



SOUTH DAKOTA GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

OCTOBER 8, 2026 | PIERRE, SD
STATE LIBRARY

MEETING INFO

This agenda is subject to change without prior notice.

Date and Time: October 8, 2026, from 1-5 pm CST

Meeting Location: State Library, Mercedes Meeting Hall, 800 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501

Webinar Info: We will be using Zoom Webinar® for this meeting. As a participant, you will not have audio or video capabilities by default. During the open forum and public hearing, if you'd like to testify, please 'Raise Your Hand' using the button at the bottom of the screen, or by pressing *9 on your phone. To lower your hand via phone, press *9 again. When it's your turn to speak, the meeting host will unmute you, allowing you to have audio but no video. If your phone is muted when called upon, press *6 to unmute.

- *9 to 'Raise Your Hand' or 'Lower Your Hand.'
- *6 to Unmute or Mute

Please inform Gail Buus at gail.buus@state.sd.us by 1 pm CST if you plan to speak during the meeting. This helps us to accurately identify and call on speakers during the session. Thank you for your cooperation!

Zoom Webinar: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

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Meeting ID: 912 6417 6710

Passcode: 970458

Video Conference ID: 91264176710@zoomcrc.com

AGENDA

Call Meeting to Order (1 pm CST / 12 pm MT)

Division of Administration

Action Items

1. Conflict of Interest Disclosure
2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes available at <https://gfp.sd.gov/commission/archives>
3. Additional Commissioner Salary Days
4. Executive Session

Open Forum (2 pm CST / 1 pm MT)

The portion of the meeting is designated for public comment on petitions, proposals, and other items of interest not on the agenda.

Division of Parks and Recreation

Action Items

5. Custer State Park Resorts Concession Agreement Approval
6. Dock 44 Prospectus

Informational Items

7. Operations Outdoors – Supporting Veterans through Outdoor Experiences
8. Federal Lands Access and Transportation Program
9. Cartegraph Facility Assessment Process
10. Parks and Wildlife Foundation Campaign Project Update
11. September Camping Unit and Revenue Reports

Division of Wildlife

Informational Items

12. Hemorrhagic Disease Update
13. Walk-In Areas Survey Results
14. Public Hunting Access Overview
15. US Fish and Wildlife Service Cramer Davenport Acquisition
16. Conservation Habitat License Plates
17. License Sales Update

Solicitation of Agenda Items

Now is the time to submit agenda items for the Commission to consider at a following commission meeting.

Adjourn

The next Regular Commission Meeting will be held on November 5-6, 2026 starting at 1 pm CST at the Outdoor Campus East, Sioux Falls, SD.

Public Comments

Other

Avery Feterl

Salem SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I enjoy fishing here in South Dakota, and I don't think we should start allowing people to keep muskies. We don't have that many places to fish for them in the state, and I'd rather see these fish stay in the water for other people to enjoy. I hope SDGFP keeps the current catch-and-release rule.

Stephen Craycroft

Gettysburg SD

Position: other

Comment:

The current process for buying a Migratory Bird Certification is seriously flawed. Under the current licensing process, a person can buy a combination fishing/hunting license, habitat stamp, etc. early in the year... which most people buy to fish in the spring.

It is currently impossible to buy the Migratory Bird Certification at the same time, necessitating the license holder to remember to buy the Certification after July 1... this is unconscionable, inefficient and sets up license holders to be liable for a fine if they forget to buy the Certification after July, but before hunting migratory birds.

Please revise the license/permit process to allow people to buy the M Migratory Bird Certificate at the same time they buy their fishing and hunting licenses.

Thank you

Stephen Craycroft

Kyle Hunsader

New Franken WI

Position: oppose

Comment:

My name is Kyle Hunsader, and I am the president of Titledown Muskies INC in Green Bay, WI. We have a world class fishery here on Green Bay because of the efforts our club has done over the years. We had a 50" size limit on Green Bay and in 2015 we fought to have that raised to 54" and that helped out our fishery tremendously. The minimum chance to harvest a musky over the size limit allows them to grow bigger and bigger and we are now seeing fish in the 53-57" size range. Ive done some research on SD and sounds like the stocking in minimal which means going from a catch and release to a 45' harvest is only going to bring that musky population down and hurt the overall potential of the fishery. If a harvest number must be put into place make it a near impossible number like 50" or 55".

Thank you for your time.

Anthony Auch

Brandon SD

Position: other

Comment:

The law restricting deer hunting to muzzleloader, shotguns, and archery during the East River season in southeast minnehaha county needs revision. (41:06:21:02 (1))

I have issues with this law and see it as outdated.

Some points I would like the commission to consider.

1.) The regulation doesn't restrict youth, mentored, apprentice, and disabled veteran tags from using rifles within this specified boundary. Only if you have a Minnehaha rifle tag is it illegal to use a rifle in this zone. I am myself a veteran with a disability rating and could have applied for a disabled vet tag and used a rifle within the zone. However, if I were to go out with my minnehaha tag with a rifle, it would be illegal?

2.) The regulation states you must use a muzzleloading rifle or a shotgun using slugs.

However, with the advancements of muzzleloading rifles, and sabot slugs out of rifled barrels, what really is the difference ? some straight wall cartridges have similar ballistics, trajectory yet are illegal to use within the zone.

3.) Lincoln county is just as populated as southeastern Minnehaha county and yet doesn't have any similar regulations.

4.) Minnesota revised their long standing laws in most counties in the south west portion of the state, realizing they were outdated.

5.) There is no regulation restricting one from coyote hunting with a modern rifle within this zone. One could sit and call coyotes with a .243 within this zone and during the east river season. However, if that individual had a deer tag in his pocket, he could not harvest a deer with that .243, this is some backwards thinking.

I do hope you consider these points and consider revising or reviewing this out of date regulation.

Andrew Kopman

Lake Norden SD

Position: other

Comment:

As a South Dakota sportsman and a proud supporter of our state's habitat initiatives, I didn't hesitate to purchase multiple Habitat Conservation License Plates. However, when I logged into my SDGFP account to buy the supporting decals, I walked away empty-handed. To my dismay, there were no Mule Deer or Elk options available. Hunters are the primary drivers of this program, and these two iconic big game species ignite the most passion in our community. By excluding them, the state is leaving massive amounts of conservation funding on the table. Recent data highlights a glaring problem: between March 2025 and August 2026, the state sold 8,484 more sets of habitat plates than matching decals. That represents roughly \$415,000 in unrealized habitat revenue simply because sportspeople like me looked at the current four choices, didn't see a species that represented our passion, and chose not to buy. I check back regularly hoping to see an Elk or Mule Deer, and until they are offered, my wallet remains closed. If the goal is truly to maximize revenue for South Dakota's wildlife habitat, we need to offer the species that drivers actually want to display on their trucks. I strongly urge the Commission to consider two actionable steps: Expand the current lineup: Immediately add Elk and Mule Deer decals to capture that missing \$415K. We shouldn't be limited to just four choices. Let the buyers vote: Run a survey letting anyone who has purchased a habitat plate or stamp over the past year vote on future designs. List our resident species and let the hunting community pick a top 6. Put our state's most iconic big game on these decals, and you will watch the conservation money flow in. Thank you for considering the perspective of a local hunter who wants to see this program reach its full potential.

Andrew

Debra Jensen

Black Hawk SD

Position: other

Comment:

Re: Request to Delay Technical Approval of Custer State Park Concessions Contract on Oct 8-9 2026

Debra Jensen

Black Hawk SD

Position: other

Comment:

this might be the third time you receive this letter. if so sorry. for some reason hard to get a confirm on submission. its regarding the concessionaire contract meeting oct 8 - 9 asking for a temp delay.

Date: October 4, 2026

To:

Secretary Kevin Robling, South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks
Chairwoman Stephanie Rissler and Members of the GFP Commission

Regarding: Public Comment – Formal Request to Delay Technical Approval of Custer State Park Concessions Contract

Dear Secretary Robling and Members of the GFP Commission,

We are writing today as dedicated South Dakota residents, taxpayers, and outdoor enthusiasts to formally request that the Game, Fish and Parks Commission enact a 60-day administrative delay before signing the final technical contract language with Xanterra for the Custer State Park concessions lease.

While we recognize that the staff followed a standard internal evaluation framework leading up to the September meeting, the sudden nature of this transition has bypassed meaningful civic dialogue. We urge you to pause the final execution of this 10-year agreement based on the following three critical concerns:

1. Insufficient Time for Public Review: Because competitive bidding details are legally kept confidential until a final recommendation is made, the public was given virtually no time to examine the scoring outcomes before the Commission's unanimous vote. A decision that alters the next decade of our state's crown jewel park deserves more than a few days of public awareness. The citizens of South Dakota need a transparent 60-day window to review how national corporate entities are evaluated against localized operators.

2. Unanswered Questions Regarding Economic and Supply Chain Impact: Custer State Park generated \$23.4 million in gross revenue in 2025. Moving this operation out-of-state puts our regional financial ecosystem at risk. We remain deeply concerned about unanswered questions regarding how Xanterra's centralized, national purchasing agreements will impact Black Hills ranchers, local farmers, craft breweries, and regional artisans who rely heavily on lodge and Bison Center retail footprints. A delay will allow the department to issue clear, binding contractual guarantees that protect our local vendors from being displaced by national distributors.

3. Re-evaluation of South Dakota Preference Standards: Our state resources should fundamentally enrich South Dakota businesses and keep tourism dollars circulating within our own borders. We request this pause so that the department can re-evaluate if the scoring matrix truly satisfied the intent of South Dakota's resident preference guidelines,

ensuring that out-of-state conglomerates are not systematically favored over the very taxpayers who fund these public lands.

Custer State Park belongs to the people of South Dakota. We ask that you honor our public interest by implementing a 60-day pause to address these grievances openly before a final, binding signature locks our state into a decade-long corporate transition.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to our state's natural heritage.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Jensen -

Sheryl Kirkeby-

Sandy Heintz -



Commission Meeting Minutes

South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks

523 E Capitol Avenue | Pierre, South Dakota 57501

September 10-11, 2026 | Holiday Inn Express, Winner, SD

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

Call Meeting to Order

Chair Rissler called the meeting to order at 1 pm CST at the Holiday Inn Express, in Winner, SD on September 10, 2026. Commissioners Stephanie Rissler, Bruce Cull, Chuck Spring, Dean Kirkeby, Robert Whitmyre, and Julie Bartling were present. With six commission members present, a quorum was established. The public and staff could listen via SDPB Livestream and participate via conference or in person, with approximately 83 total participants attending via Zoom or in person.

