

**Notes from Archery Deer and Antelope Stakeholder Meeting
October 24, 2022**

Stakeholders:

Bob Whitmyre- SDGFP Commissioner
Jesse Travis- Taxidermist/Sportsman
Dean Seim- Dakota Sportsman, Inc.
Dana Rogers- South Dakota Bowhunter's, Inc.
Brenda Forman- South Dakota Ag Unity
Doug Abraham- SD Landowner Outfitter Alliance
Steve Peterson- Archery Hunter/Retail Manager
Ross Swedeen- SD Big Game Coalition
Casey Nordine- Mule Deer Foundation
William Morrison- Guide/Outfitter
Dave Niemi- West River landowner
Ceci Steen- West River landowner/outfitter
Jason Beaulieu- Nonresident Archery Deer (Online)
David Jorgensen- Nonresident Archery Pronghorn (Online)
Zach Hunke- South Dakota Wildlife Federation (Online)
Josh Larson- East River landowner (Online)
**Al Kraus- Black Hills Archery*
**Jeff Olson- Black Hills Sportsman's Club*
**Tim Neises- East River landowner/Archery Hunter*
**Absent*

Game, Fish & Parks:

John Kanta, Chad Switzer, Andy Lindbloom, Jackie Ermer, Mike Klosowski, Andrew Norton, Mark Ohm, Emmett Keyser (Online), Kraig Haase (Online)

Overview of Current Deer and Antelope hunting Seasons by Andy Lindbloom

Deer and pronghorn hunting in the state, residency regulations- rules regarding residents and nonresidents, license sales and harvest info.

Pronghorn

- Archery- unlimited for both resident and non-resident
 - Black Hills- Limited draw for residents with an Access permit required - No allocation for nonresidents
- Firearm- limited draw for both residents and nonresidents
 - Allocation for NR dependent on objective for each unit (varies from 2-8%).
 - Custer State Park- Limited draw for residents, no allocation for nonresidents.
 - Mentored- Unlimited draw for residents and nonresidents
 - Special Antelope- Limited draw for both residents and non-residents. 100% allocation for nonresidents (same number of licenses for resident and nonresident)

Deer

- Archery- unlimited for both residents and nonresidents
 - Nonresidents- April 1 application deadline for public land- delayed public land opener for nonresidents of October 1
 - Limited Access Permits
 - Hill Ranch and Custer National Forest- 25% allocation of resident access permits available to nonresidents
 - Resident only access permits on Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve and Good Earth State Park
- Firearm
 - Limited draw for residents and nonresidents
 - Nonresidents limited to 8% allocation of licenses available to residents in Black Hills, West River and Refuge deer seasons
 - No nonresident allocation for East River deer season
- Muzzleloader
 - Any Deer- Limited to residents only; no allocation for nonresidents
 - Antlerless- unlimited for both residents & nonresidents
- CSP- Limited to residents only; no allocation for nonresidents
- Youth and Mentored- Unlimited for both residents and nonresidents
- Apprentice Resident- Unlimited for residents; no allocation for nonresidents
- Special Buck- Limited draw for both residents and nonresidents
 - West River Any Deer/West River Any Whitetail- 100% Allocation- Equal for residents and nonresidents
 - East River- no nonresident Special Buck license allocation

Overview of license sales over the period of 15+ years.

Overview of deer harvest trends

Overview of Limited Access Unit management objectives and harvest data

Questions

Casey Nordine- What was the harvest rate on that same unit one year prior? Black Hills Region- 121 bucks

Andy Lindbloom- Our estimate for all these units, the smaller the unit, there's a little more error, - +/- 100 where there are only two or three deer harvested.

(?)- NR this year the hunters that applied for archery was down, when did the April 1st deadline when did that kick in?

John Kanta- We had an August 1st deadline to implement what the commission had decided.

Andy Lindbloom- When we did go to that April 1, we did have a lot of nonresidents miss that deadline the first year. They caught on the next year.

(?) Are the success numbers based solely on surveys? Margin of error there?

