

Ascher, Debra

Subject: FW: Comment on Fall Turkey season

From: John Halverson [mailto:jw_halverson@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, July 03, 2014 1:34 PM

To: GFP Wild Info

Subject: Comment on Fall Turkey season

Please suspend all Fall Turkey Seasons until such time as the population has recovered. Since hens are legal game in this season, all tags have the greater potential of further depleting the resource.

Thanks,
John Halverson
Rapid City SD

Ascher, Debra

Subject: Comment on Fall Turkey - Shearer

From: GFP Admin Rules

Sent: Monday, June 23, 2014 9:48 AM

To: GFP Admin Rules

Subject: Comment on : GFP 2014 June Proposals - 2014 July Finals

Name: Bud Shearer

Address: 908 S Kinser

City: Sioux Falls

State: SD

Zip: 57110

Email: shearer sio.midco.net

Phone: 605-929-7675

Comment: There is no need to change the start date for Fall Turkey. Once the total black hills tags drop below 1000 STOP all nonresident sells! The start date for Fall Turkey should remain Oct. 1 .

Ascher, Debra

Subject: Fall prairie turkey hunting season

From: Charles Rokusek [crokusek55@outlook.com]

Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 7:41 PM

To: Spies, Jim

Cc: Keyser, Emmett

Subject: Fall prairie turkey hunting season

Dear G,F & P:

I see that there has been a proposal to change the start of the fall turkey season from Oct. 1 to Nov. 1.

I see a problem with that proposal. where we hunt, we have no problem getting permission to hunt fall turkeys in early October but the closer we get to November and the rut, the number of archery deer hunters increase on the area we hunt and we would be interfering with their archery hunting if we are out pursuing turkeys and they are trying to archery deer hunt.

Therefore, I am asking that you remove that date of Nov. 1 and move it back to Oct. 1. I believe this would be better for everyone involved.

We hunt west river for our fall turkey hunting.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this issue.

Sincerely,

Charles Rokusek
5208 W. Emmitt Circle
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57106
605-362-9827

Ascher, Debra

Subject: FW: SD GFP May Commission Meeting

-----Original Message-----

From: DeAllen Christensen [mailto:huntin_papa@yahoo.com]

Sent: Wednesday, April 30, 2014 5:21 PM

To: SDGFINFO

Subject: Re: SD GFP May Commission Meeting

DeAllyn Christensen from Florence SD.. I would like to see rifle closed for a season or two, just to get numbers back again. I would do the same for pheasants also. The numbers are very scarce and the spring weather isn't helping any either. I'd even make a donation just to see that happen. Thanks

Ascher, Debra

Subject: FW: S.D. Antelope hunting tags

Dear Mr. John Cooper:
Chairman-commissioner

I am writing to you in order that you would consider issuing silences to non residents for antelope gun season. Allowing non residents to get tags will definitely increase the S.D. wildlife division money received for silences over the low cost of residence licenses. Non residences bring in money to businesses and taxes to your state that residents do not. Also discriminating against nonresidents is un-American and is the same as discriminating against religion race and age. Considering that I am a veteran and I am not a spring chicken i.e. I'm in my seventies I would love to come out and hunt in South Dakota again and have a chance at taking a great S.D. buck antelope. Please allow us non residents to apply for tags even if we only can get a chance at 25% of the available tags. Thank You for consideration of this issue..

Sincerely,
Leo Radvila

Ascher, Debra

Subject:

FW: Nonresident Rifle Antelope Licenses

Dear Chairman John Cooper,

Thanks for taking the time to chat with me yesterday about Antelope nonresident tags.

I think the State does a good job of managing the hunting resource. It is not perfect. But as a professional guide in Alaska and someone who has hunted many different states, I recognize that South Dakota has one of the premier management systems for wildlife in the United States. Well done. I also was recently voted the number one outfitter in South Dakota by hunters from across the United States.

