

# GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION FINALIZATION

## Archery Antelope Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:24

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	May 2-3, 2024	Custer State Park
	Public Hearing	July 11, 2024	Sioux Falls
	Finalization	July 11-12, 2024	Sioux Falls

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Proposal:** 2024 and 2025 hunting seasons

**Season Dates:** 2024 1<sup>st</sup> interval: August 17 – September 27  
2024 2<sup>nd</sup> interval: October 14 – 31  
  
2025 1<sup>st</sup> interval: August 16 – October 3  
2025 2<sup>nd</sup> interval: October 20 – 31

**Open Area:** See Figure 1.

**Licenses:** Last year there were:

1. Unlimited number of resident one-tag archery antelope licenses valid on public and private land;
2. Unlimited number nonresident one-tag archery antelope licenses valid on private land not leased by the Department for public hunting;
3. No more than four hundred and fifty nonresident one-tag archery antelope licenses valid on public and private land;
4. Five resident access permits by lottery drawing.

The Department will recommend specific number of licenses by tag types for the 2024 and 2025 hunting seasons at the July Commission meetings.

### **Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. A person may apply for and receive no more than one archery antelope license.
2. The archery antelope hunting season is open in those areas of the state with a firearm antelope season and in the portions of Custer and Pennington counties within the Black Hills Fire Protection District with access permits from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset each day.
3. Archery antelope hunting is closed in Custer State Park.

**Changes from last year:**

1. Edit § 41:06:24:01 to remove five access permits for Custer and Pennington Counties within the Black Hills Fire Protection District.

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED CHANGES FROM PROPOSAL**

1. Edit § 41:06:24:01 to require access permits, available only to residents, to hunt during the archery antelope season in Fort Pierre National Grasslands (PRA-45B).

**SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION**

Limited public hunting access to the low number of antelope in the Black Hills, mostly on Reynolds Prairie, provides very little harvest opportunity and the proposal is to discontinue hunting this small antelope population.

Antelope numbers have increased in the past two years and the pre-fawn spring estimate was 258 in the Fort Pierre National Grasslands (PRA-45B). Because this unit is exclusively public access, the Department recommendation is to limit the number of resident only archery permits to regulate buck harvest.

License numbers and tag type recommendations for the next two years based on population surveys and harvest data are provided on the associated administrative action sheet.

Figure 1. Map of Archery Antelope hunting season units recommended for the 2024 and 2025 hunting season. The recommendation would require an access permit to hunt unit PRA-45B.

