SOUTH DAKOTA GAME, FISH AND PARKS
COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

NOVEMBER 5, 2026 | SIOUX FALLS, SD
OUTDOOR CAMPUS EAST

MEETING INFO

This agenda is subject to change without prior notice.

Date and Time: November 5, 2026, from 1-5 pm CST
Meeting Location: Outdoor Campus East, 4500 S Oxbow Ave, Sioux Falls, SD 57106

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 **Meeting ID:** 912 6417 6710 **Passcode:** 970458
Call In: +17193594580,,91264176710# US **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

Informational Items

4. Staff Introductions
5. 2027 Commission Schedule Review
6. Open Meetings Annual Review
7. Internal Excellence - Every Role, Every Impact Training Program

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.

Petitions

8. Petition 266 Reid Lake Closure Date
9. Petition 267 - Withdrew

Division of Parks and Recreation

Informational Items

10. LWCF Awards
11. Enhancing the Camping Experience
12. 2027 Park Theme
13. Annual Parks Division Meeting Awards

14. October Monthly and YTD Camping and Revenue Reports

Division of Wildlife

Action Items

15. USFWS Cramer-Davenport Acquisition

Informational Items

16. EHD Update [Presentation}
17. Outdoor Campus East Expansion
18. Outdoor Campus East Programming
19. Aquatic Access Projects
20. License Sales Reports

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 December 3-4, 2026 starting at 1 pm the State Library, in Pierre, SD.

Public Comments

Other

Don Patnoe

Rapid City SD

Position: other

Comment:

Approving Xanterra as the concessionaire at Custer State Park is a huge mistake. As a life long and 4th generation Black Hills resident, I've had many experiences with the hospitality at Mount Rushmore and Custer State Park. I was fortunate to have tickets to this past 4th of July Celebration at Rushmore. Xanterra delivered a horrible experience on the food and service, including running out of most of the food offered and that's knowing there we're going to be a set number of guests! Most recently on October 10, 2026 the Mount Rushmore Society had their Annual Galla at Rushmore with 200 guests. Once again, Xanterra delivered an experience that was not acceptable to many of the 200 attendees. Starting with an uncomfortable wait and long line waiting for beverages during the reception hour. Followed confusion by the wait staff as to which tables had been served.

Over the last 20 years, with many enjoyable trips to Custer State Park, including 2 children having their weddings at Custer State Park… the service and food have been good to great.

BIG mistake changing concessionaires at Custer State Park.

Douglas Paulson

Clark SD

Position: support

Comment:

Hello GFP Commissioners, I am for closing Reid Lake boating September 1st for early goose season because Reid Lake is a waterfowl refuge and waterfowl have been trained for a 100 years that Reid Lake is a safe resting place for waterfowl .I have lived by Reid Lake my entire life and know the value of the refuge for a resting place for waterfowl that congregate there by the the thousands. The boating closure date used to be September 1st and all of a sudden it got changed to October 20th on a refuge during waterfowl season. I have personally watched 1 boat speedboat across the refuge and the whole lake full of ducks and geese lifted up and moved east off the refuge so the GFP can't say that boating doesn't affect the waterfowl on the refuge. The refuge keeps waterfowl around the area for people north, south, east and west of the refuge to have opportunities for waterfowl hunting .One boat speedboating across the refuge messes that all up for waterfowl hunting. So I am for moving the no boating date back to September 1st like it used to be. Thank you for considering my proposition.

Commission Meeting Minutes

South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks

523 E Capitol Avenue | Pierre, South Dakota 57501

October 8, 2026 | State Library, Pierre, SD

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

Call Meeting to Order

Chair Rissler called the meeting to order at 1 pm CST at the State Library, in Pierre, SD on October 8, 2026. Commissioners Stephanie Rissler, Bruce Cull, Chuck Spring, Dean Kirkeby, Robert Whitmyre, and Julie Bartling were present. With seven commission members present or online, a quorum was established. The public and staff could listen via SDPB Livestream and participate via conference or in person, with approximately 76 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. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes [Action Item]

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

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

3. Additional Commissioner Salary Days [Action Item]

Chair Rissler called for additional salary days from the Commissioners. No salary days were submitted.

4. Executive Session [Action Item]

Upon majority vote of the Commissioners, a closed Executive meeting was held to discuss contractual matters from 2:50 pm CST to 3:20 pm CST.

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

Open Forum

Senior Staff Attorney Nick Michels opened the floor at 2:00 pm CST for discussion from those in attendance and online on matters of importance to them that are listed on the agenda, not as a finalization or may not be on the agenda.

No members of the public chose to speak during the open forum portion of the meeting. No comments were offered.

Senior Staff Attorney Michels closed the open forum at 2:02 pm CST.

5. Custer State Park Resorts Concession Agreement Approval [Action Item: Parks]

Sean Blanchette, Parks Division Business Administrator, presented the terms and conditions of the proposed Concession Agreement with Xanterra Parks and Resorts for the operation of the Resort system at Custer State Park. Blanchette provided a list of contractual commitments that were written into the Draft Concession Agreement which was advertised in the March Prospectus for the business opportunity. The list includes several additional commitments made by Xanterra in relation to facilities maintenance, additional elements to be incorporated into the Buffalo Roundup, enhancements to guest experience, a process to identify additional year-round services and facilities, and a franchise fee which was higher than the advertised minimum. Blanchette explained that all commitments listed were based on Xanterra's proposal beyond the base contractual terms advertised and were considered elements of a better offer

which led to Xanterra's selection as the next Concessionaire. In addition to these added elements, Blanchette also listed several key elements and required fee structure of the proposed 10-year contract.

MOTIONED BY NYBERG, SECONDED BY BARTLING TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Dock 44 Prospectus [Action Item: Parks]

Sean Blanchette, Parks Division Business Administrator, provided a background of the Dock 44 Marina concession operation at Snake Creek Recreation Area. The current lease is in the final year, and the Department issued a prospectus in April with Commission approval which expired with no proposals received. The Concessionaire has reduced the offering price by $50,000 and the Department has developed a new prospectus for the business opportunity to be publicly advertised based on the reduced price. The Department is not proposing any other changes to the previous prospectus or to terms in the draft contract, which will be advertised at a 10-year term. Blanchette stated that the prospectus would be released the day after Commission approval with interested parties having roughly 40 days to respond with a Mid-November deadline and a report back to the Commission at the December meeting. Blanchette requested authorization to advertise the prospectus with the draft lease terms and prospectus advertisement timeline discussed with the Commission.

MOTIONED BY BARTLING, SECONDED BY CULL TO APPROVE THE ADVERTISE THE PROSPECTUS. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Operations Outdoors [Info Item: Parks]

Al Nedved, Deputy Director for the Division of Parks and Recreation provided an update on Operation Outdoors. Operation Outdoors exists to support veterans in a meaningful and practical way by expanding access to the outdoors. The program operates through donations to help fund partnerships with organizations that support veterans through outdoor experiences. Some examples include camping and nature outings, outdoor skills expeditions, health and wellness programs, community-building experiences, mental strength and resilience retreats, and state park hunting and fishing programs. A small committee of veteran's support officials will help recommend funding for eligible applicants. Staff has recently issued printed rack cards and posters as well as digital toolkits to veteran's support organizations and offices throughout the state. Additional promotional activities will take place up and through Veteran's Day including park programming, enhanced website development, social media posts, and outreach resources aimed at assisting potential partners consideration for veteran's programs in the parks. A promotional video was also shared that highlighted the recent Rocky Point Archery Antelope hunt held at Rocky Point Recreation Area sponsored by Veteran's Outdoor Therapy. The video contained footage from the event as well as testimonials from both participants and those that supported the event.

8. Federal Lands Access and Transportation Program [Info Item: Parks]

A short presentation was provided by Adam Kulesa, Parks Administrator, to the commission bringing attention to federal funding programs that the department is eligible for and will be benefiting from. The Federal Lands Access Program was utilized to replace a parking lot at North Point Recreation Area and will be used to replace the parking lot at West Shore Lakeside Use Area. The Federal Lands Transportation Program will be utilized to install a parking lot expansion at Rocky Point Recreation Area.

9. Cartegraph Facility Assessment Process [Info Item: Parks]

Pat Buscher, Parks Administrator and Dayton Gooder, District Parks Supervisor, shared information to the Commission on the Department's facility assessment, history, and inventory management system. Cartegraph provides staff one database to record and track all maintenance, costs, and improvements to the department's physical infrastructure and resources. Cartegraph creates a database of history to these

assets that travel with it throughout it's expected lifespan. Department staff use Cartegraph to record risk management inspections, conduct annual physical assessment inspections, and document all repairs, improvements, and renovations to over 9,000 department assets.

10. Parks and Wildlife Foundation Campaign Project Update [Info Item: Parks]

Jeff VanMeeteren, Parks & Recreation Director and Kristina Coby, Executive Director of the SDPWF provided an update to the Commission on six projects the Parks Division moved forward on in 2026 with the goal of completing these by the end of this year. VanMeeteren also highlighted those projects that would start in 2027 given the funds that have been raised by the Foundation thus far.

Director Coby provided the Commission with an update on the overall fundraising effort and the growing donor base that has come out of the current campaign. It is the Foundation's hope that starting these projects will help fuel potential donations seeing these funds being used for projects.

11. September Camping Unit and Revenue Reports [Info Item: Parks]

Jeff VanMeeteren, Parks & Recreation Director, presented the September monthly and year-to-date report numbers for the Division of Parks & Recreation related to camping units and revenue. September camping units were up 16% for the month primarily due to the 3-day Labor Day camping numbers falling completely into the month of September this year unlike 2025. YTD camping units are down 4% for the year but hoping for a great fall. The Parks Division revenue was down 2% overall for the month of September with the YTD revenue being down 2% as well. Park lodging and daily park entrance license sales remain very strong, including 7-day passes at CSP. The 3-year historical comparisons indicating revenue and permit sales were shared along with data on lodging and camping units. VanMeeteren and Matt Snyder also provided the Commission with an update on 3 key events held this past month of September.

12. Hemorrhagic Disease Update [Info Item: Wildlife]

Byron Buckley, Senior Wildlife Biologist, presented an update on hemorrhagic disease. South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks is continuing to monitor a Hemorrhagic Disease (HD) outbreak that is causing localized, acute mortality events within South Dakota's deer population. As of early October (10-8-2026), there have been 204 HD cases documented (376 suspected and 31 confirmed) in South Dakota. The majority of the cases have been documented around the center of the state, close to the Missouri River, north of Pierre and west of Aberdeen. There have been a few reports of HD around the Black Hills, Meade, and Perkins Counties. 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 are responding to calls about deer mortalities and taking steps to reduce hunting permits in affected areas, which allows herds to recover. Game, Fish and Parks presented counties where tag buybacks will occur due to high HD reports. 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 emphasizes that public reporting of sick and deceased deer is crucial for monitoring the disease and adjusting management strategies accordingly.

