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: 115
Petitioner Name: Dana Rogers
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Rule Identification: 41:06:24:01
Describe Change: Change to An unlimited number of RESIDENT "any antelope" licenses may be issued for this season. Non-Residents can apply for ONE archery antelope permit (150 Maximum). Create a new unit PL1-41 eligible to non-residents, which would be good on private lands only for Any Antelope. No tag limit would be in effect for this unit. No person may apply for a license in PL1-41 without meeting the following conditions: 1) The applicant must have permission from an owner or lessee of private land to hunt antelope on the owner or lessee’s property located within the state. 2) The applicant includes the name and telephone number of the owner or lessee of the private property granting the permission.
Reason for Change: REASON: South Dakota has become a very popular destination with Non-Resident archery hunters with progressively more hunters coming each year. The increased number of non-residents has caused significant pressure and overcrowding on many public lands. This is a particular issue on large public parcels where a significant number of NRs have a direct and negative impact on the quality of hunt for resident bowhunters and other non-resident bowhunters alike. Changing the amount of permits available for NR archery will have a positive effect on the herd and quality of hunt for everyone on our large public tracts. According to the latest published GF&P archery survey (2019), 1,781 resident and 633 nonresident licenses were sold. This number of unlimited permits has increased EVERY YEAR since 2012. That extrapolates to 26% of all archery antelope licenses being held by NR bowhunters. If we held to the 8% standard that applies to the firearms season, we should only be issuing 143 NR archery antelope permits. This proposal’s limit to 150 is generous. Of the 24 management units where antelope were reported harvested, the Harding and Butte County units accounted for over 63% of all harvest which is often where public land bowhunters go to find antelope, this limit would decrease overcrowding on those public lands.