1. Conflict of Interest Disclosure

[Action Item]

Chair Rissler requested the disclosure of any potential conflicts of interest, but none were brought forward.

2. Executive Session

[Action Item]

Upon majority vote of the Commissioners, a closed Executive meeting was held to discuss contractual matters from 3:30 pm CST to 4:57 pm CST.

MOVED BY RISSLER TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION, SECONDED BY CULL. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

[Action Item]

Chair Rissler called for any additions or corrections to the regular minutes of the July 2026 meeting. Minutes are available at <https://gfp.sd.gov/commission/archives/>.

MOTIONED BY WHITMYRE, SECONDED BY CULL TO APPROVE THE JULY 2026 REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Additional Commissioner Salary Days

[Action Item]

One additional salary day was requested by Commissioner Stephanie Rissler, Commissioner Kevin Nyberg, and Commissioner Bartling to attend meetings for the Custer State Park RFP process.

MOTIONED BY CULL, SECONDED BY SPRING TO APPROVE THE ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER SALARY DAYS. The motion carried unanimously.

5. License List Request

[Action Item]

Senior Staff Attorney Nick Michels presented to the commission a license list request from Highpoint Hunting Lodge in Pierre, SD. The purpose of the list request is for advertising to nonresident pheasant hunters in Alabama, Oklahoma, and Texas.

MOTIONED BY BARTLING, SECONDED BY WHITMYRE TO APPROVE THE LICENSE LIST REQUEST. The motion carried unanimously.

6. New Staff Introductions

[Info Item]

Director Kirschenmann introduced six new staff members. Following are those staff: 1) Sophia Touailat, Conservation Officer, Aberdeen; 2) Dylan Siscoe, Conservation Officer, Sturgis; 3) Cody Rakow, Conservation Officer, Custer; 4) Charles Frisch, Habitat Conservation Foreman, Mitchell; 5) Jayd Chmela, Habitat Resource Biologist, Chamberlain; and 6) Ashley LaFurge, Senior Secretary Division of Wildlife, Pierre.



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Public Hearing

Senior Staff Attorney Nick Michels opened the floor at 2:00 pm CST for discussion from those in attendance in matters of importance to them that are listed on the agenda as finalization.

Agenda Item #7: Fishing Seasons and Regulations

2:01 pm: Scott VanderMeulen of Sioux Falls, SD testified in person in opposition of the muskie finalization.

2:04 pm: Jim Wolters of Fergus Falls, MN, representing the Fargo/Moorhead Chapter of Muskies Inc., testified in person in opposition of the muskie finalization.

2:08 pm: Brad Sheridan of Aberdeen, SD testified in person in opposition of the muskie finalization.

2:11 pm: Jake Cheeseman of Salem, SD testified in person in opposition of the muskie finalization.

2:14 pm: Mark Noordermeer of Sioux Falls, SD testified in person in opposition of the muskie finalization.

2:15 pm: Dana Rogers of Hill City, SD representing the South Dakota Wildlife Federation, testified in person in opposition of the muskie finalization.

2:17 pm: Chrisitan Thury of Bemidji, MN, representing the Bemidji Chapter 46 Muskies Inc., testified virtually in opposition of the muskie finalization.

2:23 pm: Taylor Anderson of Groton, SD testified virtually in opposition of the muskie finalization.

2:26 pm: Tanner James Bouchard, representing Upper Great Plans Muskie Chapter 29, testified virtually in opposition of the muskie finalization.

2:30 pm: Jackson Grady of Brookings, SD testified virtually in opposition of the muskie finalization.

2:33 pm: Jim Ashton testified virtually in opposition of the muskie finalization.

Agenda Item #8: Threatened and Endangered List

2:36 pm: Nancy Hilding of Rapid City, SD, representing the Prairie Hills Audubon Society, testified virtually in opposition of items being removed in the threatened and endangered list.

Senior Staff Attorney Michels closed the public hearing closed at 2:39 pm.

Open Forum

Senior Staff Attorney Nick Michels opened the floor at 2:40 pm CST for discussion from those in attendance on matters of importance to them that are listed on the agenda, not as a finalization or may not be on the agenda.

2:40 pm: Nancy Hilding of Rapid City, SD, representing the Prairie Hills Audubon Society, testified virtually in opposition of species being removed in the threatened and endangered list.

Senior Staff Attorney Michels closed the open forum at 2:43 pm CST.



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7. Fishing Seasons and Regulations

[Action Item: Finalization]

Staff brought Department finalizations from the Wildlife Division including proposed changes to the Aquatic Invasive Species, Bait, Fish Limits, Importation of Fish and the Paddlefish Season chapters of Administrative Rules. During finalization, the GFP Commission approved adding Golden mussels to the current list of Aquatic Invasive Species and removing Common reed from the exemption that allows for vegetation to be attached to a watercraft during launching or removal at a waterbody. Additional finalizations were to return Reetz lake daily harvest limits to statewide limits, remove the annual reporting requirement for retail bait dealers, modify the list of fish pathogens and remove the cleaning restriction for the June archery paddlefish season below Gavins Point Dam. The Fish Limits action sheet was amended to remove the daily muskellunge limit to 1 daily, 2 in possession with a 45-inch minimum proposal prior to finalization.

Brian Blackwell, Program Lead Fisheries Research and Survey, gave a presentation on the Muskie population. South Dakota's muskie populations rely entirely on stocking, as natural recruitment is not expected. Lynn Lake provides the most consistent long-term data, showing low catches in recent years and very few fish exceeding 45 inches. Recruitment has remained poor since the initial stockings in the early 2000s, resulting in a population dominated by older fish. However, the 2021 fall stocking of juveniles appears to be the first meaningful recruitment observed in many years.

MOTIONED BY CULL, SECONDED BY WHITMYRE TO APPROVE THE FINALIZATION FOR AIS. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTIONED BY WHITMYRE, SECONDED BY BARTLING TO APPROVE THE BAIT FINALIZATION. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTIONED BY CULL, SECONDED BY BARTLING TO AMEND THE FISH LIMITS FINALIZATION REMOVING THE DAILY MUSKELLUNGE LIMIT. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTIONED BY WHITMYRE, SECONDED BY CULL TO APPROVE THE AMENDED FISH LIMITS FINALIZATION. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTIONED BY BARTLING, SECONDED BY WHITMYRE TO APPROVE THE IMPORTATION OF FISH FINALIZATION. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTIONED BY CULL, SECONDED BY WHITMYRE TO APPROVE THE PADDLEFISH SEASON FINALIZATION. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Threatened and Endangered List

[Action Item: Finalization]

Staff summarized information from the endangered and threatened state species list review and the Commission adopted the review document with no changes from the document that was shared for public comment in July. In addition, the Commission finalized a rule change to remove the Eskimo curlew and least tern from the list of endangered birds.

MOTIONED BY CULL, SECONDED BY SPRING TO APPROVE THE FINALIZATION. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Custer State Park Resorts Prospectus and Proposal Selection

[Action Item: Parks]

Sean Blanchette, Business Administrator for the Division of Parks and Recreation, presented a recommendation for the selection of an operator for the next Concession Lease at Custer State Park. Blanchette provided a recap of the current lease expiration date, and of the prospectus development process which started in the fall of 2025. Prospectus issuance and expiration timelines were shared along with explanation of the selection factors and questions asked to respondents. The Department received 4 proposals in response to the prospectus and began the review process starting immediately after the proposal deadline of June 5, 2026. The Department assembled a proposal review team made up of 12 GFP



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staff, 3 GFP Commissioners, and 1 representative from the Department of Tourism. The review process involved several meetings and reviews which concluded in the last week of July. Bidder interviews were held in Sioux Falls on August 10th and 11th in Sioux Falls. Based on the results of the proposal evaluation process and bidder interviews, Blanchette recommended on behalf of the selection committee that the Commission select the proposal received by Xanterra Parks and Resorts, Inc. and requested authorization for the Department to enter into contract negotiations with a final contract to be presented for Commission approval at the October 2026 Commission meeting.

MOTIONED BY BARTLING, SECONDED BY CULL TO APPROVE AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS. FINAL CONTRACT WILL BE PRESENTED IN OCTOBER. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Dock 44 Prospectus

[Info Item: Parks]

Sean Blanchette, Business Administrator for the Division of Parks and Recreation, provided background on the Dock 44 concession operation, the expiration of the current lease as well as the timeline of the prospectus which was approved at the April Commission Meeting. The prospectus was issued on April 10th with an original deadline to receive proposals of June 26th. After receiving no proposals or inquiries at the deadline, the Department, at the request of the concessionaire, extended the prospectus for a month with a new proposal deadline of July 31, 2026. The prospectus expired on July 31st with no proposals or other indications of serious interest received. Blanchette explained that the Department is in discussions with the Concessionaire on adjusted terms of sale, with a goal to present a new prospectus issuance request at the October 2026 Commission meeting.

11. Capital Development Project Planning and Selection Process

[Info Item: Parks]

Adam Kulesa presented a short power point presentation regarding the parks division capital development project planning and selection process. Presentation highlighted and explained the budgeting process from start to finish, our 5-year plan access program, our project management web-based software program Workzone, and our capital asset management system Cartegraph. The presentation also included explaining our other fund and federal funding sources to the commission. The annual process is very complex and involves numerous staff and resources to complete a final budget.

12. Adventure 250 Program Update

[Info Item: Parks]

Heather Berg and Rachel Comes provided an overview of the 2026 state park theme Adventure 250 – Make Your History in South Dakota State Parks. This included information on the 17- week long program, highlighting participation, statewide reach, sponsor investment, program successes and lessons learned. The presentation recognized the contributions of park staff and Independent Insurance Agents of South Dakota in supporting the program and weekly and grand prize efforts. They also provided a preview of the 2027 statewide theme, Camping, which will focus on showcasing a variety of camping styles and options, incorporating additional day-use activities, and creating engaging experiences for visitors.

