

Public Hearing Minutes of the Game, Fish and Parks Commission  
January 10, 2019

The Public Hearing Officer Scott Phillips began the public hearing at 2:00 p.m. at RedRossa Convention Center in Pierre, South Dakota. Commissioners Gary Jensen, Travis Bies, Mary Anne Boyd, Jon Locken, Scott Phillips, Russell Olson (via conference call), Douglas Sharp, and Robert Whitmyre were present. Chairman Jensen indicated written comments were provided to the Commissioners prior to this time and will be reflected in the Public Hearing Minutes. Phillips then invited the public to come forward with oral testimony.

**Deer Hunting Season Drawing Structure**

Dan Nefzyer, Lake Norden, SD spoke in support of the two tag proposal. He said with the two tag proposal more people can be in the field and if people really want to hunt there are archery and other tags available to give everyone opportunity. There is no excuse if people are not getting a tag. There were quite a few leftover tags available and people need to do things for themselves before the state has to.

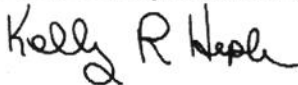
Wayne Lloyd, Wentworth, SD, spoke in support of the deer hunting season draw structure noting it is a good compromise between the avid hunter and GFP. He said he is one of the 12 percent that puts in for more than 2 tags and appreciates the compromise as this is the best solution for the hunter.

Dayne Weelborg, Estelline, SD, said as a hunters we are a small percentage of people and we need to work together and be positive even toward people who do not hunt. He is excited to have a Governor who is representing our view points and sportspeople. It's disheartening to see the negative comments online.

See attached public comments submitted prior to the public hearing

The public Hearing concluded at 2:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kelly R. Hepler, Department Secretary

# Public Comments

## Deer License Allocation

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**Brad Taylor**

Fort Pierre SD

bradtaylor40@hotmail.com

**Comment:**

I oppose the the change. Leave it as it is and let the preference point change have a chance to work

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**Jim Gruber**

Estelline SD

jgruber148@yahoo.com

**Comment:**

if you really cared about numbers and increasing chances you would address the 50% allocation nonsense to land owners... but, as usual, being an appointed body you will never bring this issue up... tell me why?

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**Pat Malcomb**

Sioux Falls SD

pmalcomb@sio.midco.net

**Comment:**

Not needed don't do it there will be a huge backlash.

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**Nic Edlund**

Farmington MN

nwedlund27@hotmail.com

**Comment:**

I have been hunting South Dakota for over 7 years as a non-resident. In that time I have seen the hunting pressure increase and the quality of animals decrease. The health of the deer herd is of great concern to me. My question is, you think limiting non-residents is going to help the quality of the herd? I know a lot of South Dakota residents that get 5 to 7 buck tags a year and more doe tags than that. I don't see how giving more tags to residents that can already buy numerous buck tags is going to help the quality of the deer herd. I full understand the out cry coming from your residents. Maybe y'all should look inward, and limit the number of tags some of your residents are getting. I believe your upper end of your resident hunters are doing far more damage on the deer herd than non-residents. If you want to look at it from a business and funding stand point. Per hunter who actually contributes more to the community and game and fish? When non-residents are paying \$286/tag and they are spending money on lodging and fuel, who is contributing more and you want to limit that because of some residents who are complaining that 5 buck tags a year isn't enough. I am sorry, I just don't see the logic. I truly wish I could be in Pierre on the 10th to voice my opinion.

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**Dale Johnson**

**Summerset SD**

**djohnson@petelien.com**

**Comment:**

I want to comment on the non-resident and youth parts of the deer license allocation proposal. I have seen the profound impact that hunting and the outdoors has on our youth. I have also witnessed the decline in youth utilizing the outdoors. There are a lot of reasons for the decline back one of the biggest is a lack of opportunities. The youth tags and youth seasons are wonderful programs but I believe the waiving of a fee for preference points and the bonus points for unsuccessful youth applicants makes these programs even better. Getting a kid out hunting is the first step. But if they then have to wait for several years to take the next step of hunting with the chance of harvesting a buck, we are taking a big chance of losing them.

I have heard some say that this gives an unfair advantage to youth in drawing a tag. Yes it does give youth an advantage and that is the point. It gives them an advantage the same way resident only pheasant season gives residents a chance to harvest birds before non-residents. But you don't hear any one calling that unfair.

The fact of the matter is if we don't continue recruiting more youth into the outdoors, this all becomes mute. Because we won't have the privilage of hunting and fishing. PETA and WWF and HSUS are banking on the next generation not having ties to the outdoors.

I also fully support not allowing non-residents to apply for extra tags until the 5th drawing.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Dale Johnson

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**Scott Jamison**

**Wentworth SD**

**sjamison@dakotacare.com**

**Comment:**

I have commented twice during the previous hearings on the deer license changes. I remain opposed to any change, feeling that there is no mandate for this, quite the opposite. After the Legislative committee rejected the change, due to overwhelming public opposition, I see that the GFP changed the name of their proposal and are now framing it as simply a way to increase youth hunting opportunities. The new youth offers should have been included in the original proposal if they were valid. Instead they now appear to be an attempt to buy a vote on the Legislative committee. I oppose this change, as do the majority of the people who have voiced an opinion.

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**Matthew Langenfeld**

**Littleton CO**

**Mattlangenfeld@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

Please don't make changes to the existing draw structure for deer. It works fine as is.

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**Arnold Veen**  
**Milbank SD**  
**arnieveen@yahoo.com**

**Comment:**

This proposal has a very high public opposition in the original first proposal and was sent back to the GFP for further review/study. As far as I see it you did not make any changes to the original proposal that the public opposed.

In adding the youth portion to the proposal I feel it is a poor attempt to try and run a proposal with very little support.

I would strongly urge the Commission to reject this proposal!!

The original problems still exists in the proposal and adding new sections does not fix those issues.  
Thank you for your time. Arnie Veen

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**Adam Carroll**  
**Rapid City SD**  
**Adamgc3@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

If this is truly about taking care of the residents... I would like to see residents only have 1st and 2nd draw to receive our preferred tag... after this allow non residents in the 3rd to start applying... make your residents happy before you let these big wig non residents commercialize South Dakota hunting just as you guys have allowed non residents to ruin what use to be great resident pheasant hunting..

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**Adam Carroll**  
**Rapid City SD**  
**Adamgc3@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

Let the people vote, you send out a million harvest surveys... what is one survey on yes or no going to hurt

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**Murdean Olson**  
**Sisseton SD**  
**mvolson@venturecomm.net**

**Comment:**

I am an 80 year old lifetime South Dakota resident who has applied for an east river deer license every year eligible since 1952. There were a few years where a license could be obtained with less than a three year availability period, but generally speaking a three year wait between licenses was most common. As I stated previously, I am now 80 years old. I realize that the three year time period between licenses, at my age, may result in an inability to obtain a license ever again due to potential health or other problems caused by age. Therefore, I would like to suggest a special provision to allow yearly east river deer licenses for 80 year or older resident South Dakota sportsmen who wish only to have the opportunity to enjoy the season and, if fortune is with them, to harvest the buck of their lifetime. Landowners have a special privilege. This would not involve a very large number of requests for this special license such as the landowners application does.

I would appreciate very much any consideration you could give to this proposal.  
Thank you.

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**Alex Barrett**

**Greensboro NC**

**abarrett@haganbarrett.com**

**Comment:**

I travel to SD every year to pheasant hunt, spending several thousand dollars on lodging, guides, meals and incidentals. I have tried repeatedly to draw a non-resident waterfowl license to hunt the plentiful ducks we see around your beautiful state, but have been successful only once in about 10 tries. I encourage SD to open up waterfowl hunting to non-residents. I believe it would be a further boon to the businesses which cater to hunters.

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**Jared Nicolaus**

**Box Elder SD**

**jarednicolaus@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

I have two kids in the Mentor Program through SD Youth Hunting Adventures, and for three seasons, we have been unable to procure a buck tag for the kids. Although they enjoy going out and harvesting does, we are trying to develop the next generation of hunters, and allowing our young hunters the opportunity to hunt for a buck will be much more beneficial in developing an interest that will last a lifetime.

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**Maddie Nicolaus**

**Box Elder SD**

**maddienicolaus@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

I have been mentored for three seasons with the SD Youth Hunting Adventures program, and have had a lot of fun going out and hunting for deer in the Black Hills and out on the prairie. One thing that I wish I could do is to be able to shoot a buck. I have shot one doe every season, and will not be eligible for the program after next season, and would really like to be able to experience hunting for a big buck, and be able to have the feeling of pride and accomplishment that goes along with a successful hunt. I don't know all the rules and regulations that are involved with these laws and legislation, but I do know that I am one of many kids that would like the opportunity to experience hunting for a buck. Thank you for allowing me to tell you my story, and I hope that kids in the future will be able to experience what I did not get to experience.

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**Kort Nicolaus**

**Box Elder SD**

**kortnicolaus@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

I was able to shoot my first deer this season with the help of the Youth Hunting Program. With the help of my mentor, I shot a white tail doe at a preserve where they needed to reduce their population. It was a lot of fun, and much more fun than the last two seasons when I was not able to shoot a deer. It is really cool to see how a couple of the other mentors got to shoot a buck, and to hear their stories of how they hunted and waited for the right time and the deer that they shot. I would really like the chance to do this, and I kind of understand the points system when my Dad and my Mentor explain it, but I just want to be able to hunt for a buck. Please think about this when you are talking about the points and the future hunters that live here and how the chances we get when we are young will keep us wanting to hunt when we get older. Thank you, Kort.