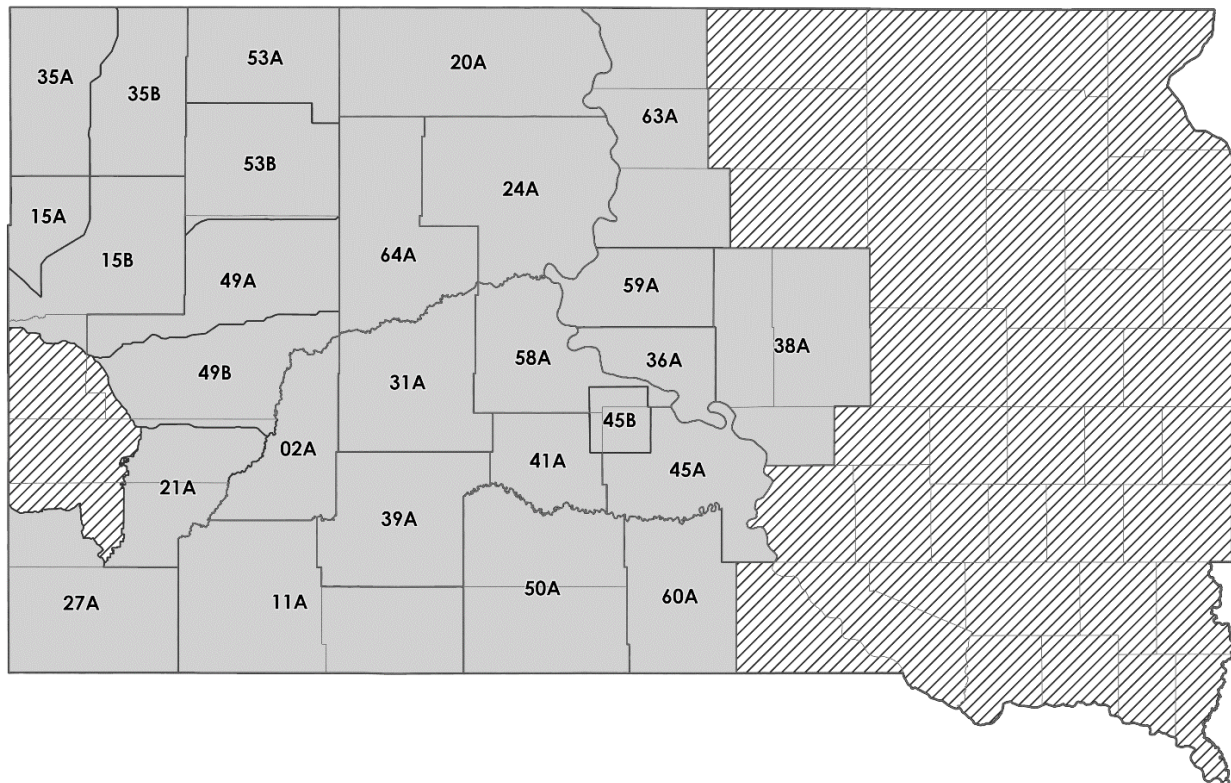


Table 1. Number of antelope licenses sold, tags issued, harvest and harvest success by year during the Archery Antelope hunting season.

Year	Resident Licenses	Nonresident Licenses	Bucks Harvested	Doe/Fawn Harvested	Total Harvest	Success
2019	1,781	663	533	72	605	25%
2020	2,141	720	719	92	810	28%
2021	2,142	877	642	94	736	24%
2022	1,830	1,021	671	16	687	24%
2023	2,127	832	590	16	606	20%

### DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

41:06:24:01. Archery antelope hunting season established -- Open area -- Number and type of licenses available. The archery antelope hunting season is open in those areas of the state with a firearm antelope season and in the portions of Custer and Pennington counties within the Black Hills Fire Protection District with access permits from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset each day beginning on the third Saturday of August through October thirty-first, except during the firearm antelope season. Archery antelope hunting is closed in Custer State Park. Hunting is open in PRA-45B as described in § 41:06:23:02 during the archery antelope hunting season for residents with an access permit.

The department may issue:

- (1) An unlimited number of resident one-tag antelope licenses valid on public and private land;
- (2) An unlimited number of nonresident one-tag archery antelope licenses valid on private land not leased by the department for public hunting;
- (3) No more than four hundred and fifty nonresident one-tag archery antelope licenses valid on public and private land; and
- (4) Access permits by lottery drawing.

### RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue – NA
2. Historical Considerations – NA
3. Biological Considerations – NA
4. Social Considerations – NA
5. Financial considerations – NA

### RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? There will no longer be hunting opportunity for antelope in the Black Hills.
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? There will be no antelope hunting in the Black Hills.
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers, and outdoor recreationists? No hunting in the Black Hills for antelope could result in better potential for this herd to grow and provide viewing opportunity or potential future hunting opportunity.
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? If this allows the population in the Black Hills to grow, individuals may be more likely to go outdoors and view these antelope.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Fewer licenses may be sold because hunting will no longer occur in the Black Hills. However, additional access permits will allow archery hunting in Fort Pierre National Grasslands in unit PRA-45B.

# GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION FINALIZATION

## Antelope (Firearm) Hunting Seasons Chapter 41:06:23

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	May 2-3, 2024	Custer State Park
	Public Hearing	July 11, 2024	Sioux Falls
	Finalization	July 11-12, 2024	Sioux Falls

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Proposal:** 2024 and 2025 hunting seasons

**Season Dates:** September 28 – October 13, 2024  
October 4 – 19, 2025

**Open Area:** See Figure 1.

**Licenses:** Last year there were 2,335 “buck antelope” licenses and 100 “special antelope” licenses.

License numbers and tag type recommendations for the next two years are provided on the associated administrative action sheet.

