake in Marshall County.
4. Add a new safety zone at Platte Creek Recreation Area in Charles Mix County as a "public swim zone".

Motion by Barry Jensen with second by Knippling TO PROPOSE CHANGES TO PUBLIC WATER ZONING AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

Campground Reservation System Update

Parks Director Doug Hofer and Visitor Services Coordinator Lynn Spomer provided an update of the new campground reservation system with Leisure Interactive. Spomer indicated Leisure Interactive started taking reservations for Custer State Park campgrounds on January 2, 2013, the call center had 55 agents available at 7 AM on opening day, and "maxed out" 120 phone lines at 7:05 AM with very few dropped calls. Camping cabin reservations began for the balance of the winter on January 2nd and many cabins were reserved by ice fishermen during the coming weeks.

Opening day, January 2, saw 1,562 reservations with 60% online and 40% by phone. On Jan 7, lodge reservations opened and 122 reservations were made in half an hour and the lodge at Shadehill Recreation Area filled for the season. There has been \$350,000 in reservation sales thus far in 2013 using the new system and both Leisure Interactive and the Department are very pleased.

Leisure Interactive improved customer profiles and the ability for the customer to see available campsites. Online comment cards tripled last year and Lewis and Clark received an award for last year's high ratings. Improvements will continue and will include promoting activities to park users. Customers will be able to purchase Park Entrance Licenses beginning in March, online checks will be accepted, picnic shelter reservations begin on March 1, and park managers will have mobile applications to sell products within the park providing even more convenience to park users.

Hofer indicated February 17 will be the 90-day window when the rest of the park system will begin making reservations for the weekend before Memorial Day, followed by February 24 the opening of reservations for Memorial Day weekend.

Mountain Pine Beetle Update

Hofer introduced Adam Gahagan, Senior Forester at Custer State Park, who presented a PowerPoint briefing regarding mountain pine beetle suppression efforts in Custer State Park. He will be sharing his presentation with Legislators next week. Gahagan reviewed what was done last year and the plan for the coming year. Since 2005, \$3,719,766 have been spent treating 100,000 trees, thinning 667 acres, marking infested trees, and treating 2,734 trees on the Mickelson Trail through 2012.

Gary Brundige provided an update on a prescribed burn in CSP to clean up about six areas of hardwood and understory to improve the park. Timber sales, treatments, and cleaning of the area allowed for a burn yesterday and today to complete 250 acres of desired prescribed burns in Custer State Park.

2012 Park Revenue and Visitation Report

Director Doug Hofer once again expressed his thanks to the parks field staff for their recovery efforts from the 2011 flood. Revenue for 2012 was 11.6% above 2011 totals. The increase was expected as 2011 revenue was impacted by flooding. The revenue comparison by district show marked increase in the areas that had limited use due to flooding last year. The exception was in the District where Lake Vermillion is located and their increase was due to campground expansion that provided additional camping use and revenue increase.

Visitation for 2012 increased 11% and camping units were up 13% over last year. Both camping and visitation set new records in 2012 over the previous record year of 2010.

Division of Wildlife

Special Buck License Proposal

Kirschenmann presented a PowerPoint showing the number Special Buck licenses for West River and East River seasons indicating there are special requirements for these licenses. The special requirements for the license are that the license is valid on private property only and the application must include landowner permission. Kirschenmann indicated the Commission asked to have the Special Buck License evaluated and how it is linked to deer management and season allocations. Public input supports both sides of the special buck licenses.

Kirschenmann shared the considerations included in the evaluation process, which included timeline for the application and draw process, method of linking to East River and West River "any deer" license allocations, and different deer seasons and types. The Department recommendation was 3% of the five-year average of available "any deer" licenses to be available for East River Special Buck Licenses and the West River recommendation was 4% of the five-year average. Discussion continued on the percentages, current license allocations or the five-year average, licenses available to nonresident in both East River and West River, should resident hunters be able to obtain both an East River and West River Special Buck license, and action was deferred to Friday morning.

1. An individual can only possess either an East River or West River Special Buck license in any given year.
2. West river Special Buck allocations for both residents and nonresidents will be 4% of the previous year's resident licenses which included an "any deer" tag allocated for the West River deer season. (461 West River licenses in 2013)
3. East River Special Buck allocations for residents will be 4% of the previous year's resident licenses which included an "any deer" tag allocated for the East River deer season (687 East River licenses in 2013)

Motion by Cooper with second by Gary Jensen TO PROPOSE CHANGES TO SPECIAL BUCK LICENSES AS LISTED ABOVE. Roll call vote: Cooper- yes; B. Jensen-no; Peterson-yes; Sather-yes; Spies-yes; G. Jensen-yes; and Knippling-yes. Motion carried with six yes votes and one no vote.

Waterfowl Refuges Proposal

Chief Kirschenmann presented a change to remove the North Shore State Waterfowl Refuge this take line refuge is the only one on the Missouri River and hunters are allowed to hunt the shoreline and bays; however, the only access is by boat and increased use will be minimal. Adjacent landowners are supportive of this change. Discussion included tribal support for the change and Kirschenmann indicated tribes would be contacted regarding this possible change.

Remove the North Shore Waterfowl Refuge.

Motion by Cooper with second by Peterson TO PROPOSE THE CHANGE TO WATERFOWL REFUGES AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

Election of Officers

Commissioner Peterson nominated Susie Knippling for Chairwoman and Commissioner Cooper seconded the nomination. Commissioner Spies nominated John Cooper as Vice Chairman and Barry Jensen seconded the nomination. Nominations closed and the vote to accept nominations carried unanimously. Olson passed the gavel to Knippling.

Olson stated he enjoyed serving on the Commission for the last eight years. He is going to miss everyone he has worked with. He has met wonderful people and made good friends during his time of service and will stay in touch with Kintigh and the Outdoor Campus.

Chairwoman Knippling called a recess at 4:58 PM and indicated the meeting would resume at 8 AM the next morning in the same location. Meeting resumed at 8 AM on Friday, January 11, 2013, with Commissioners Knippling, Cooper, Peterson, Spies, and Barry Jensen present. Commissioner Sather was present on the phone and Commissioner Gary Jensen joined the Commission. Public, staff, and media numbered about thirty.

Web-based developer's tool

Silka Kempema has been working with the Western Governor's Association to guide developers in developing a Crucial Habitat Assessment Tool (CHAT). CHAT is to assist in identifying migration corridors and crucial habitats for many species of animals and plants to preserve landscapes across the Midwest. Pilot projects have been identified in specific areas and have broad guidelines to aid in the development of CHAT.

Ice fishing Access Program

Will Saylor gave a PowerPoint presentation indicating that three years ago anglers requested better access for the ice fishing opportunity. Saylor indicated there are 93 access sites available. The Parks Division maintain as many as 84 sites on Fridays for weekend anglers, the conditions are posted on the website allowing public to check for access. An interactive map is under development for the public to check when the site was last opened.

2012 Fish Hatchery Report

Will Sayler reported hatchery production included eleven species of fish and over 60 million fish were stocked along with 6.8 million perch eggs. Fifteen species of fish were trapped and transferred over 195,000 fish to mostly urban fisheries and 34 Million perch eggs to assist the spawning process. More than 30 walleye populations have been established with this process. 221,000 salmon were stocked in Lake Oahe. 228,000 catchable trout were stocked primarily in the Black Hills but included Family Park in Sioux Falls and other urban settings. These urban settings promote kids' fishing to our future fishermen.

This year will have the new water heating system operational that will assist important growth of fish and producing larger fish to stock in urban settings and rearing ponds. Largemouth bass populations need to be assisted by stocking a larger fish to help current populations. Management plans are evaluated every winter to help with maintaining and supporting current waters and fishing opportunity in order to have happy anglers.

East River Bobcat Hunting/Trapping Season Report

Keith Fisk reported thirty-three bobcats were harvested in the first ever East River season. The carcasses will be studied and a survey of hunters will be completed prior to season setting recommendations are made for the next season.

2012-13 Mountain Lion Hunting Season

Andy Lindbloom reported current lions collared number 46 at the beginning of the current season with 29 females and 17 males. This is the highest number of collared lions at the beginning of any prior lion season. Thirteen lions were harvested in the first sixteen days of the 2012 season and 21 lions have been harvested in the first sixteen days of the 2013 season. There has been good distribution of harvest in the hills with two collared females harvested and one lion has been harvested in Custer State Park. Snow conditions always promote and assist with the hunting of lions and 3,751 licenses have been sold for the 2013 season.

Marcotte Contract with City of Sturgis

Paul Coughlin shared that the City of Sturgis has acquired the 61 acres of the Marcotte property as directed by 2012 Legislation. A three-year contract for deed was developed and the City of Sturgis has made the first of three payments and in March of 2017 the title will transfer to the City.