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**David Lewton**

**Rapid City SD**

**davidlewton60@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

Please listen to the public that pays your wages! The majority of hunters are not in favor of this proposal, even the sdf&p's own data shows that. I don't know why this is being rammed through. I have no doubt that the you will pass this again. Why? What political reason is this being push so hard for? I am sure that in a year or two the public will find out the real reason! Is it money? What does the state gain? This proposal makes no sense. The true relationship between the number of hunters in the field is the population of deer. Look back 5 to 10 years. The population of deer was larger which in return ment more tags available. More tags means more hunters! Please look back through the data to confirm that to your selves. The data doesn't lie. Next, what does muzzle loader hunting have in common with rifle hunting? Nothing! With only 1000 tags vs 30000 tags available on each side of the river. This is a trophy hunt! The Black Hills took 25 years to turn into a trophy unit. BH has 2500-5000 available tags, nowhere near the prairie tag numbers! The black hills are a trophy unit! Why not combine black hills and muzzle loader deer with the other trophy units like CSP, and refuge deer? Does that make to much common sense? Why is special buck tags( both sides of the river) combined with east and west river deer tag draw? To much common sense again? This is being pushed through way too fast to have some of these common sense things put together. If change needs to happen, let's have it make common sense. I would be totally surprised if the commission actually reads this! I think it is all political and you have your mind made up before the meeting even starts. Please surprise me and email me back that you really read this, each and every one of you. Thanks in advance if you do read it.

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**Mel Dutton**

**Faith SD**

**mel.dutton@faithsd.com**

**Comment:**

A recent press release indicated that nonresident deer hunting opportunities would be pushed back to the fifth draw, giving resident deer hunters an increased opportunity to acquire multiple licenses ahead of nonresidents. I am not sure I understand the proposal but if it gives residents that have a license an opportunity to get a second license before a nonresident has even one, is just plane wrong. I am a large landowner in Perkins County. Last year I had two friends apply for 353C. One a resident one a nonresident. The resident drew a license, the nonresident did not. This was what I expected based on the small percentage of nonresident licenses.

I then had the nonresident apply for a left over tag in 49B. The nonresident did not draw a licence in that unit either but the resident drew a leftover license in 49B. There were no buck tags left after this draw so my nonresident friend did not get a license and my resident friend had two. This is absolutely not fair. I feel that residents should have the advantage for their first choice license over nonresidents but once they draw a license they shouldn't get a second one before the nonresident gets their first one. This would be a bad rule change if residents can get multiple licenses before a nonresident can get even one. I feel so strongly about this, that if this is approved, I will close my ranch to any resident hunting

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**Jerrud Kruse**  
**Ramona SD**  
**Jkrusekbrw@gmail**

**Comment:**

Your new proposal is not fair to all citizens of South Dakota. All citizens should have equal opportunity at each individual season. Just cause someone hunts less doesn't mean they should have a better opportunity at their only choice. This proposal is not giving all citizens equal opportunities at all deer hunting seasons in South Dakota and has no support from the citizens. This proposal is only wanted by the commissioners so they can act like they are some super commissioners. Listen to the citizens of South Dakota and stop this now!

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**Robert Eddy**  
**Spearfish SD**

**Comment:**

As a hunter and landowner, I fully support the proposal to change the drawing system. I do not feel it is appropriate for one person to have multiple tags while others must be denied the opportunity to hunt. Landowners can always obtain a tag, for their own property, if they do not draw in the standard process and non-residents still can obtain a tag (8%) from the first drawing, that is not being eliminated. I do question the Muzzleloader being included in this proposal, but alteration can be made in the future. Thanks again for your hard work, and know that there are many out here who support the change.

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**Randy Lemke**  
**Aberdeen SD**

**Comment:**

This seems to be the same system that Minnesota uses and coming from Minnesota I have seen what a disaster this has been. The GFP claims that it is creating 3500 more opportunities to hunt deer this is not true, you are taking from the majority to cater to the few who will hunt only in certain counties. You are penalizing the majority for the sake of a few. that is socialism.

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**Casey Foster**

**Sparks NE**

**berrycreekllc@yahoo.com**

**Comment:**

1/10/2019

SD Game, Fish & Parks

Dear Commissioner,

I am a South Dakota landowner, Game, Fish, & Parks Habitat Cooperator, outdoor enthusiast, and conservationist.

The ranch I live on is located in the very southeast corner of Todd County and northeast corner of Cherry County Nebraska. I live in a unique situation where the state line runs through the middle of my property, approximately two thirds of the land is located in South Dakota and a third in Nebraska. Due to the fact that my house sits approximately 50 feet inside of Nebraska, I am a Nebraska resident.

Currently there are only twelve Non-Resident deer permits available for all of Todd county. Therefore, drawing a permit to hunt deer every year on my own property is virtually impossible. If I am lucky, I can draw every other year, or every third year. On average I will winter 30 to 40 deer on my property. Managing the herd is difficult due to the lack of hunting opportunities for a Todd county.

Therefore, I am writing to ask that you consider increasing the number of non-resident deer permits that are issued in Todd county.

If you have any question about my commitment to wildlife and conservation Tim Olson was here to inspect the cooperator projects that I am involved in.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Casey J. Foster

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**Michael Beutler**

**Rapid City SD**

**Comment:**

I think muzzle loader season should remain it's own separate draw.

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**Mark Peterson**

**Aberdeen SD**

**Comment:**

You guys just aren't getting that the vast majority of the public wants nothing to do with this plan. It was a plan developed from poor questions in a poor survey and needs to be dropped. If this gets approved I think you can expect the legislature to be inundated with calls and requests to correct this travesty.

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**Jack Dokken**

**Pierre SD**

**Comment:**

oppose



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**Chuck Klafka**

**Hill City SD**

**Klafka.chuck@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

Hello

Can you please clarify if all free youth licenses with Preference are for both resident and non resident youth. I support any and all youth involvement regardless but it's never mentioned.

Thank you.

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**Toby Hinckley**

**Sturgis SD**

**tobyhinckley@ymail.com**

**Comment:**

I think giving 2 chances for a deer license is better

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**Scott Wittrock**

**Harford SD**

**wittrock.scott@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

I would however change mentor hunting back to age 10 and change the preference point availability to those 16 and older. There is no reason a child under 10 needs to be accumulating preference points so early. There are many studies showing that children under even up to 12 cannot handle the "death" of an animal such as a deer. Their brains are unable to process the difference. The change to preference points appears to be a money grab by GF&P.

I would actually favor an elimination of the preference point system altogether, straight up luck of the draw. You would most likely get more people applying.

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**Thomas Harnois**

**Pierre SD**

**Tharnois888@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

Hate to agree with change but you heard us loud and clear. Appreciate that a lot, i will for sure support a change like this! Also this is for the deer tag changes. Has anything been said about caps on archery tags for nonresidents?

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**Jim Hearn**  
**Rapid City SD**  
**khearn@rushmore.com**

**Comment:**

The new proposal in essence no change at all. I am so frustrated that I have to wait years to hunt close to my home. Easy River areas have significantly fewer areas to hunt deer limiting those that live out west. I now understand that the amount of voters East River is significantly higher than West River voters and the decision was now political. The wait for a Black Hills tag is long so there can no longer be "any" family traditions for Black Hills. Why not allow the choice of two tags both East and West River. Separate Black Hills from your proposal. This will favor local hunters who live in the Black Hills. East River hunters have a higher advantage of hunting close to home. Please allow us that live in the Black Hills the same advantage.

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**Phillip Johnson**  
**Cantom SD**  
**Phillip\_johnson@mail.com**

**Comment:**

With the time and effort the commission and SDGFP-OUTDOORS have spent on the deer allocation we could have educated the entire state on how the current system actually works. As a resident we have the best hunting opportunity around. If I applied for and bought a tag in each state that borders SD I still wouldn't have the same opportunities as I do right now being a resident and playing the draw game. I strongly oppose any change to our current system. It should be left alone, give the current system a couple years to work out any details and see how the cubes system will work in favor or disfavor to the state. We also need to address the non resident archery hunting opportunities to our state. I like seeing them here but there are too many hunters in key areas. An increase in non resident license cost to something more in line with the rest of the western states bordering us and having them limited to a drawing for mule deer is a must.

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**Corey Johnson**  
**Sioux Falls SD**  
**Coreyjo1@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

What in the world is this supposed to try and accomplish? It's not going to help anyone get a tag quicker! This is worse than the first proposal you put out.

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**Matt Anderson**  
**Rapid City SD**

**Comment:**

Why let someone have first choice in two areas? I have been putting in for black hills deer for a couple years now and have yet to draw. I liked the idea of limiting the field with this being first choice as opposed to letting people put first choice

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**Bruce Behm**

**Plymouth MN**

**bruceb@quazarcapital.com**

**Comment:**

I am a non-resident landowner who pays over \$10K/yr. in property taxes, i invite friends to hunt with me, collectively we spend over \$5K/yr. for licenses and tags on deer and pheasants, plus quite a bit of money on other items., additionally i pay for 70 acres of food plots and allow the Fish & Game to study and collar deer on my property, I ask for very little from the State of SD, may i please get some consideration for getting deer tags, i feed them and create habitat for everyone around me. Why not let non-resident landowners get the same consideration as residents for drawing deer tags? thank you for your consideration. Bruce - Ps: you have some of the best CO's I have ever met, very knowledgeable and helpful.

