2027 MOUNTAIN LION

Draw	Application Opens	Application Closes	Results Available
Access Permit	11/05/2026	12/03/2026, 08:00 AM CST	12/04/2026

Over the Counter	Purchases Open	Purchases Close
Statewide	12/01/2026	12/25/2027

SEASON INFORMATION

Black Hills Fire Protection District (BHFPD)

The mountain lion season will close immediately if the harvest limit of 60 mountain lions, or 40 females, is met at an earlier date. This information will be updated with each mountain lion harvested and can be accessed by calling 1.866.895.9067, or by visiting gfp.sd.gov/mountain-lion.

December 26, 2026 to April 30, 2027

Statewide

On land outside the Black Hills Fire Protection District

December 26, 2026 to December 25, 2027

MOUNTAIN LION HUNTING USING DOGS

The use of dogs to hunt mountain lions is allowed:

a. Year-round outside of the BHFPD, and;

b. From December 26 to April 30 within the designated area of the BHFPD for a *person with an access permit* that will be issued by a random drawing, provided the harvest limit has not been met. This access permit is only good for the time period designated on successful award.

- A person using dogs in the designated access permit area within the Black Hills Fire Protection District shall attempt to harvest the first legal mountain lion they have a reasonable opportunity to harvest, except under the condition where the lion pursued shows obvious signs of lactation.
- Licensed hunters must accompany the dog handler when the dogs are released and must continuously participate in the hunt thereafter until the hunt is completed.

Hunting Interval	Permits
December 26, 2026 – January 15, 2027	3
January 16 – February 5, 2027	3
February 6 – 26, 2027	3
February 27 – March 19, 2027	3
March 20 – April 9, 2027	3

FEE SCHEDULE

License Type	Cost	Availability
76 - one any mountain lion	$30	Unlimited resident licenses

REPORTING MOUNTAIN LION HARVEST

All harvested mountain lions, including the entire carcass and pelt, must be presented to a GFP representative for inspection within 24 hours of harvest.

Mountain lions harvested **IN** the Black Hills Fire Protection District - must be reported to GFP personnel and checked in at the Rapid City GFP Regional Office (4130 Adventure Trail at the site of the Rapid City Outdoor Campus). Hunters who are successful in taking a mountain lion must call the GFP Regional Office at 605.394.2391, during weekday office hours (8 a.m.-5 p.m.), or call State Radio at 605.393.8121 during nights and weekends. Arrangements can then be made to have a GFP representative meet the hunter at the Rapid City GFP Office.

Mountain lions harvested **OUTSIDE** the Black Hills Fire Protection District - must contact a Conservation Officer or other GFP representative within 24 hours of kill to arrange for inspection.