13. Walk-In Areas Survey Results [Info Item: Wildlife]

Stephanie Buckley, Human Dimension Specialist, presented information on the 2025 Walk-In Area Survey Report results. South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks has conducted an opinion survey regarding the Walk-In Area program since 1999, with the previous survey effort being completed in 2020. Data was collected from upland bird, big game, and waterfowl hunters. The average time spent hunting on Walk-In Areas has generally increased over the past five years East River and West River; 44% of respondents spent time hunting WIA in 2025, and 95% say they plan to hunt WIA in the future, demonstrating the importance of this program.

14. Public Hunting Access Overview [Info Item: Wildlife]

An update was provided by Mark Norton, Hunting Access and Farm Bill Coordinator, on the current enrollment of private land in South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks suite of public hunting access programs for the fall of 2026. Over 1.4 million acres in the Walk-in Area program, 89,000 acres in the James River Watershed CREP, 6,000 acres in the Big Sioux River Watershed CREP, over 75,000 acres in the Elk Hunting Access Area program, over 25,000 acres in the Lower Oahe Waterfowl Access Area program, and over 27,000 acres in the Controlled Hunting Access Program for a grand total of over 1.6 million acres. An overview of the Public Hunting Land Comment Recorder was also provided that allows hunters to provide site specific comments on any land open to public hunting as well as provide a Thank You note to participating private landowners.

15. US Fish and Wildlife Service Cramer Davenport Acquisition [Info Item: Wildlife]

Information was presented by Ryan Wendinger, Habitat Program Administrator, on a proposed 70-acre acquisition by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to be used as a Waterfowl Production Area (WPA). The property is located in Day County southwest of Bristol and would adjoin the existing Cramer WPA. The agenda item offers a 30-day public comment period. Commissioner Whitmyre asked questions around the USFWS paying property taxes. Information was shared that at the time of acquisition the USFWS puts between 5-9% of the appraised value of the property into a trust that is provided to the county to place in an interest-bearing account in which can be used to help the County cover property taxes. The USFWS also makes annual PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) payments to counties to help with property taxes for properties they own. Additionally, the Commissioner asked if the land could ever be sold, or if the property was needed for a public road if the land impacted would need to be replaced. It's believed this was the case but not confirmed. Secretary Robling provided reasoning as to why the Commission was being presented the information on a USFWS acquisition. That being related to a Department of Interior Order requiring approval by the County Commission and the State.

16. Conservation Habitat License Plates [Info Item: Wildlife]

Information was shared by Ryan Wendinger, Habitat Program Administrator, on the brief history of the Conservation License Plates that were signed into law through HB1119 in March of 2024. Fees associated with the plates and emblems were shared along with the total revenue through September 30th, 2026, of $229,330.00. It was noted that about a ½ dozen projects are completed with 15 to 20 more planned or in progress. Examples of project types being completed with these funds was provided, including sharing that 400 acres of high diversity native grass planting is planned in the near future using these dollars. It was reiterated that these dollars are valuable to the department to complete additional projects that wouldn't otherwise be able to be completed at this time.

17. License Sales Update [Info Item: Wildlife]

Director Kirschenmann provided a brief report on license sales. Small game license sales remain good and the month of October is a significant time period for sales with the resident-only weekend and the pheasant opener happening on October 17. The department will share opening weekend nonresident sales stats at the November meeting as it is an excellent indication of nonresident sales for the remainder of the season. Fishing license sales for both resident and nonresidents remain behind last year. Big game license sales are strong and interest remains high for big game hunting opportunities.

25. Adjourn [Action Item]

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

MOTIONED BY NYBERG, SECONDED BY BARTLING TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 5:00 pm CST ON October 8, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

Commission Meeting Minutes

South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks

523 E Capitol Avenue | Pierre, South Dakota 57501

October 8, 2026 | State Library, Pierre, SD

Submitted respectfully,



Kevin Robling, Department Secretary

SOUTH DAKOTA Game, Fish & Parks

Commission Meetings 2027

JAN **7-8**	**STATE LIBRARY** **PIERRE**	**JUL** **8-9**	**VERMILLION**
FEB	**NO MEETING**	**AUG**	**NO MEETING**
MAR **4-5**	**STATE LIBRARY** **PIERRE**	**SEPT** **9-10**	**PETE LIEN AND SONS SHOOTING COMPLEX** **RAPID CITY**
APR **1-2**	**CAPITOL ROOM 414** **PIERRE**	**OCT** **7-8**	**WALL COMMUNITY CENTER** **WALL**
MAY **6-7**	**EVENT BARN** **CUSTER STATE PARK**	**NOV** **4-5**	**CAPITOL ROOM 414** **PIERRE**
JUN **3-4**	**BROOKINGS**	**DEC** **2-3**	**CAPITOL ROOM 414** **PIERRE**

For more details or previous meeting archives, visit https://gfp.sd.gov/commission/

All dates and locations subject to change with 30 days prior notice









Conducting the Public's Business in Public

An explanation of South Dakota's Open Meetings Laws

(Effective July 1, 2026)

Prepared by:
S.D. Attorney General's Office
in partnership with the
S.D. NewsMedia Association

Published by:
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1125 32nd Ave. Brookings, SD 57006

Q: WHAT ARE SOUTH DAKOTA'S OPEN MEETINGS LAWS?

A: South Dakota's open meetings laws embody the principle that the public is entitled to the greatest possible information about public affairs and are intended to encourage public participation in government. SDCL Ch. 1-25 requires that official meetings of public bodies must be public and advance notice is to be given of such meetings. The statutes define an "official meeting" as one where a quorum of the public body is present and at which official business or public policy of the body is discussed or decided. **Openness in government is encouraged.**

Q: WHO DOES THE OPEN MEETINGS LAWS APPLY TO?

A: The open meetings laws apply to all public bodies of the state and its political subdivisions. SDCL 1-25-1, 1-25-12(3). This includes cities, counties, school boards and other public bodies created by ordinance or resolution, such as appointed boards, task forces, and committees, so long as they have authority to exercise sovereign power. SDCL 1-25-12(2). Although no court decisions have been issued on the subject, this probably does not include bodies that serve only in an advisory capacity. The State Constitution allows the Legislature and the Unified Judicial System to create rules regarding their own separate functions.

Q: WHAT MUST BE INCLUDED ON THE PROPOSED AGENDA?

A: A proposed agenda, as required by § 1-25-1.1 or 1-25-1.3, must list all items to be considered by a public body during any official meeting. The proposed agenda items must be described in sufficient detail to reasonably inform the public of any official business or public policy intended to be considered at the meeting.

Q: ARE TELECONFERENCES CONSIDERED PUBLIC MEETINGS?

A: Yes. The open meetings laws allow meetings, including executive or closed meetings, to be conducted by teleconference – defined as an exchange of information by audio, video, or electronic means (including the internet) – if a place is provided for the public to participate. SDCL 1-25-1.5, 1-25-12(5). In addition, for teleconferences where less than a quorum of the public body is present at the location open to the public, arrangements must also be made for the public to listen by telephone or internet (except for portions of meetings properly closed for executive sessions). SDCL 1-25-1.6. The media and public must be notified of teleconference meetings under the same notice requirements as any other meeting.

Q: HOW ARE THE PUBLIC AND MEDIA NOTIFIED WHEN PUBLIC BUSINESS IS BEING DISCUSSED?

A: SDCL 1-25-1.1 requires that all political subdivisions (except the state and its boards, commissions, or departments as provided in § 1-25-1.3) prominently post a notice and copy of the proposed agenda at the political subdivision's principal office. At a minimum, the proposed agenda must include the date, time, and location of the meeting and must be visible, readable, and accessible to the public for 24 continuous hours immediately preceding the meeting. Also, if the political subdivision has its own website, the notice must be posted on the website upon dissemination of the notice. For special or rescheduled meetings, political subdivisions must comply with the regular meeting notice requirements as much as circumstances permit. The notice must be delivered in person, by mail, by email, or by telephone to all local news media who have asked to be notified. It is good practice for local media to renew requests for notification of special or rescheduled meetings at least annually.

SDCL 1-25-1.3 varies slightly from SDCL 1-25-1.1 and requires the State and its agencies, boards, commissions, or departments to post a proposed agenda both on http://boardsandcommissions.

sd.gov and at their principal place of business at least 72 continuous hours before a meeting is scheduled to start (this does not include any weekend or legal holiday).

Q: WHO ARE LOCAL NEWS MEDIA?

A: There is no definition of "local news media" in SDCL ch. 1-25. "News media" is defined in SDCL 13-1-57 generally as those personnel of a newspaper, periodical, news service, radio station, or television station regardless of the medium through which their content is delivered. The Attorney General is of the opinion that "local news media" is all news media – broadcast and print – that regularly carry news to the community.

Q: IS A PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD REQUIRED AT PUBLIC MEETINGS?

A: Yes. Public bodies are required to provide at every official meeting a period of time on their agenda for public comment. SDCL 1-25-1. Each public body has the discretion to limit public comment as to the time allowed for each topic commented on, and as to the total time allowed for public comment. Public comment is not required at meetings held solely for an executive session, inauguration, presentation of an annual report, or swearing in of elected officials.

Q: CAN PUBLIC MEETINGS BE RECORDED?

A: Yes, SDCL 1-25-11 requires public bodies to allow recording (audio or video) of their meetings if the recording is reasonable, obvious, and not disruptive. This requirement does not apply to those portions of a meeting confidential or closed to the public.

Q: WHEN CAN A MEETING BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC AND MEDIA?

A: SDCL 1-25-2 allows a public body to close a meeting for the following purposes: 1) to discuss personnel issues pertaining to officers or employees; 2) consideration of the performance or discipline of a student, or the student's participation in interscholastic activities; 3) consulting with legal counsel, or reviewing communications from legal counsel about proposed or pending litigation or contractual matters; 4) employee contract negotiations; 5) to discuss marketing or pricing strategies of a publicly-owned competitive business; or 6) to discuss information related to the protection of public or private property such as emergency management response plans or other public safety information. The statute also recognizes that executive session may be appropriate to comport with other laws that require confidentiality or permit executive or closed meetings. Federal law pertaining to students and medical records will also cause school districts and other entities to conduct executive sessions or conduct meetings to refrain from releasing confidential information. Meetings may also be closed by cities and counties for certain economic development matters. SDCL 9-34-19.

