

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
FINALIZATION

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 devastating 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:

- One-half of the fall turkey licenses are available for landowner preference applicants.
- 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.
- No person may shoot a turkey that is in a tree or roost.

Proposed changes from last year:

- Offer 305 less resident single tag licenses and 50 less resident double tag licenses for Prairie Units compared to 2017.
- Offer 200 less resident single tag licenses for the Black Hills Unit compared to 2017.
- 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).
- Establish and open prairie unit 39A (Jackson County).
- Modify current prairie unit 48A (Marshall and Roberts counties) to include all of Roberts County.
- 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.

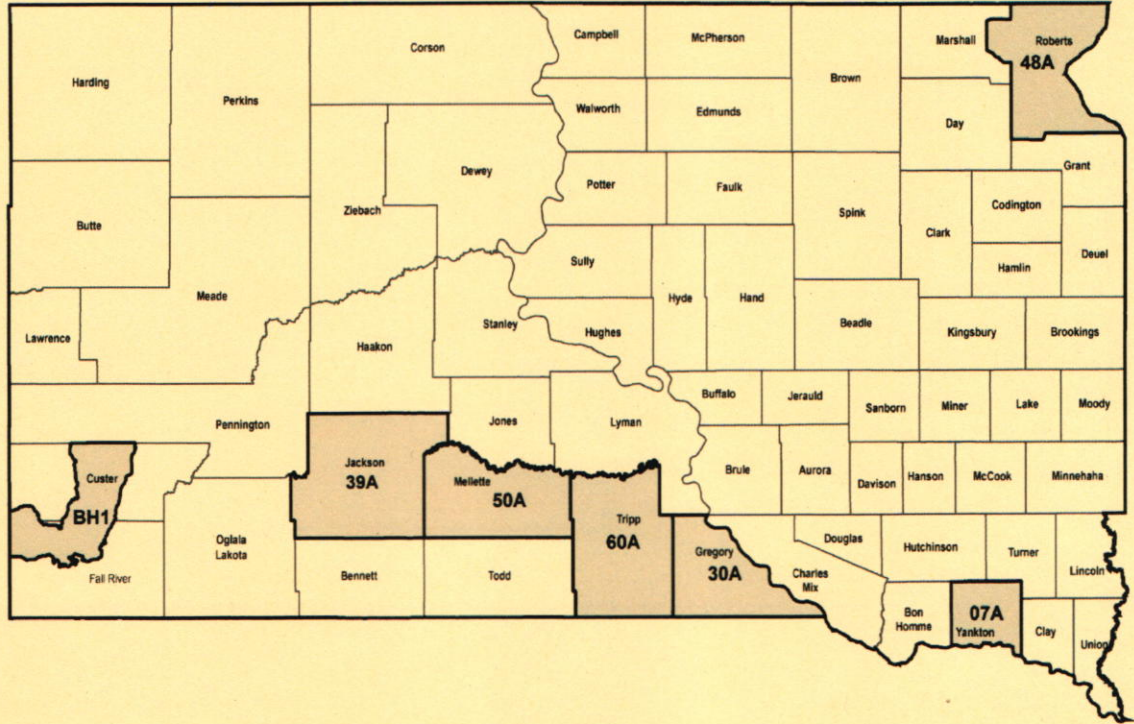
Prairie unit 48A is being modified to address depredation issues in areas outside of the current unit boundary.

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.

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

APPROVE ___ **MODIFY** ___ **REJECT** ___ **NO ACTION** ___

FALL TURKEY UNITS



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

Unit	Licenses
07A	150
30A	150
39A	25
48A	100
50A	50
60A	50
BH1	200

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

Fall Turkey Hunting Seasons – Hunting Unit License Allocations

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

LICENSE ALLOCATION BY UNITS

See Attached Spreadsheets

APPROVE _____	MODIFY _____	REJECT _____	NO ACTION _____
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2018-2019 Fall Turkey

Unit #	Unit Name	Resident		Nonresident		License Totals							
		AnyT 31	2 AnyT 37	AnyT 31	2 AnyT 37	RES 1-Tag	RES 2-Tag	RES Licenses	RES Tags	NR 1-Tag	NR 2-Tag	NR License	NR Tags
07A	Yankton	150				150		150	150				
30A	Gregory	150		12		150		150	150	12		12	12
39A	Jackson	25		2		25		25	25	2		2	2
48A	Marshall/Roberts	100				100		100	100				
50A	Mellette	50		4		50		50	50	4		4	4
60A	Tripp	50		4		50		50	50	4		4	4
BH1	Black Hills	200		16		200		200	200	16		16	16
TOTAL		725		38		725		725	725	38		38	38
				RES & NR:		763		763	763				

FALL TURKEY
2016-17 vs. 2018-19

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

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

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
FINALIZATION

Archery Restrictions
Chapter 41:06:05

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.

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

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.