### **Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. One-half of the licenses allocated in each unit are available for landowner/operator preference.
2. No more than 50 “special antelope” licenses may be issued to residents and no more than 50 “special antelope” licenses may be issued to nonresidents for the antelope hunting season.
  - a. If a person applies for a “special antelope” license, the person may not apply for another antelope license until the third lottery drawing. A successful “special antelope” applicant may not apply for a leftover “special antelope” license.

### **Proposed changes from last year:**

1. Edit § 41:06:23:01 to allow an individual that applies for a “special antelope” license to apply for another antelope license in the second lottery drawing instead of the third lottery drawing.
2. Edit § 41:06:23:02
  - a. Minor unit boundary adjustment to use Interstate 90 instead of the Black Hills National Forest as the boundary for unit PRA-15B in Butte County.
  - b. Rule clean-up for unit boundary descriptions to exclude unit PRA-45B (Ft. Pierre National Grasslands) from PRA-41A (Jones County) and PRA-58A (Stanley County).

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED CHANGES FROM PROPOSAL**

None

**SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION**

License numbers and tag type recommendations for the next two years based on population surveys and harvest data are provided on the associated administrative action sheet.

Figure 1. Map of Firearm Antelope hunting season units recommended for the 2024 and 2025 hunting season.

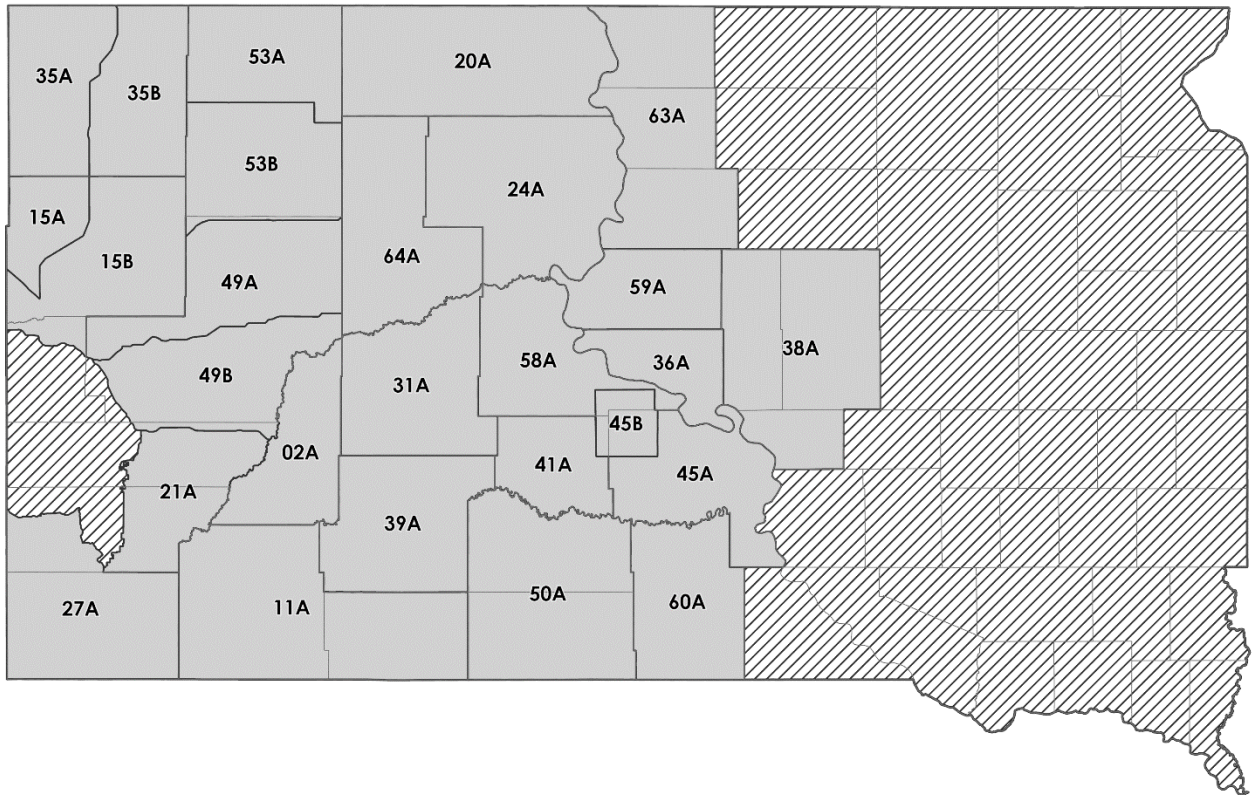


Table 1. Number of antelope licenses sold, tags issued, harvest and harvest success by year during the Antelope (Firearm) hunting season.