Andy Lindbloom: that's something I could look into.

John Kanta: Generally, we see a good response rate to our harvest; not perfect but good info.

John Kanta: Something to point out some of the things A

Chad Switzer- Archery mule deer harvest has been higher than our firearm harvest- does that concern us? Any thoughts?

Casey Nordine- What was the harvest rate on that unit the year prior? (Black Hills)

Summary of deer and antelope hunter input opportunity with Andrew Norton

100,000 emails- Antelope/Deer Hunters Survey

- Understanding concerns/issues
- Options making changes- to increase or decrease
- Large increase Archery Antelope- doubled
 - Both residents and nonresidents increasing roughly same rate
- Antelope Archery- Public- too many
- Resident thought too many nonresident archery hunters

Residents tend want to maintain current regulations.

Have a report to all these responses- opinions vary across the board, anywhere from don't change a thing, please don't do what you did with the deer draw to close the season for two years, to have unlimited opportunities.

Mostly public land for antelope. There was a mix with deer- residents were more private land where nonresidents were split between public and private land.

The consensus of the comments collected by the survey- too many archery hunters on public- residents felt there were too many nonresidents. Not much support for limiting opportunities, so it will be great to get input from you folks on to what if anything should be considered if there are some concerns in specific areas.

Just because there was 10% response and there it didn't appear as an overwhelming consensus, doesn't mean there aren't some concerns, maybe no concerns for statewide.

Future trends- we have no idea what the future holds- if archery hunting continues to increase at the same rate for the next 10-years, similar to the last 10-years- Estimating in the last two-years (of archery licenses) on public land- 2,500 antelope and 25,000 deer licenses- if that's kind of a tipping point, we think where we're seeing a little bit too many archery hunters, we have a lot of options. One of the toughest things to determine would be figure out what percent of the harvest should be from archery vs. firearm hunters, which percent should be resident vs. nonresident.

Dave Niemi- I've had hunters stop by and tell me that their tag is for private land only. Are there tags out there that are private land or public land only?

Chad Switzer: For nonresident archery? Yes.

David Jorgenson- Have you factored in at all the Covid spikes seen nationally on hunter sales into your numbers?

Andrew Norton- In 2020, referencing the trend graph, there's probably a clear spike there, potentially from Covid, 2021 number still high for residents maybe leveled off from 2020 to 2021- nonresidents ticked up a little bit. Covid could exacerbate this trend and we could get a jump; we don't know what the future holds.

Ceci Steen- Down at our place we've been involved with the radio-collaring for survival estimates. How are you seeing how the populations are affected? Indian Creek area- Scenic?

Andrew Norton- Focusing on NW South Dakota, we have done some studies east of Pierre. Northwest South Dakota we did see some pretty significant mortality from EHD.

Jamie Larson- Any research on nonresident archery deer to what other states charge for their tags? I hear some blowback on we don't charge enough, I was just curious on what prices were compared to Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa?

Chad Switzer- It's been 10 or 12 years since we have brought forth license fee increases.

Dave Niemi- Regarding Archery Antelope, something maybe worth looking at a staggered season, like with the Prairie Elk- an idea anyway.

Doug Abraham-There's a public land pressure problem, it's not just nonresidents. Our group would support some type of restriction on public land which would have to affect resident and nonresidents. Restricting access on private land will not fix the access problems. Only way to deal with this is to change the pressure on public, through Limited Access Units, Public-only type tags.

Ceci Steen- I can back that, that's how I see it.

Dana Rogers- I can respect that, if it remains unlimited (private land), how is that going to be enforced- will it be enforced?

Ceci Steen- We have that problem with policing- we have people scaring them off, then Law Enforcement can't get out to the incident to ticket them.

Dana Rogers- Let's just say, if we cut those numbers in half, that's roughly 8-15%, if you did a cap and draw- you're talking about an every other year tag, that's pretty good for West River. If there's concerns with other industries, we have plenty of avenues already or you can create another one. East River/ West River we have antelope I guess we have I could make an archery special but- not in love with or like, but I understand. I don't know how you get around this without a cap and draw.

