
Andrew Mcdonald

Pierre SD

amcd627e@yahoo.com

Comment:

With the proposed changes you day will put more hunters in the field. Are you upping the number of tags? If not you are not putting any more hunters in the field than with the old system. I don't understand why the old system isn't working. With the preference system people will draw a tag when there turn comes. Everyone needs to understand that.

How do you know that the new system will guarantee hunters more opportunity? How do you know that hunters won't all apply for the same tag and end up with the same situation tour trying to get away from? SDGFP should have always put its residents first! I understand that non-residents bring revenue into the state but you can't put the people that live here in the back seat.

I can't believe you are charging our youth for a preference point. They are the future of hunting. With out them you won't exist!

James Cantalope

Eureka SD

cantajam@yahoo.com

Comment:

I oppose, there nothing to gain, its same, you buy your points and apply for your tag with the multiplier and you get your tag when your turn comes up, it will be no different why change it, now your forcing people into units that might not been there, and you could pickup a additional tag in same unit on third draw, leave it alone, there's not a person I talked to that wants it changed!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Jim Godfrey

Brandt SD

jimg0424@gmail.com

Comment:

Your options easy river/special buck and west river /special buck...is this for special buck only tag for east and west river??

I never have understood the need for this special buck tag on private land only.

Please clarify!

If I can continue tradition of hunting west and east river season of my choice I would favor this, but only under the same way it has been for years. Deer tags have been drastically reduce east river and chance to draw is extremely difficult.

Jeremy Schroeder

Winner SD

Lazyjs97@hotmail.com

Comment:

The hunter should be a resident of the county in order to get 2 licenses they are applying in. Should not be able to receive a license in 2 different county's .

James Cantalope
Eureka SD
cantajam@yahoo.com

Comment:

I oppose, there nothing to gain, its same, you buy your points and apply for your tag with the multiplier and you get your tag when your turn comes up, it will be no different why change it, now your forcing people into units that might not been there, and you could pickup a additional tag in same unit on third draw, leave it alone, there's not a person I talked to that wants it changed!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Eric Nesheim
Baltic SD
eric_mesheim@yahoo.com

Comment:

As an avid hunter I apply for almost all of the deer licenses and I feel that my rights as a resident would be taken away with the new proposal.

Jason Barbee
Hartford SD
Race8dad@yahoo.com

Comment:

It's not broke, dont fix it...I've deer hunted in sd for over 30 years and my children for over a dozen. It's always been a family and friend tradition to get together and figure out what and where to apply for east and west river deer tags. We would research the public land access and quality along with out chances of drawing. Yes public land is all we have to hunt. It used to be good quality land with not so much pressure. Not the case anymore. Not saying all, but most is overrun and over grazed. It's very discouraging. I think the department should be spending more time and resources on that than a tag system that works fine for people who do their research on what tags to send in for. People who are complaining about not being able to draw the tags they want are not doing that.

James McMahan
Sioux Falls SD
Jamcmahan4029@gmail.com

Comment:

Updated deer season draw: I am in favor of the updated draw. I like the idea of being able to apply for two seasons in the first draw, and am a fan of the layout for the second and following draws. Thank you or taking comments and efforts in revam

Shawn Tyrrell
Desmet SD
styrrell@centurylink.net

Comment:
oppose

Tim Klein
Sioux Falls SD
23tlklein@gmail.com

Comment:

If I keep my preference points and can use them in the next year or 2, I can live with this change. Preference points. What happens to all the preference point that I previously purchased? I have several for west river, black hills and east river. Do I lose them?

Brock Hoagland
Pringle SD
brockh@goldenwest.net

Comment:

I support the proposed change to the deer season whereby a hunter can only apply for two seasons in the first draw.

Alex Waltman
Sioux Falls SD
alexwaltman850@gmail.com

Comment:

Even as a hunter who could potentially benefit from these changes, as I only apply for one county, I strongly oppose this change. Even though I am a one county hunter now, I won't be in the future. No one wants these changes yet you seem determined. The "results" you sent out in the mail from the focus groups (which I attended) were total and utter garbage. You had us answer multiple questions on the survey at the end of the group and then cherry picked the two or three answers that you could twist to show false approval for the direction the state wanted to go. It's obvious the state is going to force this down our throats regardless of the strong opposition and this is shown through the deceit many of us saw when these "results" were sent out in the mail. So, be that as it may, why not just grow a set and say your going to do this regardless of if we like it or not and stop lying. I expect this of government as a whole but I expected better from Game Fish and Parks.

Joel Muellner

Cottage Grove MN

j.muellner@comcast.net

Comment:

As a Minnesota resident, I completely understand the conflict of resident vs non-resident issues in regards to feeling that the game and fish of my home state belong to me the taxpayer. I have hunted in SD on family land for the last 21 years, purchasing small game licenses and leftover rifle doe tags. I am still a very happy hunter. What I have concern with is that I as a non-resident have absolutely ZERO chance of ever attaining an East River rifle buck tag. My most pressing concern however is that while SD is generous enough to allow \$10.00 rifle doe tags to my kids, they never have had the chance to pull the trigger on anything with horns in the last 4 years. My boys have ethically passed on lay up shots at 160" bucks during those years. The goal of SD game and fish is to keep people coming back, especially the recruitment of kids to the sport. Throw the kids a bone and allow them to harvest a deer with horns.

Todd Mezeske

Parker SD

Tmezeske@hgreps.com

Comment:

Doesn't seem right that residents get opportunities for multiple tags before I would get a chance at a deer tag. As a non resident I provide more that just some income for Game, Fish and Parks when I hunt in SD but for several local businesses as well.

Tyson Gau

Alexandria SD

tcgau09@ole.augie.edu

Comment:

There is nothing wrong with the tag system that is in place now. This is barely comparable to the first change that you wanted to put into place. If people want to hunt deer, there are numerous options for them to do so. All of us that draw multiple tags a year have to go through the same system that the people opposed to our currents system, the only difference is that I and everyone in my hunting party aren't afraid to spend a whopping \$5 on a preference point if we are unsuccessful on our first option. If people ventured out and spent an extra \$5 for preference points they would find that it increases your option for the next year. But instead they don't do this and wonder why they can't draw a tag in a county known for nice deer. That leads me to the next thing, everyone is more worried about killing deer that go on the wall rather than enjoying the outdoors. Hunting is turning into some big competition where whoever can post a picture of the biggest deer on social media "wins." Changing our current system is not the answer if you ask me and many others. Please do the majority of our great state's hunters a favor and leave it how it is now.

Have a good one,
Tyson Gau

Paul Johnson

Buffalo MN

pjohnson0825@gmail.com

Comment:

As a non Resident hunter I'm pretty much assured a license just every 2-3 years. Making a non resident wait until the 5th draw for leftover licenses is foolish. Making me choose between a special buck and a regular west river license pretty much kills my chances for an every year license. The revenue you will lose by killing the hunting for non residents is a tremendous amount. I spend 286 or 540 dollars for a license every year plus what I put into the economy of SD when I'm there. I've been coming to SD deer hunting as a non resident since I left in 1986. I hope you rethink your decision. Thanks Paul Johnson

Paul Kruse

Brookings SD

murphykruse@gmail.com

Comment:

this is a terrible idea this there was nothing wrong with the current licensing. This only caters to the one or maybe two license deer Hunter.

