

GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

Archery Deer Hunting Season 41:06:22

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 5-6, 2020	Pierre
	Public Hearing	May 7, 2020	Custer State Park
	Finalization	May 7-8, 2020	Custer State Park

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

Duration of Proposal: 2020 hunting season

Season Dates: September 1, 2020 – January 1, 2021

Open Area: “Any Deer” Licenses: Statewide, East River, West River
“Antlerless Whitetail Deer” Licenses: Unit ARD-LM1
“Any Antlerless Deer” Licenses: Custer, Rapid City, Sioux Falls and Sturgis city limits

Licenses: Unlimited “any deer” licenses
Unlimited single tag “antlerless whitetail deer” licenses
500 single-tag “any antlerless deer” resident licenses

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Resident and nonresident hunters may purchase one (1) statewide “any deer” license or one (1) East River “any deer” license and one (1) West River “any deer” license.
2. Residents and nonresidents may purchase one (1) “antlerless whitetail deer” license for Unit ARD-LM1.
3. Residents may apply for and possess one (1) “any antlerless deer” license valid for a municipal deer unit.
4. Shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.
5. Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge is through January 1, except during the refuge firearm deer seasons.
6. Waubay Lake State Game Refuge and Waubay National Wildlife Refuge in Day County are open through January 1, except during refuge firearm deer seasons.
7. Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge is open through January 1, except during the refuge firearm deer seasons.
8. Licensees must obtain an access permit from the Department issued by lottery drawing before hunting Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve and Good Earth State Park.

Proposed changes from last year:

1. Modify the season start date for Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge from the fourth Saturday of September to September 1.
2. Modify the season start date for Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge from the third Saturday of October to September 1.
3. In addition to the one “antlerless whitetail deer” license for residents and nonresidents for Unit ARD-LM1, make an allowance for no more than 500 single-tag “antlerless any deer” licenses that would be distributed amongst all municipal archery deer hunting units. Regular price of a single tag “any antlerless deer” resident license.
4. Establish municipal archery deer hunting units for the following city limits: Custer, Rapid City, Sioux Falls and Sturgis. Season structure and specific regulations would be determined by the appropriate municipality within the requirements and restrictions of the South Dakota archery season.

APPROVE _____ **MODIFY** _____ **REJECT** _____ **NO ACTION** _____

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Deer associated with urban areas can cause property damage and increase vehicle deer collisions. The issuance and oversight of kill permits to manage urban deer populations does create additional workload for Department staff. Some municipalities have worked with the Department to develop urban deer management plans. Archery deer hunting within city limits can help address issues caused by urban deer populations and provide additional hunting opportunities. The above municipal governments are interested in implementing this management tool.

It is the desire of the respective USFWS wildlife refuges to align their archery deer hunting seasons with the statewide season.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes to proposal:

1. Remove the proposed hunting unit for the City of Sturgis.
2. Resident “any antlerless deer” licenses will be allocated as follows:

Municipality	# Licenses
Custer	45
Rapid City	60
Sioux Falls	60

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?
 - i. Deer associated with urban areas can cause property damage and increase vehicle deer collisions. The issuance and oversight of kill permits to manage urban deer populations does create additional workload for Department staff. Some municipalities have worked with the Department to develop urban deer management plans. Archery deer hunting within city limits can help address issues caused by urban deer populations and provide additional hunting opportunities.
 - ii. At the request of the USFWS refuge system, it is the desire to align the opening dates of archery deer season with the statewide season.
2. Historical Considerations – Department has used access permits and issued kill permits for some municipalities to harvest urban deer.
3. Biological Considerations
 - What is the current and projected status of the population and habitat conditions for these populations?
 - i. This management tool will assist local municipalities and the Department in managing deer populations within social tolerances.
4. Social Considerations
 - Will provide additional archery deer hunting opportunities.
5. Financial considerations – No significant financial benefit to Department but will improve efficiency of Department staff time.

APPROVE _____ MODIFY _____ REJECT _____ NO ACTION _____

RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? No, provides additional opportunity.
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? Yes.
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? Provides additional archery deer hunting opportunities.
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? Yes.

APPROVE ____ **MODIFY** ____ **REJECT** ____ **NO ACTION** ____