Wind Cave Elk Movement

Tom Kirschenmann reported an effort to herd elk out of Wind Cave National Park into Custer State Park using horses by slowly moving a herd of 200 elk northward. The elk did not use the jump gates, half of the elk turned and headed the opposite direction, and about fourteen elk were moved out of the park. The next step is to meet with Wind Cave staff to finalize the plan to use helicopters to herd elk out of Wind Cave Park in late February thus assisting Wind Cave with their management objectives and provide opportunity for hunters. Landowners have been involved and informed of the objectives.

Open Houses Planned for 2013

Keyser indicated the Department has made a concerted effort to educate and inform the public of different activities the Department wants input about. These meetings are posted on the GFP Website and for some meetings, invites are sent to local landowners that may have particular interest in attending the meeting.

Division of Wildlife Annual Report

Director Leif indicated four reports have been completed and provided printed copies to the Commissioners. The Annual Report will be given to the Ag and Natural Resources Legislative Committees meetings in the next few weeks. The Private Lands Habitat and Access Program Summary and Wildlife Damage Management Program reports will assist with Legislative issues. The 2011 Law Enforcement Program report was recently completed as well.

Chairwoman Knippling provide a briefing from the Western Fish and Wildlife Agencies meeting in early January and indicated the summer meeting will be in Omaha in July.

Motion by B. Jensen with second by Peterson to adjourn the meeting and meeting adjourned at 8:54 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey R. Vonk, Department Secretary

Public Hearing Minutes of the Game, Fish, and Parks Commission
January 10, 2013

Chuck Schlueter started the Public Hearing at 2:10 PM by indicating this is the time for written and oral testimony regarding the Bighorn Sheep Hunting Season listed as number seven on the Agenda. Schlueter stated he would read the written comments and oral testimony from the public would follow. Those wishing to provide oral testimony are to approach the microphone, state their name, provide their name and city on the sign-in sheet, and keep comments to three minutes.

Bighorn Sheep Hunting Season

David Bechard of Pierre, SD, emailed: "Auctioning off a bighorn sheep license. Isn't that selling and bartering of game animals?"

Matt Rippentrop of Oelrichs, SD, emailed: "At your next Commissioners meeting on January 10-11, I would like to encourage you to pass the bighorn sheep auction tag to include Pennington and Custer County to hunt. The new potential revenue from the sale of one auction tag is a great tool to help support South Dakota's bighorn sheep management needs. This new revenue source is desperately needed to ensure that we all will be able to continue to enjoy bighorn sheep here in South Dakota. Thank you for your time and consideration."

Rick Olson of Mina, SD, emailed: "With only three tags available in South Dakota I don't believe it should come down to (who has the most money gets a tag) This is the hunt of a lifetime for any resident of our state as well as a dream come true for the fortunate hunters. When you auction off this hunt you will eliminate the majority of hunters in our state and end their chance of ever getting this tag!!"

Guy Tillet of Rapid City, SD emailed: "Please support action providing means to support the presence and welfare of bighorn in the Black Hills!"

Robert Farland of Hill City, SD, emailed: "This proposal is an insult to resident hunters who've been funding our game management forever. To give a tag to nonresidents is wrong, no matter the price. I'll apply probably for the remainder of my life and not get a tag, but some rich hunting show host can come in a buy a tag....a slap in the face. Shame on you and the rich hunting lobby for supporting this."

Chris Cammack of Union Center, SD, emailed: "Thank you for all your time and effort serving the wildlife of South Dakota. I am writing today to support the auction tag for bighorn sheep, I would like to support you finalizing the tag. I would like to stress the importance of having Pennington County and Custer County both on the tag so the person that buys the tag can hunt both units; if the tag is limited to just one county it would directly affect the value of the tag."

Scott Brown of Rapid City, SD, emailed: "In the 1980's the auction for the bighorn license was changed to the \$5 lottery license. This was a great thing. By auctioning off one of two tags you are letting someone with a lot of money cut in line. You've made it twice as hard for people like me to draw a tag and very simple for the wealthy to "cut in line". I would've gladly paid more for the lottery chance but it seems that wasn't even a thought."

Mike McKnight of Sioux Falls, SD, emailed: "On behalf of the SD Bowhunters, Inc. we would ask for support for the bighorn sheep auction tag. Thanks."

Allen Lein of Chamberlain, SD, emailed: "It looks like South Dakota has now tread upon the slippery slope of the Fee-Market model to raise money under the guise of conservation. I have attached an article from the New York Times regarding this issue where it has become common practice in other western states and the impact on the average hunter trying to draw one of those coveted game tags!"

Dana R. Rogers of Box Elder, SD, emailed: "I would like to voice my support of the auction of one SD Bighorn Sheep license annually. As long as the funds go straight to bighorn sheep research and trap and transfer efforts to help increase the species long term. I see it as the best way to make money for the effort and further conservation and expanded hunting opportunities for the future."

Byron Pudwell of Springfield, SD, emailed: "I hope the auction proposal is well thought out. Do the rich-hunters need 33% of the tags? What message does this send to the common-man that lives here in our great state. How about a raffle that everybody could afford, and not an auction? I think we all have a pretty good idea what happened to the elk in CSP, and the mountain goats. We don't need an expensive study for that. I don't think we need it for bighorns either. Think raffle!! Everybody can swing 25-50 bucks for a raffle, maybe you could generate the same amount of money for the bighorn study?"

Roger Dekok of Mount Vernon, SD, emailed: "As a prior license holder, I would like to express my support for this important project of selling auction tags. Bighorn sheep need committed funding and support in order to not only grow the herd but grow tag opportunities. The sale of an auction tag gives us the funding to get started. The results of the current mountain lion season also show promise the state is turning the corner to protect the herd and grow it naturally. I know I've had comments and concerns of this new program but most aren't looking at the big picture. I know I was extremely fortunate to receive this hunting opportunity and want other to see increased chances to draw by offering more tags down the road."

Ross Sweden of Rapid City, SD, emailed: "We should not give one of OUR sheep tags up for an auction tag. There are other ways to raise the money needed for sheep research. Increase the price for a preference point every year, hunting is becoming more and more a rich man's sport. Putting a sheep tag up for auction further promotes that the rich get the opportunities! That is not right! I could put in for the tag for thirty years and never get the tag, but someone with money can buy it the first year! You guys are being greedy. I understand the dire straits our sheep herd is in. That is a result of your poor management practices. You guys are being reactive instead of proactive."

Darrel Jones of Dell Rapids, SD, emailed: "I think it's a great idea that will generate much needed money to help the sheep herd in the Black Hills. With our governor cutting money all across the board, this is a way to guarantee money to improve habitat and to bring in sheep from other states."

Steven Schelske of Pierre, SD, emailed: "I oppose the auction of the rear opportunity for the less than extremely wealthy to get a bighorn sheep tag in South Dakota."

George Boegenschutz of Nunda, SD, emailed: "I think this would be a reasonable harvest and that the proceeds from the auctioned license could really be beneficial to herd recruitment in the long run."

Grant Jones of Deadwood, SD, emailed: "I believe that to have an auction for any license is wrong. It flies in the face of the everyday, hardworking, people of South Dakota. It allows the elite, the very wealthy, to purchase a license, while the core of the South Dakota hunters are hardworking, wage earners, who have no chance to afford to "Buy" the license in such a fashion. More appropriate would be a raffle, where the super-rich and the wage earner all have an equal chance to win a license regardless of preference points."

Oral Testimony

Curt Babler of Lino Lake, MN, President of the Midwest Chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation thanked Secretary Vonk and the Commissioners for their work on this project. Appreciated that Bob Mercer assisted with public awareness of available tag and Babler plans to begin promoting the auction tag at The Wild Sheep Foundation 2013 Convention in Reno, Nevada on January 30 to February 2nd. Babler indicated he understands that IRRC approval is needed before promoting the auction tag and hopes the auction would happen on March 23rd at the Midwest Chapter Convention in Minnetonka, MN.

Babler indicated that North Dakota has a sheep auction tag that provides additional funds to develop and improve their population and that North Dakota is happy with the efforts of Midwest Chapter of the Sheep Foundation.

The Public Hearing concluded at 2:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey R. Vonk, Department Secretary

GAME, FISH & PARKS

523 East Capital
Pierre, SD 57501
(605)773-4510
FAX (605)773-6245

Mary.Healy@state.sd.us

4

REQUEST FOR LISTS OF LICENSE HOLDERS

Type of List Requested Fishing List

Number of Licenses in list 10,000 residents (5,000 radius around each Scheels location)

Name of Person, Entity, or Organization requesting list:
Scheels All Sports

Phone Number
515-975-3757

Address of Person, Entity, or Organization:
1117 East 14th Street North, Newton, IA 50208

How would you like your list sent to you: (email or disk)

Email

Email Address: Jamiec@rock-com.com

Purpose for which list will be used:

This list will be used for a Scheels direct mail card that will go out to South Dakota residents that have purchased a fishing licence within the previous year.

