

GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

Youth Deer Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:63

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	March 9-10, 2023	Pierre
	Public Hearing	May 4, 2023	Custer State Park
	Finalization	May 4-5, 2023	Custer State Park

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Duration of Recommendation: 2023 and 2024 hunting seasons

Season Dates: September 9, 2023 – January 1, 2024
September 14, 2024 – January 1, 2025

Open Areas: Unit YOD-03: West River Units 02A, 15A, 15B, 31A, 35A, 35C, 35L, 49A, 49B, 53A, 53C and 64A (See map for open area)
Unit YOD-13: That portion of the state not included in Unit YOD-03 (See map for open area)

Licenses: Unit YOD-03: Single tag “any antlerless deer” license
Unit YOD-13: Single tag “antlerless whitetail deer” license

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Both residents and nonresidents that have reached the age of 12 years during the period September through December 31 and have not reached the age of 18 years old by June 30; and any person who has not received a Mentored Deer License may purchase a Youth Deer License. Successful applicants for the Youth Deer License are not eligible for the Mentored Deer License.
2. Each hunter under 16 years old must be accompanied by an adult while hunting.
3. Shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.
4. Hunters may purchase one (1) Youth Deer Hunting License valid for either Unit YOD-03 or Unit YOD-13.
5. Custer State Park is closed to those with Youth Deer Hunting License and National Wildlife Refuges are closed unless specified by the refuge.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended change:

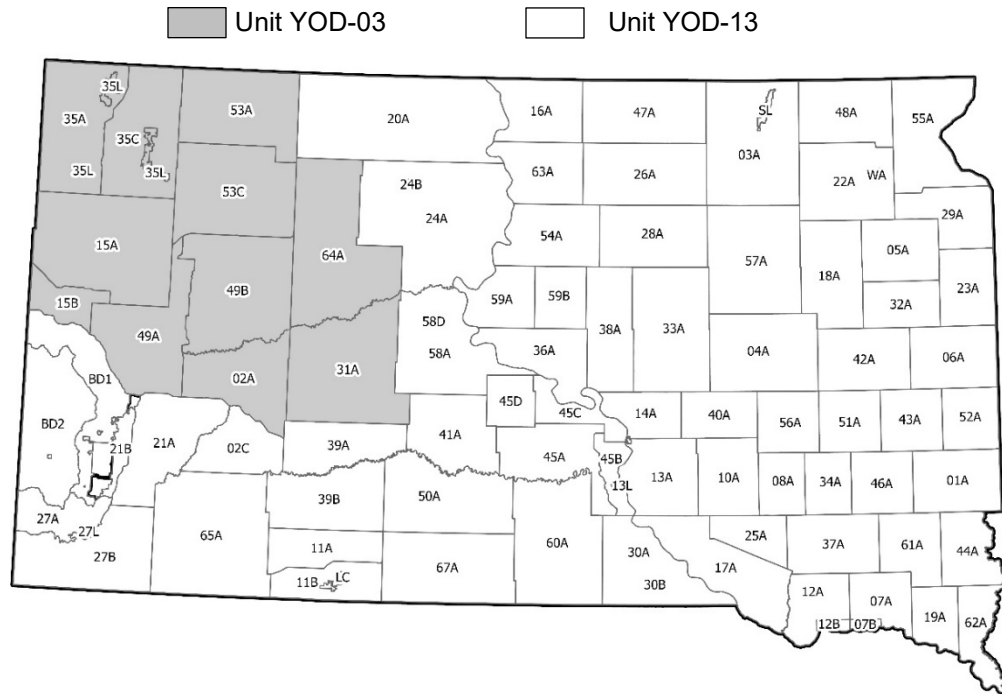
Remove closed area specifications to Fort Meade Bureau of Land Management property.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Fort Meade Bureau of Land Management property in West River deer hunting unit 49A is already limited to archery only equipment and additional hunting opportunity can be provided for hunters because of the limited success based on the weapon restriction.

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

Youth Deer Hunting Unit Map



Youth Deer

Year	Licenses Sold	WT Bucks Harvested	WT Does Harvested	MD Bucks Harvested	MD Does Harvested	All Deer Harvested	Tag Success
2016	4,861	322	1,896	29	324	2,571	53%
2017	5,325	292	2,072	35	426	2,825	53%
2018	Modified into Apprentice Deer season						
2019							
2020							
2021	3,812	175	1,522	8	156	1,861	49%
2022	3,448	155	1,275	4	240	1,674	49%

DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

41:06:63:04. Closed areas. The youth deer season is closed and licenses are not valid in the following areas:

- (1) Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Brown County, unless otherwise allowed by the refuge;
- (2) Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge in Bennett County, unless otherwise allowed by the refuge;
- (3) Lake Andes National Wildlife Refuge in Charles Mix County, unless otherwise allowed by the refuge;
- (4) Waubay National Wildlife Refuge and Waubay State Game Bird Refuge in Day County, unless otherwise allowed by the refuge; and
- ~~(5) Fort Mead Bureau of Land Management south unit and the signed portion of the north unit in Meade County.~~

RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue – Not applicable

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

2. Historical Considerations – Not applicable
3. Biological Considerations – Not applicable
4. Social Considerations – Not applicable
5. Financial considerations – Not applicable

RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? No.
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? Yes, youth would be able to hunt additional areas with archery equipment.
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? Yes, see response to #2.
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? Yes, see response to #2.

FISCAL IMPACT

No fiscal impact to the Department.

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