Use of Parks and Public Lands
Chapter 41:03:01

Commission Meeting Dates: Proposal June 7-8, 2018 Aberdeen
Public Hearing July 11, 2018 Pierre
Finalization July 11, 2018 Pierre

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

41:03:01:37. Firewood prohibited. No person may bring firewood into a state park, recreation area, lakeside use area, nature area, or recreation trail that has been in an emerald ash borer quarantined area as designated by the South Dakota Department of Agriculture or has been in a state other than South Dakota, unless that firewood has a label affixed certifying it has been treated for emerald ash borer.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended change from proposal: None

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is a devastative insect that has killed tens of millions of ash trees in at least 32 states. In May, 2018, the insect was discovered in South Dakota. The South Dakota Secretary of Agriculture declared an emergency EAB quarantine area that firewood cannot be moved out of. The quarantine area includes all of Minnehaha County and portions of Turner and Lincoln County area and will grow if the infestation moves beyond the area. The larva and insect can survive in firewood for extended periods of time. One of the most common means for spread of the EAB infestation is the transport of infested firewood. By not allowing firewood into state park areas from outside of South Dakota and from EAB quarantine areas within South Dakota, we hope to slow the infestation. Knowing that the EAB would reach South Dakota, we ceased planting ash trees in state park areas over a decade ago and increased the planting of alternate tree species. Each year that the EAB can be kept out of a state park area will allow more time for alternate species trees to mature.

APPROVE    MODIFY    REJECT    NO ACTION
GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
FINALIZATION

Fall Wild Turkey Hunting Season
Chapter 41:06:14

Commission Meeting Dates: Proposal June 7-8, 2018 Aberdeen
Public Hearing July 11, 2018 Pierre
Finalization July 11, 2018 Pierre

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

Duration of Proposal: 2018 and 2019 hunting seasons

Season Dates: November 1, 2018 – January 31, 2019
November 1, 2019 – January 31, 2020

Licenses:
- Black Hills: 200 resident and 16 nonresident one-tag “any turkey” licenses
- Prairie Units:
  - Residents: 525 single tag “any turkey” licenses
  - Nonresidents: 38 single tag “any turkey” licenses

Requirements and Restrictions:
1. One-half of the fall turkey licenses are available for landowner preference applicants.
2. A person may not use any firearm on the south unit and the signed portion of the north unit of the Bureau of Land Management Fort Meade Recreation Area.
3. No person may shoot a turkey that is in a tree or roost.

Proposed changes from last year:
1. Offer 305 less resident single tag licenses and 50 less resident double tag licenses for Prairie Units compared to 2017.
2. Offer 200 less resident single tag licenses for the Black Hills Unit compared to 2017.
3. Close prairie units 8A (Davison and Hanson counties), 12A (Bonne Homme County), 13A (Brule County), 37A (Hutchinson County), 53A (Perkins County), and 62A (Union County).
4. Establish and open prairie unit 39A (Jackson County).
5. Modify current prairie unit 48A (Marshall and Roberts counties) to include all of Roberts County.
6. Modify current Black Hills Unit by removing those portions of Lawrence, Meade and Pennington counties.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: None.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Harvest management strategy table of the Wild Turkey Management Plan and updated unit-specific population objectives provided guidance for the recommended changes to the respective prairie units.

Prairie unit 48A is being modified to address depredation issues in areas outside of the current unit boundary.

The modification to the Black Hills unit boundary is justified based on estimated survival rates and population growth rates from current research project in the northern Black Hills and existing depredation issues in the southern Black Hills.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Prairie Licenses Sold</th>
<th>Prairie Tom Harvest</th>
<th>Prairie Hen Harvest</th>
<th>Prairie Success</th>
<th>Black Hills Licenses Sold</th>
<th>Black Hills Tom Harvest</th>
<th>Black Hills Hen Harvest</th>
<th>Black Hills Success</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>5,066</td>
<td>1,180</td>
<td>721</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>1,627</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1,910</td>
<td>422</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1,936</td>
<td>422</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>908</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>434</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>898</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

APPROVE MODIFY REJECT NO ACTION
FALL TURKEY UNITS

2018 & 2019 Fall Turkey Licenses
(All tags are for one "any turkey")

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Licenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07A</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30A</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39A</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48A</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50A</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60A</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BH1</td>
<td>200</td>
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</table>
GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