Kevin Stoterau

Tea SD

kstoterau@gmail.com

Comment:

I don't understand why GFP is so strict about Black powder tags. I live in Lincoln County. I know there are allot of deer in my county. Archery tags are almost a give me. Black powder hunting, requires noise, scent, and movement control much like archery, yet I have not gotten one for years now. Regular rifle tags can be filled out beyond 500 yards. Black powder you have to be much closer, much like archery. I am career Military, Retired Army, and a disabled Veteran. I served 32.5 years in the Military and am retired now. I do allot of hunting to save money on meat at the grocery store, due to my lack of income I used to make.

I understand there are many things I don't understand or know. I would just like to know why you don't give out more Black powder tags Please? And thank you.

Respectfully,
SFC Kevin Stoterau (Ret.)U.S.Army

Paul Niederbaumer

Faulkton SD

paulniederbaumer@yahoo.com

Comment:

Making trouble for landowners. No good reason for change. Especially when adding Custer State Park in on one of the two choices. Custer state Park drawing is a miracle tag. A once in a lifetime tag. Not to mention with the limited tags to draw for you should be able to retain your preference points without applying every year or refund the hunter.

This proposal is poorly executed. We have too many hunters that have no permission to hunt on private ground using vehicles to harass deer. In Faulk county this has become a way for people to hunt. I feel the winter kill on deer will be higher because of the added vehicles that will push deer. Not to mention the stress it gives landowners who are raising their kids to hunt the correct way, having their rights be trampled.

A suggestion to law changes that need to be made is that hunters, whether land owner or otherwise cannot be driving through a field or on a no maintenance road during hunting season. Unless retrieving a dead deer. I've had 20 to 30 incidents of trespassing during deer season alone. This is because of pickups being used to hunt. I feel that nonresident and resident non landowners should have permission from a landowner before they even apply for a license. Counties should have number of licenses distributed to non resident and residents non landowner by amount of public ground that county has.

I have yet to hear anyone who feels this proposal is good. Talking with other landowners in area they have all agreed if this passes we will not work with the GFP anymore. The landowners have seen that you favor non residents for hunting pheasants and deer before the landowners who actually give permission. Landowners are tired of it and will shut down hunting county wide.

Benjamin Jones

Sioux Falls SD

Jayhawker.jones@gmail.com

Comment:

Thanks for putting kids first. Seems well laid out to me.

Spike Jorgensen

Tok AK

spikecy@gmail.com

Comment:

#1. Really like the emphasis on youth hunting and access. If anything it should be stronger so every youth that wants to hunt big game can have at least a doe tag for antelope or deer on their first draw. (Nationally we are losing hunters and over commercializing hunting. Credit should somehow be given to land owners who support free hunting for any youth.) Every youth should be able to hunt one animal before any of us get two tags for any big game species.

2. I am not a trophy hunter as such, but do enjoy hunting and taking large mature animals.

This as a part of maintaining a very viable and healthy gene pool of truly wild and not privately farmed game animals.. At one time I had taken the second largest antelope and the 10th largest Alaska Moose. And since those have taken several even larger with a bow and rifle that I have not registered. Thus I appreciate good management by professionals who understand predator and prey relationships. Wolves and lions need to be controlled and managed so our youth and humans have big game to enjoy as well. Over population of lions in the Black Hills and the threat of no controlling wolves, eagles and other predators is critical. We need to support good sustainable management of the populations we use and some managed predators, but they should not have a get home free card.

#3 As a land owner resident in the past and non resident now my properties support over 100 deer, and a few antelope and elk (20 or so). And with the help of NRCS we have very much improved the agricultural and wildlife habitat and will continue to do so.

Best wishes.

Cory Hansen

Brandon SD

idealcory@yahoo.com

Comment:

Thank You. Thank you for listening and reacting. This was a very hard and long process but I appreciate you being proactive instead of reactive. This now allows my family tradition of decades to continue, which is of utmost importance to the continuance of my children being involved in this sport.

Mark Bellum
Watertown SD
yote1963@yahoo.com

Comment:

I used to be the biggest fan of GFP. I would brag to my out of state friends about how well our game and fish were managed. Now, after watching you boondoggle the fishing situation to appease the landowners and neglect locals their legal rights to water, I'm not so sure. How can you give the Reitz family \$8000 and charge out of state fisherman pennies for a season pass?

And now I have to pay a fee to get my preference point when I apply for a tag? Poor management at its best. And now you've made getting a deer tag almost impossible. It looks like your next step is to make it even harder. There are plenty of deer out there. I've hunted pheasants in many places and always see ample deer numbers.

I don't know why you're so interested in appeasing the landowners? Most hardly let anybody hunt their land anyway. I used to have lots of private land to hunt around Watertown, and most of it has been shut down.

I beg you to go back and put the in state sportsman first.

On a positive note, I do appreciate all the public lands that are available to hunt. I use them exclusively.

Mark Bellum

Dave Vaughn
Rapid City SD
dvaughn@hughes.net

Comment:

I was in support of the original proposal where a person had to choose one first choice tag. I live in the Black Hills and hunt near home. I would just like to be able to hunt where I live. I do not have the time or resources to hunt east river and rarely would I even apply for west river. I always apply for BH and it would be nice if I could have a tag more than every 2 or 3 years. I support the compromise because it is better than nothing. I do also apply for CSP, MZ and refuge so I will use one of those tags as my second choice in the first draw. I appreciate the commission listening to public comments when making decisions.

Thank You

Dennis Jones
Siuox Falls SD
dmjones@sio.midco.net

Comment:

It seems new leadership whether in the GFP, Education, Administrative or Public Services etc. always think they need to make changes to get their name in the history book. They think they must show they are progressive. The old draw system isn't the greatest, but the new proposal is not as good and will cause a lot of the problems, many already identified. We don't need more hunters from out of state. Right now many in-state find it hard to locate a place to hunt. Bow hunters are great hunters, but are killing a large portion of the good bucks before the majority hunt in November. etc. etc. Need more money, just raise the in-state license fee \$20. Don't shoot so many does, the numbers are down, I know because I have plenty of land to tell. Good Luck.

Darrel Reinke
Ft. Pierre SD
darrel@reinkegray.com

Comment:

Two tag proposal

Thank you for now proposing a two tag deer drawing system. It is a fair compromise that I feel most of us who were opposed to the earlier proposals can accept. In the future, when such controversial ideas are thought about, I would strongly encourage the department to seek out Sportsmen and women's ideas in the beginning. Early open communication and dialogue would have gone a long way to avoiding a very contentious issue that this one evolved into. Thank you for your service.

Shannon Frericks
Ashton SD
goslinghunter@gmail.com

Comment:

Can it! Follow Kansas GF&P format and be done with it or leave it alone!