Note that SDCL 1-25-2 and SDCL 9-34-19 do not require meetings be closed in any of these circumstances.

Any official action based on discussions in executive session must, however, be made at an open meeting.

Q: WHAT IS THE PROPER PROCEDURE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSIONS?

A: A motion to enter executive session must be made and seconded, followed by a vote. If the motion does not receive a majority vote, a roll call vote is required. Both the motion and the resulting vote must be recorded in the minutes of the proceedings.

Q: WHAT MUST BE STATED IN A MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION?

A: Motions for executive sessions must refer to the specific state or federal law allowing for the executive session i.e. "pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(3)." Also, best practice to avoid public confusion would be that public bodies explain the reason for going into executive session. For example, the motion might state "motion to go into executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) for the purposes of discussing a personnel matter," or "motion to go into executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(3) for

the purposes of consulting with legal counsel."

Discussion in the executive session must be strictly limited to the announced subject. No official votes may be taken on any matter during an executive session. The public body must return to open session before any official action can be taken.

Q: WHAT HAPPENS IF THE MEDIA OR PUBLIC IS IMPROPERLY EXCLUDED FROM A MEETING OR OTHER VIOLATIONS OF THE OPEN MEETING LAWS OCCUR?

A: Excluding the media or public from a meeting that has not been properly closed subjects the public body or the members involved to: (a) prosecution as a Class 2 misdemeanor punishable by a maximum sentence of 30 days in jail, a $500 fine or both; or (b) a reprimand by the Open Meeting Commission ("OMC"). The same penalties apply if the agenda for the meeting is not properly posted, or other open meeting violations occur.

Also, action taken during any meeting that is not open or has not been properly noticed could, if challenged, be declared null and void.

Q: HOW ARE ISSUES REFERRED TO THE OPEN MEETINGS COMMISSION ("OMC")?

A: Persons alleging violations of the open meetings laws must make their complaints with law enforcement officials in the county where the offense occurred. After a signed and notarized complaint is made under oath, and any necessary investigation is conducted, the State's Attorney may: (a) prosecute the case as a misdemeanor; (b) find that the matter has no merits and file a report with the Attorney General for statistical purposes; or (c) forward the complaint to the OMC for a determination. The OMC is comprised of five State's Attorneys or Deputy State's Attorneys appointed by the Attorney General. The OMC examines whether a violation has occurred and makes written public findings explaining its reasons. If you have questions on the procedures or status of a pending case, you may contact the Attorney General's Office at 605-773-3215 to talk to an assistant for the OMC. Procedures for the OMC are posted on the website for the Office of Attorney General. http://atg.sd.gov/.

Q: WHAT DOES THE TERM "SOVEREIGN POWER" MEAN?

A: The open meetings laws do not define this term, but it generally means the power to levy taxes, impose penalties, make special assessments, create ordinances, abate nuisances, regulate the conduct of others, or perform other traditional government functions. The term may include the exercise of many other governmental functions. If an entity is unclear whether it is exercising "sovereign power" it should consult with legal counsel.

Q: MAY AGENDA ITEMS BE CONSIDERED IF THEY ARE ADDED LESS THAN 24 HOURS BEFORE A MEETING?

A: Proposed agendas for public meetings must be posted at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. The purpose of providing advance notice of the topics to be discussed at a meeting is to provide information to interested members of the public concerning the governing body's anticipated business. Typically, the public body adopts the final agenda upon convening the meeting. At the time the final agenda is adopted, the governing body may add or delete agenda items and may also change the order of business. See In re Yankton County Commission, Open Meetings Commission Decision # 20-03, December 31, 2020. New items cannot be added after the agenda has been adopted by the governing body.

Public bodies are strongly encouraged to provide at least 24 hours' notice of all agenda items so as to be fair to the public and to avoid dispute.

For special or rescheduled meetings, public bodies are to comply to the extent circumstances permit. In other words, posting less than 24 hours in advance may be permissible in emergencies.

Q: ARE EMAIL DISCUSSIONS "MEETINGS" FOR PURPOSES OF THE OPEN MEETINGS LAWS?

A: The definition of an "official meeting" in SDCL 1-25-12(1) specifically includes meetings conducted by "electronic means, including electronic mail, instant messaging, social media, text message, or virtual meeting platform[.]" A quorum of a public body that discusses official business of that body via electronic means is conducting an official meeting for purposes of the open meetings laws. Electronic communications made solely for scheduling purposes do not fall within the definition of an official meeting.

Q: WHAT RECORDS MUST BE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC IN CONJUNCTION WITH PUBLIC MEETINGS?

A: SDCL 1-25-1.4 requires state boards, commissions, or departments to make public meeting materials available on http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov. SDCL 1-27-1.16 requires that any other public body must post meeting materials on the public body's website or make those materials available to the public at least twenty-four hours prior to the hearing or when made available to the members of the public body, whichever is later. Finally, SDCL 1-27-1.17 requires that draft minutes of public meetings must be made available to the public at the principal place of business for the public body within 10 business days after the meeting (or any audio and visual recording must be made available on the website for the public body within five business days).

These laws are in addition to any specific requirements for public bodies (i.e., publication requirements in state laws pertaining to cities, counties, or school districts). Enforcement of public records laws contained in SDCL Ch. 1-27 are handled by separate procedures found in SDCL 1-27-35, et. seq. rather than the open meeting procedures described above. Violations of SDCL 1-27-1.16 and 1-27-1.17 are also Class 2 misdemeanors.

Q: WHAT REQUIREMENTS APPLY TO TASK FORCES, COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS?

A: Task forces and committees that exercise “sovereign power,” and are created by statute, ordinance, or proclamation are required to comply with the open meetings laws. SDCL 1-25-12(1). Task forces, committees, and working groups that are not created by statute, ordinance, or proclamation, or are advisory only, may not be subject to the open meetings laws, but are encouraged to comply to the extent possible when public matters are discussed. Ultimately, if such advisory task forces, committees and working groups present any reports or recommendations to public bodies, the public bodies must wait until the next meeting (or later) before taking final action on the recommendations. SDCL 1-27-1.18.

Q: ARE PUBLIC BODIES REQUIRED TO REVIEW THE OPEN MEETINGS LAWS?

A: Public bodies must annually review an explanation of the open meetings laws provided by the Attorney General, along with any other material pertaining to the open meetings laws made available by the Attorney General. SDCL 1-25-13. Each public body must report in its minutes that the annual review of the open meetings laws was completed.

PERTINENT S.D. OPEN MEETINGS STATUTES
(other specific provisions may apply depending on the public body involved)

1-25-1. OPEN MEETINGS.

An official meeting of a public body is open to the public unless a specific law is cited by the public body to close the official meeting to the public.

It is not an official meeting of one public body if its members provide information or attend the official meeting of another public body for which the notice requirements of § 1-25-1.1 or 1-25-1.3 have been met. It is not an official meeting of a public body if its members attend a press conference called by a representative of the public body.

For any event hosted by a nongovernmental entity to which a quorum of the public body is invited and public policy may be discussed, but the public body does not control the agenda, the public body may post a public notice of a quorum, in lieu of an agenda. The notice of a quorum must meet the posting requirements of § 1-25-1.1 or 1-25-1.3 and must contain, at a minimum, the date, time, and location of the event.

The public body shall reserve at every official meeting a period for public comment, limited at the public body's discretion as to the time allowed for each topic and the total time allowed for public comment, but not so limited as to provide for no public comment.

Public comment is not required at an official meeting held solely for the purpose of meeting in executive session, an inauguration, presentation of an annual report to the public body, or swearing in of a newly elected official, regardless of whether the activity takes place at the time and place usually reserved for an official meeting.

If a quorum of township supervisors, road district trustees, or trustees for a municipality of the third class meets solely for purposes of implementing previously publicly adopted policy; carrying out ministerial functions of that township, district, or municipality; or undertaking a factual investigation of conditions related to public safety; the meeting is not subject to the provisions of this chapter.

A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor.

1-25-1.1. PUBLIC NOTICE OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS. Each political subdivision shall provide public notice, with proposed agenda, that is visible, readable, and accessible for at least an entire, continuous twenty-four hours immediately preceding any official meeting, by posting a copy of the notice, visible to the public, at the principal office of the political subdivision holding the meeting. The proposed agenda shall include the date, time, and location of the meeting. The notice shall also be posted on the political subdivision's website upon dissemination of the notice, if a website exists. For any special or rescheduled meeting, the information in the notice shall be delivered in person, by mail, by email, or by telephone, to members of the local news media who have requested notice. For any special or rescheduled meeting, each political subdivision shall also comply with the public notice provisions of this section for a regular meeting to the extent that circumstances permit. A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor.

1-25-1.3. PUBLIC NOTICE OF STATE. The state shall provide public notice of a meeting, at least seventy-two hours before the meeting is schedule to start, not including Saturday, Sunday, or any legal holiday, by posting a copy of the proposed agenda:

(1) At the principal office of the board, commission, or department holding the meeting;

(2) That includes the date, time, and location of the meeting;

(3) That is visible, readable, and accessible to the public; and

(4) On a state website, designated by the commissioner of the Bureau of Finance and Management.

For any special or rescheduled meeting, the information in the notice must be delivered in person, or by mail, email, or telephone, to members of the local news media who have requested notice. The state shall also comply with all other requirements of this section, for a special or rescheduled meeting, as circumstances permit. A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor.

1-25-1.5. TELECONFERENCE MEETING. Any official meeting may be conducted by teleconference. A teleconference may be used to conduct a hearing or take final disposition regarding an administrative rule pursuant to § 1-26-4. A member is deemed present if the member answers present to the roll call conducted by teleconference for the purpose of determining a quorum. Each vote at an official meeting held by teleconference may be taken by voice vote. If any member votes in the negative, the vote shall proceed to a roll call vote.

1-25-1.6. TELECONFERENCE PARTICIPATION. At any official meeting conducted by teleconference, there shall be provided one or more places at which the public may listen to and participate in the teleconference meeting. For any official meeting held by teleconference, that has less than a quorum of the members of the public body participating in the meeting who are present at the location open to the public, arrangements shall be provided for the public to listen to the meeting via telephone or internet. The requirement to provide one or more places for the public to listen to the teleconference does not apply to official meetings closed to the public pursuant to specific law.