Fall Turkey Hunting Seasons – Hunting Unit License Allocations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commission Meeting Dates</th>
<th>Proposal</th>
<th>June 7-8, 2018</th>
<th>Aberdeen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public Hearing</td>
<td>July 11, 2018</td>
<td>Pierre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Finalization</td>
<td>July 11, 2018</td>
<td>Pierre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LICENSE ALLOCATION BY UNITS

See Attached Spreadsheets

<p>| APPROVE | MODIFY | REJECT | NO ACTION |
|---------|--------|--------|-----------|-----------|</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit #</th>
<th>Unit Name</th>
<th>Resident</th>
<th>Nonresident</th>
<th>License Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>AnyT 31</td>
<td>2 AnyT 37</td>
<td>AnyT 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07A</td>
<td>Yankton</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30A</td>
<td>Gregory</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39A</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48A</td>
<td>Marshall/Roberts</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50A</td>
<td>Mellette</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60A</td>
<td>Tripp</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BH1</td>
<td>Black Hills</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>725</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>725</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RES & NR: 763 763 763
### FALL TURKEY
#### 2016-17 vs. 2018-19

An additional 8% of the number of licenses will be available to nonresidents for the Black Hills and West River prairie units.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit #</th>
<th>Unit Name</th>
<th>2016-17 Resident Licenses</th>
<th>2018-19 Resident Licenses</th>
<th># Change</th>
<th>% Change</th>
<th>2016-17 Resident Tags</th>
<th>2018-19 Resident Tags</th>
<th># Change</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07A</td>
<td>Yankton</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08A</td>
<td>Davison/Hanson</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-50</td>
<td>-100%</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-100</td>
<td>-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12A</td>
<td>Bon Homme</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-150</td>
<td>-100%</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-150</td>
<td>-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13A</td>
<td>Brule</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-50</td>
<td>-100%</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-50</td>
<td>-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30A</td>
<td>Gregory</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37A</td>
<td>Hutchinson</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-30</td>
<td>-100%</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-30</td>
<td>-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39A</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>#DIV/0!</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>#DIV/0!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48A</td>
<td>Marshall/Roberts</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50A</td>
<td>Mellette</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53A</td>
<td>Perkins</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-100</td>
<td>-100%</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-100</td>
<td>-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60A</td>
<td>Tripp</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62A</td>
<td>Union</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-50</td>
<td>-100%</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-50</td>
<td>-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BH1</td>
<td>Black Hills</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>-200</td>
<td>-50%</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>-200</td>
<td>-50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,280</td>
<td>725</td>
<td>-555</td>
<td>-43%</td>
<td>1,330</td>
<td>725</td>
<td>-605</td>
<td>-45%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
FINALIZATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Archery Restrictions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 41:06:05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Commission Meeting Dates:**
- Proposal: June 7-8, 2018, Aberdeen
- Public Hearing: July 11, 2018, Pierre
- Finalization: July 11, 2018, Pierre

**COMMISSION PROPOSAL**

Removal of certain archery equipment restrictions.

**41:06:05:01. Archery equipment restrictions.** A person hunting with bow and arrow may not use or possess any of the following:

1. Explosive, poisonous, hydraulic, or pneumatic points;
2. Crossbows and draw-lock devices that hold the bow at partial or full draw except as provided in chapter 41:09:12;
3. Arrow rests that have more than three inches of continuous contact with the arrow;
4. Electronic devices mounted to the bow that aid in the taking of game. However, cameras, video cameras, cell phones used exclusively for photographic purposes, lighted sight pins, and illuminated arrow nocks may be used. An electrical device mounted to the bow to project a light beam or image to a target;
5. Electronic arrow or electronic string releases;
6. Compound bows with a let-off of more than 80 percent;
7. Compound bows shorter than 28 inches as measured from the top of the upper wheel or cam to the bottom of the lower wheel or cam;
8. Telescopic sights;
9. An arrow, including the attached broadhead, weighing less than 275 grains when hunting a big-game animal;
10. An arrow that is less than 26 inches long when measured from the notch of the nock to the end of the shaft, not including the blunt or broadhead;
11. An arrow without a broadhead (fixed or mechanical) that has at least two metal cutting edges when hunting big game animals. However, an arrow tipped with any point may be possessed when used for practice; except blunt points may be used when hunting a turkey or small game and both field points and blunt points may be possessed and used when hunting small game or at any time when possessed and used as practice arrows;
12. A bow that measures less than 40 pounds pull when hunting elk with a mechanical broadhead or a bow that measures less than 40 pounds pull when hunting any other big game animal with a mechanical broadhead; or
13. A bow that measures less than 30 pounds pull when hunting big game animals other than elk, with a fixed blade broadhead or a bow that measures less than 30 pounds pull when hunting any other big game animal with a fixed blade broadhead.

