

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

Spring Wild Turkey Hunting Season

Chapter 41:06:13

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	July 8-9, 2021	Watertown
	Public Hearing	September 1, 2021	Rapid City
	Finalization	September 1-2, 2021	Rapid City

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Duration of Proposal: 2022 season

Season Dates:	April 2 – May 31, 2022	Archery
	April 9 – May 31, 2022	Black Hills and single-season Prairie units
	April 9 – April 30, 2022	Split-season early Prairie units
	May 1 – May 31, 2022	Split-season late Prairie units

Licenses:	Black Hills: Unlimited resident and nonresident one-tag “male turkey” licenses
	Prairie: 5,797 resident and 246 nonresident one-tag “male turkey” licenses 600 resident and 48 nonresident two-tag “male turkey” licenses
	Archery: Unlimited resident and nonresident one-tag “male turkey” licenses

Access Permits:	Access permits valid April 3-30
	Good Earth State Park: 5 archery turkey access permits
	Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve: 30 archery turkey access permits
	Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve: 20 mentored turkey access permits

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Turkey hunters may apply for and receive one license in each of the Black Hills, Prairie and Archery Units in the first and second lottery drawings.
2. Turkey hunters may purchase only one Black Hills and one archery turkey license.
3. One-half of the licenses in each prairie unit are available for landowner/operator preference.
4. Prairie units adjoining the White River and Cheyenne River also include an adjacent area one mile wide on the opposite side of the river.
5. No person may shoot a turkey in a tree or roost.
6. A person may use only bow and arrow, a shotgun using shot shells or a muzzleloading shotgun to hunt turkeys during the spring turkey season.

Proposed changes from last year:

1. Eliminate Unit BST-BH2, which is the second license currently available for residents within the Black Hills Fire Protection District for the month of May.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Following the guidance of the wild turkey action plan, trend data would indicate below the threshold for the “Increase” objective and the reduced hunter success for the past two seasons indicates a management category which restricts users to a single beaded turkey license and one license per person.

In 2021, 367 resident hunters purchased two licenses for the Black Hills spring turkey season. Reported success for Unit BSST-BH2 for those hunters who purchased two licenses was 23%, or a harvest of 84 male turkeys.

RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue – Surrogate abundance estimate and reduced hunter success are below threshold.
2. Historical Considerations – Not Applicable
3. Biological Considerations – Following the guidance of decision support table within the current wild turkey action plan.
4. Social Considerations – None.
5. Financial considerations – Minimal; see below.

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

RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? No.
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? Not applicable.
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? Not applicable.

FISCAL IMPACT

Minimal fiscal impact to the Department. Using 2021 spring license sales data, if this license was not available, 367 licenses with a license fee of \$19 would equate to a revenue loss of approximately \$7,000.

APPROVE _____ MODIFY _____ REJECT _____ NO ACTION _____