The big game license is complete in one form. The lower portion is the tag and the upper portion is the license with general information about the licensee. A person who holds a license to take a big game animal during the firearm season may take any legal firearm, muzzleloading firearm, or archery equipment. A person may use any legal firearm, muzzleloading firearm, or archery equipment. Additionally, any person who is over the age of 16, other than a big game archery license holder, may use a bow and arrow.

DEFINITIONS:
- Legal Firearms: Any firearm, muzzleloading firearm, or archery equipment which is factory-rated to produce at least 500 foot-pounds of energy at the muzzle may be used in hunting. The use of electronic devices mounted to the bow that aid in the taking of game. However, cameras, video cameras, cell phones used exclusively for photographic purposes, lighted sights and illuminating devices may be used.
- Archery-Only Big Game Licensee:
  - A bow that measures less than 40 pounds pull when hunting any big game animal except turkey with a mechanical broadhead or a bow that measures less than 30 pounds pull when hunting any other big game animal with a mechanical broadhead.

All big game archery licensees under 16, all bow hunters, and all Archery-Only Big Game Licensee who have filled their tag(s) may continue to carry a firearm with their group for the purpose of hunting. The use of a weapon other than a bow and arrow is necessary to bring down a big game animal which is fleeing.

Note:
- Hunters filling big game tags that are not restricted to archery or muzzleloader may use any legal firearm, muzzleloading firearm, or archery equipment. Additionally, any person who is over the age of 16 and other than a big game archery license holder may use a bow and arrow.
- A person hunting with bow and arrow may not use or possess any of the following:
  - Crossbows and draw-lock devices that hold the bow at partial or full draw except for individuals who qualify and possess a valid crossbow/draw-lock permit.
  - Arrow rest.
  - Electronic devices mounted to the bow that aid in the taking of game. However, cameras, video cameras, cell phones used exclusively for photographic purposes, lighted sights and illuminating devices may be used.
  - Electronic arrow or electronic string releases;
  - Compound bows with a let off of more than 80 percent;
  - Compound bows shorter than 28 inches as measured from the top of the upper wheel or cam to the bottom of the lower wheel or cam;
  - Telescopic sights.

LEGAL FIREARMS: No self-loading or auto-loading firearm that holds more than six cartridges may be used to hunt, pursue, shoot at, kill or wound any big game animal. No firearm that is capable of being loaded more than once may be carried in the field or used to hunt, pursue, shoot at, kill or wound any big game animal. For shotguns that discharge a single ball or rifled slug, the single ball or rifled slug must weigh at least one half ounce. Buckshot is prohibited.

Deer and Antelope - Shoulder-heads firearms using ammunition rated to produce at least 500 foot-pounds of energy at the muzzle and handguns using ammunition which is factory-rated to produce at least 500 foot-pounds of energy at the muzzle, may be used to hunt deer and antelope. Only soft-point or expanding bullets are permitted. No one may use a firearm in the hunting of wild deer, plains or cougars, unless it is accompanied by a tag of the animal.

Turkey - Shoulder-heads firearms using ammunition which is factory-rated to produce at least 500 foot-pounds of energy at the muzzle and handguns using ammunition which is factory-rated to produce at least 500 foot-pounds of energy at the muzzle, may be used to hunt deer and antelope. Only soft-point or expanding bullets are permitted. No one may use a firearm in the hunting of wild deer, plains or cougars, unless it is accompanied by a tag of the animal.

Note: Hunters filling big game tags that are not restricted to archery or muzzleloader may use any legal firearm, muzzleloading firearm, or archery equipment. Additionally, any person who is over the age of 16 and other than a big game archery license holder may use a bow and arrow.

It is important to read and understand all regulations before hunting. The following regulations do not apply to permanent wildlife management areas, state nature areas, state water access areas.
A motor vehicle is any self-propelled vehicle or any vehicle propelled or drawn by a self-propelled vehicle. This includes snowmobiles, motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles. - No one may operate a motor vehicle to hunt or pursue wildlife, except that a person licensed to hunt deer or elk, or any person assisting in the removal of legally killed deer or elk, may transport the deer or elk for a distance of not more than one mile from the site where it was killed. - No person may use a motor vehicle for the purposes of hunting big game. - Any trail camera placed on public lands owned, leased, or controlled by the department may be attached to a tree, post, or other structure by utilizing no more than one nail, bolt, or screw. The name and address of the owner or user or the year and location of the department to which the trail camera is attached must be recorded on the camera. - No person may transport or ship to another state wildlife taken within the Black Hills, except that a person licensed to hunt deer or elk, or any person assisting in the removal of legally killed deer or elk, may transport the deer or elk for a distance of not more than one mile from the site where it was killed. - No person may use a motor vehicle, snowmobile, motorcycle, or all-terrain vehicle to engage in any activity specifically intended to harass or concentrate, drive, stir up, locate or spot game animals.