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION**

Recommended changes from proposal: None

**SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION**

Expanding the list of legal equipment will remove confusing and often unenforceable regulations. Modification of the rule will allow archers to make equipment decisions based on personal preference, performance and tailor their equipment setup to their individual requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APPROVE</th>
<th>MODIFY</th>
<th>REJECT</th>
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</thead>
</table>
Refuges and Boating Restrictions
Chapters 41:04:02, 41:05:02 and 41:06:08

Commission Meeting Dates: Proposal June 7-8, 2018 Aberdeen
Public Hearing July 11, 2018 Pierre
Finalization July 11, 2018 Pierre

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

ACTION ITEM #1

Recommended changes from last year:

1) Remove the East Oakwood Lake Waterfowl Refuge and the "no boating zone" from October 20 – December 31.

41:05:02:05. Brookings County refuges. Brookings County refuges are as follows:

The East Oakwood Lake State Waterfowl Refuge comprises all of East Oakwood Lake, including the shore up to the high water line, in sections 8, 9, 16, 17, the south half of section 4, and the south half of section 5, township 111 north, range 51 west of the fifth principal meridian.

41:04:02:05. Brookings County public water safety zones. Brookings County public water safety zones are as follows:

The waters of East Oakwood Lake in sections 8, 9, 16, 17, the south half of section 4, and the south half of section 5, township 111 north, range 51 west of the fifth principal meridian is a "no boating zone" from October 20 to December 31, inclusive.
DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: None.

STAFF COMMENTS

GFP staff have received numerous inquiries annually regarding removing the refuge status and boating restriction to allow for fall fishing opportunities. East Oakwood Lake is a high-use fishery and recent fish surveys indicate high walleye and perch populations. In addition, the boat ramp is in the closed area which makes fishing and launching in the current open area problematic.
Recommended changes from last year:

2) Remove the Sand Lake Game Bird Refuge

41:05:02:10. **Campbell County refuges.** Campbell County refuges are as follows:

The Sand Lake State Game Bird Refuge comprises the south half of section 19, the west half of the northwest quarter of section 30, the northeast quarter of section 30, that portion of the southwest quarter of section 20 west of U.S. Highway 83, and that portion of the northwest quarter of section 29 west of U.S. Highway 83, all in township 125 north, range 76 west of the fifth principal meridian. The refuge on the land owned by the department is open to hunting each year from November 15 through August 31 of the following year.

**Sand Lake, Campbell**

**Current Status**

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION**

Recommended changes from proposal: None.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

Work group recommends removal of the refuge to add recreational opportunities and simplify rules. This area has a good amount of staging water available for waterfowl to use. Blue Blanket Waterfowl Refuge on the Missouri River is approximately 15 miles SW of Sand Lake.
COMMISSION PROPOSAL

ACTION ITEM #3

Recommended changes from last year:

3) Reclassify Waubay State Game Refuge to Waubay State Game Bird Refuge, and remove the "no boating zone" and "State Game Refuge" status in the Windgate Arm;

41:05:02:18. Day County game refuges. The refuge in Day County is the Waubay State Game Bird Refuge. This refuge comprises the lands and waters below the ordinary high-water mark associated with Hillebrand's Lake, Spring Lake, and Swan Pond; that portion of Waubay Lake known as Windgate Arm lying east of the dike located in the south half of section 36, township 123 north, range 55 west; and the land below the ordinary high-water mark on Waubay Lake lying adjacent to Waubay National Wildlife Refuge.

41:04:02:18. Day County public water safety zones. Day County public water safety zones are as follows:

(6) That portion of Waubay Lake known as Windgate Arm lying east of the dike located in the south half of section 36, township 123 north, range 55 west of the fifth principal meridian is a "no boating zone";

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: None.

STAFF COMMENTS

Work group members met with Waubay NWR staff to discuss options that would allow for more recreational opportunities within the NWR boundary. Eliminating the no boating year round and State Game Refuge
Restrictions will allow recreational opportunities within the Windgate Arm portion of Waubay Lake. Reclassifying the Game Refuge to a Game Bird Refuge within the NWR boundary will allow refuge deer hunters the opportunity to harvest a deer and cleanup a rule that isn't needed.
Recommended changes from last year:

4) Modify the pheasant hunting starting date from the 2nd Monday in December to December 1 for Renziehausen State Game Bird Refuge including its shooting and retrieval zones, Gerken State Game Bird Refuge, and White Lake State Game Bird Refuge.

