

GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

License Forms and Fees

Chapter 41:06:02

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	January 28-29, 2021	Pierre
	Public Hearing	March 4, 2021	Pierre
	Finalization	March 4-5, 2021	Pierre

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from last year:

1. Change the license validity date found in ARSD 41:06:02:01.04 from “Any license is valid from December 15 preceding the printed year on the license to January 31 following the printed year on the license, inclusive” to “Any license is valid from December 15 preceding the printed year on the license to January 31 following the printed year on the license, ~~inclusive~~ unless otherwise specified”.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

See below for recommended change to valid dates of the state migratory bird certification permit.

RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue
 - Why make the change, what are the change alternatives, how will public/stakeholder input be solicited, and how will the change be evaluated if implemented?
 - Currently, the valid period for all hunting licenses is December 15-January 31 of the following year. This creates a problem with our upcoming “3 splash” duck hunting regulations experiment which allow 2 tiers of hunting regulations chosen by the hunter. Unless changed, it will be possible for a hunter to possess two separate, valid hunting regulations in one duck hunting season. This will create an enforcement issue and potentially confound analysis of the “3-splash” regulations experiment and if this regulation becomes operational in the future. We are only considering changing the valid period for the state migratory bird certification permit. No other license valid dates would be impacted by this change.
2. Historical Considerations
 - Historically, all hunting license valid periods were bundled together for convenience and simplicity, allowing for license purchases to begin ahead of the holidays on December 15th, and allowing licenses to remain valid through the end of January in the year they expire. No other licenses have multiple options for enforcement except the 2-tiered waterfowl regulation package. If the valid dates of the state migratory bird certification permit are changed, they would then align with the release of the Federal Waterfowl Stamp (July 1 – June 30), which would maintain some consistency for waterfowl hunters and remove the law enforcement and experimental concerns we are currently facing.
3. Biological Considerations
 - What is the current and projected status of the population and habitat conditions for these populations?
 - None expected

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4. Social Considerations
 - As with any change a learning curve is expected. A broad-based education and marketing strategy for both target audiences of the “3-splash” option along with current duck hunters will articulate this change. This education and marketing strategy have already been mapped out in conjunction with partners in Nebraska and will begin during the Spring of 2021. During the first-year hunters that purchase migratory bird certifications from December 15, 2020-June 30, 2021 will have the opportunity to adjust which duck hunting tier option they want for the 2021-2022 duck hunting season.
5. Financial considerations
 - Little financial impact is expected. If successful, the 2-tiered duck hunting regulation experiment would be revenue positive.

RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user’s ability to participate?
 - Overall, this change will streamline waterfowl hunting regulations and reduce the potential law enforcement issues of having two valid, but conflicting state migratory bird certification permits at the same time.
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users?
 - While changing the valid period for a certificate or license has the potential to be confusing for participants, this particular change will be accompanied by a comprehensive education outreach campaign that will limit confusion and in the end result in more hunters being aware of the 2-tiered system and how to use it. It will also simplify the valid periods for waterfowl hunting certificates and licenses. The 2-tiered system is designed to increase mentorship and opportunity for novice hunters. Any regulation that supports the implementation of this system will increase opportunity for new and existing users.
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? Not applicable
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? Not applicable

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