

**GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION  
FINALIZATION**

**Spring Wild Turkey Hunting Season**

**Chapter 41:06:13; 41:03:01**

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>October 4-5, 2018</b>	<b>Deadwood</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>November 1, 2018</b>	<b>Sioux Falls</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>November 1-2, 2018</b>	<b>Sioux Falls</b>

**COMMISSION PROPOSAL**

**Duration of Proposal:** 2019 and 2020 seasons (only 2019 season dates listed below)

<b>Season Dates:</b>	April 6 – May 31, 2019	Archery
	April 13 – May 31, 2019	Black Hills regular and single-season Prairie units
	April 13 – April 30, 2019	Split-season early Prairie units
	May 1 – May 31, 2019	Split-season late Prairie units; Black Hills late season

<b>Licenses:</b>	Black Hills:	Unlimited resident and nonresident one-tag “male turkey” licenses
	Prairie:	5,657 resident and 246 nonresident one-tag “male turkey” licenses 600 resident and 48 nonresident two-tag “male turkey” licenses
	Archery:	Unlimited resident and nonresident one-tag “male turkey” licenses

<b>Access Permits:</b>	Access permits valid April 6-30
	Good Earth State Park: 5 archery turkey access permits
	Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve: 20 archery turkey access permits

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. Turkey hunters may apply for and receive one license in each of the Black Hills regular season, Black Hills late season, Prairie, and Archery Units in the first and second lottery drawings.
2. Turkey hunters may purchase only one regular Black Hills and one archery turkey license.
3. Residents may purchase one late Black Hills late season license.
4. One-half of the licenses in each prairie unit are available for landowner/operator preference.
5. Prairie units adjoining the White River and Cheyenne River also include an adjacent area one mile wide on the opposite side of the river.
6. No person may shoot a turkey in a tree or roost.
7. Rifles are prohibited to hunt turkeys during the spring turkey season.

**Proposed changes from last year:**

1. Offer residents 55 more one-tag “male turkey” licenses and 150 less two-tag “male turkey” licenses for the Prairie Units than 2018 for an overall decrease of 245 tags. Offer nonresidents 2 more one-tag “male turkey” licenses and 12 less two-tag “male turkey” licenses for the Prairie Units than 2018 for an overall decrease of 22 tags.
2. Modify the season end date for all turkey hunting (Prairie, Black Hills, Archery) from the eighth day prior to Memorial Day weekend to May 31.
3. Adjust hunting season end date for Sica Hollow in unit 48A to end on May 31.
4. Remove the allowance of rifles to hunt turkeys during spring turkey season.

**COMMISSION MODIFICATION TO PROPOSAL**

1. Clarify that removing the allowance of rifles to hunt turkeys during the spring turkey season applies to rimfire, centerfire, and muzzleloading rifles.

**COMMISSION ACTION**

**APPROVE**   X      **MODIFY**   X      **REJECT**           **NO ACTION**