41:06:08:01. Pheasant hunting season established -- Open units and dates. The pheasant hunting season is open in the units and during the dates set out in this section. The season is open from 12:00 noon central time to sunset each day to the Friday preceding the fourth Saturday of October, inclusive. Beginning on the fourth Saturday of October, the season is open from 10:00 a.m. central time to sunset each day. The open dates and units are as follows:

(1) Unit 1: all counties in the state except for those areas described in Unit 2 and Unit 3. The season in Unit 1 is open beginning on the third Saturday of October and remains open to the first Sunday of January, inclusive;

(2) Unit 2: Renziehausen Game Production Area, Renziehausen State Game Bird Refuge including its shooting and retrieval zones, Gerken State Game Bird Refuge, Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Brown County, and White Lake State Game Bird Refuge. The season in Unit 2 is open beginning on the second Monday of December 1 and remains open to the first Sunday of January, inclusive.

(3) Unit 3: Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Brown County. The season in Unit 3 is open beginning on the second Monday of December and remains open to the first Sunday of January, inclusive.

Renziehausen Slough, Brown Current
White Lake, Marshall
Current Status

State Game Bird
Refuge (pheasant)
hunting allowed 2nd
Monday in December
(end of season)

Waterbody Acres: 185

Miles

0 0.25 0.5

State Refuge
Game Production Area
DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: None.

STAFF COMMENTS

Currently, Gerken GPA, Renziehausen GPA and White Lake GPA open for pheasant hunting starting the 2nd Monday in December (December 11th in 2017). Data collected from the Waubay Refuge staff indicates average freeze dates since 1996 have occurred on December 1. This change would increase pheasant hunting opportunity on these GPA's and on an average year, would cause no disturbance to staging migratory waterfowl because the waterbodies would be frozen.
COMMISSION PROPOSAL

ACTION ITEM #5

Recommended changes from last year:

5) Remove the Whitewood Lake State Waterfowl Refuge and the "no boating zone" from October 20 to December 31

41:05:02:38. Kingsbury County refuges. The refuge in Kingsbury County is:

The Whitewood Lake State Waterfowl Refuge. This refuge comprises that portion of Whitewood Lake within the water’s edge, bounded on the east by the east section line of sections 6 and 16, township 110 north, range 54 west of the fifth principal meridian and bounded on the west by the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad grade, as posted, including all islands and bars within the area.

41:04:02:38. Kingsbury County public water safety zones. Kingsbury County public water safety zones are as follows:

(2) Whitewood Lake Waterfowl Refuge is a "no boating zone" from October 20 to December 31, inclusive;

![Whitewood Lake, Kingsbury Current Status](image)

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: None.

STAFF COMMENTS

There is a vast amount of water covering the landscape in the surrounding area (>20,000 acres within a 5 mile radius) and Whitewood Lake is also a very popular fishery. Removing the restrictions would add recreational opportunities and simplify regulations.
**ACTION ITEM #8**

**Recommended changes from last year:**

6) Change the "no boating zone" during the open season on migratory waterfowl to "electric motors only" from October 20 – December 31.

**41:05:02:54. Roberts County refuges.** Roberts County refuges are as follows:

The Cottonwood Lake State Waterfowl Refuge comprises all of Cottonwood Lake within the water's edge in sections 20, 28, 29, 32, and 33, township 128 north, range 49 west of the fifth principal meridian, including all islands and bars within the water's edge;

**41:04:02:54. Roberts County public water safety zones.** Roberts County public water safety zones are as follows:

(3) The waters of the portions of the Cottonwood Lake Waterfowl Refuge located in sections 20, 28, 29, 32, and 33, township 128 north, range 49 west are a "no boating zone" "electric motors only" during the open season on migratory waterfowl from October 20 – December 31;

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**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION**

**Recommended changes from proposal:** Modify "electric motors only" to "electric motors zone"
"Electric motors zone," an area which is closed to the use of all motors except any electric-powered motor.

Making this change will simplify rules and allow more recreational opportunity. Retaining the refuge status and allowing only boats with no motors or electric motors will still allow a quiet place for waterfowl to stage.
**COMMISSION PROPOSAL**

**ACTION ITEM #7**

**Recommended changes from last year:**

7) Remove the State Waterfowl Refuge status on the Game Production Area located on the south side of Cottonwood Lake

**41:05:02:57. Spink County refuges.** Spink County refuges are as follows:

The Cottonwood Lake State Waterfowl Refuge comprises the waters of Cottonwood Lake; excluding the area owned by Game, Fish and Parks on the southern portion of Cottonwood Lake.