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**Steve Mehlbrech**

**Salem SD**

**Comment:**

This is no better than the first change you attempted to do. I still have to wait for the 2ns draw for west river if I apply for east river first. My county will be gone after the first draw. All you did was change the chart to make it look better. This compromise is a joke and I can tell you we are not falling for it. Leave it the way it is. I have been hunting for 15 years and have gone a year here or there without a tag, but its worth it! There are already so may left over tags EVERY YEAR! LEAVE IT THEE WAY IT IS. Stop trying to compromise for the 5%. Not one person complained how it was except generational hunter in a tiny area and outfitters. Please, do not change this! Keep it the same. This is no compromise , You are going to lose more money than you think and the poaching is going to get worse.. LEAVE IT ALONE . Your making the majority severely angry.

---

**Daniel Severson**

**Chancellor SD**

**dan@bencoparts.com**

**Comment:**

I think the Custer State park deer License should not be involve in the first option. It should stay separate as it always has

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**Mark Gunnufson**

**Marvin SD**

**Comment:**

Very glad that after all this work you seem to have found a middle ground on this! Thank you!

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**Dustin Berg**  
Dell Rapids SD  
dustin.hollie@gmail.com

**Comment:**

I still do not understand why we are trying to fix what isn't broken. I prefer to keep it the way it is.

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**Earl McArthur**  
Rapid City SD  
Kotacal89@aol.com

**Comment:**

It is refreshing to know that public opinion and input was effective to reach an acceptable compromise regarding the deer licensing process.

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**Shannon Frericks**  
Ashton SD  
goslinghunter@gmail.com

**Comment:**

It's really easy, and do it like this! One Buck tag per resident no matter what weapon do you use, they have to choose the East River or West River and Black Hills. All other tags for other stuff like Refuge and extra does should be drawn.

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**Brett Waibel**  
Draper SD  
info@badriverhunts.com

**Comment:**

I'm not sure why someone needs to shoot more than 2 bucks in our state, resident or not. I was at the meeting yesterday and listen to 2 guys talk about youth yet they referred right back to them self's. I'm on the board of west river pheasants forever

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**Chad Boheman**  
Valley Springs SD  
huntchad4@aol.com

**Comment:**

This still will not allow me to feed my family. You people need to stop trying to please the trophy hunters and listen to the people that use the hunting resources in this state to put food on our tables

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**Bob Deutz**  
**Marshall MN**  
**bobdeutz@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

Why being a nonresident land owner of Deuel county is there virtually no chance to hunt rifle season for a buck on ones own land. Even if there was preference points or something that would give a person a chance to participate with some sort of realistic chance would be fair. Paying property tax each year to your county and state should give a person a chance to hunt a buck with a rifle on ones own land.

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**David Strasser**  
**Lennox SD**  
**davegail@midco.net**

**Comment:**

To bad you caved to the hunters that apply for so many licenses, and leave the one license a year person, or youth out of the picture. It is to bad that those greedy hunters carry so much weight with your decision.

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**Bruce Keppen**  
**Sioux Falls SD**  
**bkeppen@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

good compromise

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**Jason Venjohn**  
**Sioux Falls SD**  
**jv.75@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

Will my preference point still count that I purchased last fall for this coming east river deer season?

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**Jared Vock**  
**Summerset SD**  
**jared.vock@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

These changes are unnecessary, people can manage their preference points themselves in order to get the seasons they want. I do not want to be limited by some committee as to which licenses I want to be able to get. Depending on the year and financial situations I may be able to hunt more years than others. Furthermore, the muzzle loader should not be snowballed in with this. When you have the multiple draws I run the risk of losing opportunity to hunt in the areas I want to hunt in.

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**Dayne Weelborg**

**Estelline SD**

**daynew@wwtireservice.com**

**Comment:**

I want to commend the commission on this compromise. As volunteers to our great state they have received unwarranted negative feedback that quite frankly is un-South Dakotan. They have listened to level headed outdoorsman who have tried to come up with an unbiased and fair proposal that doesn't meet everyone's expectations, but if you are open minded you can see its pretty darn good. It allows avid hunters to maintain there traditions and friendships across the state, while ultimately adding another 1,000 tags into the mix for the single tag hunters to more often draw there preferred tag. All the while not alienating the landowners who provide the habitat for the game animals we so dearly love to chase .....a place to eat and sleep. Thanks again to the commission, secretary Hepler "whom I once wanted to lose his job, and now consider a friend" Kevin Robling special projects coordinator, and Wayne Lloyd for his unrelenting desire to find common ground with all parties. You are to be commended for a job well done, South Dakota sportsman and women owe you a debt of gratitude. And in conclusion if and when this passes, lets all stay as committed to finding ways to get more habitat as we were to getting our way on this proposal.  
Thank you,

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**Chris Kessler**

**Brandon SD**

**Chrisjkessler@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

It seems this is a better alternative to the first deer allocation proposal given by the GFP. However, I still do NOT believe the muzzle loader season should be included into the new proposal.

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**David Del Soldato**

**Rapid City SD**

**sheyanne97@yahoo.com**

**Comment:**

you should just leave it alone is working just fine as is

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**Dean Gesch**  
**Sioux Falls SD**  
**dgesch@sio.midco.net**

**Comment:**

I am opposed to the deer license allocation proposal because it provides no chance for non-resident licenses in East River counties. As a resident, I am likely to get my preferred license, or at least my second choice, for East River. However, our long standing deer hunting tradition that includes non-resident friends and family for East River hunting will likely never happen again. The opportunity these non-resident hunters had, which allowed them to get a license at least every couple years in the third drawing, is now gone. In the county we hunt, all licenses are always gone after the third drawing, so a non-resident stands no chance with four resident-only drawings. What is the rationale for adding a fourth drawing? Wouldn't residents already have ample chances to get their preferred licenses in the first three drawings? And, why is West River treated differently with a percentage of licenses set aside for non-residents (East River has no such provision). Why couldn't non-residents at least be allowed in the third drawing and be able to accumulate preference points? Alternatively, why not allocate a small percentage of Special Buck licenses for non-resident applicants (both East and West River) and allow them to accumulate preference points. It may take quite a while to accumulate enough preference points but at least a non-resident would have a chance at a "dream" license. Overall, I am disappointed in no consideration for non-residents for East River licenses. At the very least, non-residents should be treated the same for East River and West River licenses.

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**Ronnie Jaenisch**  
**Ashby MN**  
**Rjjaenis@prtcl.com**

**Comment:**

As a non resident and want to hunt east river deer what drawing can I apply in? It doesn't say in your proposal. Do we have to wait till last drawing.

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**John Lindell**  
**Greenfield MN**  
**john.lindell@bakertilly.com**

**Comment:**

I am a non-resident landowner, paying over \$11,000 a year in real estate taxes. I have many family and friends that come out to hunt and fish each year. We spend thousands of dollars on licenses each year, while providing hundreds of acres of food plots, CRP and other habitat for the wildlife. I think there should be some consideration for non-resident landowners who provide food and habitat for the wildlife. If I am reading the deer license proposal correctly, a resident could have up to 11 deer licenses, before a non-resident would be eligible in the 5th drawing, on a first-come, first-served basis. Thank you. John

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**Tyler Fode**  
**Piedmont SD**  
**tylawfode@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

support

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**Cody Haugen**

Colorado Springs CO

Codyhaugen@yahoo.com

**Comment:**

Curious to the rational behind not allowing non-resident muzzleloader licenses?

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**Skip Miller**

Columbia MO

S.miller2015@yahoo.com

**Comment:**

Needs to make it possible for nonresidents to get an east river rifle tag. By the time I am able to apply there are never any available.

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**Raymond Bender**

Sioux Falls SD

rgbend@gmail.com

**Comment:**

G & F regs are composed by non--hunters who do not have a clue with reality! Why make regulations complicated--G& F want animals regulated--if a resident, allow him/her to purchase one or two license and hunt anywhere in the state--forget the technicalities

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**Joshua Lieberman**

Pierre SD

jtlieberman@venturecomm.net

**Comment:**

good job ladies and gentlemen.

I'm proud of the perseverance that all have endured during this process.

one very important part that needs to be added or thought into further is emergency declarations. leading into this deer population reduction we were severely impacted by EHD. the last year we had it we lost alot of deer and we got into declaration discussion. This are fundemental building block to ensure we can react appropriately when the time comes.

im just asking for a review that makes sure we have not boxed ourselves in when the time comes. what happened to us was having to make the call 1 week before season. Anyways good job.



---

**David Lewis**  
**Raymond SD**  
**davidl6811@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

Question: Does this proposed process affect Archery Deer tags. Can I purchase a resident archery deer tag and still be qualified for all the gun deer draws?  
Thank You

Suggestion: to enable a better understanding of the amount of deer harvested by county in the state, have you considered an internet or web registration like several states already require. Oklahoma does this for turkey.

---

**Matthew Korstjens**  
**Milbank SD**  
**ringneckchaser@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

When are they going to address the fact that landowners can get 2 tags one for landowner and one during the general draw, in a season while other hunters cannot get any tag in the season. If they are going to give out landowner tags they should not be eligible for half of the tags for the normal draw.

---

**Dan Snyder**  
**Pierre SD**  
**Shunkaska57501@yahoo.com**

**Comment:**

I support leaving it the way it is, we do not need a change. It is about waiting your turn not making it impossible for us avid deer hunters. Thank you!!!!