CONTACT US

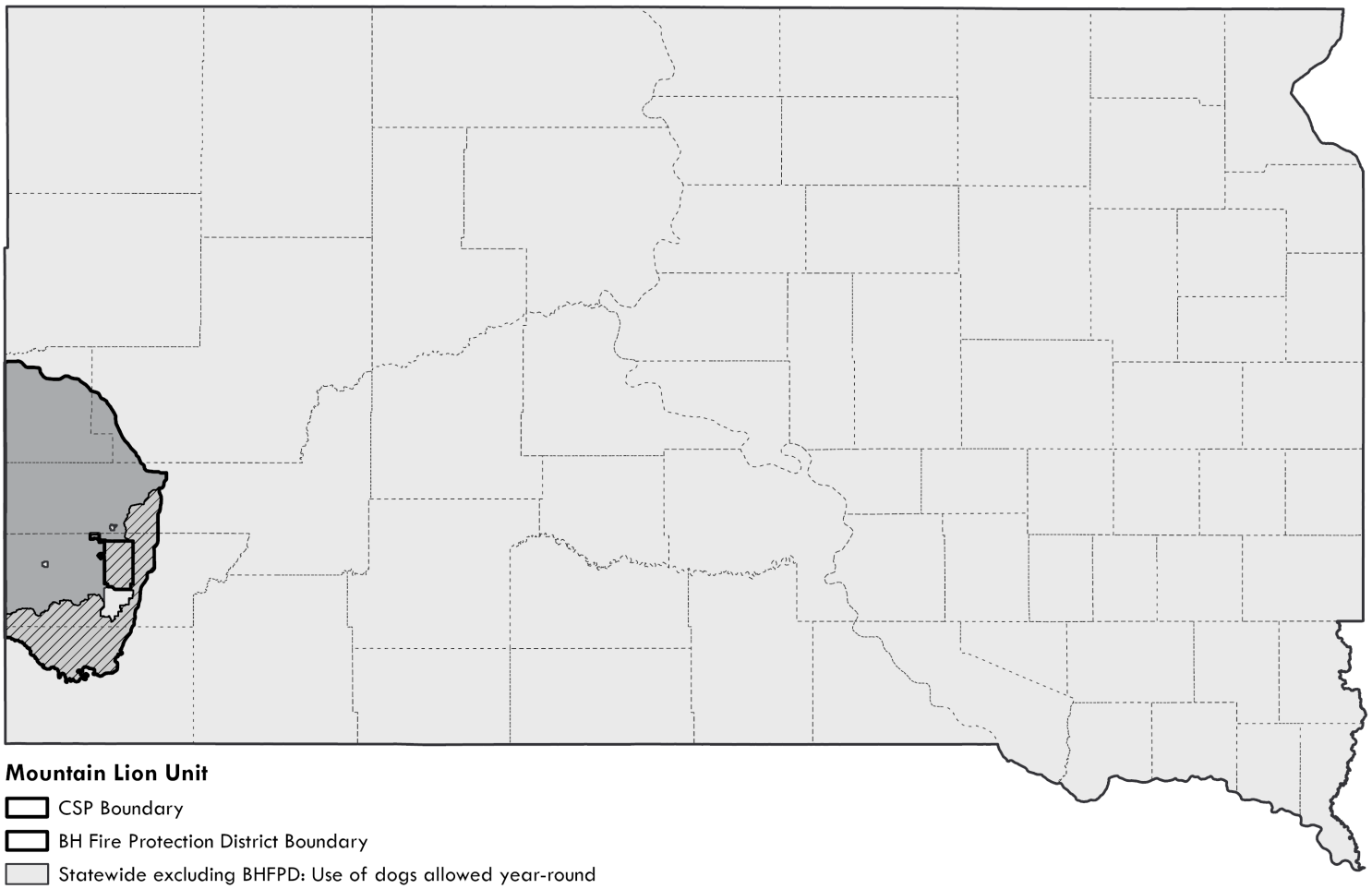
GFP LICENSING OFFICE
20641 SD Hwy 1806, Fort Pierre, SD 57532
605.223.7660 | TTY: 605.223.7684
Monday - Friday | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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.

Interactive Hunting Unit Map

NOTE: All applications must be submitted online.



Note: An individual must possess a temporary access permit to hunt with dogs in those portions of the Black Hills Fire Protection District within an area bounded as follows: beginning at the junction of State Highway 79 and U.S. Highway 16/East Catron Boulevard in Rapid City, then westerly along U.S. Highway 16 to its junction with the Black Hills National Forest boundary, then southerly along the Black Hills National Forest boundary to its junction with South Rockerville Road, then southerly along South Rockerville Road to its junction with State Highway 40, then easterly along State Highway 40 to its junction with Pennington County Road 330 (Playhouse Road), then southerly to its junction with U.S. Highway 16A, then southerly along U.S. Highway 16A to its junction with the north boundary of Custer State Park, then westerly along the Custer State Park Boundary to its junction with the northwest corner of Custer State Park, then southerly along the west Custer State Park boundary and Wind Cave National Park boundary to U.S. Highway 385, then northerly along U.S. Highway 385 to its junction with State Highway 89, then southerly along State Highway 89 to its junction with 18 Mile Road (Forest Service 316), then westerly along 18 Mile Road to its junction with Pleasant Valley Road (Forest Service 715), then westerly along Pleasant Valley Road to its junction with Pilger Mountain Road/Dewey Road (Forest Service 769), then westerly along Pilger Mountain Road / Dewey Road to the South Dakota-Wyoming state line, then southerly along the state line to its junction with the Cheyenne River, then easterly along the Black Hills Fire Protection District southern boundary to the southeast corner of the Black Hills Fire Protection District, then northerly along the Black Hills Fire Protection District eastern boundary to the point of the beginning.

Requirements and Restrictions:

- No person may harvest more than one (1) mountain lion in a season.
- No person may hunt mountain lions with the aid of traps or bait.
- Shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.
- No mountain lion with a spotted coat (kitten) and no mountain lion accompanying another mountain lion may be harvested.
- No person may pursue or release dogs on tracks indicating multiple mountain lions traveling together.
- A person may use an electronic call to hunt mountain lions.
- All firearms, muzzleloaders, and archery equipment must meet the same minimum requirements as established in administrative rule for deer hunting.