

GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION FINALIZATION

Fall Wild Turkey Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:14

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	June 6-7, 2024	Yankton
	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:

November 1, 2024 – January 31, 2025
November 1, 2025 – January 31, 2026

Open Area: See Figure 1.

Licenses: During Fall 2023 there were:

Black Hills: 200 resident and 16 nonresident one-tag “any turkey” licenses
Prairie: 1,700 resident and 56 nonresident one-tag “any turkey” licenses
50 resident and 4 nonresident two-tag “any turkey” licenses
Mentored: Unlimited resident and nonresident one-tag “any turkey” licenses

* Specific license numbers by unit are included in the following administrative action item.

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. No more than 500 one-tag turkey licenses may be issued to residents for the Black Hills fall turkey hunting season and no more than 2,500 one-tag turkey licenses and no more than 2,000 double-tag licenses may be issued to residents for the prairie fall turkey hunting season. Specific license numbers by unit are included in the following administrative action item.
2. A person may apply for and receive one license in each of the Black Hills and prairie seasons in the first and second lottery drawings.
3. A person may apply for one license in the third drawing and apply for an unlimited number of licenses on a first-come first-served basis in the fourth, leftover license drawing. In the third and fourth drawings, resident and nonresident licenses are pooled.
4. One-half of the limited licenses in each unit are available for landowner/operator preference in the first drawing.
5. No person may shoot a turkey in a tree or roost.
6. A person may use a shoulder-held firearm using ammunition which is factory-rated to produce at least 700 foot-pounds of energy at the muzzle and handguns using ammunition which is factory-rated to produce at least 500 foot-pounds of energy at the muzzle in the hunting of wild turkeys. Muzzleloading firearms and muzzleloading shotguns may also be used in the hunting of wild turkeys.

7. A person is limited to the use of only a bow and arrow, a shotgun using shot shells or a muzzleloading shotgun to hunt turkeys during the fall turkey season in Units PFT-01A, PFT-06A, PFT-08A, PFT-23A, PFT-37A, PFT-48A, and PFT-52A.
8. The season is open from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset each day of an open season.

Proposed changes from last year:

1. Edit § 41:06:14:02.01 to exclude Douglas County from Unit PFT-17A (Charles Mix County).
2. Edit § 41:06:14:02.01 to change Unit PFT-18A to PFT-10A to have the unit label represent one of the counties (Aurora) contained in the unit that includes Aurora and Douglas counties. Clark County is county number 18.
3. Edit § 41:06:14:02.01 to add Unit PFT-58A Stanley County.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED CHANGES FROM PROPOSAL

1. Edit § 41:06:14:02.01 to expand the PFT-06A (Brookings County) turkey hunting unit to include the portion of Brookings County west of Interstate 29.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

The minor rule changes remove an error that included Douglas County in Unit PFT-17A (Charles Mix County) and would make the unit label that includes Aurora and Douglas counties more logical because it will now include the county number for one of the counties (Aurora; 10) contained within the unit.

The proposal to add Stanley County (PFT-58A) as an open unit would be necessary based on the Department's recommendation for 25 fall prairie turkey licenses in Stanley County.

The recommendation to include the portion of Brookings County west of Interstate 29 will open fall turkey hunting in all of Brookings County to increase hunter opportunity.

Figure 1. Map of recommended 2024 fall wild turkey hunting season units.

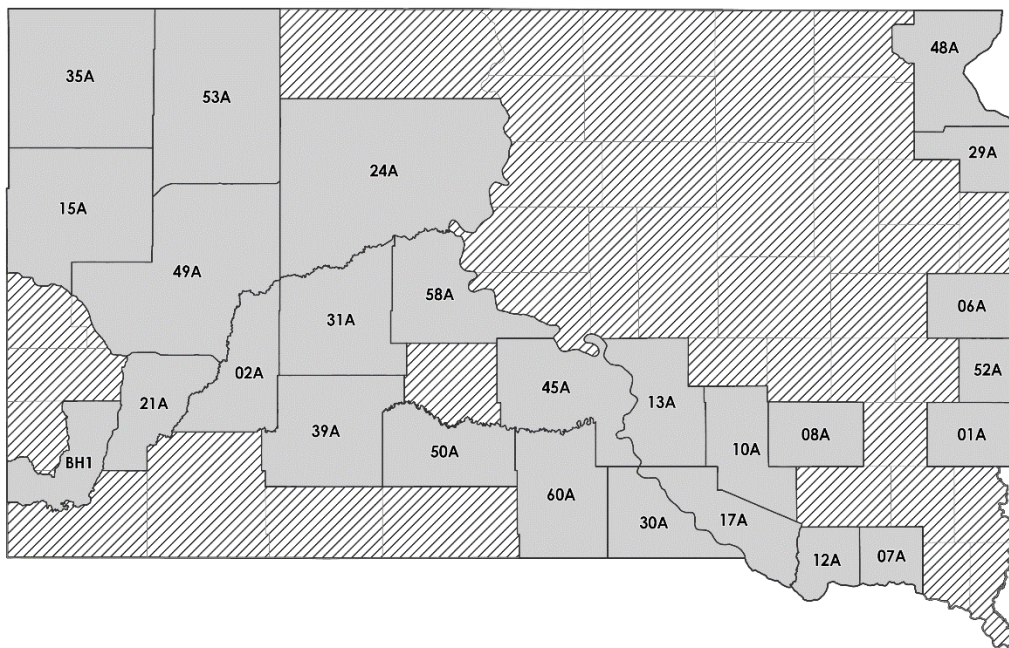


Table 1. Fall prairie turkey harvest summary from 2014 to 2023.