---

**Scott Gackle**  
**Canton SD**  
**Scott.gackle@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

I like the original way licenses were going to be allocated. I only hunt one area and it currently takes me 3 years to get a tag. I was hoping the original changes might help get it to every other. I'm not sure how somebody was able to draw east river and west river every year. So not sure how the new changes would effect them, either way I'm for any change that will allow me to get to the black hills more often. Thanks

---

**Allen Schulte**  
**Box Elder SD**  
**allenschulte@goldenwest.net**

**Comment:**

I will start by saying that a board member, from Madison, SD shouldn't be quoted, in regards to nonresident hunters. With that being said, are we improving anybody's chances of drawing with the new formula? Let me give a few scenarios. I am a East River landowner and also own a cabin in the Black Hills. My first 2 choices would be Black Hills and Muzzleloader, I don't care bc I can still get my landowner permit at home. Second scenario, I own a cabin in the Hills, own no land, and that is the only place I prefer to access, I would prefer that license. Third scenario, I live in south central SD, I apply for every license available to me, and usually get 2/3rds of them (some are better than others.) Fourth scenario, I live in East River SD and own no land, I own a cabin in the hills, and can't put my home county as one of my first 2 choices. Fifth scenario, I only have access to public land, I put muzzleloader and hills as my first 2 choices (refer back to scenario 1). Ok, now, what about previous preference points? Do they carry over? Do they gain if I don't draw? What happens if I only draw one of my 2 first choices. What happens if I don't draw any of my first two choices and don't draw on the second draw?

---

**Robert Rowles**  
**Rapid City SD**  
**bobr549@yahoo.com**

**Comment:**

I fully support the first option without modification. An individual should have to pick one season as first choice. I live in the Black Hills and can only hunt every two to three years. Let people hunt where they live. If limited tags are available to residents, then there should NOT be eight percent given to no-residents. Then you take another eight percent to land owner preference, that further reduces my chances as a resident of the Black Hills to hunt where I live. Only winners in this new proposal is the big money people who have connections to hunt east river, west river and Black Hills seasons.

---

**Dennis Micko**  
**Estelline SD**  
**dbmicko@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

I certainly appreciate the new deer licensing proposal and thank the commission for listening to the public input that led to the change. Thank you!

---

**Philip Neuharth**  
**Menno SD**  
**Pneuharth@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

I support the current deer license proposal. Thanks

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**Todd Rhew**

**Hot Springs SD**

**trhew2@goldenwest.net**

**Comment:**

My question is, and always has been, if hunters are being passed over on any of the draws, then why is there such a thing as "Left over" licenses? Shouldn't these tags go to the hunters that were "unsuccessful" in the draws to begin with? Also, why are non resident hunters getting any tags, when there are residents that have to wait 3, 4, even 5 years before they are able to draw a tag? Start putting the people who live, and pay taxes, in South Dakota first.

---

**Harold Bickner**

**Kimball SD**

**BICKNER@MIDSTATESD.NET**

**Comment:**

This is an excellent compromise

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**Larry Wynia**

**Yankton SD**

**lcwynia@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

First draw deer seasons. I think this is a great compromise. Just do it!

---

**Bruce Haines**

**Mitchell Sd 57301 SD**

**brucehaines@qwestoffice.net**

**Comment:**

Way too many rules!

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**Cody Ulmer**

**Menno SD**

**Comment:**

Leave it the same it was, raise the price of out-of-state, and make the bow hunters go into a lottery and not have them guaranteed. It's that simple. Other states charge more than we do, and we gladly pay to go and hunt there because we simply hate all the out-of-staters who come in and pay just as much as we do for a tag.

---

**Eric Gednalske**  
**Pierre SD**  
**eric.gednalske@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

I want more hunters to be able to harvest one deer, instead of a few hunters harvesting multiple.  
This relationship must exist to create the next generation of properly conserved hunts.

---

**Bob Lee**  
**Desmet SD**  
**cardinallee1982@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

How in the world can residents keep track of this. I have been applying for resident deer license for years. I have noticed that license for residents not filled have just disappeared.

Examp les , this was the first year I applied for Snyder's Kingsbury county. I was denied but when I looked at draw results there were license not filled.

There was no chance to really in a second draw. They just disappeared. This has happened in other countries as well. I talk to land.

Also, our of State tag price needs to be increased.

Frustrated out doorsman.

---

**Gary Lueth**  
**Blooming Prairie MN**  
**garylueth@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

Your contempt for private landowners is mind numbing. You are debating 2,3,4,5 licenses for people that don't own land! Who feeds the deer! No hunting signs if you are from Sioux Falls!

Political idiots!Your contempt for private landowners is mind numbing. You are debating 2,3,4,5 licenses for people that don't own land! Who feeds the deer! No hunting signs if you are from Sioux Falls!

---

**Brian Odde**  
**Mound City SD**  
**brianodde@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

Leave it as is.

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**Joel Dykstra**

**Platte SD**

**joeldykstra@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

This is not good for South Dakota hunters no matter how many times you revise it. Please hear us and drop it.

---

**James Gruber**

**Estelline SD**

**jgruber148@yahoo.com**

**Comment:**

for the life of me , this new deer hunting proposal is absolutely hard to understand.. i keep saying let politicians get involved and leave it up to them to destroy a good thing.. number one, and foremost, if the commission was an elected entity most of this would never have happened in the first place.. appointed positions rarely ever work.. number 2, if you really cared about numbers, and this is a simple one... remove this 50% of all licenses going to land owners... many of who do nothing for wildlife, hunt and will continue to hunt on land not leased or owned by them... we see it every fall,.. and how many tickets are written per year for this offense..... few if any.... and why? simple.. politics,, and third... one buck per person per year is enough for anyone... spread it out like you want,,, but only one buck... if family tradition is so important then hunting a doe should not bother any one.....

---

**Brandon Schmitt**

**Pierre SD**

**Bigsschmitt9@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

This proposal is worse than the first one. No one should be allowed both an east and west river tag until the 3rd draw. It will not alleviate any of the draw problems as everyone will still apply for east and west river. There is no one that needs a second tag until the 3rd draw. If y'all are going to go with this proposal you just as well not change it at all. If you want to open up more tags eliminate the nonresident leftover draw and only allow them to apply in the first draw after that all leftover tags should convert back to residents only.

---

**Dylan Vogel**

**Groton SD**

**Dylanj1000@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

We as the people who pay your salary do not want any changes to the deer season. This is completely ignoring what we want. You are suppose to be representing hunters not your own views!

---

**Douglas Symonds**

**Spearfish SD**

**bettysymonds1@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

This new approach appears to be more workable process.

---

**Robert Woerman**

**Brandon SD**

**drbobw@alliancecom.net**

**Comment:**

Thank you for listening to the public, South Dakota Hunters. SDGFP must retain the support of South Dakota Hunters or there will no longer be a hunter from South Dakota in the field.

---

**Clinton Peterson**

**Box Elder SD**

**Comment:**

Much better than first however the only thing that really needs changed is the nonresident archery deer should be restricted to 1 tag statewide or a limit on number of tags for nonresident. They slam the public land west river and take a large number of deer from the public lands. Your percentage of deer killed by bow is way off because you are not counting the number of deer that are hit and lost.

---

**James Cantalope**

**Eureka SD**

**cantajam@yahoo.com**

**Comment:**

When third draw happens you should be able to go to same season if you only have one tag, lots people just like to hunt one unit, if you have a east river tag, u might want a second tag there cause your a hunter who prefers not to drive across state to shoot another deer

---

**Arlin Angerhofer**

**Big Stone City SD**

**arlinverna@tnics.com**

**Comment:**

Will there still be landowners licenses?

---

**Charles Baldwin**  
Custer SD  
sbaldwin9@gmail.com

**Comment:**

The original proposal on this issue last year was better in the intent to provide deer tags to more hunters and this just takes it back to easier for one hunter to get multiple tags. I recommend going back to the original proposal for fairness to more hunters.

---

**Kelly Mahoney**  
Starbuck MN  
kellyjmahoney@yahoo.com

**Comment:**

If I understand this proposal correctly, non-residents will now have an EVEN WORSE chance of getting a license than the previous system where you had to wait for the third draw. I was born and raised in South Dakota. I would love to hunt with my brothers and sister and cousins, but there was NOT A SINGLE rifle license available for ANY non-resident adult in Brule county when third draw finally came. Residents on the other hand could get multiple deer licenses before a non-resident could even attempt to apply. More than once, the only realistic license I could attain was a bow license. Tough to justify this license and a trip home when my family can shoot out to 400 yards but I can only reach out 40 yards. Non-residents coming to hunt means additional spending that is a huge blessing for our state. Why can't non-residents enter into the 2nd draw? I can't be the only home state person who doesn't have a realistic hope of coming home to hunt with family. PLEASE, please, please reconsider this plan!

---

**Glenn Purington**  
Rapid City SD  
glennpur@rap.midco.net

**Comment:**

Once again the GF+P buckles under to the landowners and ranchers of this state. Now you say they can hunt on they're ranches and have a tag for the Black Hills. I thought you were going to make it more fair and provide more hunting opportunities

---

**Joshua Aman**  
**Minneapolis MN**  
**zocha316@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

I was strongly hoping that there would be an opportunity for non-residents to get an 'any-deer' tag in all counties. I was born and raised in SD and still have a farm there in Edmunds County (east river). Our land is kept local and purposely rented to only local farmers. My grandfather, father, uncles, brothers, etc., have been hunting our land for years. I have taken a job at a university in Minneapolis and since then have never been able to acquire an 'any-deer' (rifle) tag with the rest of my family. It's certainly not the worst case scenario, it's just disheartening to know that every year I still go back home to hunt with my family, pay the higher fees to hunt back home as a non-resident, and yet cannot participate in buck hunting on our farm anymore because I do not have an opportunity to apply for an any-deer tag (rifle) in our county, and most likely will never again be able to, based on the application statistics. It's a family tradition that I can no longer do because I am a non-resident and I don't see this changing anytime soon. The last time I called to talk to DNR about this, they simply said, sorry there's nothing we can do for you. Just very disappointing.

