

# GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## Custer State Park Non-Trophy Bison Harvest, License Forms and Fees, Custer State Park Restrictions

Chapter 41:06:60, Chapter 41:06:02, Chapter 41:06:07

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Public Hearing Finalization</b>	<b>April 4, 2013 April 4-5, 2013</b>	<b>Winner Winner</b>
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### COMMISSION PROPOSAL HIGHLIGHTS

**Season Dates:** October 5 – November 22, 2013

**Licenses:** 15 non-trophy bull bison and 10 cow bison licenses.

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

- 1) The unit is open within the boundaries of Custer State Park for the 49-day period beginning the first Saturday in October.
- 2) Permit holder must be accompanied by an authorized CSP official.

**Proposed changes from last year:**

1. Modify preference so applicants accrue an additional point for each successive year they are unsuccessful in the draw. (41:06:60).
2. Allocate 7 non-trophy bull bison licenses and 5 cow bison licenses to residents in a first draw. Leftover licenses after the first draw would be available in a second draw for all applicants.
3. Increase license fee from \$1,500 to \$2,250 for a non-trophy bison bull and from \$1,000 to \$1,750 for a cow bison (41:06:02).
4. Add reference to non-trophy bison harvest as seasons in CSP available to non-residents. (41:06:07).

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Non-trophy bison hunts fees have not been adjusted from the season's inception 9 years ago. Fees were originally higher than the live sale average for those class animals. The bison market has improved and current live sales significantly exceed costs for non-trophy hunts. Indications are for a relatively stable market on bison. Currently, these hunts are undervalued at \$1,000 for cows and \$1,500 for 2-year old bulls. Additionally, interest has multiplied for these hunts. Applications have more than tripled in the past 3 years. The current single preference system should be modified to a lottery (accumulated points) system.

Year	CSP Auction Average Price		Applications			Licenses Issued	
	Open cows	Grade Bull	Total apps	Non-resident	Resident	Non-resident	Resident
2012	\$1,725	\$2,020	318	271	47	15	10
2011	\$1,488	\$2,073	205	170	35	20	5
2010	\$1,800	\$1,825	96	85	11	21	4