13. Fall Events in the Parks Division

[Info Item: Parks]

Lydia Austin, Parks Division Staff Specialist, presented a regional overview of fall events scheduled for September and October 2026. Key West Region programs include the Star Party, Elk Bugling, Halloween Night Hike, Buffalo Roundup, Arts Festival, Fall Trail Trek, and the Archery Antelope Hunt. The Central Region highlighted the 33rd Oahe Downstream Accessible Deer Hunt for wheelchair-using hunters. The Northeast Region outlined Fort Sisseton's Harvest Festival, Public Ghost Investigation, Haunted Fort, and Mortimer's Monstrous Halloween. The Southeast Region summarized several cultural and family events including Indigenous Artists of the Prairie, Homesteader Day, Trick-or-Treat Trails, the Newton Hills Fall Festival, and Fall in the Park. Overall, staff emphasized strong community partnerships and broad public engagement across all regions.



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14. Fall Lodging and Camping Opportunities

[Info Item: Parks]

Jeff VanMeeteren, Director of Parks & Recreation, provided an overview of the Parks Division modern lodging facilities and the various user groups that will be targeted this fall for use of these facilities along with the standard campsites and camping cabins. Many of the modern lodging facilities are not only unique in their location within a park offering great views, waterfront access, etc. but many are also unique in their construction and the comforts they offer to those who use them (i.e. large kitchens, dining areas, etc.) that are not offered in standard motel rooms.

15. July and August Monthly and YTD Revenue and Camping Reports

[Info Item: Parks]

Jeff VanMeeteren, Director of Parks & Recreation, presented the July and August monthly and year-to-date report numbers for the Division of Parks & Recreation related to camping units and revenue. July camping units were down 5% for the month and August was down 20% primarily due to the 3-day Labor Day camping numbers not falling into August this year as they did in 2025. YTD camping units are down 8% for the year but hoping for a great September. The Parks Division revenue was down 1% overall for the month of July and 3% for the month of August with the YTD revenue being down 2%. Park lodging and annual park entrance license sales remain very strong, including 7-day passes at CSP. Heat and slower fishing were indicated as contributors to the lower camping unit numbers. The 3-year historical comparisons indicating revenue and permit sales were shared along with data on lodging and camping units.

16. Elk Contingency Licenses

[Action Item: Wildlife]

Staff summarized forage production information and made a recommendation for elk contingency licenses based on the decision support table in the Elk Action Plan. The Commission approved the resolution to make 63 antlerless elk contingency licenses available for the fall 2026 Black Hills Elk Hunting Season.

RESOLUTION 26-04

WHEREAS, pursuant to ARSD § 41:06:26:06 (Antlerless elk contingency licenses) and § 41:06:26:07 (Eligibility for antlerless elk contingency licenses) the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Commission may issue antlerless elk contingency licenses up to 20 percent of all “antlerless elk” licenses available for all combined Black Hills elk hunting units.

WHEREAS, residents who were not issued an elk license for any elk drawing may apply for a contingency license. Landowner preference or preference points do not apply, and the purchase and receipt of a contingency license does not affect eligibility or preference in future lottery drawings for elk seasons; and

WHEREAS, Game, Fish and Parks has reviewed and discussed US Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service forage production models for the Black Hills with US Forest Service staff, in addition to elk population objectives and antlerless elk licenses; and

WHEREAS, Game, Fish and Parks has followed the decision support table in the Game, Fish and Parks elk action plan to provide a recommended number of antlerless elk contingency licenses; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, for the 2026 Black Hills Elk Hunting Season the Game, Fish and Parks Commission authorizes sixty-three antlerless elk contingency licenses to be made available. Among the sixty-three licenses; five will be available in BHE-H1B, eight will be available in BHE-H2BCD, five will be available in BHE-H2EFG, five will be available in BHE-H2HIJ, fourteen will be available in BHE-H3BCD, nine will be available in BHE-H3EFG, six will be available in BHE-H4B, five will be available in BHE-H7B, and six will be available in BHE-H9B.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution and a record of the Commission’s discussions concerning same be made a part of the Minutes of the Commission meeting at which this Resolution is adopted.



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MOTIONED BY CULL, SECONDED BY BARTLING TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION. Motion carried unanimously.

17. Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease

[Info Item: Wildlife]

Staff provided information on a current Hemorrhagic Disease (HD) outbreak that is causing a localized, acute mortality event within South Dakota's deer population as of early September. Currently, there have been 179 suspected and 17 confirmed cases of HD in the state. This seasonal virus, spread by midges, has a high mortality rate, but long-term impacts are often minimal due to white-tailed deer's reproductive potential. Game, Fish and Parks is actively monitoring this outbreak and taking steps to reduce hunting permits in affected areas, which allows herds to recover. There is no vaccine or scientifically proven treatment for HD, and outbreaks are sporadic; deer can develop temporary immunity from the virus. Game, Fish and Parks emphasized that public reporting of sick and deceased deer is crucial for monitoring the disease and adjusting management strategies accordingly.

18. Law Enforcement Case

[Info Item: Wildlife]

Crossbow Crazy, presented by District Conservation Officer Supervisor Chris Dekker, highlighted a poaching case that resulted in the killing of 14 deer in the Black Hills in the fall of 2023. The case involved the starting of an illegal guiding business, no licenses, trespassing, and other crimes. Two individuals were charged in connection with the illegal activities. One has taken a plea deal. The other is currently serving a sentence in Indiana before coming back to address the charges in South Dakota.

19. Outdoor Campus East Gear Giveaway

[Info Item: Wildlife]

Derek Klawitter, Group and Home School Coordinator, presented a brief rundown of our Gear Giveaway that was started 5 years ago. Public were asked to donate hunting, fishing and outdoor gear that they do not use anymore, and then we have our event where people come and put that gear back in the outdoors, which most of it has been sitting in closets for years. We have been having between 300-500 people attend the yearly event with 1000's of items donated. We also have sign-ups for our hunting 101 program.

20. Private Lands Habitat Biologist Project Highlights

[Info Item: Wildlife]

Jessica Thiry, Private Lands Biologist, presented on a large-scale private lands project in Gregory County involving cost-share on cross fence and water development. The private lands biologists build relationships with landowners to make quality improvement on private lands. Jayd Chmela, Public Lands Biologist, presented on a grazing infrastructure project located on Dixon Dam GPA in Gregory County. This project involved cedar tree removal, fence development and maintenance, as well as water development. These actions created an opportunity to utilize grazing as a habitat management tool to rejuvenate the wildlife habitat on the GPA.

21. Pheasant and Grouse Outlook

[Info Item: Wildlife]

Director Kirschenmann provided a brief presentation on the 2026 pheasant and grouse outlook. Kirschenmann shared data and landowner testimonials which indicate that the department anticipates a good upland hunting season for 2026. Many pheasant reports from across the state show excitement about numbers seen; many the same for grouse.

22. License Sales Report

[Info Item: Wildlife]

Director Kirschenmann provided an overview of hunting and fishing license sales through August of 2026. Fishing licenses remain slightly behind 2025 while small game licenses are about the same to slightly ahead. Kirschenmann shared that September and October are important months where the department sees changes in small game license sales, as well a habitat stamp sales as grouse and pheasant seasons begin.



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Excitement around pheasant numbers and a quality season is anticipated to positively influence small game license sales for the next 2-3 months.

25. Adjourn

[Action Item]

A Regular Commission Meeting will be held on October 8-9 at The State Library, in Pierre, SD starting at 1 pm CST.

MOTIONED BY BARTLING, SECONDED BY WHITMYRE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:35 AM CST ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted respectfully,

Kevin Robling, Department Secretary

State Park Fundraising Ideas 2026-27

Tier 1 Project (Division level – large dollar amount with multiple givers/grants)

- Package Level of Park Division Initiatives - \$4.7M
 - Custer State Park, Welcome Center West - \$1M
 - Mickelson Trail, Kaubisch and Other Bridge Repairs - \$1M
 - Palisades State Park, Split Rock Creek Bridge - \$600K
 - Palisades State Park, Amphitheater - \$400K
 - Good Earth State Park, Inclusive Playground - \$325K
 - Fort Sisseton State Park, Interpretive Displays at Officers Quarters - \$300K
 - Fort Sisseton State Park, Playground – \$250K
 - Oakwood Lakes Education Center - \$200K
 - Lake Herman Education Center - \$200K
 - Hartford Beach State Park, Indoor Fish Cleaning Station - \$200K
 - Lake Poinsett Recreation Area, Indoor Fish Cleaning Station - \$200K
- Good Earth Bridge to Iowa - \$750K-1M (*representing the SD portion with Iowa funding the other half of this project cost*)
- Ft. Sisseton State Park, Visitor Center - \$4-5M (*Fort Sisseton Commission will take the lead on this fundraising effort with the SDPWF assisting with fundraising guidance*)

Tier 2 Projects (Park Specific by Region)

NE Region

- Fort Sisseton State Park, Amphitheater/Event Stage - \$150K
- Lake Thompson Recreation Area, Picnic Shelter - \$60K
- Walkers Point Recreation Area, Picnic Shelter - \$45K
- Pickerel Lake Recreation Area, Picnic Shelter – \$40K

SE Region

- Big Sioux Recreation Area, Picnic Shelter – \$175K
- Adams Homestead, Playground Additions - \$150K
- Big Sioux Recreation Area, Amphitheater – \$80K
- Lewis and Clark Recreation Area, Midway Playground – \$60K
- Springfield Recreation Area, Land Acquisition 1 – 5 acres - \$40K
- Wall Lake Lakeside Use Area, Island Access Bridge – \$30K
- Good Earth State Park, Observation Deck – \$20K
- Newton Hills State Park, Sargent Creek Overlook Platform – \$15K

Central Region

- Cow Creek Recreation Area, Playground – \$60K

West Region

- Custer State Park, Visitor Center ADA Access, and ADA Amphitheater – \$60K
- George Mickelson Trail, Interpretive Signage - \$50K

2026 Start-up projects

2027 Start-up projects



2026 September Camping

Agenda Item 11

9/1/2025 - 9/30/2025	9/1/2026 - 9/30/2026
Camping Units	Camping Units
37887	43864