---

**Jason Heintzman**  
**Ipswich SD**  
**daksat@valleytel.net**

**Comment:**

Leave it the way it is, what good is it if you only allow a max of 2 tags when someone would like to get double east river tags as applicable today but then can't apply for west river for same year which in turn would be over the limit of 2 tags total, it would be 3, so now you can only apply for 1 east river and 1 west river and not allow for the 2nd antlerless tag for east river. This most certainly will decrease what you are trying to do and making it harder for everyone to enjoy what we have now!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

---

**Wyatt Skelton**  
**Bryant SD**  
**wyattskelton@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

Allow muzzleloader deer season to additionally to be open simultaneously for the two week antelope season statewide.

I know this change is forced upon the hunters and believe it should be evaluated yearly and not in 3 years. Especially if it is a major flop and have to be stuck with it for 3 years before changed or modified.

---

**James Klukas**  
**Hotsprings SD**  
**jamesklukas27@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

All you unelected gfp officials , your surveys are utter nonsense. You are merely attempting to paint a picture that public input influences policy. The purpose of these surveys are purely and solely public relations and a blatant deception.



---

**Andrew Schmidt**

**Piedmont SD**

**k8hvntn2@yahoo.com**

**Comment:**

The only problem I see wrong with this bill is it land owners can still apply for two tags also. Landowners automatically get a tag they should only be able to apply for one other tag. Talking to people this is what angers everybody.

---

**Garlan Bigge**

**Huron SD**

**gbigge@hur.midco.net**

**Comment:**

Leave it like it also has been.

---

**James Glowacki**

**Big Sky MT**

**glowackijim@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

I know that wildlife officials are doing their best to manage the deer population. However, as a non-resident hunter the regulations just keep getting more complicated . It takes some effort to figure things out during the license/draw period

---

**Kelly McPhillips**

**Yankton SD**

**kellymcphillips@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

in addition to supporting this most recent proposal to allow application for two seasons at once. please begin to evaluate and consider the elimination of the preference system and return to simple lottery draw requiring hunters to identify if they did or did not have a license in the previous year. The preference point system can't work and is problematic as i commented in 1985 when it was instituted. The preference systems across the west have destroyed the mathematic probability of drawing a license by artificially diluting the pool. Thank you for your diligent work on difficult problems. -kelly

---

**Tim Brumbaugh**

**Rapid City SD**

**dakotatim@yahoo.com**

**Comment:**

Deer Season new first draw limits. I think you had it right the first time, limit everyone to a single first draw tag. You compromised and I understand but you should have stuck too your guns.

---

**Jason Merickel**

**Wadena MN**

**jmerickel@merickellumber.com**

**Comment:**

I hunt private land in perkins county and I don't understand why it takes preference points to draw the West River Special Buck. Maybe there is a way to create a separate tag for hunters that are using an outfitter versus ones like myself that have permission to hunt private ground. I get that you want as many opportunities as possible for your residents, but when I don't draw a tag it doesn't create more opportunity for anyone on the property we hunt. It would also create less competition in the west river draw, by making the special buck license basically first come first serve.

Also in regards to doe tags. I think if the property you are hunting is over a certain size there should be more doe tags available. both years i hunted out there we saw dozens of does each day and we could not get a license because residents eat up all the tags. because of this there are zero does taken off of this property. thank you for your time.

---

**Andrew Farley**

**Winner SD**

**af.shibby@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

I am in agreement on the with the first 3 drawings. I don't see why anyone would need more than 6 licenses

---

**Brandon Tekrony**

**Brookings SD**

**brandon.tekrony@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

I support this compromise.

---

**Randall Pratt**

**Mitchell SD**

**rpratt@mit.midco.net**

**Comment:**

I am curious as to how landowner gratis tags will figure into this. As with the special buck tag limiting the applicant to a single opportunity in the first draw, a landowner tag should also count against the draw. If not landowners will skew the process and could essentially have 3 applications in the first round. Thank you for your consideration and again I believe the initial proposal may have been the best for all.

---

**Tom Wilcox**  
**Sioux Falls SD**  
**tomwilcox@yahoo.com**

**Comment:**

I see no need to make any change whatsoever to the existing system. I believe this feeling is shared by the vast majority of the deer hunters. I have been a deer hunter for a long time and I'm not aware of anyone that sees a need for a change.

---

**Clark Baker**  
**Sioux Falls SD**  
**clarkbaker27@yahoo.com**

**Comment:**

Leave it alone.....NOW u have made it more confusing

---

**Nancy Wetering**  
**Tea SD**  
**nanc4931@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

Passing this proposal would allow our family (5 hunters) to uphold our annual hunting trips!!

---

**Casey Jensen**  
**Lennox SD**  
**casey.r.jensen@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

In favor!

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**Brett Hudson**  
**Harrisburg SD**  
**mallard\_24@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

This is a much improved proposal. Good compromise. As a hunter who takes advantage of East River and Black Hills deer in the same year, I support this proposal.

---

**Weary Young**

**Burke SD**

**wlysky64@yahoo.com**

**Comment:**

Makes more sense than anything I've seen so far in all the messing around with ideas too make changes. Would like to see preference points actually mean something. I think a preference point should get license before any non preference application is filled.

---

**Ronald Smith**

**Deadwood SD**

**rgsmith2@live.com**

**Comment:**

It is my recommendation, for the first draw, everyone applies for 1 rifle license by area, using preference points, including non-residents. Non-Residents are allotted a % of the tags. This method gives equal access to SD residents who have a favorite hunting spot/region, before someone else gets two licenses. The Non-resident % provides out of state family an occasional hunt at home. Thanks for taking input.

---

**Randy Routier**

**Buffalo SD**

**Comment:**

I just heard through the grapevine of a proposal to limit the number of nonresident archery licenses on private land. If this is true I would highly disagree with this decision. As far as the new rifle license allocation I am fine with it.

---

**Robert Kadlecik**

**Sioux Falls SD**

**Bobmarhakad@icloud.com**

**Comment:**

I believe the original one first draw, is the fairest not this second. The original one first draw accomplishes best to give EVERYONE A CHANCE TO DRAW. I sat at a meeting in Yankton next to a man on my left who had 7 deer licenses and the guy to my

---

**Terry Halvorson**  
**Yankton SD**  
**ttlhh4@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

I still don't like the second change still odds are better applying for all separate than having to choose 2 I have deer hunted for last 37 years leave it the same or you will loose more hunters then you think you will gain know myself and numerous other friends and myself have been looking into hunting bordering states next year if this goes through

---

**Travis Donelan**  
**Garretson SD**

**Comment:**

I personally don't mind the new proposal. Keep it similar to the current draw with a couple small tweaks. A complete makeover isn't gonna win anyone over

---

**Don Hantzsche**  
**Summerset SD**  
**Tlwdah@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

Although this is much better then other proposals I still disagree with including muzzleloader season with all the rifle seasons. I believe it should be a stand alone season as it is today just like bow season is. This is a primitive weapons season not a rifle season. I hunt muzzleloader season because I can no longer draw a bow nor draw to load a bolt in a crossbow unless I buy a \$1500 crossbow which I can no afford. With muzzleloader season being lumped in with rifle season the chances of me ever drawing another muzzleloader any tag are slim to none. If your determined to lump it with another season make it bow season.

---

**Jacob Maras**  
**Crooks SD**  
**Jcbmaras@yahoo.com**

**Comment:**

The proposal does not fully define how one would apply for or receive 2 tags in the first draw. Do we get two first choices? Can they both be for east river or can you only apply for two separate seasons. This comment area is not mobile friendly and may prevent some people from fully being able to express themselves. How are preference points allowed to the two first choices? Can they be applied 1/2 and 1/2 or do all preference points need to be applied to one first choice? If we do not get two first choices this ( in my opinion) is no better than the previous proposal because you cannot decide where preference points should be applied in a logical manner. I plan my east and west river deer hunting trips separately with different groups of people and this system appears very detrimental to the way I and my friends hunt. A much more logical system would be creating multiple shorter seasons. This would allow more people in the field and scheduled trips would be more reliable on a year to year basis.

---

**Brian Becker**

**Rosemount MN**

**becker.m.brian@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

I believe nonresident hunters should be eligible for at least 10% of the overall hunting licenses for the West River, Black Hills and Refuge hunting seasons during the first drawing. I believe that nonresident hunters bring in a considerable amount of revenue to SD during this part of the year that small businesses depend on. I think that making changes to the license application structure for nonresidents may have a negative impact on registration turnout and small business revenues in future seasons to effectively manage the states deer population.

---

**Gary Sedivy**

**Vermillion SD**

**karensedivy@yahoo.com**

**Comment:**

Why not apply for all, but only be able to receive two like you do on elk apps. You will make more money on preference points.

---

**James Cantalope**

**Eureka SD**

**cantajam@yahoo.com**

**Comment:**

Follow up to my earlier comment, in third draw u can apply for same season if you already have a tag in the following, east/ west river deer. Including special buck, black hill deer, all others if u have a tag already u have to wait til 4th drawing to apply in that season again, so in third draw u can apply for one additional tag in the following east west river deer including spec buck, black hills deer, So after the third draw u can have two tags in these three season only for total 5 period

---

**Doug Leschisin**

**Eden SD**

**lesch@venturecomm.net**

**Comment:**

This proposal is too complicated for most people. I predict GFP will get a storm of complaints and end up going back to the old drawing system or a less complicated one.