Year	Resident Licenses	Nonresident Licenses	Tags Issued	Bucks Harvested	Doe/Fawn Harvested	Total Harvest	Success
2019	5,096	139	6,054	2,629	1,249	3,784	64%
2020	5,139	140	6,101	2,415	1,272	3,845	64%
2021	5,047	160	6,029	2,401	1,152	3,878	59%
2022	2,684	61	2,881	1,690	117	1,807	63%
2023	2,672	58	2,873	1,687	101	1,788	62%

\*Includes Landowner-Own-Land licenses.

Figure 2. Firearm antelope draw structure and proposed change.

Draw	Current	Proposed
<b>Special Antelope</b>	1 application	No Change
<b>1 &amp; 2</b>	1 application per draw 1 license limit through 1 <sup>st</sup> two draws Cannot apply for antelope in 1 <sup>st</sup> or 2 <sup>nd</sup> draw if applied for special antelope	1 application per draw 1 license limit through 1 <sup>st</sup> two draws Cannot apply for antelope in 1 <sup>st</sup> draw if applied for special antelope
<b>3</b>	Resident and nonresident licenses pooled 1 application limit	No Change
<b>4</b>	Unlimited applications	No Change

### DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

41:06:23:01. Antelope hunting season established -- Number and type of licenses. The antelope hunting season is open from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset each day for ~~46~~ sixteen consecutive days beginning on the Saturday closest to October ~~4~~ first, unless prohibited in the unit descriptions in §§ 41:06:23:02. No more than ~~8,000~~ eight thousand one-tag antelope licenses, no more than ~~3,000~~ three thousand two-tag antelope licenses, and no more than ~~50~~ fifty "special antelope" licenses may be issued to residents for the antelope hunting season. No more than ~~50~~ fifty "special antelope" licenses may be issued to nonresidents for the antelope hunting season. If a person applies for a "special antelope" license, the person may not apply for another antelope license until the ~~third~~ second lottery drawing. A successful "special antelope" applicant may not apply for a leftover "special antelope" license.

41:06:23:02. Open units -- Exceptions. The following is a description of the open units for the antelope hunting season:

- (1) Unit PRA-02A: that portion of Pennington County east of the Cheyenne River;
- (2) Unit PRA-11A: Bennett and Oglala Lakota Counties;
- (3) Unit PRA-15A: that portion of Butte County enclosed by a line beginning at the junction of the Harding-Butte County line and the South Dakota-Montana state line; then east on the county line to U.S. Highway 85; then south on U.S. Highway 85 to the junction of U.S. Highway 212; then west on U.S. Highway 212 to the South Dakota-Wyoming line; then north on the state line to the Harding-Butte county line, the point of beginning;
- (4) Unit PRA-15B: that portion of Butte County not included in Unit PRA-15A and Lawrence County north of the ~~Black Hills National Forest boundary~~ Interstate 90;
- (5) Unit PRA-20A: Corson County;