This list is Names and Mailing Addresses ONLY

The sale of lists by the Department of Game, Fish & Parks is authorized by SDCL 1-27-1 and ARSD 41:06:02:04, 05 and 06. A fee of \$100 per thousand names will be assessed for the sale of this list, or a minimum of \$100 whichever is greater.

Unless requested and approved as part of this request, the license list will not include anyone under eighteen years of age. Names are for one-time use only and are to be used only by the person, entity or organization approved per this request.

Authorized Signature of Purchaser

Date

[Signature]
March 7-8, 2013

2-20-13

Date of Commission Action

License Sales Totals

(as of Feb 28)

5

date updated: 28 Feb 2013

	2012	2013	% Change
Resident Predator/Varmint	695	692	-0.4%
Furbearer	2,123	2,183	2.8%
Resident Small Game	1,390	1,055	-24.1%
Combination	15,610	17,380	11.3%
Junior Combination	882	1,079	22.3%
Senior Combination	2,072	2,844	37.3%
Resident Youth Small Game	339	338	-0.3%
Resident 1-Day Fishing	289	312	8.0%
Resident Annual Fishing	7,377	8,657	17.4%
Senior Fishing	2,395	2,174	-9.2%
Resident Migratory Bird Certificate	8,614	9,398	9.1%
Resident 1-Day Small Game	207	135	-34.8%
Resident Gamefish Spearing/Archery	776	1,216	56.7%
Nonresident Predator/Varmint	521	664	27.4%
Nonresident Furbearer	7	4	-42.9%
Nonresident Small Game	2,981	2,779	-6.8%
Nonresident Youth Small Game	206	184	-10.7%
Nonresident Spring Light Goose	154	174	13.0%
Nonresident Youth Spring Light Goose	1	2	100.0%
Nonresident 1-Day Fishing	1,019	985	-3.3%
Nonresident 3-Day Fishing	1,047	1,392	33.0%
Nonresident Annual Fishing	2,488	2,863	15.1%
Nonresident Family Fishing	1,049	1,145	9.2%
Nonresident Youth Annual Fishing	68	103	51.5%
Nonresident Gamefish Spearing/Archery	74	269	263.5%
Nonresident Migratory Bird Certificate	18	23	27.8%
Nonresident Annual Shooting Preserve	111	59	-46.8%
Nonresident 5-day Shooting Preserve	366	343	-6.3%
Nonresident 1-day Shooting Preserve	123	134	8.9%
TOTAL ON FILE =	53,002	58,586	10.5%

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
FINALIZATION

9

Public Water Zoning
Chapter 41:04:02

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	January 10-11, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	March 7, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Finalization	March 7-8, 2013	Ft. Pierre

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

Recommended changes from last year:

1. Repeal the current safety zone designated on Helgeson Slough in Clark County.

41:04:02:12. Clark County public water safety zones. Clark County public water safety zones are as follows:

(2) ~~That portion of Helgeson Slough in sections 27 and 34 of township 115 north, range 56 west, is a "no boating zone" from March 1 to July 31, inclusive.~~

2. Repeal the current safety zones designated on portions of Rock Crandall Game Production Area on Opitz Lake and East Stink Lake in Marshall County.

41:04:02:45. Marshall County public water safety zones. Marshall County public water safety zones are as follows:

~~(3) The waters of Rock Crandall Game Production Area and contiguous waters in section 26, the north one half of section 35, and the northwest one quarter of section 36, township 125 north, range 56 west, are a "no boating zone" from March 1 to July 31, inclusive;~~

~~(4) The waters of East Stink Lake and contiguous waters east of State Highway 25 in sections 10 and 15, township 125 north, range 55 west; sections 11, 14, and 15, township 125 north, range 55 west; section 2, township 125 north, range 54 west; and section 35, township 126 north, ranges 54 west are a "no boating zone" from March 1 to July 31, inclusive.~~

Justification: Department staff has determined these respective public safety zones no longer serve the objective as when initially designated as a safety zone. Islands or shorelines associated with these safety zones were developed and used as Canada goose "feeding sites". These feeding sites are one tool used to alleviate depredation damage to crops by Canada geese and the safety zones reduced or eliminated disturbance by boaters in these areas to improve the attractiveness of these areas by local Canada geese. Due to recent land use changes and observed behavior of Canada geese, these areas no longer function as a successful management tool as a feeding site. Therefore, these safety zones can be removed on these areas and anglers will benefit from these local fisheries that have recently developed.

3. Add a new safety zone designated as follows:

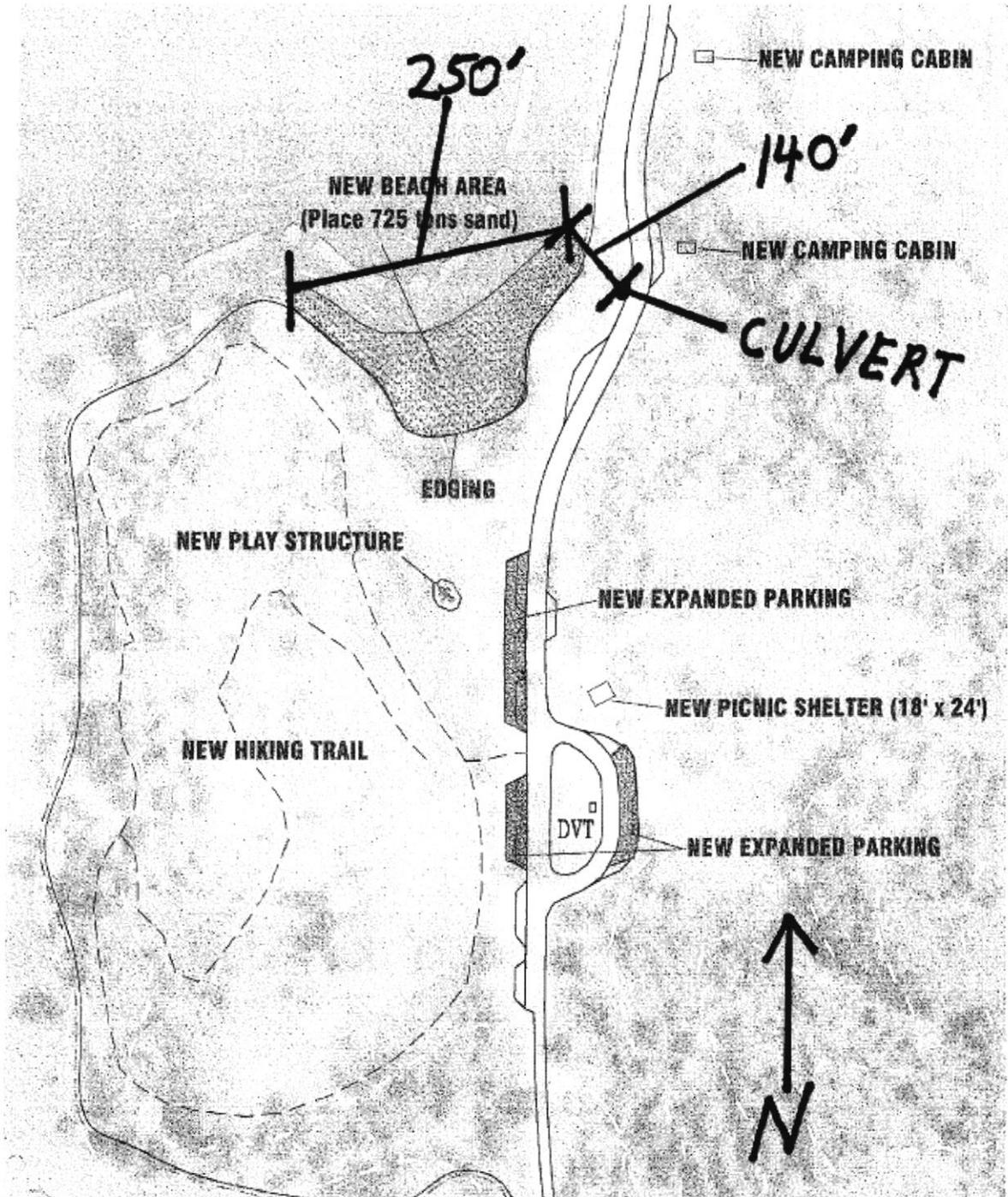
41:04:02:11. Charles Mix County public water safety zones. Charles Mix County public water safety zones are as follows:

(10) The waters of Lake Francis Case fronting on that portion of the shoreline of Platte Creek Recreation Area, from a point on the west facing culvert near the road across from the Cabin #2 pull off, extending 140 feet in a north-northwesterly direction to the water's edge, then extending 250 feet along the shoreline in a south-southwesterly direction are a "public swim zone".