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION**

**Recommended changes from proposal:** None.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

Work group recommends removing the waterfowl refuge status on the GPA towards the southern end of the lake. Allowing water hunting will increase hunting opportunities and not affect the staging waterfowl on the rest of the lake.
COMMISION PROPOSAL

ACTION ITEM #8

Recommended changes from last year:

8) Modify the "no boating zone" to "electric motors only" on Putney Slough Game Production Area and change the date from October 15 – December 31 to October 20 – December 31.

41:04:02:06. Brown County public water safety zones. Brown County public water safety zones are as follows:

(6) The waters of Putney Slough Game Production Area located within Sections 7, 8, 17, and 18, township 124 north, range 61 west are a "no-boating zone" "electric motors only" from October 15 to December 31, inclusive.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: Modify "electric motors only" to "electric motors zone"

STAFF COMMENTS

• "Electric motors zone," an area which is closed to the use of all motors except any electric-powered motor.

Making this change will simplify regulations and allow more recreational opportunities for the public. Allowing only boats with no motors or electric motors will still allow a quiet place for waterfowl to stage with minimal disturbance.
Recommended changes from last year:

9) Modify the "no boating zone" year round on Long Lake to "electric motors only" from October 20 – December 31.

41:04:02:14. Codington County public water safety zones. Codington County public water safety zones are as follows:

(2) That portion of Long Lake in sections 11, 12, 13, and 14 of township 117 north, range 55 west, is a "electric motors only" from October 20 – December 31; "no boating zone" year round;

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: Modify "electric motors only" to "electric motors zone"

STAFF COMMENTS

- "Electric motors zone," an area which is closed to the use of all motors except any electric-powered motor.

This will allow more recreational opportunity, specifically fishing, as the north end of the lake has the most 'fishable' water. This area has become a popular fishery close to the city of Watertown. This would also continue to offer an area for staging waterfowl with the electric motors only restriction from October 20th - December 31st. If this area is opened to boating, GFP will develop a modern boat ramp on the NW side of the lake for better public access.
Recommended changes from last year:

10) Modify the "no boating zone" during open season on migratory waterfowl on McKillicans Lake to "electric motors only" from October 20 – December 31.

**Codington County public water safety zones.** Codington County public water safety zones are as follows:

(3) All of McKilligan Lake is "no boating zone: "electric motors only" from during open season on migratory waterfowl from October 20 – December 31:

---

**McKillicans Lake, Codington**

**Current**
Recommended changes from last year:

11) Modify the "no motor zone" during open season on migratory waterfowl on Horseshoe Lake to "electric motors only" from October 20 – December 31.

41:04:02:14. Codington County public water safety zones. Codington County public water safety zones are as follows:

(4) All of Horseshoe Lake is a "no-motors zone" "electric motors only" during open season on migratory waterfowl from October 20 – December 31;

Horseshoe Lake, Codington Current Status

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: Modify "electric motors only" to "electric motors zone"

STAFF COMMENTS

- "Electric motors zone," an area which is closed to the use of all motors except any electric-powered motor.

Implementing this change will add more recreational opportunities for the public, streamline existing regulations and still offer an area for waterfowl to stage.
**ACTION ITEM #12**

**Recommended changes from last year:**

12) Remove the "no motorized boating zone" on Crow Lake from October 20 to December 31.

**41:04:02:36. Jerauld County public water safety zones.**

That portion of Crow Lake in Jerauld County lying west of the north/south section lines between sections 22 and 23 and sections 26 and 27, township 106 north, range 66 west is a "no motorized boating zone" from October 20 to December 31, inclusive.

**Crow Lake, Jerauld**

**Current Status**

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**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION**

**Recommended changes from proposal:** None.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

Recommend removing restriction to increase recreational opportunities and simplify regulations. Crow Lake is a shallow semi-permanent wetland that periodically goes dry.
COMMISSION PROPOSAL

ACTION ITEM #13

Recommended changes from last year:

13) Modify the “no boating zone” on Spirit Lake to “electric motors only” from October 20 to December 31.