I feel the state needs to start allowing nonresidents to apply for rifle antelope tags for the following reasons:

1. Allowing nonresidents to get a portion of the tags will provide nationwide advertising to the excellence of our game management and hunting opportunities in South Dakota.
2. Allowing nonresidents to get tags will increase the Wildlife Division dollar intake from \$36 for residents to \$286 for nonresidents for every license sold to a nonresident.
3. Nonresidents are more likely to hire a guide, stay in a hotel, eat at a restaurant, et cetera than South Dakotans buying a tag which brings in more money directly to businesses.
4. Nonresidents hiring guides represent approximately \$170 in state sales tax and tourism tax per license holder that goes towards our state budget.
5. Allowing nonresidents to get licenses will avoid future lawsuit costs from entities that challenge the constitutionality of not allowing a select demographic from obtaining tags on the grounds of discrimination. I have never known a state to win one of these lawsuits. By allowing nonresidents a percentage of the tags, it stifles the need for such lawsuits.
6. I understand that some residents may feel that South Dakotans should be entitled to all of the available tags. They would not be aware of the discrimination definition. It would be discriminatory to say that "no Southern People can apply" or "nobody from New York can apply", et cetera. That is unconstitutional for obvious reasons.
7. Nonresidents typically arrange for permission to hunt from landowners and are far less likely to be violating road hunting or trespassing laws. I suspect they might be a bit more likely to get caught or turned in for such acts, but I believe they are less likely to be committing the act than the resident from across state that has the hunting strategy of "apply for \$36 and then go out and try to find a place to hunt".

A workable option is to offer the drawing to all. Cap the nonresidents in the drawing to no more than 20%. This is good for landowners, guides, nonresidents, residents, enforcement and the State and Wildlife budgets. This is win-win-win for all involved.

I am always available to discuss conservation issues. As a professional guide in Alaska and South Dakota and a sportsman, and landowner, I bring a viewpoint that has validity and value.

Thank you for considering my points.

Willie Dvorak
Owner/Jim River Guide Service
605-228-8162 or 605-887-3561
www.jimriverguideservice.com
www.guidedalaskahunting.com
www.alaskafishingwithwillie.com

Ascher, Debra

Subject: 2014 Antelope Proposal

From: ompetfarm@rapidnet.com
To: jlcoop11@aol.com, jim.spies@state.sd.us, barryj@gwtc.net, cathy.peterson@state.sd.us, duane.sather@state.sd.us,
gary.jensen@state.sd.us, hpd@nvc.net, wscott.phillips@state.sd.us
Sent: 6/28/2014 1:13:54 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time
Subj: 2014 Antelope Proposal

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to express my concern over the proposal to issue 2,766 tags for an antelope population that is obviously in serious trouble in most parts of the state.

A June 11, 2014 Rapid City Journal article written by Bob Mercer and titled **“This time, antelope permits may fall”** reads, in part, as follows:

“South Dakota’s **antelope herds are dwindled so much there isn’t any need to count them this year**, according to biologists for the state Wildlife Division. Officials say they won’t conduct an aerial survey of the state’s antelope herds this year because they already know antelope numbers remain low and nothing is expected to significantly change in the weeks and months ahead.”

Before making a decision on the 2014 antelope proposal, I would strongly urge each of you to take a hard look at the following information:

West River Deer.....2009 - **71,745** tags.....2014 - **22,329** tags
East River Deer.....2010 - **80,794** tags.....2014 - **30,731** tags
Black Hills Deer.....2008 - **9,173** tags.....2014 - **3,456** tags
Black Hills Firearms Elk.....2006 - **2,470** tags.....2014 - **670** tags
Archery Elk.....2006 - **247** tags.....2014 - **107** tags
Custer State Park Firearms Elk.....2009 - **56** tags.....2014 - **5** tags
Custer State Park Archery Elk.....2009 - **58** tags.....2014 - **4** tags
Firearm Antelope.....2008 - **33,835** tags.....2014 - **2,766** tags proposed

* These tag numbers were compiled from the annual Harvest Reports and the 2014 harvest quotas that have been proposed and/or approved.

NOTES:

West River and East River Deer

- The numbers speak for themselves. (*I used tag numbers rather than license numbers, as many licenses were 2 or 3 tag licenses)

Black Hills Deer

- The **2009** Working Population Estimate for Black Hills Deer was **52,700**.
- Per Andy Lindbloom’s May, 2014 Power Point presentation to the Commission, the **2013** population estimate was **46,300**.
- One must ask the question, why has the population continued to decrease in spite of significant annual reductions in the number of licenses issued?

Black Hills Firearms Elk

- With a **2006** Working Population Estimate of **3,800 elk**, there were **2,470 tags** issued.
- Now, with a “new and improved **2014** estimate” of **5,400 elk**, there will be **670 tags** issued for the 2014 season.
- This certainly raises questions as to the accuracy of the new estimate.
- Kudos to those of you who voted to reduce the number of tags proposed for antlerless elk for 2014.

Custer State Park Archery and Firearms Elk

- The **2005** Working Population Estimate for CSP was **950 elk**.

