



SD Game, Fish and Parks Outdoor Campus - SF

# NEWSLETTER

Quarterly Update: Fall 2022



SD GFP Mission: We serve and connect people and families to the outdoor through effective management of our state's parks, fisheries and wildlife resources

## Newsletter Content:

- Note From the Director
- Note from the Friends of The Outdoor Campus Sioux Falls
- Note on Region 3 Wildlife
- A Look Back...at the Summer of 2022
- Campus Updates
- Programming Highlights
- Fall Program Booklet
- Upcoming Special Events
- Volunteering
- Concluding Notes



**OUTDOOR CAMPUS**  
— SIoux FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA —

# David Parker

SF Campus Director



“This past summer was The Campus's first "normal" summer since COVID in late winter in 2020. It has been a breath of fresh air to have a full summer of programming and a full set of 11 interns.”

## Get Outside: 25 Years in Sioux Falls



"Get Outside," is a Campus slogan that many have heard on the radio, television, and social media. This slogan encapsulates in short the goal of the Campus these last 25 years.

Looking forward to another 25 years offering free outdoor programming here in the greater Sioux Falls area, we strive to continue this mantra while expanding our program to reach audiences we have not reached before.

# Notes from The Friends of The Outdoor Campus SF

Friends of The Outdoor Campus Board was formed in 2021 by Emmett Keyser, GFP Regional Director, and David Parker, the Director of The Outdoor Campus, to assist with the fundraising for the expansion of The Campus.

It did not take long for Emmett and David to realize how valuable the Board could be to the Campus. The Board is a voice for the community about groups The Campus can partner with, programming, and community contacts. Their input is invaluable.

The board agreed to expand its purpose and meet monthly. We thank them for their willingness to serve.

Members of the Board are:

Jan Nicolay  
Brian Klatt  
Tim Kromminga  
Amanda Oines  
Ryan Brown  
Royce Merritt  
Cheryl Ulvestad

Jeff Scherschligt  
Kathy Anderson  
Eric Olson  
Kristina Coby  
Emmett Keyser  
David Parker



Board Chair  
**Jan Nicolay**

FRIENDS OF THE



**OUTDOOR  
CAMPUS**

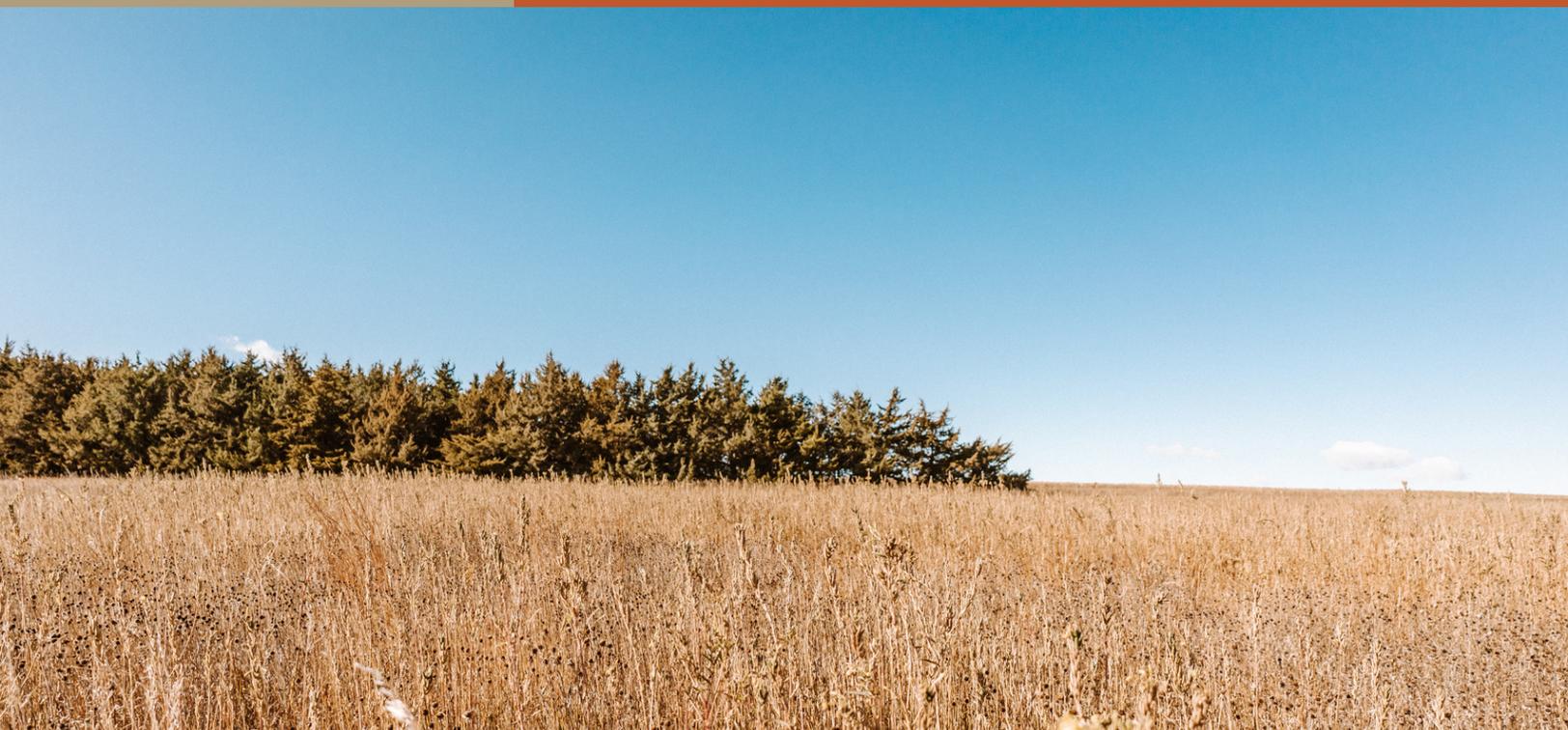
— SIoux FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA —

# SD GFP Region 3 Wildlife Division

As summer comes to a close, our summer intern staff will be departing for college. Some of our intern graduates, however, will be headed to their first career stop. I want to take a minute to join with all of our staff to thank the interns all for their hard work in helping us in managing our natural resources and educating the public on the great opportunities that exist in South Dakota's outdoors. I sincerely hope the experience they had with GFP this year, whether working for our habitat, wildlife damage, fisheries, law enforcement programs, or The Outdoor Campus Programs, was both educational and enlightening. All our best to you all!

**Emmett Keyser**

Region 3 Wildlife Supervisor



# A Look Back at Summer 2022

## Intern Training



The Campus summer kicked off with intern training. This 2-week timer period, offers interns the opportunity to meet their coworkers, gain a few certifications, and practice their educational skills prior to summer. This year we had 11 interns (a full office of interns). Our interns filled the following roles: Naturalist Intern, Horticulture Intern, Outreach Intern, and Volunteer Coordinator Intern.

## Spear Fishing at Lake Lorraine



Throughout the Summer, The Campus holds a variety of classes including a unique one: Spear Fishing. This class gives participants a opportunity to experience fishing in a new and unique dimension.

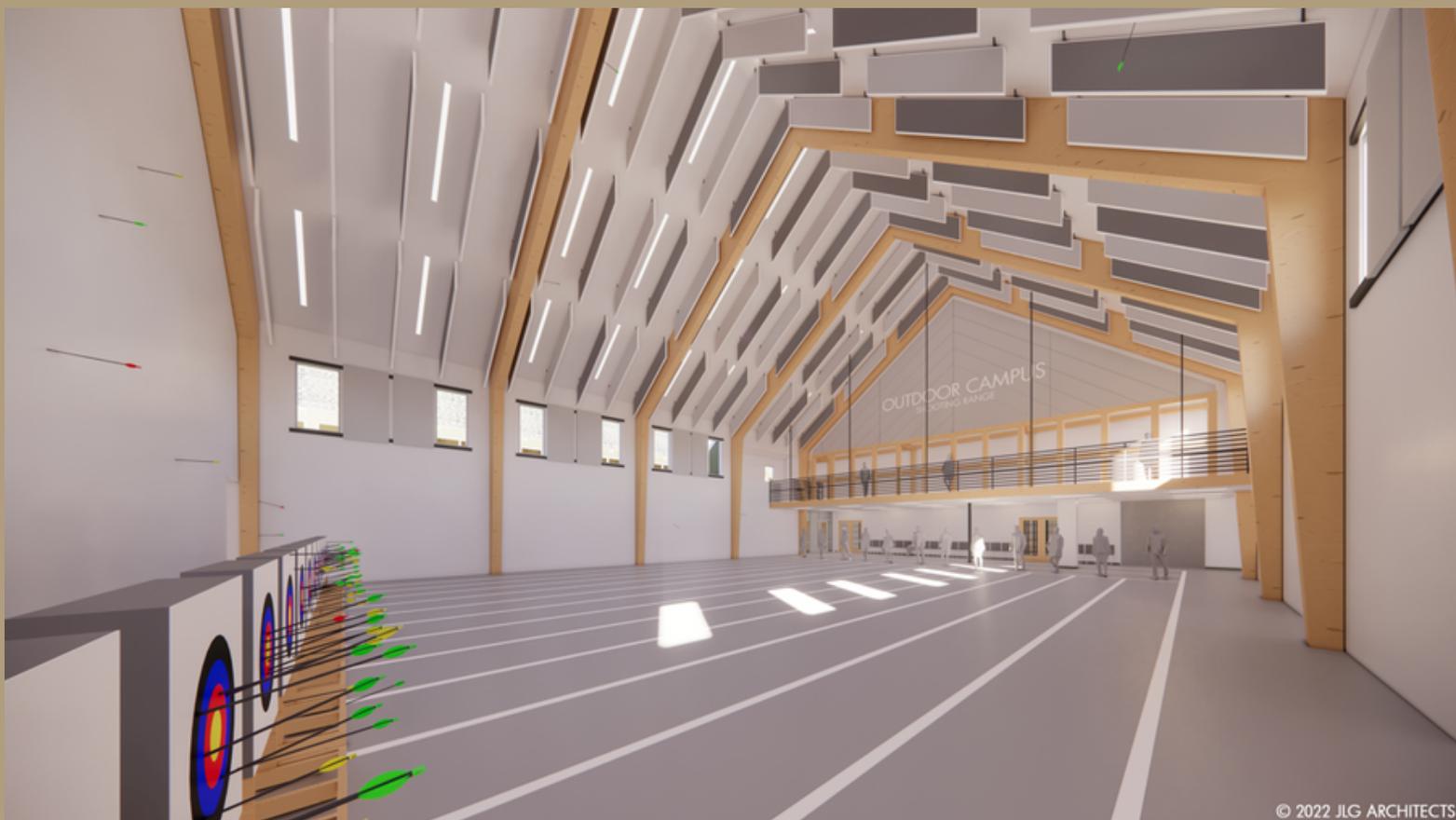
## Pheasant Cleaning



One joy we have with our programming is partnering with local groups. This Pheasant Cleaning and Cooking class was a joint partnership program with Pheasants Forever SD - Women on the Wing.

# Campus Updates

## Expanding The Campus: Indoor Space



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## Range - Classrooms - Processing

We are expanding! As I know many of you have noticed, our museum area has been closed since COVID started in 2020. We made the decision to close it in 2020 to mitigate spread, later in that year we converted the space into a large classroom space for social distancing. To date, we still have it closed due to our need for a large classroom space for programming.

In the wake of all of this, we are addressing our space need by moving forward with fundraising for an expansion to include more classroom space, an indoor archery/bb gun range, a dedicated game processing space, a meat grilling/smoking deck, an intern work space, a nursing mother's room, and more.

# Campus Updates

## Expanding The Campus: Outdoor Space



## 60-Yard Outdoor Range

We are also working to expand our outdoor area. Our current archery range is only rated for 30-lb. bows. With the growth seen in the sport of archery and bow hunting, we are working to meet that need. This new space will allow for larger poundage bows and for folks to be able to shoot at longer distances.