District	Facility Name	Camping Units	Camping Units	%
1	Fort Sisseton State Park	110	139	26%
	Pickrel Lake Recreation Area	517	565	9%
	Roy Lake State Park	726	942	30%
	Sica Hollow State Park	55	48	-13%
	Amsden Dam Lakeside Use Area	32	30	-6%
2	Fisher Grove State Park	59	110	86%
	Lake Louise Recreation Area	188	205	9%
	Mina Lake Recreation Area	290	510	76%
	Richmond Lake Recreation Area	179	212	18%
	Hartford Beach State Park	708	1027	45%
3	Lake Cochrane Recreation Area	124	214	73%
	Pelican Lake Recreation Area	681	809	19%
	Sandy Shore Recreation Area	180	162	-10%
	Lake Poinsett Recreation Area	613	815	33%
	Oakwood Lakes State Park	894	1231	38%
4	Lake Carthage Lakeside Use Area	115	104	-10%
	Lake Herman State Park	675	712	5%
	Lake Thompson Recreation Area	652	654	0%
	Walkers Point Recreation Area	302	336	11%
	Burke Lake Recreation Area	1	1	0%
5	Buryanek Recreation Area	192	233	21%
	Dude Ranch Lakeside Use Area	13	7	-46%
	Elm Creek Lakeside Use Area	0	0	NA
	Platte Creek Recreation Area	34	89	162%
	Snake Creek Recreation Area	580	795	37%
6	Big Sioux State Recreation Area	1044	1005	-4%
	Lake Vermillion Recreation Area	1522	1467	-4%
	Palisades State Park	1397	1562	12%
	Twin Lake Lakeside Use Area	5	8	60%
	Newton Hills State Park	1292	1491	15%
7	Union Grove State Park	180	193	7%
	Chief White Crane Recreation Area	1185	1322	12%
	Clay County Park	237	212	-11%
	Lewis and Clark Recreation Area	3871	4562	18%
	Pierson Ranch Recreation Area	239	530	122%
8	Sand Creek Lakeside Use Area	13	4	-69%
	Springfield Recreation Area	161	123	-24%
	Tabor Lakeside Use Area	8	0	-100%
	North Point Recreation Area	859	1082	26%
	North Wheeler Recreation Area	34	85	150%
9	Pease Creek Recreation Area	108	177	64%
	Randall Creek Recreation Area	25	745	2880%
	South Shore Lakeside Use Area	9	25	178%
	Star Valley Lakeside Use Area	1	1	0%
	Whetstone Bay Lakeside Use Area	28	43	54%
10	White Swan Lakeside Use Area	9	22	144%
	Farm Island Recreation Area	917	954	4%
	West Bend Recreation Area	279	371	33%
	Cow Creek Recreation Area	269	372	38%
	Oahe Downstream Recreation Area	1364	1793	31%
11	Okobojo Point Recreation Area	15	85	467%
	Spring Creek Recreation Area	143	131	-8%
	East Whitlock Lakeside Use Area	10	6	-40%
	Indian Creek Recreation Area	620	919	48%
	Lake Hiddenwood Recreation Area	11	11	0%
12	Little Bend Lakeside Use Area	1	0	-100%
	Swan Creek Recreation Area	51	72	41%
	Walth Bay Lakeside Use Area	0	12	NA
	West Pollock Recreation Area	52	89	71%
	West Whitlock Recreation Area	256	561	119%
13	Bear Butte State Park	111	45	-59%
	Hugh Glass Lakeside Use Area	90	89	-1%
	Llewellyn Johns Recreation Area	96	71	-26%
	Rocky Point Recreation Area	666	685	3%
	Shadehill Recreation Area	750	1042	39%
14	Custer State Park	10136	9991	-1%
	Angostura Recreation Area	1743	1747	0%
	Bailey's Lakeside Use Area	0	22	NA
	Sheps Canyon Recreation Area	160	187	17%
	Total:	37887	43864	16%



2026 September YTD Camping

1/1/2025 - 9/30/2025	1/1/2026 - 9/30/2026
Camping Units	Camping Units
316578	302475

District	Facility Name	Camping Units	Camping Units	%
1	Fort Sisseton State Park	1428	1162	-19%
	Pickereel Lake Recreation Area	5008	4600	-8%
	Roy Lake State Park	7830	8060	3%
	Sica Hollow State Park	225	241	7%
	Amsden Dam Lakeside Use Area	241	249	3%
2	Fisher Grove State Park	858	903	5%
	Lake Louise Recreation Area	2039	1766	-13%
	Mina Lake Recreation Area	2987	3176	6%
	Richmond Lake Recreation Area	1628	1596	-2%
	Hartford Beach State Park	6160	5902	-4%
3	Lake Cochrane Recreation Area	1916	1854	-3%
	Pelican Lake Recreation Area	5857	5673	-3%
	Sandy Shore Recreation Area	1634	1527	-7%
	Lake Poinsett Recreation Area	6936	6594	-5%
	Oakwood Lakes State Park	8322	7920	-5%
4	Lake Carthage Lakeside Use Area	756	724	-4%
	Lake Herman State Park	5381	5566	3%
	Lake Thompson Recreation Area	6556	5747	-12%
	Walkers Point Recreation Area	2507	2364	-6%
	Burke Lake Recreation Area	48	37	-23%
5	Buryanek Recreation Area	2482	2476	0%
	Dude Ranch Lakeside Use Area	142	262	85%
	Elm Creek Lakeside Use Area	75	78	4%
	Platte Creek Recreation Area	1247	1051	-16%
	Snake Creek Recreation Area	6778	6377	-6%
6	Big Sioux State Recreation Area	6198	6115	-1%
	Lake Vermillion Recreation Area	10457	9858	-6%
	Palisades State Park	9368	9749	4%
	Twin Lake Lakeside Use Area	20	21	5%
	Good Earth State Park	0	2	NA
7	Newton Hills State Park	8727	8213	-6%
	Union Grove State Park	1149	1014	-12%
	Chief White Crane Recreation Area	10536	9786	-7%
	Clay County Park	1609	1434	-11%
	Lewis and Clark Recreation Area	37063	36120	-3%
8	Pierson Ranch Recreation Area	4026	3876	-4%
	Sand Creek Lakeside Use Area	138	60	-57%
	Springfield Recreation Area	1189	1039	-13%
	Tabor Lakeside Use Area	50	44	-12%
	North Point Recreation Area	9384	8724	-7%
9	North Wheeler Recreation Area	925	862	-7%
	Pease Creek Recreation Area	1596	1426	-11%
	Randall Creek Recreation Area	4800	4715	-2%
	South Shore Lakeside Use Area	261	290	11%
	Star Valley Lakeside Use Area	20	48	140%
10	Whetstone Bay Lakeside Use Area	400	378	-6%
	White Swan Lakeside Use Area	143	202	41%
	Farm Island Recreation Area	6713	6329	-6%
	West Bend Recreation Area	6413	5942	-7%
	Cow Creek Recreation Area	2955	2785	-6%
11	Minneconju Lakeside Use Area	0	29	NA
	Oahe Downstream Recreation Area	12493	11554	-8%
	Okobojo Point Recreation Area	1150	1102	-4%
	Spring Creek Recreation Area	1040	1310	26%
	East Whitlock Lakeside Use Area	49	99	102%
12	Indian Creek Recreation Area	7345	6818	-7%
	Lake Hiddenwood Recreation Area	179	201	12%
	Little Bend Lakeside Use Area	7	23	229%
	Little Moreau Recreation Area	0	11	NA
	Swan Creek Recreation Area	1007	952	-5%
13	Walth Bay Lakeside Use Area	25	61	144%
	West Pollock Recreation Area	1100	957	-13%
	West Whitlock Recreation Area	4557	4185	-8%
	Bear Butte State Park	1104	596	-46%
	Hugh Glass Lakeside Use Area	319	357	12%
14	Llewellyn Johns Recreation Area	419	209	-50%
	Rocky Point Recreation Area	6261	5835	-7%
	Shadehill Recreation Area	6584	6014	-9%
	Custer State Park	51180	50824	-1%
	Angostura Recreation Area	16372	14703	-10%
15	Bailey's Lakeside Use Area	51	38	-25%
	Sheps Canyon Recreation Area	2155	1660	-23%
	Total:	316578	302475	-4%

Division of Parks and Recreation					
September 2026 Revenue by Item					
	2025		2026		%
	Number	Dollar	Number	Dollar	Change
Resident Annual	4,043	\$ 153,419	3,636	\$ 139,225	
Non-Resident Annual	880	\$ 49,700	1,020	\$ 58,720	
Resident Double	2,775	\$ 165,680	2,114	\$ 126,280	
Non-Resident Double	166	\$ 14,645	267	\$ 23,855	
Transferable	32	\$ 2,740	43	\$ 3,820	
GSM Annual Trail Pass	813	\$ 16,200	385	\$ 7,700	
Annual Licenses	8,709	\$ 402,384	7,465	\$ 359,600	-11%
Resident Daily License	5,603	\$ 55,800	5,170	\$ 51,639	
Non-Resident Daily License	4,493	\$ 67,320	4,632	\$ 69,420	
Unattended Vehicle Daily	90	\$ 1,800	148	\$ 2,960	
GSM Daily Trail Pass	4,941	\$ 24,705	4,640	\$ 23,200	
Motorcoach Permit	3,193	\$ 11,748	6,022	\$ 24,036	
CSP 7 Day Pass	34,695	\$ 864,065	39,320	\$ 981,851	
CSP 7 Day Bike Band	3,282	\$ 65,440	3,304	\$ 66,040	
Rally Bike Band	-	\$ -	-	\$ -	
One-Day Special Event	9	\$ 900	37	\$ 3,700	
Festival Daily	-	\$ -	-	\$ -	
Daily Licenses	56,306	\$ 1,091,778	63,273	\$ 1,222,846	12%
Licenses	65,015	\$ 1,494,162	70,738	\$ 1,582,446	6%
Camping Services		\$ 783,823		\$ 662,658	-15%
Pet Fees	170	\$ 1,693	139	\$ 1,384	-18%
LODGING		\$ 785,516		\$ 664,042	-15%
Picnic Shelters		\$ 680		\$ 790	16%
Boat Rentals		\$ 792		\$ 864	9%
Firewood	4,230	\$ 28,376	3,463	\$ 23,258	-18%
Gift Card	16	\$ 335	7	\$ 777	132%
Spring Creek Boat Slips		\$ -		\$ -	
Recreational Equipment Rentals		\$ 1,948		\$ 1,693	-13%
Retail		\$ 19,453		\$ 19,909	2%
Call Center Fee	1,870	\$ 11,102	1,447	\$ 8,670	-22%
Cabin/Trailer Lease Permits		\$ -		\$ 175	NA
MISCELLANEOUS		\$ 62,685		\$ 56,136	-10%
TOTAL		\$ 2,342,363		\$ 2,302,624	-2%