---

**Harry Mitchell**

**Hot Springs SD**

**wanesharose1@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

happy with things the way they have been. looks to me that I will get less tags.

---

**Kelly Blair**

**Milesville SD**

**blairhwy34@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

I do not understand the rationale behind this proposal. It appears that the GF&P is trying to get more hunters into the field. Why is this necessary? Aren't all or nearly all of the deer licenses state wide already being sold? As a landowner, who does not charge to hunt my place, it seems like getting more people who don't already have a place to hunt out in the field will make the problems of gaining access worse. The hunters who come here have been coming here from between 5 years up to over thirty years. If my hunters don't draw tags, I will not let any new people hunt my property. The way the state of South Dakota ie, the GF&P are interpreting old laws and making it impossible for landowners to keep hunters from walking unimproved section lines to access public lands is causing friction between landowners and the GF&P. In my opinion since these unimproved section lines, and since I pay the taxes on them, the public should not be allowed to force their way onto my ranch. To me this is not only a violation of my rights as a landowner, it to me it is trespassing. To add to this, I have had two major fires on this ranch in the last ten years, one of which was CAUSED by a group of trespassers. I cannot stop these "trespassers" from walking my property, and I can't stop them from smoking and possibly throwing burning cigarette butts away. I can however, control my hunters that have permission, they follow my rules, or they hit the trail. The GF&P need to mend some fences with the landowners, instead of forcing this stuff down the landowners throats. If it aint broke, don't fix it.

---

**Darin Blow**

**Crooks SD**

**Darin.blow@dmshealth.com**

**Comment:**

There is nothing wrong with the current system

---

**James Cantalope**

**Eureka SD**

**cantajam@yahoo.com**

**Comment:**

Continued, last and final input on drawing, you should only be allowed one tag in each season of the following.  
1 in Custer, 1 in refuge, 1 in muzzleloader if successful, rest up to five for total five overall

---

**Roy Hendrickson**

**Caputa SD**

**rhendrickson@nvanet.com**

**Comment:**

Not sure why the change when the hunting public do not want or ask for it to change, I guess a select few have the most influence with those in charge.

---

**Terry Kohrt**  
**Lennox SD**  
**bigt45sd@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

Once again, the only thing GF&P is interested in is selling more licenses. Deer numbers are down so low everywhere I usually hunt, it is not worth going. Definitely opposed to selling any more licenses. Need to sell less and build the deer herd back up.

---

**Ron Erion**  
**Spearfish SD**  
**rerion@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

I preferred the 1 first draw proposal but I do understand that there was a lot of opposition to the original and I applaud the Commission and SDGFP for listening and accepting a plan that will allow 2 first choice applications. As I stated, I would have preferred the original proposal.

---

**Pat Malcomb**  
**Sioux Falls SD**  
**pmalcomb@sio.midco.net**

**Comment:**

really now we are going down this road, leave it as is there is nothing wrong with it

---

**Scott Kuck**  
**Aberdeen SD**  
**kucklaw@nvc.net**

**Comment:**

NO change is needed. As evidenced by the "compromise" you have had to make. The system was never broken to begin with. You have messed around with this proposal needlessly. Just leave well enough alone!

---

**Tom Riddle**  
**Mitchell SD**  
**Riddleandsons@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

Again leave deer licenses as they were ,this is what South Dakotans want,,



---

**Josh Baumann**

**Stevens Point WI**

**jbaumann@stpaulequips.com**

**Comment:**

As a former resident, I accrued 4 years of preference points for East River Deer. I moved away in March of 2018 and now sit with 4 preference points that I would love to be able to use! I was writing to encourage an open opportunity for NR hunters to draw buck tags east river. Thanks for listening!

Sincerely,

Josh Baumann

---

**Jeff Peterson**

**Hartford SD**

**Comment:**

Confusing. Not a solution.

If I, or my son stop hunting somewhere its going to be because we don't have a safe and productive place to hunt, not because we can't get a tag. Type of tag (buck or doe) also does not matter.

Do you know a resident who has stopped pheasant hunting or deer hunting because they don't have a place to hunt, or no longer want to compete on public lands? I do.

Do you know someone who no longer hunts because they can't draw a deer tag? I don't.

Access to all school lands, and BLM with clear boundary markers would help.

---

**James Stengle**

**Yankton SD**

**jbstengle@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

As a Certified Wildlife Biologist (CWB), I find it strange and disheartening that you treat an important but small segment of deer hunters with indifference. My concern is for SD landowners that are non-residents. You make it almost impossible for East River non-resident landowners to draw a deer tag to hunt on their own land. I know of several NR that want to hunt deer on their property that they pay taxes on and actually have created and maintained excellent wildlife habitat. A landowner, whether a resident or non-resident, should be able to secure a deer tag to hunt on their own property on which they pay taxes. Please loosen up your rules to allow these tax-paying owners of lands that they own and have owned for generations to be able to secure a deer license. They are all willing to pay the NR fees but have little or no chance of ever drawing the tag. This is clearly discrimination and it likely will need a court challenge to change your attitude against these NR landowners. Wake up! If hunter numbers are declining, it shouldn't be so difficult for a NR landowner to draw a deer tag on their own property. There are court cases the uphold landowner rights regarding hunting licenses/tags.

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**Justin Murphy**

**Lyons SD**

**justintmurphy@outlook.com**

**Comment:**

Commissioners,  
I am writing in regards to the new proposal for the deer tag allocation. I commend the commission and sportsmen who were able to work together and find a compromise that works for everyone. From the beginning my stance was for no change to the system and I was firm on holding my ground. After much open discussion with other sportsmen and research I have concluded that change is inevitable. I believe the current proposal is the best option for both sides. No matter what decision is made there will be individuals who do not agree. It is important to follow these changes closely and to readdress them in three years if the new system is not working. Hopefully we can pass this proposal and move onto more important issues that our state faces such as habitat, quality herd management, and public access. Thank you for all of your hard work and service to the state.

Justin Murphy  
Lyons, SD

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**Jim Riis**

**Pierre SD**

**jkriis@pie.midco.net**

**Comment:**

I really like the new proposal for deer licenses & want to thank the staff & commission for all the hard work they did to come up with this.  
Hunters in South Dakota have many opportunities & that is because we have such a great staff of biologists & commissioners!

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**William Duffy**

**Sioux Falls SD**

**duffy.bill@principal.com**

**Comment:**

The black powder season should happen before the regular rifle season as it is in most other states.

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**Jason Seykora**

**Harrisburg SD**

**jaseykora@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

I feel that this new proposal is more than confusing at best. If its not broken don't try and fix it. Leave it alone

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**Julie Janson**

**Custer SD**

**Cjascjanson@aol.com**

**Comment:**

By caving in and giving some residents 2 deer licenses while some of us don't get one at all so they can carry on their "tradition" of hunting in two different places, you are completely destroying our tradition of deer hunting. We hunt in one place and only get a license every 2 or 3 years while others get 2 licenses in one year.

This is so wrong. I cannot find words strong enough to express my anger.

You must serve ALL residents of SD by giving everyone an equal chance at our first choice or I'm going to contact my representative.

---

**Kyle Wilson**

**Mitchell SD**

**klwilson@santel.net**

**Comment:**

Now I do not argue that change can sometimes be a good thing, I still do not believe that combining everything into a single draw is the answer. This proposed system give landowners preference in all seasons above everyone else as they do not need to apply for their most preferred tag which is almost always going to be where they own land, as they are guaranteed their landowner tag. Now they dont need to worry about applying for their "home" unit in the first draw and can instead apply for a different unit in the first draw because they will fall back on the landowner tag giving them preference over the rest of us have to apply for everything. Maybe my position is out of line, but just because you own land east river and are guaranteed that tag shouldn't give you better chances to draw a black hills tag then the next guy. A landowner tag should count towards your ability to apply for multiple tags in the first draw.

---

**Seth Warner**

**Gettysburg SD**

**sdw15magnum@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

I would like to see a proposal that would make recipients of the Apprentice/Mentored tags ineligible for the regular season drawings. From what I have seen the long season Sept-Jan has negatively impacted archery season and the regular season hunting. From what I saw in Walworth county over the last couple years the numbers are way down from previous years, the deer that you are able to find seem to be overhunted. Making those who have gotten a tag for 5 dollars ineligible for regular season tags would help those of us who have hunted for years be able still get a buck tag. I personally know of 14 and 15 year old hunters that had 5 or more tags including the apprentice tag this past year.

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**Ryan Fliehs**

**Corsica SD**

**rfliehs@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

Please do not change anything with the current deer drawing structure.

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**Paul Kruse**  
**Brookings SD**  
murphykruse@gmail.com

**Comment:**

I don't see the problem with the way the deer licenses we're being handled. I have seen and heard farm more opposition to the previous plan you tried to propose and see the same with this plan. I am trying to understand why the change. It's like the board feels they have to do something, if it isn't broke why fix it? If you would spend this amount of time on habitat as you do with changing rules we might not have this problem! You are just making the resident sportsman/women more upset. I would also really like to see how many of the actual board members really participate in conservation and hunting. I m getting more and more upset with the way SD is handling this. I spend thousands of dollars each year on hunting and it only seems to get worse. I guess I will have to look outside the State for other opportunities! Please figure it out!