WEAPONS RESTRICTIONS ON OTHER STATE-OWNED LANDS:
- No one may use aircraft including unmanned aircraft and drones to hunt, take, concentrate, drive, stir up, locate or spot game animals.
- No one may possess a firearm while riding on or operating a snowmobile, motorcycle or all-terrain vehicle.
- No person may use a motor vehicle for the purposes of hunting, fishing or trapping on any public highway. However, a firearm may protrude from a motor vehicle if the operator of the snowmobile is at least 18 years of age. Not more than one person may be aboard the snowmobile while coyotes are being hunted or taken pursuant to this provision.

LAND RESTRICTIONS:
• TRESPASS: You may not hunt on private land or retrieve big game animals from private land without permission from the owner or lessee except in the Black Hills Fire Protection District, the Lake County Conservation District, the City of Deadwood, City of Lead, the City of Spearfish, the City of Sturgis, the City of Rapid City, the City of Hot Springs, the Cheyenne River Dakota Nation, the Big Horn County, the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation, the Rosebud Sioux Indian Reservation, the Standing Rock Sioux Indian Reservation, and the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Tribe. - A person licensed to hunt deer or elk, or any person assisting in the removal of legally killed deer or elk, may transport the deer or elk for a distance of not more than one mile from the site where it was killed.
- No person may possess an uncased firearm on the Lake Henry Fishing Access in Bon Homme County. - No one may possess a firearm while riding on or operating a snowmobile, motorcycle or all-terrain vehicle.

SHOOTING HOURS:
The hunting seasons for big game animals are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset, except for elk which are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

DISCONTINUATION OF USE AND RECOVERY OF GAME:
• From October 1 to January 31, inclusive, deer hunting with a firearm, crossbow, or a bow is permitted in all state parks, state recreation areas, and state nature areas during established hunting seasons according to the provisions and restrictions set forth in this section, and in that portion of Newton Hills State Park which is situated to the west of County Road 135 and north of 297th Street, and situated south of 297th Street and west of Prairie Dog Bay.
• Only shotguns using shot shells, crossbows, and bows are permitted in West Whitlock State Recreation Area, West Pickelmead Recreation Area, Mina Recreation Area, Oahe Recreation Area, Farm Island Recreation Area, Angostura Recreation Area, Cow Creek State Recreation Area, and all state parks located in Codington County, that portion of the Belage Game Production Area north of Christensen Drive located in Sec. 24 and 25, T18N, R2E, in Lawrence County. Hazel’s Haven Fishing Access in Moody County. - Only shotguns using shot shells, crossbows, and bows are permitted in Oahe Downstream Recreation Area the year around on rifle ranges designated by the department.
• No person may possess a valid concealed pistol permit may carry a concealed pistol at all times when hunting.

MISCELLANEOUS:
- No one may use aircraft including unmanned aircraft and drones to hunt, take, concentrate, drive, stir up, locate or spot game animals.
- No one may use a motor vehicle for the purposes of hunting, fishing or trapping on any public highway. However, a firearm may protrude from a motor vehicle if the operator of the snowmobile is at least 18 years of age. Not more than one person may be aboard the snowmobile while coyotes are being hunted or taken pursuant to this provision.
- No person may transport or ship to another state wildlife taken within the Black Hills, except that a person licensed to hunt deer or elk, or any person assisting in the removal of legally killed deer or elk, may transport the deer or elk for a distance of not more than one mile from the site where it was killed. - No person may use a motor vehicle, snowmobile, motorcycle, or all-terrain vehicle to engage in any activity specifically intended to harass or concentrate, drive, stir up, locate or spot game animals.
- No one may use aircraft including unmanned aircraft and drones to hunt, take, concentrate, drive, stir up, locate or spot game animals.
- No one may use a motor vehicle for the purposes of hunting, fishing or trapping on any public highway. However, a firearm may protrude from a motor vehicle if the operator of the snowmobile is at least 18 years of age. Not more than one person may be aboard the snowmobile while coyotes are being hunted or taken pursuant to this provision.