

Comes, Rachel

From: Miller, LouAnn
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2016 12:43 PM
To: Comes, Rachel
Subject: FW: Elk pool hunts

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

From: sft101@aol.com [<mailto:sft101@aol.com>]
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2016 11:17 AM
To: GFP Wild Info
Cc: ustawasser@aol.com
Subject: Elk pool hunts

Good Morning,

The Commissioner that recommended sharp shooting the elk is out of his mind! It is ludicrous to think we may have to wait for 15 years to draw a bull tag (less but still denied a cow tag) to start with and then to suggest the government to do what we the public, the governments boss, can do is just down right insulting. Frankly on this matter this chap has no business being on the game commission!

If for some reason a pool hunt is not resolving the matter, i.e. killing the elk and or harassing them out of an area, then have a MULTIPLE pool hunts lasting 1-2 weeks each through February. The calves don't come until March/April so this won't be affected. Better yet let myself and my friends, most of us who hunt world wide, get a tag. We in essence could be a citizen sharp shooter crew, I can almost guarantee we would be there every day hunting, after of course scouting religiously, and we WOULD kill our elk.

NO sharp shooting our elk!

Regards,

BJJ
Rapid City, SD
07-21-2016

Comes, Rachel

From: Miller, LouAnn
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2016 12:44 PM
To: Comes, Rachel
Subject: FW: Elk Depredation

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

From: bobbyk@rap.midco.net [<mailto:bobbyk@rap.midco.net>]
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2016 12:24 PM
To: GFP Wild Info
Subject: Elk Depredation

With grief I read the latest article in the Rapid City Journal about some ranchers being unhappy with the numerous elk on their property and would like GFP to bring a sharpshooter in to reduce the herd – probably eliminate it to satisfy the rancher. He’s not happy with hunters, evidently because they only shoot one, so he would have to deal with too many people over a too-lengthy process. Hey, instead of hiring a GFP appointed machine-gunner, why not ask Ellsworth Air Force base to send a B-1 over and drop one bomb? They get practice, the elk are eliminated, and GFP doesn’t have to pay anyone for it! Whether the rancher kept his cattle out of the target zone would be his responsibility.

Bob Koscak
rapid City, SD

Comes, Rachel

From: Miller, LouAnn
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2016 1:51 PM
To: Comes, Rachel
Subject: FW: Spearing

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: Commission

From: Marc Schmitz [<mailto:Marc.Schmitz@RaymondJames.com>]
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2016 1:20 PM
To: GFP Wild Info
Subject: Spearing

I would be strongly against allowing spearing of game fish in this area. The area proposed to be opened contains some of the most inexperienced boaters on Lake Sharpe. Many are unfamiliar with the area or operate their boats there once a year on vacation. I believe it would be quite dangerous to add additional divers to this mix.

Thank you,

Marc C. Schmitz
Financial Advisor
Raymond James Financial Services Inc.
Member FINRA/SIPC
208 W. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone:605-224-2636
Fax:605-945-0743
E-mail:marc.schmitz@raymondjames.com

Raymond James Financial Services does not accept orders and /or instructions regarding your accounts by e-mail, voicemail, fax or any alternate method. Transactional details do not supersede normal trade confirmations or statements. E-mail sent through the Internet is not secure or confidential. Raymond James Financial Services reserves the right to monitor all e-mail.

Any information provided in this e-mail has been prepared from sources believed to be reliable, but not guaranteed by Raymond James Financial Services and is not a complete summary or statement of all available data necessary for making an investment decision. Any information provided is for informational purposes only and does not constitute a recommendation. Raymond James Financial Services and its employees may own options, rights or warrants to purchase any of the securities mentioned in e-mail. This e-mail is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon, this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you received this message in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete the material from your computer

Comes, Rachel

From: Miller, LouAnn
Sent: Monday, August 01, 2016 8:06 AM
To: Comes, Rachel
Subject: FW: Lake Sharpe spearfishing

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: Commission

-----Original Message-----

From: gofishy_mn@yahoo.com [mailto:gofishy_mn@yahoo.com]

Sent: Saturday, July 30, 2016 10:55 AM

To: GFP Wild Info

Subject: Lake Sharpe spearfishing

I live in Rapid City

I oppose opening up all South Dakota waters to spearfishing. I am especially concerned with the ability of spearfishing to target the largest fish in a body of water. The GF&P has spent a large amount of time and taxpayer money to establish fisheries throughout the state. The large fish in the system are the powerhouse for reproduction and provide incentive for hook and line fishermen to want to fish a location. Since hook and line fisherman have many obstacles when fish are present such as small fish being more likely to bite a lure (due to percentage of fish by size), mood of fish to bite, ability to put a bait in the strike zone of fish, etc...; they are not as likely to harvest larger and more fish than those who spearfish. If the large fish disappear, the fishery could be devastated and those that spearfish would just move on to the next body of water, as would the hook and line anglers.

I believe the spear fishing community should be happy to already have the opportunity to spear game fish in South Dakota, rather than continuing to push and push for more and more. Many states only allow spear fishing of rough fish. I would liken this opportunity to that of providing paddle fishing opportunities. Some opportunity is great, but it should not just be opened up like other fishing opportunities. You should add opportunities slowly and evaluate the results before adding more opportunities.

Lastly, opening up spear fishing of game fish to many more bodies of water would cause them to dive more in those waters. I envision more dangerous interactions between divers and all recreational boaters.

