2018 BIG GAME REGULATIONS

Incorporates additive seasons for deer, antelope, elk, fall turkey, bighorn sheep, mountain goat and mountain lion.

TURN IN POACHERS - Tips Hotline: 1-888-OVERDUE (1-888-687-3783)

Muzzleloading Firearms - In seasons restricted to muzzleloading rifles, telescopic sights are not allowed. Muzzleloading rifles are defined as firearms that fire a bullet at a muzzle velocity of more than 1100 feet per second. Muzzleloading pistols are not legal. No person may hunt, shoot, shoot at, wound or pursue any big game animal with any muzzleloading rifle which discharges a projectile less than .44 caliber.

Note: Hunters filling big game tags that are not restricted to archery or muzzleloader may use any legal firearm or archery equipment to harvest their game.

Any person who holds a license to take a big game animal during the firearm season may take the animal by using a crossbow in lieu of a firearm. The crossbow may be drawn, held, released, aimed, fired, or discharged at any time and in any manner if the person who is aiming, holding, releasing, or firing the crossbow shall have at least 120 pounds pull and have a mechanical safety. Telescopic sights are permitted.

ARCHERY EQUIPMENT

A person hunting with bow and arrow may not use or possess any of the following:

- Explosive broadheads
- 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
- Archery equipment featuring a bar or blade that is more than two inches in length attached to the bow
- Electronic devices mounted to the bow that aid in the taking of game. However, cameras, video cameras, video recorders, or other equipment for photographic purposes, night sighted lights and illuminated arrow nocks may be used.

The following applies to the hunting of any turkey:

- Arrows must have tips as specified in the archery equipment regulations.
- Compound bows shorter than 28 inches as measured from the top of the upper limb or cam to the bottom of the lower limb or cam;
- Broadhead or a bow that measures less than 30 pounds pull when hunting any big game animal with a mechanical broadhead;
- A bow that measures less than 40 pounds pull when hunting an elk with a fixed blade broadhead; and
- A bow that measures less than 50 pounds pull when hunting any other big game animal with a fixed blade broadhead.

BOWBOWHUNTER EDUCATION REQUIREMENT: All big game archery licensees under 16, all big game permittees under 16, and big game archery licensees who have filled their tag(s) may continue to carry a firearm with their group for purposes of protection, if the person possesses a firearm big game license that is valid for the same geographic area and time of year

GENERAL RESTRICTIONS

- No person may hunt big game on interstate highways or controlled access facilities.
- No person may discharge a firearm, muzzleloader, crossbow or bow and arrow at any big game animals if the discharge of such firearm is within 1000 feet of any highway or in any field, woodland, forest or prairie.
- No person may establish, utilize, or maintain a bait station, as defined above, on lands except as otherwise provided in this section.
- No one may hunt big game, except turkey as described above, on a section line or other highway.
- No person may establish, utilize, or maintain a bait station, as defined above, on lands except as otherwise provided in this section.
- No person may use, possess, or possess night vision equipment on the owner's or occupant's land, with a shotgun using shot shells or a firearm using a rifled barrel.
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LAND RESTRICTIONS CONTINUED

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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. In that area you may not enter private land to hunt if the land is posted or if the owner or lessor has informed you of his or her objection to hunting on his or her land.

The Black Hills Fire Protection District is within the following boundary: beginning at a point on the intersection of U.S. Highway 85 and South Park Road, southeast along I-90 via Rapid City to the intersection of U.S. Highway 16B; then south and southwest along U.S. 16B to the intersection of SD 79 to the intersection of U.S. Highway 16B and US 87; then north along US 87 to the intersection of I-90; then north along I-90 to the intersection of I-90 and U.S. Highway 85; then west along U.S. Highway 85 to the intersection of US 87; then south along US 87 to the intersection of US 87 and US 16B; then north along US 16B to the intersection of US 16B and US 85; then west along US 85 to the place of beginning.

TRAIL CAMERAS: Trail cameras are remotely activated devices set to capture photos, video, sound, or other evidence of activity while the user is absent from the location. You may not install, operate, or authorize the installation or operation of a trail camera on state-owned or state-controlled properties except in the Black Hills Fire Protection District. Such cameras must be installed and maintained in compliance with state and federal laws and regulations. You may not set or operate a trail camera while on or within the 500-foot radius of a road or public lands. Trail cameras are intended to be used for the lawful purpose of assisting in the lawful take of big game and must be set and operated in accordance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations. Trail cameras must not be set within 500 feet of any road or public lands.

THREATS TO NATURE AREAS: Threats to nature areas include hunting activities that result in the destruction of natural vegetation, loss of habitat, and disturbance to wildlife. Threats to nature areas include activities that result in the destruction of natural vegetation, loss of habitat, and disturbance to wildlife.

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Gross Earth State Park except for a resident hunter who possesses a valid archery deer license and an access permit or except for a resident hunter who possesses a valid archery spring turkey license and an access permit. Only bows, crossbows, or muzzleloaders may be used in the gross earth State Park except for the Forest Drive Unit of Richmond Lake State Recreation Area, Falls Park State State Park, LaFramboise Island, Chief White Crane, Clay County Recreation Area, and the mouth of Spearfish Canyon.

A person who possesses a valid turkey license for Unit PST-48A is permitted to use a bow for hunting small game or turkey. A person who possesses a valid turkey license for Unit PST-48A is permitted to use a bow for hunting small game or turkey.

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