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

ACTION ITEM #2

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**



State Refuge

Game Production Area

Waterbody Acres: 339

0 0.2 0.4 Miles

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

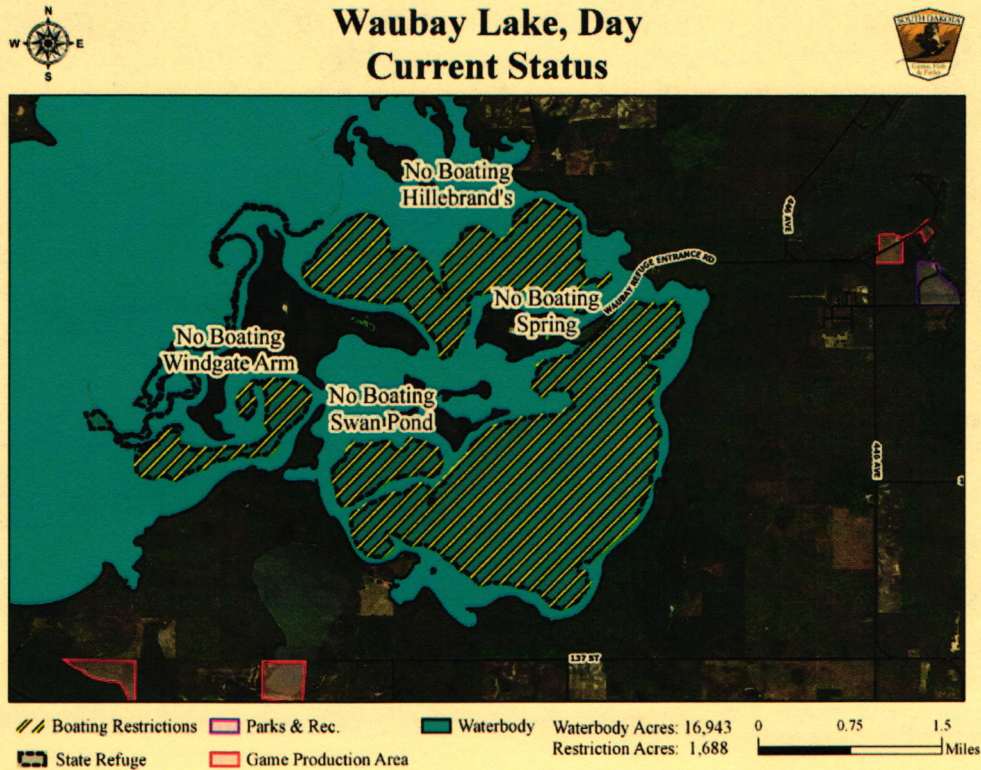
Recommended changes from last year:

- 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.

ACTION ITEM #4

Recommended changes from last year:

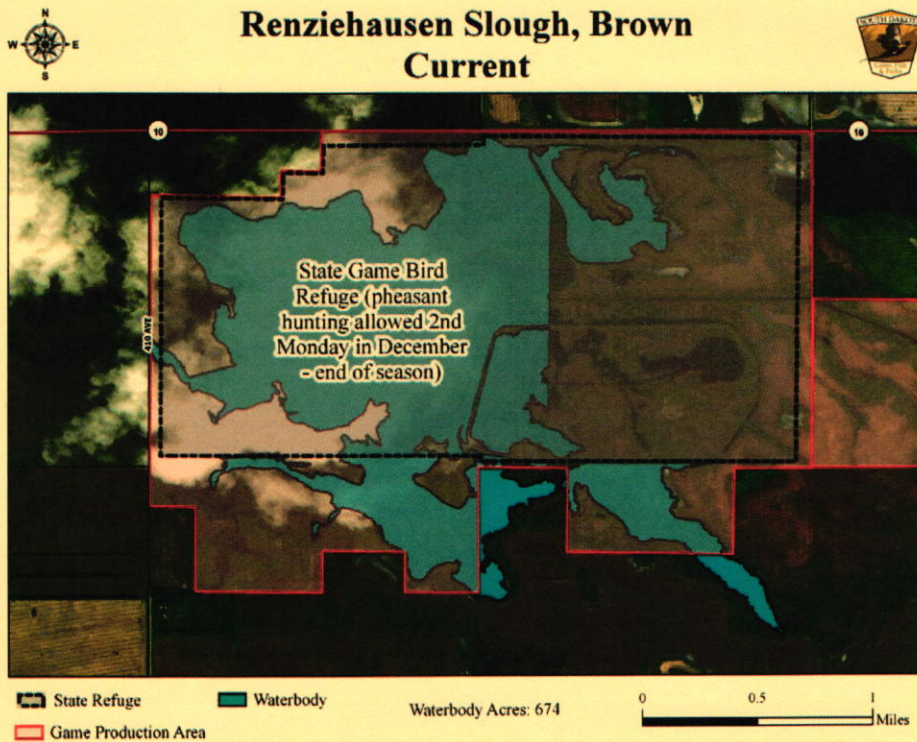
- 4) Modify the pheasant hunting starting date from the 2nd Monday in December to December 1 for Renziehausen State Game Bird Refuge including its shooting and retrieval zones, Gerken State Game Bird Refuge, and White Lake State Game Bird Refuge.

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.





Gerkin GPA, Faulk Current Status



State Refuge Waterbody Waterbody Acres: 117 0 0.15 0.3 Miles
Game Production Area



White Lake, Marshall Current Status



State Refuge Waterbody Acres: 185 0 0.25 0.5 Miles
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:

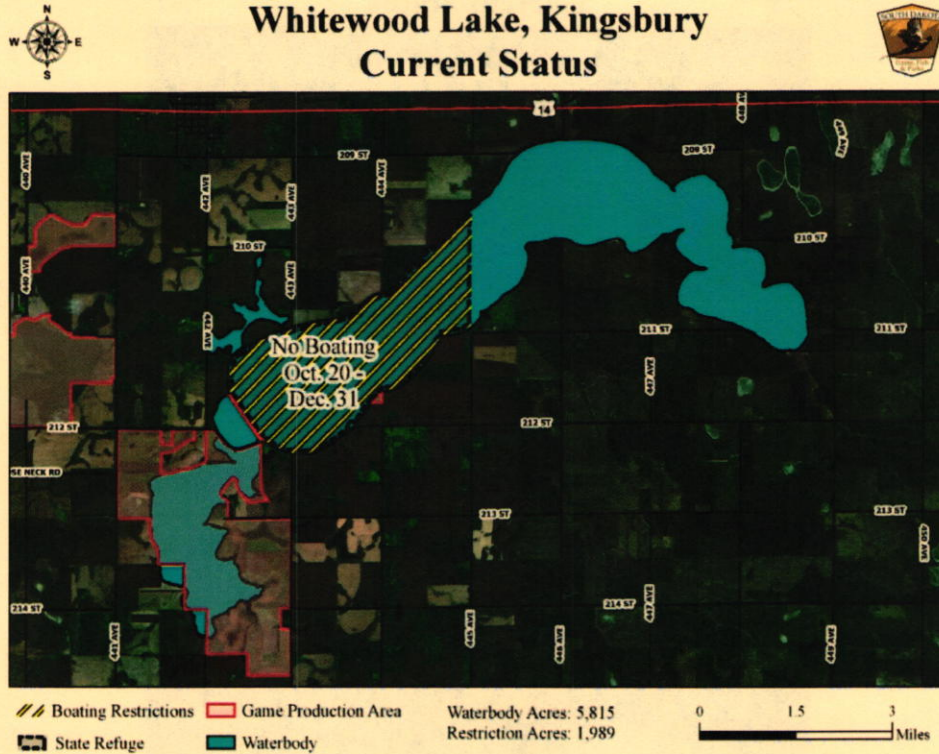
- 5) Remove the Whitewood Lake State Waterfowl Refuge and the "no boating zone" from October 20 to December 31