Dan Bridenstine
Lead SD
dbridenstine@live.com

Comment:

I think the one tag proposal was great. I love in the blackhills and would like a better chance of drawing a tag each year

Terry Osborn
Aberdeen SD

Comment:

As a resident that has hunted both east and west river for over 25 years I was very dissatisfied with original proposal. The compromise is a wonderful solution that addresses everybody's concerns. Great job GF&P and thanks for listening.

Mark Nelson
Boyceville WI
waywest@centurytel.net

Comment:

This proposal continues to prevent former South Dakotans, like myself, the ability to hunt East River deer with our land-owning resident family members.

Marshall Drexler
Harrisburg SD
mdrexler@vastbb.net

Comment:

If this worth the controversy it is causing. The GF&P may be trying to make it better for hunters but may be turning people away from deer hunting. I am 61 years old and am not going to keep applying multiple time for deer license. Keep it as is. Hunting don't need controversy. We have enough of that in our government know. Let it settle down.

Jordan Miller
Canton SD
Jordan@run2gun.com

Comment:

This is a joke correct? The majority of sportsman and women do not want change to the current system. You already made change to the system with our points.

Your agenda has been fascinating to watch over the past year and the "political routes" you have taken to try and pass this garage.

How much tax payer money has been wasted on this?

I hope this one crashes and burns in legislation as well.

Jared Jeratowski
Parker SD
Jtowski02@hotmail.com

Comment:

Still trying to change a system that works great. Why not worry about our rights to the lakes that we played to stock that we can no longer fish. Or the fields that we pay to lease but allow the farmers to cut for there cattle and could find a mouse on after the fact because there is no cover left. Still so much more to work on and worry about but so concerned with not listening to the people of the state. It's just gonna make people start doing it in a not so legal way more often. But hey keep screwing the people that's what your good at.

Harry Mitchell
Hot Springs SD
wanesharose1@gmail.com

Comment:

I see no point in this proposal. I will lose more deer hunting tags. why have you came up with this ludicrous idea? more money? there are plenty more issues you could spend your time on, such as road hunters, I can tell you how to stop them.

Darin Ross

Aberdeen SD

darin@aberdeenchrysler.com

Comment:

It doesn't really matter what the vast majority of us hunters think, South Dakota Game Fish and Parks are going to listen to us they are only it this for a small group that will benefit from this Hunting lodges and people that shut down land for out of state hunters. Thanks again South Dakota for selling out ! It's a shame.

Bruce Lowe

Long Lake SD

twogunbruce@gmail.com

Comment:

I have emailed GFP on three different occasions to offer an alternative means to your current draw method, and I've not received a single reply. At least one of you might think outside the box, and contact me.

Terry Zolnowsky

Piedmont SD

Zolnowsky5@q.com

Comment:

Keep it simple! First choice, only one season. If someone wants more deer, let them get a tag on the second, third, or fourth drawing! Your making it too complicated!

Todd Monson

Bennett WI

Toddbmonson@yahoo.com

Comment:

I support the youth proposal, but not the rest. There are plenty of hunters afield already and the non-residents pay the freight with hard to draw tags.

Duane Hinman
Groton SD

Comment:

I believe the initial change to be able to only apply for one tag in the initial and second draw was a better option. This allows for more people to have a chance at drawing a buck/any deer tag every year, or every other year. Why do some people believe they need to draw multiple buck tags every year? This year, I was unsuccessful at my any deer tag, but did draw an another less deer tag. I applied for any deer tags in both East and West River deer units and was unsuccessful in both however, two individuals I work with drew an any deer tag in both East and West River units. With the original new deer draw, it would increase everyone's chance for at least drawing one any deer tag, so why change the rules to accommodate "entitled" individuals thinking they should be able to draw multiple any deer tags. The only option I can see is to separate the draw for any deer and any antlerless, so people could still apply, but receive no more than one any deer tag in the first two draws. Just my two cents.

Charles Wald
Rapid City SD
ca_wald@yahoo.com

Comment:

hunter should only be able to apply for one deer license on first choice

Dave Huffman
Lemmono SD
hbarbconstruction@gmail.com

Comment:

I think this is a step in the right direction. It's a bitter pill to swallow for me as a 40 year resident of Perkins county to be unsuccessful in drawing an any buck tag more years than successful and have to watch the non Perkins county residents hunt deer and antelope.

I think there should be ONE first choice drawing where you should have to pick one unit within the entire state for your first choice and NOT be able to apply for first choice for multiple regions like east & west river, black hills etc.

It's not fair to the residents of the unit that just want to hunt the unit they live in to get bumped by non residents that are just trying to gather up as many tags in different regions as possible. They should either have to draw that tag as 1st choice of all the units in the state or draw the tag as a leftover in the 2nd draw if they are trying to get multiple tags.

The current draw is not fair to the resident (of the unit, not necessarily the state) who just wants his or her home unit.

Bill Rentz
Rapid City SD
billrentz@icoud.com

Comment:

Thanks for all the hard work, now we will see if the effort actually works. If so, it will be a success, if not it will have been an enormous waste of time. Let's hope for the best.

Rick Frey
Hill City SD
deerfieldlake1@gmail.com

Comment:

opposing would simply be a waste of time!!

Gene Brockel
Mobridge SD
ebrockel@abe.midco.net

Comment:

I am a landowner in cambell county all of the hunters I have talked to in Walworth and Campbell counties are against the change

Fred Carl
Rapid City SD
fkcarl@rap.midco.net

Comment:

I supported the recent changes to the deer application process but oppose this proposed change. The idea is to get more people opportunity--not to provide more opportunity for one person. This proposed change starts to backslide towards where we were. Give the current system a chance and then evaluate

Justin Inhofer
Sturgis SD

Comment:

Leave the deer draw like it was there were no problems with it. You should of been giving the preference points to kids along time ago, they are the future of hunting in our country. I say every kid under 16 gets their first choice always if you want

Kevin Schoepf
Blackhawk SD

Comment:

Really does not matter what anyone says. Game and fish has made up there mind just like changing cow elk seasons so no one would bother bull hunters. Which came about from some gap big shots.

Jason Heintzman
Ipswich SD
daksat@valleytel.net

Comment:

The question still has not been answered, with all the proposed changes is a applicant still able to apply for double tags right away as it has always been? If you can apply for all tags first time around the options for a second tag is unknown. Please answer the question if double tags are still available.

Matthew Troyer
Farmer SD
troyerhomeworks@gmail.com

Comment:

I really like the proposal of bonus points being free for hunters 12-15 and even though this was not part of the present proposal, dropping the minimum age for mentored hunters I also strongly support.

I think the current license allocation proposal strikes a good balance between giving hunters more opportunity to get their preferred hunt but not narrowing the options too much for hunters who hunt various places across the state every year

Jeremy Lowe
Rapid City SD
Jllowe1599@gmail.com

Comment:

Thank you for making the changes in the current system. This will allow myself, kids, and family to carry on our tradition. Thanks again

Kurt Juedes
Wausau WI
Kurtjuedes@gmail.com

Comment:

I'm a nonresident and like the rule change- would also like to see a 3 point rule possibly entertained for people over the age of 18

Jim Dehaai

Keystone SD

Sodakviking@hotmail.com

Comment:

Although I supported the first proposal more where only one area could be applied for in the first draw this is probably a good compromise. I just hope with this new proposal the odds are still good to draw that same area every year. I don't need multiple areas to hunt every year, just one.

