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Subject: Petition for Rule Change Form
Date: Tuesday, April 11, 2023 1:58:38 PM

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: 188
Petitioner Name: Charles Ward
Address: 928 Polaris Ct.
Rapid City, SD 57701
Email: thediggerchuck@gmail.com
Phone: 605-415-5070
Rule Identification: Blowgun Fishing
Describe Change: Legalization of blowgun fishing
Reason for Change: 1) Blowgun fishing is an untapped sporting activity that many local folks I've spoken to would like to participate in. 2) It's currently legalized in some other states, i.e. New Jersey, and Texas. 3) It would be economically beneficial to the state of South Dakota via a. Sales of equipment, b. Sales tax licensing fees, c. Fishing charters. d. It may also indirectly lead to increased profit via sporting classes, e.g. if offered at the outdoor campuses. e. Increased from out-of-state tourism and hospitality. For example, a paddlefish blowgunner could easily spend \$600+ in hotel fees, dining, and licensing fees, even if travelling the relatively short distance from Rapid City to Chamberlain. f. Creation of blowgun fishing tournaments which bring permit fees and sponsor fees, and creation of special events. 4) It's an ethical way of collecting fish, it leads to rapid dispatching and guarantees low risk of a wounded escapee. 5) For many fishermen it feels more sportsmanlike than rod-and-reel fishing, and may attract an active-lifestyle community who would otherwise avoid fishing. 6) As spearfishing and archery fishing are legal, blowgun fishing could be legalized adopting the same rules and regulations. For example, the blowgun hunting dart has a barb and a line to retrieve the fish. 7) To the best of my knowledge, there are no negatives that I'm aware of to legalizing blowgun fishing. And as the Director of Wildlife Tom Kirschenmann said when Danny Putnam suggested this change in 2021, "We don't see any harm in it."