Division of Parks and Recreation					
September YTD 2026 Revenue by Item					
	2025		2026		%
	Number	Dollar	Number	Dollar	Change
Resident Annual	42,129	\$ 1,646,626	41,541	\$ 1,579,436	
Non-Resident Annual	13,161	\$ 755,927	12,344	\$ 715,935	
Resident Double	35,509	\$ 2,110,064	36,397	\$ 2,134,832	
Non-Resident Double	5,505	\$ 489,748	5,850	\$ 514,858	
Transferable	2,620	\$ 234,013	2,744	\$ 239,900	
GSM Annual Trail Pass	5,802	\$ 115,515	5,463	\$ 107,120	
Annual Licenses	104,726	\$ 5,351,893	104,339	\$ 5,292,081	-1%
Resident Daily License	55,252	\$ 550,368	55,284	\$ 550,946	
Non-Resident Daily License	39,863	\$ 597,435	37,902	\$ 566,171	
Unattended Vehicle Daily	1,268	\$ 25,260	1,014	\$ 20,270	
GSM Daily Trail Pass	18,717	\$ 93,441	18,028	\$ 90,140	
Motorcoach Permit	22,439	\$ 68,533	20,610	\$ 82,388	
CSP 7 Day Pass	188,421	\$ 4,678,215	206,426	\$ 5,043,188	
CSP 7 Day Bike Band	23,680	\$ 471,690	24,202	\$ 482,870	
Rally Bike Band	33,780	\$ 675,595	24,809	\$ 496,180	
One-Day Special Event	84	\$ 8,400	78	\$ 7,775	
Festival Daily	2,427	\$ 11,475	2,231	\$ 11,640	
Daily Licenses	385,931	\$ 7,180,412	390,584	\$ 7,351,568	2%
Licenses	490,657	\$ 12,532,305	494,923	\$ 12,643,649	1%
Camping Services		\$ 10,443,842		\$ 9,952,081	-5%
Pet Fees	1620	\$ 16,153	2116	\$ 20,205	25%
LODGING		\$ 10,459,996		\$ 9,972,286	-5%
Picnic Shelter		\$ 13,845		\$ 18,429	33%
Boat Rentals		\$ 16,660		\$ 23,355	40%
Firewood	33,884	\$ 227,096	28,565	\$ 191,247	-16%
Gift Card	122	\$ 9,331	146	\$ 11,073	19%
Spring Creek Boat Slips		\$ 155,768		\$ 167,795	8%
Recreational Equipment Rentals		\$ 34,863		\$ 33,658	-3%
Retail		\$ 214,381		\$ 200,116	-7%
Call Center Fee	14,027	\$ 83,406	12,320	\$ 71,496	-14%
Cabin/Trailer Lease Permits		\$ 217,969		\$ 229,960	6%
MISCELLANEOUS		\$ 973,320		\$ 947,129	-3%
TOTAL		\$ 23,965,620		\$ 23,563,064	-2%

September 2026 YTD Revenue, Camping and Modern Lodging 3-year Summary

	2023		2024		2025*		3-Yr Avg		2026		% Change (3-Yr Avg)	
	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#
Annual Licenses	\$ 4,419,554	112137	\$ 4,602,579	115342	\$ 5,351,893	104726	\$ 4,791,342	110735	\$ 5,292,081	104339	10.5%	-5.8%
Daily Licenses	\$ 5,356,825	356110	\$ 5,583,148	372777	\$ 7,180,412	385931	\$ 6,040,128	371606	\$ 7,351,568	390584	21.7%	5.1%
Camping/Lodging	\$ 9,310,066		\$ 9,390,738		\$ 10,459,996		\$ 9,720,267		\$ 9,972,286		2.6%	
Miscellaneous	\$ 707,050		\$ 871,435		\$ 973,320		\$ 850,602		\$ 947,129		11.3%	
Total	\$ 19,793,495	468247	\$ 20,447,900	488119	\$ 23,965,620	490657	\$ 21,402,338	482341	\$ 23,563,065	494923	10.1%	2.6%

* Fee increase in 2025

	2023*	2024	2025	3-Yr Avg	2026	% (3-yr Avg)
Camping Units	332931	331649	316578	327053	302475	-7.5%
Modern Lodging Nights Booked January 1 through December 31						
Lake Thompson		128	128	128	103	-19.5%
Mina Lake		115	153	134	167	24.6%
Newton Hills (3 units)		270	322	296	285	-3.7%
Oahe Downstream (5 units)		781	788	785	701	-10.6%
Palisades		136	118	127	132	3.9%
Pickrel Lake		109	166	138	145	5.5%
Roy Lake (12 units)		1348	1408	1378	1488	8.0%
Shadehill		134	158	146	165	13.0%
Sheps Canyon		88	81	85	75	-11.2%
Spring Creek (16 units)		1116	1097	1107	1456	31.6%
All Parks Total		4225	4419	4322	4717	9.1%

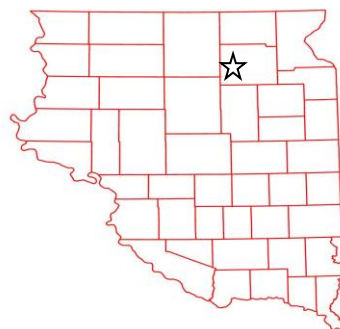
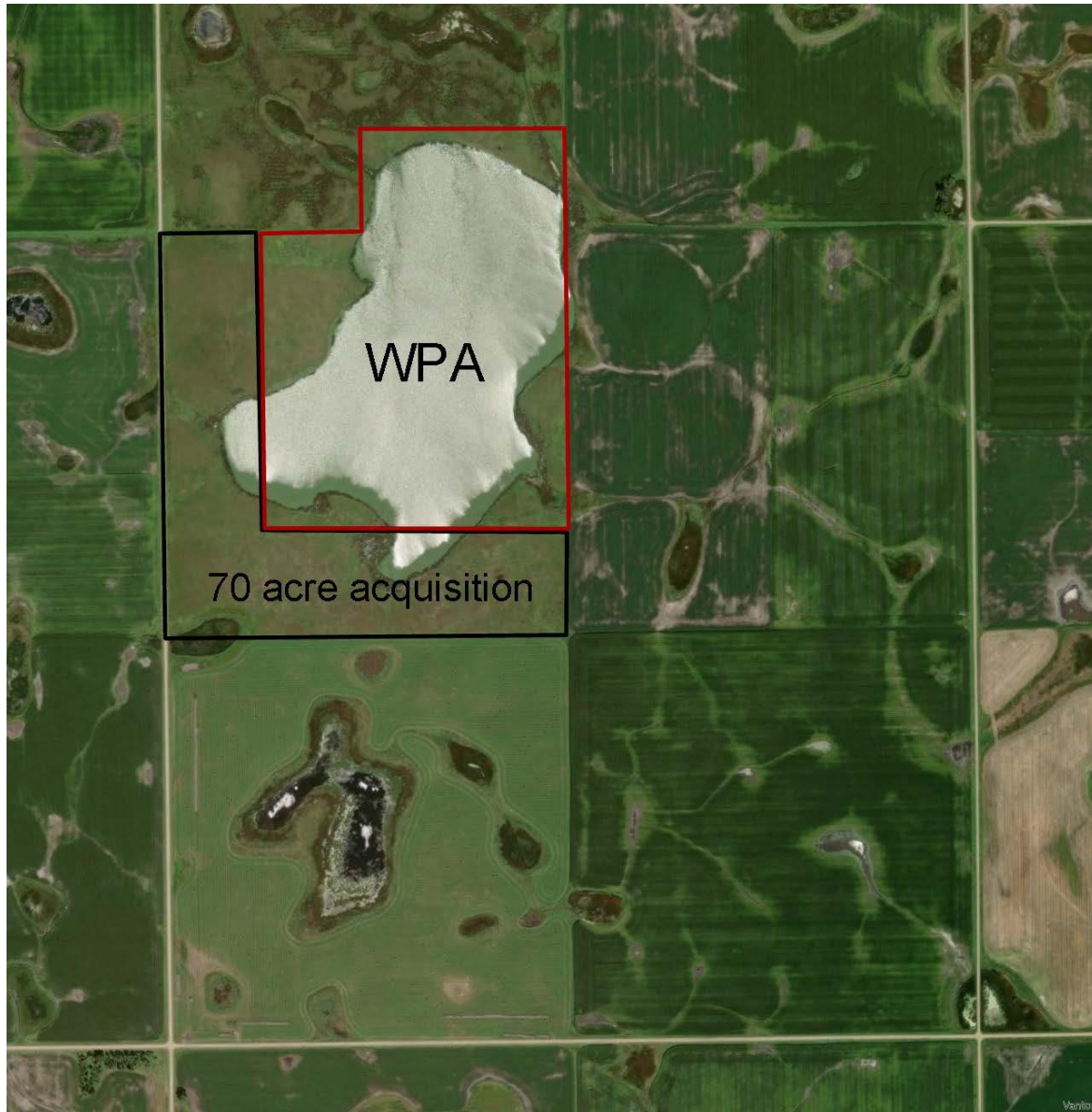
* Modern Lodging numbers for 2023 not available

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Waterfowl Production Area Acquisition

Cheryl Cramer Davenport 70 Acre

Proposed Acquisition Day County

T121-R58-Section 8



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Waubay National Wildlife Refuge
44401 134A St.
Waubay, SD 57273

To the Day County Commissioners,,

My husband and I are the owners of 70 acres of land, Parcel 14.08.2100 in Day County, South Dakota. This land came to be in our possession through my family and this is the rough history as I know it. My grandparents, Henry and Anna Cramer, purchased 210 acres at some point, the date is unknown to me. It was divided into three 70-acres sections and one section was given to each of their three sons at the time of my last grandparent's death in 1982. One of those three sons was my father, Melvin. I believe the entire time he owned it, it was kept in CRP/CREP. At the time of his death in 2005, I inherited the land and also kept it in CREP.