1-25-1.7. AGENDA DETAILS ARE REQUIRED. A proposed agenda, as required by § 1-25-1.1 or 1-25-1.3, must list all items to be considered by a public body during any official meeting. The proposed agenda items must be described in sufficient detail to reasonably inform the public of any official

business or public policy intended to be considered at the meeting. A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor.

1-25-2. EXECUTIVE SESSION. An executive session or closed meetings may be held only for the purposes of:

(1) Discussing the character, competence, fitness, performance, or qualifications of any current or prospective public officer or employee, not including an independent contractor;

(2) Discussing a student's:

(a) Discipline, expulsion, or suspension;

(b) Assignment or educational program; or

(c) Eligibility to participate in interscholastic activities provided by the South Dakota High School Activities Association;

(3) Consulting with legal counsel, or reviewing communications from legal counsel, about proposed or pending litigation or contractual matters;

(4) Preparing for contract negotiations or negotiating with employees or employee representatives;

(5) Discussing marketing or pricing strategies by a board or commission of a business that is owned by the state or any of its political subdivisions, if public discussion may be harmful to the competitive position of the business; or

(6) Discussing the following information pertaining to the protection of public or private property and any person on or within the property:

(a) Any vulnerability assessment or response plan intended to prevent or mitigate criminal acts;

(b) Emergency management or response;

(c) Public safety information that would create a substantial likelihood of endangering public safety or property, if disclosed;

(d) Communications network schema, computer systems, cyber security plans, passwords, or user identification names;

(e) Guard schedules;

(f) Lock combinations; and

(g) Any blueprint, building plan, or infrastructure record regarding any building or facility, which would expose or create vulnerability through disclosure of the configuration, location, or security of critical systems of the building or facility;

(7) Discussing any emergency or disaster response plans or protocols, safety or security audits or reviews, or lists of emergency or disaster response personnel or material; and

(8) Discussing the location of or listing any:

(a) Ammunition or weapons;

(b) Biological, chemical, or nuclear agents; or

(c) Other military or law enforcement equipment or personnel.

An executive session or closed meeting may be held only upon a majority vote of the members of the public body present and voting at an otherwise open official meeting.

In the absence of a unanimous vote, any vote to enter executive session must be taken by roll call. A motion to enter executive session must state the applicable subdivision in this section, or any other applicable law, pursuant to which the executive session is to be held. The motion and vote to enter executive session must be reported in the minutes of the proceedings. Discussion during executive session is restricted to the purpose specified in the motion to enter executive session.

Any official action concerning the matters considered pursuant to this section must be taken at an open official meeting.

Nothing in § 1-25-1 or this section prevents an executive session or closed meeting if the federal or state Constitution or any federal or state statute permits or requires the session or meeting. A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor.

1-25-6. DUTY OF STATE'S ATTORNEY. If a complaint alleging a violation of chapter 1-25 is made pursuant to § 23A-2-1, the state's attorney shall take one of the following actions:

(1) Prosecute the case pursuant to Title 23A;

(2) Determine that there is no merit to prosecuting the case. Upon doing so, the state's attorney shall send a copy of the complaint and any investigation file to the attorney general. The attorney general shall use the information for statistical purposes and may publish abstracts of such information, including the name of the government body involved for purposes of public education; or

(3) Send the complaint and any investigation file to the South Dakota Open Meetings Commission for further action.

1-25-6.1. DUTY OF STATE'S ATTORNEY (COUNTY COMMISSION ISSUES). If a complaint alleges a violation of this chapter by a board of county commissioners, the state's attorney shall take one of the following actions:

(1) Prosecute the case pursuant to Title 23A;

(2) Determine that there is no merit to prosecuting the case. The attorney general shall use the information for statistical purposes and may publish abstracts of the information as provided by § 1-25-6;

(3) Send the complaint and any investigation file to the South Dakota Open Meetings Commission for further action; or

(4) Refer the complaint to another state's attorney or to the attorney general for action pursuant to § 1-25-6.

1-25-7. REFERRAL TO OMC. Upon receiving a referral from a state's attorney or the attorney general, the South Dakota Open Meetings Commission shall examine the complaint and investigatory file submitted by the state's attorney or the attorney general and shall also consider signed written submissions by the persons or entities that are directly involved. Based on the investigatory file submitted by the state's attorney or the attorney general and any written responses, the commission shall issue a written determination on whether the conduct violates this chapter, including a statement

of the reasons therefor and findings of fact on each issue and conclusions of law necessary for the proposed decision. The final decision shall be made by a majority of the commission members, with each member's vote set forth in the written decision. The final decision shall be filed with the attorney general and shall be provided to the public entity and or public officer involved, the state's attorney, and any person that has made a written request for such determinations. If the commission finds a violation of this chapter, the commission shall issue a public reprimand to the offending official or governmental entity. However, no violation found by the commission may be subsequently prosecuted by the state's attorney or the attorney general. All findings and public censures of the commission shall be public records pursuant to § 1-27-1. Sections 1-25-6 to 1-25-9, inclusive, are not subject to the provisions of chapter 1-26.

1-25-8. OMC MEMBERS. The South Dakota Open Meeting Commission is comprised of five state's attorneys or deputy state's attorneys appointed by the attorney general. Each commissioner serves at the pleasure of the attorney general. The members of the commission shall choose a chair of the commission annually by majority vote.

1-25-12. DEFINITIONS. Terms used in the open meetings laws mean:

(1) "Official meeting," any meeting of a quorum of a public body at which official business or public policy of that public body is discussed or decided by the public body, whether in person or by means of teleconference or electronic means, including electronic mail, instant messaging, social media, text message, or virtual meeting platform, provided the term does not include communications solely to schedule a meeting or confirm attendance availability for a future meeting;

(2) "Political subdivision," any association, authority, board, municipality, commission, committee, council, county, school district, task force, town, township, or other local governmental entity, which is created by statute, ordinance, or resolution, and is vested with the authority to exercise any sovereign power derived from state law;

(3) "Public body," any political subdivision or the state;

(4) "State," each agency, board, commission, or department of the State of South Dakota, not including the Legislature; and

(5) "Teleconference," an exchange of information by any audio, video, or electronic medium, including the internet.

1-25-13. ANNUAL REVIEW OF OPEN MEETING LAWS. Any agency, as defined in § 1-26-1, or political subdivision of this state, that is required to provide public notice of its meetings pursuant to § 1-25-1.1 or 1-25-1.3 must annually review the following, during an official meeting of the agency or subdivision:

(1) The explanation of the open meeting laws of this state published by the attorney general, pursuant to § 1-11-1; and

(2) Any other material pertaining to the open meeting laws of this state provided by the attorney general.

The agency or subdivision must include in the minutes of the official meeting an acknowledgement that the review was completed.

1-27-1.16. MEETING PACKETS AND MATERIALS. If a meeting is required to be open to the public pursuant to § 1-25-1 and if any printed material relating to an agenda item of the meeting is prepared or distributed by or at the direction of the governing body or any of its employees and the printed material is distributed before the meeting to all members of the governing body, the material shall either be posted on the governing body's website or made available at the official business office of the governing body at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting or at the time the material is distributed to the governing body, whichever is later. If the material is not posted to the governing body's website, at least one copy of the printed material shall be available in the meeting room for inspection by any person while the governing body is considering the printed material. However, the provisions of this section do not apply to any printed material or record that is specifically exempt from disclosure under the provisions of this chapter or to any printed material or record regarding the agenda item of an executive or closed meeting held in accordance with § 1-25-2. A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor. However, the provisions of this section do not apply to printed material, records, or exhibits involving contested case proceedings held in accordance with the provisions of chapter 1-26.

1-27-1.17. DRAFT MINUTES. The unapproved, draft minutes of any public meeting held pursuant to § 1-25-1 that are required to be kept by law shall be available for inspection by any person within ten business days after the meeting. However, this section does not apply if an audio or video recording of the meeting is available to the public on the governing body's website within five business days after the meeting. A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor. However, the provisions of this section do not apply to draft minutes of contested case proceedings held in accordance with the provisions of chapter 1-26.

1-27-1.18. WORKING GROUP REPORTS. Any final recommendations, findings, or reports that result from a meeting of a committee, subcommittee, task force, or other working group which does not meet the definition of a political subdivision or public body pursuant to § 1-25-1, but was appointed by the governing body, shall be reported in open meeting to the governing body which appointed the committee, subcommittee, task force, or other working group. The governing body shall delay taking any official action on the recommendations, findings, or reports until the next meeting of the governing body.

South Dakota - Game, Fish, and Parks

Petition for Rule Change

A new form was just submitted from the http://gfp.sd.gov/ website with the following information:

☐

ID:	266
Petitioner Name:	Jeff Kalo
Address:	
	SIOUX FALLS, SD 57110
Email:	
Phone:	
Rule Identification:	closure of boating on Reid Lake in Clark county AFTER October 20th each year
Decribe Change:	Return the boating closure on Reid Lake waterfowl refuge to the original date of day September 1st or at a minimum the opening of waterfowl seasonl
Reason for Change:	The waterfowl season is nearly one half completed when the boating closure starts. The early migrating waterfowl are already leaving the area when the current boating closure goes into effect. The refuge which started in the 1940's is surrounded by private land whose landowners requested this change but were denied , after the SDGFP had forced the date change in 2015/2016 with the threat of refuge closure if the landowners did not accept the date change. The area supports many lakes for fishing with public boat launches which the SDGFP states as the reason for the later closing date. I personally witness each fall the effect one or two boats have on waterfowl using the lake for rest and moving these birds to other waters hurts later migration build up on the lake limiting hunting opportunity for many hunters.