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 9 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;



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 #6

Recommended changes from last year:

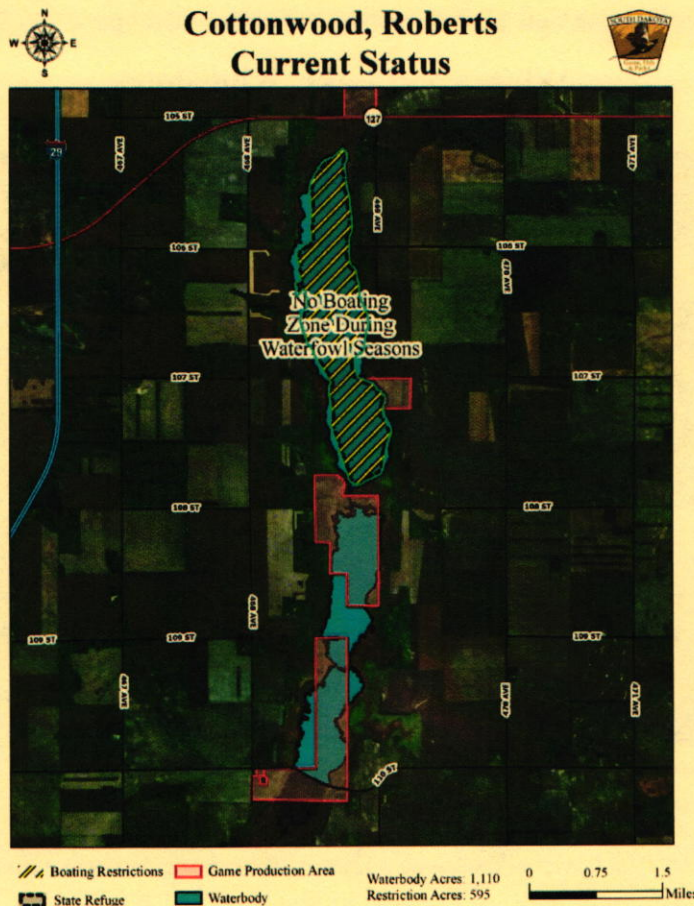
- 6) Change the "no boating zone" during the open season on migratory waterfowl to "electric motors only" from October 20 – December 31.

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;



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 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.

COMMISSION 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 20 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.

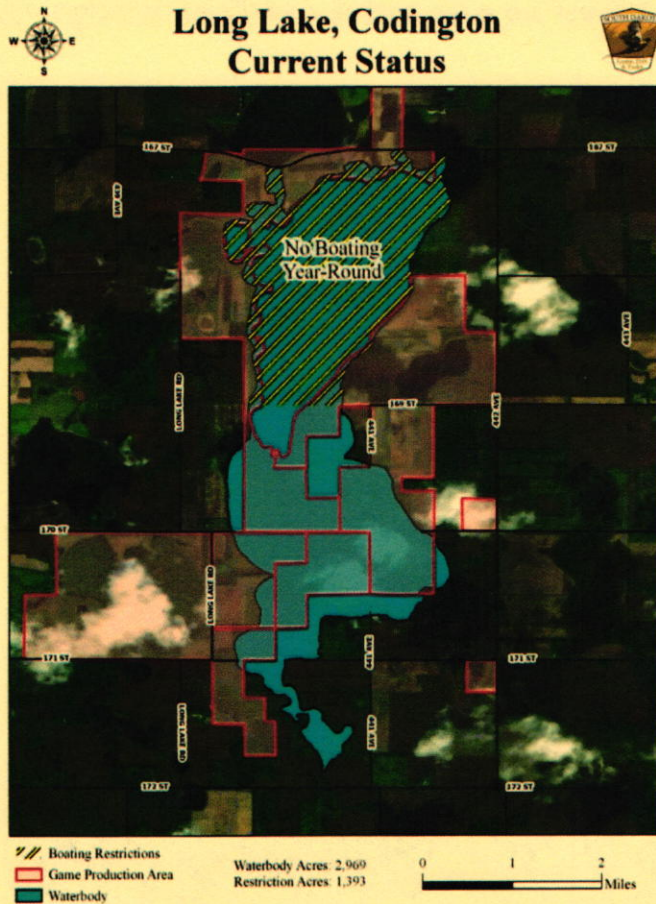
ACTION ITEM #9

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.

ACTION ITEM #10

Recommended changes from last year:

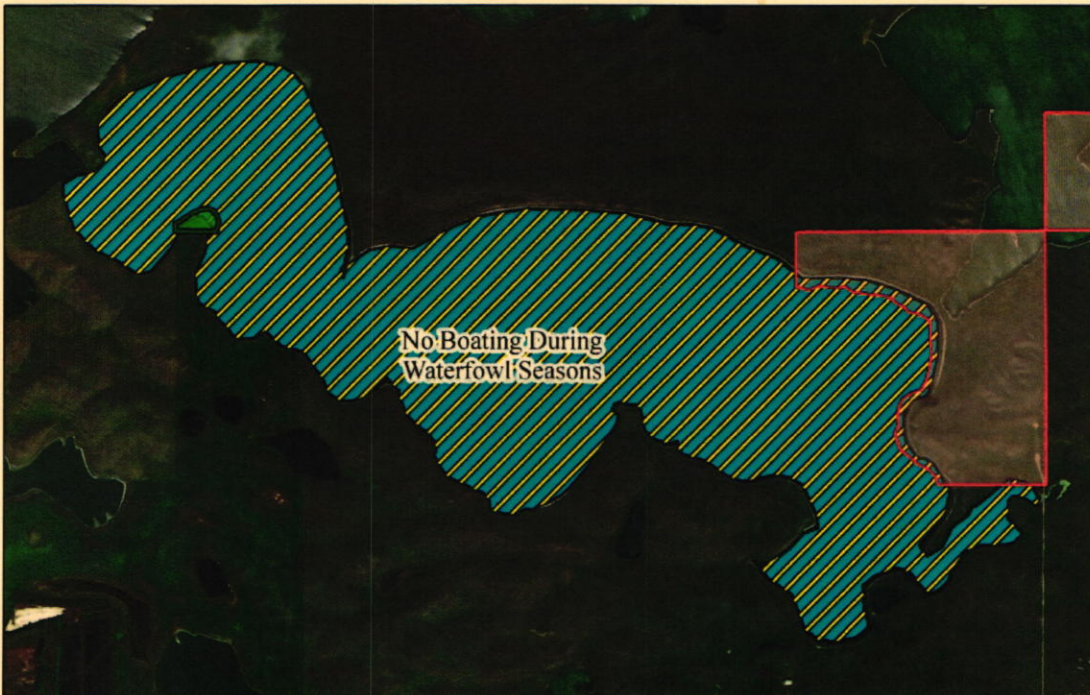
10) Modify the "no boating zone" during open season on migratory waterfowl on McKillicans Lake to "electric motors only" from October 20 – December 31.

41:04:02:14. Codrington County public water safety zones. Codrington 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;

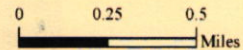


**McKillicans Lake, Codrington
Current**



Game Production Area Boat Restrictions
Waterbody Waterfowl Production Area

Waterbody Acres: 522



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.

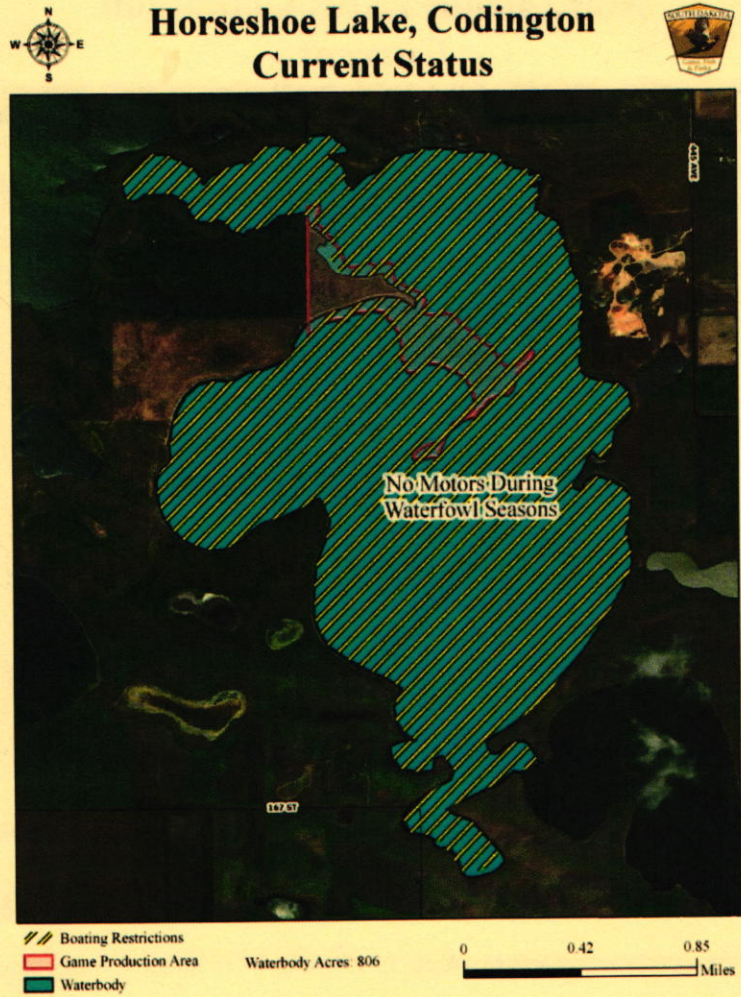
ACTION ITEM #11

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;



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.

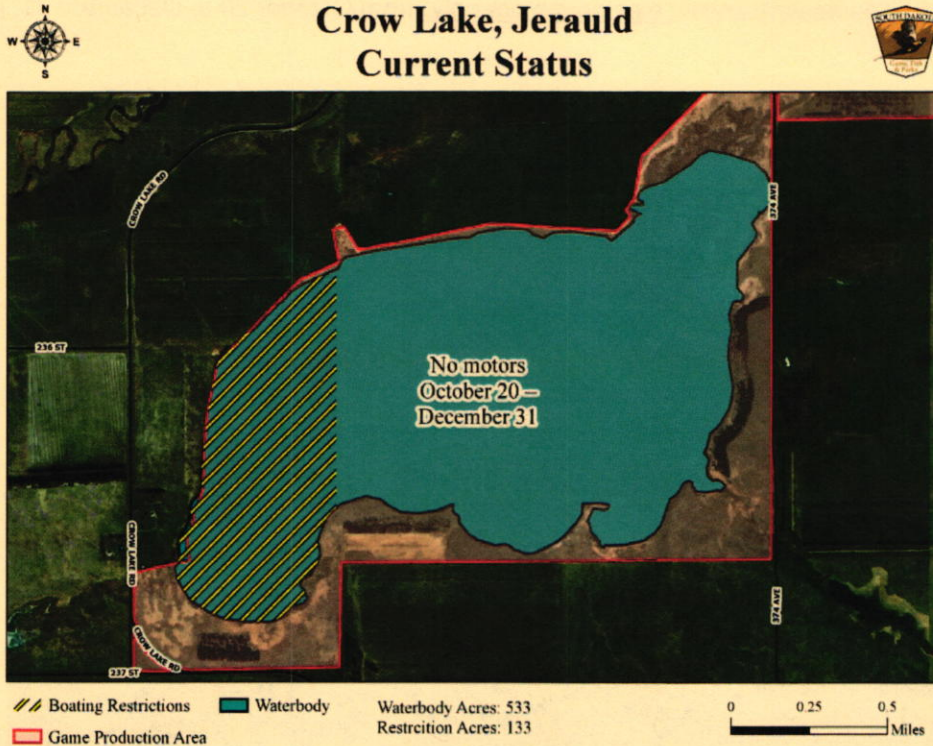
ACTION ITEM #12

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.