APPROVE _____	MODIFY _____	REJECT _____	NO ACTION _____
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9a

Justification: A public swimming zone currently does not exist at Platte Creek Recreation Area. Approximately 60,000 visitors come to the recreation area annually, many of which are day users who come to the park specifically to partake in swimming and beach activities. Designation of a zoned swimming beach would increase personal safety for swimmers. Boats and personal watercrafts are prohibited within a public swimming zone. The recreation area has other shoreline that is suitable to meet the needs of boaters.



APPROVE _____ MODIFY _____ REJECT _____ NO ACTION _____

96

4. Repeal two current safety zones designated on Clear Lake in Marshall County.

41:04:02:45. Marshall County public water safety zones. Marshall County public water safety zones are as follows:

(1) ~~Clear Lake:~~

(a) ~~— The waters fronting on the north shore starting approximately 50 feet south of the cement boat ramp at the Clear Lake Resort and running in a southeasterly direction for approximately 200 feet are a “public swimming zone”;~~

(b) ~~— The waters fronting on the east shore starting approximately 150 feet north of the south edge of Clear lake Recreation Area and running northerly approximately 600 feet are a “public swimming zone”;~~

Justification: Department staff has determined that these respective public safety zones no longer serve the objective as when initially designated as a safety zone. The Clear Lake Resort no longer exists as an operating business and the boat ramp has been removed. The public no longer frequents the area to swim. The Clear Lake Recreation Area has been reclassified as a Lakeside Use Area and the predominant public use is as a boat launch site. The area sees very little swimming activity.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: None.

APPROVE _____ MODIFY _____ REJECT _____ NO ACTION _____

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
FINALIZATION

10

Refuges
Chapter 41:05:02

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	January 10-11, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	March 7, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Finalization	March 7-8, 2013	Ft. Pierre

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

41:05:02:68. Missouri River refuges. (16) The North Shore State Waterfowl Refuge comprises an area on Lake Sharpe enclosed by a line beginning at the Corps of Engineers take line and the south section line of section 36, township 108 north, range 73 west of the fifth principal meridian, Buffalo County; then northerly along the Corps of Engineers take line to the north section line of section 24, township 108 north, range 73 west, Buffalo County; then west along the section line to the water's edge; then southerly along the water's edge to the south section line of section 35, township 108 north, range 73 west; then east along the section line to the point of beginning.

Recommended changes from last year:

1. Remove the North Shore State Waterfowl Refuge.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: None.

STAFF COMMENTS

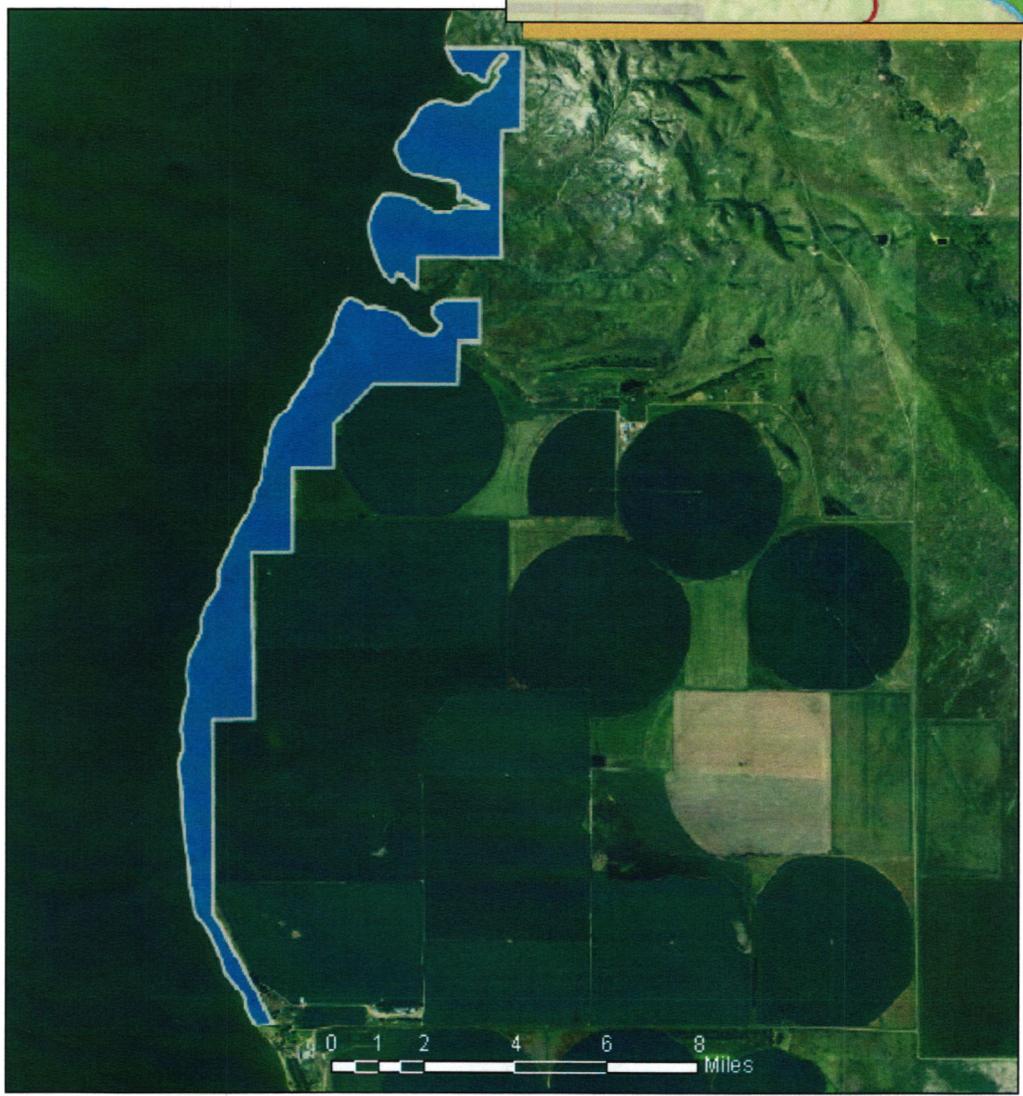
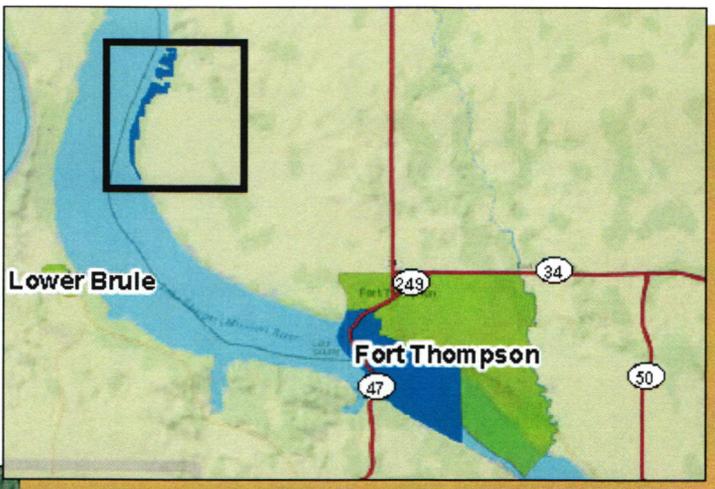
Department staff has determined the North Shore State Waterfowl Refuge along the Missouri River in Buffalo County no longer meets its objective as when initially designated as a waterfowl refuge. The North Shore State Waterfowl Refuge is the only take line waterfowl refuge on the Missouri River that does not also include a water line waterfowl refuge. Without a water line waterfowl refuge in place, hunters can already legally hunt the bays within the refuge. Therefore, a take line waterfowl refuge is not necessary. There is currently no access to the refuge, other than by boat. Therefore, by removing this take line refuge it will likely not increase the hunting pressure by pass shooters. While the use of this area is expected to be minimal, this would open up additional public hunting opportunities for waterfowl hunters. Adjacent landowner is supportive of this recommendation.

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

North Shore State Waterfowl Refuge

Legend

- State Refuges
- City/Limit Boundaries
- Lakes and Missouri River
- County Boundaries
- State Highways
- Interstate
- US Highway
- SD Highway



APPROVE MODIFY REJECT NO ACTION

GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

11

Custer State Park Non-Trophy Bison Harvest, License Forms and Fees, Custer State Park Restrictions

Chapter 41:06:60, Chapter 41:06:02, Chapter 41:06:07

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 7-8, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	April 4, 2013	Winner
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2013	Winner

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Season Dates: October 5 – November 22, 2013

Licenses: 15 non-trophy bull bison and 10 cow bison licenses.