41:04:02:38. Kingsbury County public water safety zones. Kingsbury County public water safety zones are as follows:

(1) Spirit Lake is a “no-boating zone” “electric motors only” from October 20 to December 31, inclusive;

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: Modify the proposal to remove the “no boating zone” on Spirit Lake from October 20 to December 31.

STAFF COMMENTS

After further discussions with field staff and members of the public, staff would like to remove the Spirit Lake boating restriction because the size of Spirit Lake (>1200 acres) is not conducive to an electric motor zone. Other key criteria to consider:

1) Spirit Lake is a very popular fishery (stocked with walleyes in 2011, 2014, 2015 and 2016).
2) 88% of Spirit Lake is a meandered basin.
3) 4.4% (3,026 acres) of the landscape within a 5 mile radius is covered with water.
Recommended changes from last year:

14) Remove the "no motors zone" on Milwaukee Lake from October 20 to December 31.

Lake County public water safety zones. Lake County public water safety zones are as follows:

(3) The meandered portion of Milwaukee Lake located in section 33, township 107 north, range 51 west and section 4, township 106 north, range 51 west is a "no motors zone" for boats from October 20 to December 31, inclusive;

Milwaukee Lake, Lake
Current Status

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: None.

STAFF COMMENTS

This change will allow more recreational opportunity and simplify regulations.
**ACTION ITEM #15**

**Recommended changes from last year:**

15) Remove the "no boating zone" on Island Lake from October 20 to December 31.

**41:04:02:43. McCook County public water safety zones.** McCook County public water safety zones are as follows:

(2) That portion of Island Lake lying north of McCook County Road 6 is a "no boating zone" from October 20 to December 31, inclusive.

**41:04:02:49. Minnehaha County public water safety zones.** Minnehaha County public water safety zones are as follows:

(2) The waters of that portion of Island Lake lying north of Minnehaha County Road 110 are a "no boating zone" from October 20 to December 31, inclusive;

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**Island Lake, Minnehaha**

**Current Status**

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**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION**

**Recommended changes from proposal:** None.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

Island Lake is a popular fishery with a diverse fish community. Field staff hear from the public requesting the ability to fish longer into the fall. Clear Lake (472ac) is located 6.5 miles SE of Island Lake which has a similar boating restriction.
COMMISSION PROPOSAL

ACTION ITEM #16

Recommended changes from last year:

16) Modify the "no motors over 25 h.p. zone" on Bear Butte Lake to a "no wake zone"

41:04:02:46. Meade County public water safety zones. Bear Butte Lake in Meade County is a "no motors over 25 h.p. zone" "no wake zone".

Bear Butte Lake, Meade
Current Status

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: None.

STAFF COMMENTS

This will allow more boaters to safely utilize the lake. This would also be more consistent with erosion and safety rules at other state parks.
Recommended changes from last year:

17) Modify the "no boating zone" on Clear Lake to "electric motors only" from October 20 to December 31.

41:04:02:49. Minnehaha County public water safety zones. Minnehaha County public water safety zones are as follows:

(2) Clear Lake is a "no boating zone" "electric motors only" from October 20 to December 31, inclusive;

Clear Lake, Minnehaha
Current Status

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: Modify "electric motors only" to "electric motors zone"

STAFF COMMENTS

- "Electric motors zone," an area which is closed to the use of all motors except any electric-powered motor.

This would allow for some limited fall fishing opportunity, limited water hunting opportunity, while still allowing staging waterfowl opportunities.
Recommended changes from last year:

18) Remove the "no boating zone" on Silver Lake during a Conservation Order (spring taking of light geese) as well as during the regular open season on migratory waterfowl.

41:05:02:33. Hutchinson County refuges. The following refuge is in Hutchinson County: the Silver Lake Waterfowl Refuge comprises all of Silver Lake below the high-water mark including all islands and bars lying within the high-water mark.

41:04:02:33. Hutchinson County public water safety zones. Hutchinson County public water safety zones are as follows:

(1) Silver Lake is a "no boating zone" during a Conservation Order (spring taking of light geese) as well as during the regular open season on migratory waterfowl.

Silver Lake, Hutchinson
Current Status

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: Reject the Silver Lake Commission Proposal

STAFF COMMENTS

Staff would like to retain the refuge status and the "no boating zone" restriction because water is a limited resource in the area (<100 acres within a 5 mile radius), and as a result, limited waterfowl staging opportunities exist in this area.
Recommended changes from last year:

19) Modify the "no boating zone" during a Conservation Order and during any open season for migratory waterfowl on Lehrman Game Production Area to "electric motors only" from October 20 – December 31.