Year	Licenses	Tags	HARVEST				Avg Days	Average
	Sold	Sold	Males	Hens	Total	% Success	Hunted	Satisfactn
2014	1,910	1,960	422	224	645	33%	2.26	4.91
2015	1,936	1,986	422	227	649	33%	2.56	4.80
2016	908	958	173	72	246	26%	2.19	4.87
2017	898	948	194	56	250	26%	2.46	4.86
2018	548	548	142	52	194	35%	2.18	5.09
2019	548	548	130	52	182	33%	2.11	5.12
2020	438	476	117	62	180	38%	3.43	5.32
2021	438	476	113	54	166	35%	3.17	4.98
2022	1,721	1,774	350	144	494	28%	2.52	5.23
2023	1,800	1,852	338	199	536	29%	2.51	4.98

Table 2. Fall Black Hills turkey harvest summary from 2014 to 2023.

YEAR	LICENSES SOLD		HARVEST				Avg Days	Average
	Resident	Nonresid	Males	Hens	Total	%Success	Hunted	Satisfaction
2014	764	46	100	114	215	27%	3.24	4.54
2015	406	27	66	62	127	29%	3.44	4.58
2016	408	26	91	55	147	34%	2.79	4.85
2017	415	18	87	52	139	32%	3.82	4.88
2018	204	16	27	26	54	25%	2.74	4.85
2019	204	12	34	18	53	25%	2.20	4.76
2020	102	7	11	15	25	23%	3.71	4.87
2021	101	8	18	9	27	25%	2.89	5.10
2022	201	14	30	32	62	29%	2.61	4.71
2023	209	7	36	45	82	38%	2.72	5.08

Table 3. Fall mentor turkey harvest summary from 2014 to 2023.

YEAR	Licenses	HARVEST				Avg Days	Average
	Sold	Males	Hens	Total	%Success	Hunted	Satisfaction
2014	390	46	29	75	19%	1.72	5.19
2015	370	58	39	98	21%	1.87	5.17
2016	429	62	21	84	20%	1.55	5.48
2017	453	60	22	83	18%	1.87	5.34
2018	521	68	27	96	18%	1.67	5.35
2019	412	40	22	60	15%	1.18	5.28
2020	501	48	14	62	12%	1.75	5.18
2021	300	42	13	56	19%	1.80	5.34
2022	444	89	36	125	28%	1.62	5.75
2023	558	84	44	127	23%	1.82	5.17

DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

41:06:14:02.01. Prairie units. The following is a description of the open prairie units for the fall wild turkey hunting season:

- (1) Unit PFT-01A: Minnehaha County. A person may use only a shotgun with shotshells, a muzzleloading shotgun, or a bow and arrow;
- (2) Unit PFT-02A: that portion of Pennington County east of the Cheyenne River;
- (3) Unit PFT-06A: ~~that portion of~~ Brookings County east of Interstate 29. A person may use only a shotgun with shotshells, a muzzleloading shotgun, or a bow and arrow;
- (4) Unit PFT-07A: Yankton County;
- (5) Unit PFT-08A: Davison and Hanson Counties. A person may use only a shotgun with shotshells, a muzzleloading shotgun, or a bow and arrow;
- (6) Unit PFT-10A: Aurora and Douglas Counties;
- ~~(6)~~ (7) Unit PFT-12A: Bon Homme County;
- ~~(7)~~ (8) Unit PFT-13A: Brule and Buffalo Counties;
- ~~(8)~~ (9) Unit PFT-15A: Butte County and that portion of Lawrence County north of Interstate 90;
- ~~(9)~~ (10) Unit PFT-17A: Charles Mix County, excluding Lake Andes National Wildlife Refuge, ~~and Douglas County;~~
- ~~(10)~~ (10) Unit PFT-18A: Aurora and Douglas Counties;
- (11) Unit PFT-19A: Clay County;
- (12) Unit PFT-21A: that portion of Custer County east of State Highway 79 and that portion of Pennington County south of Interstate 90 between State Highway 79 and the Cheyenne River;
- (13) Unit PFT-23A: Deuel County: A person may use only a shotgun with shotshells, a muzzleloading shotgun, or a bow and arrow;
- (14) Unit PFT-24A: Dewey and Ziebach Counties;
- (15) Unit PFT-27A: that portion of Fall River County not included in Unit BFT-BH1;
- (16) Unit PFT-29A: Grant County;
- (17) Unit PFT-30A: Gregory County;
- (18) Unit PFT-31A: Haakon County;
- (19) Unit PFT-35A: Harding County;
- (20) Unit PFT-36A: Hughes County, excluding Farm Island Recreation Area, LaFramboise Island Nature Area, and department land from the Pierre city limits to Farm Island Recreation Area;
- (21) Unit PFT-37A: Hutchinson County. A person may use only a shotgun with shotshells, a muzzleloading shotgun, or a bow and arrow;
- (22) Unit PFT-39A: Jackson County;
- (23) Unit PFT-40A: Jerauld County;
- (24) Unit PFT-41A: Jones County;
- (25) Unit PFT-44A: Lincoln County;
- (26) Unit PFT-45A: Lyman County;
- (27) Unit PFT-48A: those portions of Marshall County south and east of State Highway 25 and north of State Highway 10 and Roberts County. A person may use only a shotgun with shotshells, a muzzleloading shotgun, or a bow and arrow;
- (28) Unit PFT-49A: those portions of Meade County not included in Units BFT-BH1 and PFT-53A, and that portion of Pennington County north of Interstate 90, west of the Cheyenne River;
- (29) Unit PFT-50A: Mellette County;
- (30) Unit PFT-52A: Moody County. A person may use only a shotgun with shotshells, a muzzleloading shotgun, or a bow and arrow;
- (31) Unit PFT-53A: Perkins County and that portion of Meade County north of U.S. Highway 212;
- (32) Unit PFT-58A: Stanley County;
- ~~(32)~~ (33) Unit PFT-60A: Tripp County;
- ~~(33)~~ (34) Unit PFT-61A: Turner County;

~~(34)~~ (35) Unit PFT-62A: Union County; and
~~(35)~~ (36) Unit PFT-67A: Todd County.

RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

None.

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? The change will open a new area to turkey hunting.
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? The larger unit will increase opportunity to hunt.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

APPROVE _____ MODIFY _____ REJECT _____ NO ACTION _____

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

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

Unit #	Unit Name	2022-23 Resident Licenses	2024-25 Resident Licenses	# Change	% Change	2022-23 Resident Tags	2024-25 Resident Tags	# Change	% Change
01A	Minnehaha	25	25	0	0%	25	25	0	0%
02A	Pennington	50	50	0	0%	50	50	0	0%
06A	Brookings	0	20	20	NA	0	20	20	NA
07A	Yankton	175	175	0	0%	175	175	0	0%
08A	Davison/Hanson	75	50	-25	-33%	75	50	-25	-33%
10A*	Aurora/Douglas	50	25	-25	-50%	50	25	-25	-50%
12A	Bon Homme	175	175	0	0%	175	175	0	0%
13A	Brule/Buffalo	50	50	0	0%	50	50	0	0%
15A	Butte/Lawrence	50	75	25	50%	50	150	100	200%
17A	Charles Mix	50	50	0	0%	50	50	0	0%
19A	Clay	50	0	-50	-100%	50	0	-50	-100%
21A	Custer/Pennington	50	50	0	0%	50	50	0	0%
24A	Dewey/Ziebach	50	50	0	0%	50	50	0	0%
27A	Fall River	25	0	-25	-100%	25	0	-25	-100%
29A	Grant	100	125	25	25%	100	125	25	25%
30A	Gregory	100	50	-50	-50%	100	50	-50	-50%
31A	Haakon	50	50	0	0%	50	50	0	0%
35A	Harding	25	50	25	100%	25	50	25	100%
37A	Hutchinson	25	0	-25	-100%	25	0	-25	-100%
39A	Jackson	50	75	25	50%	100	150	50	50%
41A	Jones	25	0	-25	-100%	25	0	-25	-100%
44A	Lincoln	50	0	-50	-100%	50	0	-50	-100%
45A	Lyman	50	50	0	0%	50	50	0	0%
48A	Marshall/Roberts	100	100	0	0%	100	100	0	0%
49A	Meade	50	50	0	0%	50	50	0	0%
50A	Mellette	50	25	-25	-50%	50	25	-25	-50%
52A	Moody	25	25	0	0%	25	25	0	0%
53A	Perkins	50	50	0	0%	50	50	0	0%
58A	Stanley	0	25	25	NA	0	25	25	NA
60A	Tripp	50	50	0	0%	50	50	0	0%
62A	Union	50	0	-50	-100%	50	0	-50	-100%
67A	Todd	25	0	-25	-100%	25	0	-25	-100%
BH1	Black Hills	200	200	0	0%	200	200	0	0%
TOTAL		1,950	1,720	-230	-12%	2,000	1,870	-130	-7%

APPROVE _____ MODIFY _____ REJECT _____ NO ACTION _____