Now, I am aging and I have been discerning what its future could be. As my daughter is not interested in owning it, I am hoping that his land can be maintained as part of the wildlife habitat area with which it shares a border, the Cramer WPA.

I can't speak for my grandparents, but my father, daughter and I all share a profound love of wildlife. So, it seems fitting that the wildlife with which we have a connection should be cared for in the most responsible way possible. I am confident that the appropriate care would be through the National Wildlife Refuge system.

Thank you for your assistance in this effort. Should you have questions, I can be reached by

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Sincerely,
Cheryl Cramer Davenport

**DAY COUNTY COMMISSION
WEBSTER, SOUTH DAKOTA**

April 21, 2026

The Day County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 9:00 AM, Tuesday, April 21, 2026, in the Commissioners Chambers in the Day County Courthouse. Meeting called to order by Chairman Sinner. Members present: Commissioners Kjos, McGregor-Okroi, Torrence and Aldrich. Others: Auditor Lehman, States Attorney Knight, Treasurer Zubke, ROD Berger, Highway Supt. Schmieg, Randy Bury, Chad Carlson, Nikki Ellingson, Jessica Dowler, Lucas Brockhaus, David German, Debra Hemmah, Duane Hemmah, Al Block, Paul Dulitz & Connor Handrahan-R&F.

PLEDGE: Chairman Sinner led the members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES: Moved by McGregor-Okroi, seconded by Aldrich to approve the minutes from April 14, 2026, regular commissioner meeting. Motion carried.

CLAIMS: Moved by Kjos, seconded by Torrence to approve and authorize the chairman to sign the following audited claims. Motion carried.

SERVICES: Bratland Law 1,035.00, Chip Premus 2,500.00, City of Watertown 7,612.81, Glacial Lakes Technology Service 390.00, Lincoln County Treasurer 845.50, PEAC Solutions 255.46, Rogge Excavating Inc. 125,000.00, Sanford Health 80.94, SDACC 3,350.00,

SUPPLIES: Bound Tree Medical LLC 680.70, Cash-Wa Distributing 1,301.34,

REPAIRS: Kone Inc 399.24, Northstar Mechanical 5.31,

UTILITIES: Dependable Sanitation 30.00, Minn-Kota Communications Inc. 2,061.69, NVC 341.40, Venture Communication Inc. 197.90, Verizon Wireless 160.04,

MANUAL CHECKS: SD Department of Revenue 161,790.83.

REPORTS: The Board noted the following reports:

In compliance with the law, I, Tonya Lehman hereby submit the following report of my examination of the cash and cash items in the hands of the Treasurer of this County as of April 1, 2026. Total amount of deposits in bank \$230,165.64. Total amount of actual cash \$4,161.87. Total amount of deposits and drafts in Treasurer's possession not exceeding three days \$85,918.54. Itemized list of all items, checks and drafts, which have been in the Treasurer's possession over three days: CD'S \$3,850,000.00; IMMA \$5,679,726.52; Postage \$142.53; Register of Deeds petty cash \$200.00; Sheriff \$2,213.00; Credit cards \$1,345.25 for a total of \$9,853,873.35. Cash Balances: General Fund \$4,707,718.68; Highway \$4,022,226.30; E911 - \$2,083.86; OEM \$13,576.49; Domestic Abuse \$274.00; 24/7 Fund \$50,849.58; M & P Fund \$61,653.00; Highway Rural Access \$69,280.66; 700 & 800 Accounts \$929,781.50; equals \$9,853,276.35.

In compliance with the law, I, Jodi Berger, hereby report the fees of the Office of Register of Deeds for the month of March 2026. Births (3) \$45.00; Deaths (31) \$465.00; Marriages (2) \$80.00; Transfer fees \$7,448.00; Recordings \$3,315.00; Copies \$574.90; Sales Tax \$0.25 for a total of \$11,928.15.

In compliance with the law, I, Jerred Schreur hereby submit the following report of all fees received by me as Sheriff within and for the County for the month of March 2026: Accident Reports \$8.00; Phone cards \$140.85; Phone Commission \$633.97; Remote Breath Tests \$146.00; Remote Breath Act/Deact. \$80.00; Sheriff's Fees \$1,973.55; Juvenile Care \$5,540.00; PBT's \$509.00; Prisoners-Out of Co. \$3,935.00; UA Fees \$520.00; Work Release \$1,250.00,

Bristol Contract Hours \$500.00; Roslyn Contract Hours \$500.00; Pierpont Contract Hours \$500.00; Waubay Contract Hours \$1,000.00; Sales Tax \$9.15 for a total of \$17,245.52.

FEDERAL WATERFOWL PRODUCTION AREA: Moved by Aldrich, seconded by Torrence to approve the United States Fish and Wildlife Service request to purchase a 70-acre parcel located in Valley Township. Motion carried.

PLANNING/ZONING: Moved by McGregor-Okroi, seconded by Kjos to recess the regular session at 9:13 AM, to convene as Planning & Zoning. Motion carried. Chairman Sinner reconvened the regular session at 9:44 AM.

PLATS: Upon recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Board, moved by McGregor-Okroi, seconded by Torrence to approve the following plats: 1) Marguerite Park Second Addition in Gov't Lot 3, Sec 22-123-53; 2) Tract 1 Zubke's Addition in SE ¼ of Sec 20-120-55. Motion carried.

AMBULANCE CALL UPDATE: Director Sackreiter updated the board on call volumes: 137 calls have been logged so far this year, down from 141 last year. Notably, fixed-wing transports rose from 11 to 15 during the same period.

STAIR CHAIR: Moved by McGregor-Okroi, seconded by Aldrich to approve Ambulance Director Sackreiter to purchase a Stair Chair for \$5,178.57, utilizing the SDML Work Comp Fund EMS Equipment Grant. The grant covers 50% of the cost, leaving the County a remaining balance of \$2,589.29. Motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUEST: Moved by Kjos, seconded by Aldrich to approve travel request for State's Attorney Knight to attend a conference in Deadwood. Motion carried.

CDL REQUIREMENTS: Moved by Aldrich, seconded by Torrence to approve Hwy Supt. Schmieg's request to cover medical certification fees for CDL licensees, ensuring department compliance with the upcoming July 1, 2026, South Dakota licensing updates. Motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUEST: Moved by Torrence, seconded by Aldrich, to approve travel request for Director of Equalization Barbra Block to attend the 2026 SDAAO conference in Sioux Falls. Motion carried.

MAINTENANCE: Moved by Aldrich, seconded by Kjos to approve a new estimate from South Dakota Lumber & Design LLC of \$5,170.59 to put new flooring in the vault and office of the Register of Deeds. Motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUEST: Moved by Torrence, seconded by Aldrich, to approve travel request for Laura Kuecker to attend 4-H training in Aberdeen SD. Motion carried.

FUTURE MEETING DATES: Discussion was held to set future meeting dates as follows: May 5th & May 19th, June 4th, 16th and 30th, July 14th, August 4th & 18th 2026.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Kjos, seconded by Aldrich to enter into Executive Session at 9:55 AM for contract and personnel matters as per SDCL 1-25-2. Motion carried. Chairman Sinner reconvened the regular session at 10:24 AM.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Kjos, seconded by Aldrich to adjourn until 9:00 AM, Tuesday, May 5, 2026, to convene in the Commissioners Chambers in the Day County Courthouse. Motion carried.

Derek Sinner,

Chairman

ATTEST:

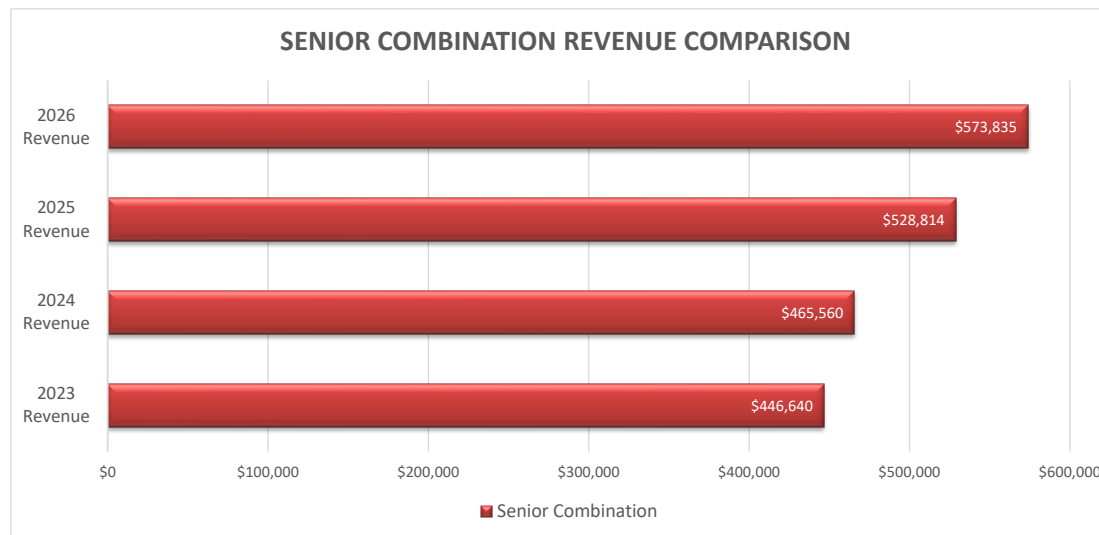
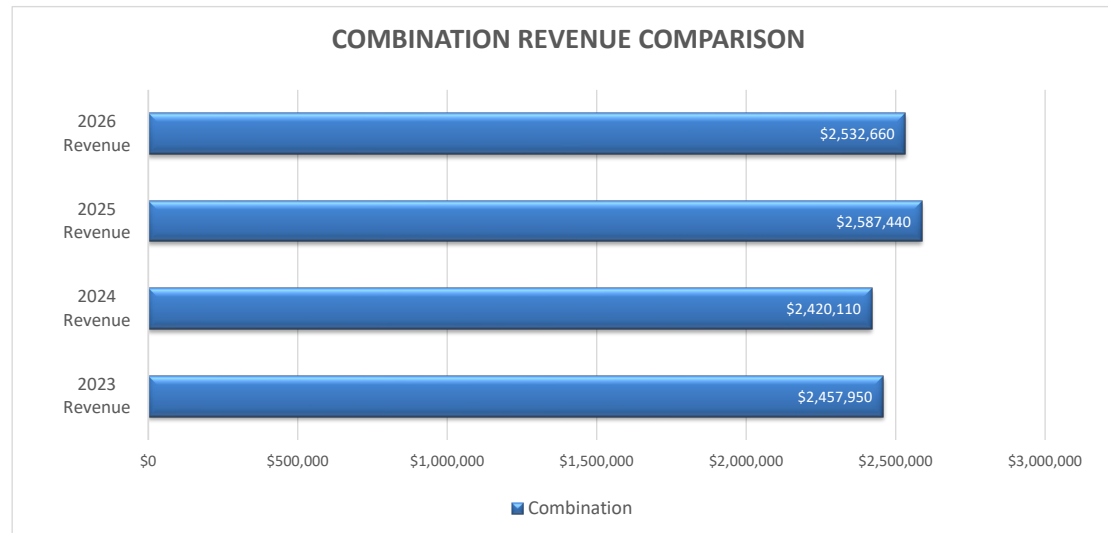
Tonya Lehman,
Day County Auditor