As with all we do, safety is key. The range will have a fence to prevent entrance to firing area of the range. Range commanders and cameras will also be employed where appropriate for safety.

# Campus Updates

## Campus Prescribed (Rx) Burn



Morning of the Rx Burn - May 10, 2022



During the Rx Burn - May 10, 2022



Afternoon Post Rx Burn - May 10, 2022



18 days Post Rx Burn - May 28, 2022



3 Months Post Rx Burn - August 8, 2022

On May 10th, SD Game, Fish and Parks partnered with the city of Sioux Falls Fire Rescue to implement a prescribed burn on part of the Campus's natural prairie field. Historically, fire has been a natural part of the prairie landscape. Prescribed burns are utilized to help reset grassland ecosystems to allow native plants to become more dominant over nonnative species.

# HIGHLIGHTS



## Hunting Gear Giveaway Update

August 13th, The Campus held its very first Hunting Gear Giveaway and Swap!

The Campus would like to thank everyone who came out to acquire some new gear to help them get out into the field both hunting and fishing! A huge thank you to all those who donated to this event and helped make it such a success!

## Hunting 101



This course is a unique opportunity to learn the full process of deer hunting from purchasing a license, going to the gun range, going into the field for a deer hunt, and learning how to process a deer.

The goal of this class is to introduce and help families become more comfortable hunting in hopes of building a lifelong passion for hunting.

Parents/guardians are required to attend. This is available to anyone 10 years and up. Adults are to sign up as well.

If you think this is something that may interest you, please contact Derek at:  
605-362-2732  
derek.klawitter@state.sd.us

# Fall 2022 Programming Booklets

## Habitat Help Desk

Wednesday, November 9 from 1:00 - 2:30PM or 6:30-8:00PM

This class will focus on programs for landowners including CRP, EQUIP, GFP State Programs, and Every Acre Counts. If you have questions on what the best option you have as a landowner, this will be a great opportunity to hear and connect with professionals in your area.



Check out these Classes!

## Trapping 201

Saturday, October 1 from 1:00 - 4:00 PM

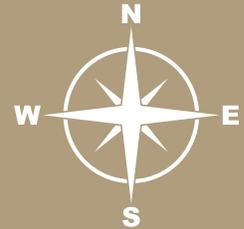
This course includes an indoor and outdoor experience that will briefly discuss furbearer identification, the trapping process from trap preparation to selling whole carcasses or skinned and prepared carcasses and the process of skinning a furbearer.



Our Fall 2022 Program Booklets come out August 10! You can swing by the Campus to pick up a hard copy or you can check them out online:

<https://gfp.sd.gov/east-programs/>

Registration for Fall Programs starts August 17 at 8:00 am.



Need Help? Give us a call at 605-362-2777  
Or  
Give the Kalkomey Help Desk a call at 1-800-684-9541

South Dakota | EVENTS Programs Login/Register >> using mySD

# South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks: Educational Event Management

Have you registered through our new Kalkomey registration system?

To register, go to: <https://southdakota.storefront.kalkomey.com/em/programs>

# Campus Volunteers

Happy August!

As we are nearly at the end of summer programming, I want to thank The Outdoor Campus volunteers. From May to mid-August, our volunteers donated over 1,800 hours of their time. Our staff is beyond grateful for the continued assistance from our volunteers. We could not teach all the classes we do without their help.

I would also like to applaud the following volunteers for dedicating over 100 hours of their summer to help at our facility: Ernie Tweet (142 hours), Cheryl Ulvestad (148 hours), Ruby Wilson (137 hours), and Alonna Walker (145 hours).

Thank you, volunteers, for all your hard work and dedication to The Outdoor Campus. Your time and effort do not go unnoticed! I'm excited to see how much more the volunteer team accomplishes in the remaining months of 2022.

**Paige O'Farrell**

SDGFP Outdoor Campus SF





# OUTDOOR CAMPUS

— SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA —

## 25 Years of Programming 25 Years of Growing



If you want to give to the Campus Expansion, to help us continue growing in the next 25 years go to:

<https://www.parkswildlifefoundation.org/projects/outdoor-campus-sioux-falls-expansion>

