GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
PROPOSAL

Camping permits and rules
Chapters 41:03:04

Commission Meeting Dates: Proposal September 1, 2021 Rapid City
Public Hearing October 7, 2021 Deadwood
Finalization October 7, 2020 Deadwood

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes:

41:03:04:03. Camping permit fees. The daily fee for the use of a campground site by one camper unit is as follows:

   (1) Custer State Park modern campground fee, $26, including State Game Lodge; Sylvan Lake; Grace Coolidge; Legion Lake; Stockade North; Stockade South; and Blue Bell;

   (2) Modern campground fee, $16, including Platte Creek; Swan Creek; West Whitlock; Indian Creek; Okobojo Point; Cow Creek; and West Pollock;

   (3) Custer State Park semimodern campground fee, $19 for Center Lake;

   (4) Basic campground fee, $11, including Burke Lake; Shadehill-Llewellyn Johns Memorial; Bear Butte Lake unit; Lake Hiddenwood; Sand Creek; East Whitlock; Tabor; North Wheeler; Spring Creek; Oakwood primitive area; Lake Carthage; South Shore; Whetstone Bay; South Scalp Creek; White Swan; Walth Bay; Dude Ranch; Elm Creek; Sheps Canyon Lakeside Use Area; and Amsden Dam;

   (5) Custer State Park French Creek natural area, seven dollars for each person;

   (6) Use of a campground site at Fort Sisseton during the annual Fort Sisseton Festival, $25, provided that participants and festival campers are exempt from paying the camping fee;

   (7) Equestrian campground fee, $18, including Bear Butte Horse Camp and Sica Hollow Horse Camp. For Lewis and Clark Horse Camp, Newton Hills Horse Camp, Oakwood Lakes Horse Camp, Pease Creek Horse Camp, Pelican Lake Horse Camp, Union Grove Horse Camp, and Sheps Canyon Horse Camp the camping fee is $22;

   (8) Preferred campground fee, $19, including Fisher Grove; Buryanek; Oahe Downstream; Springfield; and West Bend; and Randall Creek;

   (9) Prime campsite fee, $22, including all campsites furnished with sewer, water, and electrical service; Lewis and Clark; Chief White Crane; Angostura including Sheps Canyon; Palisades; Big Sioux; Lake Vermillion; Rocky Point; Mina Lake; Lake Herman; North Point; Walker's Point; Lake Poinsett; Oakwood Lakes; South Pelican; Newton Hills; Shadehill Ketterlings Point; Pickerel Lake; Lake Cochrane; Sandy Shore; Pierson Ranch; Union Grove; Richmond Lake; Pease Creek; Lake Thompson; Roy Lake; Farm Island; Snake Creek; Lake Louise; Hartford Beach; Randall Creek; and Fort Sisseton, except during the Fort Sisseton Festival in accordance with subdivision (6) of this section;
(10) Custer State Park, French Creek Horse Camp fee, $3436:

(11) Campsites designated for tent camping only, regardless of campground designation, $15.

An additional charge of four dollars per unit is made for campground sites with electricity.

A resident of this state who may purchase a camping permit and campsite electrical service for one-half price pursuant to SDCL 41-17-13.4 shall submit written verification of that status from the United States Veterans Administration to the licensing office of the department in Pierre. The licensing office shall send the resident a billfold-size card to use as proof of eligibility for half-price camping fees.

The nonprofit youth group camping fee is fifty cents for each person or six dollars, whichever is greater.

The Custer State Park group camping area fee, seven dollars a person for overnight use with a minimum fee of $140.


General Authority: SDCL 41-17-1.1(7), 41-17-13.4.

Law Implemented: SDCL 41-2-24, 41-17-1.1(7), 41-17-13.4.
SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Dude Ranch, Elm Creek, and Sheps Canyon Lakeside Use Areas are seeing increasing camping use. These areas currently allow free camping. With the increased use comes increased need for basic services such as designated camp pads, fire grates, and picnic tables.

Under definition in 41:03:04:01, a prime campground means a modern campground with weekend occupancy of and greater than 90 percent from the Friday before Memorial Day through Labor Day on non-equestrian and electrical campsites. The campground at Randall Creek has exceeded the 90% occupancy rate which would necessitate reclassifying it from a preferred to a prime campground.

The camping fee for the Custer State Park French Creek Horse Camp was approved for an increase from $31 to $36 by the Commission in October of 2019. The increase was inadvertently omitted from the package that went to the Interim Legislative Rules Committee in November 2019.