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

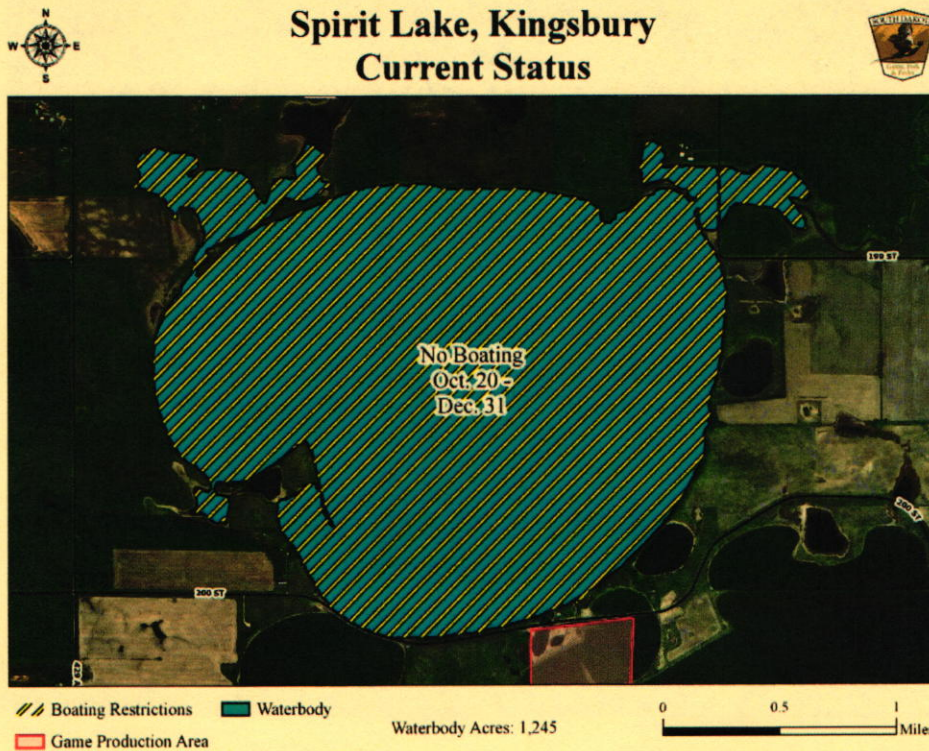
ACTION ITEM #13

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.

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

ACTION ITEM #14

Recommended changes from last year:

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

41:04:02:39. 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**



/// Boating Restrictions
Waterbody

Waterbody Acres: 1,070
Restrictions: 510

0 0.5 1
Miles

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Recommended changes from proposal: None.

STAFF COMMENTS

This change will allow more recreational opportunity and simplify regulations.

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

ACTION ITEM #15

Recommended changes from last year:

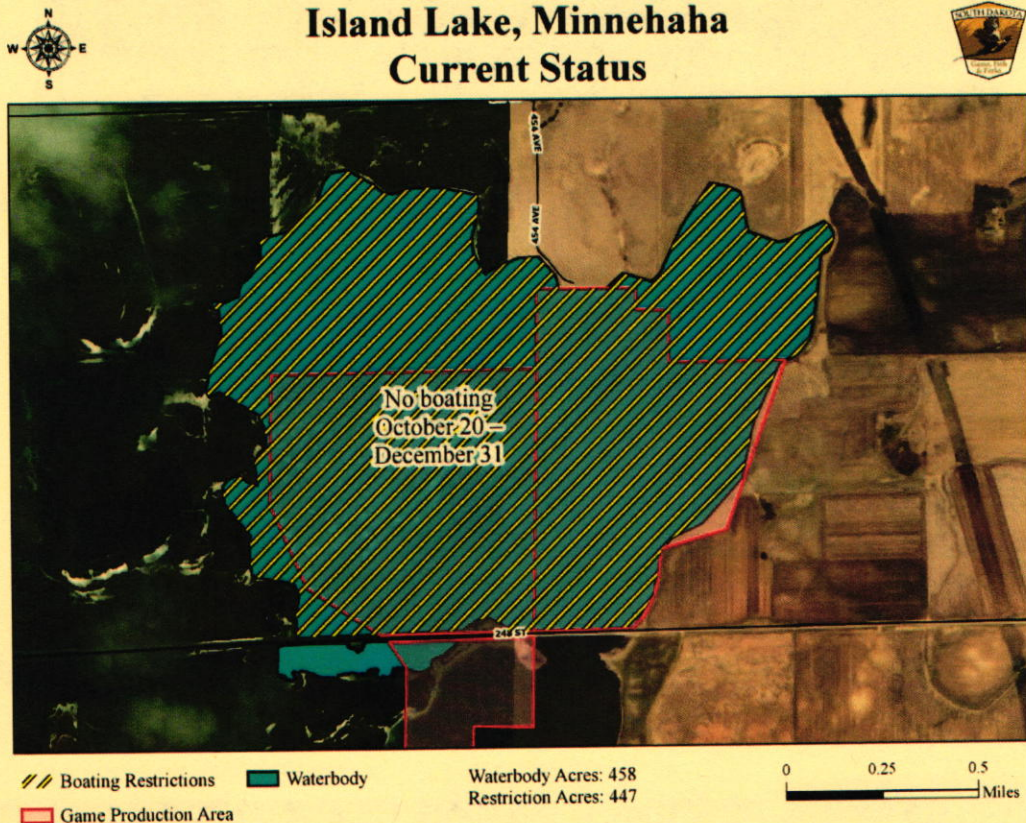
15) Remove the "no boating zone" on Island Lake from October 20 to December 31.