41:04:02:43. McCook County public water safety zones. McCook County public water safety zones are as follows:

(4) The waters of Lehrman Game Production Area in section 32, township 103 north, range 56 west are a "no boating zone" "electric motors only" during a Conservation Order and during any open season for migratory waterfowl, from October 20 – December 31 inclusive.

Lehrman Slough, McCook
Current Status

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: Reject the Lehrman Slough Commission Proposal

STAFF COMMENTS

An agreement has been made with the adjacent landowners to allow public access across a portion of their private property to access the landlocked portion of public land in the northeast corner of the game production area.
Recommended changes from last year:

20) Add "electric motors only" zone on Swan Lake in Clark County from October 20 – December 31.

Swan Lake, Clark
Proposed

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Reject the Swan Lake Commission proposal.

STAFF COMMENTS

This change would limit recreational opportunities and contradicts information outlined in the criteria document used to justify the elimination and/or modification of other boating restrictions and refuges. Key criteria to consider:

1) 13.1% (10,390 acres) of the landscape is covered with water within a 5-mile radius
2) 66% of the Swan Lake basin is publicly owned
3) Swan Lake has been stocked with walleye about every other year since 1998 and has been a very popular fishery for the past 20 years.
4) Swan Lake is a section-8 lake and the landowners that own flooded property may petition the commission to close their flooded property to recreational use.
5) Swan Lake is in close proximity (<10 miles) to numerous nonmeandered water closures and injunction lake closures. These closure areas already provide ample undisturbed staging areas for waterfowl because of the very limited recreational opportunities.
GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
FINALIZATION

Fish Limits
Chapter 41:07:03

Commission Meeting Dates: Proposal June 7-8, 2018 Aberdeen
Public Hearing July 11, 2018 Pierre
Finalization July 11, 2018 Pierre

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

Current

41:07:03:03. Daily, possession, and length limit restrictions on special management waters -- Additional restrictions described. Daily limit, possession limit, length limit, and additional restrictions on special management waters are described as follows:

(3) In New Wall Dam in Pennington County, Newell Lake in Butte County, and Lake Waggoner in Haakon County, Clear Lake and Roy Lake in Marshall County, Reetz Lake, and Horseshoe Lake in Day County, only those largemouth and smallmouth bass less than 14 inches in length or 18 inches or greater in length may be taken, and of the largemouth and smallmouth bass taken daily no more than one may be 18 inches or greater in length;

(11) In Twin Lakes in Minnehaha County and Reetz Lake in Day County, the daily limit for walleye, sauger, or walleye-sauger hybrid is one, 28 inches or greater in length

Proposed
Reetz Lake in Day County

Season Dates: Daily Fish Limits
May 1 – September 30 - 1 walleye or sauger, 28 inches or greater
- 1 yellow perch, 14 inches or greater
- 1 black crappie, 15 inches or greater
- 1 bluegill, 10 inches or greater
- Statewide regulations for all other species

October 1 – April 30 - Statewide regulations all species

- Remove the largemouth and smallmouth bass regulation on Reetz Lake

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION
Recommended changes from proposal: None.

STAFF COMMENTS
In an effort to regain public fishing access to Reetz Lake; Game, Fish and Parks staff have been working on access agreement terms and conditions with the landowners of Reetz Lake; currently a closed nonmeandered lake in Day County. The proposed harvest restrictions meet the conditions set by the landowners of Reetz Lake and if approved, Reetz Lake would be open to public fishing from May 1 – Sept.30. Fishing access from Oct. 1 – April 30 would be open by landowner permission only. If the daily limits and harvest restrictions are not approved, Reetz Lake will remain closed year-round to public fishing and will only be open by landowner permission.

APPROVE _____ MODIFY _____ REJECT _____ NO ACTION _____
June 18, 2018

South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks Commission
Secretary Kelly Helper
523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

Dear Commission members and Secretary Helper

We hope that you are as pleased with the funds generated from the South Dakota Special Elk Tag sales as we are. As the overall health of the elk herd in The Black Hills has improved, residents have become even more willing to support the fund raising effort. RMEF committees have attempted at each banquet to educate attendees about the 100% investment they make in elk and elk habitat when they purchase an opportunity for the tag and other prizes. In addition to the annual fund raising efforts, 60 of these volunteers recently gathered in the Southern Black Hills for our Annual Rendezvous to enhance elk habitat. They completed two major guzzler repairs on US Forest Service Property and an important fencing project with Custer State Park Staff.

