

2026 BIGHORN SHEEP



Draw	Application Opens	Application Closes	Results Available
First	04/15/2026	05/19/2026, 08:00 AM CDT	05/27/2026

LICENSE AVAILABILITY

Unit	Type	Resident	
BHS - BH2	52	3	—
BHS - BH4	52	2	▲
CBS - CU1	52	2	—

LICENSE CHANGE FROM LAST YEAR

▲ Increase — No Change ▼ Decrease

SEASON DATES

September 1 - December 31, 2026

DRAW INFORMATION

All bighorn sheep seasons and units are considered a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Eligibility: South Dakota residents who have never received a license for any South Dakota bighorn sheep season are eligible to apply.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Bighorn sheep season license holders must attend an in-person orientation meeting. Successful applicants will be notified to arrange a time and place for the meeting.

Successful hunters must have their bighorn sheep inspected and legally marked (plugged) by a GFP representative within 24 hours of kill.

FEE SCHEDULE

Season	License Types	Resident
Bighorn Sheep (BHS)	52 - ram only bighorn sheep	\$300
Custer State Park (CBS)	52 - ram only bighorn sheep	\$506

A non-refundable \$10 application fee is charged for each season applied for.

Applicants will be notified by email if they were successful in the drawing. If successful, the applicant's credit/debit card will have the full license fee charged.

RETURN POLICY (NEW FOR 2026)

Return Deadline: August 1, 2026

Return Fee: \$10 - Residents

A fee will be assessed if a customer returns their license. They will also be ineligible for any subsequent draws that year for that respective season.

GENERAL APPLICATION INFORMATION

Visit <https://gfp.sd.gov/hunt-fish-license/> to view application information, residency and age requirements, landowner preference, preference points, and license fee explanations.

[Unit Descriptions and Map](#)

[Interactive Hunting Unit Map](#)

CONTACT US

GFP LICENSING OFFICE
 20641 SD Hwy 1806, Fort Pierre, SD 57532
 605.223.7660 | TTY: 605.223.7684
 Monday - Friday | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

NOTE: All applications must be submitted [online](#).