- The **2009** Working Population Estimate for CSP was **222 elk**. (There were 58 archery and 56 firearm tags issued that year.)
- Begg the question, why would anyone issue a total of **114 tags** to hunt a population of only **222 elk** that was obviously in serious trouble?
- Now, there will be a total of **9 tags** issued to hunt a 2014 population estimated at **500 elk** in CSP, (4 archery and 5 rifle tags).

The numbers I have presented here are not fabricated. They are all gleaned from Harvest Reports available on the GF&P website and various staff presentations to the Commission. If you have any questions on the sources of this information, please email or call me.

I would respectfully request that you reject the failed management practices of the past that have caused the precipitous decline in numbers of most of South Dakota's big game populations. Please take bold steps to eliminate, or at least severely reduce, the proposed issuance of 2,766 tags to hunt an antelope population that is, like the other big game populations in South Dakota, in serious trouble. Please give the antelope population an honest chance to recover to reasonable levels.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Steve Bulle

13650 Highway 40

Keystone, SD 57751

Email: ompetfarm@rapidnet.com

Phone: (605) 484-4726

Ascher, Debra

Subject: FW: 2014 Antelope Season

Sent: 4/28/2014 8:38:36 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time
Subj: 2014 Antelope Season

Dear Sir/Madam,

April 28, 2014

I am writing to you in regards to applications for non-resident antelope licences for the coming season.

As a non-resident hunter I am encouraging you to allow us to re-enter the pool of potential recipients for antelope tags as we believe that our participation in the season will be beneficial to South Dakota for several reasons.

- Non resident fees are higher and will increase funds to your department.
- Non-residents will bring additional revenue to State businesses and increase tax base.
- Non-residents will spread the word of the many opportunities for excellent hunting in South Dakota to other Non-resident hunters.

As an avid hunter I would truly relish the chance to once again hunt in your great state and continue to explore all that South Dakota has to offer.

Thank you again for considering this and look forward to this year's application process.

Sincerely,
Vytas Butikas
4025 Linden Ave.
western Springs, IL 60558
vakrkody@sbcglobal.net

Ascher, Debra

Subject: FW: Comments on Antelope Season

From: John Halverson [mailto:jw_halverson@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, July 03, 2014 1:38 PM

To: GFP Wild Info

Subject: Comments on Antelope Season

As much as I love hunting antelope, please be very conservative on issuing tags and setting limits until such time as the population is closer to full recovery. Sidebar: have seen a number of fat twins in Harding County this spring...well, those I *could* see in the tall grass and high clover!

Thanks,
John Halverson
Rapid City SD

Ascher, Debra

Subject: FW: Antelope Seasons

From: John Simpson [<mailto:jrsimpson@pie.midco.net>]

Sent: Thursday, July 03, 2014 2:27 PM

To: GFP Wild Info

Subject: RE: Antelope Seasons

PS: It also makes absolutely no sense to reduce resident tags and increase non-res. No logic with that proposal.

From: John Simpson [<mailto:jrsimpson@pie.midco.net>]

Sent: Thursday, July 3, 2014 2:23 PM

To: 'wildinfo@state.sd.us'

Subject: Antelope Seasons

I oppose issuing non-res. rifle antelope tags this yr. Regardless of what certain guides/outfitters claim, our state's herd #'s are not sufficiently high enough to justify non-res. tags. Current total license allocations barely allow residents to obtain their preferred tags. The proposed "% shuffle" simply isn't fair to residents. I strongly suspect the idea for non-res tags originated from guides/outfitters who generally are more interested in revenue than the well-being of the resource.

Pierre, SD

Ascher, Debra

Subject: FW: Antelope hunting tags

From: David Bechard [mailto:david_bechard2000@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, July 03, 2014 2:50 PM

To: GFP Wild Info

Subject: Antelope hunting tags

So if I am reading this correctly there are a total of 2,705 resident and 61 nonresident tags issued. If one half of the tags per unit are allocated for landowner/operator preference.

That would leave 1,383 tags for the non landowners. If the landowners take there portion of the tags. A little out of proportion I would say.

Or is there another underlying reason for this?

Correct me if I am wrong.