Requirements and Restrictions:

- 1) The unit is open within the boundaries of Custer State Park for the 49-day period beginning the first Saturday in October.
- 2) Permit holder must be accompanied by an authorized CSP official.

Recommended changes from last year:

1. Modify preference so applicants accrue an additional point for each successive year they are unsuccessful in the draw. (41:06:60).
2. Allocate 7 non-trophy bull bison licenses and 5 cow bison licenses to residents in a first draw. Leftover licenses after the first draw would be available in a second draw for all applicants.
3. Increase license fee from \$1,500 to \$2,250 for a non-trophy bison bull and from \$1,000 to \$1,750 for a cow bison (41:06:02).
4. Add reference to non-trophy bison harvest as seasons in CSP available to non-residents. (41:06:07).

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Non-trophy bison hunts fees have not been adjusted from the season's inception 9 years ago. Fees were originally higher than the live sale average for those class animals. The bison market has improved and current live sales significantly exceed costs for non-trophy hunts. Indications are for a relatively stable market on bison. Currently, these hunts are undervalued at \$1,000 for cows and \$1,500 for 2-year old bulls. Additionally, interest has multiplied for these hunts. Applications have more than tripled in the past 3 years. The current single preference system should be modified to a lottery (accumulated points) system.

Year	CSP Auction Average Price		Applications			Licenses Issued	
	Open cows	Grade Bull	Total apps	Non-resident	Resident	Non-resident	Resident
2012	\$1,725	\$2,020	318	271	47	15	10
2011	\$1,488	\$2,073	205	170	35	20	5
2010	\$1,800	\$1,825	96	85	11	21	4

APPROVE _____
 MODIFY _____
 REJECT _____
 NO ACTION _____

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

12

**Custer State Park Trophy Bison Bull Harvest
Chapter 41:06:42**

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 7-8, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	April 4, 2013	Winner
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2013	Winner

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Season Dates: November 25, 2013 – January 10, 2014

Licenses: 8 trophy bull bison licenses.

Requirements and Restrictions:

- 1) The unit is open within the boundaries of Custer State Park for the 47-day period beginning the last Monday in November.
- 2) Licensees must be accompanied by an authorized CSP official.

Recommended changes from last year:

1. Modify preference so applicants accrue an additional point for each successive year they are unsuccessful in the draw. Change reference from "permit" and "permit holder" to "license" and "licensee".
2. Allocate two trophy bison licenses to residents in a first draw. Leftover licenses would be available in a second draw for all applicants.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Interest in trophy bison hunts continues to grow. This is a premier trophy bison hunt and draws applicants from across North America. Applicant's odds of drawing continue to decline with increased interest. A large number of applicants have been unsuccessful in drawing in multiple years. The current preference system provides applicants who were unsuccessful in the previous year's draw entry in the first draw, but they do not accrue additional points for successive unsuccessful years. The current single preference system should be modified to a lottery (accumulated points) system. Allocating two of the permits to South Dakota residents will give residents a better chance of being drawn for this trophy hunt while still recognizing the high demand from non-resident hunters.

Year	Applications			Licenses Issued	
	Total App's	Non-resident	Resident	Non-resident	Resident
2012	118	113	5	7	1
2011	112	106	6	10	0
2010	90	83	7	9	1

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

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

13

**Custer State Park Early Archery Elk Hunting Season
Chapter 41:06:28**

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 7-8, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	April 4-5, 2013	Winner
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2013	Winner

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Season Dates: September 1-30, 2013

Licenses: 3 "Any Elk" licenses

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Season opens the first of September and closes the last day of September.
2. Hunters must attend a mandatory briefing.
3. 24 hour inspection of harvested elk.

Recommended changes from last year: None.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Year	Licensed Hunters	Applicants	Success Rate	Elk Harvested	Recreation Days
2008	8	3,084 (785 pref only)	25%	2 bulls	104
2009	8	3,134 (1,112 pref only)	25%	2 bulls	115
2010	5	3,031 (1,401 pref only)	0%	None	68
2011	3	2,000 (2,391 pref only)	33%	1 bull	56
2012	3	2,078 (2,255 pref only)	0%	0	43

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

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

14

**Archery Elk Hunting Season
Chapter 41:06:43**

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 7-8, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	April 4, 2013	Winner
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2013	Winner

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Season Dates: Black Hills Units: September 1-30, 2013

Open Area: See attached map

Licenses: 77 "any elk" and 15 "antlerless elk" licenses (total of 92 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.

Recommended changes from last year:

1. Adjust the number of licenses available from 82 "any elk" and 15 "antlerless elk" licenses (total of 97 licenses) to 77 "any elk" and 15 "antlerless elk" licenses (total of 92 licenses).

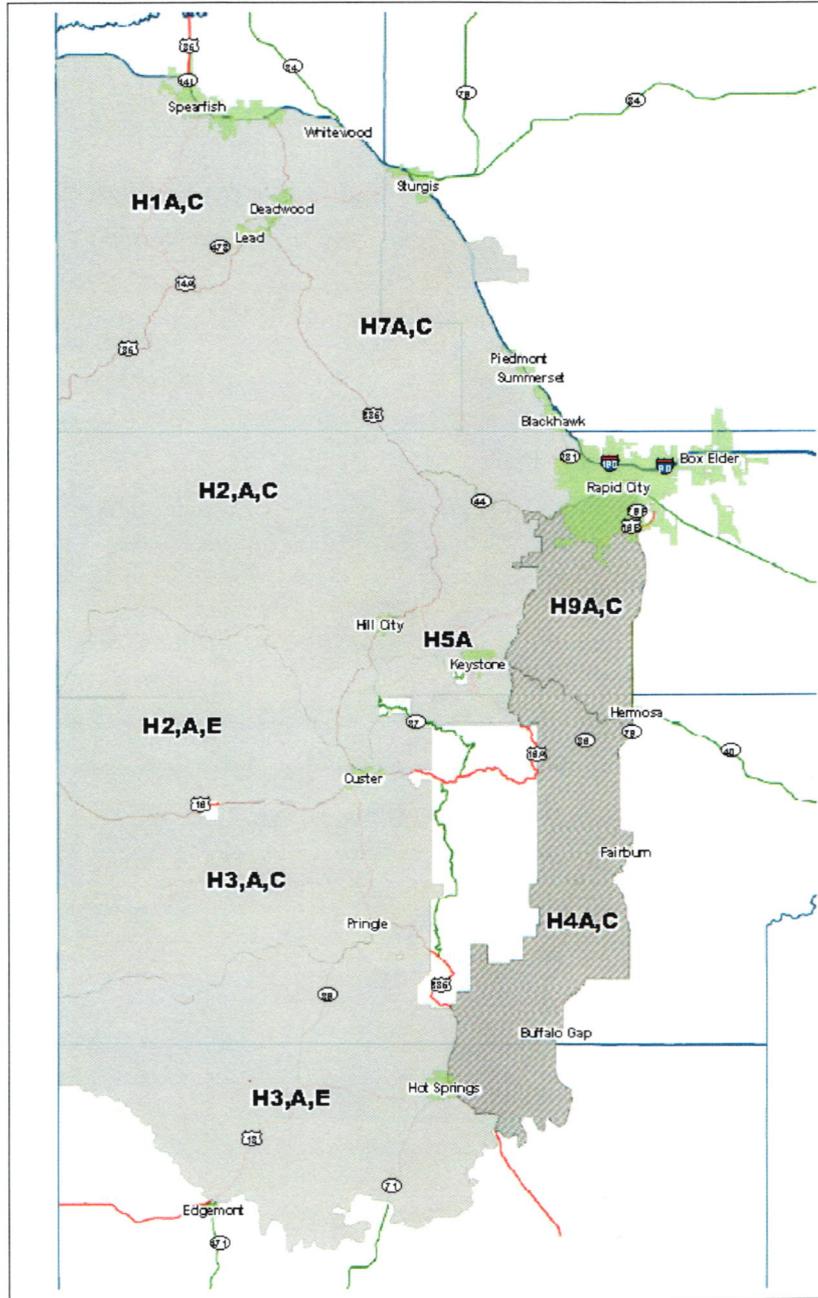
SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

	Licensed	Hunter	Bulls	Cows
Year	Hunters	Success	Harvested	Harvested
2008	198	28%	45	7
2009	185	33%	47	7
2010	144	27%	33	5
2011	126	26%	25	8
2012	97	40%	34	4