Zach Hunke- I'd like to start off with idea it's hard to manage a public resource based upon public or private interest. We can't break that out as to huntability, whether somebody has a private place where they can pay to play, they're pulling from the same animal group. If the commission is going to effectively manage the herds, they're going to have to manage the number of tags allocated- that can't necessarily happen on just private or public it needs to be a whole group consideration.

Ross Swedeen- One thing we've touched on briefly is how the department divvies up the opportunity to different weapon users, when you look at the mule deer specifically on public land across all the units, the units that have the highest percentage of public land up to two to six years to draw those licenses- it's hard to swallow when anybody with a bow can go hunt that same public land, there's a glaring difference the way they divvy up that opportunity.

John Kanta- One thing we're trying to do as a department, and were big on customer service, trying to simplify rules for your customers and the department alike when it comes to licenses and rules and the like, that's the trick right, how do we fix that and keep things simple.

Casey Nordine- Smart way to start, what is the common ground and narrow down from there. Some of its perspective with what the science is, part of it is just the optics if we have a map telling us these areas are under objective and it's non-consequential to remove the mule deer doe harvest it shouldn't be an issue if it's aligned with the science. It could be on the high end, what are some common ground spots we can start at and work down.

Dana Rogers- I think they've done a great job with reducing mule doe harvest and they've been careful on how they've done that looking at- going to have hot spots where producers are saying they have 40 mule deer on my hay pile, they have to be reactive to those producers, leaving northwest South Dakota open for youth and mentor, other than that the only way you're going to kill a mule deer is with your any deer tag.

Casey Nordine- 1,500 mule deer harvest total- 844 apprentice/mentor which is 56%

Ross Swedeen- 2021 Archery Deer Statistics Harvest for WR1-01 projected 41 adult mule deer harvested by 21 nonresidents.

John Kanta- Gets difficult the lower it is, still do deal with issues.

Dana Rogers- Yeah because you must have an avenue for depredation.

Ceci Steen- Another thing you could do is allow landowners to be able to transfer their tags to say like their grandchildren, that don't live on their place so they could still hunt on their land, even with archery tags.

Great variance in density- in areas that are being impacted with depredation.

Chad Switzer- April 1 for public land licenses- and the October 1 start for public land. Any input from the folks in this room?

Dana Rogers- I think everyone for the most part is okay with that. The reason the commission did that 3-4 years ago is because South Dakota is the fall back state- we're not now were the only one concerning guaranteed licenses. I don't think it hurts but I worry about enforcement.

Chad Switzer- I get that, we have that everywhere across the board, we've talked about some of the access permit issues in the past.

Doug Abraham- I agree with Dana Rogers on enforcement. I don't know what the solution is, but you also can't make policy on the presumption that people are going to break the law.

Andy Lindbloom - April 1 deadline, still a need from your perspective? If we were to move to another system like a cap and draw?

Dana Rogers- If there is a hard cap, where they can't just buy the license every day, then there would be no need. Draw whenever you draw in spring-mid-summer- (i.e.,) there's only 2000 or 5000, you get one you hunt.

Chad Switzer- I should have prefaced that with our current system.

Jason Beaulieu- April 1st deadline is definitely on the backside of other western states as well. South Dakota has always been a fallback state, and it has been with the current deadline. If we are trying to curb nonresidents- that's certainly something that would change. Having a little later date changes my perspective.

Zach Hunke- If the group is considering a cap for nonresidents we're going to affect residents, any thought from dept- that wouldn't necessarily restrict opportunity for residents, they could still get their bow tags, maybe effect other tags, maybe you could only have so many deer. I know how you can get quite a number of tags; I don't know if there's a live system where if you fill the tag, you will lose the ability to go out and shoot another deer in a different season. Not sure what the departments capabilities are, there was an allowance for electronic tagging. Just wondering if there are any thoughts on that.