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:

~~(5) 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;~~



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**



Boating Restrictions Parks & Rec.
Federal Refuge Waterbody

Waterbody Acres: 228

0 0.25 0.5
Miles

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.

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

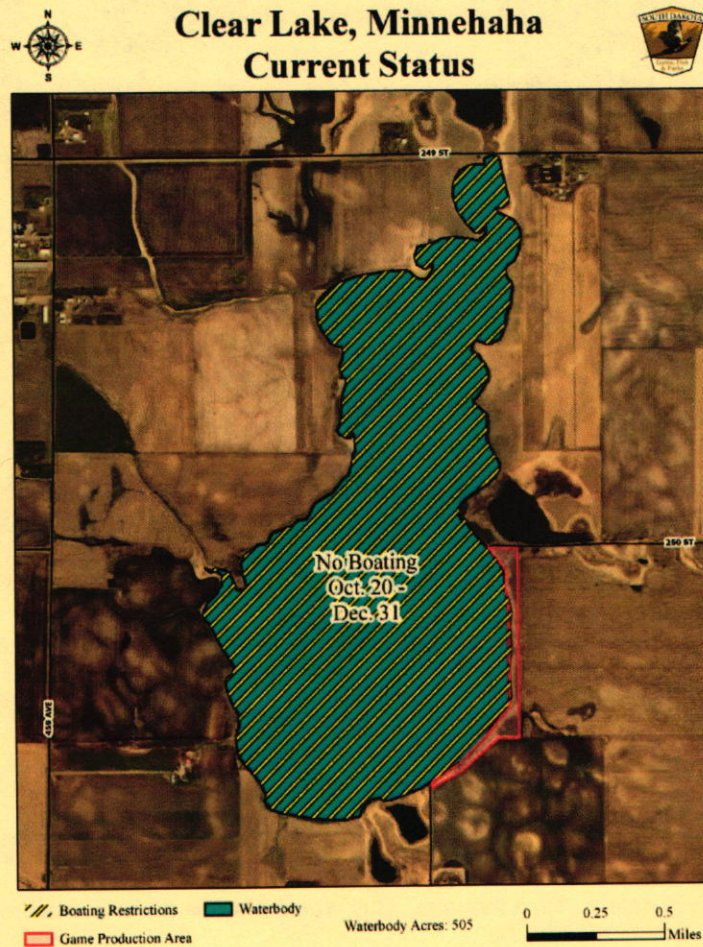
ACTION ITEM #17

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;



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.

ACTION ITEM #18

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;~~



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.

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

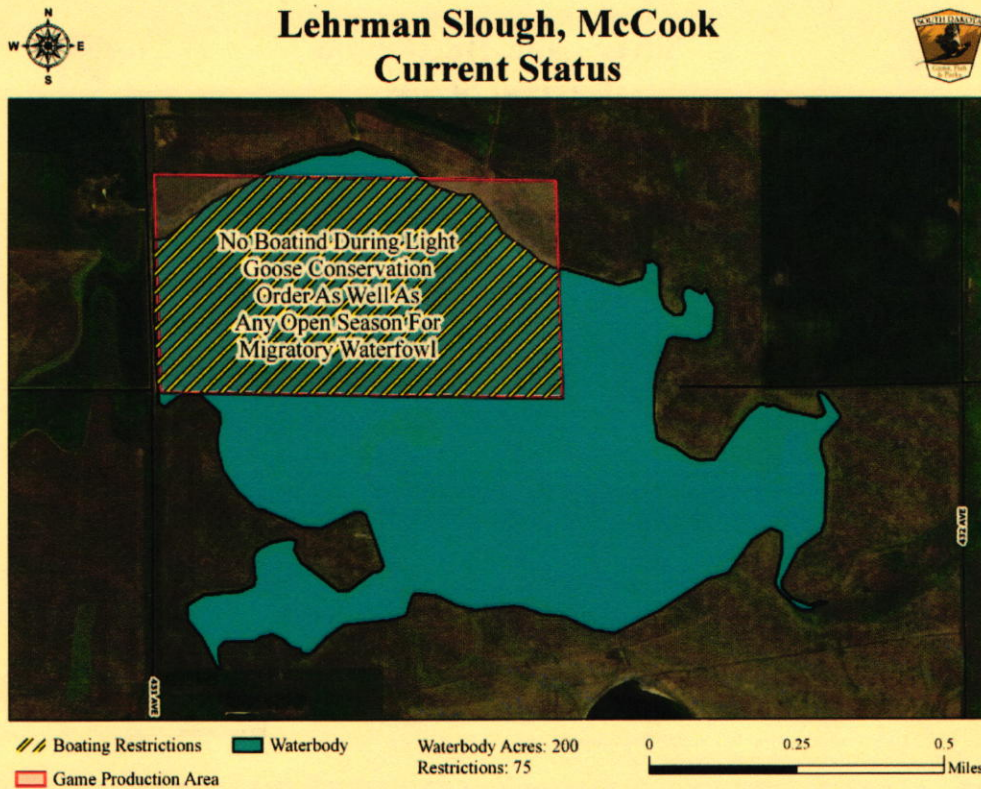
ACTION ITEM #19

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.



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.