Day County does not discriminate on the basis of color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of service.

COMBINATION LICENSES

December 15 - September 30

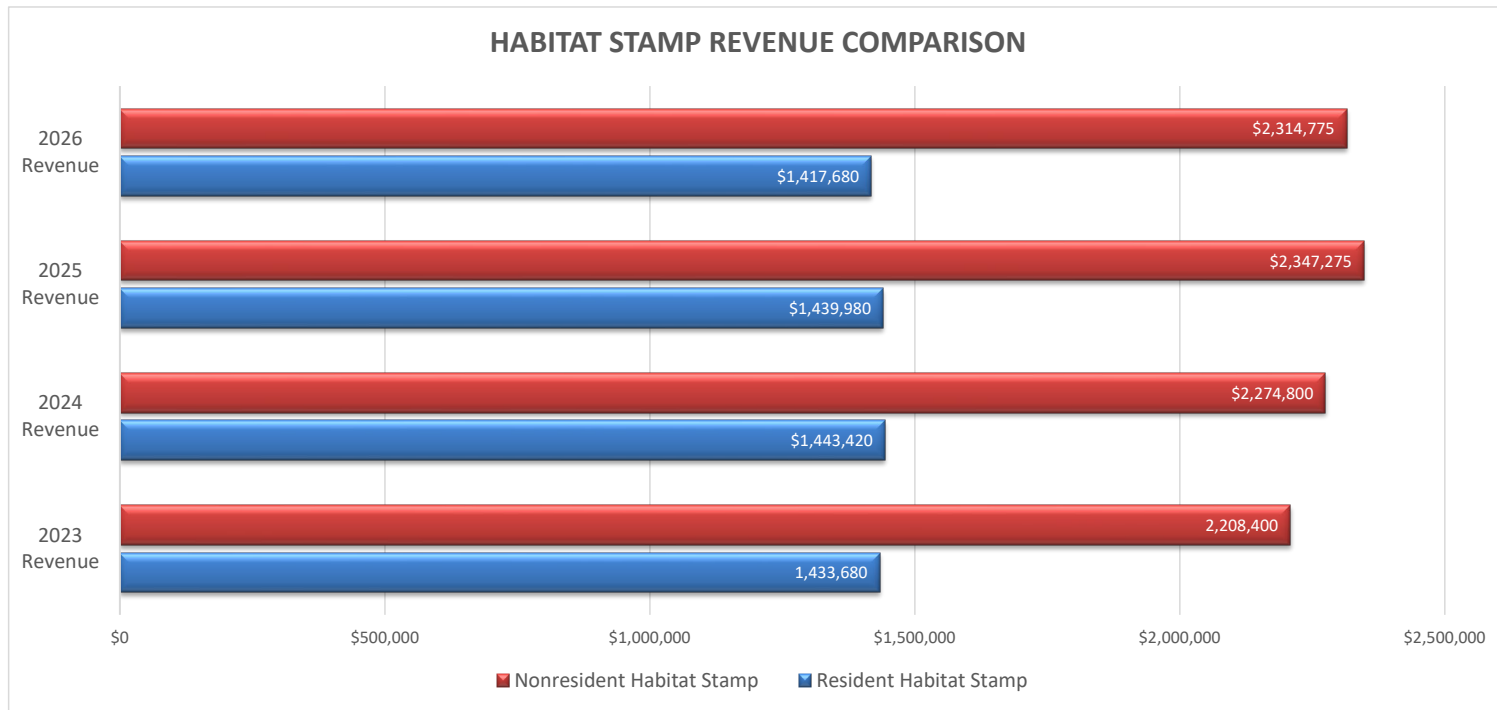
License Type	2023	2024	2025	3-yr Avg	2026	2026 Revenue	+/- Licenses		+/- Revenue		% Change from 3 Yr. Avg
							2025 vs 2026	3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	2025 vs 2026	3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	
Combination	44,690	44,002	43,124	43,939	42,211	\$2,532,660	(913)	(1,728)	(\$54,780)	\$44,160	-3.93%
Senior Combination	11,166	11,639	12,298	11,701	13,345	\$573,835	1,047	1,644	\$45,021	\$93,497	14.05%
Combination License Totals	55,856	55,641	55,422	55,640	55,556	\$3,106,495	134	(84)	(\$9,759)	\$137,657	10.12%



HABITAT STAMP

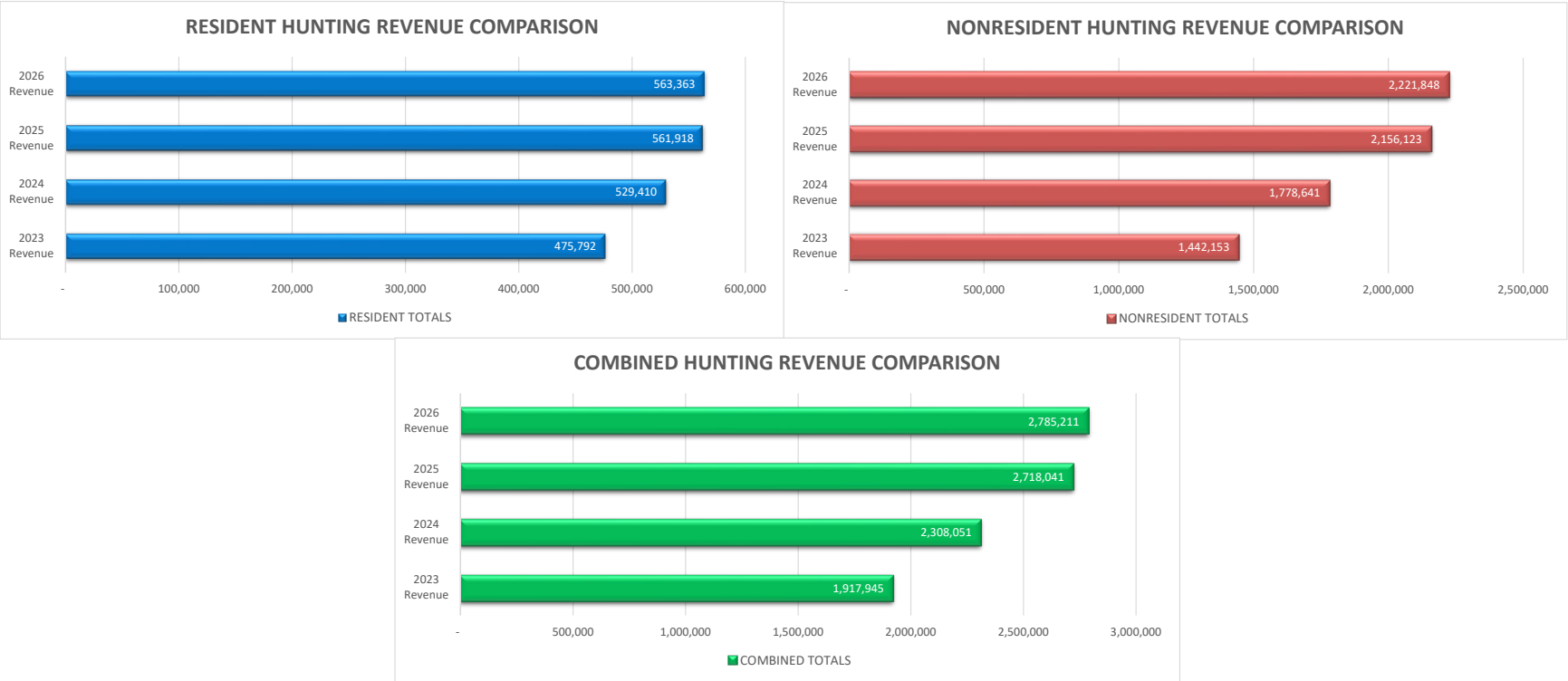
December 15 - September 30

License Type	2023	2024	2025	3-yr Avg	2026	2026 Revenue	+/- Licenses		+/- Revenue		% Change from 3 Yr. Avg
							2025 vs 2026	3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	2025 vs 2026	3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	
Resident Habitat Stamp	143,368	144,342	143,998	143,903	141,768	\$1,417,680	(2,230)	(2,135)	(\$22,300)	(\$21,347)	-1.48%
Nonresident Habitat Stamp	88,336	90,992	93,891	91,073	92,591	\$2,314,775	(1,300)	1,518	(\$32,500)	\$37,950	1.67%
Habitat Stamp Totals	231,704	235,334	237,889	234,976	234,359	\$3,732,455	(3,530)	(617)	(\$54,800)	\$16,603	-0.26%