Thanks for your time,
Larry Smith

Comes, Rachel

From: Miller, LouAnn
Sent: Monday, August 01, 2016 9:24 AM
To: Comes, Rachel
Subject: FW: Black Hills Deer Draw

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: Commission

-----Original Message-----

From: Michael King [<mailto:mking01@sio.midco.net>]

Sent: Sunday, July 31, 2016 11:33 PM

To: Peterson, Cathy; Jensen, Barry; Boyd, Mary Anne; Dennert, Paul H.; gary.jenses@state.sd.us; Olson, Russell; Phillips, W. Scott; Spies, Jim; GFP Wild Info

Subject: Black Hills Deer Draw

Commissioners,

I am writing to express my disappointment with the most recent Black Hills Deer draw and how the Black Hills deer hunt is managed. For 5 years I purchased preference points for this draw with the hopes of one day being successful for a "dream hunt" - which for me is to be able to harvest one of the many large mule deer bucks we see each year while hunting in the Jasper burn area. I began to apply in 2014 with 5 preference points and was unsuccessful. In 2015, with 6 preference points - again unsuccessful. Most recently, I was again unsuccessful in 2016 with 7 preference points. I have lost hope that I will be successful in this draw and I am writing this to you to ask you to consider altering how the Black Hills deer harvest is managed. I'm certain that my story is not an isolated example of our South Dakota hunting community. I have many friends who no longer even attempt to draw a BH101 tag. I was initially not a fan of the limited number of licenses and lottery system. I have however, over the years, come to enjoy the number of nicer bucks we see while hunting and the ease in which we're able to harvest a deer. So, I do not wish to return to the hunts we knew prior to the lottery, however, I would like to see a larger number of licenses being offered. I'm hoping there is a way to continue to manage the herd with a larger number of hunters and maintain the gains we've see over the past 15 years.

There are 6 hunters in our group and we all apply independently so that we have a chance of at least having one to two hunters with licenses. The Black Hills deer hunt is more than just a hunt for us. It's a family tradition. In 1946, my grandfather began hunting deer in the Black Hills and this year will mark our 70th consecutive year of our family hunting Black Hills deer. Fortunately, my daughter was lucky enough to draw a tag. In the past, there have been years when we had to rely on purchasing youth tags for our children to even be able to make the trip out to hunt. I'm hopeful that you'll seriously consider expanding the hunt opportunities for Black Hills Deer.

I'm at an age where I don't have a lot of deer hunts left in me and I'm curious about how the lottery works. I notice that in the draw statistics, you list applicants with 0 preference points, 1 preference point, and then lump all other statistics into a "2 or more" preference point category. Do I have the same statistical chance of drawing a tag with 7 preference points as someone with 2 preference points? I would appreciate knowing how the lottery works and what my chances are of ever drawing one of these tags.

I appreciate your consideration of my requests.

Sincerely my best,

Michael King
605-310-0542

Comes, Rachel

From: Miller, LouAnn
Sent: Tuesday, August 02, 2016 9:48 AM
To: Comes, Rachel
Subject: FW: Game Fish Spearing on Lake Sharpe

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: Commission

From: Miller, Aaron
Sent: Tuesday, August 02, 2016 9:45 AM
To: GFP Wild Info
Subject: Game Fish Spearing on Lake Sharpe

I am writing in opposition to the request to temporarily open the Oahe downstream area to the spearing of game fish. This is the third time this exemption has been requested by the sponsors of this spearfishing tournament.

Since coming to Pierre, the sponsors of this tournament have organized and offered a safe and successful spearfishing tournament within the established boundaries of the Missouri river currently open to the spearing of game fish. The sponsors report the tournament is well attended and draws participants from all over the country. I applaud their hard work and success in building a successful tournament and I understand the economic impact such events have on the area. However, as a resident of Pierre and father of kids who spend many hours on this stretch of river, I cannot support a request to mix hundreds of tournament divers with boaters, jet skis, kayaks, swimmers, tubers, water skiers, etc. in the very narrow confines of the downstream area.

The Oahe downstream area was purposefully not included in the boundaries of the Missouri river open to the spearing of game fish. As I recall, user conflicts and diver/boater safety were two of primary reasons this area was/is closed to game fish spearing.

ARSD 41:04:01:08 no person may place a diver-down flag in such a manner that the flag restricts watercraft navigation. The Oahe downstream portion of the river is narrow and has strong currents. Navigation is limited to the main river channel. Much of the area contains sediment that makes it uncondusive to navigation or spearfishing. During high releases, which are typical during summer months, divers and watercraft operators can quickly drift into one another if both are not aware of their surroundings and direction of travel.

Under the current request, the area currently closed would be opened to all individuals wishing to spear game fish, not just tournament participants. This makes it impossible to know or control the number of divers that would be in the area during the tournament. There may be a hundred divers and a hundred watercraft in this area for the two day tournament. Such congestion will compromise diver and watercraft operator's safety, which will lead to bad publicity for an otherwise successful tournament/event.

I encourage the members of the Commission who may not be familiar with the amount of use and watercraft traffic in this area of the river during the summer months to visit the river on a weekend. In closing, I would offer that while ARSD 41:07:06:03 allows the Commission by resolution to "temporarily open other areas to the public", I don't believe the intent of the rule was to allow consideration of an area(s) specifically closed for reasons that were considered and discussed when the game fish spearing areas were established. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Aaron Miller
Pierre, SD