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

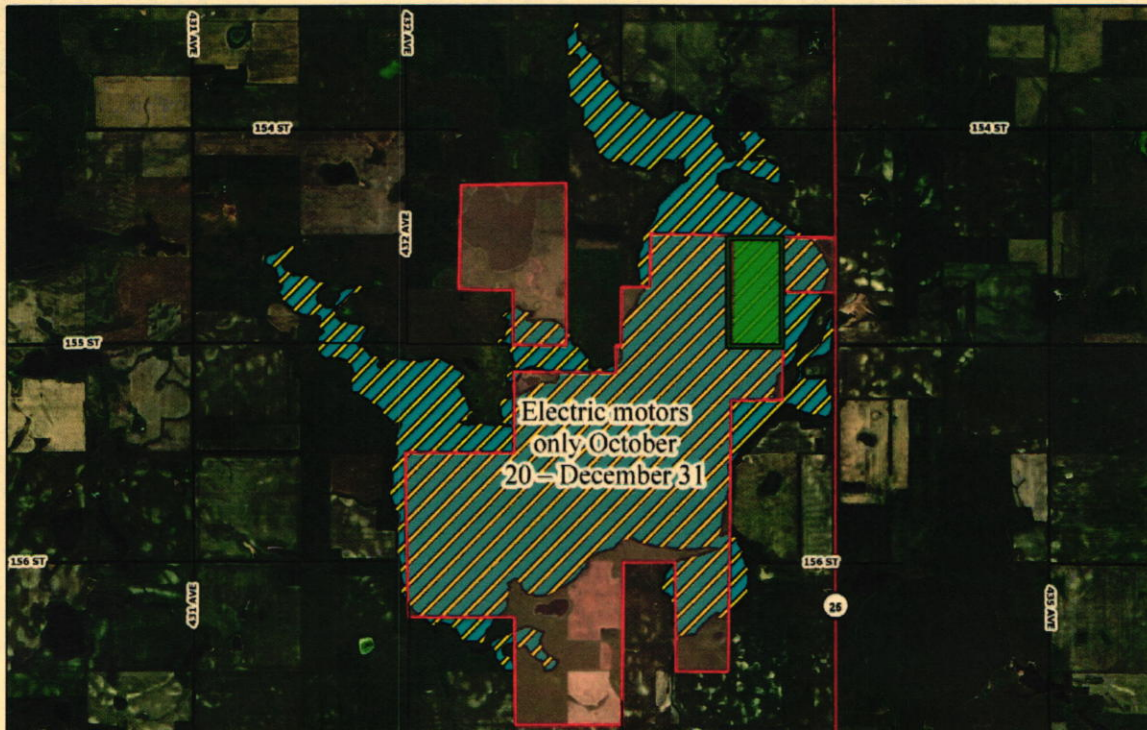
ACTION ITEM #20

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



/// Boat Restrictions □ Game Production Area
■ Waterfowl Production Area ■ Waterbody

Waterbody Acres: 1,795

0 0.75 1.5
Miles

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.

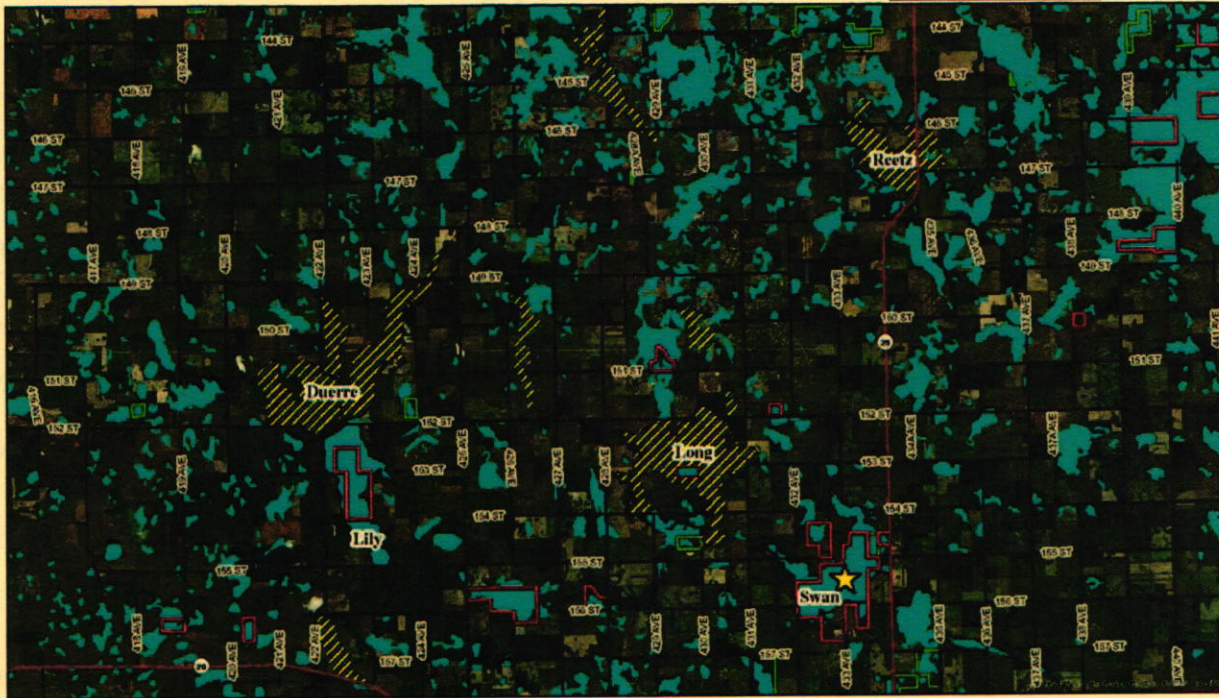
5) Swan Lake is in close proximity (<10 miles) to numerous nonmeandered water closures and injunction lake closures. These closure areas already provide ample undisturbed staging areas for waterfowl because of the very limited recreational opportunities.