SMALL GAME LICENSES
December 15 - September 30

License Type	+/- Licenses				+/- Revenue				% Change		
	2023	2024	2025	3-yr Avg	2026	2026 Revenue	2025 vs 2026	3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	2025 vs 2026	3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	from 3 Yr. Avg
Small Game	8,002	9,371	9,483	8,952	9,409	\$338,724	(74)	457	(\$2,664)	\$33,825	5%
1-Day Small Game	133	231	254	206	287	\$4,305	33	81	\$495	\$1,579	39%
Youth Small Game	3,355	3,595	3,362	3,437	3,429	\$17,145	67	(8)	\$335	(\$42)	0%
Mentor Small Game	n/a	n/a	470	n/a	623	\$3,115	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Furbearer	3,044	3,227	3,337	3,203	3,466	\$107,446	129	263	\$3,999	\$10,254	8%
Predator/Varmint	1,656	1,438	1,128	1,407	1,123	\$6,738	(5)	(284)	(\$30)	(\$675)	-20%
Migratory Bird Certificate: 3-Duck	1,259	1,103	719	1,027	743	\$3,715	24	(284)	\$120	(\$1,420)	-28%
Migratory Bird Certificate: Traditional	17,492	17,981	16,750	17,408	16,435	\$82,175	(315)	(973)	(\$1,575)	(\$4,863)	-6%
RESIDENT TOTALS	34,941	36,946	35,503	35,640	35,515	\$563,363	12	(464)	\$680	\$38,658	-1.30%
Small Game	7,865	10,521	10,683	9,690	11,117	\$1,578,614	434	1,427	\$61,628	\$406,164	15%
Youth Small Game	427	580	572	526	575	\$5,750	3	49	\$30	\$487	9%
Mentor Small Game	n/a	n/a	45	n/a	152	\$1,520	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Shooting Preserve 1-Day Nonresident	316	397	529	414	497	\$24,850	(32)	83	(\$1,600)	\$5,806	20%
Shooting Preserve 5-Day Nonresident	3,474	3,564	3,731	3,590	3,783	\$363,168	52	193	\$4,992	\$90,353	5%
Shooting Preserve Annual Nonresident	168	129	160	152	164	\$23,944	4	12	\$584	\$5,512	8%
Furbearer	2	5	3	3	5	\$1,625	2	2	\$650	\$708	0%
Predator/Varmint	3,947	3,980	4,291	4,073	4,257	\$195,822	(34)	184	(\$1,564)	\$32,915	5%
Migratory Bird Certificate: 3-Duck	263	297	181	247	191	\$955	10	(56)	\$50	(\$280)	-23%
Migratory Bird Certificate: Traditional	5,517	6,601	5,143	5,754	5,120	\$25,600	(23)	(634)	(\$115)	(\$3,168)	-11%
NONRESIDENT TOTALS	21,979	26,074	25,338	24,449	25,861	\$2,221,848	523	1,260	\$64,655	\$538,497	5.16%
COMBINED TOTALS	56,920	63,020	60,841	60,089	61,376	\$2,785,211	535	1,287	\$65,335	\$577,155	2.14%



FISHING LICENSES

December 15 - September 30

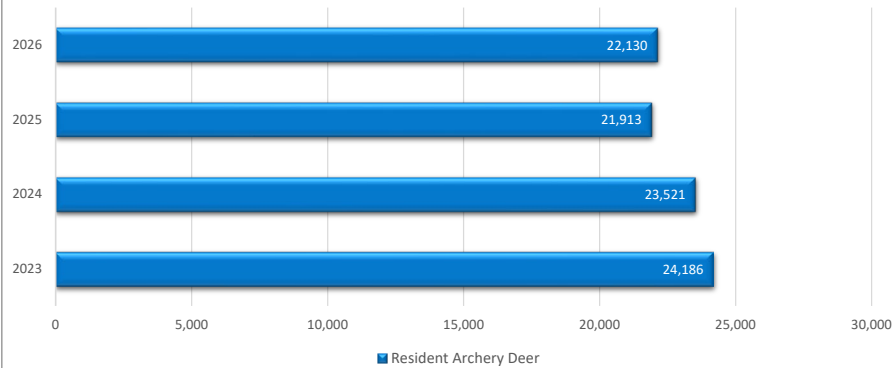
License Type	+/- Licenses				+/- Revenue				% Change		
	2023	2024	2025	3-yr Avg	2026	2026 Revenue	2025 vs 2026	3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	2025 vs 2026	3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	from 3 Yr. Avg
1-Day Fishing	6,565	7,308	6,757	6,877	5,736	\$57,360	(1,021)	(1,141)	(\$10,210)	(\$2,158)	-17%
Annual Fishing	53,519	54,400	55,119	54,346	52,664	\$1,632,584	(2,455)	(1,682)	(\$76,105)	\$55,777	-3%
Senior Fishing	13,811	14,110	13,819	13,913	12,783	\$217,311	(1,036)	(1,130)	(\$17,612)	\$27,319	-8%
RESIDENT TOTALS	73,895	75,818	75,695	75,136	71,183	1,907,255	(4,512)	(3,953)	(\$103,927)	\$80,938	-5.26%
1-Day Fishing	34,393	33,860	24,677	30,977	23,121	\$601,146	(1,556)	(7,856)	(\$40,456)	\$23,263	-25%
3-Day Fishing	17,541	16,893	19,637	18,024	18,926	\$851,670	(711)	902	(\$31,995)	\$132,429	5%
Annual Fishing	37,080	35,725	37,587	36,797	36,309	\$2,904,720	(1,278)	(488)	(\$102,240)	\$276,422	-1%
NONRESIDENT TOTALS	89,014	86,478	81,901	85,798	78,356	\$4,357,536	(3,545)	(7,442)	(\$174,691)	\$432,113	-8.67%
COMBINED TOTALS	162,909	162,296	157,596	160,934	149,539	\$6,264,791	(8,057)	(11,395)	(\$278,618)	\$513,052	-7.08%



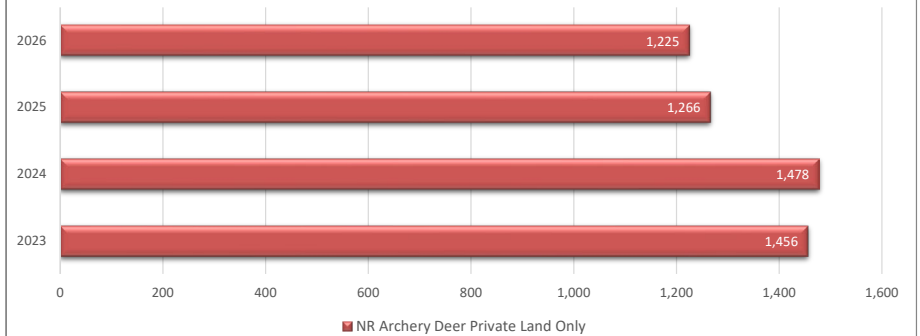
2026 BIG GAME LICENSES

License Type						+/- Licenses			+/- Revenue		% Change from 3 Yr. Avg
	2023	2024	2025	3-yr Avg	2026	2026 Revenue	2025 vs 2026	3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	2025 vs 2026	3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	
Resident Archery Deer	24,186	23,521	21,913	23,207	22,130	\$921,312	217	(1077)	\$56,972	\$32,189	-5%
NR Archery Deer Private Land Only	1,456	1,478	1,266	1,400	1,225	\$459,375	(41)	(175)	\$137,587	\$161,636	-13%
Resident Archery Antelope	2,113	2,146	2,252	2,170	2,116	\$95,220	(136)	(54)	\$45,315	\$52,885	-3%
Nonresident Archery Antelope Private Land Only	394	384	408	395	427	\$160,125	19	32	\$87,000	\$70,923	8%
Resident Mentored Deer	3,863	3,795	1,983	3,214	2,115	\$10,575	132	(1099)	\$660	(\$13,953)	-34%
NR Mentored Deer	131	163	198	164	206	\$2,060	8	42	\$40	(\$614)	26%
Resident Mentored Turkey	319	296	289	301	351	\$1,755	62	50	\$310	(\$1,156)	16%
NR Mentored Turkey	7	10	16	11	23	\$230	7	12	\$35	(\$32)	109%
Resident Prairie Fall Turkey	1,292	1,155	1,116	1,188	945	\$19,220	(171)	(243)	\$1,465	\$1,078	-20%
Nonresident Prairie Fall Turkey	49	36	47	44	35	\$3,935	(12)	(9)	\$625	\$572	-20%
Nonresident Landowner East River Deer					189	\$38,005					
1st Draw Applications Submitted											
Resident Prairie Fall Turkey Applications	1,676	1,265	1,226	1,389	1,021		(205)	(368)			-26%
Nonresident Prairie Fall Turkey Applications	81	47	54	61	47		(7)	(14)			-23%

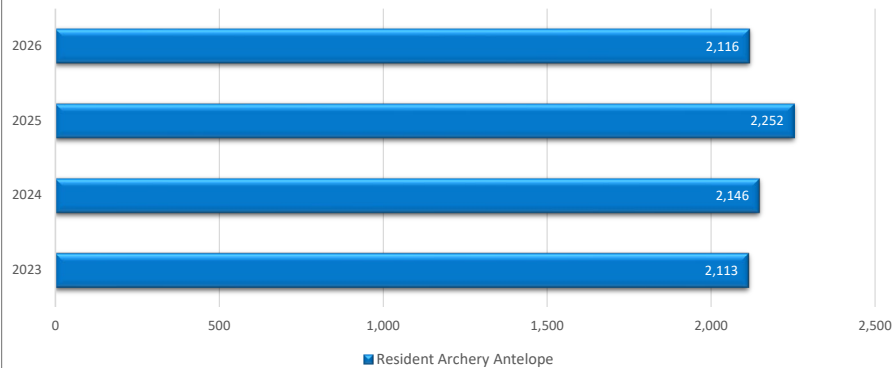
RESIDENT ARCHERY DEER LICENSES ISSUED



NONRESIDENT ARCHERY DEER - PRIVATE LAND ONLY LICENSES ISSUED



RESIDENT ARCHERY ANTELOPE LICENSES ISSUED



NONRESIDENT ARCHERY ANTELOPE - PRIVATE LAND ONLY LICENSES ISSUED