Agenda Item #14

2026 October Camping

10/1/2025 - 10/31/2025	10/1/2026 - 10/31/2026
Camping Units	Camping Units
20814	20091

District	Facility Name	Camping Units	Camping Units	%
	Fort Sisseton State Park	149	82	-45%
	Pickerel Lake Recreation Area	213	202	-5%
	Roy Lake State Park	496	420	-15%
1	Sica Hollow State Park	66	95	44%
	Amsden Dam Lakeside Use Area	40	85	113%
	Fisher Grove State Park	44	89	102%
	Lake Louise Recreation Area	177	251	42%
	Mina Lake Recreation Area	297	341	15%
2	Richmond Lake Recreation Area	126	99	-21%
	Hartford Beach State Park	288	287	0%
	Lake Cochrane Recreation Area	40	41	3%
	Pelican Lake Recreation Area	362	333	-8%
3	Sandy Shore Recreation Area	80	42	-48%
	Lake Poinsett Recreation Area	199	210	6%
4	Oakwood Lakes State Park	551	489	-11%
	Lake Carthage Lakeside Use Area	32	50	56%
	Lake Herman State Park	349	457	31%
	Lake Thompson Recreation Area	271	246	-9%
5	Walkers Point Recreation Area	147	164	12%
	Burke Lake Recreation Area	2	1	-50%
	Buryanek Recreation Area	89	77	-13%
	Dude Ranch Lakeside Use Area	1	6	500%
	Elm Creek Lakeside Use Area	0	0	NA
	Platte Creek Recreation Area	10	18	80%
6	Snake Creek Recreation Area	388	371	-4%
	Big Sioux State Recreation Area	719	761	6%
	Lake Vermillion Recreation Area	776	801	3%
	Palisades State Park	1045	1029	-2%
7	Twin Lake Lakeside Use Area	2	12	500%
	Good Earth State Park	0	1	NA
	Newton Hills State Park	1337	974	-27%
8	Union Grove State Park	108	76	-30%
	Chief White Crane Recreation Area	1255	1250	0%
	Clay County Park	173	141	-18%
	Lewis and Clark Recreation Area	2055	1987	-3%
	Pierson Ranch Recreation Area	289	306	6%
	Sand Creek Lakeside Use Area	1	0	-100%
	Springfield Recreation Area	61	82	34%
9	Tabor Lakeside Use Area	6	5	-17%
	North Point Recreation Area	361	279	-23%
	North Wheeler Recreation Area	7	8	14%
	Pease Creek Recreation Area	44	49	11%
	Randall Creek Recreation Area	0	168	NA
	South Shore Lakeside Use Area	3	4	33%
	Star Valley Lakeside Use Area	11	0	-100%
	Whetstone Bay Lakeside Use Area	30	9	-70%
10	White Swan Lakeside Use Area	2	0	-100%
	Farm Island Recreation Area	509	398	-22%
11	West Bend Recreation Area	268	97	-64%
	Cow Creek Recreation Area	85	90	6%
	Minneconju Lakeside Use Area	6	4	-33%
	Oahe Downstream Recreation Area	922	925	0%
	Okobojo Point Recreation Area	10	14	40%
12	Spring Creek Recreation Area	85	74	-13%
	East Whitlock Lakeside Use Area	6	9	50%
	Indian Creek Recreation Area	218	265	22%
	Lake Hiddenwood Recreation Area	33	44	33%
	Little Bend Lakeside Use Area	0	20	NA
	Little Moreau Recreation Area	10	0	-100%
	Swan Creek Recreation Area	139	55	-60%
	Walth Bay Lakeside Use Area	0	6	NA
	West Pollock Recreation Area	35	7	-80%
13	West Whitlock Recreation Area	238	238	0%
14	Bear Butte State Park	36	27	-25%
	Hugh Glass Lakeside Use Area	59	59	0%
	Llewellyn Johns Recreation Area	6	33	450%
	Rocky Point Recreation Area	291	179	-38%
15	Shadehill Recreation Area	712	719	1%
16	Custer State Park	3905	3970	2%
	Angostura Recreation Area	483	390	-19%
	Bailey's Lakeside Use Area	0	2	NA
17	Sheps Canyon Recreation Area	56	68	21%
	Total:	**20814**	**20091**	**-3%**

2026 October YTD Camping

1/1/2025 - 10/31/2025	1/1/2026 - 10/31/2026
Camping Units	Camping Units
337451	322930

District	Facility Name	Camping Units	Camping Units	%
	Fort Sisseton State Park	1577	1244	-21%
	Pickerel Lake Recreation Area	5221	5080	-3%
	Roy Lake State Park	8326	8480	2%
1	Sica Hollow State Park	291	336	15%
	Amsden Dam Lakeside Use Area	281	334	19%
	Fisher Grove State Park	902	992	10%
	Lake Louise Recreation Area	2216	2017	-9%
	Mina Lake Recreation Area	3284	3517	7%
2	Richmond Lake Recreation Area	1754	1695	-3%
	Hartford Beach State Park	6448	6189	-4%
	Lake Cochrane Recreation Area	1956	1895	-3%
	Pelican Lake Recreation Area	6219	6006	-3%
3	Sandy Shore Recreation Area	1714	1569	-8%
	Lake Poinsett Recreation Area	7135	6804	-5%
4	Oakwood Lakes State Park	8874	8409	-5%
	Lake Carthage Lakeside Use Area	788	774	-2%
	Lake Herman State Park	5730	6023	5%
	Lake Thompson Recreation Area	6827	5993	-12%
5	Walkers Point Recreation Area	2654	2528	-5%
	Burke Lake Recreation Area	53	39	-26%
	Buryanek Recreation Area	2571	2553	-1%
	Dude Ranch Lakeside Use Area	171	328	92%
	Elm Creek Lakeside Use Area	78	83	6%
	Platte Creek Recreation Area	1254	1069	-15%
6	Snake Creek Recreation Area	7166	6748	-6%
	Big Sioux State Recreation Area	6899	6876	0%
	Lake Vermillion Recreation Area	11232	10659	-5%
	Palisades State Park	10408	10778	4%
7	Twin Lake Lakeside Use Area	22	33	50%
	Good Earth State Park	0	3	NA
	Newton Hills State Park	10064	9187	-9%
8	Union Grove State Park	1257	1090	-13%
	Chief White Crane Recreation Area	11791	11036	-6%
	Clay County Park	1782	1575	-12%
	Lewis and Clark Recreation Area	39116	38107	-3%
	Pierson Ranch Recreation Area	4315	4182	-3%
	Sand Creek Lakeside Use Area	139	60	-57%
	Springfield Recreation Area	1250	1121	-10%
9	Tabor Lakeside Use Area	56	49	-13%
	North Point Recreation Area	9745	9003	-8%
	North Wheeler Recreation Area	932	870	-7%
	Pease Creek Recreation Area	1640	1475	-10%
	Randall Creek Recreation Area	4800	4883	2%
	South Shore Lakeside Use Area	267	294	10%
	Star Valley Lakeside Use Area	31	48	55%
	Whetstone Bay Lakeside Use Area	430	387	-10%
10	White Swan Lakeside Use Area	145	202	39%
	Farm Island Recreation Area	7222	6721	-7%
11	West Bend Recreation Area	6681	6039	-10%
	Cow Creek Recreation Area	3040	2875	-5%
	Minneconju Lakeside Use Area	6	35	483%
	Oahe Downstream Recreation Area	13415	12479	-7%
	Okobojo Point Recreation Area	1181	1117	-5%
12	Spring Creek Recreation Area	1125	1384	23%
	East Whitlock Lakeside Use Area	55	108	96%
	Indian Creek Recreation Area	7563	7083	-6%
	Lake Hiddenwood Recreation Area	212	245	16%
	Little Bend Lakeside Use Area	7	49	600%
	Little Moreau Recreation Area	10	18	80%
	Swan Creek Recreation Area	1146	1007	-12%
	Walth Bay Lakeside Use Area	25	67	168%
	West Pollock Recreation Area	1135	964	-15%
13	West Whitlock Recreation Area	4795	4423	-8%
14	Bear Butte State Park	1165	633	-46%
	Hugh Glass Lakeside Use Area	381	416	9%
	Llewellyn Johns Recreation Area	425	242	-43%
	Rocky Point Recreation Area	6552	6014	-8%
15	Shadehill Recreation Area	7298	6733	-8%
16	Custer State Park	55084	54794	-1%
	Angostura Recreation Area	16855	15093	-10%
	Bailey's Lakeside Use Area	51	40	-22%
17	Sheps Canyon Recreation Area	2211	1728	-22%
	Total:	**337451**	**322930**	**-4%**

Division of Parks and Recreation

October 2026 Revenue by Item

	2025		2026		%
	Number	**Dollar**	**Number**	**Dollar**	**Change**
Resident Annual	1,731	$ 65,386	1,816	$ 69,610	
Non-Resident Annual	740	$ 43,155	797	$ 47,350	
Resident Double	933	$ 55,642	950	$ 56,610	
Non-Resident Double	216	$ 19,320	245	$ 22,050	
Transferable	74	$ 6,635	88	$ 7,920	
GSM Annual Trail Pass	1,065	$ 21,280	2,604	$ 52,060	
Annual Licenses	**4,759**	**$ 211,418**	**6,500**	**$ 255,600**	**21%**
Resident Daily License	3,579	$ 35,720	4,277	$ 42,720	
Non-Resident Daily License	2,968	$ 44,475	2,749	$ 41,220	
Unattended Vehicle Daily	85	$ 1,685	87	$ 1,740	
GSM Daily Trail Pass	3,854	$ 19,270	5,521	$ 27,605	
Motorcoach Permit	1,527	$ 5,716	2,108	$ 8,432	
CSP 7 Day Pass	13,397	$ 333,950	15,399	$ 380,058	
CSP 7 Day Bike Band	414	$ 8,280	467	$ 9,280	
Rally Bike Band	-	$ -	-	$ -	
One-Day Special Event	7	$ 700	3	$ 300	
Festival Daily	-	$ -	-	$ -	
Daily Licenses	**25,831**	**$ 449,796**	**30,611**	**$ 511,355**	**14%**
Licenses	***30,590***	***$ 661,214***	***37,111***	***$ 766,955***	***16%***
Camping Services		$ 392,611		$ 392,707	0%
Pet Fees	96	$ 957	105	$ 1,046	9%
LODGING		***$ 393,568***		***$ 393,753***	***0%***
Picnic Shelters		$ 520		$ 200	-62%
Boat Rentals		$ 168		$ (144)	-186%
Firewood	2,429	$ 16,252	2,358	$ 15,771	-3%
Gift Card	24	$ 3,580	40	$ 3,130	-13%
Spring Creek Boat Slips		$ -		$ -	
Recreational Equipment Rentals		$ 383		$ 549	44%
Retail		$ 6,102		$ 8,400	38%
Call Center Fee	1,870	$ 4,398	689	$ 4,134	-6%
Cabin/Trailer Lease Permits		$ -		$ 128	NA
MISCELLANEOUS		***$ 31,403***		***$ 32,168***	***2%***
TOTAL		***$ 1,086,185***		***$ 1,192,876***	***10%***