- Waterbodies
- Game Production Areas
- Waterfowl Production Areas
- Closures

Swan Lake Proximity to Injection Waterbodies

Waterbody	Miles
Reetz	5.82
Long	0.74
Duerre	8.51
Jesse	7.83



**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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 _____
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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.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION

**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

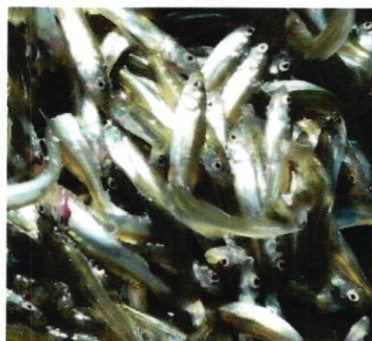
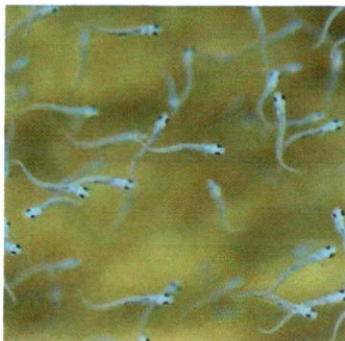
Water	Region	County	Number
Grand R	2	Corson	28,958,000
E Oakwood	3	Brookings	12,277,000
W Oakwood	3	Brookings	2,190,000
Sinai	3	Brookings	3,756,000
Brush	3	Brookings	9,063,000
Twin	3	Minnehaha	25,622,000
Diamond	3	Minnehaha	2,436,000
Johnson	4	Day	18,880,000
Mid Lynn	4	Day	5,612,000
Lardy	4	Day	23,898,000
Lynn	4	Day	5,482,000
Total			138,174,000

Yellow Perch

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

Yellow Perch Egg Take

Water	Region	County	Number
Brush	3	Brookings	120,000
E Oakwood	3	Brookings	1,365,000
Sinai	3	Brookings	220,000
W Oakwood	3	Brookings	330,000
Total			2,035,000



Stockings Completed Through July 1, 2018

Species	Size	Management Purpose	Stocking Request	Number Stocked
Black Crappie	Adult	Winterkill	1,300	2,904
Bluegill	Adult	Supplemental	11,750	2,758
Brown Trout	Catchable	Maintenance	9,400*	4,334***
Channel Catfish	Adult	Maintenance	650	999
Chinook Salmon	Fingerling	Maintenance	290,000*	208,753**
Flathead Catfish	Adult	Introduction	50	5
Gizzard Shad	Adult	Winterkill	500	336
Largemouth Bass	Adult	Maintenance	750	142
Largemouth Bass	Adv. Fingerling	Maintenance	14,900	0
Largemouth Bass	Juvenile	Maintenance	6,445	1,173
Muskie	Juvenile	Maintenance	2000	0
Northern Pike	Adult	Supplemental	2,850	320
Paddlefish	Adv. Fingerling	Maintenance	50,000	***
Rainbow Trout	Catchable	Maintenance	181,475	100,632***
Redear Sunfish	Fingerling	Maintenance	3,700	16,517
Saugeye	Small Fingerling	Supplemental	342,845	701,080
Smallmouth Bass	Juvenile	Supplemental	1,335	878
Walleye	Adv. Fingerling	Supplemental	72,000	***
Walleye	Fry	Maintenance	62,125,000	59,175,000
Walleye	Juvenile	Maintenance	31,840	***
Walleye	Small Fingerling	Supplemental	1,936,930	3,472,693
White Bass	Adult	Supplemental	2,615	1,187
White Crappie	Adult	Introductory	0	180
Yellow Perch	Adult	Maintenance	80,900	***
Yellow Perch	Fertilized Eggs	Maintenance	12,480,000	0
Yellow Perch	Juvenile	Maintenance	12,675	18,912
Yellow Perch	Small Fingerling	Maintenance	455,000	925,530

***Hatchery product in development or fall trap-and-transfer fish

Fisheries Report Viewer: <https://apps.sd.gov/GF56FisheriesReports/>

License Sales Totals

(as of July 8)

date updated: 9 July 2018

Resident	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	+/- Licenses	+/- Revenue
Combination	38,651	40,276	41,385	40,873	39,056	-1,817	\$ (99,935)
Junior Combination	5,952	5,878	6,038	5,868	5,133	-735	\$ (19,845)
Senior Combination	6,024	6,887	7,517	8,093	8,453	360	\$ 14,400
Small Game	1,797	1,695	1,673	1,504	1,518	14	\$ 462
Youth Small Game	850	859	816	830	856	26	\$ 130
1-Day Small Game	129	198	231	184	171	-13	\$ (156)
Migratory Bird Certificate	16,704	14,532	13,654	13,837	13,159	-678	\$ (3,390)
Predator/Varmint	1,121	1,142	1,346	1,076	1,122	46	\$ 230
Furbearer	2,555	2,427	2,287	2,233	2,530	297	\$ 8,910
Annual Fishing	57,284	55,935	55,816	54,911	50,269	-4,642	\$ (129,976)
Senior Fishing	11,478	11,417	11,641	11,991	11,574	-417	\$ (5,004)
1-Day Fishing	850	3,156	3,330	3,596	2,939	-657	\$ (5,256)
Gamefish Spearing/Archery	2,516	2,423	2,462	2,634	2,763	129	\$ 645
Nonresident	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018		
Small Game	2,409	3,124	3,107	2,413	2,309	-104	\$ (12,584)
Youth Small Game	178	217	259	205	173	-32	\$ (320)
Annual Shooting Preserve	69	97	78	74	71	-3	\$ (363)
5-day Shooting Preserve	517	554	576	602	579	-23	\$ (1,748)
1-day Shooting Preserve	163	227	301	218	214	-4	\$ (184)
Spring Light Goose	4,572	4,249	3,965	4,494	4,713	219	\$ 10,950
Youth Spring Light Goose	165	161	138	159	179	20	\$ 520
Migratory Bird Certificate	310	176	277	366	291	-75	\$ (375)
Predator/Varmint	2,929	3,395	3,466	3,529	3,732	203	\$ 8,120
Furbearer	5	4	3	2	4	2	\$ 550
Annual Fishing	21,490	23,089	24,392	23,020	22,819	-201	\$ (13,467)
Family Fishing	7,537	7,860	8,248	7,852	7,309	-543	\$ (36,381)
Youth Annual Fishing	1,150	1,180	1,318	1,102	1,043	-59	\$ (1,475)
3-Day Fishing	14,106	14,730	16,287	15,448	15,594	146	\$ 5,402
1-Day Fishing	11,707	11,679	13,825	13,487	11,435	-2,052	\$ (32,832)
Gamefish Spearing/Archery	518	526	601	596	650	54	\$ 270
TOTALS =	213,736	218,093	225,037	221,197	210,658	-10,539	\$ (312,702)