

# GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## National Wildlife Refuge Deer Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:36

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 4-5, 2021</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 6, 2021</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 6-7, 2021</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Proposal:** 2021 and 2022 hunting seasons

**2021 Season Dates:** Sand Lake NWR November 13-17, November 18-22, November 23-28, November 29 – December 5, December 6-12, and December 13-21 (unfilled antlerless licenses only)  
Lacreek NWR October 20-19 and November 24-30  
Waubay NWR\* November 13-21 and November 27 – December 5  
\* includes Waubay State Game Bird Refuge

**2022 Season Dates:** Sand Lake NWR November 12-16, November 17-21, November 22-27, November 28 – December 4, December 5-11, and December 12-20 (unfilled antlerless licenses only)  
Lacreek NWR October 19-25 and November 23-29  
Waubay NWR\* November 12-20 and November 26 – December 4  
\* includes Waubay State Game Bird Refuge

**Licenses:** Specific number of licenses by tag types and allocation for resident and nonresidents will be recommended by the Department to the GFP Commission at the April Commission meeting.

#### **Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. The first season on Sand Lake NWR, all seasons on Lacreek NWR and Waubay NWR are restricted to muzzleloaders.
2. Applicants may apply for only one refuge unit (season) in the first application period.
3. Licenses remaining after the first application period may be purchased by any resident or nonresident on a first-come, first serve basis.

#### **Proposed changes from last year:**

1. For Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge, adjust resident license numbers from no more than 105 one-tag deer licenses to 200 one-tag and 100 two-tag deer licenses.
2. For Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge, adjust resident license numbers from no more than 20 one-tag deer licenses to 100 one-tag and 50 two-tag deer licenses.
3. For Waubay National Wildlife Refuge, adjust resident license numbers from no more than 20 one-tag deer licenses to 75 one-tag deer licenses.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

The proposed maximum number of one-tag deer licenses will be established in administrative rule and the GFP Commission via administrative rule will determine specific number of licenses by tag types and allocation amongst residents and nonresidents.

Preliminary harvest data for the 2020 deer hunting seasons just became available. Department staff will review all harvest and other biological data, population modeling outputs, determine population objectives for whitetail and mule deer, and then bring recommendations for unit-specific license numbers and types to the GFP Commission at the April Commission meeting.

<b>APPROVE</b> _____	<b>MODIFY</b> _____	<b>REJECT</b> _____	<b>NO ACTION</b> _____
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Table includes harvest data from Sand Lake, Lacreek and Waubay National Wildlife Refuges.

Year	Licenses	Bucks Harvested	Does Harvested	Total Harvest	Hunter Success
2016	200	40	11	51	26%
2017	215	57	19	76	35%
2018	195	60	21	81	42%
2019	158	42	13	55	35%
2020	159	53	5	58	36%

2020 harvest estimates are preliminary.

#### RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue – Not applicable
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? Not applicable.
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? Not applicable.
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? Not applicable.
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? Not applicable.

#### FISCAL IMPACT

No fiscal impact to the Department.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ MODIFY \_\_\_\_\_ REJECT \_\_\_\_\_ NO ACTION \_\_\_\_\_