Chad Switzer- Definitely another part of that whole conversation Zach, whether or not Commissioner Whitmyre and his colleagues want to open up the combined deer drawing, as all that comes into play.

John Kanta- There's so many ways to do this and none of them are going to be right for everybody, we've had discussions in the past about a "super tag" we called it where you would get a tag and decide whether you want to burn it archery or during a rifle season. I'm sure we'd get plenty of feedback on it. Electronic tagging, I think we're kind of preparing for it, it's the way of the future, but there are absolutely issues with it that we're watching other states that have already went down that path, looking at those and remedy that before we move to it. Our new system Go Outdoors in part plays into that, we're just not there yet.

Zach Hunke- I was really concerned when it went to the legislature, just because of the visibility of the deer in regard to tagging. Are the nonresident private land tags different from the nonresident public land tags?

Andy Lindbloom- The colors differ but no way to tell whether it has a private land or public land endorsement from a distance. It is printed on the tag.

Dana Rogers- That would be one option make them different color.

Doug Abraham- Tend to agree with Zach Hunke on some of these issues, ... when you look at the number of residents with 2+ tags, especially when you're filling those meat tags too, that's one way of dealing with population issues too. Yeah, we're restricted for rifle but when it comes to archery, we could be creating real pockets of intensity without spreading it out. Potentially have more unit-specific archery opportunities; might be an easier way to address those issues, where you're having more pressure without involving public or private land specifically.

Steve Peterson- I agree with Dana, we have to start with cap somehow, whether we want to consider residents and nonresidents or not- we already talked about technology has advanced, with the modern bows, crossbows, range finders and I just think if we don't get ahead of it well see more people buying tags, being more and more successful. Being unlimited really restricts your control over what is harvested. An archer can shoot a deer at 70-80 yards [with current technology]. Crossbows are a whole other issue-it's out there, people that have shoulder injuries or not even have injuries or 60-70 years old buying crossbow with a doctor's note. If we don't get ahead of it, you're just going to keep seeing those increases.

John Kanta- Any more discussion along those lines- Black Hills are a great example- Any deer licenses are limited but really sought after; yet you can go pick an archery tag over the counter and then go hunt a mule deer in the Black Hills- is this a problem? If so, how do you fix that? How does everyone see that? If we put a cap, how do we fix those these areas where we see those increased pressure- for Black Hills for whitetail deer highest density of harvested whitetails in the state, maybe that's ok on the whitetail deer side, even if we do a cap how do we fix issues like that

(?)-Your regions are broken down into 11 regions- data analysis unit total acres- allocate the 8%- divide it amongst the state so it's even.

Dana Rogers- Would you be interested doing that for a nonresident tag? Probably not.

Ceci Steen- Always worries me when you talk about nonresidents because those people who have private land and bring in those hunters to support my ranch, my livelihood, if you keep taking away from us, I don't have any group or professional group that brings hunters to hunt on my place, I can't get people half the time to get tags to come hunt on my place. We got to think of that, I hate when we say we only cap out of state people because worried about the people that do rely on income coming into their places.

Ceci Steen- I do not have local people that want to pay to come hunt my place- I have awesome whitetail and mule deer and antelope- but they don't think they should have to pay. I still must pay land taxes, still have to go fix the fences the deer and antelope tear out, cattle that gets out and gets hit because of the torn-out fence, I lose livestock. I would love it if I had local people want to offer to pay and come in and hunt, I would take them in too.

Ross Swedeen- If you cap one, have to cap them all, were all dealing with the same animal.

John Kanta- Recap

Thoughts/concerns on us allowing unlimited opportunity for Archery, is it appropriate for us to allow unlimited archery when we're really limiting those Any deer licenses, in a particular unit or area, is that something we need to address?

Ceci Steen mentioned there is concern, Doug Abraham mentioned as well, of what we do and how it impacts private lands, whether it be a cap or anything that would change up there certainly would be an impact.

Casey Nordine- Along the lines of the archery perspective, has there ever been push back? Montana decided to move remove mule deer does from the any option tag for sections in the state, has that idea ever been forwarded? Any push back? Mentor tags make up a big percentage, maybe that's good for certain areas or statewide, whether its depredation or mentor?