Raymond Ruff

Spearfish SD

rayruff@midco.net

Comment:

Why do we have to compromise when I think there is mostly opposition to the change. Just can't leave well enough alone. Sometimes no change is the best action

Charles Courtney

Humboldt SD

cwc.tex@gmail.com

Comment:

The number of deer that are in the state isn't represented in the allocation. This needs to be part of the process. There are many other states that you are allowed only one tag. Change is hard for all involved. The decisions need to be based on how the state wants to manage its herd. Are we going for quantity or quality?

John Walsh

Bismarck ND

Walsh@bis.midco.net

Comment:

Question for you, why is it that an out of stater can apply for a West River Special Buck Tag but not an East River one?

Currently there is no way I can get an East River Buck tag, even if these chances I would still not be able to get one.

At least allow an out of stater get in on the second draw, nothing but doe tags are left by the forth draw.

John Duffy

Oldham SD

jduffy03@hotmail.com

Comment:

I have honestly been against this change from the very beginning but I have spoke with and met with many people involved in this process and the newest proposal is their way of trying to compromise with the "serious deer hunter" that still wants to be able to hold more than 1 QUALITY firearm tag the same year (i.e. an East River and West River tag both or any combination of 2 of the firearm tags). You could have gotten leftover tags in the previous proposal starting in the 3rd drawing but weren't as likely to actually be where or what you wanted to hunt so the previous proposal was likely to only be 1 QUALITY firearm tag per year rather than a better chance at 2 QUALITY firearm tags now.

At the end of the day, some level of change is going through whether we like it or not and this is the best compromise I've seen so far. Would I still rather leave the system the way it is? Absolutely! Will it stay the same? No. Not even if 80% of us don't want it to.

The commission and GFP have good intentions with the change and this will still get roughly 1000 more people deer hunting every year. I'm willing to give up my 3rd firearm tag to make that happen. I will still be able to get a good opportunity to hunt with 2 quality tags from either ER Any Deer, WR Any Deer, or Muzzleloader Deer that I currently hunt now (or others that I dont currently apply for like BHD, CSP, RFD). Before this latest change I was going to have to pick between East River deer and West River deer. That wasn't a choice I wanted to make. Hopefully now many of us will not have to.

The commissioners and GFP have been beaten up a lot over this thing, and I was one of the people very upset at first and even upset throughout most of the process, but the more you learn about the reasons for this and the desire for some type of change (even though most of us were happy with the old system or thought some change was OK, but just not this much change) the more you understand why they felt change was necessary for hunter retention and keeping our sport alive for future generations. They are trying their best to do an impossible job; making everyone happy. Thank you to the GFP and commissioners for listening to the "more serious deer hunters" the last couple weeks with this compromise proposal (and the "less serious deer hunters" over the previous year) and coming up with some level of compromise, even if it still doesn't make most happy on Facebook it shows you are trying to listen and do what you think is best for hunting in SD long-term. People are going to complain no matter what and I'm probably one of them ! ??

Ed Nelson

Erwin SD

dakotalabs9@yahoo.com

Comment:

Non-Residents should NOT be allowed to draw ANY Permits UNTIL ALL Residents have the Drawn Their Permits !!! PERIOD !!

Roger Inman

Pierre SD

rogerinman@mncomm.com

Comment:

I preferred the original proposal that let you pick only one season in the first draw and not eligible for the 2nd. Its a step in the right direction. I have friends who have not received tags and others that get all. Those not receiving become the potential hunters that we lose. By losing hunters we are creating an opening for outside views of hunting to encroach on us that do enjoy helping with conservation/harvesting of animals. As a landowner I would have liked to have seen where landowners guests could pay a transfer fee to the GFP so friends or family from out of state could partake in a big game hunt. This could be a plus money for the dept. I as a landowner do not want the dollars but would love to be able to transfer my (conservation) tag to another so hunting can be promoted. I would attend meetings but timing never seems to be such that it is possible. Thanks for your work.

Tim Pravecek

Winner SD

bowhunterinsd@yahoo.com

Comment:

I went to the first meeting on this change and was 100% in favor of ideas of change. The complaints about not getting multiple "Buck" tags in my opinion is a poor argument, think of the residents of my county "people living and paying taxes in our county go years without a "buck" tag, most settle for a doe tag. If you are real hunter you will try other methods if you are unsuccessful in drawing a rifle Buck tag.

Gaylord Strivens

Pickstown SD

Instrivens54@gmail.com

Comment:

why should any hunter be lucky enough to draw more than 2 deer tags when so many unlucky would draw no tags. why not limit to maximum of 2 tags?

Quincy Brech

Mitchell SD

Comment:

Why Change a program that isn't working. The lottery is fine the way it is.

Patrick Rosenbaum

Jefferson SD

a5x5hunter07@yahoo.com

Comment:

Leave the way the drawing is and just allow more tags. Plus stop waiting money on unproductive walk in ground such as cattle pastures grazed down to nothing greagory county for starters and picked fields . Stop lining pockets and start buying ground and manage it.

Jason Mitzel

Crooks SD

Comment:

This whole change is a joke. You are not doing anything that will allow people to get there perfered liscence like you said. It is just a feel good move to seem like you are. Leave the draw system that we currently have been useing in place. I only apply for one big game liscence a year but can see this is a joke so leave the system alone.

Doug Furness

Brandon SD

dwfurness@yahoo.com

Comment:

The current system works if you are not hung up on one county or hunting unit. I have never had a problem getting a tag.

Rick Hanger

Sioux Falls SD

hangfire49@sio.midco.net

Comment:

The newest deer tag proposal seems to be a fair compromise. It allows multiple tag apps while still providing more hunters a chance at a good tag. My preferred choice would still be no change, but I feel we all can live with this newest plan.

I would say, adopt this plan and see how well it works for a few years before implementing any other changes.

Richard Eisenzimmer

Hot Springs SD

Vulcan.classic@hotmail.com

Comment:

One hunter should not have several deer tags in one season. That means other people are at home not getting to hunt. Non-resident hunters should not be in a draw with resident hunters. At my age, 64, it would be nice to be able to use a cross bow.

Mark Krenn
Sturgis SD
neverswet@yahoo.com

Comment:

I was not in favor of the initial proposal but am in favor of the current proposal. Thank you for digging deeper into this very important subject.

Clark Baker
Sioux Falls SD
clarkbaker27@yahoo.com

Comment:

leave alone

Kelly Eilers
Canton SD
kjeilers89@gmail.com

Comment:

.JUST LEAVE IT ALONE It works....you get them all sold and you are not going to attract any more hunters...if they want to hunt they will apply.....dont try to fix something that isnt broken

Russ Nurnberg
Watertown SD
russnurnberg@gmail.com

Comment:

My opinon on this topic is that changing the drawing method (especilly with 2 first choice seasons) will not "Increase Opportunity". I have spoken to many other hunters regarding this and almost every one has stated the same opinion. The reason people are not hunting is two fold 1) Limited public access in certain areas (private land is amost impossible to gain access to). 2) The overall cost in general has gotten to be more than some people can afford. I do think this new proposal is better than the first, but personally don't think it will achive the desired result.

