

**DRAFT RESOLUTION
NEST PREDATOR BOUNTY PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, pursuant to SDCL 40-36-9, SDCL 41-2-16, and SDCL 41-2-34, the Department of Game, Fish and Parks may conduct programs to control wild animals. The removal of nest predators from the landscape can enhance the nest success of pheasants, ducks and other ground nesting birds in South Dakota. Furthermore, such programs have proven to expose people to the trapping tradition and the outdoors; and

WHEREAS, Predator removal efforts on properties with habitat to increase nest success of pheasants and ducks has been used as a management technique in South Dakota for decades; and

WHEREAS, intensive predator removal efforts can enhance nest success of pheasants and ducks at localized levels when implemented at high intensities during the nesting season; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Game, Fish and Parks has previously operated this program and paid all expenditures for this program from the fund established in SDCL 41-2-34 (license dollars) and plans to utilize these funds for 2021 and 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Game, Fish and Parks Commission recognizes the Department of Game, Fish and Parks' desire to conduct the Nest Predator Bounty Program for 2021 and 2022 and proposes the following: an expenditure of ten dollars per tail not to exceed \$500,000 for the bounty of nest predators each year. Participants under the age of 18 and landowners harvesting nest predators from their own land are not required to have a license. All other participants must have a hunting, fishing, or trapping license.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Nest Predator Bounty Program shall be operated from March 15 to July 1 during 2021 and 2022, to coincide with spring activity/movements of nest predators and the primary nesting season of pheasants, ducks, and other ground nesting birds. The method of take includes the shooting and trapping of nest predators in South Dakota.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Commission, after considering comments, will determine if there will be a 2021 and 2022 Nest Predatory Bounty Program and if so, lay out the final parameters at the March 4th, 2021 Commission meeting, to include a method to identify and monitor goals of the program. Some of these goals include but are not limited to: removal of 50,000 nest predators, expand the ETHICS SD program by 20%, and have 20% of bounty participants under the age of 18.