Division of Parks and Recreation

October YTD 2026 Revenue by Item

	2025		2026		%
	Number	**Dollar**	**Number**	**Dollar**	**Change**
Resident Annual	43,860	$ 1,712,012	43,357	$ 1,649,046	
Non-Resident Annual	13,901	$ 799,082	13,141	$ 763,285	
Resident Double	36,442	$ 2,165,706	37,347	$ 2,191,442	
Non-Resident Double	5,721	$ 509,068	6,095	$ 536,908	
Transferable	2,694	$ 240,648	2,832	$ 247,820	
GSM Annual Trail Pass	6,867	$ 136,795	8,067	$ 159,180	
Annual Licenses	**109,485**	**$ 5,563,311**	**110,839**	**$ 5,547,681**	**0%**
Resident Daily License	58,831	$ 586,088	59,561	$ 593,666	
Non-Resident Daily License	42,831	$ 641,910	40,651	$ 607,391	
Unattended Vehicle Daily	1,353	$ 26,945	1,101	$ 22,010	
GSM Daily Trail Pass	22,571	$ 112,711	23,549	$ 117,745	
Motorcoach Permit	23,966	$ 74,249	22,718	$ 90,820	
CSP 7 Day Pass	201,818	$ 5,012,165	221,825	$ 5,423,246	
CSP 7 Day Bike Band	24,094	$ 479,970	24,669	$ 492,150	
Rally Bike Band	33,780	$ 675,595	24,809	$ 496,180	
One-Day Special Event	91	$ 9,100	81	$ 8,075	
Festival Daily	2,427	$ 11,475	2,231	$ 11,640	
Daily Licenses	**411,762**	**$ 7,630,208**	**421,195**	**$ 7,862,923**	**3%**
Licenses	***521,247***	***$ 13,193,519***	***532,034***	***$ 13,410,604***	***2%***
Camping Services		$ 10,836,453		$ 10,344,788	-5%
Pet Fees	1716	$ 17,110	2221	$ 21,252	24%
LODGING		***$ 10,853,564***		***$ 10,366,039***	***-4%***
Picnic Shelter		$ 14,365		$ 18,429	28%
Boat Rentals		$ 16,828		$ 23,355	39%
Firewood	36,313	$ 243,349	30,923	$ 207,018	-15%
Gift Card	146	$ 12,911	186	$ 14,203	10%
Spring Creek Boat Slips		$ 155,768		$ 167,795	8%
Recreational Equipment Rentals		$ 35,246		$ 34,207	-3%
Retail		$ 220,482		$ 208,516	-5%
Call Center Fee	14,027	$ 87,804	13,009	$ 75,630	-14%
Cabin/Trailer Lease Permits		$ 217,969		$ 230,088	6%
MISCELLANEOUS		***$ 1,004,722***		***$ 979,241***	***-3%***
TOTAL		***$ 25,051,805***		***$ 24,755,884***	***-1%***

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

	2023		2024		2025*		3-Yr Avg		2026		% Change (3-Yr Avg)	
	$	#	$	#	$	#	$	#	$	#	$	#
Annual Licenses	$ 4,569,216	116504	$ 4,788,126	120559	$ 5,563,311	109485	$ 4,973,551	115516	$ 5,547,681	110839	11.5%	-4.0%
Daily Licenses	$ 5,668,060	352275	$ 6,012,099	403798	$ 7,630,208	411762	$ 6,436,789	389278	$ 7,862,923	421195	22.2%	8.2%
Camping/Lodging	$ 9,585,264		$ 9,800,400		$ 10,853,564		$ 10,079,743		$ 10,366,039		2.8%	
Miscellaneous	$ 728,424		$ 902,837		$ 1,004,722		$ 878,661		$ 979,241		11.4%	
Total	$ 20,550,963	468779	$ 21,503,463	524357	$ 25,051,805	521247	$ 22,368,744	504794	$ 24,755,884	532034	10.7%	5.4%

** Fee increase in 2025*

	2023*	2024	2025	3-Yr Avg	2026	% (3-yr Avg)
Camping Units	350649	353744	337451	347281	322930	-7.0%
Modern Lodging Nights Booked January 1 through December 31						
Lake Thompson		130	128	129	103	-20.2%
Mina Lake		130	162	146	160	9.6%
Newton HIlls (3 units)		291	333	312	302	-3.2%
Oahe Downstream (5 units)		795	798	797	710	-10.9%
Palisades		138	120	129	140	8.5%
Pickerel Lake		115	168	142	146	3.2%
Roy Lake (12 units)		1413	1445	1429	1528	6.9%
Shadehill		142	158	150	160	6.7%
Sheps Canyon		93	81	87	78	-10.3%
Spring Creek (16 units)		1176	1278	1227	1466	19.5%
All Parks Total		**4423**	**4671**	**4547**	**4793**	**5.4%**

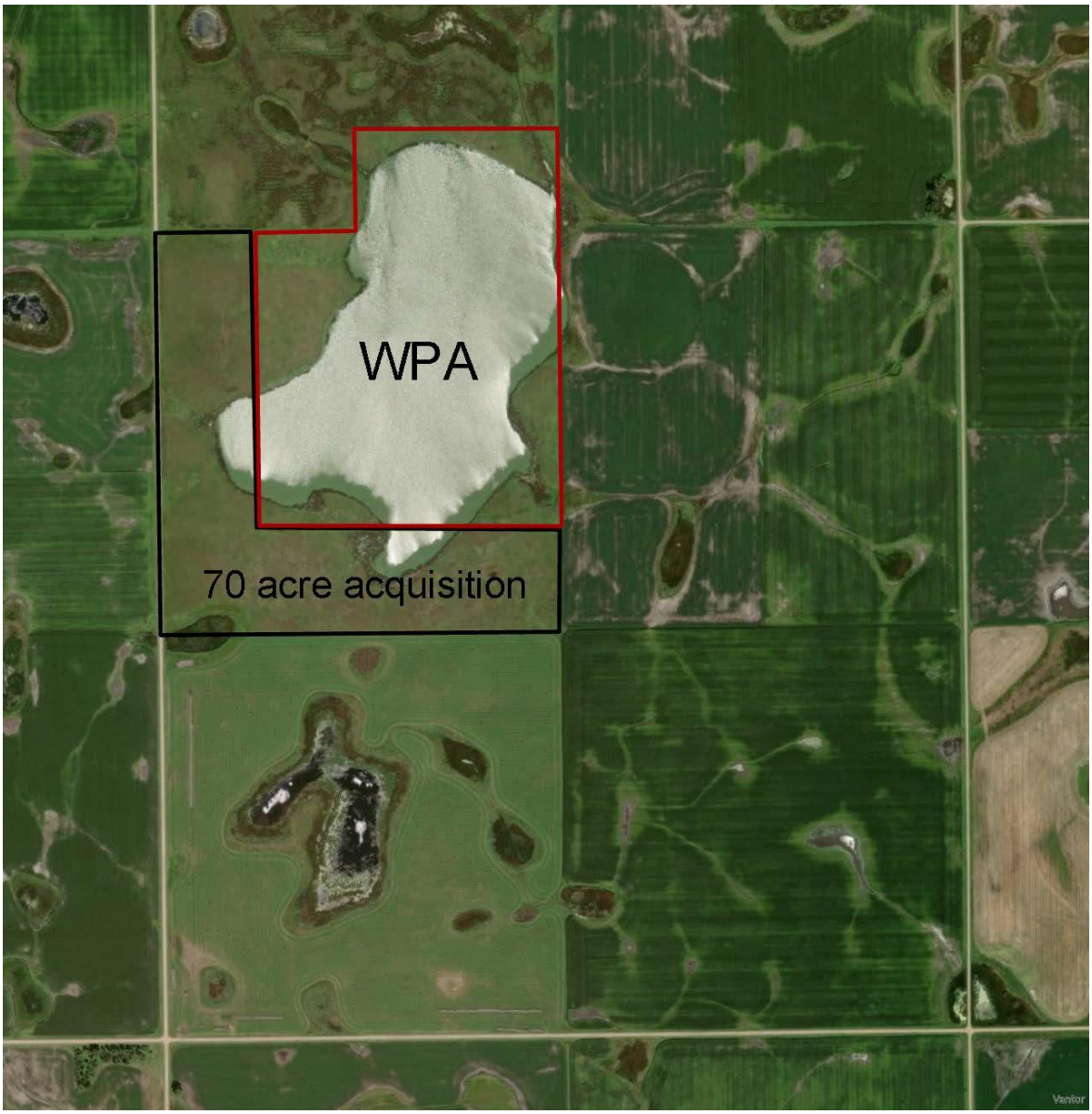
** Modern Lodging numbers for 2023 not available*

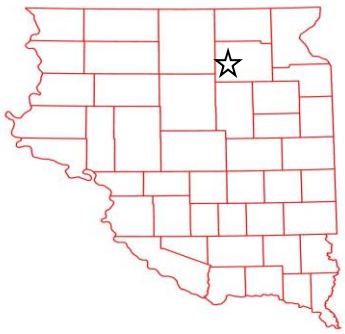
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Waterfowl Production Area Acquisition

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.

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:

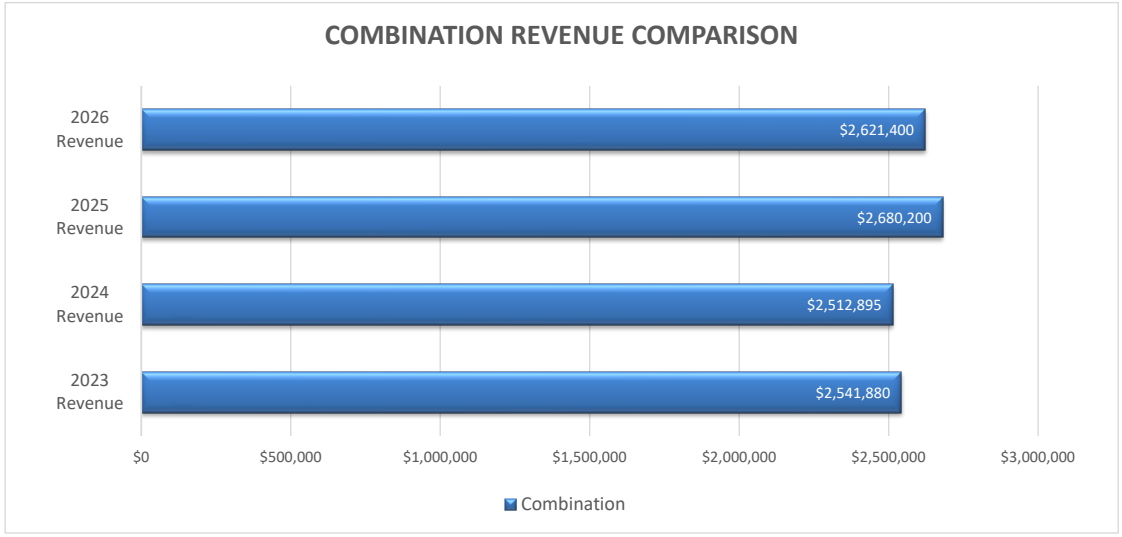
_____
Tonya Lehman,
Day County Auditor

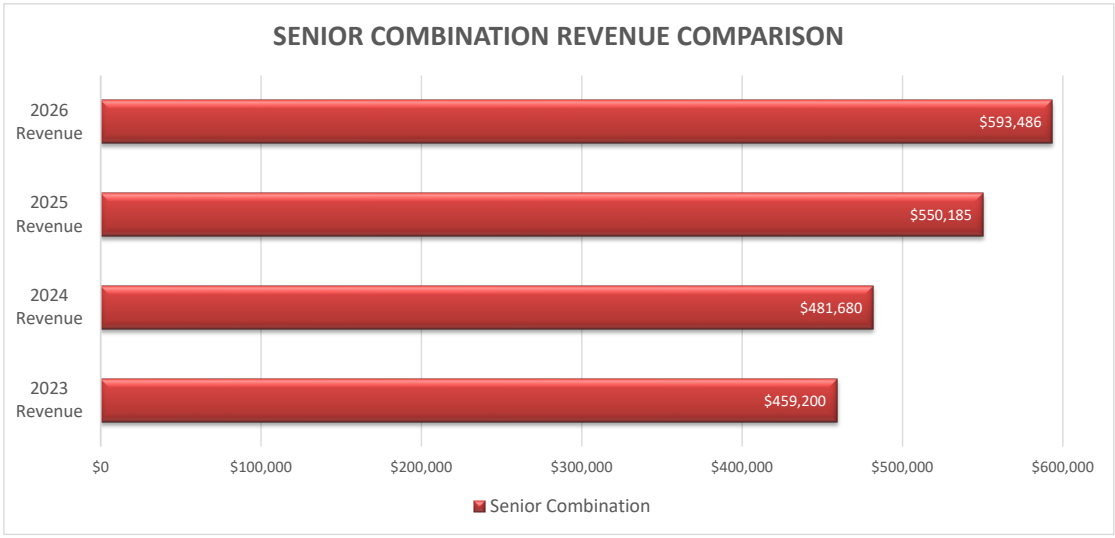
Day County does not discriminate on the basis of color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of service.

COMBINATION LICENSES

December 15 - October 31

License Type	2023	2024	2025	3-yr Avg	2026	2026 Revenue	+/- Licenses 2025 vs 2026	+/- Licenses 3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	+/- Revenue 2025 vs 2026	+/- Revenue 3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	% Change from 3 Yr. Avg
Combination	46,216	45,689	44,670	45,525	43,690	$2,621,400	(980)	(1,835)	($58,800)	$43,075	-4.03%
Senior Combination	11,480	12,042	12,795	12,106	13,802	$593,486	1,007	1,696	$43,301	$96,464	14.01%
Combination License Totals	**57,696**	**57,731**	**57,465**	**57,631**	**57,492**	**$3,214,886**	**27**	**(139)**	**($15,499)**	**$139,539**	**9.98%**

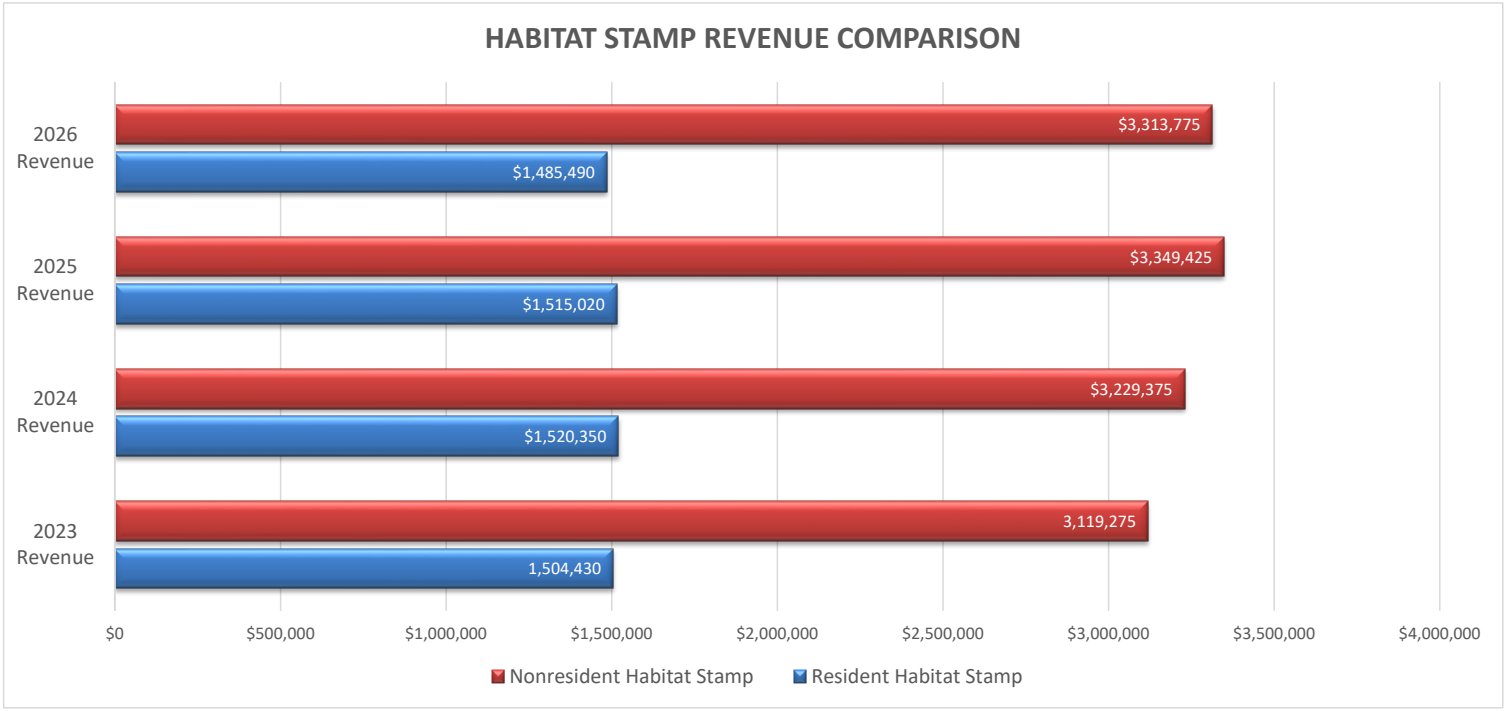




HABITAT STAMP

December 15 - October 31

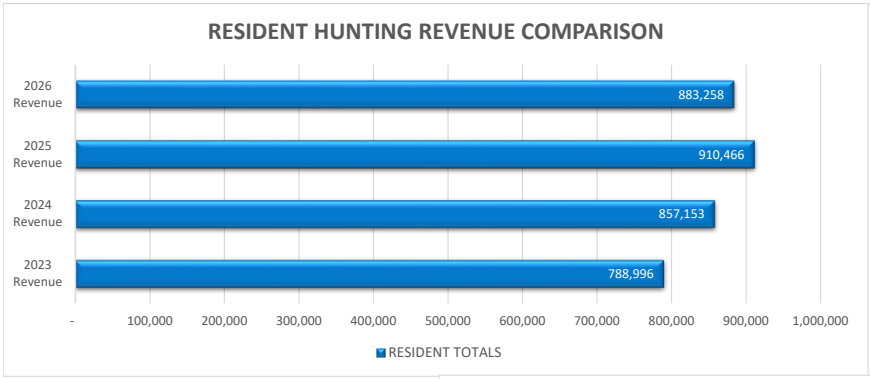
License Type	2023	2024	2025	3-yr Avg	2026	2026 Revenue	+/- Licenses: 2025 vs 2026	+/- Licenses: 3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	+/- Revenue: 2025 vs 2026	+/- Revenue: 3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	% Change from 3 Yr. Avg
Resident Habitat Stamp	150,443	152,035	151,502	151,327	148,549	$1,485,490	(2,953)	(2,778)	($29,530)	($27,777)	-1.84%
Nonresident Habitat Stamp	124,771	129,175	133,977	129,308	132,551	$3,313,775	(1,426)	3,243	($35,650)	$81,083	2.51%
Habitat Stamp Totals	**275,214**	**281,210**	**285,479**	**280,634**	**281,100**	**$4,799,265**	**(4,379)**	**466**	**($65,180)**	**$53,307**	**0.17%**