Paul Eidsness
Sioux Falls SD
paul@eidsness.net

Comment:

support

Robert Whitcraft

Andover MN

bob.whitcraft@comcast.net

Comment:

Seems as if residents have long-enjoyed a strong preference in the deer draw. As in my prior comments, this proposal seems unnecessary and does not factor what the added non-resident restriction will do to overall attitudes about spending money in SD. It may be 'revenue neutral' for deer licenses only but GF&P has no way of determining broad non-resident reaction to this proposal as related to other hunting, fishing, and recreational spending.

Haar Darren

Rapid City SD

Comment:

This is a great plan. I'm sure the very avid hunters will push against this compromise again because they will want to be able to hunt all of SDs regions. However they need to remember that most of us are "casual hunters" and only apply for one zone or two. For the casual hunter it is hard to stay interested/engaged in hunting when you only draw a tag every other year or less. Over time this lack of engagement will result in the loss of hunters. Loss of hunters equals loss of support for hunting. We need to keep the big picture in mind and make sure or regulatory structure keeps people engaged in hunting and thus supporting our right to hunt.

Ross Fenske

Sioux Falls SD

fenske87@gmail.com

Comment:

support

Gary Geiken

Lennox SD

gkgeiken@gmail.com

Comment:

This proposal still is not fair. We are 1 state not east river, west river. While myself and other family members go 2-3 years between licenses, others are getting 1-3 tags almost every year. We are not encouraging our grandkids to start deer hunting due to this set up.

Keith Christianson

Volga SD

walleye621@outlook.com

Comment:

I prefer the proposal for 1 tag draw in the first draw. I believe I would have a better chance of drawing my buck tag. If I want a second deer I will apply in the 3 draw for a doe tag. Please leave as it is.

Darcy Kuyper

Platte SD

Comment:

I think the new proposal is great !

Kim Geiken

Lennox SD

gkgeiken@gmail.com

Comment:

I have never understood how I have to wait 2-3 years to get a tag when many others I know get a couple tags every year.

Shawn Baker

Sturgis SD

sbbowhunter71@gmail.com

Comment:

I liked the system the way it was , I grew up hunting in Wisconsin and my last 10 years I lived in WI I didn't hunt at all because there were so many people . It was an army of hunters all over public land . It was not even fun because people would

Gary Hendrickson
Belle Fourche SD
ragary@rushmore.com

Comment:

I believe the initial proposal by GFP should be kept in place. The concern was getting hunters their first choice unit. This current proposal does not increase the odds of a hunter wanting to apply for the one unit they prefer. Lets take a BHD applicant and that is all they want is BHD. This proposal still allows multiple applicants to compete with that BHD applicant really not increasing their odds to obtain a BHD lic. I know there are ERD applicants that are the same only wanting their home county. After the first draw all hunters will have a opportunity to compete for leftover units. Obtaining that first unit choice is important to more hunters then you think and the vocal ones opposing the initial proposal are being selfish in obtaining as many tags as they can. another thing to look at is limiting buck licenses to 2 per person. If you have ample opportunities to harvest 2 buck it should be a rewarding season and if you want more deer for meat then buy doe tags. I understand this is a difficult situation and you will never please everyone but you started out with trying to increase hunters odds of obtaining their first choice lic. and now you have compromised that. Pick a topic you have a chance of being most successful on and stick to it. Trying to piece meal a system will only hurt your results in the long run.
Gary

Shawn Baker
Sturgis SD
sbbowhunter71@gmail.com

Comment:

I liked the system the way it was , I grew up hunting in Wisconsin and my last 10 years I lived in WI I didn't hunt at all because there were so many people . It was an army of hunters all over public land . It was not even fun because people would

Shawn Beck
Castlewood SD
sjbeck_75@yahoo.com

Comment:

I think everyone should be able to apply for multiple seasons if they wish. I also think the whole purpose of the points was to keep it fair and by charging for points, I believe it undermines the purpose. I think points should be given as they used to be and if gfp isn't making enough money than the price of the tags should've gone up instead of charging us 'to be fair'.

Bob Roth
Aberdeen SD
Rothbo@abe.midco.net

Comment:

Why don't you make it if you apply for west river on first choice then you can't apply for east river on the first round and vice versa. Then you could also apply for any of the others on the first round. There are to many hunters that only apply for just one unit whether it be east or west that don't get a license because a lot of hunters think they are entitled to both???

Vaughn Sudrala
Rapid Cuty SD
Vsudrala@gmail.com

Comment:

Maybe consider a special FLINTLOCK muzzle loader season for a week during the end of archery season. Hunters that draw a muzzle loader tag could hunt at that time. Flintlock only at that time. I think this was the intention of the muzzle loader season in the first place. With the new inline muzzle loaders it is not really a traditional hunt anymore.

Corey Hokanson
Huron SD
C.hokanson@hotmail.com

Comment:

Ppl should only be able to apply for one in the first draw not 2 and I think u should take some of the land owner tags away to or only let the direct land owner be able to claim that not distant relatives like ppl are doing now that would leave more for the general public

Douglas Eoute
Stillwater MN
deoute@hotmail.com

Comment:

As a long time nonresident hunter, I respectfully submit that we as non-residents are not getting a fair chance in drawings for deed tags at only 8% of tags alloeyed. And having to wait for 3rd round for leftover tags unfairly regulates nonresidents to second class citizens. Give us an reasonable chance at drawing success. Thanks

Curtis Roeszler
Marysville CA
roeszler@comcast.net

Comment:

originally from south dakota but living in california for 45 years. applied first time non-resident in 2018. Have to say that south dakota has always managed deer herds better than california. That said I am not a trophy hunter so have always hunted for the meat not the glory. califonia does not allow doe hunting so we had a good hunt in 2018. so not for or against and can surely understand resident concerns. Your field office was very helpful for east river for 2018 so will leave it to South Dakota wisdom to do what's right since California has no wisdom any more. and plan on moving back home to south dakota to retire in couple years so will be resident hunter in a couple years anyway. and no doubt you are seeing more non resident applications because of conditions and regs from the western states with low success rates. even though non residents move from 3rd draw to 5th draw I am still confident that S.D. will do what's right for all concerned.

Robert Salazar
Rapid City SD
bsalazar@rushmore.com

Comment:

You guys make it sound like if you only have these limited number draw that every one who puts in for a tag will get one and that's not it at all..your still giving out a limited number of tags and poor joe blow over here thinks he and his family are all going to get tags because of this....you guys are really wanting people to buy preference points so you don't have to give out tags and your still getting money ..i have been hunting along time since 1981 and my boys all hunt and ive gotten a lot of people into it and some even back into it..but you guys are turning it into a rich mans sport buy charging 40 dallars a tag and you usall have at least 2 years preference befor you get that tag...and when was the last time there were any leftovers in the black hills unit..and prairie any deer tags other than whitail and then you have to have private land to h7nt or your screwed....i love hunting with my family to but we all understand the luck of the draw system.and your trying to cater to a few that don't understand it and your going to start losing a lot of hunters because of it....i remember the day you went to knart bought your tag over the counter for 12 bucks and hunted...the deer aint bigger and you don't get any more meat off them. I waited six years to get a black powder tag so im pretty mutch done with that and so far I got two years preferences for the hills..so im thinking its almost not worth it....hope you guys get it figured out soon ..thank you for reading ...if you do....thanks again

James Theis
Rapid City SD
wjtjm@centurylink.net

Comment:

After being unsuccessful in drawing a Black Hills deer tag for the past 5 years, I believe this proposal will give me a far better chance to draw one for the upcoming season.