- (6) Unit PRA-21A: that portion of Custer County east of Highway 385 and the eastern boundaries of Wind Cave National Park and Custer State Park and that portion of Pennington County south of Interstate 90, east of the eastern boundary of the Black Hills National Forest boundary, and east of U.S. Highway 16;
- (7) Unit PRA-22A: those portions of Brown, Clark, Day, and Spink Counties east of State Highway 37, south of U.S. Highway 12, west of State Highway 25, and north of U.S. Highway 212;
- (8) Unit PRA-24A: Dewey County;
- (9) Unit PRA-27A: Fall River County and that portion of Custer County south of U.S. Highway 16 and west of U.S. Highway 385;
- (10) Unit PRA-31A: Haakon County;
- (11) Unit PRA-35A: that portion of Harding County west of U.S. Highway 85;
- (12) Unit PRA-35B: that portion of Harding County east of U.S. Highway 85;
- (13) Unit PRA-36A: Hughes County;
- (14) Unit PRA-38A: Buffalo, Hand, and Hyde Counties;
- (15) Unit PRA-39A: Jackson County;
- (16) Unit PRA-41A: Jones County excluding that portion described in PRA-45B;
- (17) Unit PRA-45A: Lyman County except for United States Corps of Engineers land and excluding that area described in Unit PRA-45B;
- (18) Unit PRA-45B: those portions of Lyman, Stanley, and Jones Counties enclosed by a line beginning at the northwest corner of the Lower Brule Indian Reservation, then west ~~18~~ eighteen miles, then south ~~20~~ twenty miles, then east ~~19~~ nineteen miles, then north ~~4 1/2~~ one and one-half miles to the southwest corner of the Lower Brule Indian Reservation, then northerly along the reservation boundary to the northwest corner of the reservation, the point of beginning;
- (19) Unit PRA-48A: that portion of Marshall County north of State Highway 10;
- (20) Unit PRA-49A: that portion of Meade County north of State Highway 34 and south of U.S. Highway 212;
- (21) Unit PRA-49B: that portion of Meade County east of Interstate 90 and south of State Highway 34 and that portion of Pennington County east and north of Interstate 90 and west of the Cheyenne River;
- (22) Unit PRA-50A: Mellette and Todd Counties;
- (23) Unit PRA-53A: that portion of Perkins County north of State Highway 20;
- (24) Unit PRA-53B: that portion of Perkins County south of State Highway 20 and that portion of Meade County north of U.S. Highway 212;



(25) Unit PRA-58A: Stanley County excluding that portion described in PRA-45B;

(26) Unit PRA-59A: Sully County;

(27) Unit PRA-60A: Tripp County;

(28) Unit PRA-63A: Campbell, Potter, and Walworth Counties;

(29) Unit PRA-64A: Ziebach County; and

(30) Unit PRA-PR: Private property not leased by the Department of Game, Fish and Parks for public hunting in any open unit identified in this section for the use of a special antelope license.

If no license is allocated for a specific hunting unit, that unit is dissolved for the purposes of designating areas open to hunting, as they pertain to the archery antelope season, and areas open to hunting under SDCL 41-6-19.3.

#### **RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA**

1. The Issue – NA
2. Historical Considerations – NA
3. Biological Considerations – NA
4. Social Considerations – NA
5. Financial considerations – NA

#### **RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA**

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? NA
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? NA
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers, and outdoor recreationists? NA
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? NA

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

None

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

# GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

## Firearm and Archery Antelope Hunting Seasons Chapter 41:06:01, 41:06:23, 41:06:24, and 41:06:25

Commission Meeting Dates:   Public Hearing     July 11, 2024                    Sioux Falls  
  Finalization     July 11-12, 2024                 Sioux Falls

### COMMISSION ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

Recommended license numbers for the prairie firearm antelope hunting season units. License number changes are included in supportive information.