John Kanta- When we did have a mule deer only license- something we issued going back to the 80's or even earlier, we've done that before, we switched to the any deer generally folks are using that to harvest a mule deer. We switched to the Any Deer because generally folks are using that Any Deer license to harvest a mule deer. Our landowners, particularly those that are having depredation issues, like to have that any deer because if they don't shoot that mule deer, they can use it to take a white tail, and want the folks hunting their place to take a white tail. Yes, you are correct, youth and mentor hunters, that is a big portion of where that mule deer doe harvest is coming from, also the landowner own land license.

Dana Rogers- Probably the only other thing you could do, like we talked about earlier, is to make the archery a mule deer buck.

John Kanta- Direction we want to head now is, what are potential changes the commission could make to address some of the concerns we talked about both from our input opportunity and what we are talking about today. We talked about a cap.

Chad Switzer- Is everybody comfortable with the concerns or why we are here today? Does everybody have a good grasp of that? Any concerns on that?

Andrew Norton- I inputted some of the survey results, sounds like a lot of the concerns kind of validate the results from the survey, is it a public land concern, and would you agree that residents think feel like there is too many nonresidents.

John Kanta- Something I noticed from the survey, we had a lot of Minnesota and Wisconsin hunters.

Ross Swedeen- Nonresidents come here seeing our person density, but their deer density is astronomical compared to what we are, they're getting numerous tags in their own state, where we're getting one. That's why nonresidents come here, they're happy to be here.

Jason Beaulieu- Our habitat is much different as well.

Zach Hunke- Another aspect to that, having a family from Minnesota it's sort of a social event, where the tags are guaranteed, as far as the people that I know that hunt there.

Jason Beaulieu- From a firearm perspective that is very accurate- more about the comradery than it is specifically targeting animals, on the other hand is different than archery.

(?) There should be a big split between public vs. private there should be a differentiation in tags.

Chad Switzer- I think the question we ask now is where did you hunt the most? Public vs. private?

Andrew Norton- Regarding harvest surveys, "where did you hunt the most? did you hunt public or private" question should be added.

Doug Abraham- You could extrapolate but statically speaking, you couldn't use that sample, regarding the survey. I don't know what the answer is, or how to fix it, unless you mandate it that you must respond (harvest survey) if you could set up an Administrative Rule.

John Kanta- at this point, hunting pressure is important but we also want to know where deer are harvested.

Casey Nordine- With the new Go Outdoors, is there any way to require response to the survey? If they don't reply via email before they could purchase their license for the next year, they would have to respond?

Chad Switzer- It comes down to enforceability.

John Kanta- Well that's why we did away with the tooth submission rule, it was in administrative rule- some of you might remember, we used to send out a bright orange letter, saying you better submit your (deer) teeth or it could jeopardize your future application status, it helped.

Jason Beaulieu- Has it ever been brought up, switching to the electric side of things to where it's required to submit your tag as a used tag- is that something that's useable on the new electronic system? It might help with other things as far as harvest management too.

John Kanta- We've talked about that, gearing up to do that with our system, still a lot of bugs to work out. If I understand correct it's geotagged so it references where you burn your tag. There's still a good amount of South Dakota that doesn't have cell service, so it makes it difficult to do that.

John Kanta- Do we want to jump into potential regulation? Some of the major themes from the input opportunity:

- Maintain current archery opportunity
- Modify license type any deer to species or sex-specific
- Limit the number of archery hunters in several different ways
- Modify archery hunting season length- two separate time periods or shorter season.

Dana Rogers- We've put in four separate petitions, they varied based upon the 8% model. We have put in public vs. private land a couple years ago and that got killed too. I guess it's a question of what people are open to and not open to. I would like to see a cap and draw.

John Kanta- To clarify, just on nonresidents?

Dana Rogers- That was in the petition. Those were the petitions.

Doug Abraham- We'd like to see restrictions on public land because we think that's where the pressure is.