2012	"Any Elk"					"Antlerless Elk"				
	Appl.1st	Licensed	Harvest	Bulls	Cows	Appl.1st	Licensed	Harvest	Bulls	Cows
Unit	Choice	Hunters	Success	Harvested	Harvested	Choice	Hunters	Success	Harvested	Harvested
H1	515	20	15%	3	0	1	5	40%	0	2
H2	2,299	40	65%	25	1	7	5	0%	0	0
H3	324	15	31%	5	0	1	5	20%	0	1
H4	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
H5	21	2	50%	1	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
H7	60	5	20%	1	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
H9	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

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

BLACK HILLS ELK UNITS



Unit	2012			2013		
	"Any" Elk Tags	"Antlerless" Elk Tags	Total Tags	"Any" Elk Tags	"Antlerless" Elk Tags	Total Tags
H1	75	40	115	60	30	90
H2	200	50	250	200	50	250
H3	100	80	180	100	80	180
H4	0	0	0	0	0	0
H5	10	0	10	10	0	10
H7	10	5	15	10	5	15
H9	0	0	0	0	0	0
ALL	395	175	570	380	165	545

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

Prairie Elk Hunting Season
Chapter 41:06:59

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 7-8, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	April 4, 2013	Winner
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2013	Winner

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

<u>Season Dates:</u>	Unit 09A	September 15 – October 31 and December 1-15, 2013
	Unit 11A	July 15 – August 31, 2013
	Unit 11B	September 1 – October 18, 2013
	Unit 11C	October 19 – December 31, 2013
	Unit 11D	September 1 – December 31, 2013
	Unit 15A	September 14 – October 31 and December 1-31, 2013
	Unit 27A	September 1 – October 31, 2013
	Unit 30A	September 1 – December 31, 2013

<u>Open Area:</u>	Unit 09A	Portions of Butte and Lawrence County
	Unit 11A,B,C,D	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

<u>Licenses:</u>	Unit 09A	8 “any elk” and 8 “antlerless elk” licenses
	Unit 11A,B,C,D	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.

Recommended changes from last year:

1. Adjust the number of licenses available from 47 “any elk” and 53 “antlerless elk” licenses (total of 100 licenses) to 45 “any elk” and 51 “antlerless elk” licenses (total of 96 licenses).
2. Modify Unit 30 (Gregory County) by removing that portion of Boyd County, Nebraska (see attached map).
3. Adjust the season dates for Unit 30 (Gregory County) from September 29 – October 28 and December 1-31 to September 1 – December 31.
4. Adjust the season dates for Unit 11B (Bennett County and portions of Mellette County) from September 1 to the second Sunday of October to September 1 to the Friday before the third Saturday in October.
5. Add Unit 11D (Bennett County and portions of Mellette County) with season dates of September 1 – December 31.

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

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Year	Licensed Hunters	Hunter Success	Bulls Harvested	Cows Harvested
2008	76	48%	17	18
2009	133	39%	26	22
2010	134	41%	24	31
2011	128	28%	19	17
2012	97	46%	24	20

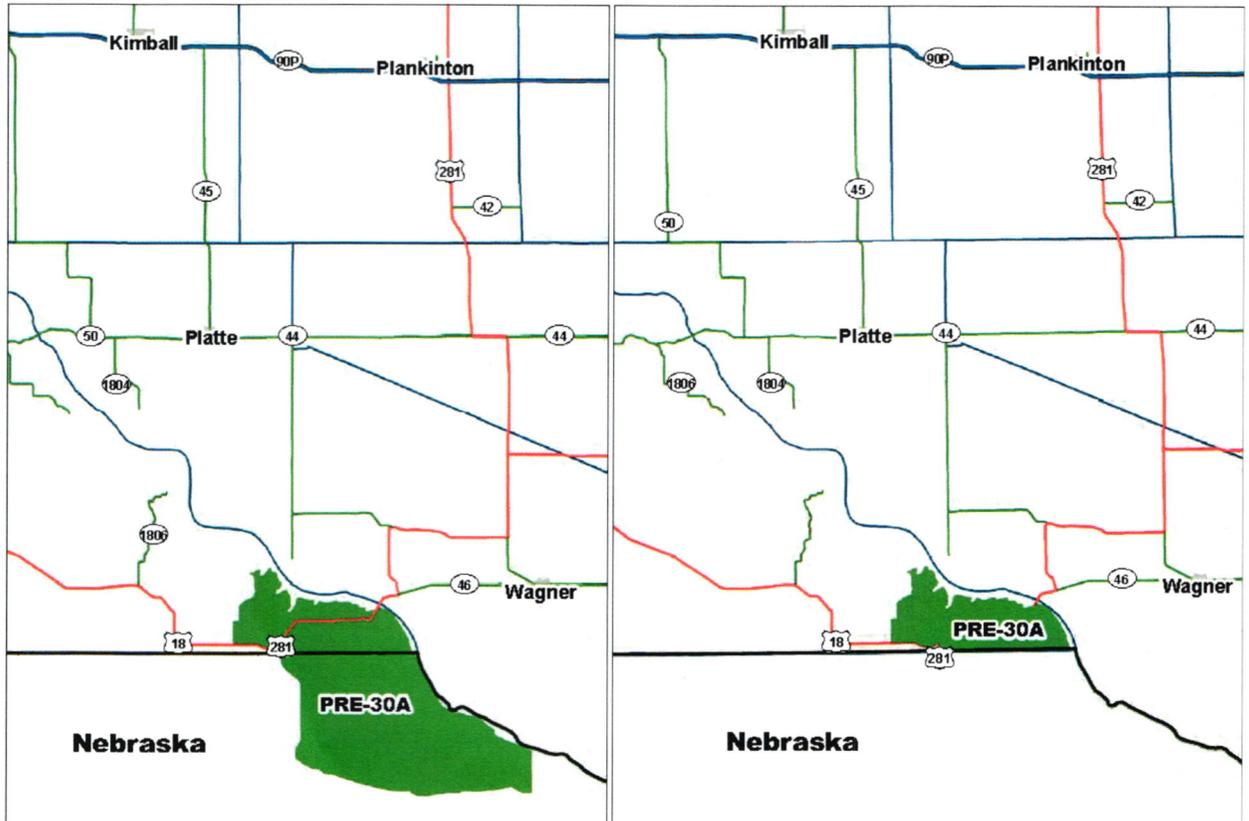
2012	"Any Elk"				"Antlerless Elk"			
Unit	Licensed Hunters	Harvest Success	Bulls Harvested	Cows Harvested	Licensed Hunters	Harvest Success	Bulls Harvested	Cows Harvested
09A	7	40%	1	1	10	22%	0	2
11A/B/C	15	73%	10	1	20	50%	1	10
15A	10	43%	3	1	16	23%	0	4
27A	10	70%	7	0	5	0%	0	0
30A	2	100%	2	0	2	50%	1	0



Prairie Elk Unit 30A

Current Unit

Proposed Unit Change



APPROVE MODIFY REJECT NO ACTION

Elk

2012

Black Hills Elk			
Unit	Resident Licenses		
	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	
H1A	75		
H1C		40	
H2A	200		
H2C		25	
H2E		25	
H3A	100		
H3C			
H3E		80	
H4A			
H4C			
H5A	10		
H7A	10		
H7C		5	
H9A			
H9C			
TOTAL	395	175	570
Unit	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	

2013

Black Hills Elk			
Unit	Resident Licenses		
	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	
H1A	60		
H1C		30	
H2A	200		
H2C		25	
H2E		25	
H3A	100		
H3C			
H3E		80	
H4A			
H4C			
H5A	10		
H7A	10		
H7C		5	
H9A			
H9C			
TOTAL	380	165	545
Unit	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	

2012

Archery Elk			
Unit	Resident Licenses		
	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	
H1A	20	5	
H2A	40	5	
H3A	15	5	
H4A			
H5A	2		
H7A	5		
H9A			
30A			
TOTAL	82	15	97
Unit	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	

2013

Archery Elk			
Unit	Resident Licenses		
	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	
H1A	15	5	
H2A	40	5	
H3A	15	5	
H4A			
H5A	2		
H7A	5		
H9A			
30A			
TOTAL	77	15	92
Unit	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	

2012

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

2013

Prairie Elk			
Unit	Resident Licenses		
	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	
9A	8	8	
11A		10	
11B	10		
11C	5		
11D		10	
15A	10	16	
27A	10	5	
30A	2	2	
TOTAL	45	51	96
Unit	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	

2012

Custer State Park			
Season	Resident Licenses		
	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	
Archery Late Archery	3		
Rifle	4		
TOTAL	7		7
Season	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	

2013

Custer State Park			
Season	Resident Licenses		
	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	
Archery Late Archery	3		
Rifle	4		
TOTAL	7		7
Season	Any Elk 21	Atl Elk 23	

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

17

Mountain Goat Hunting Season
Chapter 41:06:29

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 7-8, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	April 4, 2013	Winner
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2013	Winner

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Season Dates: Closed

Licenses: 0 licenses

Recommended change from last year: None.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Year	Licensed Hunters	Billies Harvested	Nannies Harvested
2003	3	1	2
2004	3	1	2
2005	2	0	2
2006	2	0	1
2007	Season Closed		
2008	Season Closed		
2009	Season Closed		
2010	Season Closed		
2011	Season Closed		
2012	Season Closed		

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

18

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

**Grouse Hunting Season
Chapter 41:06:09**

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 7-8, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	April 4, 2013	Winner
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2013	Winner

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Season Dates: September 21, 2013 – January 5, 2014 (107 days)

Open Area: Statewide

Daily Limit: 3 (any combination of sharp-tailed grouse, prairie chickens and ruffed grouse)

Possession Limit: 15 (any combination)

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Shooting hours are sunrise to sunset.
2. Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge is open Oct 19 – Jan 5 and the shooting hours are the same as for pheasant.