Chris Solum
Sioux Falls SD
csolum@hotmail.com

Comment:

This is a great idea and will give me and my family a better chance to get tags to hunt our private land

Kim Wagenman
Spearfish SD
kwag@rushmore.com

Comment:

I think your statistics show the vast majority either moderately or strongly support the goal of providing a system that gives the best chance for every applicant to get their tag or their first choice. I think its giving in to a small group that still want two first choice tags which will mean more folks will be denied their one choice. Also just makes a complicated system even more complex.

Mark Perry

Sioux Falls SD

mlperry44@sio.midco.net

Comment:

You have listed that first time youth hunters would get a bonus point the first time they apply. Please think about that. My son has applied for west river, east river and black hills for 2 straight years without attaining a buck tag. By allowing First time youth to have the extra points you are placing them ahead of or at the same level as youth that have already been in the system. You should address the group of youth that have been left out the past few years and that have never attained a buck tag. Many people also do not realize that a youth can attain points before they actual turn 12 and draw a tag. We didn't realize that and I have hunted for over 50 years. Please make this fair for the youth. My son has continually lost interest in hunting deer since he has not had the opportunity to get a buck tag. Please keep it fair for all.

Please revise to the following.

"First time youth hunters and those youth hunters that have never attained an any deer or buck tag would receive a bonus preference point" for the 2019 season.

Also the system is more complicated then ever. What was wrong with the first proposal? Everyone would have had an opportunity to get one of the 5 main deer licenses, ERD,WRD, BH, or SB or muzzleloader? ...correct...

This makes sense. I typically do not have time to hunt multiple units and if I was given the option for a quality hunt in one of those 5 deer license categories (each year) I would be very satisfied with the system. These proposals seem to be driven by those individuals that what to "hog=up" as many tags as they can get and shoot as many bucks as they can everywhere. I believe most people would be happy with one quality tag a year and then if there are left over tags after everyone has had a chance to get one, the people that want multiple tags can have at it.....seems much easier. The youth should be placed ahead of these individuals that get multiple tags. The youth are the future of hunting and without them our sport will die.

Also, more explanation needs to be given and more examples of how the system would work. Please post some scenarios for all of us to look at...."what ifs"

This issue is a big deal for those of us that go 2 years without attaining a buck tag and those of us that only have public land to hunt on. When you hunt public land your not guaranteed anything but the opportunity. Thank you,

Cary Goodman

Rapid City SD

carygoodman@hotmail.com

Comment:

I approve of this proposal

Justin Whitehead

Mitchell SD

jstnwhitehead@yahoo.com

Comment:

How will preference point accumulation work? Will there still be preference points for each season separately? Will preference points only be gained if unsuccessful in the first draw?

Russell Deneui
Chancellor SD
rdeneui@ymail.com

Comment:

Focus on youth and residents most important . Agree with giving more hunters an opportunity .

Tyler Spomer
Pierre SD
Tspomer@midco.net

Comment:

For the most part I support the changes being made. However I would like to see consideration for non-resident operators. While technically still a resident of SD, we are moving to ND. My wife's family owns and operates 1600 acres in Campbell County. My wife is the farm manager, making the day to day decisions concerning the farm. We both regularly work on the farm. We feed and manage more than 95 cow calf pairs. We routinely are involved in haying, fencing, weed control, etc... on the farm. Because we will be moving to ND we are no longer able to hunt on our land. I feel we should be able to get landowner licenses so we can hunt only our own land. I don't care about hunting anywhere else in the county. The number of non-resident landowner operators has to be small. If this wouldn't work then I would propose a "come home to hunt" option for former residents. I love SD and it always be home but the options for me to hunt deer appear to be limited at best. Thanks!

Bill Mcgrath
Spearfish SD
z7billm@gmail.com

Comment:

I was all in favor of having one preference for first draw and that is what was proposed. Now we are moving back to where we were by being able to apply fro two first draw. The people like myself who live in the Black Hills generally what to hunt the hills. It would appear you are trying to appease the people who want to be able to hunt there back yard and still take a trip to the hills where we have a huge amount of public land available for all. I believe you were headed in the right direction but now I have lost all faith in the process once again. Again I will be limited to the years I wil draw a tag for the Black Hills where I have lived and hunted my entire life.
Bill McGrath
Spearfish

Riley Gilbertson
Waubay SD
rileyfirelord@gmail.com

Comment:

I see nothing wrong with the system in place. I feel like if nothing is wrong do not try to fix it. I feel like GFP is trying to get more out of state hunters in and for deer hunting I do not support that.

Bryan Tweedy

Piedmont SD

btweedy@hotmail.com

Comment:

Change the archery deer start date back to late September. It doesn't help the deer. Also, start some type of limited draw for non residents for archery. This would provide overall better opportunities and is the right thing to do.

David Park

Howell MI

Comment:

This ultimately hurts the LandOwner that leases hunting privilege to non-residents. If I don't draw a license I don't go and don't pay the lease. The residents in the area are unwilling or unable to pay the lease fee. This year I saw more deer than ever before.

Barc Smith

Marion SD

Barcsmith1959@gmail.com

Comment:

The second proposal is much better than the initial proposal. Good job and thanks for all your time on the commission

Richard Edenstrom

Aberdeen SD

dickeden1@yahoo.com

Comment:

Perhaps the commission should consider awarding "bonus" preference points to "senior citizens".

Richard Hyronimus

Beresford SD

rhyro@live.com

Comment:

This will increase the apps for special buck license and encourage preference point sales both revenue positive.

Darin Pekkala
Bryant SD
familyseven10@gmail.com

Comment:

Two of my boys and I did not draw buck deer rifle tags this year, it's the fifth time I haven't drawn in 20 years. That's the only problem I've had with hunting here. I don't think you should have to buy a preference point to guarantee a tag. I have 8 kids and we are big hunters I don't want them to get disgusted with these rules and lose interest. There's a lot of unnecessary changes being made. P

Rob Heisinger
Parkston SD

Comment:

I honestly think you are trying to fix something that isn't broken. It is almost impossible to find ground to hunt West River and unless it is public. More hunters saturating public hunting is only going to lead to less success and more frustration. In the long run you will end up with less hunters in the field.