Ceci Steen- It's a compromise, that's the only way that I can see that you can solve a situation. So, if you cap one, you cap them both.

David Jorgenson- For clarification you are including Walk-in areas on public land, right?

John Kanta- Yes, we would consider this; what we're talking about here would be WIAs as well.

Chad Switzer- We all know that not all public lands are not created equal, deer hunting opportunities to the hunting pressure across the state. With or without cap on residents and nonresidents- the limited access units, is there a desire to see more of those?

(?) If you implement just one Limited Access Unit, you're moving that pressure to a different public area.

Dana Rogers- That's why we kept going with the cap and draw- they (the deer) they just move.

Zach Hunke- Do we offer nonresident special buck for bow?

John Kanta- Not specifically for archery, but if they picked up one of those Special Buck licenses which we do offer to nonresidents they could hunt with archery equipment if they so choose during that season.

Zach Hunke- Is it 500 tags (Special Any Deer) and do we fill them all out?

John Kanta- We definitely sell out the Special Any Deer East & West River, The Any White Tail we added a couple years ago, those have not sold out- second, third draws for WT.

David Jorgenson- Do you anticipate deer harvest goal might be impacted by Chronic Wasting Disease Management plans? For example, in Tennessee the deer harvest goals have been greatly increased as part of CWD management

program, idea being to harvest as many deer as possible to reduce the spread of CWD. That's how TN and other states are starting to manage it.

Andy Lindbloom- I don't know if on a large scale that's going to impact us yet? There might be states in certain areas where they are taking that approach to reduce deer densities but doesn't seem to be the norm. I don't know if that's going to buck the trend.

John Kanta- We've done some of that in the past like Fall River County- we identified a hot spot around Wind Cave National Park- we got a lot of feedback "why you guys killing all the deer in there" which was the intention, to reduce CWD there seems to be more of a demand for quality deer management than there is to eliminate CWD.

Chad Switzer- Is modifying Archery season up for discussion?

John Kanta- That's generally what the comments were. That's what we're trying to encapsulate there, the season length was too long.

Andrew Norton- Yes, there were comments along those lines, also comments saying increase opportunity.

Ross Swedeen- As a public land hunter, one argument I made when you guys were going through firearm allocation, in my opinion it creates an unfair pressure on public land. It creates more competition by allowing an East River and West River license.

Andrew Norton- to maybe build on my question, archery right now you can harvest 2 bucks- firearm you might have to wait 10 years to get a tag but it's a good harvest. What are your thoughts on the number of any deer licenses?

Dana Rogers- The people that are getting that many, they're getting leftovers. They're hunting with a rifle, muzzle loader and a bow. Our current system allows people to do what they want, or attempt to draw the tags, and if they want more and they have access- they're getting them third or fourth drawing.

John Kanta- It is something to look at, include in archery with the deer seasons, a lot of our archery hunters are also rifle and muzzleloader hunters. This kind of gets at what Doug Abraham said, how many tags should a person have knowing that other people want those tags. You said it though Dana Rogers, that a lot of folks are picking those up with the leftovers. I'm certain that if we included archery in the larger draw sequence where you could pick two first that would reduce some of the harvest.

David Jorgenson- You cannot restrict resident hunting without doing something with nonresidents. If you flip that around, is there is a way to do some restriction on the resident hunting that would still have the resident hunters have a degree of satisfaction. Something that they do here in Tennessee, they sell rifle, archery and muzzle loader, they also sell a Sportsman's license, that gives you the opportunity, the amount of deer you can harvest doesn't change but you have all season to get the deer.

Josh Larson- I agree with David Jorgenson, I think it's going to be a very hard sell to limit resident archery hunters, you can separate public land vs. private land, you can still cater to your instate outfitters and let them procure the tags they need to procure, by not taking away hopefully from a resident archer who hunts on public land.

Doug Abraham- I think if you had your solution, described before with a limited non-resident tag upfront- and buy a private ground after the fact in partnership with a limited access unit, at least then you could continue to have not technically restrict resident opportunities, but you would improve your results significantly.