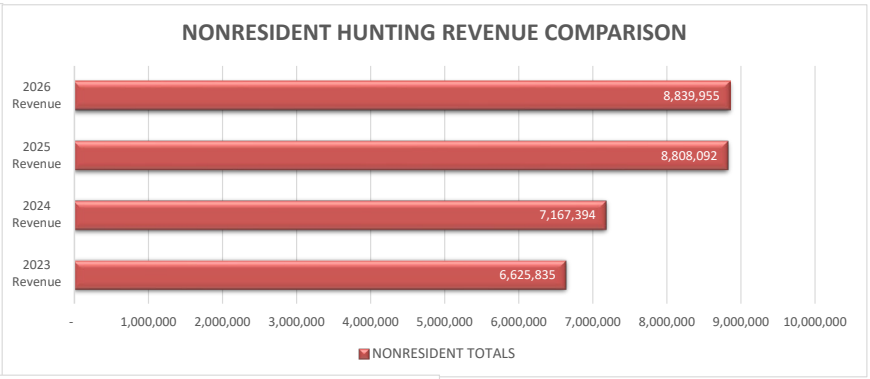


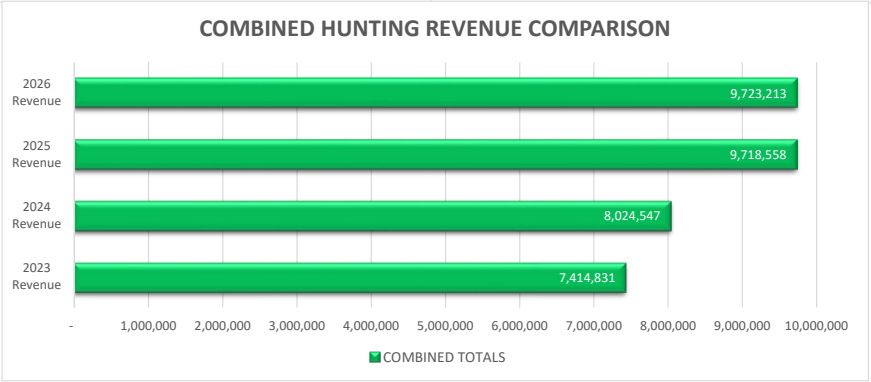
SMALL GAME LICENSES

December 15 - October 31

License Type	2023	2024	2025	3-yr Avg	2026	2026 Revenue	+/- Licenses: 2025 vs 2026	+/- Licenses: 3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	+/- Revenue: 2025 vs 2026	+/- Revenue: 3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	% Change from 3 Yr. Avg
Small Game	16,343	18,166	18,001	17,503	17,260	$621,360	(741)	(243)	($26,676)	$25,749	-1%
1-Day Small Game	441	570	654	555	580	$8,700	(74)	25	($1,110)	$1,386	5%
Youth Small Game	5,384	5,673	5,257	5,438	5,264	$26,320	7	(174)	$35	($870)	-3%
Mentor Small Game	n/a	n/a	776	n/a	880	$4,400	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Furbearer	3,189	3,365	3,457	3,337	3,600	$111,600	143	263	$4,433	$10,338	8%
Predator/Varmint	1,733	1,498	1,193	1,475	1,173	$7,038	(20)	(302)	($120)	($733)	-20%
Migratory Bird Certificate: 3-Duck	1,605	1,337	1,000	1,314	1,043	$5,215	43	(271)	$215	($1,355)	-21%
Migratory Bird Certificate: Traditional	21,021	21,469	20,626	21,039	19,725	$98,625	(901)	(1,314)	($4,505)	($6,568)	-6%
RESIDENT TOTALS	**49,716**	**52,078**	**50,964**	**50,661**	**49,525**	**$883,258**	**(1,439)**	**(1,745)**	**($27,728)**	**$27,946**	**-3.44%**
Small Game	46,371	50,865	52,667	49,968	53,014	$7,527,988	347	3,046	$49,274	$1,481,900	6%
Youth Small Game	1,844	1,973	1,892	1,903	1,904	$19,040	12	1	$120	$10	0%
Mentor Small Game	n/a	n/a	293	n/a	345	$3,450	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Shooting Preserve 1-Day Nonresident	670	701	847	739	851	$42,550	4	112	$200	$8,541	15%
Shooting Preserve 5-Day Nonresident	9,653	9,511	10,177	9,780	9,998	$959,808	(179)	218	($17,184)	$216,503	2%
Shooting Preserve Annual Nonresident	261	237	301	266	324	$47,304	23	58	$3,358	$15,078	22%
Furbearer	3	5	5	4	7	$2,275	2	3	$650	$1,083	0%
Predator/Varmint	4,101	4,125	4,455	4,227	4,405	$202,630	(50)	178	($2,300)	$33,550	4%
Migratory Bird Certificate: 3-Duck	444	456	377	426	329	$1,645	(48)	(97)	($240)	($483)	-23%
Migratory Bird Certificate: Traditional	6,678	8,117	7,160	7,318	6,653	$33,265	(507)	(665)	($2,535)	($3,327)	-9%
NONRESIDENT TOTALS	**70,025**	**75,990**	**78,174**	**74,632**	**77,830**	**$8,839,955**	**(344)**	**2,853**	**$31,343**	**$1,752,855**	**3.82%**
COMBINED TOTALS	**119,741**	**128,068**	**129,138**	**125,293**	**127,355**	**$9,723,213**	**(1,783)**	**2,062**	**$3,615**	**$1,780,801**	**1.65%**



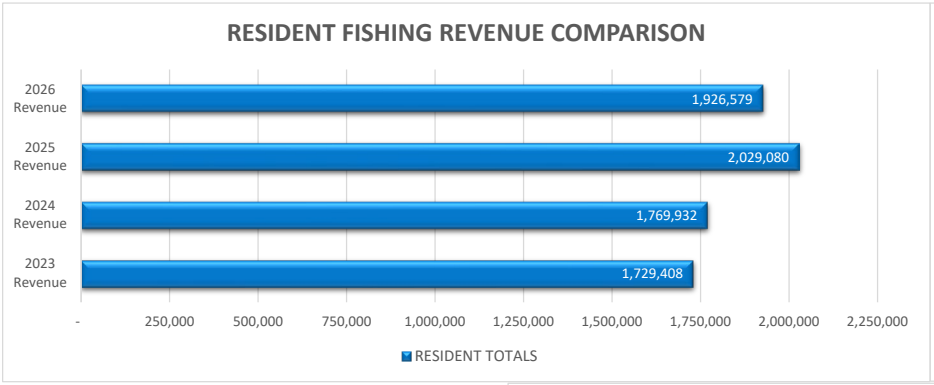


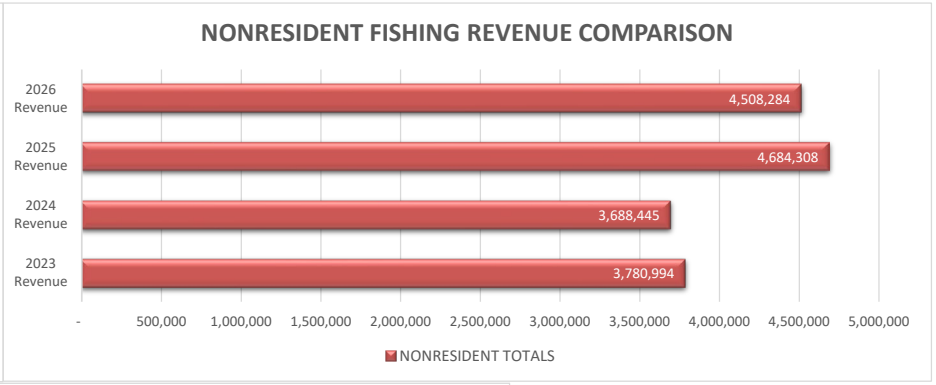


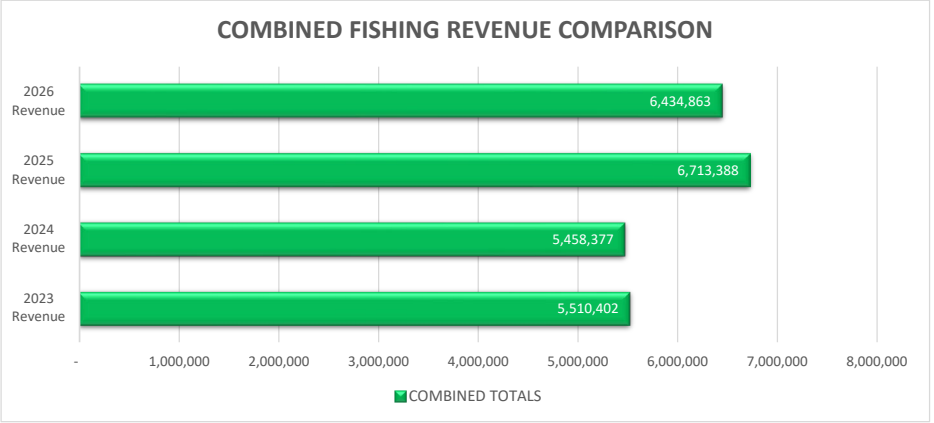
FISHING LICENSES

December 15 - October 31

License Type	2023	2024	2025	3-yr Avg	2026	2026 Revenue	+/- Licenses 2025 vs 2026	+/- Licenses 3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	+/- Revenue 2025 vs 2026	+/- Revenue 3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	% Change from 3 Yr. Avg
1-Day Fishing	6,901	7,760	7,098	7,253	6,121	$61,210	(977)	(1,132)	($9,770)	($1,546)	-15.61%
Annual Fishing	53,831	54,897	55,537	54,755	53,099	$1,646,069	(2,438)	(1,656)	($75,578)	$57,392	-3.02%
Senior Fishing	13,911	14,228	13,909	14,016	12,900	$219,300	(1,009)	(1,116)	($17,153)	$27,926	-7.96%
RESIDENT TOTALS	**74,643**	**76,885**	**76,544**	**76,024**	**72,120**	**1,926,579**	**(4,424)**	**(3,904)**	**($102,501)**	**$83,772**	**-5.14%**
1-Day Fishing	36,305	36,411	26,258	32,991	24,769	$643,994	(1,489)	(8,222)	($38,714)	$28,606	-24.92%
3-Day Fishing	18,423	18,114	20,928	19,155	20,202	$909,090	(726)	1,047	($32,670)	$144,547	5.47%
Annual Fishing	37,589	36,353	38,248	37,397	36,940	$2,955,200	(1,308)	(457)	($104,640)	$283,882	-1.22%
NONRESIDENT TOTALS	**92,317**	**90,878**	**85,434**	**89,543**	**81,911**	**$4,508,284**	**(3,523)**	**(7,632)**	**($176,024)**	**$457,035**	**-8.52%**
COMBINED TOTALS	**166,960**	**167,763**	**161,978**	**165,567**	**154,031**	**$6,434,863**	**(7,947)**	**(11,536)**	**($278,525)**	**$540,807**	**-6.97%**







2026 BIG GAME LICENSES

License Type	2023	2024	2025	3-yr Avg	2026	2026 Revenue	+/- Licenses: 2025 vs 2026	+/- Licenses: 3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	+/- Revenue: 2025 vs 2026	+/- Revenue: 3 Yr. Avg vs 2026	% Change from 3 Yr. Avg
Resident Archery Deer	27,895	27,271	25,716	26,961	25,239	$1,050,390	(477)	(1722)	$50,610	$18,891	-6%
NR Archery Deer Private Land Only	2,007	2,081	1,912	2,000	1,863	$698,625	(49)	(137)	($17,663)	$70,140	-7%
Resident Archery Antelope	2,127	2,165	2,279	2,190	2,148	$96,660	(131)	(42)	($5,895)	$33,875	-2%
Nonresident Archery Antelope Private Land Only	395	389	412	399	435	$163,125	23	36	$8,625	$36,884	9%
Resident Mentored Deer	5,206	5,053	2,979	4,413	2,944	$14,720	(35)	(1469)	($175)	($19,119)	-33%
NR Mentored Deer	190	251	309	250	301	$3,010	(8)	51	($40)	($949)	20%
Resident Mentored Fall Turkey	445	430	421	432	466	$2,330	45	34	$225	($1,694)	8%
NR Mentored Fall Turkey	9	19	32	20	33	$330	1	13	$5	($67)	65%