Recommended changes from last year: None.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Year	Resident Hunters	Nonresident Hunters	Grouse Harvested
2007	6,164	4,663	34,042
2008	7,044	5,383	47,481
2009	6,377	4,571	38,680
2010	7,879	5,386	56,888
2011	6,789	6,407	48,299

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

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

19

**Youth Pheasant Hunting Season
Chapter 41:06:55**

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 7-8, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	April 4, 2013	Winner
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2013	Winner

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

- Season Dates:** October 5-9, 2013
- Open Area:** Statewide except road rights-of-way
- Daily Limit:** 3 cock pheasants
- Possession Limit:** 15 cock pheasants

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Shooting hours are 10:00 am (central time) to sunset.
2. Properly licensed resident and nonresident youth are eligible.
3. To be eligible, youth must be at least 12 years of age by December 31 and no older than 17.
4. Youth hunters must be accompanied by a parent or guardian and the accompanying adult may not carry a firearm or actively participate in shooting pheasants.

Recommended changes from last year: None.

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

19

Resident Pheasant Hunting Season
Chapter 41:06:58

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 7-8, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	April 4, 2013	Winner
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2013	Winner

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Season Dates: October 12-14, 2013

Open area: Lands open to public hunting that include U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Waterfowl Production Areas, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers property adjacent to the Missouri River, U.S. Forest Service National Grasslands property, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation property, State School and Public Land, Department owned, managed or leased property otherwise open to hunting, and Department managed or leased property designated as Walk-In Area. Also includes public road rights-of-way as defined in state law which are contiguous to and a part of those public lands as identified above. U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Refuges are not open.

Daily limit: 3 cock pheasants

Possession limit: 9 cock pheasants

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Shooting hours are 12:00 noon (central time) to sunset.
2. Only residents of the state are eligible to hunt during this season.

Recommended changes from last year: None.

APPROVE _____ MODIFY _____ REJECT _____ NO ACTION _____

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

19

**Pheasant Hunting Season
Chapter 41:06:08**

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 7-8, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	April 4, 2013	Winner
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2013	Winner

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Season Dates: October 19, 2013 – January 5, 2014 (79 days)

Open Area: Statewide

Daily Limit: 3 cock pheasants

Possession Limit: 15 cock pheasants

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Shooting hours are 12:00 noon (central time) to sunset from October 19 - 25 and 10:00 a.m. (central time) to sunset after October 26 – January 5.
2. Renziehausen GPA and State Game Bird Refuge in Brown and Marshall Counties, Gerken State Game Bird Refuge in Faulk County, White Lake State Game Bird Refuge in Marshall County, and Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Brown County are open December 9 - January 5.

Recommended changes from last year: None.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Year	Resident Hunters	Nonresident Hunters	Pheasants Harvested
2007	77,900	103,230	2,122,000
2008	75,978	100,254	1,936,228
2009	69,949	97,350	1,648,191
2010	72,465	100,189	1,831,576
2011	69,120	95,077	1,555,306

APPROVE _____ MODIFY _____ REJECT _____ NO ACTION _____

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
PROPOSAL

20

Partridge Hunting Season
Chapter 41:06:12

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 7-8, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	April 4, 2013	Winner
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2013	Winner

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Season Dates: September 21, 2013 – January 5, 2014 (107 days)

Open Area: Statewide

Daily Limit: 5 partridge

Possession Limit: 15 partridge

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Shooting hours are sunrise to sunset.

Recommended changes from last year: None.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Year	Resident Hunters	Nonresident Hunters	Partridge Harvested
2007	3,767	3,160	14,333
2008	2,916	2,945	12,220
2009	2,687	2,511	8,391
2010	2,361	2,286	9,475
2011	2,335	1,889	7,490

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

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
PROPOSAL

21

Quail Hunting Season
Chapter 41:06:11

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 7-8, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	April 4, 2013	Winner
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2013	Winner

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Season Dates: October 19, 2013 – January 5, 2014 (79 days)
Open Area: Statewide
Daily Limit: 5 quail
Possession Limit: 15 quail

Requirements and Restrictions:

- 1) Shooting hours are sunrise to sunset.

Recommended change from last year: None.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Year	Resident Hunters	Nonresident Hunters	Quail Harvested
2007	780	449	965
2008	480	520	1,775
2009	276	555	1,160
2010	187	105	424
2011	239	268	594

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

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
PROPOSAL

22

Cottontail Rabbit Hunting Season
Chapter 41:06:34

Commission Meeting Dates: Proposal March 7-8, 2013 Ft. Pierre
 Public Hearing April 4, 2013 Winner
 Finalization April 4-5, 2013 Winner

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Season Dates: September 1, 2013 – February 28, 2014

Open Area: Statewide

Daily Limit: 10 cottontail rabbits

Possession Limit: 30 cottontail rabbits

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Shooting hours are sunrise to sunset.
2. Landowners may take cottontail rabbits on their own property year-round without restriction.

Recommended change from last year: None.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Year	Resident Hunters	Nonresident Hunters	Cottontails Harvested
2007	8,732	1,676	98,750
2008	8,714	1,955	105,118
2009	7,485	1,304	71,883
2010	6,011	885	44,481
2011	3,019	529	19,835

APPROVE _____ MODIFY _____ REJECT _____ NO ACTION _____

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
PROPOSAL

23

Tree Squirrel Hunting Season
Chapter 41:06:35

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 7-8, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	April 4, 2013	Winner
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2013	Winner

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Season Dates: September 1, 2013 – February 28, 2014

Open Unit: Statewide

Daily Limit: 5 tree squirrels

Possession Limit: 15 tree squirrels

Requirements and Restrictions:

Shooting hours are sunrise to sunset.

Recommended changes from last year: None.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Year	Resident Hunters	Nonresident Hunters	Squirrels Harvested
2007	2,644	200	13,645
2008	2,833	230	12,227
2009	2,827	181	12,465
2010	2,901	96	12,792
2011	1,547	78	6,952

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

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
PROPOSAL

24

Crow Hunting Season
Chapter 41:06:39

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 1-2, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	April 4, 2013	Winner
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2013	Winner

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Season Dates: September 1 – October 31, 2013 and March 1 – April 30, 2014

Open Area: Statewide

Daily Limit: Unlimited

Possession Limit: Unlimited

Recommended changes from last year: None.

APPROVE _____ MODIFY _____ REJECT _____ NO ACTION _____

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
PROPOSAL

24

Sandhill Crane Hunting Season
Chapter 41:06:18

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 7-8, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	April 4, 2013	Winner
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2013	Winner

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

- Season Dates:** September 28 – November 24, 2013
- Open Area:** That portion of South Dakota west of U.S. Highway 281
- Daily Limit:** 3 Sandhill cranes
- Possession Limit:** 6 Sandhill cranes

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.
2. Nontoxic shot rules apply to Sandhill crane hunting.

Recommended change from last year: None.

APPROVE _____ MODIFY _____ REJECT _____ NO ACTION _____

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
PROPOSAL

25

Common Snipe Hunting Season
Chapter 41:06:17

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 7-8, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	April 4, 2013	Winner
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2013	Winner

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Season Dates: September 1 – October 31, 2013

Open Area: Statewide

Daily Limit: 5 snipe

Possession Limit: 15 snipe

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Shooting hours are sunrise to sunset.
2. Nontoxic shot rules apply to snipe hunting.

Recommended changes from last year: None.

APPROVE _____ MODIFY _____ REJECT _____ NO ACTION _____

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

25

Mourning Dove Hunting Season

Chapter 41:06:40

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 7-8, 2013	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	April 4, 2013	Winner
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2013	Winner

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Season Dates: September 1 – November 9, 2013

Open Area: Statewide

Daily Limit: 15 mourning doves

Possession Limit: 30 mourning doves

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.
2. Doves may only be shot while in flight.
3. All areas within 50 yards of public roadways are closed to dove hunting.
4. Persons younger than 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or responsible adult while dove hunting.
5. That portion of Angostura State Recreation Area lying west of the dam is open to dove hunting.
6. All other state parks and state recreation areas are closed to dove hunting.