The RMEF volunteers of the State would like to continue to be a part of this conservation effort and request consideration for the 2018 Special Elk tag. We understand that if selected the raffle must be conducted in accordance with the provisions of 41:06:27 of the Administrative Rules.

We would like to again thank Commissioner Jensen for allowing us to conduct the drawing for the 2019 elk tag and other prizes at his office on May 8th. This allowed the Brandon, SD RMEF chapter to complete raffle sales at their May 5th banquet. Again this year the raffle showed increased revenue in both banquet raffle and mail-in sales.

On July 25th, RMEF volunteers represented by the Volunteer State Chair and RMEF Regional Director will meet with representatives from South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks, National Park Service, US Fish and Wildlife, US Forest Service, SDSU, and Bureau of Land Management.
This year $60,697 will be shared with these agencies for projects in South Dakota elk country as a result of RMEF volunteer efforts.

Yours in Conservation,

Mason Cooper
RMEF South Dakota Regional Director
Cell (785) 414-0589
E-mail: mcooper@rmef.org
2018 Spawning and Spring Stocking Summary

**Walleye**

Field Operation Dates: April 25 – May 5
Egg Take Goal: 131 million

**Walleye Egg Take**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Water</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grand R</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Corson</td>
<td>28,958,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>E Oakwood</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Brookings</td>
<td>12,277,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>W Oakwood</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sinai</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Twin</td>
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<td>Minnehaha</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diamond</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johnson</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Day</td>
<td>18,880,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid Lynn</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lardy</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Day</td>
<td>23,898,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lynn</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Day</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>138,174,000</strong></td>
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**Yellow Perch**

Field Operation Dates: April 25 - May 5
Egg Take Goal: 21 million

**Yellow Perch Egg Take**

<table>
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<td>E Oakwood</td>
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<td>Sinai</td>
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<td>W Oakwood</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2,035,000</strong></td>
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Stockings Completed Through July 1, 2018

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<th>Species</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Management Purpose</th>
<th>Stocking Request</th>
<th>Number Stocked</th>
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<tr>
<td>Black Crappie</td>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>Winterkill</td>
<td>1,300</td>
<td>2,904</td>
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<td>Bluegill</td>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>Supplemental</td>
<td>11,750</td>
<td>2,758</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brown Trout</td>
<td>Catchable</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>9,400*</td>
<td>4,334***</td>
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<tr>
<td>Channel Catfish</td>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinook Salmon</td>
<td>Fingerling</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>290,000*</td>
<td>208,753**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flathead Catfish</td>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gizzard Shad</td>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>Winterkill</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>336</td>
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<tr>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>750</td>
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<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>Adv. Fingerling</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
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<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>Juvenile</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>6,445</td>
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<td>Muskie</td>
<td>Juvenile</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>2000</td>
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<td>Northern Pike</td>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>Supplemental</td>
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<td>Paddlefish</td>
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<td>50,000</td>
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<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>181,475</td>
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<td>Redear Sunfish</td>
<td>Fingerling</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
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<td>Saugeye</td>
<td>Small Fingerling</td>
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<td>701,080</td>
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<td>Smallmouth Bass</td>
<td>Juvenile</td>
<td>Supplemental</td>
<td>1,335</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walleye</td>
<td>Adv. Fingerling</td>
<td>Supplemental</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walleye</td>
<td>Fry</td>
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<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>31,840</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walleye</td>
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<td>Supplemental</td>
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<td>Supplemental</td>
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<td>White Crappie</td>
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<td>Yellow Perch</td>
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<td>80,900</td>
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<td>Yellow Perch</td>
<td>Fertilized Eggs</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
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<td>Yellow Perch</td>
<td>Small Fingerling</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>455,000</td>
<td>925,530</td>
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***Hatchery product in development or fall trap-and-transfer fish

Fisheries Report Viewer:  https://apps.sd.gov/GF56FisheriesReports/
<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Resident</th>
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<th>2016</th>
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<th>2018</th>
<th>+/- Licenses</th>
<th>+/- Revenue</th>
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<td>26</td>
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<td>1-Day Small Game</td>
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<td>231</td>
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<td>Annual Fishing</td>
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<td>205</td>
<td>173</td>
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<td>301</td>
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<td>179</td>
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<td>Predator/Varmint</td>
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<td>3,529</td>
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<td>24,392</td>
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<td>210,658</td>
<td>-10,539</td>
<td>$ (312,702)</td>
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License Sales Totals
(as of July 8)