Sincerely

David Becha

1608 Hilltop Dr.

Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: 605-224-8169

Ascher, Debra

Subject: FW: Antelope Season Public Hearing Comments
Attachments: Antelope.docx

From: Larry Stomprud [<mailto:stomprudangus@gwtc.net>]
Sent: Monday, July 07, 2014 8:53 AM
To: GFP Wild Info; jlcooper@aol.com; Spies, Jim; barryj@gwtc.net; Peterson, Cathy; Sather, Duane; Jensen, Gary; hpd@nvc.net; Phillips, W. Scott; Cecil Chambliss
Subject: Antelope Season Public Hearing Comments

Attached is my statement requesting changes to the proposed antelope season. I would welcome phone calls for further discussion or clarification. 605-484-3758

Larry C. Stomprud
17223 Ollie Dr.
Mud Butte, SD 57758

Ascher, Debra

Subject:

FW:

From: Dale Burnette [<mailto:whynotgolf62@hotmail.com>]

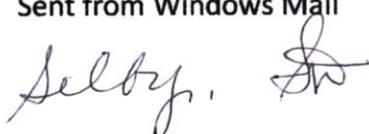
Sent: Thursday, July 03, 2014 6:08 PM

To: GFP Wild Info

Subject:

The antelope numbers in Walworth and Potter counties are very low.

Sent from Windows Mail

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Selby, D".

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
PROPOSAL

POSSESSION, PROCESSING & TRANSPORTATION OF GAME
Chapter 41:06:03

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	June 5-6, 2014	Yankton
	Public Hearing	July 9, 2014	Ft. Pierre
	Finalization	July 9, 2014	Ft. Pierre

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

Establish a new rule that defines the terms and legal process under which a wildlife processing facility may deem game left at their facility to be 'abandoned'. The new rule would also dictate the terms under which the wildlife processing facility could turn over possession of such abandoned, processed game to a non-profit organization or to any charitable organization that distributes food or other services to the needy.

41:06:03:13. Process of abandonment for game left at a wildlife processing facility. A wildlife processing facility and a person who deposits lawfully taken game with the facility for processing may agree upon a period of time following which the facility may consider the game to be abandoned by the person. With the exception of waterfowl, the facility may donate abandoned game to a non-profit organization or to any charitable organization that distributes food or other services to the needy. At no time shall any abandoned game be considered the property of the wildlife processing facility.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

The Department has been approached by members the Sportsmen Against Hunger Board of Directors who have asked the Department to consider developing a rule that would clarify the process under which game left at a wildlife processing facility could be deemed legally abandoned. Once the game is deemed abandoned, the wildlife processing facility could then donate the game to a non-profit organization or charitable organization that distributes food or other services to the needy.

Send comments to:

wildinfo@state.sd.us

or

Game, Fish, and Parks Commission
523 East Capitol Ave
Pierre, SD 57501

TRI-COUNTY LOCKERS, INC.
125 - 3RD ST., P.O. BOX 12
NEWELL, SD 57766-0012

*We at TRI-CO LOCKERS in Newell
feel this is a good opportunity to ~~poss~~ dispose
of wildlife not picked up. (minimum of 4-6 months)
Recommended Mark Janulke*

APPROVE MODIFY REJECT NO ACTION

456-2230

Ascher, Debra

Subject:

FW: comments on abandoned game at processors

From: John Halverson [mailto:jw_halverson@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, July 03, 2014 1:56 PM

To: GFP Wild Info

Subject: comments on abandoned game at processors

I would like to see it legal for an unrelated resident to pick up the game if it has been considered abandoned after a stipulated period of time. Especially if the game processing fees have been paid up front. That way it could not be construed as someone purchasing wild game.

Next best thing....call me and I will come collect it for Sportsmen Against Hunger.

And lastly, how about adjusting the "Wanton Waste of Game" laws already on the books to more closely reflect similar laws in other states. Maybe not as severe as Alaska, but abandoning the game at the processor leaves the processor in the lurch with time and resources spent with no recovery outside of small claims court. This could be considered a theft by deception case. Plus it wastes the game animal! A fine along with loss of big game hunting privileges for a year sounds like a good first offense judgement. Five years for the second offense and lifetime ban for third offense.

In giving this some more thought, I have to wonder how many of these are out of state hunters? Got pinched for time and blew it off in order to get home in time for work on Monday. With our reciprocity agreement with something like 39 other states, loss of hunting privileges here would follow them like a bad fart!

I love the resources we have here in South Dakota and support regulations that protect those resources. Keep up the good work! Now I am gonna make a venison steak sandwich for lunch. (Muzzleloader deer season 2013, white tail buck, flintlock at 90 yds, memory of a lifetime!)

John Halverson
Rapid City SD