

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

Spring Wild Turkey Hunting Season

Chapter 41:06:13

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	April 7-8, 2022	Watertown
	Public Hearing	June 2, 2022	Aberdeen
	Finalization	June 2-3, 2022	Aberdeen

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

Proposed changes from last year:

1. Establish new rules within the Spring Turkey Hunting Season chapter that provides for Mentored Youth Turkey Recruitment licenses.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

The objective of this proposal is to provide a means of encouraging youth participation with non-governmental organizations (NGO) that promote wildlife conservation and the recruitment, retention, and reactivation of hunters.

Currently for youth hunters, an unlimited number of mentored spring and fall turkey licenses are available for those youth under the age of 16 and valid statewide wherever a spring or fall turkey season is open, excluding Custer State Park. In addition, those youth who are 12 years of age who has completed a GFP's course of instruction in the safe handling of firearms are eligible to apply for limited draw prairie turkey licenses and to purchase an archery and/or Black Hills turkey license.

A mentored youth turkey recruitment license sponsored by an NGO would be available to those youth 15 years of age and younger that do not already possess any type of spring turkey hunting license. A limited number of licenses would be made available by application to eligible NGOs for distribution.

DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

The following are proposed draft changes that are intended to incorporate the necessary changes for consideration by the Commission.

41:06:13:05. Mentored youth turkey recruitment license – Open area and eligibility. The mentored youth turkey recruitment licenses are valid statewide, excluding Custer State Park, from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset beginning on the first Saturday of April through May 31 during the spring turkey hunting seasons. A person is eligible as provided in SDCL 41-6-81.

41:06:13:06. Number and types of licenses available -- Application process. A sponsoring non-governmental organization shall complete and apply to the department stating the name, address, and phone number of the sponsoring organization. No more than 10 male turkey licenses may be issued with no more than two of the allocated licenses issued per sponsoring non-governmental organization. The sponsoring non-governmental organization shall be responsible for license fees.

41:06:13:07. Criteria for selection by commission of non-governmental organization. Any non-governmental organizations devoted to wildlife management; preservation; propagation; habitat; research; hunter retention, recruitment, and reactivation; and recognized as an exempt organization under § 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code may apply for such licenses.

41:06:13:08. Application deadline. The completed application under §41:06:13:06 must be received by the department by December 31 preceding the spring turkey season.

41:06:13:09. Selection of non-governmental organization by commission. The commission shall review and evaluate the information contained in the applications according to the criteria listed in §41:06:13:07 and shall select the participants it considers best qualified. The department secretary shall notify all applicants regarding the commission's selection.

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

RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue
 - Youth involvement in non-governmental organizations that promote wildlife conservation is encouraged.
2. Historical Considerations
 - Non-governmental organizations promote wildlife conservation at the grassroots level and are conservation partners with local, tribal, state, and federal wildlife agencies.
3. Biological Considerations
 - Not applicable.
4. Social Considerations
 - The intent is to encourage youth to become involved in with non-governmental organizations that promote wildlife conservation and the recruitment, retention, and reactivation of hunters.
5. Financial considerations
 - Not applicable.

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? Yes.
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers, and outdoor recreationists?
 - Yes, by encouraging youth to become members and get involved with non-governmental organizations and their respective activities related to wildlife conservation.
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors?
 - Yes

FISCAL IMPACT

Not applicable.

APPROVE _____ MODIFY _____ REJECT _____ NO ACTION _____