Raymond Oyen
Lead SD
rayoyen@hotmail.com

Comment:

If you allow 2 choices first draw I still won't be able to get my Hills license and that's all I want

Josh Olson
Lemmon SD

Comment:

The one draw system is the only way to correct the problem we have. Double dipping will not increase odds but by a very small amount. Get it Changed ONCE so you don't have to go through this again. There is absolutely no reason someone should possess more than 1 buck license until left overs. South Dakota is SOUTH DAKOTA. Stop segregating east west and black hills. One draw per unit of choice. Every other state is that way. It's time we get with the change. I will settle for nothing less than 1 draw. And I speak loudly for everyone out west. If it don't change expect more land to be locked out and miss managed.

Joel Farnham
White Rock NM
jefarnham@comcast.net

Comment:

How much difference is it going to make pushing the non-resident opportunity for leftover licenses to the 5th draw? This proposal is less welcoming to me as a non-resident deer hunter.

Greg Schweiss
Rapid City SD
schweissrc@aol.com

Comment:

I think the change to allow hunters to apply for two licenses in the first drawing is a significant improvement from the original proposal. While I still prefer the current system, I could now support the proposed changes, whereas I was strongly opposed to the initial proposal. The new proposal would now allow my kids and I to participate in our annual Family west river deer hunt, while still having a chance to occasionally draw a Black Hills Deer tag.

Derrick Reifenrath
Custer SD

Comment:

oppose

Russell Brown
Watertown SD
maclover@wat.midco.net

Comment:

This sounds like a good proposal. Keep in mind more importantly is the number of deer in each county. With the destruction of habitat by farmers on a continuous basis, by tiling, filling in low lands, and removing tree claims in grant, deuel and codington counties Has significantly impacted the number of deer we see during hunting season. As the DNR you need to address these issues immediately, To ensure quality deer hunting opportunities for our children and their's.

Jason Lee
Cresbard SD
jlee@venturecomm.net

Comment:

2 opportunities in the 1st draw seems to be fair enough. Only 1 would be absolutely unacceptable. Thanks for listening to the residents of SD who hunt.

Bruce Jones
Rapid City SD
BJONESSD@AOL.COM

Comment:

IF YOU WANT MORE HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES. GO BACK TO ORIGINAL PROPOSAL OF ONE PREFERRED LICENSE AREA.

Adam Boomgarden

Hurley SD

Adamboom1@gmail.com

Comment:

Changing the drawing system is dumb and must only be for a few people that are unhappy that they don't get the tag they always want.

Chris Nelson

Pierre SD

Chrisbinsd@yahoo.com

Comment:

I oppose the current proposal and support the original as proposed by GFP staff. Many hunters want more opportunities and to increase youth participation. The original proposal may do this. My opinion is that it is worth a try. If it doesn't work, then alternatives giving multi-first-pick choices can be reinstated.

Gary Lueth

Blooming Prairie MN

garylueth@gmail.com

Comment:

Recognition of Lanowners rights HAS to be part of any licensing system. It doesn't matter how many tags the Sioux Falls residents get if they don't have private land to hunt. Landowner tags now or the no hunting signs go up and the Sioux Falls crowd. The farmers and ranchers are very angry they don't have a voice. Wake up or you will have a serious issue.

Don Weber

Milbank SD

cdweb@wat.midco.net

Comment:

The proposal that would allow a hunter to apply for two of the six deer seasons in the first draw is already a compromise. When will the compromising end?

Aj Pollock

Gregory SD

Comment:

Keep the lottery drawing system. It works just fine. One motive for the proposal is to put more hunters in the field. How do you do that AND give out the same amount of tags? Public land is already crowded, hunters walk over hunters every time.

Eric Lie

Spearfish SD

doerlie@hotmail.com

Comment:

one first choice is enough-many seasons overlap - Better odds of getting a first choice instead of no license at all.

Lynn Voss

Sioux Falls SD

lynn22@sio.midco.net

Comment:

The system how is working just fine, leave it the way it is.

Mitch Munneke

Corsica SD

Sara.mitch@hotmail.com

Comment:

I really dont think you are going to get many extra people into the field also the people of South Dakota have spokenwe do NOT Want change!!!!!! Listen to us!!!!!!!

Brian Cotten

Watertown SD

Cottenb@hotmail.cim

Comment:

I really wish you would leave refuge draw out of this and have it on its own. This tag is very difficult to draw the way it is and is extremely limited. Please do not include refuge draw into this application!

Richard Hartland

Winner SD

rkhartland@yahoo.com

Comment:

I feel it works fine the way it is, but if you staggered the draw dates, we would regulate ourselves on how many tags we apply for, we all know we only have so much time. I applied for Hills license this year black powder license this year and special Buck license this year, I was unable to draw any of them, I have 15 points in the black hills area, so I understand what it's like not to draw a tag, But at least I always have chance for one of three, so my support is for leaving it alone, thank you.

Brian Parsons
Harrisburg SD
brparsons@midco.net

Comment:

This proposal will have just the opposite affect and reduce the number of hunters in the field by restricting them to fewer tages in areas they prefer to hunt.
I most definitely appose opening buck tags in the first draw to non resident hunters. All this will accomplish is turning our resident deer hunting into all paid deer hunting. If it would pass I would start a petition to stop this action.

Rodney Heinrich
Rapid City SD
rrheinrich@midco.net

Comment:

there are those of us that only have the hills to hunt and we can go years without a tag. I went two years a friend went five years. applying for one tag in first drawing will give us a better chance of getting a tag on a regular basis

Scott Olson
Mission Hill SD
scott.olson@mtmc.edu

Comment:

The system that is in place now is better than what is being proposed I think. The youth already have numerous opportunities to get started hunting. We need to be able to apply for all seasons as in the past.

Robert Winter
Yankton SD
bcwinter@vyn.midco.net

Comment:

I do not think the special buck should be included with east/west river first draw.

Dennis Engel
Sioux Falls SD
marcia,denny@hotmail.com

Comment:

how would this help you get a license, if there are like only one or two hundred licenses in a popular area ?

Pat Malcomb

Sioux Falls SD

pmalcomb@sio.midco.net

Comment:

Leave as is, this is not needed. why aren't bowhunters included in this they automatically get two buck tags and a few doe tags. If you are going to limit rifle hunters this is only fair. I say again leave as is.

Brian Garbisch

Summerset SD

brian.garbisch280@gmail.com

Comment:

This proposal still does not address the underlying issue of the "preference point" system that the department has tried to fix with the gimic of cubing points. I find it hard to believe that that hunters will have a better opportunity to draw their desired license, especially for people who desire to hunt West River including the Black Hills. The Black Hills is only one unit and West River deer is multiple units. But not all West River units are equally desired. Until the department installs a true preference point system, it seems that you are giving false hope of actually drawing a preferred license. This includes all species and licenses in which preference points are accumulated.

I would agree with having a small percentage of licenses for available for people with no preference points, even if you just restrict that percentage to youth. But by having everyone in the same draw pool, no matter the preference points, isn't working. Example, no one with less than 5 preference points should draw a tag before someone with 15+ years, period. The Wyoming nonresident system may not be perfect but at least a person knows when they have a good or absolute chance of drawing.