Unit	Unit Name	% NR	Residents		Nonresidents		Totals	
			AnyA	Buck	AnyA	Buck	RES	NR
			41	42	41	42	Tags	Tags
02A	Pennington East	2%	0	50	0	1	50	1
11A	Bennett/Oglala Lakota	2%	0	20	0	1	20	1
15A	Butte NW	2%	0	50	0	1	50	1
15B	Butte/Lawrence	2%	0	200	0	4	200	4
20A	Corson	2%	0	70	0	2	70	2
21A	Custer/Pennington Central	2%	0	100	0	2	100	2
24A	Dewey	2%	0	50	0	1	50	1
27A	Fall River/Custer Southwest	2%	0	350	0	7	350	7
31A	Haakon	2%	0	25	0	1	25	1
35A	Harding West	2%	0	150	0	3	150	3
35B	Harding East	2%	0	150	0	3	150	3
36A	Hughes	2%	0	5	0	1	5	1
38A	Hyde/Hand/Buffalo	2%	0	5	0	1	5	1
39A	Jackson	2%	0	50	0	1	50	1
41A	Jones	2%	0	30	0	1	30	1
45A	Lyman	2%	0	5	0	1	5	1
45B	Ft. Pierre National Grasslands	2%	0	10	0	1	10	1
49A	Meade North	2%	0	200	0	4	200	4
49B	Meade South	2%	0	50	0	1	50	1
50A	Mellette/Todd	4%	0	20	0	1	20	1
53A	Perkins North	2%	0	75	0	2	75	2
53B	Perkins South	2%	0	100	0	2	100	2
58A	Stanley	2%	0	40	0	1	40	1
59A	Sully	2%	0	5	0	1	5	1
60A	Tripp	2%	0	5	0	1	5	1
63A	Campbell/Potter/Walworth	2%	0	5	0	1	5	1
64A	Ziebach	2%	0	150	0	3	150	3
PR	Special Antelope	N/A	50	0	50	0	50	50
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>50</b>	<b>1,970</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>2,020</b>	<b>99</b>

An additional percentage of the number of resident licenses is available to nonresidents based upon the following harvest strategies by management unit: Restrictive (2%), Moderate (4%), Liberal (8%)

2024-2025 license numbers for other seasons.

- Archery Residents
  - Unlimited, buck only licenses valid in any open firearm hunting unit.
  - Ten access permits required for PRA-45B.

- Archery Nonresidents
  - Unlimited, buck only licenses valid on private land not leased by the department for public hunting in any open firearm hunting unit, excluding PRA-45B.
  - 450 buck only licenses valid on public and private land in any open firearm hunting unit, excluding PRA-45B.
- Special: 50 resident and 50 nonresident any antelope licenses.
- Landowner own land: Unlimited, single-tag buck only license valid on the landowner or landowner-operator's land in any open firearm hunting unit (resident and nonresident)
- Mentor youth: Closed.
- Custer State Park: Closed

**SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION**

License number changes from 2022-2023 to 2024-2025.

Unit #	Unit Name	2022-2023 Resident Licenses	2024-2025 Resident Licenses	# Change	% Change	2022-2023 Resident Tags	2024-2025 Resident Tags	# Change	% Change
02A	Pennington East	50	50	0	0%	50	50	0	0%
11A	Bennett/Shannon	50	20	-30	-60%	50	20	-30	-60%
15A	Butte NW	50	50	0	0%	50	50	0	0%
15B	Butte/Lawrence	200	200	0	0%	200	200	0	0%
20A	Corson	70	70	0	0%	70	70	0	0%
21A	Custer/Pennington Central	100	100	0	0%	100	100	0	0%
24A	Dewey	50	50	0	0%	50	50	0	0%
27A	Fall River/Custer Southwest	400	350	-50	-13%	400	350	-50	-13%
31A	Haakon	50	25	-25	-50%	50	25	-25	-50%
35A	Harding West	150	150	0	0%	150	150	0	0%
35B	Harding East	150	150	0	0%	150	150	0	0%
36A	Hughes	15	5	-10	-67%	15	5	-10	-67%
38A	Hyde/Hand/Buffalo	10	5	-5	-50%	10	5	-5	-50%
39A	Jackson	50	50	0	0%	50	50	0	0%
41A	Jones	40	30	-10	-25%	40	30	-10	-25%
45A	Lyman	0	5	5	NA	0	5	5	NA
45B	Ft. Pierre National Grasslands	0	10	10	NA	0	10	10	NA
49A	Meade North	300	200	-100	-33%	300	200	-100	-33%
49B	Meade South	200	50	-150	-75%	200	50	-150	-75%
50A	Mellette/Todd	30	20	-10	-33%	30	20	-10	-33%
53A	Perkins North	50	75	25	50%	50	75	25	50%
53B	Perkins South	100	100	0	0%	100	100	0	0%
58A	Stanley	40	40	0	0%	40	40	0	0%
59A	Sully	20	5	-15	-75%	20	5	-15	-75%
60A	Tripp	0	5	5	NA	0	5	5	NA
63A	Campbell/Potter/Walworth	10	5	-5	-50%	10	5	-5	-50%
64A	Ziebach	150	150	0	0%	150	150	0	0%
PR	Special Antelope	50	50	0	0%	50	50	0	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>2,385</b>	<b>2,020</b>	<b>-365</b>	<b>-15%</b>	<b>2,385</b>	<b>2,020</b>	<b>-365</b>	<b>-15%</b>