Recommended changes from last year: None.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Year	Resident Hunters	Nonresident Hunters	Doves Harvested
2007	7,722	439	135,868
2008	7,346	373	132,152
2009	6,892	285	121,519
2010	6,035	258	97,628
2011	6,112	332	88,854

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

2013-2014 Season Table

Hunting Season		September	October	November	December	January	February	Notes	
Grouse		September 21 - January 5							¹ Special permit required
Sage Grouse			September 25 - 26						
Partridge		September 21 - January 5							² Portions of these season dates are antlerless only
Pheasant			October 19 - January 5						
Youth only			October 5 - 9						
Residents only			October 12 - 14						
Quail			October 19 - January 5					³ Units in Gregory, Mellette, Ziebach, Dewey, and Corson counties have special season dates	
Cottontail Rabbit		September 1 - February 28							
Tree Squirrel		September 1 - February 28							
Crow		September 1 - October 31	The crow hunting season is also open March 1 - April 30						
Common Snipe		September 1 - October 31							
Mourning Dove		September 1 - November 9							
Ducks	Youth only	Federal framework needed to establish season dates.							⁴ Antlerless deer only
	Low Plains North								
	Low Plains Middle								
	Low Plains South								
	High Plains								
Canada Geese	Unit 1								
	Unit 2								
	Bennett Co. ¹								
Light Geese									
White-fronted Geese									
Sandhill Crane		September 28 - November 24							
Tundra Swan		Federal framework needed to establish season dates.							
Fall Turkey		October 1 - January 31							
Mountain Lion		TBD							
Antelope - Archery		Aug 17 - Sept 27	Oct 14-31						
Antelope - Rifle		September 28 - October 13							
Deer	Archery ²	September 28 - January 15							
	Muzzleloader ²					Dec 1 - Jan 15			
	Youth	September 14 - January 15							
	Black Hills				Nov 1-30				
	West River ³				Nov 16-Dec 1		TBD ⁴		
East River				Nov 23 - Dec 8		TBD ⁴			
Elk - Black Hills		Archery: Sept 1-30	Rifle: Oct 1-31 ⁵		Dec 1-15 ⁵	Antlerless only			

GFP PUBLIC MEETINGS #35

THE OPEN HOUSE FORMAT USED FOR THESE MEETINGS ALLOWS THE PUBLIC TO COME AND GO AT THEIR LEISURE.

WESTERN SOUTH DAKOTA

Contact: Regional Supervisor Mike Kintigh at 605.394.6837

RAPID CITY OPEN HOUSE

- March 14, 2013, 7pm-9pm, Outdoor Campus - West
- Key Topic: Black Hills Fisheries and Fishing Opportunity. This meeting is to share information, discuss current management direction and address ideas for area fisheries.

Plans are also in the works to host additional Open House Meetings later this spring and summer. Dates, times and locations will be posted as arrangements are finalized.

CENTRAL SOUTH DAKOTA

Contact: Regional Supervisor Cliff Stone at 605.734.4532

BONESTEEL OPEN HOUSE

- March 4, 2013, 4:30-7pm, South Central High School in Commons Area (401 Birdsell Street)
- Key Topic: Deer Management, short presentation at 5:30pm

WAGNER OPEN HOUSE

- March 5, 2013, 4:30-7pm, Two Spur's Restaurant (610 W SD Hwy 46)
- Key Topic: Deer Management, short presentation at 5:30pm

PRESHO OPEN HOUSE

March 12, 2013, 4:30-7pm, Hutch's Cafe (308 E Hwy 16)

Key Topic: Deer Management

SELBY OPEN HOUSE

March 25, 2013, 4:30-7pm, American Legion (5401 Main St.)

Key Topic: General

ONIDA OPEN HOUSE

March 26, 2013, 4:30-7pm, Phoenix Center (110 S Main Street)

Key Topic: General

SOUTHEAST SOUTH DAKOTA

Contact: Regional Supervisor Arden Petersen at 605.362.2706

SANBORN COUNTY OPEN HOUSE

February 25, 2013, 5:30pm-7:30pm, Woonsocket Community Center (main street)

Staff Presentations begin at 6pm

Key Topics: Deer Management/Seasons, Coyotes, New James River Access

OTHER MEETINGS OF INTEREST

Southeast Regional Advisory Panel Meeting

- Spring meeting TBA

NORTHEAST SOUTH DAKOTA

Contact: Regional Supervisor Scott Lindgren at 605.882.5201

Open House meetings are in the process of being scheduled for Faulk, Edmunds, Clark, Roberts, Hamlin and Deuel Counties. Dates, times and locations will be posted as arrangements are finalized.

ROBERTS COUNTY OPEN HOUSE

Sisseton: February 28, 2013, 4pm-7pm, Roberts County 4-H Building

GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
PROPOSAL

36

Camping Permits and Rules
Camping permit fees
Chapter 41:03:04:03

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 7-8, 2013	Fort Pierre
	Public Hearing	April 4-5, 2013	Winner
	Finalization	April 4-5, 2013	Winner

PARKS & RECREATION DIVISION RECOMMENDATION

Modify 41:03:04:03 Camping permit fees.

Requirements and Restrictions:

Requires a camper to pay a daily fee for the use of a campsite, camping cabin or lodge in a state park, recreation area and certain lakeside use areas.

Recommended changes:

Add Shep's Canyon to the list of areas that require a group lodging fee and establish the fee.

41:03:04:03. Camping permit fees. The daily fee for the use of a campground site by one camper unit is as follows:

- (14) The group lodging fee at: Mina Lake State Recreation Area is \$160.00 and at Shadehill State Recreation Area is \$185.00 a night for the first 8 persons age 12 and over plus 17.00 for each additional person age 12 and older; Lake Thompson State Recreation Area, Palisades State Park, **Shep's Canyon State Recreation Area** and Newton Hills State Park \$240.00 a night for the first 12 persons age 12 and over plus \$17.00 for each additional person age 12 and older;

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Group lodges are extremely popular state park facilities and receive heavy use year round. A ranch residence was included in the department's acquisition of the Hill Ranch property on the west side of Angostura Reservoir. The house, which is in close proximity to the reservoir, and the Shep's Canyon campground, boat ramp and planned horse trail system, is being converted to a group lodge. We expect the Shep's Canyon Lodge to be equally popular due to its proximity to other recreational offerings and its picturesque setting. The \$240 nightly fee is consistent with the fee for other state park lodges of similar size.

APPROVE MODIFY REJECT NO ACTION

2012-2013 CSP MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE UPDATE

Marking of infested trees began around October 1, 2012. Marking was completed on February 28, 2013. 35,208 infested trees were identified on 27,408 acres. 20,887 trees were cut and chunked and 13,061 will be cut and removed. All cut and chunk work was completed by the March 1 deadline. Cut and remove work is on track to be finished by June 1. The Sylvan Lake area continues to dominate the work we are doing. Almost half of the infested trees that will be treated this season were in the 3,000 acre area around Sylvan Lake. This means there was still a significant amount of beetles flying in from adjacent Forest Service land. It also means that where there was not a significant amount of inflight in the main body of CSP, last year's treatments were highly successful. Last season there were nearly 80,000 infested trees in the main body of the park compared to approximately 20,000 trees this year. This is a 75% reduction in infested trees. This indicates a major success from our efforts.

In addition to the beetle tree work, we are completing buffer thinning work along the north and west boundary and completing commercial timber sales in the main body of the park. These treatments will continue to reinforce all of our efforts by reducing the risk of future attack in thinned areas as well as reducing the amount of beetles that fly in from adjacent forest service land.

To accomplish this work we used 4 private contractors to complete cut and chunk work, 3 private contractors to complete cut and remove work and 2 private contractors and a Wildland Fire/DOC inmate crew to complete buffer thinning work. We will complete approximately 400 acres of buffer thinning work. We also have 5 active commercial timber sales contracted with three local wood products producers, Neiman Timber Company, Baker Timber Products, and Sandford Logging. The commercial timber sales encompass approximately 6,000 acres, primarily in the northwest corner of the main body of the park.

This spring we will complete preventative spraying on approximately 600 to 800 trees around lodges, campgrounds, private campgrounds, and visitor use areas. We will spray Permethrin on highly valuable trees in these areas before April 30. We will also set up lethal bait sites around large cut and chunk spots. The idea is to attract surviving beetles from chunks with bait pouches to trees that are sprayed with the insecticide Carbaryl.

Lastly, we will have an AmeriCorp crew from April 1-24. They will primarily assist in cleanup work around visitor use areas.