---

**Scott Rosenkranz**  
**Sturgis SD**  
scott.d.rosenkranz.mil@mail.mil

**Comment:**

I fully support this, I supported the first one. Right now someone by the "luck of the draw" can get 4 first choice tags and another may not get any first choices. We need this to be more equal which will help in teaching younger hunters game conservation. As it stands, if I cannot get the tags I want in the location I want, I may not hunt or my children may not. Those fighting this either typically get all their tags, have land-owner preference and always get a tag, or just assume it is big government and haven't fully looked in to it.

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**Douglas Eoute**  
**Stillwater MN**  
deoute@hotmail.com

**Comment:**

8% for me applying for rifle buck tags especially W. River that i have hunted since 1991 is very low number. Do appreciate being able to archery hunt many of those years. But getting a rifle draw liscense every other or 3rd year draw is disconcerting. Thanks

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**Marlyn Krosch**  
**Custer SD**  
smagick@hotmail.com

**Comment:**

I preferred the earlier proposal as I would like to get a deer hunting license in the area I live more often I also feel that one deer tag per year per hunter is enough

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**Russell Andrews**

**Rapid City SD**

**styknstring@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

I support the current proposal but I'm not sure about the specifics of preference point accumulation. If I were to apply for WRD and MZD in the first draw and receive my license for WRD; would I receive a preference point for MZD? If so, I would support the current proposal. I feel MZD should not be included in the first draw and be treated like Archery Deer due to the limited number of any deer tags issued for MZD.

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**Ryan Campbell**

**Sioux Falls SD**

**Rkcampbell90@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

There are a few different areas that I oppose with his current proposal. The first being that we are allocating 8% of the deer licenses in South Dakota for out-of-state hunters. I continually hear about trying to get more people in our state involved in hunting yet we are giving away a substantial portion to people outside the borders of South Dakota. As a father of three young children I would much rather see those opportunities for a buck license given to our young kids, our veterans, our elderly or anybody inside of South Dakota who would like an opportunity to hunt before giving it to out of state people.

In addition I would like to know where this desire to change our license system is coming from? It feels like we are making changes for the sake of making changes. The system of cubing the preference points makes sense to me as it allows those who've gone longest without a tag a better opportunity to get drawn in the unit that they would like. We have not given that system any time to see if it will work and help get more people into the field and now we are trying to come up with another system.

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**Trever Marquardt**

**Harrisburg SD**

**Comment:**

oppose

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**Scott Gamo**  
**Cheyenne WY**  
gamowolk@yahoo.com

**Comment:**

Dear GFP- as former SD resident I am glad to see that the 8% NON-RESIDENT tag allocation was kept for the West River and Black Hills tags. I am curious why a similar approach has not historically or currently been taken with East River Tags? It would seem from a deer population standpoint the heavier agricultural-based habitats found in East River counties certainly support robust populations of white-tails (certainly landowner opinions, relatives included suggest). Often I have noticed many third-round drawing tags yet available, albeit limited to antlerless or doe tags. To meet population management goals it may benefit GFP to consider ways to increase out of state interest to purchase tags thereby leading to enhanced harvest potentially helping in minimizing very late season depredation issues and other landowner concerns. Part of increasing that interest could include allocating some number of an any deer with antlerless tag to better meet population goals and out of stat interest. This could also be done in a manner consistent with other states' approach to non-resident hunters with the increase in fee for the tag generating more revenue for the management of the species. Thanks you for the opportunity to comment.

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**Douglas Hayes**  
**Spearfish SD**  
hayes3@spe.midco.net

**Comment:**

You caved into pressure. Keep it to one first choice or you should have left it alone. One first choice includes more hunters getting licenses instead of one hunter getting two first choices. It now takes about 4 years for me to get a Black Hills license, (that's all I apply for) it will remain the same. EXTREMELY DISAPPOINTED with new proposal.

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**Clark Baker**  
**Sioux Falls SD**  
clarkbaker27@yahoo.com

**Comment:**

I would like a count who was for or against I still think it is a terrible idea

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**Troy Stulken**  
**Pierre SD**

**Comment:**

The money need to change the License computer program will be more then two million I would guess. GFP just spent this money last year on changing point system. Problem is not how you draw license. System in place works and one off best in nation. Take money going to waste on new program and use it on the wildlife. People have trouble finding a place to hunt that they can get a tag is the problem. Make more places or better place for the public. On opening day of west river deer season nine different group showed up to hunt one quarter of walk in next to were I hunt. That was not safe for those groups. Some how three deer were harvested without any hunting accidents. Always leftover tags in this area. Just like many units. Just very few public deer hunting spots. The areas that take many years to draw have lots of public land for people to hunt. No changing this problem with what every you do!

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**Dean Guthmiller**  
**Casper WY**  
**diggoff@aol.com**

**Comment:**

I lived in SD for 35 years and had to move for employment reasons. The way the deer drawings are it takes me 3 years to get a tag as a now nonresident. Giving even more preference to SD residents, when they have eh most options for the least amount of money, is just another slap in the face. No one needs multiple deer tags for any reason other than they like to hunt. any other argument is nonsense. It is not economically feasible to hunt deer for subsistence reasons. It's cheaper to go to the store. As a former resident I always felt like a bastard stepchild when it came to hunting and now it's even worse. There are may people, 4 in our group of 5, that were born and raised in SD and have fond memories of hunting just as the residents do. It's just unfortunate that having moved away now prevents us from enjoying the hunt. Now that is made even more difficult. There are many "residents" who do not have the length of time as a resident as we do but still reap the benefits.

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**Travis Everson**  
**Castlewood SD**

**Comment:**

For the life of me I am not sure why GFP continues to push this issue. Probably 90% of the people I talk to oppose a change to the current system. The remaining 10% are neutral on the issue. When I ask around about who supports this system I am being told it is people that live in the Black Hills area and want to hunt there (with a buck tag) every year. If that's true that can't be representative of the majority of sportsman in the state. My worry is that this is another example of government (GFP) thinking they know what is best for the public. Well God gifted all of us with the ability to think for ourselves, so please represent the majority on this issue.

Please reconsider,

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**Travis Tisher**  
**Watertown SD**  
tisher@datatruck.com

**Comment:**

I applaud the group for attempting to enhance hunting opportunities. However, in my opinion, if the stated goal of getting more hunters in the field is the measuring stick, the proposals miss the mark. I will give two scenarios specific to me. Prior to significant quantity of licenses cut in Marshall County, my extended family (grandfathers, fathers, uncles, youth, etc) applied for any deer first choice and any antlerless second. Every year, we all had one or the other tag. This gave all 10-12 people a reason to meet at "deer camp". Of course not all harvested deer, and that was not our priority. Sitting on the tailgate drinking hot chocolate with grandpa was the priority. After any antlerless tags were eliminated and any deer cut significantly, we were on a two to three year cycle to draw. Those that did not draw did not make the trip to Marshall County and eventually all but me has quit deer hunting. 11 people lost.

With respect to youth and bringing new hunters to the sport I have three children currently age 12, 16, 18. We all acknowledge other activities make finding time to hunt a challenge for kids (and parents of active kids). Personally we exclusively hunted the first one or two weeks, depending on the calendar, prior to archery season. And the final two weeks after Jan 1 when archery and pheasant hunters were not afield. We hunt public land that is heavily pressured during those seasons. This past year, with archery starting early, and youth season ending Jan 1, unfortunately two of my kids did not harvest deer. We competed with, and lost, to those hunting pheasants and archery deer. Not a complaint, just a fact. I have heard so many other parents say they are not interested in taking their kids hunting because the public land is marched through every day and they don't feel comfortable asking permission on private land. Maybe that's not right, but it is a fact and I feel the same way.

What if we went back to the days where there were more hunters afield? Add license numbers, add any antlerless tags. I wonder what this would do to deer numbers. As stated earlier, my group of 12 did not fill 12 tags. I know the harvest data proves the same for other groups as well. It seems to me the focus is moving toward appeasing those who are trophy hunters rather than the families and friends who hunt together.

Perhaps it could be practical to block parcels of land for new or youth hunters only. Not all season, but perhaps a couple weeks. Especially late in the year when deer yard up and provide great opportunities for those who are not so experienced.

The proposals on the table are confusing. Consider fishing regulations in the state. We are coming full circle from time decades ago with statewide limits, through years of body specific limits, back to (nearly) statewide regulations again. In the name of simplifying regulations. Why are we running the same route with game regulations?

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on why I feel hunter numbers are down, and unfortunately, with confusing proposals that do not address the root causes, will continue to decline.

---

**Joseph Creager**  
**Rapid City SD**

**Comment:**

Why was the change implemented? The system seemed to be working fine. If it ain't broke don't fix it.



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**Paul Lemair**  
**Sioux Falls SD**  
**pdlemair@att.net**

**Comment:**  
support

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**Dennis Leland**  
**Mitchell SD**  
**dennisleland@me.com**

**Comment:**

I have purchased a number of preference points over the years for tags in the hills and west river with plans to apply in the future. I am concerned that I will lose all of them with this proposed change.

---

**Dennis Leland**  
**Mitchell SD**  
**dennisleland@me.com**

**Comment:**

I cannot see how the proposed change will get more residents licenses. The high demand areas will still be high demand and folks who only want to hunt in one area will still only hunt in one area. If they don't draw a tag for that area they will wait till next year (just like they do now) rather than apply for a low demand area. It does appear that out of state hunters are given a better chance with the new system as they can apply in first round competing with resident hunters, this will result in residents NOT drawing their desired area more often.