- No changes were made to the special antelope licenses and archery licenses available to residents and nonresidents.
- Custer State Park season remained closed.
- Five archery access permits were removed from portions of Custer and Pennington counties within the Black Hills Fire Protection District and ten archery access permits were added to Fort Pierre National Grasslands (PRA-45B).
- No changes were made to the number of landowner own land licenses available. However, they were restricted to single-tag buck only licenses.
- The mentor youth season was closed

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

# GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION FINALIZATION

## Application for License 41:06:01

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	May 2-3, 2024	Custer State Park
	Public Hearing	July 11, 2024	Sioux Falls
	Finalization	July 11-12, 2024	Sioux Falls

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Proposal:** 2024 and 2025 antelope hunting seasons

**Season Dates:** September 28 – October 13, 2024  
October 4 – 19, 2025

**Open Area:** Mentored youth antelope licenses are valid in any open firearm hunting unit west of the Missouri River and for private land only (resident and nonresident).

Landowner own land licenses are valid in any open firearm hunting unit.

**Licenses:** Unlimited, single-tag doe/kid mentored antelope license. No youth participating in a mentored big game hunt may apply for a regular season license for that corresponding species and season.

Unlimited, “any antelope” or a two-tag “any antelope” + “doe/fawn antelope” license that is valid on landowner or landowner-operator’s land during the antelope firearm hunting season provided the individual does not possess a license that allows the harvest of a buck antelope.

### **Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. Mentored youth antelope and landowner own land antelope licenses are available to residents and nonresidents.

### **Proposed changes from last year:**

1. Restrict landowner own land license types from one “any antelope” or one two-tag “any antelope” and “any doe-fawn antelope” to one “buck antelope” only (§ 41:06:01:07.03).
2. Close mentored youth antelope season (§ 41:06:01:12).

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED CHANGES FROM PROPOSAL

None.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Aerial survey data in 2024 suggest no growth since the last aerial survey in 2022, despite reductions in harvest of female antelope. These recommended changes will effectively eliminate harvest of doe and kid antelope with the intent to promote population growth across the range.

## DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

41:06:01:07.03. Landowner own land license types. For the West River, East River, and Black Hills firearm deer hunting seasons, a qualifying landowner or owner-operator may purchase one "any deer" license or one two-tag "any deer" and "any antlerless deer" license. For the antelope firearm hunting season, a qualifying landowner or owner-operator may purchase one "buck antelope" ~~"any antelope"~~ license or one two tag ~~"any antelope"~~ and ~~"any doe fawn antelope"~~ license.

41:06:01:12. Mentored youth big game license -- Restrictions. A resident parent or guardian may purchase no more than one mentored "any antlerless deer" license or "antlerless whitetail deer" license, ~~one "doe fawn antelope" license~~, one fall "any turkey" license, and one spring "male turkey" license for a designated mentored youth as provided in SDCL 41-6-81. The mentored antelope season is closed. ~~Mentored antelope licenses are valid in any open firearm hunting unit west of the Missouri River on private land not leased by the Department for public hunting access only.~~ No youth participating in a mentored big game hunt may apply for a regular season license for that corresponding species and season.

## RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue – NA
2. Historical Considerations – NA
3. Biological Considerations – NA
4. Social Considerations – NA
5. Financial considerations – NA

## RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? Yes, landowners and mentored youth will have less opportunity to harvest an antelope.
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? No.
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers, and outdoor recreationists? Mentored youth will no longer be able to harvest a doe or kid antelope. However, this recommendation is designed to increase the antelope population for the next generation.
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? This will provide more hunting opportunity in the future by increasing antelope populations.

## FISCAL IMPACT

None

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