Looking at the age distribution of who submits multiple applications, you can see that the age groups that do are the groups that potential have the knowledge, physical capability and financial means to hunt multiple areas and seasons. This also means that they are traveling around and contributing more to the economy throughout the state. I am all for providing more hunting opportunities for youth, which can be accomplished by my previous statement of setting aside a percentage of licenses for them. Also, the older folks that don't necessarily want to travel very far or only want to do one hunt, a portion could be set aside for them in which to apply.

I would rather you address this issue by actually fixing the draw system for all species in a way that is straight forward and fair. I would think that more people would be satisfied with actually knowing how many years it may take them to draw their desired area license than hoping that a new random draw system will work.

Thank you for your time.

David Herrboldt

Menno SD

Comment:

I am in favor of appling for 2 of the 6 deer season's on the first draw.

Shane Stanley
Hot Springs SD
hunterfan_31@yahoo.com

Comment:

This is very stupid.your taking our choices away and chances to get a tag for the unit you want as a 2 ND choice

Jim Larsen
Hot Springs SD
jimlarsen433@yahoo.com

Comment:

If for instance I received a tag for both first choice license, the way it is explained is that I am allowed only 1 more tag in any second drawing. I would hope this is not the case.

Jason Haskell
Aberdeen SD
j.kr@nrctv.com

Comment:

I am mostly for the proposal, but oppose the Muzzleloader. I'm not exactly sure how the SDGF&P views/manages the ML hunt. As a primitive weapon I feel that it is wrong to make it so hard to draw and to run it after rifle. I do like that it is a longer season, but feel that there should be a window after archery, but before rifle that begins the ML season. It can then run congruent with rifle and possibly extend beyond also. I also feel we would benefit from delaying the rifle season a week. It always hits too close to the rut. We would have better quality statewide if we allowed those buck to breed in peace before the season starts. Just a couple of my thoughts. Thanks for listening.

Jason Jones
Covington VA
ibejay2982@aol.com

Comment:

So how are preference points going be used? Are previous points still valid? Everything separate or all points grouped together?

Jason Collins

East Grand Rapids MI

jdcollins43@gmail.com

Comment:

The changes you propose for deer hunting will probably make it more difficult for me to draw a non-resident tag. For that, I'm sad and ask you to reconsider. I've been "vacationing" in S. Dakota during the fall for 20+ years and during that time I've made friends, spent money and I've even gained a rooting interest in your high school football playoffs that grace the TV in every bar during November. As you make these changes please consider the timing of your draw to be before or close to other states that have good deer hunting. That will allow me to better plan my fall. I want to continue my non-resident tradition of hunting S. Dakota, and I'd hate to see you have a "late" in the calendar year drawing, and I forego your tag because I've already drawn (and purchased) an alternate tag for a different state.

I love hunting your state because of your rich resources, quality management, and the strong hunting heritage carried on by your residents. Keep it strong and I'll be there as often as I can so I can continue my out of state tradition. Thanks for the hospitality South Dakota.

Curtis Gustafson

Huron SD

crtgustafson@gmail.com

Comment:

I am assuming I could apply for East River Deer and West River deer in the first drawing.

Mary Hershberger

Blackfoot ID

ghersh@ida.net

Comment:

We have hunted SD for the past 20 years but will no longer hunt your state or stay in your motels or eat at you restaurants. Due to our slim chance of drawing in we will not be back to hunt.

Robert Vansickle

Watertown SD

rvansickle57@gmail.com

Comment:

deer tag allocation changes.....this new plan will give me less opportunity to put deer meat in my freezer...its not about trophies for me I live for the hunt and the meat provided!! This new deer tag allocation is rediculous...im in it for the hunt and the meat and appreciate living in SD....and having the opportunity to feed my family on venison!!! With your new plan it will restrict my ability to get 3 or more tags !!! Not sure what you are trying to accomplish w this !!

Julio Medeiros

Natrona Heights PA

Jfmedeiros939@gmail.com

Comment:

I am commenting on the proposed changes for deer hunting license. While I am in favor of a fair process for all, it seems that this new procedure would further limit non-resident chances to obtain deer tags. Having been a resident and now a non-res

Gerald Anderson

Owatonna MN

Grandy74@gmail.com

Comment:

11 resident tags while many in our party go without...the land we lease will never be open to locals. Too many have abused it. I'm sure this is the case in many places. So a 25 year tradition will be lost, the ranchers will lose revenue. But some residents will have 11 tags!!

David Del Soldato

Rapid City SD

sheyanne97@yahoo.com

Comment:

this will not get you more people hunting it is good just as it already is done I think you will just anger your base of hunters maybe that's what you want

Daniel Wittrock

Sioux Falls SD

innerarms06@gmail.com

Comment:

I THINK A LOT BETTER THE FIRST PROPOSAL OF ALLOWING ONLY ONE OF THE SIX SEASON

Ronald Tobin

Gettysburg SD

Ronniedtobin@yahoo.com

Comment:

The general public is not in favor of these changes fish and game needs to stop asking our opinion because you will do what ever you want. Stop

James Strachan

Chancellor SD

jamesstrachan2105@gmail.com

Comment:

I do believe that as when I grew up that deer hunting was a family tradition. It's sort of like christmass. It was a family affair. I personally could care less if I killed another deer but it is important to kids. In today atmosphere I believe that most parents unless they get some kind of license won't participate. I do and I'm not even a parent, I take a week off. And take some kids hunting. My suggestion is to combine a traditional muzzle loader season with gun season (notice I said traditional muzzle loader ,round balls ,no scopes, make it flint lock if you must,) just issue buck licenses for it, I've hunted with them for years there effective range is about equal to these new bows. Everybody gets a license you get more money, and has little if any impact on deer populations. Cant attest to the rest of the state but deer herd is up in southeast SD compared to previous years about back to normal a little short but close, didn't find any dead deer along creeks this year, cut down on doe licenses a few more years and it will be back to normal. Lots of little bucks that will amount to nothing and the 4 or 5 monsters would be a good idea to thin out the little bucks. You've got deer but I really dont understand your philosophy on growing the herd. You are not going to kill all the bucks in 2 weeks. Better to take your kid hunting than hunt your kid!

Sue Crooks

Astoria SD

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Comment:

Bottom line as a land owner, there are way to high of a deer population and its needs to be cut in half!! I allow any mentoring/youth that ask to hunt as long as they follow our rules for how they act/proceed on our land and several town people that like to hunt. SO don't make your first reply to me to "let people hunt your land", we allow deer/geese/and trapping to several individuals. This holding back and decreasing tags in eastern South Dakota and stating population is down due to disease is not good enough. I have too much deer and geese damage on my land as the population is just too high. Double or even triple the ones you are issuing now since you have cut the numbers so much the last few years and to me, that is still not enough. They numbers in the herds I see in a 40 mile radius as I travel is incredible. There are so many, they aren't even scared to bed down in my yard. I want to see the number of tags/licenses increase for residents and non-residents both.

Ivan Umberger

Lower Brule SD

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Comment:

I would like to see west river resident have first chose on west river season before every one get to throw their hats in. I've lived and still hunt in Gregoy Co, with all the good walk in hunting we have lots of east river hunters making it more difficult to draw on low license years. Most hunters don't like not being drawled in your own back yard while many stranger hunt there, thanks