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**Greg Hieb**  
**Brandon SD**  
**greg.hieb@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

Committee members,  
Stop. I urge you to just pause. Think this through. Your proposals have caused much consternation to all SD deer hunters. What is your motivation? What is your agenda?  
If your honest motivation is to get more hunters afield, this new legislation fails. You have clearly failed to outline exactly how these changes will accomplish your stated goal. The bottom line is that you are in charge of allocating a very desirable limited resource of SD deer tags. This needs to be accomplished in an equitable way. The system already exists. Don't complicate it.  
You cannot legislate hunters into tag prosperity. They need to buy preference points. They need to study draw statistics. They need to study the public land atlas. They need to knock on doors. They might even need to travel. They need to be open to other opportunities ie. archery, muzzleloader. If they are not passionate enough to "find a way", they are not passionate enough. Period. For "They", it is just easier to be a loud complaining minority. This is what you are catering to. The system already exists. It is not broken. It is fair. Where will it stop? What crowd are you going to placate next at another's expense?

---

**Eric Bauer**  
**Volga SD**  
**ebauer40@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

I applaud you for listening to the public. Everyone should have a chance to hunt where they'd like, but the initial proposal was far too restricting (realistically only one season per year for buck tags). Changing to two per year is a reasonable compromise in my eyes.

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**Josh Robertson**  
**Minneapolis MN**  
**herme@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

I would like to propose a special license draw for native sons of South Dakota. For those born and raised in the state and who got a higher education from a state university be given a drawing opportunity to receive in state hunting privileges at out of state license costs. As is done with waterfowl and other permits a drawing could be conducted to randomly draw 100 licenses per year to receive this tremendous benefit but must qualify and prove the above needs. Birth certificate and official diploma from a state university or technical school.

---

**Tyler Henderson**  
**Marvin SD**  
**tyh1@msn.com**

**Comment:**

The public is clear we don't want any changes to the structure, the preference point system works and keep this in place. This will negatively impact hunter. I have not met one person who supports this proposal. Why is the commission so insistent on changing it.

---

**Matthew Anderson**  
**Hartford SD**  
**jetboatboy@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

Please stop trying to limit deer applications and trying to change the deer draw structure. The new and past proposals are not wanted by the people of South Dakota and serves no benefit. The proposal would chase away hunters and make the deer draw more complicated then it needs to be.

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**Loren Koehler**  
**New York Mills MN**  
**koehler123@arvig.net**

**Comment:**

why should somebody get 5 to 8 lic an someone else cant get one lic make it so everyone can enjoy the great state of south dakota

---

**Philip Mittleider**

**Watertown SD**

**philip\_mittleider@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

It really just needs to be left status quo. Nothing was wrong with the current system. The first one seemed liked an underlying ploy to make sure non-residents were almost treated as resident and there were licenses left for them. I'm not opposed to the non-resident hunter, but I am opposed to forgetting the in-state resident who spends money here 12 months and not 12 days. Listen to the voices of the resident. The lottery system works, the current process works. Let's just keep working together on other pressing issues.

---

**Greg Peterson**

**Clear Lake SD**

**petegang@itctel.com**

**Comment:**

I appreciate the commissions good faith efforts to find a compromise on this issue. Unfortunately, I haven't been able to find any information on exactly how existing preference points will be handled. Do they stay in the same units? The unfortunate thing about trying to compromise is that an already very complicated proposal keeps getting more complicated. Please consider the public input you are receiving in support of or opposed to this proposal - even if there is an opinion that "uber deer hunters" are just wrong. I trust the commission's intentions, but it seems to me that we may be fighting an uphill battle to fix something that's not broken.

---

**Mike Norton**

**Rapid SD**

**nortonmichael1922@yahoo.com**

**Comment:**

East river should never be allowed to hunt a week after west river prairie opens. They always come out here causing problems and blasting anything with horns a week early before their season starts. Its only fair both west river prairie tags start at the exact same time.  
If i don't special buck tag? Then do i get to put in for west river as prairie as my first choice and black hills whitetail as my other first choice deer?

---

**Demetri Sengos**

**Sioux Falls SD**

**dsengos@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

The new hunting proposals are ridiculous, for many reasons! The changes will directly impact hunters that hunt on both sides of the river, it will take away years of family hunting trips/tradition and effect those who have worked and tried for many years to obtain hunting permission on land. Let's get real, the only reason this proposal is on the table is to draw more non-resident hunters, this will directly impact hunting access to certain areas as most private land owners will capitalize on big game hunting privileges on their land. For example, maybe I'll kick the 5 archery hunters off the land we own and advertise \$2000/person limit of five tags only archery to out of state hunters. This would be easy, 100% fill rate send them photos of past big deer taken, done! So, where do the five previous loyal hunters go? Who cares right? Wrong, it needs to be balanced and balanced is what we have in place now. These changes will only have a negative impact.

---

**Dennis Dekraai**  
**Arlington SD**  
**walleye\_dek@msn.com**

**Comment:**

I feel that preference points and land owners should be the main contributors to drawing a licence. By giving licences to people that haven't tried to draw a tag for nearly as long is wrong. I think that the number of 1st choices should not matter as long as the person has accumulated enough preference points. Also paying for preference points is very expensive. To me by not allowing a person with the most preference points not to draw a tag is just a way for the GFP to make more money and cost the average hunter more. So I support the more 1st choice options.

---

**Markus Nelson**  
**Concord NC**  
**Markus.Nelson@Hendrickauto.com**

**Comment:**

This new deer licensing is very poorly thought out! You should be concentrating on getting deer populations up not if residents can have 15 deer tags and the nonresident can maybe have one! Nonresidents should be able to get extra tags at the same time as resident hunters! This is crap! Old system will always be better than this!

---

**Larry Livingston**  
**Fairburn SD**  
**papalarry55@yahoo.com**

**Comment:**

first choice deer application, I think you should have kept it at one on first draw. giving everyone a better chance at drawing their favorite location. The people that want all the multiple locations are not hunting to feed their family or enjoying the outdoors, they just want to brag about how many deer they killed and waste a lot of them

---

**James Winkels**  
**Rapid City SD**  
**Winks450@msn.com**

**Comment:**

Leave the application process alone, it's not broken.... Focus your efforts and money on saving our elk and reducing cat numbers.

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**Pamela Winkels**  
**Rapid City SD**  
**Winks450@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

Leave the application process alone.

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**Megan Winkels**  
**Rapid City SD**  
**Meganwinkels@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

I oppose any changes to the current system

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**James Gonsor**  
**Webster SD**  
**Jagonsor70@hotmail.com**

**Comment:**

In comparison, NASCAR had a perfectly good format for the points system to decide the season champion. They changed, they claim for the better, they have been constantly changing it trying to make it better, it is a joke!

It works, leave it alone! No need to try setting the field to allow out of state hunters to get in on first draw! The GF&P should concentrate on making "public" fishing areas accessible, they are either blocked by overgrowth of trees and shrubbery or so weedy that it is impossible to fish them. I have tried taking my grandchildren fishing from shore, after attempting several "public" areas with no ability to access i contacted a landowner and was granted permission to access on his private property!

Stop worrying about out of state, disrespectful people and concentrate on the youth of south dakota! Keep in mind, not every person can get access to water and not everyone owns a boat!

---

**Grayson Bust**  
**Kentwood MI**  
**gtbust@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

I am a non-resident archery hunter and would like to understand the impacts to the non-resident archery draws. The proposal does not specify any changes, which I take to mean that this only applies to rifle/gun seasons. Please clarify. Thank you.

---

**Lloyd Pukis**  
**De Smet SD**  
**lloyd.pukis@gmail.com**

**Comment:**

SD is first state I have lived in that a state resident may not receive a deer tag if he wants one. first drawing and 5th drawing and preference points makes this system much more difficult than it has to be.

For the general deer season all residents should be able to get 1 deer tag(either doe or buck) if they are eligible before anyone(land owner, archery, mussel loader) gets a second tag. Because of the size of county's in SD that criteria is just another burden that does not need to be there.

---

**Daniel Kopitzke**  
**Zimmerman MN**  
**kopitzke@izoom.net**

**Comment:**

We have a tradition of hunting SD West River as non-residents. It has already become tough to get desired tags over the past 5 years. We have adapted and hunted new zones picking up leftovers in later draws. We don't need to shoot bucks to have a great time out there, but I am afraid these changes will, in the next year or two, create a situation where we cannot draw any tag in any zone. I am afraid that will cause my core of young hunters to find something else to do or someplace else to go and effectively end our SoDak hunting all together.

---

**Kevin C Ward**  
**Andover MN**  
**Kctward@comcast.net**

**Comment:**

Please just be sure to keep nonresident in the loop the best ways you see fit so we too can keep the traditions of hunting with family and friends both of which are Residents if South Dakota and nonresidents of your great state. Supporting the good people throughout the entire state while traveling to and from our hunting destinations also enriches your local economy and if you limit nonresident too much or delegate tags for only specific limited season leftovers you may lose us as hunters/tourists/enriching the lives of your great state. Best Kevin

---

**Bradley Olson**  
**Dell Rapids SD**  
**olsonranchs@outlook.com**

**Comment:**

I strongly Oppose....We have a great system in place leave it alone.

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**Brian Bohlmann**  
**Yankton SD**  
**Bjbohlmann@outlook.com**

**Comment:**

Leave the original draw the way it is. Why would you commissioners push this change onto the majority that do not want it? If you commissioners like controversy join Congress in DC. Leave it alone!