Josh Larson- We still need our nonresident hunters, but I don't think it's too much to ask if they must wait a year and get one preference point.

Ceci Steen- Are you saying that the nonresident would have to build preference points but that a resident you don't have to?

John Kanta- Right, think they're saying keep it unlimited for resident.

Ceci Steen- So you guys already know I disagree with that, and I think any other landowner who owns a hunting deal would say that too.

Josh Larson- Well what we said is if you had private land, you had nonresident unlimited tags on private land for outfitters such as yourself, you could procure as many tags as what you needed to fill your clientele.

Ceci Steen- Oh okay, that'll be cool.

Chad Switzer- The challenge with the archery antelope, is really not biological it's social and pressure issue.

John Kanta- I think what I'm hearing from the group is we want to cap it because we want a better experience on public land and not necessarily a biological- seems like should cap both so we don't go over this threshold we established.

Ceci Steen- Wouldn't you do it off of what shows? With the 600 to the 2,000?

John Kanta- Where it's at now, use those percentages? That's one way to do it.

Dana Rogers- Go back to 8% for rifle.

Bob Whitmyre- This is great dialogue, just trying to gauge it all in the back of my mind too is should mule deer be separate from Whitetail.

Dana Rogers- There are pressure issues East River too.

Andy Lindbloom- People have thoughts on where limited access units should be, how many?

(?)- Newton Hills State Park

Ceci Steen- Is there any way that you could do a limited access unit in the Badlands area?

John Kanta- There probably is, the best for us is delineated, could probably take a chunk of Forest Service area.

Ceci Steen- Spring Draw Allotment?

John Kanta- Yeah, something like that. I think we could.

John Kanta- We have done surveys in the past asking about these Limited Access Units, generally we're taking public land and that's formerly open and narrowing it down and you need 6-7 preference points to get in. When you do it's a quality hunt.

Dana Rogers- I'm sure there are some that complained when we changed the Black Hills 25- years ago, but it is night and day, it is fantastic compared to what it was.

Ceci Steen- Down on the east side of Scenic there, the Spring Draw Allotment has some private holdings within it but on the other side of the town there's a good area in there to look on both sides of the highway? There's another place you could look.

John Kanta- Is there anything else that we haven't touched on?

(?) Raising the prices for the out of state tags?

John Kanta- That certainly makes sense to me, but going back to what I said earlier, typically we don't bring license fee increases unless we can justify what that's going to be spent on. Always a possibility but it's up to the commission.

Dana Rogers- That's the reason we asked for that petition. We asked for \$400 one year then \$500 the next, that was specifically because, there was a past commissioner that flat out said the state lose X amount of dollars, well this would mitigate it. We are comparably lower to other states, and comparably higher with resident fees.

John Kanta- Anything else?

Dave Niemi- In my area we have a lot of antelope, and those numbers haven't changed in 4-5 years considering of drought. Deer down a bit. There's room for hunters, I'd like to see those animals harvested.

Brenda Foreman- Some Ag groups that I've talked with always comes back to enforcement, and we know that's difficult. There's really not a defined line when you hit private land. There are those that hunt and have questioned that there is no limit on the archery I think putting caps in place, if there is pressure on the public, making sure that if the pressure comes to private making sure that the license says either public or private- making them different colors, OK making one with striped lines on it for residents. So, it's easy for landowners to see what kind of tag the hunter has.

John Kanta- I appreciate all the feedback- Just to recap again, this is just part of the process the next step will be to hold a staff meeting in November, will have some good discussions and put all these thoughts together and possible some recommendations for the commission. Ultimately, give the commission an action item. Put together an opportunity for you all to give you some feedback before we go to the commission. I will pick a day and set up a virtual meeting, just so you know what we are going to present.

One last thing, ultimately it is up to the commission what they want to do; if we are going to make changes it will probably the 2023 season. If there are big changes and a lot of time is needed to make that change, we may request for that to affect the 2024 season.